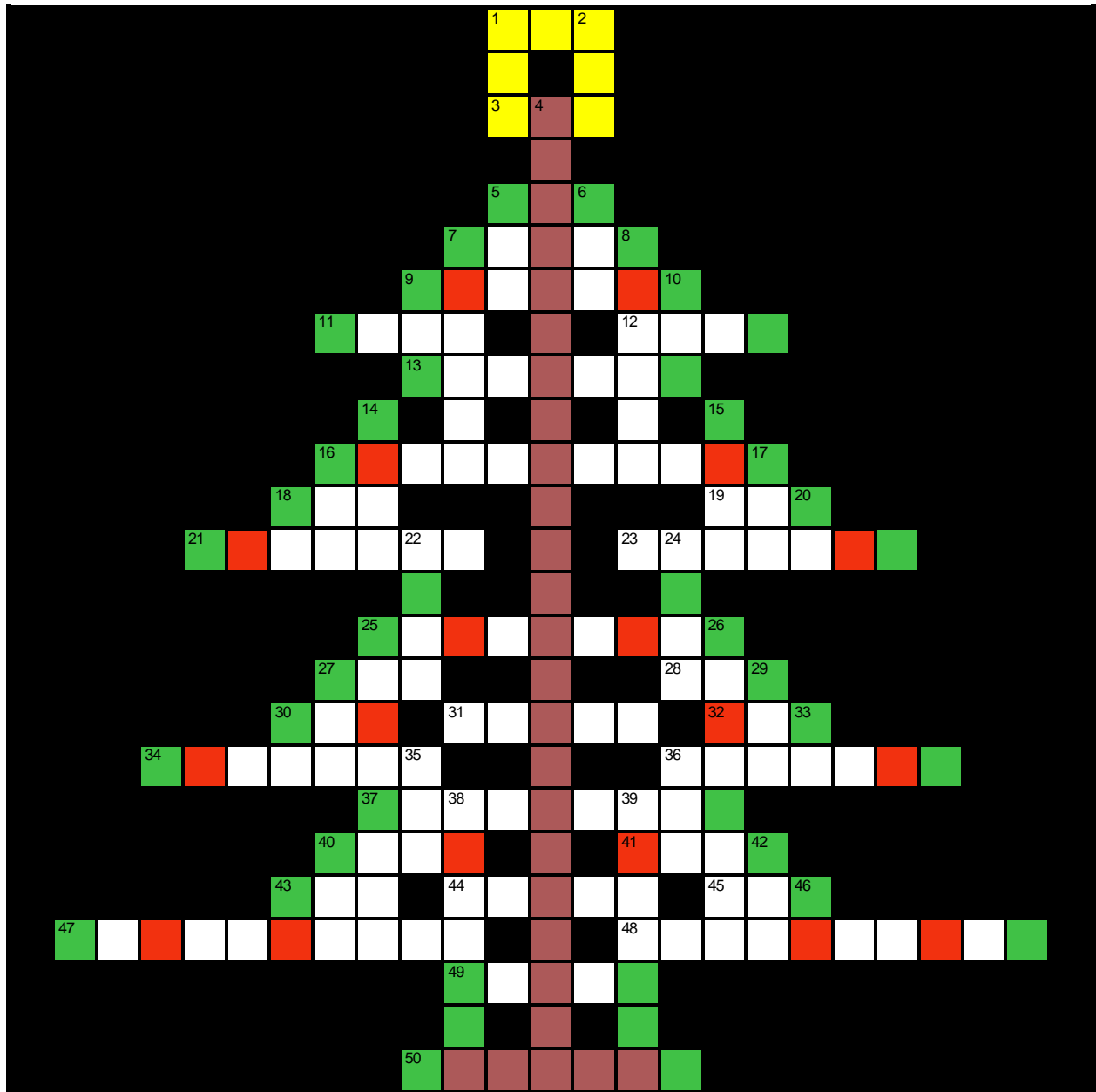


# Christmas Cryptic Crossword 2014



*By Hasslethymi*

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**Across**

- 1 Tree's smothered in Christmas hangings (3)
- 3 Ultimately made angel trim tree (3)
- 5 Holly's partner decapitated Roman historian (3)
- 7 Brook said old timbers do (5)
- 9 Test blast in tumbler (5-2)
- 11 Impale calling bird (4)
- 12 Wailing, perhaps, with everyone? (4)
- 13 Transport platter around in the morning when opening (7)
- 16 Former pet ruined amazing figure (11)
- 18 Ballroom cleaner cleared completely (3)
- 19 Bristly growth even Darwin observed (3)
- 21 Put on solutions for transport in Judaea, perhaps (7)
- 23 Measure uniform in looted complex (4,3)
- 25 One hundred and fifty one thousand cacti spoiled ending (9)
- 27 It could be pale with no head! (3)
- 28 Alternatively not covering other article (3)
- 30 Mince, say, that is held under pressure (3)
- 31 Minister's six wheels (5)
- 32 Weight 31's put on? (3)
- 34 Celebration time for 5's other half, by the sound of it (7)
- 36 Flap about Noel air (7)
- 37 River rose out of control forming lake (9)
- 40 Richard put it under mistletoe (4)
- 41 Slam misplaced charity (4)
- 43 Father bearing roast (3)
- 44 After six? It's sad - Santa might still pay one (5)
- 45 Open wide and say it after queue in audition (3)
- 47 Court another equal with grand design (10)
- 48 Assembly's persuasive about new metal (10)
- 49 Strange graduate's dance (5)
- 50 Pay attention to chasing good sparkle (7)

**Down**

- 1 A church is one (3)
- 2 Joint actor (3)
- 4 Carol's sweetheart went the way of this clue in the festive season (4,4,4,2,9)
- 5 Characters in choir expressed anger (3)
- 6 Ox is starting to yawn about kiddie (3)
- 7 Tax dependent (6)
- 8 You expect to follow king and country (6)
- 9 Trade Union Congress backed austerity measure (3)
- 10 No right to pray for recompense (3)
- 14 Shaft left-winger engaged in sabotage (4)
- 15 Test alternative to aluminium (4)
- 16 Beast reared in shackles (3)
- 17 Second person heard sheep (3)
- 18 Antidisestablishmentarian fringe article (2)
- 20 Negative about working (2)
- 22 A time when the French received jade earlier on (4)
- 24 Forget gag having lost head (4)
- 25 Fasten around listener's opening (8)
- 26 He leads Switzerland accompanied by pilot (8)
- 27 Help India in the period since Christ's birth (3)
- 29 Measure endless bells (3)
- 30 Tart with no bottom? Three and a bit! (2)
- 33 Live act (2)
- 35 Longing for money (3)
- 36 27 reported hurt (3)
- 38 Separate a few (7)
- 39 Cooked taco with almost a keg for a healthy breakfast (7)
- 40 One is vocally weak (3)
- 42 Sixth day: briefly rested (3)
- 43 Dad's secretary (2)
- 46 Broadcast shrill greetings (2)