

Marking Moments



Your newsletter from the
M&S Archive

December 2020

Christmas is just around the corner! The evenings are dark and Christmas lights are starting to appear. This month we'll be looking at winter and Christmas.

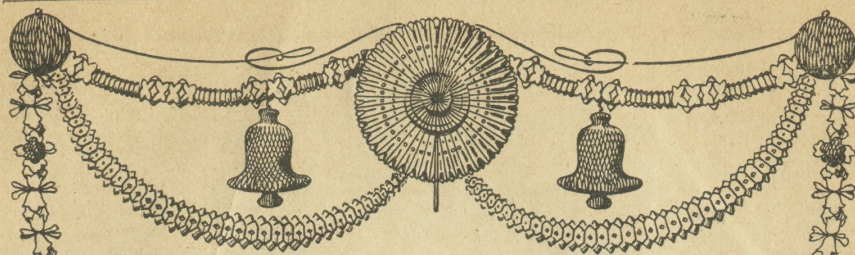
In this month's issue:

- 2-11 **From the Archive** Wintery and Christmassy images from the last 100 years
- 12-14 **This Month In...** Interesting events from this month in history
- 15-20 **Have a Go** Activities to try at home





This was the front cover for an M&S customer magazine in 1932, and this image shows a family making their way through the snow with a parcel wrapped in string and a bunch of holly. Have you ever had snow at Christmas?



Xmas Decorations

For Xmas PARTIES, PUBLIC
FESTIVITIES :: BALLS
& HOME DECORATIONS

BEAUTIFULLY ASSORTED PARCEL of XMAS
—DECORATIONS consisting of—

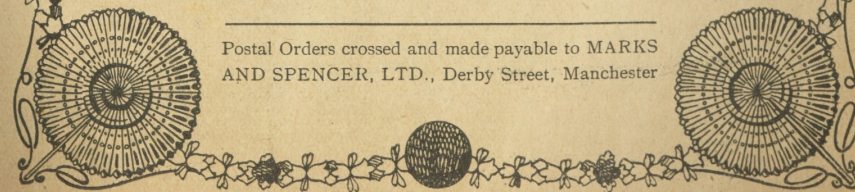
- | | | |
|--------|--|------------|
| 2 Doz. | CRINKLED PAPER FESTOONS,
assorted colours and shapes,
each three yards in length | 5/- |
| 1 „ | PAPER BALLS, assorted colours | |
| 1 „ | PAPER FOLDING SCREENFANS,
assorted colours | |
| 1 „ | PAPER FOLDING BELLS,
assorted colours | |

Post paid to any
town or village in
the United King-
dom

*Write at once for this delightful and artistic decorative parcel.
Satisfaction guaranteed. All orders despatched in
rotation. Carefully packed in protected boxes*

ALL READY TO HANG and FIX

Postal Orders crossed and made payable to MARKS
AND SPENCER, LTD., Derby Street, Manchester



Decorating the Christmas tree is an annual tradition for lots of families. This advert was printed in an M&S customer magazine in 1909. For 5 shillings M&S would send you a parcel of folded paper decorations, including festoons and folded paper balls.

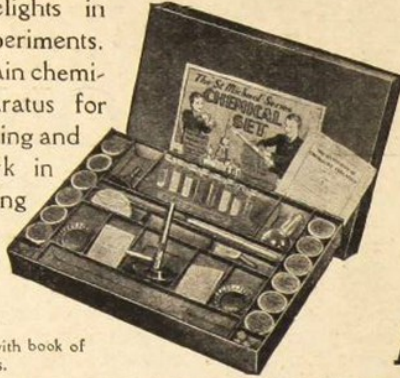
A PAGE OF WONDERFUL GIFTS

The ST. MICHAEL CHEMICAL SETS

Every boy delights in chemistry experiments. These sets contain chemicals and apparatus for hours of interesting and instructive work in this fascinating science.

No. 1 2/6
No. 2 5/-

Each set is complete with book of instructions.



The ST. MICHAEL ELECTRICAL SETS

These attractive outfits contain sets of parts cleverly arranged by experts. A fully illustrated instruction booklet is included with each set giving numerous absorbing experiments in electricity and magnetism.

A Splendid Gift for the Young Electrician.

No. 1 2/6 No. 2 5/-



AN

ALL-BRITISH CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR

All the articles illustrated on this page are **BRITISH MADE THROUGHOUT**

They are specially manufactured by a firm with a high reputation and you are confident of satisfaction in purchasing any one of them.

Note the Value and Attractive Packing.



The ST. MICHAEL TABLE TENNIS SETS

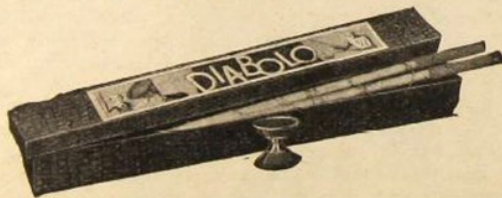
A first-class set of equipment for this most popular table game. All components, including netting and balls are British made. Price 2/6 set.



The ST. MICHAEL CONJURING SETS

Contain a wonderful selection of mystifying illusions for amateur and expert. Complete with instruction book. No. 1 2/6 set. No. 2 5/- set.

DIABOLO



A high quality set of this popular game, beautifully boxed with first-class components, rubber cone, etc.

Price 1/6 each

The ACTOR'S OUTFIT

Here is an outfit to delight the heart of everyone. Grease paints, lining pencil, hair, moustaches, etc., all expensive items to buy separately are here supplied in a compact set together with book of instructions fully illustrated.



