

## ANSWERS TO 2002 CRYPTOGRAMS

1. Noel, noel, noel, noel. Born is the king of Israel.  
– The First Noel

2. Hark, the herald angels sing.  
Glory to the newborn King.  
– Famous carol

3. O, star of wonder, star of might,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to the perfect light.  
– Three wise guys

4.  
The holly bears a berry  
As red as any blood;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
To do poor sinners good.  
– Originally pagan(?) song

5.  
The boar's head in hand bear I,  
Bedecked with bay and rosemary.  
And I pray you my masters be merry.  
Mumble, mumble, mumble, mumble.  
– Mealtime ditty

6.  
First comes the stocking of little Nell,  
Oh, dear Santa, fill it well,  
Give her a dolly that laughs and cries,  
One that will open and shut her eyes.  
– Up on the Housetop

7. We are here on earth to do good for others. What the others are here for,  
I don't know.  
– W.H. Auden

8. The man who sets out to carry a cat by its tail learns something that will  
always be useful and which never will grow dim or doubtful.  
– Mark Twain

9. True, you usually don't make as many mistakes as you get older, but that's  
only because your brain doesn't work nearly as fast. As your brain slows  
down, you simply don't have the opportunity to make mistakes with the same  
lightning speed that you used to.  
– Paul Joannides

10. Even as physical powers decline, the accumulated experiences of a  
lifetime, the pragmatic aspects of cognition, provide adults with resources  
for dealing with life that are completely beyond the reach of the young.  
– Michael Cole

11. Consumption of alcohol is forbidden unless accompanied by fish. All food is considered fish, except sausages. If sausages are ordered, may God forbid, sausages can be called fish.

– Sign in a Norwegian restaurant

12. A brief aside: It is the opinion of the author that the sound of an atomic bomb exploding in reverse is squilchgmp!

The author is willing to concede that he could be wrong, but adds that until such time as he is proven incorrect, he will continue to hold this opinion.

– Praxcelis

13. The clarinet represents sensual love, whilst the flute at most represents platonic love.

– Daudet

14. Why did the chicken cross the road? A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion. Ouch!