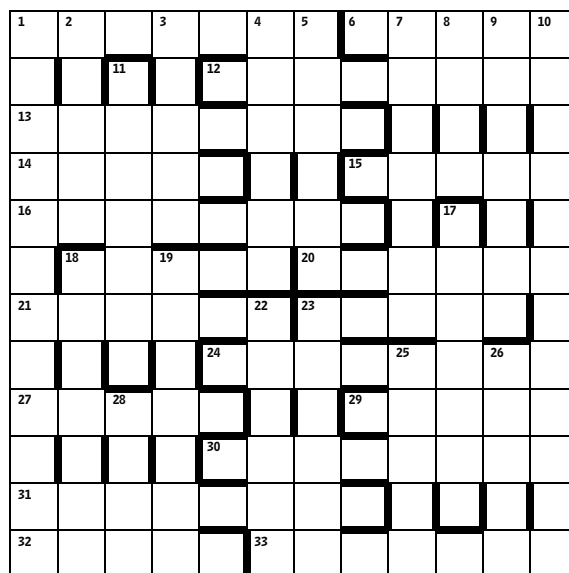


Azed No. 2,646 'Cherchez la Femme' - Competition Puzzle



All clues are normal. At eleven intersections (squares at which across and down answers meet or cross each other) it will be found that the relevant letters of the two answers do not tally. In each case solvers should enter the letter midway between the two non-matching letters alphabetically (treating the alphabet as cyclical), the two answers affected becoming non-words. The letter entered may be up to six letters away from the non-matching letters in each case, e.g. X might represent W/Y, V/Z, U/A, T/B, S/C, or R/D.

The eleven letters thus entered, read row by row from top to bottom of the diagram, form the surname of a famous female. **Competitors should submit with their entries a normal cryptic clue to this name.** No across or down word is affected more than once, and the replaced letters may occur in either order.

Across

- 1 Californian shrub maiden made room for in travelling carriage (7)
- 6 Special letter included with travel arrangements (5)
- 12 RC brother making point about passion (8)
- 13 One in second youth rediscovered wild itch (8)
- 14 Player's turn to face pitch getting a touch, bowled inside (5)
- 15 Ornamental plume? Lament when front falls off (5)
- 16 Maize patty rail spits right out (8)
- 18 Instrument, one held by outstanding performer (5)
- 20 One of changed gender admits love for garlands (6)
- 21 Covering for 9 ma rode frantically (6)
- 23 Mater looking silly in dotty 'hat' (5)
- 24 Mum bottles mayonnaise, cold, in pottery (8)
- 27 What'll clean the decks? Apply for round nozzle, saving time (5)
- 29 What's assumed to be valid? It's introduced by chambers (5)
- 30 Dancing girl, naked, enthralling a dey, excited (8)
- 31 Antitoxin possibly or antivenom, name lost (8)
- 32 'Blind' pouches, each taken into account in turn (5)
- 33 Special type in reel, viz dancing (7)

Down

- 1 Cites character without hesitation wrongly showing misuse of word (12)
- 2 Pair up in moderation, describing handbook? (5)
- 3 This is a kind of Indo-European – do please read carefully (5)
- 4 Sport lifted spirits, hearts included (6)
- 5 It traps river fish, lines aloft in flowing Tees (6)
- 7 Before those paying to attend turned up, stand required (7)
- 8 Brother, not second, no life-renter in Scotland (4)
- 9 Number taken in by tragic heroine, a dish? (7)
- 10 Patron, somehow truest re retaining distinctive character (12)
- 11 Remove infected matter from scoff at catching bass (7)
- 17 A stake placed inside tin may be plucked (7)
- 18 Granular deposit – it encases a sweetbread (7)
- 19 Child trained mice worthy of veneration (7)
- 22 Wife maybe coating centre of flan in salt (6)
- 23 Crude mineral, favoured when included in powdered talc (6)
- 25 Fatty school gets reduced by 50% (5)
- 26 A spasm turning up endlessly and roughly (5)
- 28 Pacific type took the plunge across the Atlantic (4)

The Chambers Dictionary (2016) is recommended.

Azed No. 2,643 solution & notes

1	F	O	R	S	W	O	N	C	K	J	M	Y	M
12	R	U	A	N	A	S	U	A	V	A	I	L	E
	O	V	M	A	S	C	R	A	P	P	L	E	S
13	W	R	A	I	T	H	S	S	A	L	M	A	
	A	I	I	L	B	E	E	R	I	N	E	S	S
22	R	E	N	D	S	A	T	O	B	O	Y	A	U
24	D	R	E	A	M	L	E	S	S	P	E	T	C
25	B	E	R	R	Y	N	E	P	H	R	I	C	
30	L	A	T	T	E	R	D	A	Y	I	A	N	O
31	O	R	I	E	N	T	E	T	E	L	V	E	S
	B	D	A	R	P	Y	R	E	N	E	I	T	E

Across 14, SCR + apples; 31, O + I in rent; 33, pyrene + t in i.e.

Down 6, run (rev.) + ten in Seder; 8, I in anag. in jape; 11, ref. setting for several John Ford westerns; 26, i.e. 'eard; 27, (p)arty; 29, see Names in C.

Rules and requests

Send correct solution (one only) and clue as indicated (on separate sheet also bearing name and address, securely attached) to Azed No. 2,646 PO Box 518, Oxford, OX2 6WX. Entries should be received by Monday week at the latest. Please add a brief explanation of your clue (one entry only). Emailed entries from overseas will be accepted, addressed to jcrowther2000@hotmail.com
£35, £30, £25 prizes and Azed bookplates for the three clues judged best. The Azed slip, containing details of successful competition entries and Azed's comments, is available on subscription at £16 a year. Cheques, payable to the Azed Slip, should be sent to The Azed Slip, Coombe Farm, Awbridge, Romsey SO51 0HN. To receive a sample slip, please send an sae to this address.

Name	
Address	
Post code	