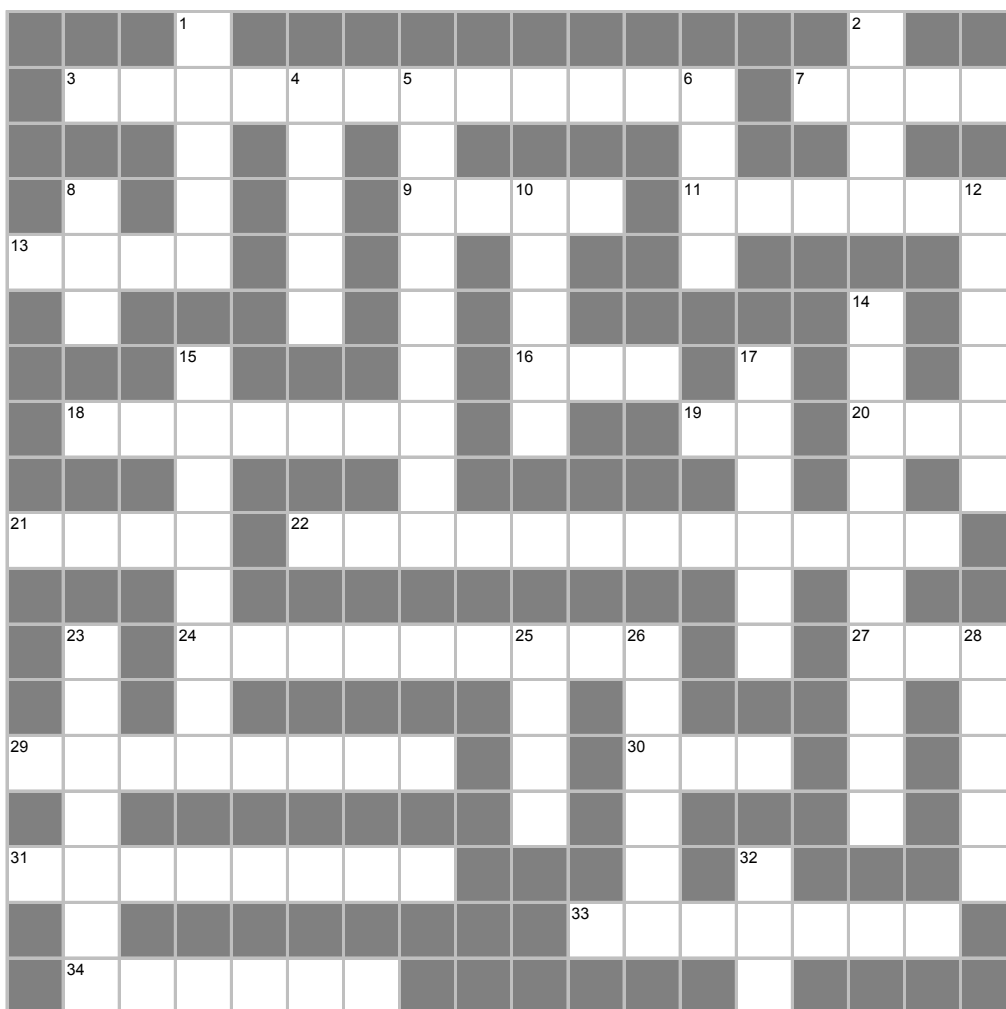


Christmas Chryptic Crossword



ACROSS

3. Sad, itchy arms distress Noel (9,3)
7. Letter to Father Christmas results in blisters (4)
9. Celebrity rats return (4)
11. Coming VAT end is absurd (6)
13. Tippy alcoholic starter is reward for naughty behaviour (4)
16. Flea lost tail and reversed present maker (3)
18. Wrap resentment a little tense (7)
- 19 (*with 25 down*). Three prostitutes laughing! (2,2,2)
20. First lady's last night (3)
- 21 (*with 27 across*). Learner eulogy upsets intended cremation target (4,3)
22. Old lady talks, quenches, pees madly (6,6)
24. City girl by Leicester border (9)
27. *See 21 across*
29. One bird roost is two aloud and most of three (4,4)
- 30 (*with 6 down*). Were any dubious resolutions made? (3,4)
31. I hear the new secret agent is a tasty treat (5,3)
33. Stunning cheese companion (7)
34. First great risotto is no cave (6)

DOWN

1. Sings fa-la-la under bridge? (5)
2. Long for evergreen (4)
4. Insect in South Africa initially eats mince pies (5)
5. Tom's elite parasitic plant (9)
6. *See 30 across*
8. Treat of youth? (3)
10. Endless anger left saint (5)
12. Gobble meat? (6)
14. Highest degree in former temperature scale without you (2,8)
15. Tenth cinder this month (8)
17. Adoptive father in San Jose, Philadelphia (6)
23. Some of the three kings are very smelly (7)
25. *See 19 across*
26. Feed box to eat French (6)
28. Why no energy? Eco! (5)
32. I see, I hear, I slip (3)