

Azed No. 2,471 Plain

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Name _____

Address _____

Post code _____

Across

- 1 Scary witch characters regularly avoided – one may be bowed (5)
- 8 Married CEO consuming high tea? (5)
- 13 Nurse with copper put in sticky stuff, medicinal resin (8)
- 14 A cart – with it trundled around like steppe-dwellers (7)
- 15 Chairman from Spain accepted by Fleet Street? (6)
- 16 College head admits out-and-out tendency to flip (9)
- 17 It's central to one's policy, and nothing else (5)
- 18 Cast that's peevish given attention (8)
- 20 Snitch on mum about to give birth as before? I don't believe it! (13, 3 words)
- 24 Moles deviously trapped in garden? That was sound (8)
- 27 Jimmy given regular space to measure casual wear (5)
- 30 Small bouncer showing huff in awkward matter (9)
- 32 Wine container can, almost open but not closed (6)
- 33 Wider eddies circling running water lost energy (7)
- 34 Roman Cato lambasted dismissing a Caesar maybe (8)
- 35 Foreign script shown by a single vellum, but not on edging? (5)
- 36 Any round stone one's turned over, aspiring to be creative (5)

Down

- 1 Caught lilting chant about old serf? It's played with hands (11)

- 2 Like enthusiastic Ibrox fans, sounding like a Stewart? (6)
- 3 Ancient curse dominating early part of Tannhäuser (for Wagner's character) (5)
- 4 Small heraldic band having complexity round radius (7)
- 5 Shakespearean director wanting RU team in Madrid? (6)
- 6 Club wastes away, cutting rates (4)
- 7 One over-keen on the drink has a swim with nothing on (5)
- 9 Plant family, one with odd features of cherry (4)
- 10 Society in the US paraded unrestrainedly in Indian silk (6)
- 11 Polish, weird, introducing former German currency shortly (5)
- 12 Thus you may see dry seed slip all over the place (11)
- 19 Director modified set before run (7)
- 21 Plains? Special follows just after the lot coming up (6)
- 22 Like victim of Heracles, one topped with shaggy mane (6)
- 23 Logs, number among chopped trees (6)
- 25 Corded bead: Jamie cuts one hollowed out (5)
- 26 Spinach run out (short)? Cooks snip this maybe (5)
- 28 Drunk rolled over in a bit of a kip, leaning somewhat (5)
- 29 Fill tank till spilling out for Scottish sheep-pen (4)
- 31 Start of riot blocking way out perversely (4)

The Chambers Dictionary (2014) is recommended.

Azed No. 2,468 solution & notes

1	S	K	E	G	G	C	A	P	U	C	H	E
11	O	R	T	A	N	I	Q	U	E	R	O	T
12	W	A	L	L	A	O	U	N	K	E	N	O
	N	M	C	E	T	S	A	G	A	M	E	N
17	D	E	A	T	H	T	R	A	P	A	B	I
19	A	R	U	M	I	R	A	N	T	R	A	
22	S	I	L	I	C	A	E	P	D	I	A	N
	C	A	D	M	A	C	R	O	C	O	S	M
27	A	P	R	I	C	O	T	T	J	N	E	O
30	R	A	I	N	A	D	O	H	E	A	R	T
	I	C	F	G	R	A	P	E	S	H	O	T
33	S	T	E	W	I	N	G	M	U	M	S	Y

Across 1, sk(in) + egg; 14, hidden; 17, anag. in pad (rev.); 22, (BA)silica; 24, a croc in anag.; 27, ric(h) in a pot; 30, i.e. (d)rain, & lit.; 31, A in anag. of the R; 34, mums (qv) + y.
Down 1, i.e. anag. of Downs (Down clues); 3, 2 meanings; 4, anag. + thic(k); 6, aqua + anag.; 8, e in anag. & lit.; 15, ca' + anag.; 18, ore (rev.) in brass; 25, r in açai; 26, OTT in my!; 29, J + use (rev.).

Rules and requests
 £25 in book tokens for the first three correct solutions opened.
 Solutions postmarked no later than Saturday to:
 Azed No. 2,471, The Observer, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU.