

AZED No. 2,327 Plain

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Name _____

Address _____

ACROSS

- 1 One offering praise, threshold of a sort in old-fashioned counter (10)
- 9 Lecturer with distinctive character where anchorites gather (5)
- 11 Short journey for droshky, first of vehicles formerly (5)
- 13 State-of-the-art auto dept. given a make-over (8)
- 14 With OU first this fool becomes best (4)
- 15 I'll get in a fury changing small advance in Maldivian money (7)
- 16 Clergyman, one trapped in scam (5)
- 18 Priest has to criticize regressive standards? (6)
- 19 Timber tree planted in past succeeded for parts of zillah (8)
- 21 Noseband: five kept in case puzzled lad (8)
- 25 Viv failing oral test initially – wild bird (6)
- 27 Censure that gets to upmarket inn with a bug found crawling around (5)
- 28 Trolleyman oiled left and right liberally (7)
- 30 One's regularly tapped litre in the shade? (4)
- 31 What could be gloomier? Chemical substance formed of smaller units (8)
- 32 It's held firmly, even in grip of one who's given up? (5)
- 33 Once behind, right at back of field? (5)
- 34 Land specially set aside requiring loan in cash for glorious show (12)

AZED 2,324 Solution & notes

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

A H J O Y **Across** 1, autosave; 5, F U L T I cabbalist; 11, high-hat; 12, M E S B C Imphal (capital of Manipur, D G K N P scene of WWII battle); 14, R V W X Z hurrah; RR in (q)ua(d); 15, jester; 17, jampan; 18, stem

forms; 20, gayal; 21, by-line; 22, fish knife; ref. Rick Stein, specialist sea food chef; 24, flared; 27, outgrossed; 30, gooley; 31, sclerous; 35, staters; 36, me-too; 40, blindless; l(a)nd in bless; 41, mudpie; 42, hamlet; (C)halet; 43, impel; cf. limp; 44, lament; 45, (Erik) Sat(e); 46, nauseate; ea in anag, less; 47, steepen.

Down 1, quiescing; 2, ovates; 3, stembok; 4, embroid; em + anag; 6, bransles; 7, blaze; 8, plumulae; 9, scranell; ran in Lens (rev.); 10, tangle; 13, Pomak; 16, stuns; 19, weirdo; 23, Hoover; wolf = eat greedily; 25, disgusting; 26, (Chris) Boardman; see barrow; 28, terrible; 29, drumbeat; see tuck; 32, corn rent; 33, prolapse; 34, curse; cf. user; 35, sequin; 37, kelim; 38, dewlap; 39, relax; rela(y).

PRIZE RULES

£25 in book tokens for the first three correct solutions opened. Solutions postmarked no later than Saturday to **AZED No. 2,327**, The Observer, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU

DOWN

- 1 Loose group to take firmly in hand (6)
- 2 Rebel of old, part of a small group and unable to speak about it (6)
- 3 Opening about to weaken? Later enrichment may change it (7)
- 4 Ma lost to illness? She wore the trousers perhaps (4)
- 5 Losing money, pump-room tiro gets confused, without consulting others (11, 2 words)
- 6 Salary, limitless, rising in computer unit (5)
- 7 A try-on arranged for e.g. Cressida? (6)
- 8 Help when investing in variety of laces on bustle (8)
- 10 Bank on support – instruct incoming bat (11)
- 12 Stone lifted with point inserted for sort of cement (5)
- 17 A rodent found in beer on the flight (8, 3 words)
- 20 Mavourneen on the beach, dipping tip of toe in (7)
- 21 Trainee investigator on the up receiving bit of promotion (5)
- 22 Star group, aging but not dead, needing vehicles to get around (6)
- 23 Plane staff, we hear, revealing whence stags secrete stuff (6)
- 24 Wild spree? Bachelor's last occurs in this old-fashioned bar (6)
- 26 Old name? Uncle Epaminondas certainly has this (5)
- 29 'Go to work on ...', not good? At least it wasn't blasphemous (4)

The Chambers Dictionary (2014) is recommended.