

## AZED CROSSWORD 2650

**1 M. Lloyd-Jones:** Luxury soap? Something foot slips on before ending on backside (*cake + sandal + e*).

**2 Dr I. S. Fletcher:** The Good Life? Ace cast with Kendal one's recalled therein (*a's (rev.) in anag.; ref. former TV sitcom*).

**3 Dr J. Burscough:** Kendal, ace as broadcast embodiment of The Good Life (*anag.*).

### VHC

**D. & N. Aspland:** AA slackened badly, offering rewards in form of binge? (*anag.; ref. Alcoholics Anonymous*).

**M. Barker:** Lacks a need to change, taking in a hedonistic life these items epitomise (*a in anag.*).

**M. Barley:** Work of Somerset cider-maker's beginning, tree being in fruit (*c + sandal<sup>2</sup> in akee; ref. S. Maugham*).

**Ms K. Bolton:** As 'Leek Salad' can upset, Larousse initially omitted in gastronomic description of life's pleasures (*anag. less L*).

**T. C. Borland:** The joys of living free, close to moose and Canada's elk (*anag. incl. e*).

**Ms L. Davis:** Charity fundraiser's inspiring as well as fun (*and in cake sale*).

**H. Freeman:** The good life? It's featured in ace broadcast Felicity's appeared in (*SA in Kendal in anag.*).

**J. Grimes:** Kendal ace as eccentric in The Good Life (*anag.*).

**R. J. Heald:** Somerset's favourite tree, that source of cidery fruit drinks (*sandal<sup>2</sup> in c akee*).

**J. C. Leyland:** A cask drunk with Madeleines? *That* leads to Malvolio's extreme ire soon being expressed (*anag. less first letters; ref. 'Twelfth Night' 2, 3*).

**Dr R. A. Main:** Wandering in a landscape with the lakes could give these great pleasures in the Alps (*comp. anag.*).

**D. F. Manley:** Any number escaping can seek a land abroad for milk and honey (*ca(n) + anag.*).

**K. Milan:** Sir Toby's good things in life – *this* great spread could equally be in a dance with steak and lager! (*comp. anag.; ref. 'Twelfth Night'*).

**T. J. Moorey:** Stuffing knocked out of Chelsea, Kane with Son lead wacky celebrations (*C, a + anag. incl. s*).

**T. Rudd:** Extravagantly clad Anita regularly speaks English, not Italian in *La Dolce Vita* (*anag. incl. alternate letters + E, less It*).

**I. Simpson:** A piece of cheese with fruit after jelly's eaten – all good things (*c + sandal in akee*).

**R. C. Teuton:** Ace acting, including a certain Felicity that embodies it, features in *The Good Life* (*SA in Kendal in anag.*).

**Mrs A. M. Walden:** Cocktail of sake laced with an assortment of things a bon vivant relishes (*anag.*).

**Ms S. Wallace:** Need a cask, essentially malt, blended for the finest things in life (*al in anag.*).

**A. J. Wardrop:** Fancy footwear, the ultimate in elegance, on which the rich splash out (*cake + sandal + e*).

**A. Whittaker:** Merrymaking drunk, caned, has leak without the slightest hint of humiliation (*anag. less h*).

## HC

T. Anderson, D. Appleton, Mrs S. Brown, J. A. Butler, D. Carter, A. G. Chamberlain, C. A. Clarke, N. Connaughton (Ireland), Ms S. Curran (France), E. Dawid, C. M. Edmunds, J. Fairclough, A. Gerrard, R. Gilbert, G. I. L. Grafton, J. Hood, G. Johnstone, M. Lunan, I. & G. Macniven, P. W. Marlow, P. McKenna, C. G. Millin, T. D. Nicholl, S. J. O'Boyle, C. Ogilvie, D. Ogilvie (USA), A. J. Pearce, O. F. G. Phillips, J. & A. Price, W. Ransome, J. S. Rymell, P. Sant, Dr S. J. Shaw, D. P. Shenkin, A. J. Shields, P. L. Stone, M. O. J. Thomas (New Zealand), J. Vincent & Ms R. Porter, R. J. Whale, D. Whisstock (Italy), A. J. Young, R. Zara.

## Comments

140 entries, over 20 with AMBUSCADE for AMBUSCADO, the biggest group error for some time, including several fairly distinguished scalps. To remind you, the clue was 'American rotter appearing in pulpit, delivering surprise attack'. Those who opted for the wrong spelling will I'm sure concede that it won't fit the clue (*US cad in ambo*).

Favourite clue of the month (out of 11 receiving one vote or more) was 'Browning? That dallying with EB may have stirred nun's bate!' for SUNTAN, with those for ANTIPASTO and MORCHA in second equal place. Two further clues caused some difficulty: those for ACCUSTOMS and FADE-UP, especially the first, in which 'trifles' referred to **tom**<sup>2</sup>, short for **tomfoolery**, rhyming slang for 'jewellery' and, I confess, new to me. I hope the solution notes for each of these clues gave adequate explanation of what I had in mind. (I am always uncertain how much to provide in the way of solution notes without appearing to insult your intelligence. Are these read, I wonder, when memory must be fading? My recollection is that Ximenes gave hardly any, but I'd rather provide too much than too little.)

It's a while since I asked you to clue a multi-word compound, and this one proved a bit tricky to define effectively. Shakespeare seems to have coined the phrase, like so much else, in *Twelfth Night*, but it also turns up in Aesop's fables (*The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse*) and of course Somerset Maugham used it as the title of the novel he subtitled *The Skeleton in the Cupboard*. All of these you exploited in one way or another, as were references to Ken Loach's *Kes* and the TV comedy series *The Good Life*, a personal favourite of mine which pleasingly is often repeated on the box. The fact that (Felicity) Kendal's name occurs in the right order in the clue phrase must have been almost irresistible.