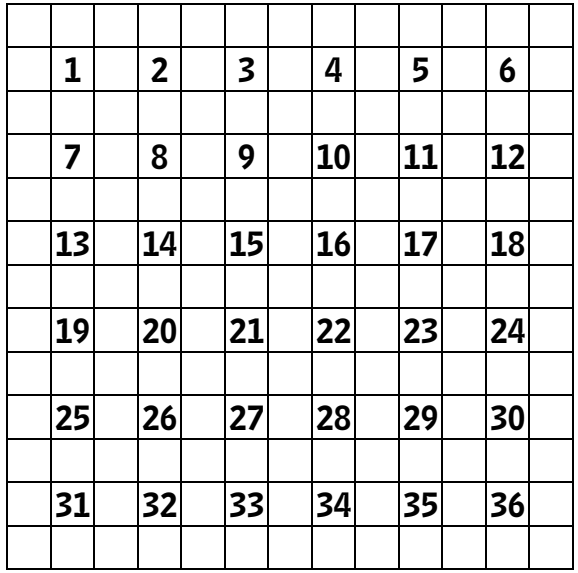
Azed No. 2,610 'Eightsome Reels'



Each numbered square in the diagram is surrounded by eight blank squares. All clues lead to answers of eight letters, and these are to be entered around their appropriate numbers, clockwise or anticlockwise, beginning anywhere. Solvers must determine where each begins and the direction in which it is to go. The twelve unchecked letters at the corners of the completed diagram may be arranged as LESS FINE POEM.

Name

Address

Post code

1 Deadhead what overdue bloomers display?
2 Place for voyage details initially gets all muddled with nothing entered
3 Old bit of furniture ripe for plunder?
4 Cheers firm that can be experienced
5 A lemon crushed? At inside a fruit acid product
6 Cease cooking round chop for a thinner cut
7 Control such as is contained by ultra deploying energy
8 Togs'll measure what you do, restyling lean suit
9 Government put forward for discussion what's likely to collapse?
10 Where church panels may sit in secret — a blessing
11 Finds new words for whistle-blower with terrible smear
12 Mark flipper with head of gouge — part of whaler's dissection of carcase
13 Group we've left involved G. Stein, one for developing master race?
14 Gentle old fellow with fatty stuff on end of nose
15 US warehouse keeper calls about putrefaction all over
16 Band of twisted metal present in ornamental lampstand
17 Cow, English, in favour of being kept in appropriate group
18 Doctor back, on firm ground being completely variable
19 Militant appearing in a court briefly is seen in ITV broadcast
20 Doctor intervening when cocaine is involved
21 Insurance scheme I deem out of order, covering vehicle
22 Welsh elite, part of circle that's brought back dance (not accepted)
23 'Foul mixture', reverse of solid, mass Scotsman swallowed
24 Monkey? See some getting flogged in market
25 Antic when swimming in catching a sea-anemone
26 One's held in charge — here's the pointer
27 Welcoming investigators around, I'd net crook accused
28 Symbolic meal came up in talk informally
29 Flavoursome herb to spoil large drink
30 Wire edging, obstruction when bent back
31 Trouble following dip in river? Something to deal with extremities on hand
32 Showing brass that's bust, lacking inner volume
33 Spin-drier not fully working? One's responding to fresh ideas
34 Bull may be pulled by this diminutive bird entering drink
35 Erica, breaking rule? — 'a thing of shreds and patches'
36 How corpse ends in morgue's awfully ... so?

Every answer is in The Chambers Dictionary (2014).

Azed No. 2,607 solution & notes

1 S	2 T	3 R	E	4 T	C	5 H	E	6 R	7 B	O	8 N	9 D
10 P	O	E	T	I	S	E	11 H	O	O	P	E	R
12 U	R	D	Y	N	13 H	A	I	R	W	A	V	E
D	14 P	A	M	P	15 E	R	S	T	L	16 L	E	A
17 D	I	R	K	O	N	S	T	18 S	P	A	L	D
I	D	19 G	U	T	T	E	R	20 M	A	N	21 S	L
22 N	23 A	U	N	24 T	A	C	I	I	25 U	N	T	O
G	V	E	26 G	U	27 S	L	O	T	T	E	R	C
28 B	I	B	A	T	I	O	N	H	29 T	R	E	K
30 I	N	D	I	E	S	31 T	E	R	P	E	N	E
32 T	E	N	D	E	R	H	E	A	R	T	E	D

Across 1, anag. in stretched; 11, ho oper(a); 14, m in papers; 17, R in kid (rev.); ref. the 3 Rs; D. Gently, comic sci-fi detective; 19, term in anag.; 22, U in nan + t; 27, ' s + lotter(y); 28, bi- + I in baton; 30, in dies (Latin); 32, ten + anag. in deed.
Down 1, s pudding bit; 2, to + r + dip (rev.); 6, str(I'd)or (rev.); 23, (r)avine.

Rules and requests
£25 in book tokens for the first three correct solutions opened.
Solutions postmarked no later than Monday week to:
Azed No. 2,610, The Observer, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU.