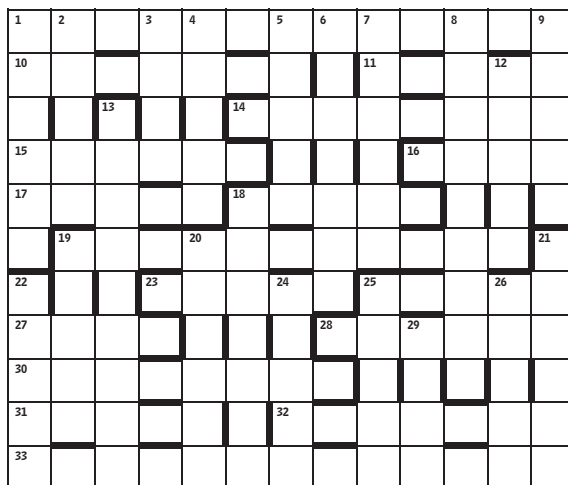


Azed No. 2,497 Plain



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@gmail.com. Please allow a few weeks for a reply.

Name _____

Address _____

Post code _____

Across

- 1 Mrs with pride's shown off during traditional bustle (13)
- 10 Husband greeting past, being up for it (7)
- 11 Create embarrassment in adult party (5)
- 14 Little Mary receives a number in flowing fashion? (8)
- 15 Ferdinand maybe on trial for unruly behaviour (6)
- 16 An artist orders this facsimile in RA (4)
- 17 I'm surprised about Globe Theatre – it's often full (5)
- 18 Taste of soup in ladle requiring herb (5)
- 19 Off-licence in Perth, say, preserves rent (11, 2 words)
- 23 Fish brought back just after being caught: bit of income for W. African (5)
- 25 Part of flowering plant most support with bit of twine (5)
- 27 God seen as inspiring part of scripture for canon (4)
- 28 E. Asian language inscription in Norman church (6)
- 30 Worry about damaged icons with corrosion of metal parts (8)
- 31 Teasel may show fifty such (5)
- 32 Fish holding rod wrongly? Critics may differ about it (7)
- 33 Olga, Maria or Irina, head of operator's back-up team? (13, 2 words)

Down

- 1 US attorney limits mischief displaying righteousness (6)

- 2 Speech but not on outlying legal principle? (5)
- 3 Mining area in Cornwall and in Dorset (tin) (4)
- 4 Sea quarry regularly culled? (5)
- 5 Cash low – get a load of that! (5)
- 6 Furry garment? Pile's wasted on bits of sham ermine (7)
- 7 Wherein vermin perish wretchedly, trap sprung over it (6)
- 8 Wrist protector, advantage when covering tense support (9)
- 9 Pet cups like this may have been mixed for the party (5)
- 12 Turf-cutters' tool – special course required (5)
- 13 Top men, too busy, I'll never inflect (9)
- 18 Humbly loading funeral vehicle, being less calm... (7)
- 19 ... As a result of this, nuisance about funeral's end? (5)
- 20 Relax in centre of settee – part of family crockery produced (6, 2 words)
- 21 In leaving chaotic terminus, it's not worth betting on (6)
- 22 A drop of rum in the pud? Delay no longer! (5)
- 24 Cause of financial crash pa ignored before he gets commercial opportunity (5)
- 25 British Raj done for, independence produces staple food grain (5)
- 26 Head of candle hot? Fair enough – snuff it (5)
- 29 Would they survive 1 October? Not if deadly shots start off thus (4)

The Chambers Dictionary (2014) is recommended.

Azed No. 2,494 solution & notes

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | B | A | D | A | S | S | C | A | D | E | N | T |
| 10 | E | Y | O | W | I | E | L | O | U | R | I | E |
| 13 | G | R | O | O | G | R | O | O | V | T | T | L |
| 14 | G | I | L | L | I | E | S | D | E | E | R | E |
| 15 | A | E | A | C | L | N | E | S | T | R | O | P |
| 19 | R | E | L | A | X | E | D | L | Y | H | U | R |
| 20 | S | A | L | R | A | F | F | I | N | O | S | E |
| 24 | T | R | Y | O | N | O | R | B | E | D | S | S |
| 27 | I | S | U | E | R | E | U | N | I | T | E | |
| 28 | C | H | O | S | S | H | E | R | A | T | O | N |
| 31 | K | O | R | E | R | O | U | M | B | E | L | C |
| 33 | S | T | A | L | K | O | P | A | R | S | E | E |

Across 6, anag. less l; 11, oy (rev.) + w + i.e.; 14, ill in gies; ref. Scotch whisky; 17, ports (rev.); ref. tradition of circulating decanter clockwise; 27, (t)issue; 29, EU n in rite; 31, KO + anag. less r; 34, par see.

Down 1, anag. + sticks; 3, loo (rev.) in dally; 4, comp. anag. less a; 8, pseudonym of Russian-born French artist/designer Romain de Tirtoff (1892-1990); 9, it + r in nous; 10, VR = Victoria Regina and virtual reality; 20, ho in east; 25, r in bum + a; 23, f + anag. less 0; 26, (pi)stole(t).

Rules and requests

£25 in book tokens for the first three correct solutions opened. Solutions postmarked no later than Saturday to: Azed No. 2,497, The Observer, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU.