

Address

Postcode

O R A N G Ina Playfair word square the codeword (in which E S T I C noletter recurs) is followed by the remaining letK B D F H ters of the alphabet, I doing double duty for land J (see left). To encode a word it must first be split into $L M P Q$ pairs of letters e.g. CRITIC AL. Each pair is then $\checkmark$ W X Y Z seen as forming the diagonally opposite corners of a rectangle within the word square, the other two corner letters being the encoded form. Thus, in the example shown, CR gives SG (not GS, which RC would give). Where a pair of letters appears in the same row or column in the word square, its encoded form is produced from the letters immediately to the right of or below each respectively. For the last letters in a row or column the first letters in the same row or column become the encoded forms. Thus IC is encoded as CE. When all the pairs are encoded, the word is joined up again, thus CRITICAL is encoded as SGCICEOP. Answers to the four clues in italics, which are linked semantically to the codeword, must be encoded thus in the diagram. The codeword must then be deduced with the help of the answers to normal clues, so that the diagram may be completed.
Competitors should submit a normal cryptic clue to the codeword with their solutions.

## ACROSS

1 Footman having to plough yard (6)
5 Old US 'tec, amateur when dodgy behaviour's around (6)
10 E.g. badgerish frenzy, ending for rude letter (short) (9)
12 Black man making bear (American) run (5)
13 Blood was high, leader lost, in retreat (4)
14 Region where mountains formed, ergo no quakes (6)
15 Sun precedes fog, following a certain logic system (6)
16 Team showing signs of aging, relegated? (9)
18 Wallaby No. 2 in penalty infringement, right? (8)
19 Staffinadequately blunder - many will conceal this (8)
24 Twist, dance that's eccentric (9)

## AZED 1,964 Solution \& notes



## RULES AND REQUESTS

Send solution and clue (on separate sheet also bearing name and address, securely attached) to Azed No. 1,967, 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 $£ 13$ a year for 13 issues ( $£ 16$ 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. For much more information on the Azed Slip, visit www. andlit.org.uk

Across 1, Eng. hals(e) Krug (brand of champagne); $12, \mathrm{~m}+$ line in out; 15 , tie for Tory in history; 17, (f)atten + d; 19, nib lick; 25, her + dess(ert); 39, snog it (all rev.); 31, I + on in fly; 32, emo + ng; 33, i.e. S(hakespeare), Will; 35, sent in mir eats.

Down 2, tin in anag.; 4, anag. less 0; 5, devol(ution) (rev.); 6, anag.; ref. former champion boxer Chris Eubank; 7, comp. anag.; 10, anag. incl. t(h)e; 11, aph(I'd) a nipter a; 18, all in anag.; see parcel; 24, elaborate vb; 27, hidden.

## AZED No. 1,964 Prizewinners

1 Namey Namey, Address Address 2 Namey Namey, Address Address 3 Namey Namey, Address Address

25 Plantain? Skunk tucked into me (6)
26 Mission to convert Tories? (6)
28 One in Utgard encountered people identically headed (4)
29 Keystone Cops half cut with gin, bottled (5)
30 Tor farmer cultivated to render suitable for plants etc (9)
31 Religious ascetic abandoned sense and energy (6)
32 Younger mussels one goes for in jar (6)

## DOWN

1 In the forest depths, poetic tomb's reconstructed after life's end (6)
2 Common weed forming part of flowery arrangement (4)
3 Look old, doddery, taken in by superiors or leeches? (12)
4 Girl that is cuddling cat, new (6)
5 Lawrence - or one such initially joining the navy in south-east (6)
6 Menial taken in by Olympian, a superior pro (7)
7 Greatly belittling what's small and unimportant, now forgotten, I lie about one (12)
8 Dawn almost rising, fuel scrapped as ineffective (8)
9 Arguments regular had with uppish drunk (6)
11 Hoisin sauce is variously used in a - house (5)
17 Independent couples embracing computer science is flattering, you might say (8)
18 Quarry worker, or pop musician? (7)
19 Old-style measure encountered in social gathering? (6)
20 Sample of liquefier pointed up demonstration as antiquated (6)
21 A corner store's tangled with - : an error possibly! (5)
22 Fibre-yielding trees from Australia, two members of the family? (6)
23 Palaeozoic arthropods showing round eye part, for unlimited viewing within (6)
27 Characters leading in great operatic roles? Here's one (4)

## The Chambers Dictionary (2008) is recommended but does not give 18 <br> Down (in the New SOED) or three proper names.

