

Christmas Crossword Set by Gozo

The clues in Part 1 lack definitions of their solution and they are all arranged in alphabetical order of their solutions which have then to be assigned, jigsaw-fashion, to their correct places in the grid. These solutions can be somehow paired. The two words of the hyphenated solution are to be entered separately.

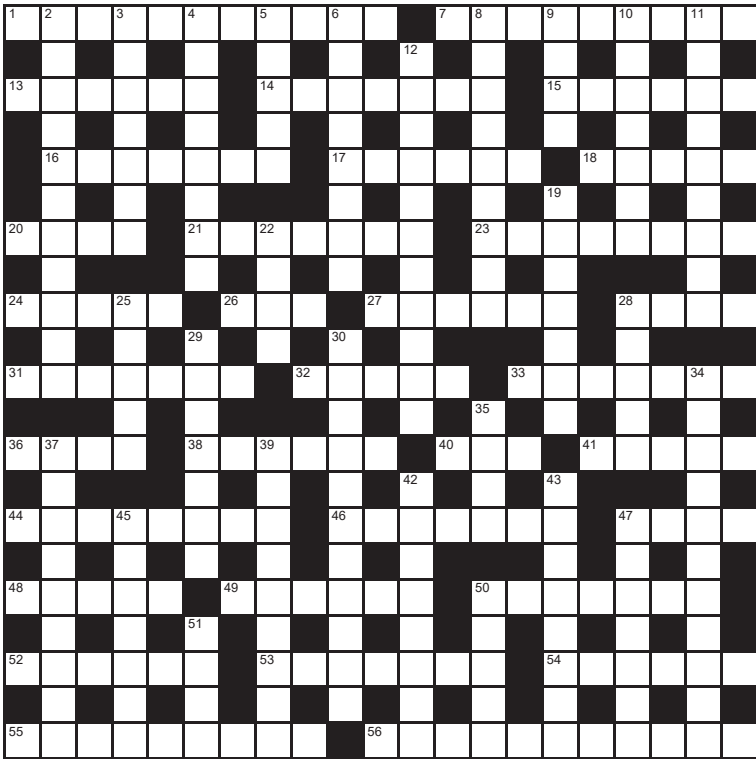
The remaining clues, in Part 2, are traditional cryptic clues.

- PART 1**
- Senator is off (9)
 - Girl in bed (6)
 - It's insincere talk! Right! (6)
 - Three queens (7)
 - Punctuation mark -- one on an index (11)
 - The German maladies (11)
 - Moderate Left (5)
 - Run out of guts (7)
 - English page is firm friend (9)
 - Fine new terminus (11)
 - Has a tenant (5)
 - Isolated pillar and large box reduced (7)
 - Tenor leaves coffee (4)
 - Pastureland from the Home Counties (5)
 - Pieces whale together (7)
 - Bridge player's early auction, for starters (5,3)
 - Big pop-singer. Not I, sadly (11)
 - Ground spice in a cutback (5-4)
 - New tea-shop in ruins (8)
 - Ancient invader at castle, disheartened (7)
 - Some prizes at Chelsea (7)
 - Reasons it out (9)
 - Girl has to inform against (8)
 - Edited, if it's a nonet (11)
 - Favoured among candidate list (7)
 - Ollie's friend Bob (8)
 - Female leaves joint (5)
 - Pupils in rows (11)
 - Teenager's first beer (4)
 - Land on church (7)

- PART 2**
- ACROSS**
- 13 A female, blonde, 45 (6)
 - 14 Doctor titters, having quickly noted passages (7)
 - 15 Article from Tunisia badly installed (2,4)
 - 17 Brief outline of high seat, mostly gold on the outside (6)

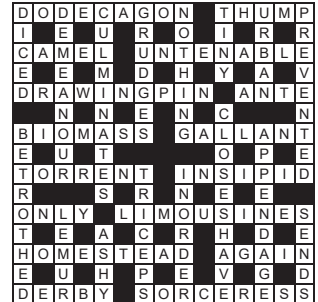
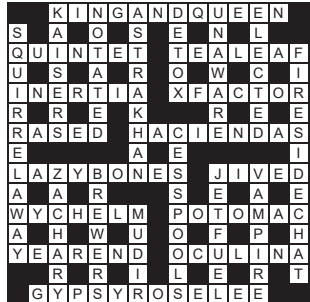
- 20 Met wagon reversing (4)
- 21 Cry out enthusiastically, first reaching throbbing climax (7)
- 24 Cambridge's testaments (5)
- 26 See 40
- 27 Small measure that is for Highland stalker (6)
- 38 Terrain's tilled holding drill (6)
- 40, 26 Graduate gets to bank - but only just (6)
- 47 Care for under a bob? (4)
- 48 Aphorism some scaremonger backs (5)
- 50 Where Wedgwood produced pottery, having left off portraiture, maybe? (7)
- 53 Flatten or first extrude mineral (4,3)
- 54 Saving player's energy with a rest (6)

- DOWN**
- 3 Took no food around end of June -- then gorged! (7)
 - 6 Muslin for Highland dress seen round there in France (8)
 - 9 Poet turning up in Vladivostok (4)
 - 10 Survey the cricket, perhaps, without parking (7)
 - 11 WI cricketer, turns up, drinking most of herbal tea that's hand-made (9)
 - 28 Empty trawler in quest of fish (5)
 - 35 Used to be hard to clean (4)
 - 37 Olympic entertainers running in heats, carrying a number (9)
 - 39 Small country mansion rebuilt around the centre of Kilmarnock (3,6)
 - 43 Silver placed in star-shaped moulding (8)
 - 50 Purgative in polythene material (5)
 - 51 In Edinburgh bounce bairns upwards (4)



Solution 16,667

Solution 16,658



We regret that crossword prizes are suspended at present. The FT's compilers and crossword editor offer solvers their best wishes for Christmas and the new year.