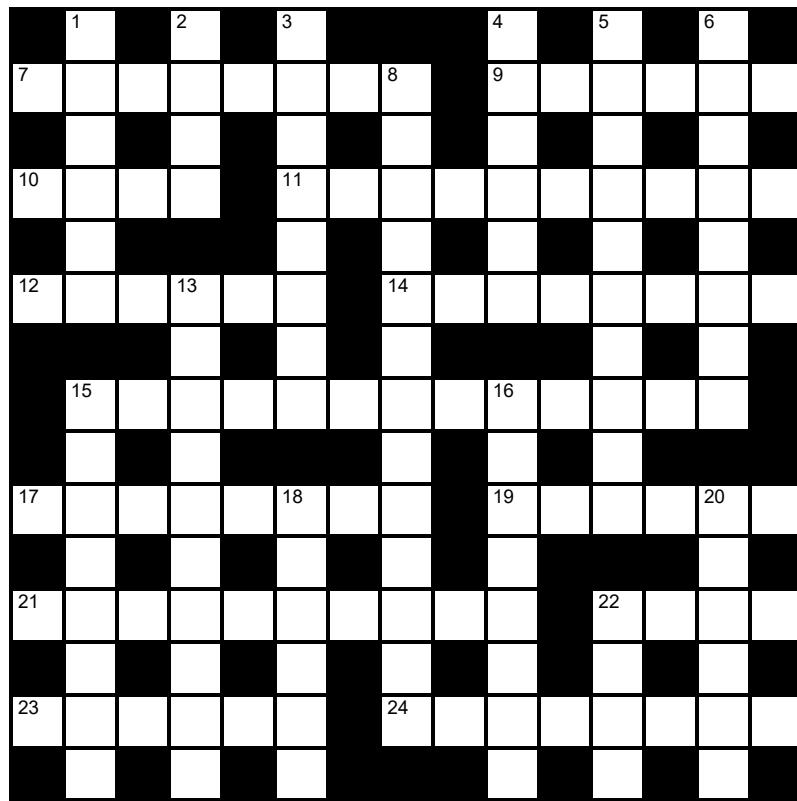


A puzzle for Big Daves' Birthday -  
Thanks to Prolixic for test solving and  
much advice

Sloop John Bee (with apologies if I have  
plagiarised your clues)

## Three Days Late



### Across

- 7 Yankee drunk in the East End talked incessantly (8)
- 9 A release for my father's sibling (6)
- 10 A Persian male's small matter (4)
- 11 I sell grass recklessly to young store women (10)
- 12 Isolate alien entering Vladimir's cottage briefly (6)
- 14 Match day paper? (8)
- 15 Rebuilt bear after preliminary search almost cancelled (13)
- 17 Oops - silly amounts of American marsupials (8)
- 19 Sexually ambiguous fun guy reportedly has muscles (6)
- 21 Follow an occurrence - one happening on the Tartan (5,5)
- 22 Initially leave acrid vile stench here (4)
- 23 Irritate one with only one eye (6)
- 24 Wearing small sandal perhaps at this time as footwear (8)

### Down

- 1 Struggle in South coast location (6)
- 2 Islamic official seeing leaders in mosque before noon (4)
- 3 Otto's thick coin once (8)
- 4 Mother and child getting fruit (6)
- 5 Sterile sick patient lacking potassium going bananas (10)
- 6 Assaulted by instrument, detective returned (8)
- 8 Strange citadel over German city's shops (13)
- 13 Microsoft software program provides a means of entry (6,4)
- 15 Agent's bohemian we hear with wit (8)
- 16 Relax, the men in blue hats working after strike (8)
- 18 Cryptic Sue's web bulletin board (6)
- 20 Rover thinks his face rings a bell (6)
- 22 Mislaid sloe cocktail (4)