Polymath 945 Set by Sleuth

ACROSS
1 Jockey who rode Shergar to victory in the 1981 Epsom Derby (6,8)
10 A person with lukewarm religious belief (9)
11 Ethically wrong (7)
12 Part of a shoe (6)
13 Writer from Trieste noted for his psychological novel Confessions of Zeno published in 1923 (5,5)
15 --- West, an airman’s inflatable life jacket (3)
16 Footballer who led Argentina to victory in the 1986 World Cup in Mexico (5,8)
18 Reading desks (8)
20 A sieve or colander (8)
22 Continuous sounds heard on picking up a telephone receiver (8,5)
23 An Ethiopian prince (3)
24 Novel by Mervyn Peake published in 1959 and the fourth in his Gormenghast series (5,5)
26 A type of grass whose name derives from the Latin for straw (6)
28 Chinese city, site of massacre by Japanese soldiers in 1937-38 (7)
29 A fish such as a grouper or sea bass (9)
30 A body of letters (14)

DOWN
1 British prime minister whose fourth and final term in office ended in 1894 (7,9)
2 A butcher’s (4-3)
3 Scottish athlete who won gold in the 400 metres at the 1924 Paris Olympics and whose exploits featured in the 1981 film Chariots of Fire (4,7)
4 A type of merganser (4)
5 It starts the fuel in an internal combustion engine (8)
6 A perfumed oil for making hair glossy (12)
7 Uncle -----, fictional narrator of folktales written by Joel Chandler Harris (5)
8 Capital of Sierra Leone (8)
9 One of the three Egyptian obelisks re-erected in London, New York and Paris during the 19th century (10,6)
14 French Cubist painter (1881-1955) (7,5)
17 US astronaut who became the first to travel in space in 1961 (4,7)
19 Ritual intonation (8)
21 Constriction of a tube or passage in the body (8)
23 Smallish American carnivore with black-striped face and tail (7)
25 Irish county featuring the rock formation, Benbulbin (5)
27 Musical term for spirit or vivacity (4)

The first correct entry drawn on Wednesday December 6 wins a copy of The Chambers Dictionary. Entries should be addressed to Polymath No 945, Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. The solution and winner’s name will be published on December 9.

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.