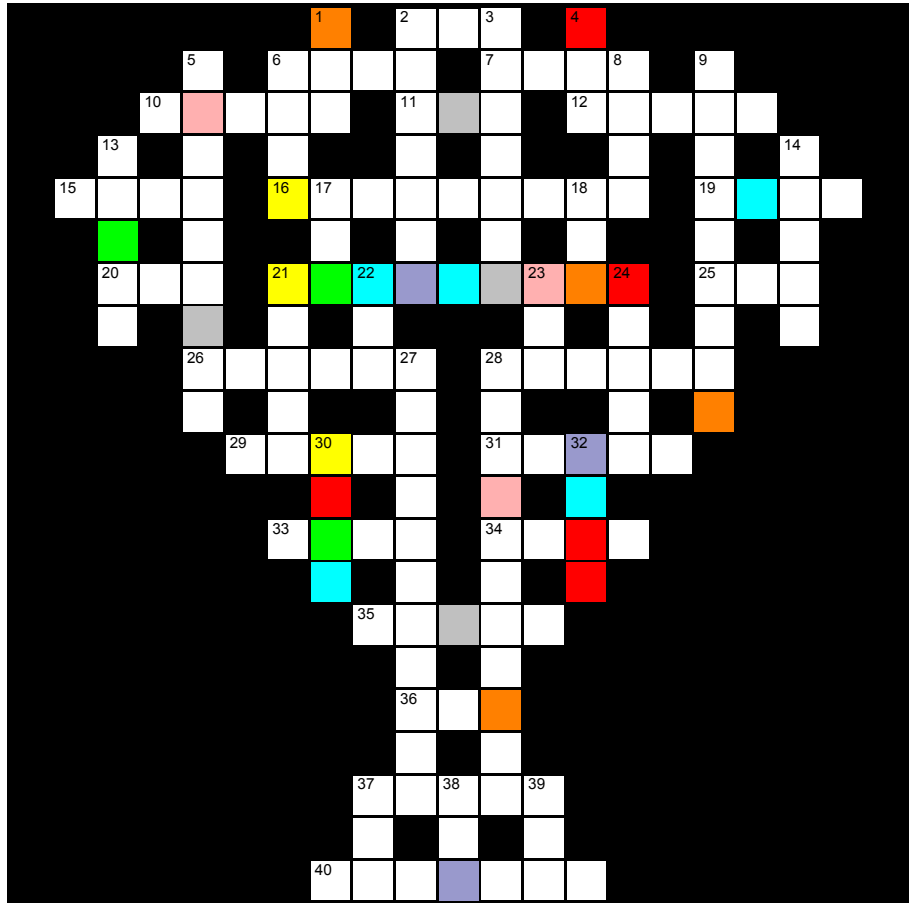


Across

- 2 Endless broth? Humbug! (3)
- 6 Drink and gain energy (4)
- 7 Pastoral ends differently without effort (4)
- 10 Decorate a coiffure with robin wings (5)
- 11 I am on time, Master Cratchit! (3)
- 12 Greek character in charge of carols, for example (5)
- 15 Seasonal guide turned back vermin (4)
- 16 Friend put on a spread that's appetizing (9)
- 19 Dress 11 with cap of red (4)
- 20 Property fortune (3)



- 21 *** HIDDEN CHRISTMAS GIFT *** (9)
- 25 Strange ingredient of eggnog? (3)
- 26 Boris Johnson goes around getting tips from disturbed Bond villain (3-3)
- 28 Three articles on central ancient Israel (6)
- 29 The first part of seasonal phase (5)
- 31 Spruce needing a trim this yuletide for starters (5)
- 33 Something festively sent this month by vehicle (4)
- 34 Stories are stretched out (4)
- 35 Strangely idyllic after dyed-in-the-wool extremists leave in a cold manner (5)

- 36 Christiansymbol, for example, has a connection with everything ultimately (3)
- 37 Feel distant, but not to start with (5)
- 40 Father Christmas leads the first bits of festive entertainment in US city (5,2)

Down

- 1 Somewhat marginal spirit (3)
- 2 Royal Engineers plot and withdraw (7)
- 3 11 to hammer individual drums (7)
- 4 The Spanish man gives a tree (3)

- 5 Fuss control is the Magis' preoccupation (9)
- 6 Cover with batter (4)
- 8 The second person will broadcast the festive season (4)
- 9 Spending the current period with I I rent out (9)
- 13 Stay stable (5)
- 14 Bad Santa and Scrooge maybe foxtrot to get incredibly slim (5)
- 17 Alias of unspeakable characters (3)
- 18 Look! Good wood! (3)
- 21 Cycle of bell-ringing surrounds Land's End (5)

- 22 Part of insalubrious city in Brazil (3)
- 23 The key to life and vice versa (3)
- 24 Glorify previous partner a little (5)
- 27 Second rate hot whip that's served up with the Christmas pudding! (11)
- 28 Gentle glow is able to enthrall without natural finish (11)
- 30/32 *** GIFT WRAP *** (4)
- 37 Years are backing up (3)
- 38 Frequently made from tempered lead (3)
- 39 See only half of myself in Santa's little helper (3)