



# T.E.E.S NEWS

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CHRISTMAS 2010

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## MY WEDDING by Norma Hogan

I enjoyed my wedding on the 14<sup>th</sup> August this year. The day was beautiful and sunny with no clouds in the sky. My friends did very well at the mass in the church.

Carol Ann O'Toole was my bridesmaid and Tom King was the best man.

The priest Father Michael O'Shea gave a lovely ceremony. Both David and I know him very well and he has been very good to us over the years.

The meal was fantastic. We had beef or fish which was very tasty and everyone enjoyed it. The Kilmurry staff were excellent during the day and ensured that everything ran smoothly.



The photographs by Frank Keane turned out very well.

David and I would like to thank everyone who came to share our spe-

cial day for their very kind gifts and cards.

I would also like to thank Tina Kelleher for all her help.





## REHABILITATIVE TRAINING GRADUATION 2010 by Sarah Madden

On Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2010 4 trainees, Paul Roche, James Hannon, Brian Ridgway and myself, Sarah Madden graduated from the Rehabilitative Training Programme at the Training Centre in Lisnagry.

Our Graduation ceremony was held in the Daghda Centre, John's Square, Limerick. All of us made speeches to a gathering of our families, friends, invited guests and Staff.

Each of us were presented with a framed certificate of Achievement by our Trainers in the Training Enterprise Employment Services. I got mine from Anne Finegan. Brian progressed to the Woodwork and I to Mulcair Designs, Sheltered Occupational Service in the Training Centre, Lisnagry. Paul and James commenced a 5<sup>th</sup> year Rehabilitative Training at the Training Centre here in Lisnagry.



## VOLUNTEER CORNER

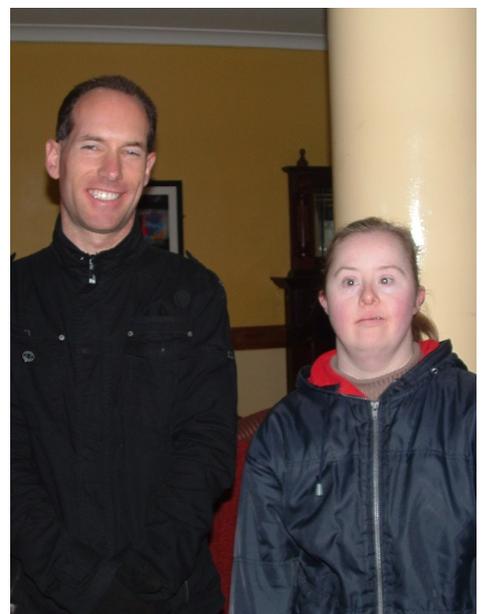
Everyone at the Garvey is pleased to welcome our new volunteer worker Juliette Moriarty. Juliette with the guidance of the supervisors provides support with social and recreational activities each Wednesday afternoon. Juliette's background is in arts and special needs support. Juliette had very quietly become part of the Garvey team. Over the last number of weeks Juliette has been busy helping service users at the Garvey with organising their special presents for Christmas. So a big thanks to Juliette for all the support.



## CONGRATULATIONS DAVID AND CLAIRE

We here at the Tait are very proud that we have 2 representatives on the Droichead Regional Advocacy Committee. Claire O Connor was elected as secretary for this year. Her role will involve taking minutes of Droichead meetings

and E-Mailing them to each group. David O Sullivan has been elected as Chairman of the committee and will have the important role of organizing and chairing the meetings for this year. We wish them success in their new roles.



# SANTAS HELPER FOR THE NIGHT

Story by; Josephine Mulqueen, Claire McNamara, Carolynn Rennison, Barry Gilligan & Mary Bridget McMahon.

Once upon a time there was a 10 year old boy called Jack who lived in Pallasgreen, County Limerick with his mum and dad. This Christmas his parents are sad because Jack said he does not believe in Santa Claus anymore. He really wants a Nintendo Wii game but can't believe that Santa Claus will bring it to him. To help him believe again, his mum and dad decide to take him to Lapland to meet the real Santa. So on the morning of Christmas Eve, they take a flight from Shannon airport to Lapland and the fun begins.

When they arrive in Lapland, they see that the elves are busy making the presents. Santa and Mrs. Claus are double checking the children's lists, eating mince pies and drinking milk. Jack is delighted when Santa asks him to help feeding the reindeer with scented hay and oats. After a wonderful day it's time to go to the airport and let Santa fill up the sleigh with toys. Before they leave, Jack tells his parents that he wants to run back into the workshop to thank Santa and tell him that he believes in him again. As soon as he enters the workshop

he meets a sneaky elf called Tommy.

"Where are you from?" asked Tommy.

"Pallasgreen, County Limerick, Ireland", answered Jack.

"I've always wanted to go to Ireland," said Tommy.

"It's okay, I suppose" said Jack "where is Santa, I want to say goodbye to him?"

"Oh," said the sneaky elf, "he's in that room over there, let me take your coat and hat and I'll wait out here for you".

"Thank you" said Jack giving Tommy his coat and hat before going into the room to meet Santa.

But when he got into the room there was no sign of Santa only lots and lots of toys. The door shut behind him. Jack tried to open the door but it's locked. He hears Tommy laughing on the other side of the door, "Ha ha ha, I tricked you. I'm going to wear your hat and coat. Your parents will think that I am you and take me back to Ireland instead of you".

Jack is worried and bangs on the door for hours but no one hears him. Finally the door opens and who is there but Santa Claus.

"Ho ho ho, who in the name of Christmas Eve are you?" shouts a surprised Santa.

"I'm Jack from Pallasgreen" said Jack "that elf Tommy went home with my parents instead of

me".

"I don't believe it," said Santa "he did this last year too to a poor little girl from Spain. Wait until I get my hands on him. Don't worry Jack, I'll give you a lift home in the sleigh with me tonight".

"That's great" said Jack, "what time do you arrive in Pallasgreen?"

"Well, it's one of my last stops so you'll have to help me on the way".

Santa gave Jack his spare red coat and cap. They were a little big but kept Jack warm in the sky on the sleigh. They go first to New York, then onto Las Vegas, Japan, Thailand, Ballybunion, North Carolina, Australia, Brazil, Majorca, California and all the other countries. Jack throws the presents down the chimney to Santa which is a great help.

Finally they are heading for Jack's home but not before delivering their final presents to Carolynn in Shelbourne Park, Limerick, Claire in Creora, Mary-Bridget in Lisnagry, Barry in St. Mary's Park, Rose in Dromkeen and finally Josephine in Pallasgreen, a few doors up from Jack. After a long night, Jack is delighted to be home but they still have to deal with the sneaky elf Tommy who they find is sound asleep in Jack's bed. Santa

rings his bell loudly in Tommy's ear and Tommy jumps up with the fright.

"Oh no," cried Tommy "I got caught, please Santa don't be cross with me".

"Well, Tommy, you're going to be cleaning the toilets in the North Pole for next 3 months and we'll see then if we can trust you again".

They all say goodbye and a tired Jack gets back into bed until morning time. When he wakes up he wondered if it was all a dream.

Downstairs he finds his present under the Christmas tree. It's a Nintendo Wii. He is delighted and wants to run upstairs to show his mum and dad but he notices a note with his name on it. It's from Santa.

"Dear Jack, thank you for all your help last night. I'm sorry that Tommy tricked you, I will be keeping an extra close eye on him next Christmas Eve. I'm leaving you with an extra present of my own red coat and cap so you will always know that Santa is real. Love from Santa."

And Jack and his family had the happiest Christmas ever.



