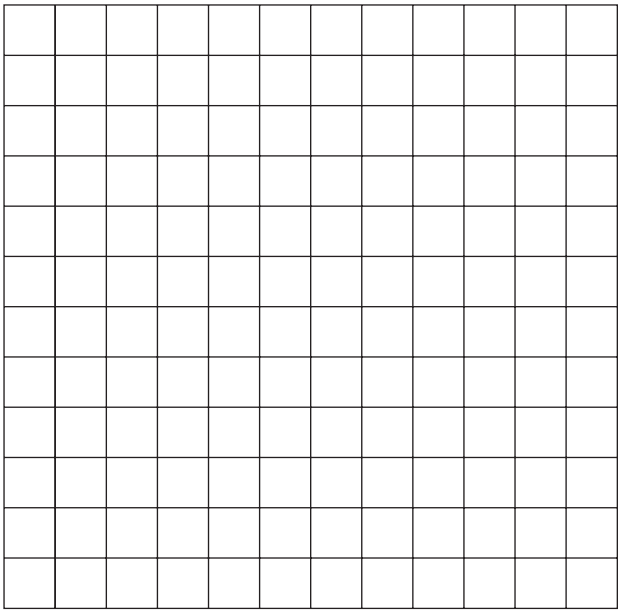
AZED No. 2,157 'Carte Blanche' COMPETITION PUZZLE



Name

Address

Postcode

The symmetry of the bars in the completed diagram is such that it would look the same if turned upside down, but not if given a quarter turn. Clues are in their correct order. Competitors should mark bars in their solutions, but numbers are unnecessary. They should submit with their entries a normal cryptic clue to replace the definition asterisked.

ACROSS

Chance acquaintance embraces this writer, a tonic
Left inside nearest to fire
Special school for geeky swot
NZ-style picnic, no good in endless shower
One in skiing venue botched test – in appropriate gear?
Protein creating a fellow's bodily firmness
Plunge into lake, e.g. Windermere? —, getting tangled wit grim reed
Fancy! Prisoner's fed with such bivalves
Possibly impenetrable lock securing one wrongfully
Less than half tobacco crumbled with e.g. naan – it flavours snuff
Openings of minute measure in human body yielding sweat?
How Texans address others in reverse of liberal song (apostrophe)
A glacis fashioned in limestone
A divine, I translated Latin including nothing extra
Shake second of dice in board game
Gathering in essence led by bishop
TV feature presenting antithesis of Con Government?
Rank of former cavalry officer and others in old-fashioned clothing

DOWN

Wherein you might see pharaoh's head, height swathed in perfume?
Antidepressant I lug around outside
Pet you can get from Tesco's
*Sensational
Senior yeoman bringing up some longhorn oxen
Nanny he treated with a pill: protein constituent
Unit of weight with origins in Korea and the Indies
I'm flagging around end of marathon, in one piece but antiquated
Striving exists in what represents Japan?
Type notes about Europe?
Prudent, skirting small island of crude rock
Endless hell? Girl coming round to give young parents a break
Muscle put into excursion in a way that should attract punters?
What's ground for Abos? Not one will include made-up road
Baronet holds urn up, revealing votes cast
Bar (of a kind) that converts club into pub
Barley producing great gallons
I'm husky – hate initially having to leave singers

The Chambers Dictionary (2011) is recommended.

AZED 2,154 Solution & notes

Across 1, beau + teff (rev.); 7, dre(DG)e; 10, H in anag. & lit.; 12, sac(k) (rev.) + bah; 14, raki in anag.; 18, cf. Gaul; 19, i.e. her ringer; 20, Ar. + vis in rite; 26, r in re tench; 30, r in bio; 32, anag.; see wood[2]; 33, elf's in anag.; ref. seed drill.

Down 1, 3 meanings; 3, I in agric.; 5, libri (Latin = books) G in fee; 6, th(E) aim; 7, cf. resigned; 8, (kohl)rabi; 13, ens in all crew; 15, used for musical bows and as a scourer; 16, anag. in shag (= prostitute); see quail; 25, i.e. veal = teal with v as t; 27, cf. free; 28, ho + on; ref. loathsome habit of Australian cricketers.

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. 2,157**, PO Box 518, Oxford, OX2 6WX. Entries should be postmarked no later than Saturday. Please add a brief explanation of your clue (one entry only). £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, electronic option £11. 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. For much more information on the Azed Slip, visit www.andlit.org.uk.