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**CLUES**

**Across**

1 When my lover gave me the bird *[Seasonal]* (5,3,2,9)

11 Makeshift bit of dealing; sweet (5)

12 Following the fashion (3)

13 Santa’s little helper (3)

14 You can cook in this glass (5)

15 Not even (3)

16 --- Majesty (3)

17 Amount of inaccuracy (5)

18 Put forged money into circulation (5)

19 Alex Salmond might have uttered this when he heard the referendum result (3)

20 Large amount of Spanish illness (1,3,2,3)

22 Big band (9)

24 Corrupt (2,3,4)

26 Useful when your gun runs out (5,4)

28 You don’t want to play him at poker (4,5)

32 Genuine (9)

35 Snakes belong to this class (9)

36 In your car, shift down to approach a bend (4,1,4)

37 This vessel operates underwater (3)

39 Structure that carries electricity (5)

41 Senior citizen; magazine title (5)

43 International distress call (3)

44 --- Browne, worn by officers (3)

45 ----- Sharapova, tennis star (5)

46 Rod Hull’s attacked Michael Parkinson (3)

47 Slippery as an --- (3)

48 Phrase which means something different from its literal meaning(5)

49 They tried but the end product was zero *(seasonal)* (3,5,7,4)

**Down**

1 When the jeweller profited nicely *[seasonal]* (5,3,2,9)

2 Radio detection and ranging (5)

3 Consequently (9)

4 Regard with disgust (5)

5 Action well-timed (9)

6 Believes in Father Christmas (9)

7 Ships in drydock undergo this (5)

8 Appoint someone else in place of (9)

9 ----- Testino, snapper (5)

10 When the Anatidae family went to work *[seasonal]* (5,3,2,9)

21 Not in (3)

23 Female cats like him (3)

25 Three-sided box for carrying bricks (3)

27 Big insurance broker, all or nothing (3)

29 Slight blow on the knuckles (3)

30 Type of glider aircraft (9)

31 Piece of land projecting into the sea; famous Hong Kong hotel (9)

32 Distant galaxy; daughter of Cepheus (9)

33 Fusing powdered glass to a substrate (9)

34 Attach with a string; worn around the neck (3)

38 Common name for hydrated sodium borate (5)

40 Elongated cylindrical bulbs with a Welsh flavour (5)

42 National Capital Territory of India (5)

43 This swindle is painful (5)