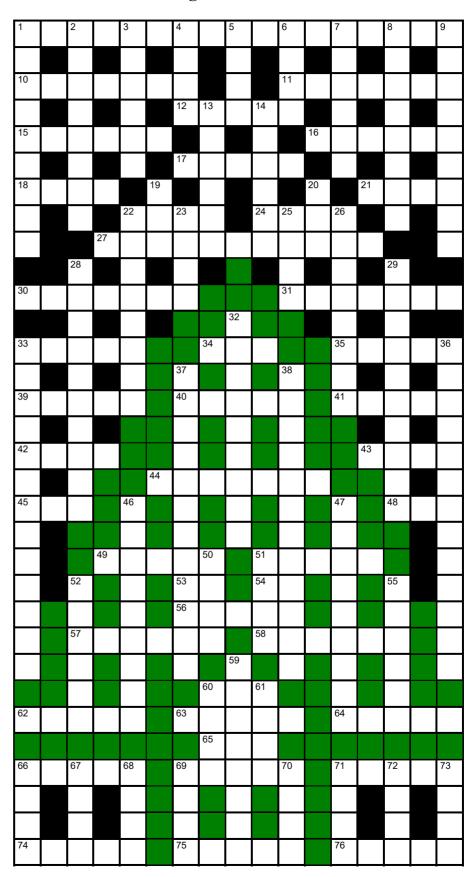
Christmas Challenge 2023

Across

- 1 Christmas film set on Christmas Eve 1945 in the town of Bedford Falls, New York (3,1,9,4)
- 10 Unlike snow, you don't want to see these falling at Christmas (7)
- 11 Bird in the throat? Gulp! (7)
- 12 Make a splashing sound (5)
- 15 What you might hear in a cave (6)
- **16** Closer (6)
- 17 What you might hear after people sit down after eating Christmas Dinner (5)
- **18** Paddington Bear's home country (4)
- 21 Occupation or role from the first Christmas (4)
- 22 Used to retrieve the Golden Fleece (4)
- **24** Stinging insect (4)
- 27 Straightforward, as Christmas cake makers like their fruit! (3-3-5)
- **30** Host of the 1904 Olympics (2,5)
- 31 French aviator who was the first to fly the English Channel in 1909 (7)



- 33 Keeps you warm at night (5)
- 34 Used to show respect and to decorate a gift (3)
- 35 Type of fold where inexperienced driver gets stuck in fuel source (5)
- 39 The distinctive spirit of a culture (5)
- **40** Occupation or role from the first Christmas (5)
- 41 Stealthy Japanese spy, skilled in the martial arts (5)
- **42** Word that can follow finger, thumb and toe (4)
- Animals used by Russian physiologist Pavlov in the early 1900's which showed that reflexes could be conditioned (4)
- 44 They may visit you at Christmas (7)
- 45 Anger that takes land from European country (3)
- 48 Priest who trained Samuel (3)
- 49 Seasoning (5)
- 51 Popular British dish (5)
- **53** Nine (2)
- **54** '-- Christmas night all Christians sing...' (2)

- **56** What people might do in the January Sales (5)
- 57 ----- parentis; acting as a parent for a child (2,4)
- 58 Something that might ask you to "turn around" (3-3)
- 60 Popular carol: '--- to the world' (3)
- **62** Duty lists (5)
- 63 Donated fifty for judge to use? (5)
- **64** For example 2:1, 1:10 or 3:4 (5)
- **65** Examine carefully (3)
- 66 One of Santa's reindeer (5)
- 69 City which staged an international exhibition and the Olympics in 1900 (5)
- 71 Norwegian composer, famous for his piano concertos and 'Peer Gynt' Suite, who died in 1907 (5)
- 74 Chinese rebellion against foreigners which caused concern to the Great Powers in 1900 (5)
- 75 Headless panic my mistake! (5)
- 76 People in Finland who were the first in Europe to get the vote for members of Parliament in 1907 (5)

Down

- 1 Occupation or role from the first Christmas (9)
- 2 Occupation or role from the first Christmas (8)
- 3 Animals such as the bad guy in the Three Little Pigs (6)
- 4 Loch ---- Monster (4)
- 5 World currency (4)
- 6 Food that multiplied in Jesus' miracle of the feeding of the 5,000 (4)
- 7 Food that multiplied in Jesus' miracle of the feeding of the 5,000 (6)
- 8 Behave badly towards, such as towards Cinderella (3-5)
- 9 Describing the 1901-1910 period in Britain (9)
- 13 Host of the 1908 Olympics (6)
- 14 Wise small animal with daughter (6)
- 19 Word that can follow clip, fine and pop (3)
- 20 The twenty-third letter of the Greek alphabet (3)
- 22 Caesar at the time of the first Christmas (8)

- 23 Holes hidden in mega Psalms (4)
- 25 Type of horse (4)
- 26 New play of 1904 which took its audience to Never-Never Land (5,3)
- 28 Christmas song:
 'It's lovely weather for a ----together with you'
 (6,4)
- 29 I've pinhole transformed, so be optimistic (4,2,4)
- 32 Used at Carol Services (4,5)
- 33 British Monarch who died in 1901 (5,8)
- 36 Covering 4,607 miles from Chelyabinsk to Vladivostock, this new railway was opened in 1904 (5-8)
- 37 US City which suffered a major earthquake in 1906, followed by a firestorm which worsened the situation (3,9)
- 38 Name given to January 22nd 1905, when Russian workers marched on the Winter Palace in St. Petersburg and were fired on by infantry, killing five hundred (6,6)

- 46 Airships like the one which made its first flight near Friedrichshafen in 1900 (9)
- 47 Occupation or role from the first Christmas (9)
- 50 A big public exhibition (4)
- 51 The pros and ---- of an argument (4)
- **52** Occupation or role from the first Christmas (6)
- 55 Word that can be followed by candle, Sunday and calendar (6)
- 59 Occupation or role from the first Christmas (8)
- 60 Programming language with syntax similar to C and C++ (4)
- 61 Abominable snowman found to still be independent (4)
- 66 Has teeth but never bites (4)
- 67 One of the authors of the Communist Manife sto (4)
- 68 The leader of this country who saw Japan decisively defeat his forces in 1904-05 (4)
- 69 Long for a Christmas tree? (4)

- 70 Occupation or role from the first Christmas (4)
- 71 What Christmas lights may do in the dark (4)
- 72 Something on a list (4)
- 73 Something worn by surgeons and graduates (4)