ACROSS
1 Children's comic strip character, first published in 1920 (6,4)
6 Relating to, containing or affecting blood (6)
11 State in northeast India, capital Imphal (7)
12 Shallow rift lake in the Colorado Desert (6,3)
13 1925 silent drama film starring Corinne Griffith (9)
14 Highly seasoned Spanish pork sausage (7)
15 Short sensational story or novel (8,8)
17 Epithet given to King Edmund II of England (8)
19 Danish chemist, 1868-1939, who devised the pH scale (8)
22 Long-standing BBC radio panel game (5,7,4)
26 Coarse linen cloth originally produced in Brittany (7)
27 Comedy writing partner of Alan Simpson (3,6)
28 Rapidly executed series of musical notes (9)
29 Thin cornmeal flatbread, an early US staple (3-4)
30 Historically, a Celtic chief's heir elect (6)
31 Punk rock band who recorded the single “Pretty Vacant” (3,7)

DOWN
1 US arbour or open porch, typically roofed (6)
2 1883 children's novel by Carlo Collodi (9)
3 Italian High Renaissance painter and architect (7)
4 German football club, home ground Westfalenstadion (8,8)
5 In medicine, to wipe, cleanse, purge (8)
6 To cut off of the last sound or syllable of a word (9)
7 Breed of powerful smooth-coated working dog (7)
8 Novel by Charles Dickens, main character Nell Trent (3,9,4)
9 Very small, one- or two-seater aircraft (10)
10 Lung disease caused by breathing in metal particles (9)
11 Walled port city in northwest France (5-4)
12 Mechanical tissue in plants (8)
13 The act of anointing with oil in sacramental ceremonies (7)
14 Common name for the Religious Society of Friends (7)
15 Co-author of The Communist Manifesto with Karl Marx (6)

Name....................................................................................................................
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The first correct entry drawn on Wednesday June 13 wins a copy of The Chambers Dictionary. Entries should be addressed to Polymath No 972, Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. The solution and winner’s name will be published on June 16.

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