

Azed No. 2,696 Plain

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Name

Address

Post code

Across

- 1 Hospital needed after crazy plunge in swamp once (7)
- 7 Hooter signalling special police (5)
- 13 Silly tailor about to make mess of bright summer wear (10, 2 words)
- 14 Fencer no longer confident, pierced by delinquent? (8)
- 15 Meal of foreign brand (discontinued) (5)
- 16 Opening in the Bible, chapter leading to elation (5)
- 17 Anti-eats? That's wrong – I'll tuck in, voracious (9)
- 19 Clayey stuff featuring regularly in galleria (4)
- 20 Where one might have studied unravelling my clue (6)
- 23 Sums being schooled with PE? That sound like one (6)
- 26 I'm turned out in fur, long, outworn (4)
- 27 Favourite sweet's middle in pecan nuts, a craving (9)
- 29 Last in boozier moving forward, part of mass (5)
- 32 I'll enter sale – pipe down (5, 2 words)
- 33 Member of strict order requiring waterproof before liturgy (8)
- 34 Military-style supremo, form of tsar, CO round bistro? (10)
- 35 Gls erring in a flash stray from the straight and narrow (5)
- 36 Component of precious fluid bottled in tiered cellars (7, 2 words)

Down

- 2 Little old boat, not once having a portable phone installed (7)

- 3 Filling stations? There's fury when their supply is out (7)
- 4 Pod of a kind, pieces breaking the whole (6)
- 5 Sound of collapse, not loud with small structure (4)
- 6 Caper may yield this injury – one falls after it (8)
- 8 Bilious? Have break, day off, cold before and after (6)
- 9 Fungal stages over – I'll need help getting up thereafter (5)
- 10 Head of department showing improvement when it's cut (4)
- 11 Untidily matted teens given special educational needs (11)
- 12 Is at MGM flicks after wine? It affects viewing badly (11)
- 18 Endless time installed over in Paris as head of order (8)
- 21 Cornish salt appearing as fool in lake (7)
- 22 Against cuts provided by a single body, not terribly important (7)
- 24 Specially recorded TV programme showing contests with piano in, coming up (6)
- 25 Instrument trio finally lacking in harmony (6)
- 28 Bits of ordure regularly alternating with matter in Glaswegian drains (5)
- 30 Remove crusts of foreign bread in exotic sandwich (4)
- 31 Mac's lightweight entity, numskull shedding what he's known to wear? (4)

The Chambers Dictionary (2016) is recommended.

Azed No. 2,693 solution & notes

1	Y	P	L	A	S	T	D	A	M	S	E	L
11	E	R	Y	T	H	R	I	N	A	A	C	U
12	N	O	T	T	I	I	S	A	N	C	L	E
	G	S	I	I	M	P	E	T	I	C	O	S
15	L	O	C	K	M	E	N	P	A	U	S	U
16	I	M	A	G	E	D	C	A	P	L	E	T
22	S	E	C	U	R	E	H	N	E	I	S	T
	H	D	A	S	Y	R	A	T	H	O	L	E
28	P	I	P	E	R	O	N	A	L	X	I	R
29	R	A	N	D	A	C	T	B	D	I	M	E
	O	N	I	E	P	H	E	L	I	D	E	S
32	S	T	A	R	V	E	D	E	V	E	S	T

Across 12, n OTT; 13, anc(l)le; 15, see etym. at derrick; 22, se + curé; 29, i.e. R and A = RA; 30, dim. + e; 33, deve(lop) + st.

Down 1, comp. anag.; ref. Hyman Kaplan stories; 5, ripe in anag.; 8, sac + culi(nary); 10, (b)lues; see pip⁵; 17, anag. in ut²; 28, pros(it).

Rules and requests

Send your entry to Azed No. 2,696, *The Observer*, Kings Place, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU. Entries must be postmarked no later than the Saturday following publication of the puzzle and must reach us within 10 days of publication of the puzzle (ie by Wednesday week following publication). Readers' solutions will be selected at random from all those received by the *Observer* by that date until three correct solutions have been found. A £25 book token will be awarded for each of the three correct solutions selected. The book token will be sent by post. For further information visit theguardian.com/crosswords/2014/dec/30/azed-faq