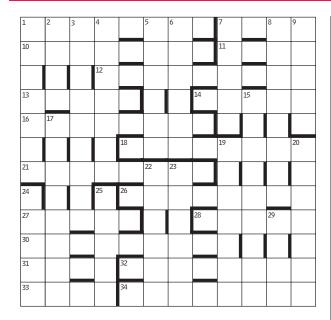
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ACROSS

- 1 Solid player's half miscued ace, unbeatable? (8)
- 7 Hump on a toad? It's pear-shaped (4)
- **10** Member of Oxford hall university lecturer leads song in one (8)
- 11 Party to love, held in local? (4, 2 words)
- 12 Sale: don't start it in Nov., I scribbled (9)
- **13** Area for passengers (cases cooler) (5)
- **14** It has edible flowers a worm chewed up (5)
- 16 Sort of balance that's summoned skill when going backwards (8, 2 words)
- **18** Lengthy US screed badly penned by very good husband (8)
- 21 Aubergine mum marked with spots (8)
- **26** Grand lady Luxembourg picked out from very many (8)
- 27 Not in favour of being involved with poisonous liquid (5)
- 28 Silverstone laps ... such a distance? (5)
- **30** Open, and spurt may result when you do it (9)
- 31 Modern poet, not on crack (4)
- 32 Refinement, as in 'cast' (8)
- **33** Extremes of fervour always apparent in brawl (4)
- **34** Crazy, like old kitchen after modern make-over? (8)

AZED 2.178 Solution & notes

| | | | | | | | | | | | | Across I, anag. + pass; 13, pa |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----|----|-------------|----|----------------------------|-----|----------------|-------------|----|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| ¹A | ²s | ³ T | R. | 0 | °c | °o | M | [®] P | Α | °s | s | 14, coo + 't; 16, op. h, y in anag |
| ¹ºp | Α | R | Τ | s | 0 | N | ю | Α | Т | н | ¹² S | |
| Q | U | Α | P | Α | w | s | 0 | ¹4C | 0 | 0 | Т | +rot (rev.); 30, an tab use; 35 |
| E. | L | Р | Е | 16 A | Р | 0 | Р | н | Υ | G | Е | (Fr.=east); 36, cross + dress |
| G | Τ | R | N | s | Е | N | ̈́Ρ | T | 19 L | U | М | Grayson, transvestite artist. |
| G . | Е | 0 | P. | Н | Α | G | Υ | s | Α | N | W | Down 2, Saul + i.e.; 4, comp. a |
| G | ²² S | С | R | °C | ੌΉ | ²⁵ A | R | Τ | s | МĨ | Α | Cowper with a for r; 6, (J) ons |
| ²² L | Α | К | Т | N | 0 | U | Å | "c | Т | 0 | R | in I sup (rev.); 9, 's hogun; 15, |
| Ã | N | Т | Α | "B | U | s | Ε | Α | Α | R | Ε | pair (rev.) in pus; 25, ref. Paul |
| s | Т | Α | Р | U | "S | Т | 1 | N | G | 0 | s | 26, o in morse; ref. The Walru |
| Š | ı | Т | U | s | "E | Е | R | ı | Е | s | Т | Carpenter (who 'shed a bitte |
| °C | R | 0 | s | s | D | R | Е | s | s | Е | R | ref. Bo, name of the Obamas |
| | | | | | | Portuguese water spaniel). | | | | | | |

Across 1, anag. + pass; 13, pain (s) quaws; 14, coo + 't; 16, op. h, y in anag.; 17, RN in GIs; 18, i.e. 'peel 'em'; 27, see lake⁴; 28, AC (Milan) +rot (rev.); 30, an tab use; 35, Erie in est (Fr. = east); 36, cross + dresser; ref. Perry Gravson, transvestite artist. Down 2, Saul + i.e.; 4, comp. anag.; 5, Cowper with a for r; 6, (J) on son + g; 8, an ag. in I sup (rev.); 9, 's ho gun; 15, e.g. g, g lass; 21, pair (rev.) in pus; 25, ref. Paul A., US writer; 26. o in morse: ref. The Walrus and the Carpenter (who 'shed a bitter tear'); 29, ref. Bo, name of the Obamas' pet dog (a

PRIZE RULES

£25 in book tokens for the first three correct solutions opened. Solutions postmarked no later than Saturday to AZED No. 2,181, The Observer, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU

DOWN

- 1 If old, court goes into chief points in private room (7)
- 2 Hindu festival (NB not found in one Indian state) (4)
- 3 A research place soon going round Director recklessly (9, 3 words, apostrophe)
- **4** Help offered up inveigles greedy Chinese native (7)
- **5** String of tinsel in a genipap tree (pretty old) (6)
- 6 Mad when banged up inside, convict displays place for pinups? (6, 2 words)
- 7 Mountaineers' peg? This gear men use, possibly (5)
- 8 Hands round contents of pool, right and left? They assist the needy (8, 2 words)
- **9** Delicious food is served up in this former French protectorate (5)
- **15** Rolling about in the sea, very hot when topless (9)
- 17 Participant in debate? It's rare one's trounced (8)
- 19 Relating to church of Rome, I'll yield to age in what's spoken therein (7)
- **20** Lutes broadcast in sharp focus, crowded together roughly (7)
- **22** Oar, very soft inside, getting to heave in rough water? (6)
- 23 Casual worker evading tax maybe, member breaking rule shockingly (6)
- **24** Graze sheep initially on place for links? (5)
- **25** Disjointed, near to ringing communications giant (5)
- **29** Chauffeur locating carbon in filter (4)

The Chambers Dictionary (2011) is recommended. It does not give an abbreviation referred to in 20.