Azed No. 2,704 Plain

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Name

Address

Post code

Across

- Spray of lilac bet it's worth smelling? (10)
 German folk tales, waggish, chaps passed round (7)
- 12 King and prince showing symptom of disease? (5)
- 14 Red wine treat flooring behind where it's served maybe (9)
- **15** Shifting sands in Arabia, say (4)
- 17 Lied to deviously, universal where love is thin (6)
- 18 Grace shown in daily lives (6)
- **19** Senile Scots finish vermouth, and same again (6)
- **21** African folk, name occurring in old crews (6)
- **22** Privy with time requiring ablution (6)
- **25** Commanders given minimum of troops, horrified (6)
- 27 Austere businesses will contain such hellish regions (6)
- **28** Rhyme to learn hurriedly, favour on leaving (6)
- **31** Poet's racket to reverse penury (4)
- **32** Lact crazily with amour, blind in a way (9)
- **33** Soprano, see, with little or no accompaniment (5)
- **34** True restraint calling for honesty as of old (7)
- 35 Roughened mass of hair stuffing for these? (10)

Down

- 2 A rial's changed for bit of cash in the Maldives (5)
- 3 Glutton getting bill in NY that's taken in spin (9)

- 4 Water pot that's inclined to crack in Scotland, we hear (6)
- **5** Chain's attached to this part of halter, retentive (6)
- 6 Overseas conscript favoured most of service taking in Cuba (6)
- 7 Like silky patterned fabric Jerry put round his middle (6)
- 8 Beamed on comprehending line in cheery song (4)
- 9 Holy objects possibly required as boy marries (7)
- 10 Old word for chiastolite, translation of Scots Norse (10)
- **13** Led astray in serious self-denial, unlikely to be thrown (10)
- **16** Specify number among left-overs and trimmings (9)
- **20** Some active on the water possibly created by Ransome (7)
- 23 Viol leading dance causing collywobbles (6)
- 24 Armed guard to pay for, as in Shakespeare, protecting King (6)
- 25 Supplier for old soldiers providing a packing case, second to last (6)
- **26** Divine trio in the sea and air age with transformation (6)
- **29** Falsify most of faith (5)
- **30** Spanish dagger disembowelled one roughly (4)

The Chambers Dictionary (2016) is recommended.

Azed No. 2,701 solution & notes

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25 T	R	Е	м	В	L	Е	26 P	27 R	I	28 N	т
29 S	0	т	Α	D	Е	Α	N	Е	N	0	U
³⁰ O	L	E	N	Т	В	Т	³¹ A	G	G	R	1
U	E	R	32 D	E	В	Α	R	М	E	N	Т
33 R	Е	0	U	0	Y	L	F	³⁴ Δ	L	Α	Е

Across 16, n in Ital.; ref. 12 Ac.; 17, lit in stye; 26, (s)print; 30, (p)olent(a); 32, barmen in Det.; 34, alternate letters.

Down 3, ham + A, Z (rev.); 5, ef in ruse; 6, at in glos(s); 8, cf. starlet; 19, a role in PE; 20, man d in tau; 23, i.e. ebb in ply; 24, a in metal; 28, R in anon (rev.); 29. sourcier.

Rules and requests

Send your entry to Azed No. 2,704, 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 thequardian.com/crosswords/2014/dec/30/azed-faq