AZED No. 1,804 'A Ghost Ruse' CHRISTMAS COMPETITION PUZZLE

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ACROSS

- **3** A cube's crumbled round belly of beef? (10, 2 words)
- 10 To knight a few fruit will need first to be discarded (8)
- **12** See preamble (7)
- **13** It's sunny for mum in Baalbec, on tour (5)
- 14 The Lady's retrospective number: it's after wish fading (5)
- 15 Blend of Cretan, tons, fills wherry (7)
- **16** Foot's in pile with entering stoned scrummaging (9)
- 17 Finer mitts: off-piste patrols will hold these back (4)
- **18** Pardon Garth sheltering from weather, nursing onset of laryngitis (5)
- 20 Robber's catty, years banged up (5)
- 24 See preamble (4)
- 26 Why birds mope as air becomes turbulent (9)
- 27 Rooty moat? One has to row round very African garden plot (7)
- **28** Art of e.g. old Poe'd suit the heartless (5)
- 30 Less than boot, it's very good in difficulty (5)
- 31 On which leader's rent disturbed Celt ballot box? (7)
- 32 College, resalad that's rotten, cried 'Waiters!' (8)
- **33** Joint ingested by company, one with salt sprinkled round (10)

AZED 1,801 Solution & notes

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RULES AND REQUESTS

Send solution and clue to replace definition asterisked (on separate sheet also bearing name and address, securely attached) to Azed No. 1.804, PO Box 518, Oxford, OX2 6WX. Entries should be postmarked no later than Saturday. Please add a brief explanation of your clue (one entry only). £35, £30, £25 prizes and Azed bookplates for the three clues judged best. The Azed Slip, containing details of successful competition entries and Azed's comments, is available on subscription at \pounds 13 a year for 13 issues (\pounds 16 for overseas subscribers). Cheques payable to the Azed Slip, should be sent to The Azed Slip, Coombe Farm, Awbridge, Romsey SO51 OHN. To receive a sample slip, please send an sae to this address.

DOWN

- **1** Search cheat, cunning darling admitting trick (12)
- 2 Half-lie male repeated (4)
- **3** Gold ore still found round river (6)
- 4 Duck in tureen, cooked, gets low! (7, 2 words)
- 5 Punning in cast disguised a clue round end of whodunnit (6)
- 6 Actor flakes matter on board? (5)
- 7 Coot after healing end of toe breaks record (6)
- 8 Sap bets? Colt entered goes into the water (7)
- *9 Knowing what to wear (12, 2 words)
- **11** Rector in strange sign fakes mace (5)
- 17 Sighs weighing lead, taking in one who's inconsistent (7)
- **19** Small child wearing hat met in Saatchi's (7)
- **21** Hake in right set swimming with young seal? (6)
- **22** A tar drunkenly grips end of taffrail it's used when coming through hatch (5)
- 23 In pay that wanes one gets crafty about foreign money (6)
- **25** Whence comes dairy's mope? It's centre for churns in confusion (6)
- 26 Is posy nest treasured? Sounds like it (5)
- **29** Divide up fine malt (4)

Every word is in The Chambers Dictionary (2003) ...

Across 1, C + amber in anag.; 10, Ilin levee +r; 13, Nin anag., & Ilit, 14, c + oryza; 19, war/Ares; 23, El all in obi; 31, Hun D (= 500) red; 33, tons (rev.) + anag.

Down 1, clock + anag.; 2,he(ir) bona; 5, (sm)el(ly) farrow; 7, NT in tara; 8, in sea Med; 9, wok in anag.; 16, win in drags; 17, penny (p) + dog; 22, D and le; 29, hidden.

A-Z of Crosswords by Jonathan Crowther (Azed) is published by HarperCollins at £17.99

AZED No. 1,801 Prizewinners

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