

AZED CROSSWORD 2698

LOCUM TENENS

1 P. W. Marlow: Consult men for engineering about source of electricity supply (*e in anag.*).

2 D. F. Manley: Mon. Sent clue off – a relief! (*anag.*).

3 J. Vincent & Ms R. Porter: Rector away? A curate's struggling with Lenten sermon as an Easter — (*comp. anag. less R, & lit.*).

VHC

T. Anderson: Clone sternum out of radius to form substitute bones (*anag. less r; bones = doctor*).

Dr J. Burscough: With disorder, consult one taking over – me? (*anag. less O incl. me, & lit.*).

T. Coates (Australia): Temporary relief from massaging one muscle torn or strained (*anag. less or*).

W. Drever: A deputy with somnolence, put another way, could be a dopey — (*comp. anag. & lit.*).

A. Gerrard: Person filling in clue mentions one light is incorrect (*anag. less l*).

J. Grimes: Consult me with Enrolled Nurse off? (*anag. incl. EN, & lit.*).

R. J. Heald: Parents sadly absent, son spent a term with uncle playing surrogate father? (*anag. less anag.; clerical sense of father*).

L. M. Inman: Stand-in, finally, gives injection for loose muscle tone (*n in anag., & lit.*).

J. C. Leyland: Taking nearly all day off, doctor on call must need — (*anag. less al(l) d, & lit.*).

Dr S. J. Shaw: Doctor not here, consult me when other's away (*anag. less other, & lit.*).

A. J. Shields: Muscle tendon repaired without first sign of degeneration – that's relief for doctor (*anag. less d*).

I. Simpson: Doctor embarkin' on vacation? Consult me perhaps (*anag. incl. e, n, & lit.*).

P. A. Stephenson: Commis left working on set menu with chef's lead (*l + c in anag.*).

R. C. Teuton: Loan medic sent out could be me to aid with treatment (*comp. anag. & lit.*).

Mrs A. M. Walden: Treatment of muscle/tendon suppressing source of discomfort gives relief (*anag. less d*).

Ms S. Wallace: Substitute cryptic clues – mention bit of inspiration lacking (*anag. less l*).

L. Ward (USA): Distraught about latest letter from diocese, men consult vicar (*e in anag.*).

A. J. Wardrop: Who might give Lent sermon enthralling Christian Union with rector away? (*CU in anag. less R, & lit.*).

R. J. Whale: Consult me when poorly, engaging MD's next in line? (*NE in anag.*, & *lit.*).

R. Zara: Nitrogen-free, this substitute might develop muscle tone (*anag. incl. N*).

HC

D. Appleton, N. Aspland, M. Barley, T. Blakeson, T. C. Borland, C. J. Brougham, J. M. Brown, Mrs S. Brown, R. Connelly, V. Dixon (Ireland), C. M. Edmunds, Dr I. S. Fletcher, H. Freeman, R. Gilbert, G. I. L. Grafton, M. Green, S. D. Griew, Ms B. Hall, H. M. F. Jenkins, B. Jones, J. R. H. Jones (Spain), L. Keet, M. Lloyd-Jones, P. McKenna, G. L. McStravick, Rev. Prebendary M. R. Metcalf, K. Milan, C. G. Millin, T. J. Moorey, T. D. Nicholl, C. Ogilvie, M. Oshin (USA), B. Pasupathy (India), J. & A. Price, W. Ransome, T. Rudd, P. Sant, D. P. Shenkin, P. L. Stone, K. Thomas.

Comments

126 entries, no noticeable mistakes. By general consensus a relatively easy competition puzzle and a clue compound that offered plenty of scope for ingenuity. Favourite clues (each with 13 votes): 'Delhi woodbine? I now hold one lit maybe' for BEEDI, and 'One's tucked into rich custard when one shouldn't' for CARÊME, only nine in all receiving mention. (I have memories of beedis from my time in India back in the sixties – evil-smelling cheap cigarettes sold singly for next to nothing from street stalls, each with a glowing piece of rope to light them.)

LOCUM TENENS proved popular, because of both its constituent letters and also its various possible synonyms, which you made full use of. One regular competitor discovered the one-word anagram COUNSELMENT in the *OED*, a rare obsolete term with only one citation, from 1523, fascinating but not really usable in the present context! I was less than impressed by the use in clues of reference to 'locus' (nominative form 'locum'), and also the French city Lens (in Pas de Calais – not well enough known?).

I am grateful and offer sympathies to Neil Aspland for letting me know that his father Denis died recently, at the age of 90. Together they had formed a solving and competing team for many years, a tradition that Neil is planning to continue (see above).