

Birthday Boys by Hemical

A large number of Test cricketers were born on December 6th, the majority of whom feature in the puzzle

Across

1 1909-26 Australian player put slices of duck and salami in his cereal (8)

5 Bade farewell - how an umpire could err! (3,3)

9 Maybe Illingworth accepted less healthy banter (8)

10 Designer to give weapons to one back home (6)

12 Heavy votes in favour of 1973-76 England player (5)

13 Wine, coke and a little tequila make for a narrow victory margin (3,6)

14 Was 2003-4 Zimbabwe player ever in trouble? (6)

16 Nothing new and nothing loud keeping time to work in control (2,3,2)

19 2006-11 Indian player's bad phrasing losing audience to begin with (1,1,5)

21 Intend old solvers to return for 1976-86 England player (6)

23 Clean river for 1937-56 England player (9)

25 Unpleasant task left unfinished as I enter part of church (5)

26 Single conveyance American once flew too high (6)

27 Hoity-toity French

goods returned to out-of-work cleric (8)

28 Says ship is holding the maximum (6)

29 One excited soldier who puts things on pedestals (8)

Down

1 Starts to sound like beds (6)

2 Engineering depots left in terrible disarray (4,5)

3 Officer in British commando force adds zest (5)

4 Once injected with phosphorus, this part became operable (7)

6 Arm-wrestling pair toils (3,6)

7 Australian boat is part of American range (5)

8 Stone belonging to loud 1998-2009 England player (8)

11 Bricks found in perishable goods (4)

15 Terrible skin burn needing a hint of cream after skiing here? (9)

17 Pressure on to pick up formal dress, lining it with gold for 2002-3 South Africa player (9)

18 Fairies present cheeses to Spooner (8)

20 Part of croquet set made with 30 minutes work (4)

21 Enfeebled, losing energy, but came alive (7)

22 Bend woman's 1899 England player (6)

24 Water supplies rise, then explosion begins flood (5)

25 Church bulletin initially carries article on limits of anticlerical plot (5)

