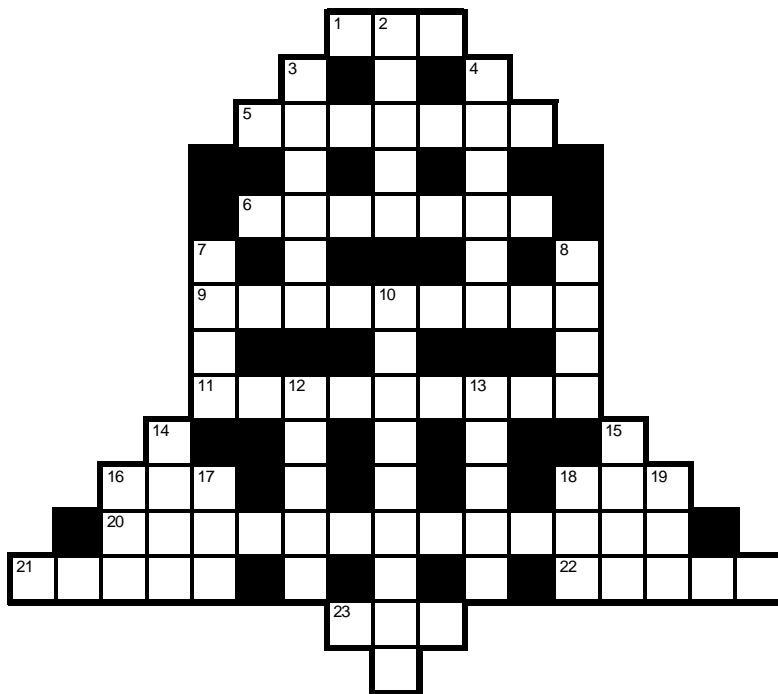


Xmas 2018 No.2



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By Hasslethymi

Across

- 1 Naughty child starts to incinerate mince pies (3)
 5 Worshipping a party band... like The Magi? (7)
 6 A week after 10 chopped yew in the vicinity (3,4)
 9 Cut air travel prior to air strike - that's rash! (9)
 11 Removes religious writings after someone utters 'Bethlehem' to begin with (9)
 16 Seasonal fare that's regularly priced (3)
 18 For incredibly good starters, it's traditionally added to 10,7 (3)
 20 Transform Noel? Virtue is incredibly having no end (13)
 21 Stickiness clings to some wrappers for festive centrepiece (5)
 22 Department protected by cashmere mittens (5)
 23 21 getting this in song that's loud and tinkly at the start (3)

Down

- 2/10 Compliments of the season? It screams myrrh all over the place (5,9)
 3 Opening in the year of the Lord's first coming (6)
 4 Dark-haired, perhaps? That's not right! (6)
 10/7 I've heard you'll mash spud to make these sweets (9,4)
 8 A large number go there late on 10 17 (4)
 10 See 2, 7 or 17 (9)
 12 Beautiful women lacking energy? They create ding-dongs! (5)
 13 It's sung around 10, around a bottomless barrel (5)
 14 Contributing to loveliest fairy tales? (4)
 15 Question words articulated description of esteemed post-natal visitors (4)
 16 In favour of heading to Palestine... or heading back (3)
 10/17 The first woman to chase its charms cracked right at the close of 3 (9,3)
 18 Suitably decorative tree... if put up right (3)
 19 Wonder grips every man in the first instance (3)