## JOBSCLUB BOOTCAMP



Congratulations to all who recently completed the Jobsclub Bootcamp at Southill Jobsclub, Roxboro. This intensive course was co-presented

by Tony Galvin and Rose Servitova and covered such topics as; What makes a good worker, why do we work, time-keeping, following instructions, Communicating problems and asking for help, asser-



tiveness, hygiene/presentation, using initiative, social skills, maintaining your job and coping with change. On the final day a Certificate of Completion was awarded to the following; Joan Cosgrave, Carol-Ann O'Toole, Christine Delaney, Anna Kehoe, Norma Hogan, Geraldine O'Brien, Patrick Fitzgerald, Michael Tinney, Brian Clohessy, David O'Sullivan, Barbara Hanley, Stephen McGrath and Claire O'Connor.

## PUTTING OUR BEST FOOT FORWARD by Garvey Centre Service Users

We at the Garvey have got a new crossing at our centre as the road has become very busy. We had Garda Paula Creegan Community Police Officer doing the safe crossing programme with us recently. She was very nice and friendly and talked to us about safety and using a zebra crossing correctly.

She said:

- \* Look up and down checking

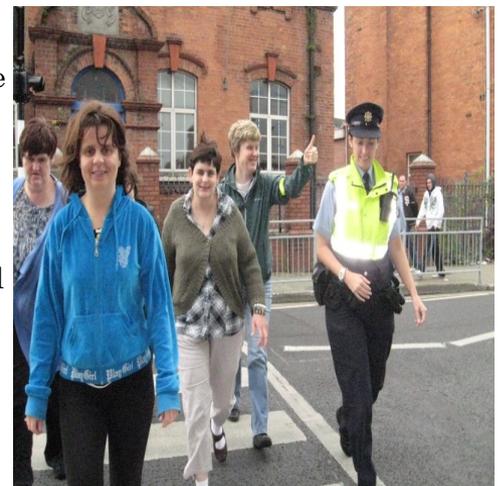
for traffic.

- \* If ok put your foot on the edge of the crossing to indicate to drivers that you want to cross the road.

- \* Give drivers time to stop.

- \* Walk across looking right and left.

She gave us all reflective arm bands. We practiced crossing the road after that.



## CLAIRE THE BRIDESMAID BY CLAIRE O CONNOR

This September I was a bridesmaid at my brother's wedding, it took place in Spain. I wore a beautiful pink dress and had a pink bouquet. I had a pink fan because it was very hot. I got my hair and makeup done I felt like Julia Roberts! Sarah and Brendan looked beautiful, they were so happy dancing together. My par-

ents were very proud of Brendan. The hotel was lovely and we stayed there for a few nights. I would like to go back there again. Everybody took lots of pictures. Lots of my relations and friends came for the wedding. It was a very special day.





## OUT AND ABOUT WITH MARK WHELAN

Last October 8, 2010 I decided to visit the Fair City along with a CRS staff (John Paredes). I have always visited Dublin before but this day isn't just an ordinary visit as I'll be seeing national and international celebrities in their wax forms.

We took the early train commute from Limerick which took us about 2 hours and 15 minutes to arrive at Heuston, Dublin. Then we ride the tram to Abbey Street and later walked for fifteen minutes and finally arrived to the National Wax Museum which is at Foster Place, College Green, Dublin 2. The address may ring a bell to all of us, as the museum building itself is at the left flank of the Irish Houses of Parliament.

The National Wax Museum is now a privately owned institution after it was sold by Donie Cassidy, a senator and former TD to Patrick Dunning a music recording entrepreneur. The waxworks is considered to be one of Dublin's most popular attractions. Though considered as a wholesome destination, the ticket entrance doesn't come cheap as we paid 10 euro each to enter the facility. Once inside, you'll be firstly greeted by

the charming presence of our lady president, Mary McAleese standing across the stairs leading to the tunnel. I went downstairs and was amazed to see a horror vault full of scary characters like Cannibal, Frankenstein etc., there was also room full of Irish Presidents and Taoiseach. When I went to the steps leading to the second floor I passed Christopher Reeve as Superman and Batman as if guarding the

aisle and also saw Pope Benedict standing on a hanging platform. I also got the chance to see my favorite cartoon family, the Simpsons. Visitors were also allowed to enter a horror chamber where you can take a pose for photos of famous horror icons such as Freddie Krueger of the movie Nightmare in Elms Street.

The section which I found interesting was the room that housed Michael Jackson, David Bowie, U2,

Tina Turner, Princess Diana, Pierce Brosnan in his 007 posture, Phil Lynott and the late tv presenter in the name of Jerry Ryan. Honestly, I haven't seen them in



person but the replica figures captivate me as if they were real.

Overall, the trip was worth it as the museum has something for all ages. The science facilities is educational as well and is much more interactive. If given a chance to go back again, I'd say I wouldn't doubt in grabbing such an opportunity. So when you're in the Fair City, take a stroll it's definitely one of the places to be.

## A NIGHT IN WESTPORT, by Carol Ann O'Toole

Rose Servitova, Norma Hogan and myself went up to Westport to a conference organised by PWDI called "WorkWise – Connecting People with Disabilities to Employment".

We stayed in a hotel in the centre of Westport town.

I thought the meeting was very interesting, meeting other people and listening about their lives.

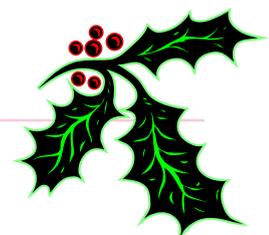
I enjoyed the groups that they had and enjoyed listening to the different topics that were discussed. I would definitely go again.



## KATE'S CHRISTENING

In November I was Godfather to my baby cousin Kate. It was fantastic. My family and I went to the church, we met all our cousins there. Baby Kate looked beautiful in her christening gown. Joe the godmother and I held her while the priest baptized her. She was very good. I felt great holding her. We had lots of photos taken. We all went for a meal afterwards. It was a wonderful day.

By Niall O Flanagan.



## MY BROTHERS WEDDING by Melanie Hartnett

My Brother Barry got married to Susan O’Gorman on the 22nd October 2010

I was bridesmaid with Michelle and Anne Marie. My dress was Pink and long and lovely. They got married in Rearcross, Co Tipp. I had a lovely Dinner at the reception in the Abbey Court Hotel, Nenagh.

I had a great time with Mum, Granny, Grandad and dancing with Dad and Gran-

dad Mossie and my brother David.



Melanie [middle] as bridesmaid at the wedding.

## GYMNASTICS COMPETITION BY Geraldine Harty

I went to Ballincollig in Co Cork for my Gymnastics Competition. It was a long journey from Limerick. I was tired as I was at my nephew Raymond’s wedding in Ballykisteen Hotel the day before.

In Cork I took part in 5 Gymnastics sections -Hoop,

Ball, Rope, Ribbon and I got 6 GOLD medals because I got one for the ‘overall Gymnastics competitor’ too.

My nieces Mary and Geraldine were at the competition shouting for me!!!!!!!!!!!!

I enjoyed my day and want to thank Susan Kenny and Paul Earls for helping me. I hope



## A PROUD DAY TO BE A TIPPERARY MAN by James McLoughlin

The first Sunday in September I watched Tipperary stopping

Kilkenny from winning the 5 in a row and winning the All Ireland Hurling final for 2010. The Liam McCarthy cup is back in Tipperary. I watched Lar Corbett score

three great goals. I wore my Tipperary jersey that day. The All Ireland Final was the most exciting match I watched for years. My Favourite player is Eoin Kelly.

I went to Thurles and watched Tipperary beat Galway in the U21 All-Ireland Final a few weeks later.

UP TIPP!!!!





## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2010 by Woodwork Team

Highlight of the year-  
for **Colin Bennis**  
was watching Ire-  
land in Rugby win-  
ning the Triple  
Crown and the  
Grand Slam Fa-  
vourite player  
Ronan O Gara.

