

Azed No. 2,501 Plain

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Azed No. 2,500

In light of the coronavirus crisis, it has been decided to postpone the lunch at Wolfson College, Oxford, originally planned for Saturday 2 May, until Saturday 26 September. For all details send an SAE to Azed 2,500, 13 Eshton Court, Mapplewell, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S75 5QG, or email heald.richard@googlemail.com

Name _____

Address _____

Post code _____

Across

- 1 Shallow watercourse, very warm in continent's extremes (5)
- 7 Lives with little to go round, requiring support (5)
- 11 Reptilian creature offering extra drinks after moderation (10)
- 12 Beer mixed with rum in part of old helmet (7)
- 13 Swellings, start of plague? What often precedes the word going round (5)
- 14 River that is containing strong current (4)
- 15 Midriff showing loss but no sign of age (4)
- 16 Direct fan for repair – it's broken (9)
- 19 Ill-natured female retaining right to desire (8)
- 20 Like richly decorated chairs? I left pair in keep of one much admired (8)
- 25 Hurricanes? Real pains when flying about (9)
- 27 Type of binding always backing pages (4)
- 28 What Troon gatecrashers do, showing contempt when shunned by clubs (4)
- 29 Trendy gym accepting one that's unfit (5)
- 30 Liquidised? Such dry fruit did when pounded (7)
- 31 After silence, brook head causing the opposite thereof? (10)
- 33 Turner cut short yard of wood strip (5)
- 33 Combines one agreement incorporating another (5)

Down

- 1 Sacred charm crafted from a rich nugget, half lost (8)
- 2 Maize porridge, plain, for consuming at home (6)
- 3 Content of storeroom for performer in ring (6)
- 4 Opening in a college (Oxford) coming up? Not on (5)
- 5 Essential part of Trinity, one routine seen amid shimmering spires (12)
- 6 I've affinity for negative charges and rile the police awfully? Not I (12)
- 7 Cane yielding alternative to honey and source thereof (6)
- 8 Given to faddish theory, I mostly relish accepting upsurge of it (7)
- 9 Rotting snake found on island (6)
- 10 Two pairs from Towcester's line-up rarely thrown (4)
- 17 Being so gauche shuns set (8)
- 18 Plays subtly dividing feet – near-miss space-wise? (7)
- 21 Whitebait substitute causing bad angina (6)
- 22 Shot after victory? That's bleak (6)
- 23 Company circulates just like at home in old dance hall (6)
- 24 What examiners do in university encapsulated by 'dark blue' (6)
- 26 Idle year requiring cash, commonly (5)
- 27 E.g. McEwan's best, badly needed after end of austerity (4)

The Chambers Dictionary (2014) is recommended.

Azed No. 2,498 solution & notes

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| 31 | S | | H | | E | | A | | T | | E | | A | | R | | I | | E | | S | | T |

Across 10, Perca + pita; 12, rac(e) in caul; 19, c heel in site; 20, i.e. three R's in anag.; 23, NZ in sea; ref. NZ city; 24, f(rag m)ent; 30, anag. + BE + tort (rev.); 32, E. Aries in TT.

Down 3, i.e. to do; 5, scar pers(on); 6, rap in sae; 16, comp. anag.; 22, re c tor; 27, 2 meanings.

Special announcement

We regret to announce that, until further notice, we are unable to offer prizes for solvers of the Azed weekly crosswords. The special monthly Azed clue-writing competitions are not affected and will continue as normal. Entry rules for these will appear as usual.