

Azed No. 2,622 Plain

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Name _____

Address _____

Post code _____

Across

- 1 One of twelve on the board, maybe – should purge the system (12. 2 words)
- 10 Like shrubby plant, as of old in a course sown wild (9)
- 11 Personal article? Fool's beginning at the end (4)
- 12 Keep on about repair, men needed (4)
- 13 Hamburger's additive often, rather rare in the middle (4)
- 14 Like devout Muslim, endlessly, if such after conversion (5)
- 16 After regular cutbacks armies rearm for a bit of a step up (5)
- 18 Sandwich made with e.g. kipper involving oven (7)
- 20 Not a *prima* ballerina, have great fun dancing round fringe of Bolshoi (9)
- 21 People I see in flood of feeling demonstrating psychological breakdown (9)
- 23 Enter (dropping in), frequently breaking extremities from behind (7, 2 words)
- 27 One nurses phobia in such a terror (5)
- 29 Opera's broadcast, not over? See symbol in vocal score (5)
- 30 African minstrel expending love within? It was true on screen (4)
- 31 Depression shown by end of passion in old poem (4)
- 32 Volume in fiction about vice (4)
- 33 Regarding scraps left, I give last out (9)
- 34 Maid, around end, awfully lined, showing resolve (12)

Down

- 1 British wine, seasoned brew (5)
- 2 Spun pulu found in flax, yielding sedative (8)
- 3 Old Scottish porter judge preferred to English (5)
- 4 Non-religious believer avoiding our circuitous path round lives (5)
- 5 Wry humour I dropped describing unappealing old woman (6)
- 6 A ragu cooked with a container with chef's coating (8, 2 words)
- 7 How visitors behaved, stew being ruined in appearance (9)
- 8 Mouldy old tart woman scrapped (4)
- 9 Mundane lapse in the midst of grief as of old (7)
- 15 Member of wind section hit seventh note in vivace (9)
- 17 Reserve pedrero fired with entry of king (8)
- 19 Showing fossilized insect bits in mug, us included (8)
- 20 Mercury in form of Fido's deity such as Dagon (7)
- 22 Writing I'm assigned to brought up what links religion and the law (6)
- 24 Opposed to going after tons – it's no longer worthwhile (5)
- 25 Like old undyed cloth, say, in mostly pale or dull (5)
- 26 Where was he? Laying lines in track (5)
- 28 Put down-payment on grass by outside shed (4)

The Chambers Dictionary (2014) is recommended.

Azed No. 2,619 solution & notes

1	A	S	C	R	I	P	T	U	R	E	S	A
10	M	O	R	U	S	E	O	W	O	T	A	N
13	B	R	O	C	A	R	D	A	M	R	I	T
	E	G	U	K	D	I	O	S	C	U	R	I
16	R	O	T	U	L	A	C	D	O	R	I	C
19	G	U	N	S	I	G	H	T	M	I	N	L
	A	R	A	G	G	U	A	R	D	A	G	E
25	M	A	N	A	T	A	P	I	E	C	E	R
29	B	E	D	R	O	L	L	S	V	A	D	I
31	L	U	I	N	G	A	E	R	O	B	I	C
33	E	S	N	E	S	R	T	E	R	I	C	A
	R	P	E	R	S	I	S	T	E	N	T	L

Across 25, man + at²; 26, cf. pierce; 29, be droll + s; 34, 1 in acre (rev.).
Down 1, Bergam(o) in ambler; 12, i.e. Air in G; 20, u + anag.; 21, i.e. n and ine = nine; 22, ref. former US TV series starring James G.; 24, E v in (Gustave) Doré.

Rules and requests
 £25 in book tokens for the first three correct solutions opened.
 Solutions postmarked no later than Monday week to:
 Azed No. 2,622, The Observer, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU.