

MR MILLER'S CRYPTIC CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD 2015

The crossword puzzle grid consists of 155 numbered starting points for clues. The grid is set against a background of green foliage and snow. Various Christmas-themed illustrations are scattered throughout, including a lit candle, holly leaves, gold bells, a Christmas wreath, a small Christmas tree, and a crest with a 'B' and 'E'.

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ACROSS

- 2 A gas rainfall cascades on American-Canadian border (7,5)
 7 Please note about French friend in African Desert (5)
 9 "An entire country named Doug", according to Proops! (6)
 11 African capital sees bad author inside distance? (8)
 14 Enumerators spew all over the place across the water from Welsh Capital (6-5-4)
 16 5.9675, -62.5355 (5,5)
 19 Pace returns Japanese currency in Tower Hamlets! (7)
 22 Sicilian power house ups the ante! (4)
 25 Inbred hug confused Auld Reekie (9)
 31 Body on Peruvian/Bolivian border poorly tactical with this in Hawaiian (4,8)
 33 See Figure 1 (8)
 35 Indian city is actually without end inside returned air conditioning unit! (8)
 37 Disabled Lusitania takes on a hundred in the Caribbean (5,5)
 39 See Figure 2 (14)
 44 Tom's kit hides a city in Russia (5)
 45 Tracy Turnblad says "Good Morning" here? (9)
 46 I prove awkward in laughing out loud beside Mersey (9)
 47 Spooky Great Lake, we hear (5)
 49 Found in 144 across desperately needs direction added (6)
 53 Glen says he is still on the line in this Kansas city (8)
 55 Largest expanse of sea if cocaine cap fits (7,5)
 56 Off puree ring inside continent (6)
 57 Eugenides' Pulitzer county? (9)
 59 Crazy purge in the middle of Iberia? (6)
 61 Sweetheart of an Australian flower! (7)
 63 In which city would you find the Isle of Gods? (4-7)
 65 American junction in operatic song about Vienna (7)
 68 What you do when one comes undone in the Far East, we hear! (6)
 72 Cove after funny Eric joins Irish waters? (8,3)
 76 Eleven come around awkwardly in Central America (6)
 77 Alternative dress crumpled for French town that was probably named after a Latin cabbage! (6)
 79 A town for ever-loving Australians? (8)
 81 See Figure 3 (4,4)
 83 "Destroyed me' turnips?" - it's the end of the line: the green one! (9)
 85 Unsettled large rays in Australian Sea (6)
 87 Number 11: An ideal home for retired Terracotta Warriors? (2,2)
 90 "The greatest place in the world": Dickens (8)
 92 In Africa? I am also confused! (7)
 93 Welsh town used for piscine protection? (9)
 95 Confused Dane's high in South America (5)
 96 I am a bin in Western Africa (7)
 97 I did rant awfully in the Caribbean! (8)
 98 Cher went walking here six years after Marc (7)
 100 Steve sang about a girl from here. No relation to James. (6)
 102 Bad goals found in Portugal ... Or Nigeria. (5)
 104 Where one might find the Glovers at play? (5,4)
 105 Seen pyre collapse high on European border (8)
 106 TQ 379 804 (12,6)
 109 What Cornish resort sounds like it is in after musical transposition? (7)
 112 Hidden in cave, IRA quit in Middle East. (4)
 114 West African is bad ion releaser? (6,5)
 115 Popular Asian's hiding place is in diagonals! (5)
 116 Mini city of dreaming spires? (6)
 119 This city is "Skyscraper National Park" according to John Updike (3,4)
 121 In Far East, personal assistant enters short first month (5)
 122 African pressure units in Earth God? (6)
 123 Billy sang about them closing all the factories down in Pennsylvania (9)
 124 One Direction smile in place occupied by another locally. (4,9)
 127 Gravity in type error for Pharaoh's land (5)
 129 Direction in good French resort in Sussex? (8)
 131 County home of Rex comprised very old in den? (5)
 137 Where baleen comes from, I hear (5)
 139 Essex island sounds dire! (8)
 140 19A, 44A, 77A, 79A, 15D, 36D, 66D, 73D, 101D and 110D lived here apparently! (9)
 142 Egyptian neighbour will put you in sand storm (5)
 143 25°11'49.7"N 55°16'26.8"E (4,7)
 144 Six Canadians about in Northern Europe? (11)
 145 Former jaws of Devonian resort? (7)
 146 Awfully low gags for Weegies' home (7)
 147 Can you find us hiding within the Asian river? (5)
 148 To sprog badly near Portsmouth Harbour? (7)
 149 Idaho mugs ruined ... Or is it Xamar? (9)
 150 Little Samantha ring a Pacific country (5)
 151 Portuguese tourist region in a gravel drive? (7)
 152 Man made Manx capital? (7)
 153 Caribbean person who makes conserves, I hear? (7)
 154 Original DLR terminus gets terribly sad slandering! (6,7)
 155 "You go (here), and I'll go mine": found in Animal Crackers, circa 1930 (7)

