

Azed No. 2,609 Plain

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Name _____

Address _____

Post code _____

Across

- 1 Women, mature, for hire (4)
 4 Wine the French bottled in torrent (8)
 11 Service book, one lying behind e.g. main part of church, from east to west (10)
 12 Bobby on Thursday beat (5)
 14 Bit of foreign money I put into drink (5)
 15 Speech, a hit with bride, thrilled, husband delivered (8)
 16 Edible weed, sweet, removed from wrapping (5)
 17 Shut up in prison, one given time (5, 2 words)
 18 Carpet is woven with wavy edge (8)
 22 One dressing offal having to call back after lapse (8)
 24 One of a pair connected in vice, creating frightful noise behind church (5)
 25 Clothes shown off in Ascot (5)
 27 Musician transcribed tune found in catalogue (8)
 28 Afternoon song by the camp fire? We'll provide leafy cover (5)
 29 Sea I'm plying for lots of herring (5)
 30 Soldiers in unusually large unit reduced by 50%, like one such (10)
 31 Nogs drunk were flowing with daughter welcomed as one of the family (8)
 32 Ball penetrating one side of wicket, turning – I must get even (4)

Down

- 1 One lacking entry permit we support when it's shortly acquired (7)
 2 Police abroad, ideal when following car or lorry up (6)
 3 Giant of old among men or mice (5)
 5 *English* Pernod I spit out swallowing it – it's bad for the heart (12)
 6 Matlo sails it at sea – masthead flies from this? (12)
 7 Where cattle are kept warm and dry, gale swirling outside (7)
 8 Brit leader's abandoned, astray? (6)
 9 Wherein biological populations are preserved – conditions including lab I fitted out (10)
 10 Cornish visitor, one with good vision letting go of rope (5)
 13 Moravian, German gent, Jaeger, name becoming leader (10)
 19 Show more inclination to guide writer having run away (7)
 20 Hull? That's involved with North Sea mostly (7)
 21 Travelling box one's packed in Jordanian destination? (6)
 23 Object of worship I wrapped in loose gown (6)
 24 Tolling sound, a complex tone (5)
 26 Old gold coin, disc cut square across (5)

The Chambers Dictionary (2014) is recommended.

Azed No. 2,606 solution & notes

1	F	2	A	3	B	4	E	5	R	6	G	7	E	8	P	9	L	10	U	11	M	12	P
11	A	12	L	13	I	14	M	15	E	16	R	17	P	18	E	19	O	20	P	21	L	22	E
12	S	13	P	14	A	15	M	16	B	17	A	18	T	19	A	20	R	21	A	22	N	23	D
13	C	14	E	15	S	16	T	17	U	18	I	19	E	20	C	21	D	22	T	23	C	24	D
15	I	16	N	17	E	18	P	19	T	20	N	21	R	22	H	23	I	24	N	25	A	26	L
17	C	18	H	19	D	20	I	21	S	22	S	23	E	24	R	25	T	26	A	27	T	28	E
19	H	20	O	21	L	22	O	23	D	24	I	25	S	26	C	27	U	28	S	29	H	30	R
22	A	23	R	24	O	25	U	26	N	27	D	28	M	29	E	30	X	31	P	32	A	33	T
27	U	28	N	29	B	30	T	31	I	32	E	33	I	34	M	35	P	36	U	37	R	38	E
29	M	30	O	31	R	32	A	33	S	34	S	35	N	36	B	37	U	38	T	39	I	40	S
31	E	32	L	33	O	34	C	35	U	36	T	37	O	38	R	39	Y	40	U	41	S	42	O
32	R	33	O	34	W	35	T	36	S	37	T	38	R	39	A	40	M	41	M	42	E	43	L

Across 10, E in anag. in mere; 13, c, e + anag.; 18, dessert ate with I for first e; 25, x in tape (rev.); 28, cf. umpire; 30, alternate letters; draw = eviscerate; 32, w in anag.; 33, tr. + lemma (rev.).

Down 2, anag. less anag. & lit.; 5, anag. + insides; 7, anag. in lit (= drunk); 8, u pat; 20, OU tact; 22, put in sum; 26, (c)loset (rev.).

Rules and requests

£25 in book tokens for the first three correct solutions opened.
 Solutions postmarked no later than Monday week to:
 Azed No. 2,609, The Observer, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU.