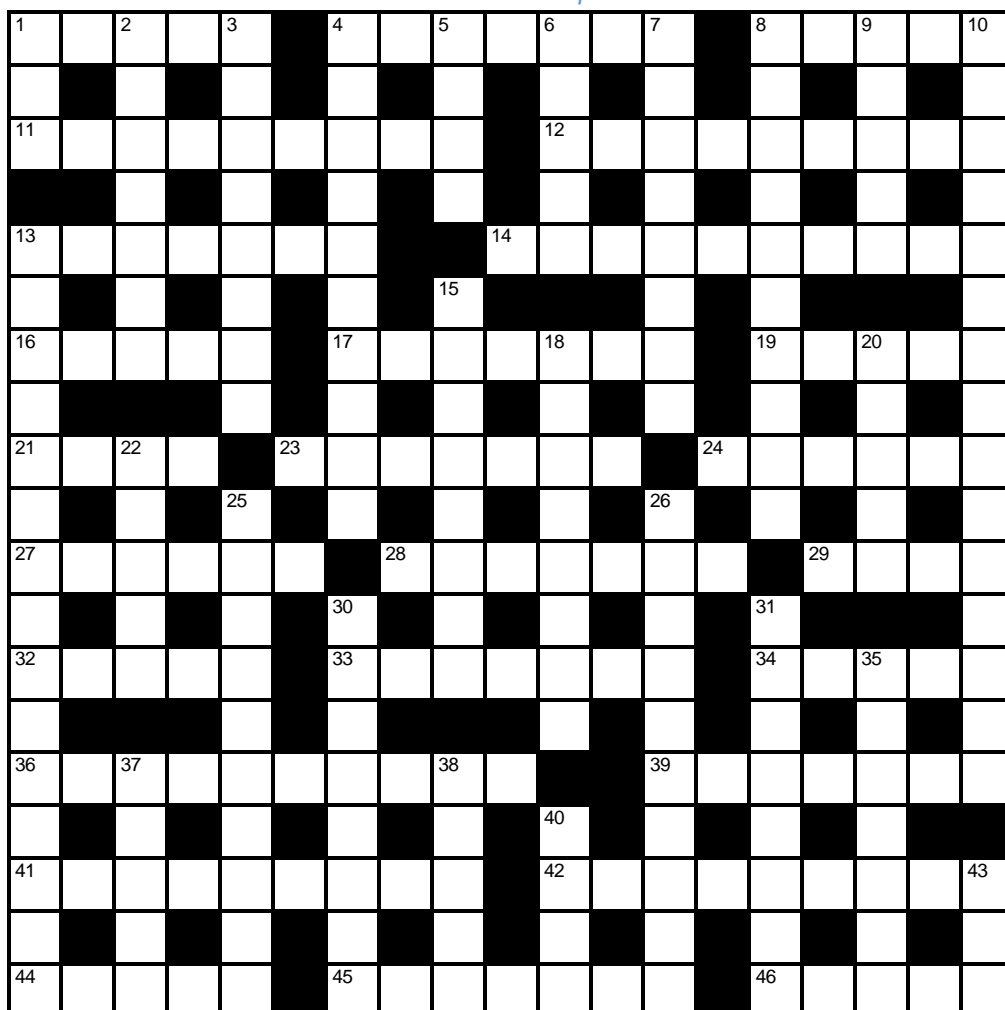


A Chrissie Crossie

Set by Māyā

vervecrossword.wordpress.com



Across

- 1 Sprite originally loved danger (5)
 4 Auckland suburb of equal value to Mistress Gwyn (7)
 8 Prime Minister? (5)
 11 Soldiers in hamlet collected Swiss cheese (9)
 12 "The Saint" - new film set around part of Auckland (9)
 13 Beat any fiction in suspense (7)
 14 Peeved about points stuck in old bicycle (10)
 16 We grow older: it's accepted practice (5)
 17 Critic used to announce presence (7)
 19 Love food? Try muesli (but skip the Spanish chicken starter) (5)
 21 Sex pot undressed? Armageddon outta here! (4)
 23 Dearest Candy... (7)

Down

- 1 Love food? Try 5.92439... (3)
 2 Rare problem, trapping a flightless bird in part of Auckland (7)
 3 Connections leaking fluid on bearing (8)
 4 Northern branch owner often dresses in red around now (10)
 5 Heart of true love, extremely 31 (4)
 6 Leading experimental researcher, nuclear? That is Rutherford, familiarly (5)
 7 Two possible tennis venues (not new) where trials held (8)
 8 Think about Paddington? (4,2,4)
 9 Trim pink leg for attractive strip (5)
 10 Flyer could hardly circulate much more widely, at present time (6,9)

24 ...make precious curtains at this point (so to speak) (6)
27 Other ranks admonished "The Colour Purple" (6)
28 Be sure once heartless Keith accepts present (7)
29 Personal assistant bent over backwards for Murdoch (4)
32 Mercenary seen in Japanese disguises (5)
33 Ordinary photo includes SMERSH colonel (7)
34 Spirit being issue knocking me back (5)
36 Do they think they will salivate if shown meringue desserts? (10)
39 Americans may get pulled (7)
41 Prince has wings clipped in Aboriginal story (9)
42 About fire over pit: look into it again (2-7)
44 Park a ship on the rocks (5)
45 "Ee, it's Wednesday!" (7)
46 Urge to have a fundraiser (5)

13/38 I sleep during wild karaoke one, and get up for Xmas song (1,6,2,1,5,4)
15 Break, say, and enter (4,4)
18 Brief Auckland winter fashion? (8)
20 Cut short first two letters to "The Listener" (5)
22 Write about buried nut (5)
25 Fix current ball boy a cocktail (10)
26/35 Difficult to judge article on King tribe's Xmas song (6,4,3,4)
30 Decide 999 is 1000? (8)
31 An ensign of acceptable quality (8)
35 See 26
37 Zeal and passion may be found in cover version! (5)
38 Go on, why isn't Tring trending? (2,3)
40 See 13
43 Lady tempted - could go either way (3)