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Across

- 1** Underground (archaic) (chiefly mythological)
8 Onomatopoeic name for traditional, ritual wind instrument made from hollowed-out kamani nut swung on long string in circular motion to make ghostly sound associated with Hawaii
9 Ed Sheeran apology (initials)
10 Er, something is missing from this iconic UK Football Club **WARNING** Cryptic
12 *I Thing* (initials)
13 *Per ... ad astra* Latin for adversity or struggle in inspirational RAF motto (from mysterious inscription in ripping H. Rider Haggard story about penniless adventurer seeking to restore fortune in darkest Africa who discovering lost race with hoard of fabulous jewels becomes embroiled in struggle for power between rightful king and priests of giant crocodile god with hair-raising climax tobogganing on large stone down a glacier and ending with reward of vast wealth from grateful king and romance with Portuguese beauty saved from slavery (!)
14 Babylonian Talmud *or* Bud Tingwell (initials)
15 Eric Clapton *or* East Cheam (initials)
16 Hyperactive cartoon dog without end (6-2) **WARNING** Cryptic
20 Annual festival known for parade, fireworks, Birdman rally and yearly monarchs including Graham Kennedy, Frank Thring, Lou Richards, Shane Warne and Mickey Mouse (sic)
21 “You know the old *Beach Boys* song Iran” Controversial witticism of John McCain at closed veterans event showing playful side of long serving Senator for Arizona (4, 4)

Down

- 1** Picturesque lake in Northern Italy associated with George and Amal Clooney
2 Final installment with *Flesh* (1968) and *Trash* (1972) of nihilistic Andy Warhol trilogy with Joe Dellasandro as dissolute lead character, Joe Tom of Norway (initials)
4 Sacrifice to gods in ancient Greece involving immolation of one hundred oxen hence the name
5 “O, reason not the ...! Our basest beggars are in the poorest thing superfluous” (King Lear)
“I want you, I ... you but there ain’t no way I’m ever gonna love you, don’t be sad, coz two out of three ain’t bad” (Meatloaf)
6 Produced, pronounced, promulgated, decreed, disseminated, broadcast, circulated, spread etc.
7 Eerie, chthonic burial places or tunnels used to hold ancient human remains under city
11 Harry Reems *or* Hans Richter *or* Honey Ryder *or* Hyman Roth (initials)
14 Universal onomatopoeia for explosion
16 Mixed-up crown prince of Saudi Arabia
17 *Cave of Ordeals* (initials)
18 “I heard somebody say disco inferno Burn that mother down etc.” (also “... .. bomb bomb Iran” Controversial John McCain witticism) (initials)
19 7 ft 6 in *Houston Raiders* basketball legend formerly with *Shanghai Sharks*