Highlight of the year  
for **Danny Duffy**  
was going see Mun-  
ster beating Aus-  
tralia in Thomond  
Park. Favourite  
play is Peter  
Stringer.

Highlights of the Year  
for **Fergal En-  
right** was receiv-  
ing a Certificate in  
Leadership and  
Self Advo-  
cacy .Fergal At-  
tended the course

on Friday each  
week for 14 weeks.  
The Certificate was  
presented to Fergal  
by Kieran O'Don-  
nell TD. All Fer-  
gal's Friends in the  
were invited to the  
Castle Oaks House  
Hotel by the En-  
right Family to a  
celebration meal.  
Fergal also had a  
surprise party at  
home with  
Neighbours and  
Friends. Congratu-  
lations!!

Highlights of the year  
for **Stephen  
O'Connell** was  
watching Ireland  
win the rugby  
Grand Slam and  
the Triple Crown.

Highlights of the year  
for **Sean Shea** was  
the wedding of his  
Brother, Joseph to  
Jean and being  
asked to be the  
Best Man. The  
wedding took place  
in Blarney, Co.  
Cork.

Highlight of the year  
for **James  
McLoughlin** was  
calling into the  
Castletroy Park  
Hotel after spotting  
John Hayes. We  
went over to him  
and John said to  
James "You're the  
lad from Rear-  
cross"!! James was  
delighted.



## JOKE TIME: by Catriona Landers.

**Doctor, Doctor I  
keep thinking I'm a  
Spider!**

What a web of lies!

**Doctor Doctor I  
feel like a Dog!**

Sit!

**What runs but  
never walks?**

Water!

**What's red and  
flies and wobbles  
at the same time ?**

A jelly copter!

**Waiter this soup  
tastes funny ?**

Then why aren't you  
laughing!

**Why did the Clock  
get Sick?**

It was run Down !

## GOING TO COLLEGE

In May I started a course in Mary Immaculate College called Contemporary Living Skills. At first I was very nervous but I am really enjoying the course now. I am learning new skills all the time that I never had before. I am finishing the course in December and I will miss going to Mary I.  
By Marie Ryan

## CHRISTMAS JOKES

By Barry Kelleher

What goes oh oh oh?  
Santa walking backwards

What goes red white red white red white?  
Santa rolling down a hill.

What you call an old snowman?  
Water

What does Santa drink?  
Fanta

When does Santa fight in a ring?  
On Boxing Day

What is green white and red all over?  
A sunburnt elf.

Mum can I have a dog for Christmas?  
No you can get turkey like everyone else.

What ball never bounces?  
A snowball

What is snowman favourite food?  
An Ice-burger and chips.

How is the Christmas alphabet different than the other alphabet?  
Because it has no L (Noel)



## CHRISTMAS

by Geraldine O'Brien

Santa has magic dust  
To get down the chimney.  
Down he goes  
With a giggle and his rosy cheeks  
And a big smile.  
Off he goes to all the boys and girls  
Who are tucked up in bed fast asleep  
Dreaming about Santa Claus.

But that's not all  
Baby Jesus is born  
In the stable all wrapped in a warm blanket  
With Mary and Joseph  
And all the animals all around him.  
Christmas is here!

## A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

“The joy of brightening others lives, bearing each other's burden easing others loads and supplanting empty hearts and lives with generous gifts becomes for us the magic of Christmas”

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THIS NEWSLETTER THROUGHOUT THIS YEAR. IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE JUST FINISHED OUR FIRST YEAR IN PUBLICATION. KEEP THE SUBMISSIONS COMING IN AND WE HOPE THAT WE WILL HAVE SOME GREAT STORIES FOR NEXT YEARS ISSUES. HAVE A VERY HAPPY AND SAFE CHRISTMAS AND SEE YOU ALL IN THE NEW YEAR. PADRAIC MADDEN