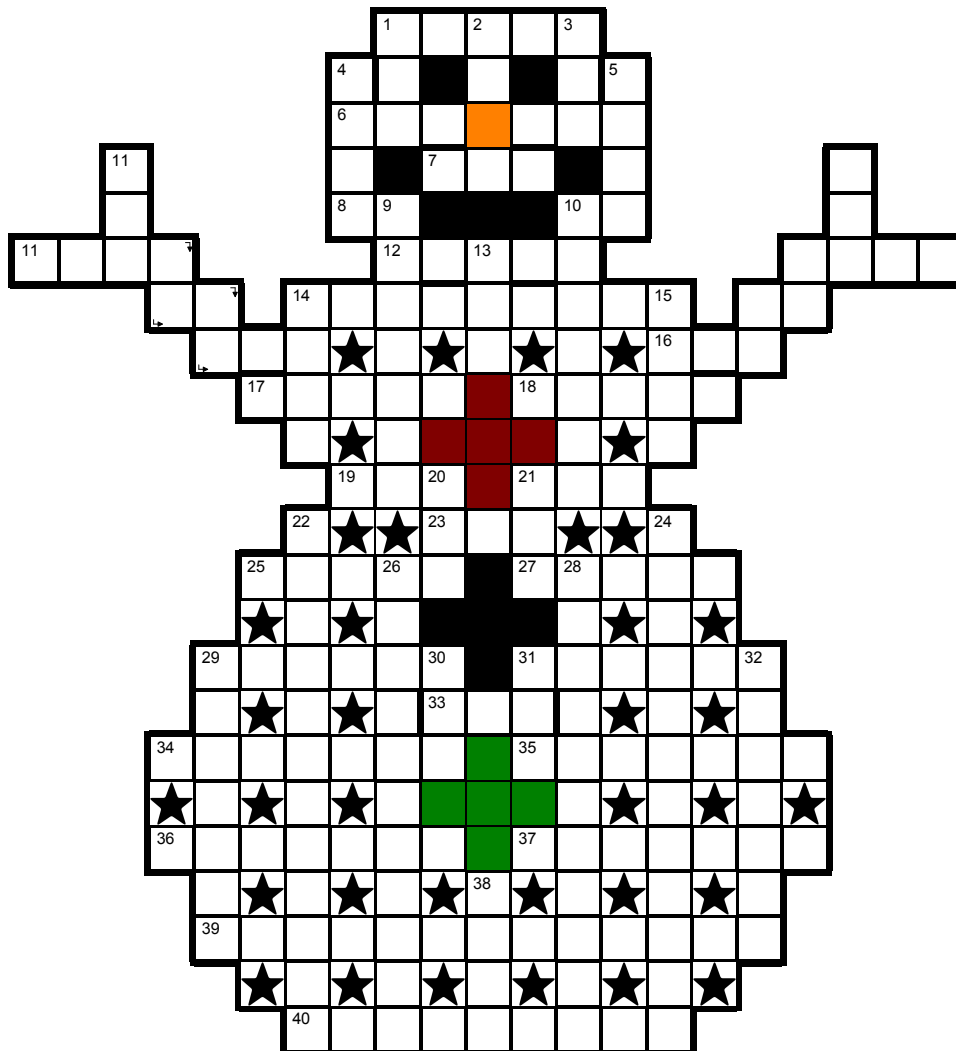


Cryptic Crossword #36

Happy New Year for 2010!

The "buttons" are blocked squares, but the orange "nose" is a blank square. The "fingers" on each hand are the same letters, hence the duplicate 11. Also, the grid is a mixture of bars and blocks.

Set by Qaos



Across

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Monkey runs after piano, daily (5)</p> <p>6 Get worse than "C" report? (7)</p> <p>7 Pen written in books, typically (3)</p> <p>8/10 I don't believe you, when one starts to fib (2,2)</p> | <p>11 "Mecca", the Dr also revealed, "is a holy place" (9)</p> <p>12 Funny people like jokers? (5)</p> <p>14 They look after animals for a pie (9)</p> <p>16 No, it's all over after jazz custom (9)</p> <p>17 Santa's first flat number (5)</p> |
|--|---|

- 18 Started to live with girl (a Pole) (5)
- 19 "Look!", I say (3)
- 21 One in French tree (3)
- 23 Prophet's outrageous lie (3)
- 25 Woman's song (5)
- 27 New colour (5)
- 29 Woman's drink (6)
- 31 Fight what the cleaner does? (6)
- 33 Woman uses some aloe vera (3)
- 34 Tin soldier suppresses cry and in time, turns to mush (7)
- 35 Composes hymn with ice flue (7)
- 36 Searches around for animals (7)
- 37 Abacus or the opposite? (7)
- 39 Officer Rod Green sat awkwardly (5,8)
- 40 Volunteers are made from steeliness, taking no quarter (9)

Down

- 1 That's after soft dish (3)
- 2 Left harbour (4)
- 3 Communist blood? (3)
- 4 Thought aide was mistaken (4)
- 5 Strong food (4)
- 9 Backdrop's timeless US heart is within the outskirts of Surrey (7)
- 10 Former PM drops down from national (7)
- 13 Greek character's line report (3)
- 14 Toboggan's in front (4)
- 15 Principal or second sailor (4)
- 20 Man lifted fish (3)
- 21 Fruit is good, if taken up (3)
- 22 Producer of "Smoke on the Water"? (5,7)
- 24 Check I'm on before I get Capone's good words (12)
- 26 Fluid to half erupt - what a gusher! (3,8)
- 28 The reason for a cat's coarse language? (5,6)
- 29 Old cars cause rage in loud bees (7)
- 30 Currency is correct measure (3)
- 31 TV presenter down with drug charlie (3)
- 32 Here's US leader without ID (7)
- 38 God raises Egyptian city (4)