

Azed No. 2,746 Plain - Competition Puzzle

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There will be a special lunch to celebrate Azed No. 2,750 at Wolfson College, Oxford on Saturday 3 May 2025. For details please email heald.richard@gmail.com or send an SAE to Azed 2,750, 13 Eshton Court, Mapplewell, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S75 5QG.

Name
Address
Post code

Across

- 1 Military headgear, hard, in a pack that's unpacked (6)
- 6 Strong wine for judgement days (5)
- 11 Cellar enveloped by peculiar notes? It stinks when scoured (10)
- 12 Actor not required, passive, in being left out (4)
- 13 Jock's workload, second after returning degree (5)
- 14 Conjuror's offering at children's party? A minor bit of drivel! (8)
- 15 Line of verse son's left, little 'un (4)
- 16 Ozzie batting, rest tumbled out? (6)
- 19 Viburnum came up, supported by older one (9, 2 words)
- 20 Interpreter exits, poor in translation (9)
- 23 Food containing nasty smell posed threats to many serving (6)
- 24 I'll follow reversal of crime - this may follow decree (4)
- *27 Elders (8)
- 29 Canon's maybe Roman Catholic? This man Chico in disguise (5)
- 30 Scottish set move to the right and left (4)
- 31 Dressing oneself around home in waistcoat material (10)
- 32 Lower grade delivered, one from the middle coming last (5)
- 33 Ties the knot around Ireland? Forewarns Scots (6)

Down

- 1 See man in collapse of cash totter - when financial deals do? (12, 3 words)
- 2 Starts to hearten one usually rather introverted? She may (5)
- 3 When to choose a cobra for a poet? (6)
- 4 Army following whim - it's followed by whoops (8)
- 5 Examination of data: one country's is short of it (8)
- 6 Fellow given preference over uncle once for old woman (4)
- 7 Nicked Scotch right out of middle of trifle (4)
- 8 Oarsman beside river has a short swim turning up (6)
- 9 Shakespearean sapper, by and large one left out (7)
- 10 Lewis is part of one of us (Lewes is wrong about back) (12, 2 words)
- 16 What'll prevent relative motion composes team (8)
- 17 Fodder grass, English, with it stone ground (8)
- 18 Dark brown, or dark blue, for being replaced in black WC (7)
- 21 Glassworker's rod not broken in confusion (6)
- 22 Antique overlay of excellent quality covering royal monogram? (6)
- 25 What daymore may give guy, ay cut before death (5)
- 26 Pastor precedes every corporal in church (4)
- 28 Chump from south I don't understand as before (4)

The Chambers Dictionary (2016) is recommended.

Azed No. 2,743 solution & notes

C	H	A	E	B	O	L	S	R	S	S	R
O	Y	I	M	I	D	I	N	E	T	T	E
S	P	R	A	D	O	N	S	P	U	R	S
M	E	L	T	O	N	A	M	O	R	E	T
O	M	I	M	N	A	C	U	R	T	A	L
P	A	N	I	M	T	U	M	E			
L	N	E	M	E	A	N	B	E	D	E	S
A	D	D	E	N	D	C	C	R	A	R	S
S	O	O	T	H	E	L	A	L	L	A	N
T	R	O	I	C	R	I	S	A	L	U	E
I	L	L	T	E	M	P	E	R	E	N	S
C	A	E	E	P	A	S	S	E	R	E	S

Across 11, dine t in mite; 13, ref. Tottenham Hotspur; 15, re in a mot; 19, cf. an imp; 23, ref. N. lion; 35, sere in pass.
Down 1, anag. + op in clastic; 3, (h)airline; 6, ref. Linacre College, Oxford; 7, EP (record) in rorter; 21, NC lip in US; 31, a une (Fr.).

Azed No. 2,743 winners
Bill Godby, Liverpool, Merseyside
Jacqui Sohn, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk
Nick Roper, Plymouth, Devon

Rules and requests
Send correct solution (one only) and clue to replace definition asterisked (on separate sheet also bearing name and address, securely attached) to Azed No. 2,746, PO Box 518, Oxford, OX2 6WX. Entries must be received by Monday week following publication at the latest and be postmarked no later than the Saturday following publication. Please include a brief explanation of your clue. Emailed entries will be accepted for overseas submissions only, addressed to jcrowther2000@hotmail.com and must reach Azed by no later than the Saturday following publication of the relevant competition puzzle.

£35, £30 and £25 book tokens will be awarded to the three clues judged best (which accompany correct solutions to the puzzle) respectively. The three winners will also each receive an Azed bookplate. The prizes will be sent by post.

The Azed Slip, containing details of successful competition entries and Azed's comments, is available on subscription at £16 a year. Cheques, payable to the Azed Slip, should be sent to The Azed Slip, Coombe Farm, Awbridge, Romsey SO51 0HN. To receive a sample slip, please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to this address. Subscriptions may also be paid via online bank transfer to The Crossword Club, a/c no. 31020250, sort code 40-39-05.

For further information visit theguardian.com/crosswords/2014/dec/30/azed-faq