AZED No. 2.371 Plain

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ACROSS

- **3** Critical commentary's making one irritated when bound in sticky stuff (10)
- 11 Shoddy item from school cupboard (9)
- **13** Test with probe initially revealing parasite (4)
- **14** International banker invested in anonymous label? (7)
- **15** A real challenge for climbers, reversing government monopoly (5)
- 17 Titania's swain? Only a bit (3)
- **19** Combines school latrine with built-in gym? (7)
- **20** Fellow drinker putting money into copper dish (6)
- 21 University sportswear let out for exercising (5)
- 23 Hardwood tree does when peeled go inside (5)
- 25 Shifting ooze covering ancient fossil possibly (6)
- 27 Skittish lassies, reprehensible with Scots kids around (7)
- **29** Action course avoided by sage (3)
- **31** Mask concealing final character in affair (5)
- **32** Mushroom? Sounds a bit like one chaps should avoid! (7)
- 33 Article given number immediately (4)
- **34** Plant yielding soda salt grows wild (9)
- 35 Yank's fish he cooked with peas in outhouse (10, apostrophe)

AZED 2.368 Solution & notes

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Across 6, reinbut; 10, hit + anag.; 11, on Ginanag.; 12, regga(e) (rev.); 18, hidden & Ilt.; 24, bon, es (Fr.) = good, art (vb); 29, GR + Ike (Eisenhower); 31, nunin anti + ate: 32, hidden: 33. nin entêté.

Down 1, a w in anag; ref. cricket; 3,1 g in jam+aree; 5, ked+had (rev.); 7, anag. incl. it, r; 8, Med (rev.) in ea; 14, roue in pitte(d); 15, c+in in rösti; 23, ref. 24 Ac; 26, n in Burt (Lancaster, former film actor), & it; ref. bombing of Dresden; 27, (James) Fent(on).

PRIZERULES

E25 in book tokens for the first three correct solutions opened. Solutions postmarked no later than Saturday to **AZED No. 2.371.** The Observer,

90 York Way, London N1 9GU

DOWN

- 1 Direction finder in the sky as part shifts with cosmos (12)
- 2 Get tight, creating a mess (7)
- 4 Potato coating two thirds of crusty dish at most (5, 2 words)
- 5 Blended sherry casks are inverted under sun (6)
- **6** See vegan mistreated in series totter? (9)
- 7 Followers of the rest in your arcane religion many renounce, as of old (4)
- 8 Is etching of Parisian in love? (6)
- 9 Old militiaman, game character embraced by girl (8)
- 10 Deliveries, costings worked out, number fellows packed (12)
- **12** Restraining strap from timeless jokes (4)
- **16** Plantation refuse, a difficulty in economic collapse (9)
- 18 Old soldier with no lance in section poorly paid, see (8)
- **22** Former vacation, not something you'd find in Oxford's vocabulary? (7)
- 24 Old-fashioned dive, for some time closed by police, empty (6)
- **26** Become absorbed in bit of marrow in two bones, carcase's last (6)
- 27 High whatsit, but not thin (4)
- 28 Judicial decision, mostly deadly when woman's involved (5)
- **30** Seaweed one's left dug into bed (4)

The Chambers Dictionary (2014) is recommended.