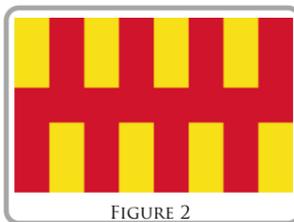


FIGURE 2

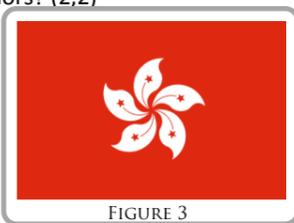


FIGURE 3

DOWN

- 1 Add direction to French beef stew which runs through Vienna, Budapest and Belgrade (6)
 3 North Dakota found inside one dollar bird? It will make our capital! (6)
 4 Slartibartfast's greatest creation? (6)
 5 Pork in set-back London waterway (6)
 6 Poor merchants with point make home of Red Devils. (9)
 8 Girl after worker in South America (7)
 10 Map book for African Mountains (5)
 12 If entrée is disturbed in 42 down (8)
 13 Olympic hosts alphabetical ends in tailless flatfish (6)
 15 Toby provides shell for smashed ormer in true Balamory location! (9)
 17 Endless aching confused Asian giant (5)
 18 Continent finds football club hidden in operatic melody (6)
 20 Zero parallel not quorate? (7)
 21 Five off inmate in oriental gold star country (7)
 23 Where Coward was thought of as 'English Delight'? (8)
 24 The Iron's home turf? (9,4)
 26 An explosive Welsh town? (6)
 27 Mix hay with salami for top range! (9)
 28 City state made from a spongier mix? (9)
 29 Where superheroes go to buy their outfits in South Africa? (4,4)
 30 Clumsily redial 'N' for Emerald Isle (7)
 32 Christie asked the way to this Texan city. (8)
 33 Did Austin write about a park in this Nottinghamshire town? (9)
 34 Magnesium carbide explodes in University city (9)
 36 Body odour surrounds confused gnu in Japanese province (5)
 38 Terrible as hammer falls at the end of the oldest tube line! (8)
 40 African Country formed new operating system in voracity test? (5,5)
 41 "The country where I quite want to be." (7)
 42 Spanish Isles of Dogs? (6,7)
 43 Mess her up in little brown Iranian primate! (6)
 48 Rub mica all over North-West county. (7)
 50 Smokies home breaks a bar with Thor? (8)
 51 Roman waterway made of beaten tribe? (5)
 52 The ultimate swear word according to Ford Prefect! (7)
 54 Tag on untidily in South Pacific (5)
 58 Chinese course confused agent holding the last two letters! (7)
 60 The record's bad for Hardy's home town. (10)
 62 Turn my anger into land (7)
 64 Odd in the Inner Hebrides? (3)
 66 Gold starts in hundred between two rings making South American flower (7)
 67 Southern land-worker on bend finished with Indian snack, we hear? (10)
 69 West African hidden in hole put into goldfish bowl! (4)
 70 Great Lake 1001 put gravity into broken chain (8)
 71 Messily gores boring royal Sussex resort? (6,5)
 73 Sofia is in her prime location! (8)
 74 Confuse singing group with directions for Canaries' home? (7)
 75 Alba fired colt into beach material. (8)
 78 Redid fob anew on the Torridge (8)
 80 Affirmative response returned after viewpoint of Welsh island. (8)
 82 1883 eruption broke a digit, we hear? (8)
 84 Asian very quietly enters askew hip lines (11)
 86 1D Syndrome? (9)
 88 New figure plans in Iranian waters (7,4)
 89 Lapse endlessly about European peaks. (4)
 91 Eastern country had Latin origins? (8)
 94 Initially one cannot eat a new insect again down under! (7)
 99 Hebridean ovoid with one inside (4)
 101 Channel Island tree, constant in New York (8)
 103 See chic within Parisian water? (5)
 106 Simba likes hiding inside tropical island (4)
 107 She holds short laugh inside sandy place (6)
 108 African messy regalia? (7)
 110 Boot capital of the antipodes? (10)
 111 Midi repairmen sorted zero line that goes through East Grinstead (5,8)
 113 Caulkhead home hidden within the convent no rich man could enter (7)
 117 Fly solo in Norway? (4)
 118 Surprising little town to the East of Swedish capital. (3)
 120 Empty islands look a treat initially in South of Israel. (5)
 125 Man backs around tonight going wrong for Raleigh's home town (10)
 126 Allegedly, Lynne got lost in this city. (5)
 128 Crash any train Val's used to make vampire's homeland (12)
 130 Fire a cacao gun for Argentine peak (9)
 132 Five started bewildered issue with ultraviolet inside led to Pompeii's downfall. (8)
 133 Is this non-sequitur keyhole hiding modern Byzantium country? (6)
 134 Regain one carefully in West Africa! (7)
 135 "A fine place to live, if you happen to be an orange" according to Fred Allen (10)
 136 Pub number 100? The Spanish on a Catalonian capital. (9)
 138 Welsh city as a news upset? (7)
 141 The world's largest nation is United States in turbulent airs? (6)
 143 Lab returns cured pork for gateway to the south? (6)
 144 Antony Charles Robert Armstrong-Jones loses Lord for Welsh peak? (7)

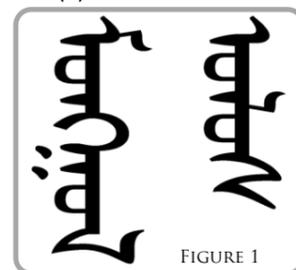


FIGURE 1

Completed crosswords to be handed in to Mr Miller in the first week of the Spring Term 2016:
 there will be prizes available for families that have managed to complete this puzzle.
 More copies can be found on Geography Pages (www.bramblegeog.blogspot.com)