

AZED CROSSWORD 2688

FLÂNEUR

- 1 P. Sant:** Struck bowling near full length going to slip (*buck strolling; anag. less l*)
2 R. J. Heald: Pastry dish with regret sent back, one that's based around poor dough? (*paced around Bordeaux; flan + rue (rev.)*).
3 M. Lloyd-Jones: Pastry 'e put in front of dog, wanting cold pie 'otter (*I potter; flan + e + (c)ur*).

VHC (extra prizes)

- M. Barley:** This morn Santa's everywhere, spreading real fun (*man saunters; anag.*).
Mrs S. Brown: Moon matching glimmers of frost under radiance around close (*man mooching; lane in f, u, r*).
J. Grimes: Nice flower enthral a new person tending to rosier mound (*mosey around; a n in fleur*).
C. G. Millin: See haunters, loud and unreal stupidly disrupting funeral (*he saunters; f + anag.; anag.*).
P. W. Marlow: Fuel near dispersed with no end of spillage – and pipe getting to totter? (*type to potter; anag. less e*).
R. S. Morse: Morn to Santa? Real fun after dashing fur-clad passage (*man to saunter; anag.; lane in fur*).
I. Simpson: Here's lure of what besets Aladdin, rubbing ring in play – he takes a lamp for his treasure (*tramp for his leisure; anag. incl. A, n less O*).
R. C. Teuton: In Monte Carlo gambling I regret twisting after getting almost level near end of vingt-et-un (*ambling guy; fla(t) + n + rue (rev.)*).
J. Vincent & Ms R. Porter: Wee Honda's recklessly following Renault – back off! (*he wanders; anag. incl. f, less t*).
Ms S. Wallace: Struck out bowling along boulevards – curiously unreal with touch of flamboyancy (*buck out strolling; anag. incl. f*).
A. J. Wardrop: Back street in Paris – tart's upfront – I like to pander in the dark (*dander in the park; flan + rue (rev.)*).
R. J. Whale: Fuel ran out – we might prefer a Honda (*he ... wander; anag.*).
K. & J. Wolff: Hide in an alleyway? Au contraire, he books a lout patrolling the boulevards (*looks about; lane in fur*).
A. J. Young: One door to chalet making real fun complicated! (*sure to dally; anag.*).

HC

T. Anderson, D. K. Arnott, A. Brash, Dr J. Burscough, W. Drever, C. M. Edmunds, A. S. Everest, Dr I. S. Fletcher, G. I. L. Grafton, S. D. Griew, A. H. Harker, P. F. Henderson (New Zealand), J. Hood, J. R. H. Jones (Spain), M. Jordan, E. C. Lance, M. Lunan, Dr R. A. Main, L. F. Marzillier (USA), K. Milan, T. J. Moorey, A. Plumb, D. Protheroe, C. Short, Ms J. Udriş, Dr M. C. Whelan, R. Zara.

Comments

126 entries, no mistakes. Favourite clue (of 14 receiving one vote or more): 'Fox in funny act with hat' for ATTACH. This proved a thoroughly enjoyable competition to judge. A few of you expressed a dislike for 'Spoonerisms', but they were greatly outnumbered by those who said how much they enjoy the special challenge involved. It takes me much longer than usual to concoct the clues, with invariably a troublesome few holding one up a lot before anything satisfactory springs to mind. I admired the many different Spoonerisms you came up with and was fairly lenient when assessing their accuracy in terms of pronunciation. Some did fail this test, however, e.g. 'gambling rent/rambling gent' where the pronunciation of the two 'g's is completely different and not something Spooner himself would ever have come out with.

FLÂNEUR proved very popular as a clue word, I'm pleased to say. As a lexical item I've always found it a bit puzzling. Is it faintly derogatory, or the opposite, or neither? And why have the French coined it at all (with no feminine form), to the point that it's found its way into English dictionaries (since the mid-19th century, I see) though there seems to be no simple one-word English equivalent, and I guess it's largely fallen out of use these days. The definitions you chose seemed to indicate that you had no clearer idea of its meaning and/or use than I do.

I'm sorry the announcement of the results and this slip were so delayed. Immediately after Christmas we heard that a favourite cousin of my wife's had died suddenly at her home in France, and having decided to attend the funeral we (including our sons) ended up being away from home for nearly three days.