Many a Day
by Ucaoimhu

This old town has been hit with a weird flurry of activity on successive days: (1) gut-wrenching Halloween, (2) roaming outside for BAPHL, (3) falling back at the end of Daylight Saving Time, (4) nothing tomorrow, (5) casting a vote on Election Day, and (6) getting a penny for the Guy on Guy Fawkes Day. Match each clue with the clues for the symmetrically opposite space; of the 24 resulting pairs, four will correspond to each of (1) through (6) above, in the following ways:

(I) In each pair for (1), (2), or (3), one clue has one word whose letters must be rearranged in an appropriate way, to form another word, before solving.

(II) In each pair for (5) or (6), one clue’s answer must be shrunk or expanded in an appropriate way, to form a word or (in one case) a phrase, before entry.

(III) In the “partner” of each clue from (I) or (II), the letter sequence wordplay yields is incorrect, swapping two letters (enter the word correctly in the grid). For each (I) clue, if those swapped letters are the mth and nth, write the mth word of the (I) clue beside the correct nth letter of its partner’s answer (next to the grid), and the nth word beside the mth letter. For each (II) clue, circle the swapped letters in its partner’s answer in the grid.

(IV) All pairs for (4) work normally. If you connect (with a straight line) the center of every pair of grid squares containing alphabetically consecutive circled letters, you will see what day (4) does. In addition, the words next to the grid, along with the lines in the grid, will form a text passage that forms part of a larger puzzle. Read the first letters of all of the (4) clues, and then all their last letters (both in clue order), to get a description of that larger puzzle (in case you want to investigate it online later).

ACROSS
1. Around 500 former lovers providing lessons in reproductive biology (2 wds.)
4. Zach’s first flightless bird gutted Zach’s doorpost-mounted scroll-containers
10. Grand composer Novello ought, therefore, to be musically energetic
12. Has non-awful boy band
13. Inside of stout Quixote’s coat and hat
15. Twists wire abandoned by the guy who constructed bygone fast aircraft
16. Hillary, whose conquest’s heights are yet unsurpassed, and... um, Ned, sadly getting danker at the bottom
19. Pay disheartened actor Harrison for borsilicate glass
21. Each emptied Duff is to become less and less vivid
22. Remain supine when drinking fruit drink with actress Angelina
23. Loos redesigned for a Norse urban center
25. Ex-soldier holding small cover over the torso
27. Are trailers whose order flips held by a tire from Lesotho with bad looks?
28. Kind of reaction in which electrons move a quartet of tired oxen
30. Votes against NY team dismissing Kay
32. Emetic part of mini-pecary
34. Loud Leo’s wrongly using “x squared” to express how part of a ship is tilted
38. Rolled a’s, plus surds in the middle? Ah — that’s signer Brightman’s name
39. Unemotional actress Derek, in bed with one radical
40. To restrain seven, perhaps, a low-down lamina expert’d externally imposed time-based movement restrictions [NI13]
41. Dignified tale, written badly in pen
42. Ann Landers’s twin’s black-and-reddish-brown horse

DOWN
1. Thoughts, ultimately about what endlessly modified each vowel in “tuba”
2. Winged creature that eats fish from a container on your anvil
3. Items on which one might record turkeys written by Virgil? (abbr.)
4. Twenty times fifty such, chiefly in IT, will get many a tiny prod
5. X, before gaieties started, uncovered most avid types’ personality issues
6. Some Republican’s supporting Zulu people who put business districts on the map?
7. Low — originally, zero — speed
8. Imitate a French hot dog
9. Can say plus, initially, citrin, indices, cohomology, and other technical words
11. Prophets right inside bishops
14. Expected to embrace a king and queen, and trembled
17. Riles stranger with more culling
18. Device that records a bit of this violin, stopping halfway through
19. Hammer part once called “petite”
20. Of Macpherson (reportedly) and those that deal in llamas
21. Xenon is found in 30% of fossilized carnivores
22. College junior is true legal expert
24. Wordy prescription’s filled in place located on a moon of Jupiter
26. Considered holy by the faithful, scared wacko
29. All secondary items from me spoil clam scientists’ strange calendrical adjustment
31. Kind of radio grabbed by important anti- heroine Sharp in Vanity Fair
33. Full of resistance, three right-wingers from Muscat give you a yard
34. Wife of little bird
35. Heed the head of operations later
36. A medico elevated the end of a piece
37. Run through with upright lengths of ash wood wielded by a team