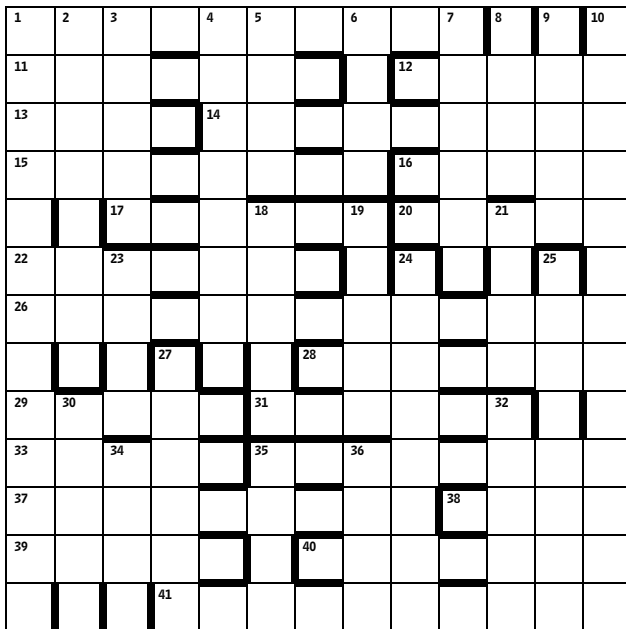


AZED No. 2,376 'CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS' COMPETITION PUZZLE



Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

This puzzle is based on the traditional practice of inserting small coins into Christmas puddings as tokens of good fortune for those coming across them in their helpings. Each of eight entries, clued in italics, including the unclued **26 Across**, consists of a coin at some point within a pudding, the whole non-word being clued without definition. In one case the pudding word may be regarded as part of a (common) compound. Unchecked letters in these entries (not including letters occurring where they touch or cross) may be arranged as PAY FOR SOME, SEE, ON NOEL.

Competitors should submit a clue like the other italicized clues to the entry at 26.

ACROSS

- 1 *Dad's trouble returning, male truly lacking ultimate yen* (10)
- 11 Oysters copper consumed in Teresa's place (7)
- 12 Bantu language that latterly is observed in London district (5)
- 13 Kiss cheek (4)
- 14 Colt skirting trees growing wild, jungly (9)
- 15 Drive work on loosed individual game dogs (8)
- 16 It may be hard to administer when one of pair leaves (5)
- 17 Article about shortened length of spore-cases (6)
- 20 Hamper stuff for Jock must include opener for Merlot (5)
- 22 Tribly maybe seen in town, oddly nondescript thing (7)
- 26 *See preamble* (13)
- 28 Buccaneersing renegade I spotted in photo (7)
- 29 Working in university with Oxford exam coming round (5)
- 31 A doorman before going off knocked back jar of wine (6)
- 33 Independent parliament recalled for confrontational epic (5)
- 35 Capital alibi contrived to protect prince (8)
- 37 *Posse disturbed about old gun going off* (9)
- 38 Sanction appropriate when imprisoning one (4)

AZED 2,373 Solution & notes

C	O	W	A	L	A	V	A	M	A	S	A	I
A	P	I	P	I	X	I	L	A	T	I	O	N
C	O	N	S	T	E	R	G	R	A	S	P	S
O	P	O	T	T	L	E	A	A	P	T	P	U
G	A	S	P	L	G	U	T	T	U	R	A	L
A	N	D	R	E	A	F	E	R	R	A	R	A
S	A	R	C	O	M	A	S	U	C	H	A	T
T	X	U	D	J	E	F	U	G	L	E	S	I
R	E	D	U	I	T	E	T	A	E	R	I	O
I	N	G	E	M	I	N	A	T	E	O	T	N
C	A	E	S	E	C	I	H	E	R	N	E	S

Across 12, pl+Xl+O in Latin; 13, conster (nation); 14, pin (Günter) Grass; 17, as in GP; 22, arcoin anag.; 27, ug in self (rev.); 29, anag, less n+t; 33, RN in see (rev.).

Down 2, pop in o/a+n ax; 4, lit+anag.; 5, axe (qv)+; ref. Christopher Dean, champion skater; 7, aL (Bill) Gates; 8, comp. anag.; ref. Jean-Paul M. Jacobin leader murdered in his bath by Charlotte Corday; 10, comp. anag. & lit.; 16, ras l in pate; 21, anag. & lit.; 23, o Jim+e; 26, du(n)es; 27, i.e. 'fenny'; 28, anag. of first letters & lit.; ref. Mormons.

Rules and requests

Send correct solution (one only) and clue as indicated (on separate sheet also bearing name and address, securely attached) to **Azed No. 2,376**, PO Box 518, Oxford, OX2 6WX.

Closing date, Saturday 6 January 2018. Results will be announced on Sunday 14 January 2018. Please add a brief explanation of your clue (one entry only). £100, £65, £40 prizes for the three clues judged best. Extra prizes and Azed bookplates for those very highly commended. 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 SO5 10HN. To receive a sample slip, please send an sae to this address. For much more information on the Azed Slip, visit www.andlit.org.uk.

AZED No. 2,373 Prizewinners

CACOASTRIC

1 R. J. Whale (27 Amberley Drive, Twyford, Berkshire RG10 9BX): A stomach accruing fluid might make human this (*comp. anag. & lit.*).

2 Dr S. J. Shaw (Goosnargh, Lancashire): Such persons may be disposed to gripe, so can act cross (*comp. anag. & lit.*).

3 P. L. Stone (Knaresborough, North Yorkshire): See the undoing of tragic Tosca — tense going with stomach churning (*c+ anag. less t; ref. Verdi opera*).

VHC M. Barker, M. Barley, T. C. Borland, Dr J. Burscough, A. Chamberlain, J. Grimes, R. J. Heald, M. Hodgkin, J. C. Leyland, M. Lloyd-Jones, M. Lunan, D. F. Manley, P. W. Marlow, J. R. C. Michie, C. G. Millin, J. Smailes, R. C. Teuton, J. R. Tozer, T. West-Taylor, Dr E. Young.

- 39 Prevent condition with removal of mine (5)
 - 40 Royal favourite in pursuit of fashion? Old bore (7)
 - 41 *One wandering glens surrounded by Scottish river* (10)
- DOWN**

- 1 *Dish to extinguish — dismay when losing a spread* (13)
- 2 Red in the face after spells of bowling? Mark often is (8)
- 3 Ornamental loop, topic for knitting (5)
- 4 *Female involved in excellent dessert coming up* (8)
- 5 Love bottled pub drink — it's bitter (4)
- 6 Bids at table formerly showing strength East held (4)
- 7 Roundabout in LA or Edinburgh's noisy, including junction? (6)
- 8 Rung sweethearts up (4)
- 9 Early instrument producing silence — relief almost (5)
- 10 *Poorly organized and secretive, clubs dine inside* (13)
- 18 Conservative in dress, perform together (5)
- 19 Dig has this to be expanding, volatile? (5)
- 21 Make good Elizabethan houses (4)
- 23 One getting married in a state of reverence (4)
- 24 Lupin maybe artist's shown in embroidery fabric (8)
- 25 Monogram possibly I found in Latin is requiring translation (8)
- 27 *A selection of exquisite sausage rolls* (6)
- 30 Crumpled peplos page scrubbed in Greek vessels (5)
- 32 Street accepts this outsider to be outstanding (5)
- 34 Palm clutching love letter from abroad (4)
- 35 I'll serve for rubber, a point up (4)
- 36 Work in silver getting one eagerly excited (4)

Every word used is in *The Chambers Dictionary* (2014) except one familiar proper name.