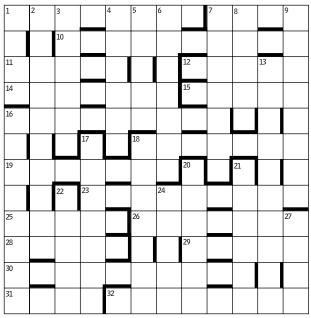
AZED No. 1,974 'Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow'



Name

Address

Postcode

Each clue consists of a definition (one or more words) and a mixture of the letters (beginning at the beginning or ending at the end of a word in the clue) of the three answers as indicated (in their correct order). Both indications of the first answer precede both indications of the second, etc. In each case either the definition or the letter-mixture may come first.

ACROSS

- 1, 7, 10 Beware a seemingly artful Monsieur, a stinker who's single and on the loose, lecturing etc on 'perils of prudery' (8, 4, 10)
- 11, 12, 14 Let us be mindful not to feed fatty stuff to our cats: if less richly fed they'll have little room for developing wobbly obesity (5, 5, 7)
- 15, 16, 18 It's mean to mock a handicapped person an infestation as is racialism – so resist any such urge, poisonous to the system, using simple craft (5, 9, 7)
- **19**, **23**, **25** Scots cunning likes teasing foreign braggadocio coming (as so often) as a sop to condescension (7, 9, 5)
- 26, 28, 29 Rich contracts result when persistent tryers work close together and head towards their shared end (7, 5, 5)
- **30**, **31**, **32** Being a boarder for a term in tennis schools has often ended lack of success in sets, partly through the help of local staff maybe (10, 4, 8)

AZED 1.971 Solution & notes

W	J	Å	¹S	ŝ	ŝ	M	Å	s	°Н	10 E	"R
12 A	В	L	U	Т	ı	0	N	s	0	R	Е
13 T	U	N	Е	Α	G	G	1	۴F	L	Α	M
Ε	15 F	1	Т	¹⁶ T	Н	U	s	w	1	s	Е
¹k̄	0	c	Н	Е	Т	18 C	Ε	R	N	Е	D
M	0	0	N	R	Α	К	20	N	G	М	ı
Α	к	"F	I	s	"H	Т	R	0	w.	Е	L
Ň	Α	R	D	0	0	Ď	0	U	Α	N	Е
z S	L	0	w	В	U	R	N	ű	Р	т	s
²⁹ H	1	R	Ε	Ε	s	0	R	"L	1	D	s
1	К	Ε	ĒΕ	L	Ε	М	Ε	N	Т	Α	L
°P	Ε	N.	s	_		Е	33	Α			· ·

PRIZE RULES

£25 in book tokens for the first three correct solutions opened. Solutions postmarked no later than Saturday to AZED No.1,974, The Observer, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU

Across 2, J + ass (= jackass); 12, anag. & lit.; ref. Jamaican sprinter; 16, us in anag.; 18, hidden rev.; 19, on in mora + king; 21, sy fish-carver; ref. seafood restaurant chain; 24, ran (rev.) + do 0; 29, 'higher'; 31, leme N all in anag.; 33, dail(y) (qv).

Down 4, ref. Sue Townsend, author of Adrian Mole books; 6, 2 meanings; 10, semen in tare (rev.); 15, loo kali ke(pt); 20, re in anag.; 21, ro-r(o) in fen; 22, use in hol(y); 23, a pit all in WI; 25, E in obli(ques); 28, alternate letters.

AZED No. 1,971 Prizewinners

WATERMANSHIP

1 Dr I. S. Fletcher (17 The oaks, Kemble, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 6BH): Craft apt when aim's Head of the River (anag. incl. r, & lit.).

2 C. M. Edmunds (Crewkerne, Somerset): One Down absorbs us all – need for stroke of genius (man in Watership; ref. Adams book and AZ comp.).

3 R. J. Heald (Wakefield, W. Yorkshire): Sampan owner hit rocks, showing no —— (comp. anag. & lit.).

VHC T. Anderson, D. Arthur, J. Baines, W. Drever, P. F. Henderson, M. Hodgkin, R. J. Hooper, J. C. Leyland, W. F. Main, D. F. Manley, C. G. Millin, T. J. Moorey, C. J. Morse, R. S. Morse, A. Plumb, N. G. Shippobotham, I. Simpson, A. J. Wardrop, D. C. Williamson, A. J. Young.

DOWN

- **1, 2, 3** It's best, if writing verse, where a couplet is covered in the language of flowers, to put beauty in optimistic mood (4, 10, 6)
- **4, 5, 6** In a poor biographical piece, the form 'I/me' is overused by all authors to preen their minor plumage, to wit prose that's easy to set aside (6, 5, 7)
- **7, 8, 9** Old ship's timber, most ensured as rot-free, can find a new role in a tanker that's operating no set maritime routes (7, 5, 8)
- 13, 16, 17 Quizmaster (Paxo) mocks, a nasty squit in ironic mode like a thug (one of those ruthless Asians), once bloody students bodge responses (10, 8, 7)
- **18**, **20**, **21** Across the pond, the Hispanic population in huge numbers has shed origins to be 'in', at the double (7, 6, 6)
- **22**, **24**, **27** Should government victimize the toper, that much putupon simpleton who is chastised for loving e.g. XXXX? (5, 5, 4)

Every word is in The Chambers Dictionary (2008).