

Azed No. 2,478 Plain

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Azed No. 2,500

There will be a special lunch in Wolfson College, Oxford on Saturday 2 May 2020 to mark Azed No. 2,500. For full details please send an a/c to Richard Heald, Azed 2,500, 13 Eshton Court, Mappletwell, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S75 5QG, or email rhead@richardgooglemail.com.

Name _____

Address _____

Post code _____

Across

- Close social group producing endless badinage in chaotic meetings (12)
- Mendicant in fast following sermon (7)
- Form of Malay cloth worn like a sarong (4)
- Masses of stodgy material? Big meeting engrossed in dull one (7)
- Old groan is over-leading article (5)
- Calypso-style music, sol-disant – 50% of it anyway (4)
- Scandal rags distributed in Fulham maybe (8)
- Sofa Muslim starts to pray on mat after kneeling (5)
- Lopper titled up drive (6)
- Derby-based artist, carpenter from Dundee (6)
- Rare delivery for sports club, informally (5)
- Pugilistic venue – suffers butterflies (8)
- 'Bish', utterance that may startle bishop (4)
- Fringes of hell? Satanic off-spring is found on one (5)
- Tavern beset by row enjoying better luck down under (7)
- Northern headdress like this is suggesting one from Ireland? (4)
- Gabbro mined partly for chemical element (7)
- Record septet made a mess of? Lot did it disastrously (12)

Down

- Hickey maybe, spigot manipulated with wires, right? (12)
- Turbulence, mostly round Turkey initially – I'm getting up? (7)
- I put on recording about heart of forests, overgrown (5)
- Oil from versatile tree, source of shade concealing us (4)
- Big bucks for celebrity? Astronomical item (8)
- Mull as setting for wild roo? That's funny (8)
- Plant fibre a shopping basket upended (5)
- Salad ingredient available in cafe/taverna (4)
- I ear arrived chez Regan in such a state? Worked hard to contain snarls (12)
- What's jostling this old pretender, see? Courts (6)
- Coachman d-dead in midst of major conflict (8)
- Figures in lives on fringes of unruly regent (8)
- Livestock farmers overseeing their charges' feeder, eschewing rough colouring (7)
- Sanction bag circumvented by wriggly eel (6)
- Not many play this on going on line? (5)
- Mother making version of muesli, not universal (5)
- Humour (possibly black), device MO dismissed (4)
- A little bit of red in a cup? (4)

The Chambers Dictionary (2014) is recommended.

Azed No. 2,475 solution & notes

1	C	O	M	M	I	S	S	A	R	I	A	T		
	10	P	O	U	R	C	A	S	E	R	N	E		
12	C	A	N	T	O	R	I	S	C	O	E	R		
14	O	L	E	I	N	A	N	M	I	N	A	E		
			16	R	E	P	E	N	T	E	R	S		
17	I	D	E	M	D	E	A	P	E	R	S	E		
20	S	A	B	O	T	S	P	A	S	P	E	C		
25	T	R	A	N	S	O	S	E	S	A	T			
28	L	I	E	T	O	E	S	S	T	A	S	I		
			29	S	D	E	I	N	T	A	G	L	I	O
32	S	T	E	R	N	A	L	E	R	U	S	E	N	
34	M	A	N	O	F	L	E	T	T	E	R	S		

Across 1, marcatissimo; m miss a/c in c/c; 10, roup; 0 in pur; 11, careens; E RN in case; 12, cast-iron; torn in cans; 14, eloin; lei in on; 15, amine; a in mine; 16, represent; rep enters; 17, dime; ide + m; 19, Parsee; a p + Erse; 20, boasts; a bot in SS; 23, cept; p in sec; 25, patroness; ran sp; in tose; 28, bolle; lle to; 30, astis; tas in S; 31, ligation; in tag + oil (rev.); 32, saltern; tern in sal; 33, user; rd(g)se; 34, fore-statement; anag; in matters.

Down 1, cosmical; os metc in Cal.; 2, pedale; hidden; 3, enom; nor in em; 4, ride on; rd eon; 5, parses; parse CS; 6, anise; is in an E; 7, tierces; CE in ters; 8, noif; no; 11; 9, arenas; a + saner (rev.); 13, secretions; secret + anag.; 18, Ten Room (Café Royal restaurant); anag. + mo (rev.); 19, potales; OT in pales; 21, harsia; is (rev) in tara; 22, Rastus; ras + sat (rev.); 24, aeries; Erle in as; 26, plane; plane; 27, seals; tin seas; 29, need; 'knead'

Rules and requests
 £25 in book tokens for the first three correct solutions opened.
 Solutions postmarked no later than Saturday to:
 Azed No. 2,478, The Observer, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU.