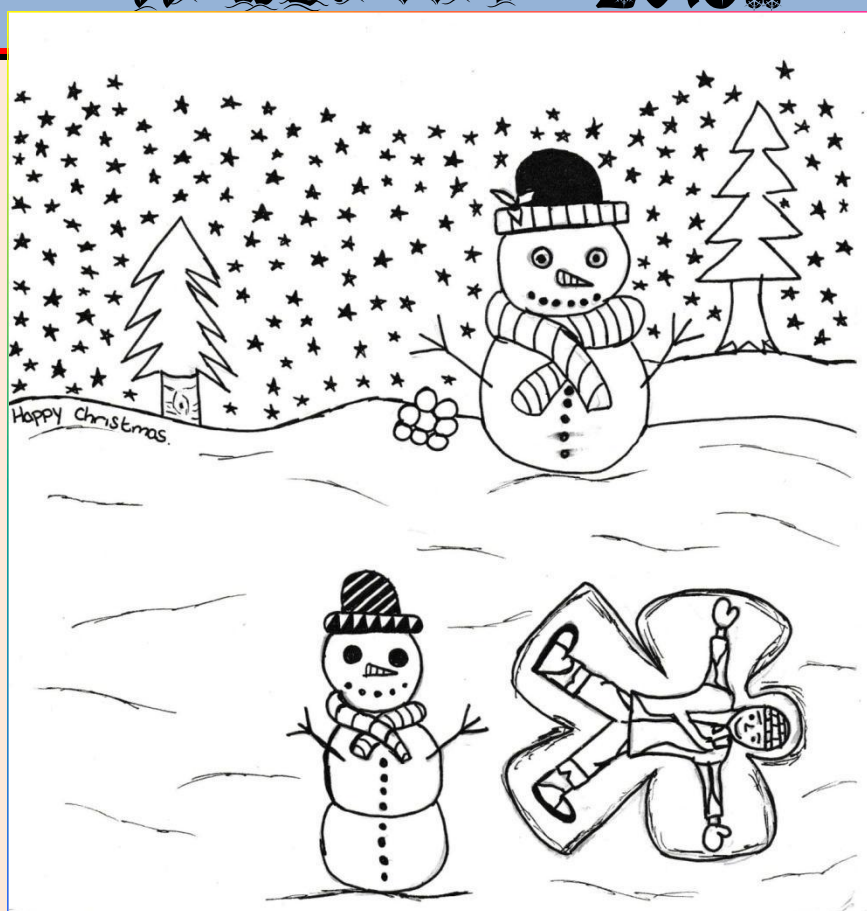


This newsletter was produced with the assistance of a Waterford Area Partnership GOAL 2 - Youth Development Grant.



# Manor St. John Christmas Newsletter 2015



A Very Happy Christmas & a Peaceful 2016 to all our  
Members & Friends. *Cover By Sarah*



Welcome to the Christmas 2015 edition of our newsletter - In Manor St. John Youth Service we give young people a voice. Our newsletter helps young people to work together to tell their stories and share their experiences.



The Board of Management, staff and volunteers of Manor St. John Youth Service would like to wish our members and their parents and guardians a very happy and peaceful Christmas 2015. We would also like to thank each and every person who has helped us in 2015.



## Crafts in Manor St. John Sock Snowmen...



*By the editors....*

### You Need the Following -

- ☺ A bag of rice.
- ☺ Clear craft glue.
- ☺ Some old socks - plain white ones are best.
- ☺ Craft eyes - in various sizes.
- ☺ Buttons, string & craft ties to decorate.



## Now make your Sock Snowman:

### *Method:*

- ☺ Cut a sock just above the heel. You now have a tube.
- ☺ Turn the sock inside out.
- ☺ At one end tie together so - your tube is closed at one end.
- ☺ Turn sock back inside out.
- ☺ Fill  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup full of rice and pour into sock.
- ☺ Tie the top of the sock tightly with string so no rice can fall out.
- ☺ Halfway down the sock tie some white string around to give your snowman a head and body.
- ☺ Get your pipe cleaner and tie around the snowman's neck like a scarf.

### *To Finish:*

Next get 2 buttons and stick onto the snowman's body.

Then get the eyes and stick them onto the face.

For the hat, get the remaining part of sock with the toe and fold twice.

Place on the snowman's head and secure with craft glue.

And ...ta-daah! You now have your own festive sock snowman.



## **Our Top Christmas Songs - Selected by the Editors!**

**1. Driving home for Christmas- Chris Rea**

**2. White Christmas- Bing Crosby**

**3. Jingle Bell Rock- Bobby Helms**



**1. Underneath the tree- Kelly Clarkson**

**2. Santa Claus is Coming to town**

**3. I want a hippopotamus for Christmas- Gayla Peevy**

**4. Let it Snow- Dean Martin**

**5. The Fairytale of New York- The Pogues**

**6. I wish it could be Christmas Everyday- Wizzard**

**7. Santa Baby- Eartha Kitt.**

**8. All I Want for Christmas is you- Mariah Carey**

**9. Last Christmas- Wham**

**10. Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer**



**11. Merry Christmas Everyone- Slade**

**12. Walking in the winter wonderland-Dean Martin**



## *Waterford on Ice..... Jordan*

One of the highlights of Christmas in Waterford City is Waterford on Ice. Waterford on Ice is a mobile ice rink which comes to Waterford, once a year for the Christmas holidays. Waterford on Ice is located down on the Quay in town beside Rice Bridge. It opened on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November until the New Year 2016. Each year at Christmas Manor St John Youth Club members go down to Waterford on Ice for a couple of hours of skating.



Each session lasts at least about an hour. It is a good idea to wear a nice, warm jacket warm gloves, hat and scarf. I'm always cold when I go to Winterval - I have two pairs of gloves and two jackets - two of everything! This is the reason why I never get cold on the ice rink. When you start on the ice you might fall at first because it's very slippery. You can rent the skates for only an hour. There is only one blade on the skates for teenagers and adults. For young children there are two blades on the skates and a little support frame if they really need it. There are instructors in there with you.



# The Editors Christmas- Favourites - and not so favourites!



**If I could keep one thing about Christmas, What would it be?**

- My family - getting together at Christmas
- The Music
- The Ham
- Loving my family all at once, in one place.
- The Christmas spirit going on...
- My family
- Presents

**Favourite food at Christmas?**

- Ham
- Rainbow Pie (Mashed Carrots and turnips)
- Ham
- Ham
- Stuffing
- Turkey
- Potatoes



**What is your least favourite present?**

- Toy Clown. Scary!!
- Remote Control Spider
- Religious Books
- Buckaroo.. never worked properly
- A brother !
- Never got a bad present...so far
- Electric Toothbrush...I mean a toothbrush! For Christmas!!





## **The Interview - Dylan Robinson. Waterford jockey. Interviewed by Junior Editor Stephen.**

**Thanks for doing the interview Dylan, tell us a bit about yourself...**

No bother Stephen... well I'm 20 years of age; I was born and brought up in Waterford, Ireland. I attended St Pauls Primary School around the corner. Then I went on to St Paul's Secondary till 3<sup>rd</sup> year. From there I went to the Race Academy in Kildare to do my Junior Certificate. I went to the Race Academy for one year. I learned a lot and I had had good experiences in the Academy. I have to mention I was a member of the Manor, when I was younger.

**Who was your favourite teacher in school?**

It was Miss Collins

**When start horse riding?**

It all started in school about the age of 13... as far as I can remember. We went on a school tour to Stonehaven Horse Riding School in Waterford. That's when my interest in horse-riding first started

**Where did you go to after the Race Academy Dylan?**

When I finished my training at the Academy I succeeded in getting an apprenticeship with trainer Jim Bolger, the apprenticeship went on for three and half years. This was in his yard in Carlow.

**Have you worked with any famous jockeys?**

I've worked with Kevin Manning and Johnny Burke a couple of times.

**Have you competed and won against any famous jockeys?**

Yes ...Shane Foley is one.



### **Where are working at present time Dylan?**

I'm working with Henry De Bromhead the well-known trainer - out in his yard in Knockeen in Co. Waterford. I train every day of the week and I work one Sunday each month. I originally started out as a flat racing jockey then I moved to be a jump jockey. It's a great experience working with Henry De Bromhead. All credit to him he has given me lots of racing experience. I'm only working with Henry for the past year.

