

## Azed No. 2,688: 'A Cool Yomp' - Christmas Competition Puzzle

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8		9
			10								
11							12			13	
14						15					
16							17				
		18									19
20		21			22				23		
24			25		26						
27						28		29			
30						31					
32											
33				34							

Nine across and nine down clues lead in their definitions to Spoonerisms of the correct answers to be entered. Subsidiary indications in these clues lead to the correct answers themselves. In the remaining clues (except **16**) the definitions have been distorted by one Spoonerism per clue. Subsidiary indications in these clues likewise lead to the correct answers. Competitors should submit with their solutions a clue of the latter type to the asterisked definition at **16**.

**NB** Spoonerisms may be either consonantal, e.g. WHITEBAIT/BITE (or BIGHT) WAIT, or vocalic. e.g. BUNTING/BIN TONGUE, and may be accompanied by changes in punctuation. Bracketed numbers after clues indicate the length of grid entries throughout.

## Across

- 1** Fool again reverse of ready, flaw shown outwardly (8, 2 words)
- 7** Norse came for Italian health farm, grand (4)
- 10** Questionable act, taking votes for lignite (9)
- 11** Women entering shop just for dock (6)
- 12** What makes painting work, looking back? Base place for mail (5)
- 14** Carver's list this, often? It may be eaten mixed with last of sauce (4)
- 15** Rock guitar confined? In consequence, cross dad (6)
- \*16** A stroller (7)
- 18** Woolly, reddish colours, lady adjusted with 'er sack (10)
- 20** Lotto Mike played, chap I gripe (10)
- 26** Acquire rams to arrive with shepherd's lead (7)
- 27** Fox in funny act with hat (6)
- 29** Get low nasty shock (4)
- 30** Any mage is acceptable in the main, making comeback (5)
- 31** Note rattle providing service with beer (6)
- 32** Cold, at home, wrapped in woolly, cissy departed (9)
- 33** She wed like this, filled with energy of a sort (4)
- 34** Seizure of goods? Crown meant rap somehow (8, 2 words)

## Down

- 1 When tucking into English beef that's gone off, confront insect (7, 2 words)
- 2 Mixed platter devoured: special spade for Scot to think well of (10)
- 3 Played an alto pipe, obsessive to a fault? (6)
- 4 Salt to cut? Portion went wrong mostly (8)
- 5 Pop tart one nibbles by the sound of it (4)
- 6 Store rick for the table? Speed's disposed of it (6)
- 7 Tease buffed head in exciting quality (5)
- 8 Work given up, want base to cram (6)
- 9 Good line introducing poem – poet's was waking May smoothly (5)
- 10 Ratlin rope adapted as skin disease bandage (10)
- 17 Like start of pork consumed after cooking chore (8)
- 19 Matter once cutting silence, involving American muscle (7)
- 21 Enthusiastic about north-east, acknowledge money (6)
- 22 Gate for a Mod, pagan? He cut one (6)
- 23 What some sly in perjury take answer twice after copper? (6)
- 24 One cutting thick slice up grew tods? Certainly not (5)
- 25 Francis maybe (or Roger) with rising name has ability as fiddler? (5)
- 28 A lost play. T.. Wat? (4)

**The Chambers Dictionary (2016)  
is recommended.**

**Azed No. 2,685 solution & notes**

1	A	3	C	R	U	5	S	1	C	U	S	E
2	O	H	E	A	L	B	A	S	T	E		
3	S	A	C	C	U	L	I	T	U	R	O	V
4	A	P	A	Y	T	A	S	T	R	O		
5	T	E	S	T	U	D	O	L	Y	M	R	
6	I	A	T	O	N	E	S	E	L	B	O	
7	E	U	R	O	D	O	L	L	A	R	S	
8	G	X	A	S	E	H	A	I	R	O		
9	A	L	C	A	I	C	L	F	O	P	E	
10	U	R	I	M	S	B	A	T	T	E	L	
11	S	H	E	B	E	N	E	R	R	S	E	
12	S	F	R	O	N	R	G	E	R	O	S	

**Across** 1, ref. Wormwood S., HM Prison; 14, a p(l)ay; 26, iro(n) in hail; 29, German brand name; 32, S + Hebe + ener(gy); 33, comp. anag.

**Down** 1, so + (Erik) Satie; 5, lad in sae; 6, sibi(ate) (rev.); 8, US (J)ury; 9, Stromb(oli); 10, r in cake; 22, Alan in l, g; ref. TV gardener; 23, r o + pers(on).

### Rules and requests - Christmas Competition Puzzle

**Rates and requests - Christmas Competition Puzzle**

Send correct solution and clue (one only) to replace definition asterisked (on separate sheet also bearing name and address, securely attached) to Azed No. 2,688, PO Box 518, Oxford OX2 6WX. Emailed entries from overseas will be accepted, addressed to [jcrowther2000@hotmail.com](mailto:jcrowther2000@hotmail.com). Closing date 31st December 2023. Please include a brief explanation of your clue.

£100, £65, £40 book tokens and Azed bookplates will be awarded to the three clues judged best (which accompany correct solutions to the puzzle). Extra discretionary £25 book tokens will also be awarded for clues judged very highly commended. The results will be announced in the Observer on Sunday 8 January 2023. Each winner's name and postcode will be published. Prizes will be sent by post. The Azed Slip, containing details of successful competition entries and Azed's comments, is available on subscription at £16 a year for 13 issues. Cheques, payable to *The Azed Slip*, should be sent to *The Azed Slip, Coombe Farm, Awbbridge, Romsey SO51 0HN*. To receive a sample slip, please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to this address.

For more information on the Azed Slip, see [theguardian.com/crosswords/2014/dec/30/azed-faq](http://theguardian.com/crosswords/2014/dec/30/azed-faq).

**Azed No. 2 685 winners**

Ms XXX, Narberth, Pembs  
Mr XXX, Birmingham  
Ms XXX, London SW1

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Address**

Post code