

AZED CROSSWORD 2676

MALEFACTOR

1 T. Rudd: I sin – and nothing will make a miscreant fool reform (*comp. anag. incl. 0, & lit.*).

2 L. Ward (USA): Cavorting around ambo with fine claret, bishop dropped crook (*anag. incl. F less B*).

3 E. Dawid: What crooked defalcator could be shifting diamonds for money (*anag. with M for D, & lit.*).

VHC

D. & N. Aspland: Criminal trial came of wrongly withholding bit of information (*anag. less i*).

M. Barley: For a climate that's changing, consuming unlimited oil is criminal (*anag. less i*).

A. Brash: Master criminal of a cartel? (*M + anag., & lit.*).

Mrs S. Brown: Feral tomcat, losing tip of tail, savaged hound (*anag. less t*).

Ms L. Davis: Heartless crim, tea leaf or crook (*anag. incl. c, m & t, a, & lit.*).

W. Drever: Meat Loaf: classic rocker primarily, hellish 'bad boy' (*anag. incl. c, r; ref. pop star and song 'Bat out of Hell'*).

Dr I. S. Fletcher: I, for example, could be set to face gaol term (*comp. anag. incl. e.g., & lit.*).

A. Gerrard: A sycamore left in ruins – could reveal this wrong 'un, yes? (*comp. anag.*).

G. I. L. Grafton: Sinner actually taking lead amidst first signs of Medvedev already losing rallies (*((d)e facto in first letters; ref. tennis players*).

R. J. Heald: Meat Loaf rocks with Cher after he's renounced devilish character (*anag. less he; ref. 1981 hit duet 'Dead Ringer for Love'*).

P. F. Henderson (New Zealand): Mordred, as represented in far Camelot? (*anag.*).

D. F. Manley: He may elude the force with a lam somehow? (*anag. less he, & lit.; lam²*).

J. R. C. Michie: Criminal act for me a leader in larceny (*anag. incl. l, & lit.*).

J. Pearce: Maybe one primarily involved with dodgy feral act? (*anag. incl. m, o, & lit.*).

D. Price Jones: Cosmetician replacing 'Kiss' with 'Le Villain' (*Max Factor with le for x*).

Dr S. J. Shaw: Man primarily occupied in criminal craft (*male + o in anag., & lit.*).

I. Simpson: Member of a cartel that's crooked? (*M + anag., & lit.*).

P. A. Stephenson: Man in favour of circumventing the law? (*male + act in for, & lit.*).

P. L. Stone: One kept in Slade? A representation of Flamenco Art – no name (*anag. less n; ref. S. Prison and School of Fine Art*).

J. Vincent & Ms R. Porter: De Niro, for example, accepts leading part in films as 'baddie' (*f in male actor*).

A. J. Wardrop: Member of a cartel, possibly a crook (*M + anag.*).

A. Whittaker: This could be Fletch – amoral, nicked twice and in stir (*anag. less h, l, & lit.; ref. TV series ‘Porridge’*).

HC

D. Appleton, C. J. Brougham, Dr J. Burscough, A. & J. Calder, C. A. Clarke, N. Connaughton (Ireland), J. Fairclough, P. Flint, H. Freeman, S. D. Griew, J. Grimes, A. H. Harker, J. Hood, G. Johnstone, M. Lloyd-Jones, P. McKenna, Rev. Prebendary M. R. Metcalf, K. Milan, T. J. Moorey, T. D. Nicholl, C. Ogilvie, D. P. Shenkin, C. Short, R. C. Teuton, K. Thomas, Mrs A. M. Walden, Ms S. Wallace, J. D. Walsh, R. J. Whale, K. & J. Wolff, A. J. Young.

Comments

132 entries, no noticeable mistakes. I’m sorry the announcement of results and this slip have been delayed. Postal deliveries locally (and I dare say elsewhere) have been much disrupted of late. Not the fault of the postmen/women, I’m sure, but hold-ups at the sorting offices. It’s a mystery to me why they can’t sort themselves out (sorry!).

No special problems with the puzzle this month. I hesitated a bit before giving you MALEFACTOR, with its rather obvious split. Most avoided this; there were more than a few Y-chromosomes, though linking this with a convincing definition wasn’t easy. Anagrams were predictably popular. I deliberately refrain from trying to think of a clue myself in advance (too much else to do!), and it’s always a pleasant surprise to see how many different ideas you come up with. Mr Ward’s in particular amused me greatly.

No more for now. I don’t wish to hold things up any further.