Alice daintily poured some milk into her cup and listened to the Hatter’s engrossing tale.

“The miserly carpenter wasted no time. With his tool belt clanging and crashing at his waist, he moved in to attack, grinning maliciously at the thought of such an elderly, feeble target.”

He tossed the pot of sugar at the Dormouse, who leapt into the air and caught it! Alice couldn’t believe that the mouse could do such a thing, being so small in stature - everything in this place was such delightful nonsense!

The March Hare withdrew a newspaper from somewhere beneath the table, “The Wonderland Chronicle”, and began to read, noisily chomping on the biscuits before him.

“Oh, pass me the funnies, Mr. Hare!” asked Alice.

The hare tossed over a sheet, but there were no comics, only a boring-looking crossword. But when she looked closer, it didn’t look nearly as boring as the crosswords she was used to...
ACROSS
7 Wise Herb. (4)
8 Work unit in energy. (3)
10 Ornate figure-head? Lord has one. (6)
11 Everyone brought back the motherless llama. (3)
12 Parasite turned out a little helper? (3)
13 Sports work-bench. (3)
15 Can sun god exit 21-across? (3)
16 Dad points to old school. (5)
17 Fish even out evenly. (3)
18 Star-shaped flower is star-shaped about the end. (5)
21 Drill transport? (5)
22 Doctor took a break. (3)
24 Stinger beam. (3)
26 Cheered at jounro following the Spanish? (6)
27 Hug, hug, hug... the endless embracing is all the same. (6)
28 About time, Tom. (3)
29 Fitting quietly into a shirt? (3)
30 Guy painting suit? (5)
31 Returned a thick piece of wood. (5)
33 Pitch right after, thanks. (3)
34 Wight/Man is less offending. (5)
36 One representative troublemaker. (3)
38 Alien coming after your head still? (3)
40 Bristle at Darwin, even? (3)
41 Feel sick for sick Muhammad? (3)
43 Pay attention! 50 = 10. (6)
44 Sink back into the petrol. (3)
45 Article on guys getting the last word. (4)

DOWN
1 Start and finish in setter’s labyrinth. (4)
2 Opener swaps end for a NZ bird. (3)
3 Mark left, raining outside. (4)
4 Rotten egg and fish heads? (3)
5 Honest man, by word of mouth. (5)
6 Tries for top class, ma’am. (4)
9 Upper class man extremely racy. (6)
14 Repartee with computing? (3)
16 Fence in writer. (3)
17 Noisily consumed bits in a byte. (5)
19 Layers up the rest? (5)
20 Times are regression by seconds? (4)
21 Bit of a loveless frog? (3)
23 Fool ate the guy’s remains. (5)
24 Recommend the umpire turns about? (5)
25 The dinosaur ages had a kind of ambience. (4)
27 Body art simply is an odd trait. (3)
28 Last public phone had unknown calling. (6)
30 Contains mostly drugs. (3)
32 Hollywood unknown reclined. (3)
33 The strange orbiting alien canines? (5)
35 Glide over and traverse snow on mountaintop. (4)
37 Spat out and over. (4)
39 Balanced First Lady with nation leader. (4)
40 You finally left relative with a bug? (3)
42 Rule like a world’s capitals. (3)