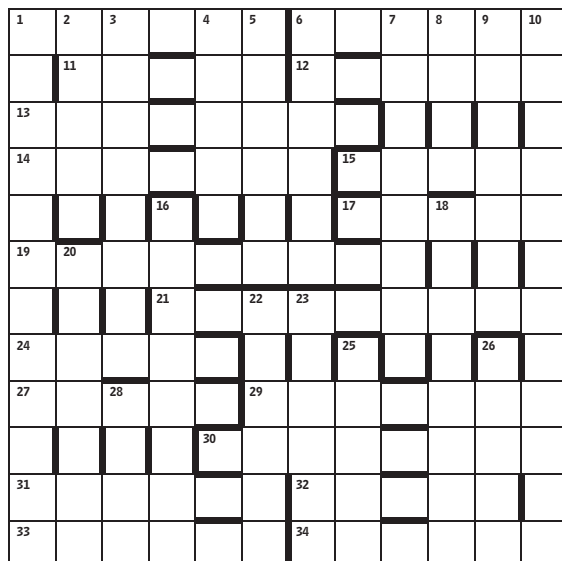


Azed No. 2,494 Plain



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 sae to Richard Heald, Azed 2,500, 13 Eshton Court, Mapplewell, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S75 5QG, or email heald.richard@goolemail.com. Please allow a few weeks for a reply.

Name _____

Address _____

Post code _____

Across

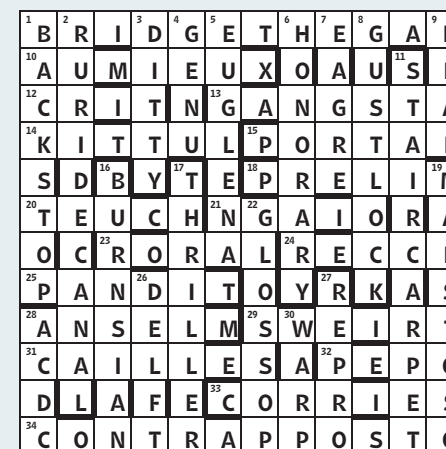
- 1 Tough US fish cut by heavy knife (6)
- 6 Falling for Shakespeare, acted in plays losing oneself? (6)
- 11 Wee Soay that is following Mac's grandchild round, weak (5)
- 12 Colourful bird? My lot's taken in by the myth (6)
- 13 Tropical palm increased in size twice, we hear (8)
- 14 Hunters' guides badly enthralled by their Grants? (7)
- 15 Due degrees regularly lacking for poets grievously (5)
- 17 Drink's going the wrong way causing hissy fit! (5)
- 19 Given sack (litre) count goes round in chilled-out fashion (9)
- 21 Sugar in some veg, no safer if granulated (9)
- 24 Trains with weight snatching – it establishes one's fit (5)
- 27 Disputed point – half of it's covered at start of paper (5)
- 29 Brussels number in ceremony to undo Brexit? (7)
- 30 Hotel chain identified by style of furniture (8)
- 31 Discussion down under giving coup de grâce to error mostly misguided (6)
- 32 Small marks in mottled blue inflorescence (5)
- 33 Gentleman without prospects? Gossip's accordingly circulating (6)
- 34 Standard experience of early Indian immigrants (6)

Down

- 1 Fails to move after e.g. garb is tangled in burrs (12, 2 words, apostrophe)
- 2 Lofty spot, one featuring in old song (5)
- 3 Loiter around the office, having turned up – crazy (8)
- 4 A lost signet like this varlet rediscovered – silver-gilt possibly (5)
- 5 Poise renewed, in part unruffled (6)
- 6 Warm day came to an end (6)
- 7 Shivery nude, yet clutching very soft fabric (8)
- 8 Artist-designer who's displayed in beer tent (4)
- 9 Regarding gaseous element: within reason, it's first to react (7)
- 10 Peer let off – nasty scene follows – it shows what VR could do (12)
- 16 Vehicle going over bird – case on it is often moving (8)
- 18 Gallfly: it's found in Aegean island (8)
- 20 Formerly (but no longer) admits cessation for hearing (7)
- 22 Abandon Scotch in favour of house Orvieto initially (6)
- 23 Release from commitment following breakdown of Europe (love lost) (6, 2 words)
- 25 Name of Asian state, wrong but including right one (5)
- 26 Lifted old gold coin out of pit (5)
- 28 Rail transport arose with no end in sight (4)

The Chambers Dictionary (2014) is recommended.

Azed No. 2,491 solution & notes



Across 1, Bridget + g in heap; sv gap; 12, see lit crit; 14, kit + tul(war); 21, comp. anag.; 24, r + ecce; 25, i.e. p and it = pit; 28, S in an elm; ref. early Archbishop of Canterbury; 33, anag. in 'cos; 34, (V)on Trapp in cost 0; ref. *The Sound of Music*,
Down 1, anag. in bap; ref. Brexit debate; 2, ru(e) ride canal; 3, TT in DIY; 6, nor in hoary; 11, air-car P in anag.; 17, t hr iller; 22, ref. Sir Roderick G.; P. G. Wodehouse character opposed to B. Wooster's marriage to his daughter Honoria; 27, or per. (rev.); 28, c in ADC; 30, war-p(roof).

Rules and requests

£25 in book tokens for the first three correct solutions opened.
 Solutions postmarked no later than Saturday to:
 Azed No. 2,494, The Observer, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU.