AZED No. 1,835 Plain

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ACROSS

- Having some chance, debate thoroughly following conscience as of old (12, 4 words)
- 10 Run in, I spoke convoluted lies (7)
- 12 Unaccompanied the old hide, wrapped in a cloak (9, 2 words)
- 13 Hardwood tree for a table (part of it anyway) (4)
- 14 Old curtain with jolly lining, scarlet or gilt-bronze (6)
- 15 Bible binding hardened by the sun, front missing, alas (6)
- 17 Poetic music Spenserian could not (wrongly) indicate (4)
- 18 Two pairs of bulldogs displaying fighting skill (4)
- 20 Old giantess maybe in thin metal plates (8, 2 words)
- 21 Breeches one has let out? Not his (8)
- 22 Mountain pass offering little good cover (4)
- 24 Amphibian from yard entering river (4)
- 26 Distributes tax returns received by assistant secretary (6)
- 29 Narcotic? It's concealed in spicy cake (6)
- 31 Minstrel of old producing self-contained work (4)
- 32 Alarmed about 'ome sound system getting scratched (9)
- 33 Page lately rewritten for short stage piece (7)
- 34 One's opponents in the spiritual world (12, 3 words)

AZED 1,832 Solution & notes

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PRIZE RULES

£25 in book tokens for the first three correct solutions opened. Solutions postmarked no later than Saturday to AZED No.1,835, The Observer, 3-7 Herbal Hill, London EC1R 5EJ

Across 1, i.e. mud Ge; 15, i.e. pesto with to ast = pest; 20, rein crease; 22, D + Rama; 27, vita (rev.) in anag.; 28, a + anag. in nip; 31, 'geezer'.

Down 1, is in mater; 2, comp. anag.; 3, dob+r+A; 4, see sponsor; 5, anag. less E; OS = Ordinance Survey; 6, I oodl(es) in betting; 8, 'e in bluey + e; 9, anag. less v, & lit.; 10, ref. 'a stitch in time ...'; 22, gnaw(e)d (rev.); 23, R a née; 26, hidden.

AZED No. 1,832 Prizewinners

1 Terry Kirk, London, Middx 2 V. Dixon, Dublin, Ireland 3 Jan Edwards, Bourton-on-the-Water, Glos

DOWN

- 2 British struggle turning up in religious dance abroad (6)
- 3 It was recorded in letters of Bowra teasingly (5)
- 4 A (despised) t-townie climbing on charter? (5)
- 5 Female grouse male, absent, subsequently holds hard (8)
- 6 African trees without monkeys, bottom to top? (7)
- 7 One who looks out for shoals making appearance, right? (4)
- 8 How to dodge round tree, missing top? See night flyer (7)
- 9 Dark apartment maybe, little luminance within (5)
- 10 Comparison with spirit half missing oversight (10)
- 11 Planets varying in sum, hunt for stars (10)
- 16 Airmen | left in escort they form rear of squadron (8)
- **19** As some wages were reckoned, upsetting tea lady (7)
- 20 Legal code, constant, lay set in stone (7)
- 23 Made up for date on being taken out (6)
- 25 Book man, one in a state briefly (5)
- 27 Whence come Glasgow swingers, in trouble early? (5)
- 28 Round windows the French certainly interspersed with edges of corbel (5)
- 30 Rambling tours (Utah) with regular drops for salt lake feature? (4)