

Azed No. 2,702 - Plain

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Name

Address

Post code

Across

- 1 Subtropical fruit in small cake, firm (6)
 6 Sitter in test fumbled is alluring (6)
 11 Give preference to pierrots I twice observed dancing (10)
 12 Fundraisers for German soldiers, number with endless disease (7, 2 words)
 13 Gives indecent treatment to turns, rare flop (4)
 14 Close loose robe without need of tie (4)
 15 Rust got to lift (8)
 17 I'll do a turn welcomed by king twice, or character representing him (5)
 18 Otters swimming are exciting, endlessly snorting (10)
 21 Grudge I held with chum around, rarely alert (10)
 24 The old regretted being married again – sounds vulgar (5)
 28 Total loss of appetite as before nurse accepts to assume as valid (8)
 29 Certain rodents, not all English (4)
 30 Aussie bum I confined to hospital bed (4)
 31 Twins dancing in do straighten out (7)
 32 Pipes clearly limited to awful groans (10, 2 words)
 33 Metrical marks, extremes of metre I positioned in the main (6)
 34 Flattery judged reverse of rubbish (6)

Down

- 1 Couples imbibing ten timeless nogs drunk as favour (12, 2 words)
 2 I'll get installed in a room once satisfied (5)
 3 Cloak and dagger stuff to happen involving outfit, superior (6)
 4 Part of old county division – I ask you about word (7)
 5 Love switching parts? Echo perhaps (5)
 6 Fuel not dried? Do this possibly (6)
 7 Anaesthetic? Take that, last taken first (5)
 8 Give wrong number for redirecting moisture (8)
 9 Dried flower-head, for example in sesame (6)
 10 Huge starry gathering, fantastically spruce result (12)
 16 One nicked in New York arriving with reputation slightly reduced (8)
 19 A tornado swirling without end that can damage US waterways (7)
 20 Remove extreme pressure in draught (6)
 22 A Latin clamour once rising – Romans had a handle on it? (6)
 23 Line in epic: a brief look in Shakespeare will suffice (6)
 25 Simple bag down under, sounding foolish locally (5)
 26 See me with absence of sun in waterproofs (5)
 27 Thoughtful, but without extremes, turning up in place for court hearing (5)

The Chambers Dictionary (2016) is recommended. It does not give 12, which is in Wikipedia.

Azed No. 2,699 solution & notes

1	O	F	F	C	U	T	T	E	R	A	S	C
11	N	A	I	A	D	R	E	T	I	M	E	R
14	S	I	G	N	I	A	L	U	N	I	T	E
16	S	T	R	I	P	P	E	R	G	R	A	M
	U	H	O	N	T	W	A	D	D	L	E	A
19	B	A	L	E	E	N	D	E	O	M	I	T
22	S	I	L	L	R	S	U	L	T	I	M	O
	I	S	H	E	A	T	H	E	T	S	A	R
27	D	I	S	T	R	A	C	T	E	D	L	Y
30	I	M	I	T	A	T	E	E	R	A	T	U
32	S	U	B	E	R	E	T	D	E	T	O	X
	E	L	B	R	I	D	E	R	L	E	S	S

Across 14, cf. syne¹ or sine³; 15, unit in ale; see morocco; 16, anag. + r gram; 19, bale¹ + en; 27, t in anag.; 31, r at u; 33, d(l)et + ox; 34, anag. in r, s.
Down 2, l in fath(er); ref. 'f., hope and charity'; 4, anag. + R; 6, t(h)e lead; 7, anag. incl. t; 10, anag. incl. o in cry; ref. Dido's suicide; 21, M + tads (rev.) in i.e.; 23, cf. tasted.

Rules and requests

Send your entry to Azed No. 2,702, *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