ACROSS
8 Jewish Italian writer who recounted his experiences as an inmate at Auschwitz in *If This Is A Man* (5,4)
10 George, who served the shortest time as a British prime minister in 1827 (7)
12 Museum consisting of the Center in Los Angeles and the Villa in Malibu (5)
13 In a style resembling a silversmith's work (11)
14 A building (7)
15 Coastal town in Egypt, site of two major World War Two battles in 1942 (2,7)
17 London horse market and haunt of racing men founded in 1766 (11)
19 The last stage of an insect's development (5)
21 Alan, who presented the TV snooker series *Pot Black* and was a BBC gymnastics and ice skating commentator (5)
23 English painter and founding member of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood (4,7)
25 Protuberance on a road to slow traffic (5,4)
27 Agile catlike mammal related to the civet (7)
28 The principle of *lex talionis* (3,3,2,3)
30 Those born before a certain time (8)
31 Newman, English actress and wife of director Bryan Forbes (7)
32 Another name for the balsam poplar (9)

DOWN
1 Type of film whose leading directors were Sergio Leone and Sergio Corbucci (9,7)
2 British composer whose operatic works include *The Mask of Orpheus* and *Gawain* (10)
3 Name given to the controversial bowling tactics used by the England cricket team in their tour of Australia in 1932-33 (8)
5 Line behind which a darts player must stand to throw (4)
6 A rich shellfish soup made with wine and cream (6)
7 French actress whose films include *The Piano Teacher* in 2001 and *Things To Come* in 2016 (8,7)
9 Protuberance on a road to slow traffic (5,4)
10 The warming up of the earth's surface through the trapping of solar radiation by carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels (10,6)
11 A north-eastern state of India with its capital at Dispur (5)
12 South Devon coastal town (8)
13 Body of women organised for farm work in wartime (4-4)
14 A dramatic instruction to leave the stage (6)
15 Country that won the 2004 European football championships (6)
16 A jump in ice skating with turns in the air (4)

The first correct entry drawn on Wednesday January 31 wins a copy of *The Chambers Dictionary*. Entries should be addressed to Polymath No 953, Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. The solution and winner's name will be published on February 3.

The 13th edition (2014) retains the much-loved features of *The Chambers Dictionary*, including the unique quirky definitions for certain words. There are more than 1,000 new words and meanings, and there is also a new Word Lover's Ramble, showing how English words and definitions have changed over the history of the dictionary.

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