### **What was your first win as a professional jockey?**

It was Lake George in the Curragh in 2011. I'll never forget it.

### **What has been your best experience to date?**

It has to be riding in Cheltenham and finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup> ... on Danefirth. Cheltenham is my favourite place to compete.

### **What is your major ambition Dylan?**

To become a top professional jockey, winning lots of races in all the big venues

### **Have you any other hobbies?**

Yes, I'm a big football fan.

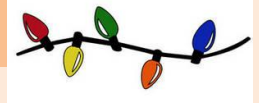
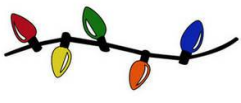
### **Dylan, have you any tips for young people who are thinking of becoming a jockey?**

I have one tip - after you finish your training try get in with a good trainer who will give lots of experience of racing. That's the only way to get on as a jockey.



*Dylan Robinson pictured with Manor newsletter editors and Mark.*

# 12 Christmas customs from around the world - By Patrick



1. In India, only around 2% of the population are Christian. The Christians celebrate Christmas with Midnight Mass. Instead of decorating pine or fir trees in the home, they usually use banana or mango trees
2. In Czech Republic, on Christmas day you stand with your back against the door and throw your shoe over your shoulder and if the shoe lands with the toe pointing towards the door, it means that you're going to be married sometime in the future.
3. In Japan, they use KFC instead of turkey. This tradition has been around for 40 years and has been passed down from parent to child.
4. Another Christmas food associated with Japan is the Christmas cake. The cake is made with sponge, whipped cream, chocolate and strawberries. These cakes are ordered months in advance and are eaten on Christmas Eve. Any cake that is not sold after the 25<sup>th</sup> is unwanted.
5. In Finland, Christmas is a time for remembering the dead. Families in Finland usually visit the graves of their ancestors and relatives on Christmas Eve to light candles in memory of the deceased. Even those who don't have their family graves nearby visit cemeteries to place candles in honour of their family members buried elsewhere. Hence on Christmas Eve, cemeteries would be lit with candles
6. In Venezuela, before young children go to bed on Christmas Eve, they tie one end of a piece of string on their big toe, leaving the other end outside their bedroom window. The fun part of the Christmas celebrations is on the day of the "Early Morning Mass". Streets are closed off to cars until 8am for people to roller skate to the service and they customarily proceed to tug any of the strings they see hanging
7. In Sweden, a tall goat figure made of straw would be set on fire in the middle of a town square. At the stroke of midnight on Christmas Eve they set the goat on fire.



8. In Ukraine, instead of glittering ornaments and tinsel, Ukrainian Christmas trees are covered with artificial spiders and cobwebs. According to the local folklore, there was a poor woman who could not afford to decorate her Christmas tree. But the next morning, her children woke up to see the tree covered with webs and when the first light of Christmas morning touched the web threads, they turned into gold and silver and the family was never left for wanting again. Hence, it is believed that seeing a spider web on Christmas morning brings luck.

9. In Finland, most Finnish families have their own sauna because it's believed that a sauna 'elf' lives in there to protect it and to make sure people behave themselves. Every Christmas Eve, people head to their sauna, strip to their toes, and enjoy a nice, good soak. After sunset though, the place is for the spirits of dead ancestors.

10. In the Philippines, Christmas is huge in the Philippines since 80% of the population are Christians. Celebrations last all the way to January. Children will leave their brightly polished shoes and freshly washed socks on the window sills for the Three Kings to leave gifts in when they pass through their houses at night. The "Feast of the Three Kings" marks the end of the Christmas celebrations.

11. In Britain, The Christmas pudding is served on Christmas Day but the traditions we're looking at has to do with how it is made. Every member of the family is to stir the mix clockwise while making a wish. Earlier traditions include putting a coin in the mix which brings wealth to whoever finds it in their serving. Other additions include a ring for luck in marriage and a thimble for good luck in life.

12. In Canada, Where do you send your letters to Santa to? The North Pole? Santa's workshop? Actually Santa has his own postal code, H0H 0H0 - with zeros instead of the letter 'o'.

