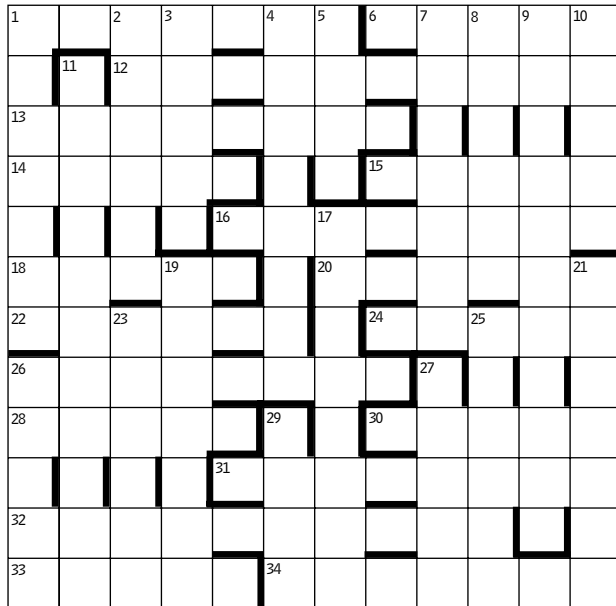


AZED No. 2,279 'Cherchez la Femme' COMPETITION PUZZLE



Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

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

ACROSS

- 1 Large estate? Worried about name given to one (7)
- 6 Fish, quite long, head and tail removed (5)
- 10 Ear and head maybe revealing musical tones? (10)
- 13 Edible grub: duck in beer given to local marsupial (8)
- 14 Outlaw's end – did wrong, with yen for hangman's rope (5)
- 15 Piggery, rank, old, deserted (5)
- 16 Periods without a dad leading to your old-fashioned repugnance (8)
- 18 What's this in Estonia, including little pence? (5)
- 20 What trawlermen 'aul in? Wrong (6)
- 22 Subject taken round private office, rarely modest (6)
- 24 Over-excited pushy person *must* contain this (5)
- 26 Special loving touch that's left inside unmarked (8)

AZED 2,276 Solution & notes

C	A	M	A	S	H	O	C	D	M	I	N	G
O	C	A	C	H	O	U	L	O	O	N	Y	O
C	O	N	T	R	A	T	E	R	R	E	N	E
K	R	O	O	I	X	W	O	M	A	N	L	Y
P	U	N	A	L	U	A	M	A	L	A	G	A
I	S	T	M	L	P	R	E	M	E	R	F	T
T	O	R	O	S	E	D	E	B	O	R	A	H
C	O	O	N	C	A	N	S	A	G	A	L	L
I	M	P	E	R	C	E	P	T	I	B	L	E
G	S	P	R	U	E	S	E	C	K	L	E	T
S	T	O	A	X	D	S	T	H	R	E	N	E

Across 9, ref. 'Ming' (Menzies) Campbell; 12, a in c chou; 14, n in anag.; 15, cf. rook; 16, OM in wanly; 24, to(e) rose; 25, robbed (rev.) + ah!; 29, gall(op); 30, imp + anag. incl. c; 34, n in three.

Down 1, see greenhouse; 2, a cor(p)us; 3, man + anag. in onto; 4, hr in sills; 5, i.e. h + 'oaks'; 7, le(i) in come; 8, OR in DM; 10, n/a in inerrable; 19, b in a match; 21, one in arm (rev.); 22, 'piste'; 26, first letters (rev.) & lit.; 28, alternate letters.

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. 2,279**, 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 E11. Cheques payable to the Azed Slip, should be sent to The Azed Slip, Coombe Farm, Awbridge, Romsey SO510HN. 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

- 28 Highland mountaineers do, constant in diet? (5)
- 30 Stage director strangely makes actor — set (5)
- 31 Reprimand, unfriendly – tell about it (8)
- 32 Chaps going in not anti being slathered in embrocation (10)
- 33 Unconventional trumpet? Concentrated hard (5)
- 34 Leather processing plant: some immersed in salt added to density (7)

DOWN

- 1 Its eggs are laid in flowers – female, I am astonished about weight (7, 2 words)
- 2 Gourmet that is following cook by turning up (6)
- 3 Stick in middle of speech, making one fret? (5)
- 4 Religious Brother, bearded excited about it (8)
- 5 Churchmen releasing cry about 'coming'? (4)
- 7 Sign on railway? It can be circulating (7)
- 8 Composer I understand to be occupying Delius's heart (6)
- 9 Deadly hospital worker caught in viewers once (11)
- 10 Part of the weekend one RA separately set aside for reverie (5)
- 11 After parking composer I dropped in for a whipped café 'special' (11)
- 17 State without all feeling? Commies organized one (8)
- 19 Like shallow waters? Try swimming in Crete (7)
- 21 Got eel and pike (7)
- 23 Cannon left loaded, the French way (6)
- 25 Theological consultants, Italian, in grip of spirit? (6)
- 26 Tree Albert's climbing? (5)
- 27 Reverse of modern city, huge and congested? (5)
- 29 Genuine playwright, not British (4)

Every answer is in *The Chambers Dictionary* (2014), except one proper name.