



**Across**

- 1 Directions are in the mail for making a warming winter drink (6)
- 4 Superficial damage as a robin is involved in scuffle (8)
- 9 One way Wenceslas saw the snow like this, nevertheless (4,2)
- 10 Chop up bird cooked and eaten at Christmas (5,3)
- 12 Yuletide choir provide encore (4)
- 13 Shelter in the street from snow and rain (5)
- 14 It's said start of new carol is missing (4)
- 17 Hasty cards I'm writing out -- in time for this? (9,3)
- 20 One, for example, to streak out on the ice (6,6)
- 23 Bill received in connection with port (4)
- 24 Revises the back-end of Christmastide (5)
- 25 Mince pie, cold, is impressive (4)
- 28 Present comes from French leader in foreign parts (8)
- 29 Opening word used by Ali Baba in pantomime (6)
- 30 Tries to organise a party (3,1,4)
- 31 Highballs for winter sportsmen (6)

**Down**

- 1 Bearing gifts, we hear vaguely (8)
- 2 Mince-pie man? (8)
- 3 Departure point for the Magi (4)
- 5 Suckers for 11 down? (6,6)
- 6 They go round in circles distributing cards, losing a number (4)
- 7 Not wholly employed in pantomime? (2,4)
- 8 What may fall off the Christmas tree to annoy (6)
- 11 Spud and dumpling making up Christmas fare (4,8)
- 15 Awake to what the Christmas pudding needs for wish fulfilment (5)
- 16 Prepares gifts and cards (5)
- 18 Wenceslas' instruction in the event of a hold-up? (8)
- 19 Nuts? You'll need these (8)
- 21 A worn-out shoe for wintry weather? (6)
- 22 Wanders aimlessly in the snow? (6)
- 26 Copy model of the Nativity scene (4)
- 27 Decorate some cards (4)