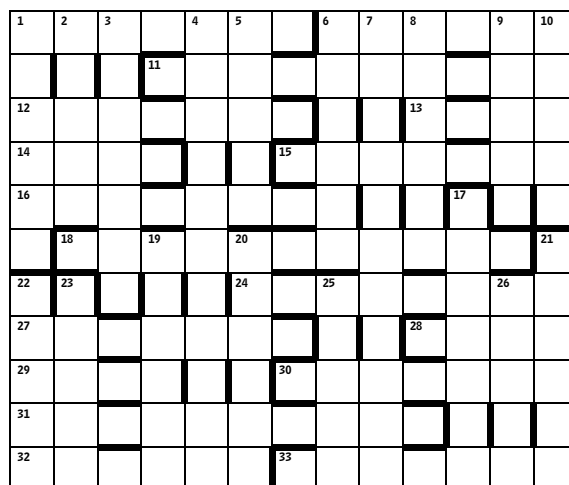


Azed No. 2,680 Plain



Name

Address

Post code

Across

- 1 Cup brewed, chat freely to exchange latest news? (7)
- 6 I'm Scot, tight – cause of regular amusement (6)
- 11 Rough sound, one stirring in mud? That was river fish (10)
- 12 Pastry, its middle roughly left unfinished (7)
- 13 Ball entering landed back in net (4)
- 14 Power, one in progress as source of nuclear force (4)
- 15 Item of underwear? Edge is visible in Church (7)
- 16 Short piece of roofing timber? There's chopped tree in it (8)
- 18 Stamp collecting – it brought back glimpses of my boyhood somewhere in E. Europe (11)
- 24 Groundnut initially planted in the area that's wild (8)
- 27 Smart thief, one likely to succeed pinching shimmering set (7)
- 28 Anorak needed in keener days (4)
- 29 What may be seen in lectern emblematically? (4)
- 30 I mixed vin, 50% TT, for guest rarely (7)
- 31 Socialist with devious art I name endlessly anti-sophist? (10)
- 32 Equine muscular degeneration, very small in lateral duct (6)
- 33 Gains yard, feeling very smooth (7)

Down

- 1 Verbal jokes, top to bottom, I had not noticed in Milton (6)

- 2 Appoint world leader? Responsibility of No. 9 (5)
- 3 Sandwich in container showing unexpected pigment (7)
- 4 Baron buried in the rotunda fashioned in historical style (11)
- 5 Part of play (not amateur) including performance pieces moved slowly (5)
- 6 Pain when taken in by old dandy, artless crooked politician (6)
- 7 Commanding disorderly private? I'm almost entirely restricting that (11)
- 8 Pieceworker aunt employed casually, odd bits of time called in (6)
- 9 Reichenbach's theory, nothing depressingly avoided by ally (5)
- 10 He may be seen in Roman units (marching) (5)
- 17 Dry after exercise, tucked into pastry and liquid measure (7)
- 19 Layout to do with strong hand makes this difficult (6)
- 20 Like Sandy's stubborn mount, no longer sluggish around race's end (6)
- 21 Tricks of perverse girl, bird that's reverse of embarrassed within? (6)
- 22 US grass snitches secretly in part (5)
- 23 What's confused with goral, emitting e.g. slow roar? (5)
- 25 Bar – not a beautiful place for alcohol moderation (5)
- 26 Build what no complete rectory can be without (5)

The Chambers Dictionary (2016) is recommended. It does not give the compound at 31.

Azed No. 2,677 solution & notes

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | P | A | S | T | Y | F | A | C | E | D | F | M |
| 11 | M | I | C | A | R | I | P | A | P | U | L | A |
| 14 | T | R | U | C | A | G | E | M | O | R | U | S |
| 16 | A | S | G | R | S | T | R | A | D | I | O | T |
| 18 | P | E | W | I | T | R | Y | S | W | A | R | E |
| 20 | P | A | I | N | L | E | S | S | P | N | I | R |
| 23 | A | R | S | E | P | E | P | E | R | O | N | I |
| 25 | L | E | A | M | O | B | U | G | O | W | A | N |
| 28 | O | S | T | I | N | A | T | O | P | P | T | G |
| 30 | O | C | U | L | I | S | T | E | A | R | I | N |
| 32 | S | U | R | B | E | T | E | Y | N | O | O | B |
| 34 | A | E | N | A | S | O | R | A | E | A | N | S |

Across 1, fac(t) in anag.; 13, up in a lap (all rev.); 15, mor u/s; 19, ref Great Bed of Ware; 24, per(s)on in anag.; 30, O + culi(nary); 34, sv Mandaeen; anag. + eans.

Down 2, A in anag.; 6, (p)apery; 9, anag. + in in ration; 12, rast(er); 23, see entry at Saturn; 26, basta with O for a; 29, alternate letters.

Rules and requests

Send your entry to Azed No. 2,680, *The Observer*, Kings Place, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU. Entries must be postmarked no later than the Saturday following publication of the puzzle and must reach us within 10 days of publication of the puzzle (ie by Wednesday week following publication). Readers' solutions will be selected at random from all those received by the Observer by that date until three correct solutions have been found. A £25 book token will be awarded for each of the three correct solutions selected. The book token will be sent by post. For further information visit theguardian.com/crosswords/2014/dec/30/azed-faq