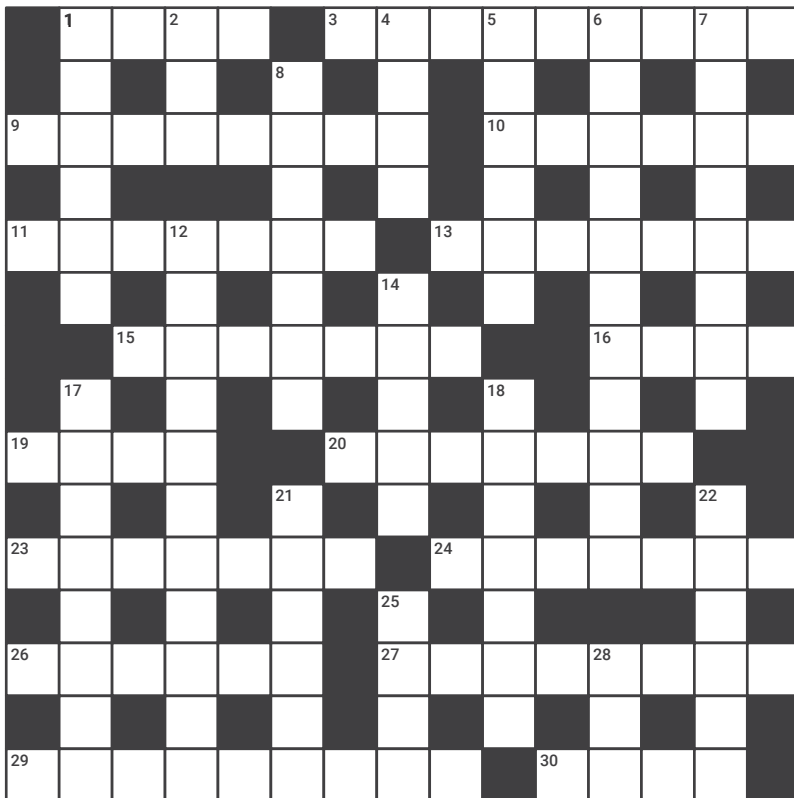




Charity Cryptic Christmas Crossword 2024

set by Chopin - definitions underlined



Across

- 1 Nearly almost bedtime (4)
- 3 How Grandfather's hands are supposed to move (9)
- 9 Shy lady excitedly embraces love for festive occasions (4,4)
- 10 Before church, sister takes a hint (6)
- 11 Gonzo's role scripted at last - I see chickens? Not half! (7)
- 13 Cried as one in nativity's late, poorly in bed (7)
- 15 Wise men and women hold court indoors (7)
- 16 Looks at ingredients of turkey escalopes (4)
- 19 Deer hates appearing red-nosed at first, self-confident in the end (4)
- 20 Like loveless editor, drunk on a donkey, perhaps (7)
- 23 Festive celebration starts off nicely, especially when you are dancing (3,4)
- 24 Apart from one star, decorations embargoed - reluctantly to begin with (7)
- 26 Carol's night arranging tinsel (6)
- 27 No room here once, sadly how trouble begins for baby Jesus? (8)
- 29 Treat with endless food arranged for couple's date (3,3,3)
- 30 Start to mime Little Donkey for midnight service (4)

Down

- 1 Hideaway that is for hanky-panky (6)
- 2 Flamboyant granny empty inside - adopting a ... (3)
- 4 ... girl from Los Angeles with only two dollars (4)
- 5 Exotic dance left one aflame during carol service (6)
- 6 Singing 4d, 14d, 30a, 16a, 2d, 25d, 1a, 19a may cause someone to mistakenly exclaim this (11)
- 7 Caroller on vacation in Ely, perhaps, with cuddly toy stashed away (8)
- 8 Surprise police turning up for festive snack (7)
- 12 Shy folk went off to get sage advice (4,7)
- 14 Description of Wenceslas' snow - cold, right? Wispy, boundless? (5)
- 17 Find opportunity to capture Marceau's art for Spooner (4,4)
- 18 Trump maybe forfeits passport here (7)
- 21 Trees American ordered for festive period (6)
- 22 Sport ridiculous ties around November more than once (6)
- 25 Compete with attitude (4)
- 28 Tea dance's repetitive section dropped (3)