Price 2/6 set

ALL THE ABOVE ARE OBTAINABLE AT MARKS & SPENCER'S.

This advert for children's toys comes from a 1932 customer magazine and shows prices, from 2s 6d for a table tennis set to 5s for a chemistry set.



These are M&S corporate Christmas cards sent to colleagues across the business. The top one is from c1970 and the bottom one is from the 1990s. It would take a long time to write Christmas cards to the whole of M&S's staff! Fortunately they were pre-printed with a festive message.

MARKS AND SPENCER LIMITED
Church Street

Victory Christmas Dinner

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18th, 1945

Menu

Roast Turkey Pork Sausage
Stuffing Apple Sauce
Baked and Boiled Potatoes
Peas Sprouts

Christmas Pudding Rum Sauce Custard
Mince Pies
Cheese and Biscuits
Potato Crisps
Tea and Coffee
Cakes Sweets Ices



After the end of the Second World War, M&S in Blackpool celebrated with a Christmas dinner. Although rationing was still in place, it looks like they had a good meal!



This image is from 1976 and shows a family in their pyjamas with presents ready to unwrap. Can you spot the character on the little boy's pyjama top? Was the tradition in your household to open presents while still wearing your pyjamas? Or did present-opening come later in the day?



In the 1960s M&S had store hairdressers to cut and style the sales assistants' hair. In 1964 the hairdresser at M&S in Coventry created this festive hairstyle, complete with mistletoe!

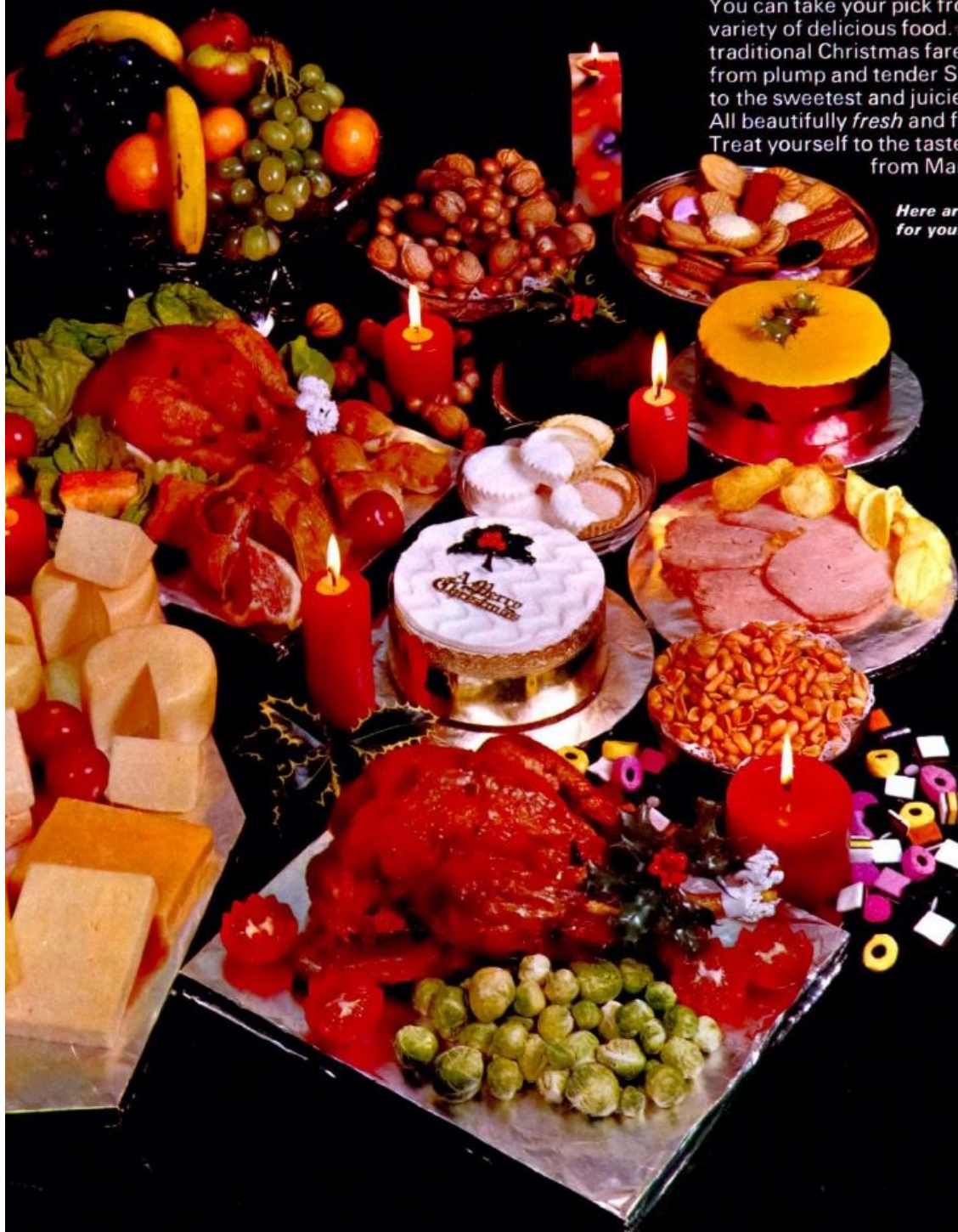


The model in this 1958 Christmas advert wears an embroidered apron and shows off her Christmas pudding – aprons were a really popular product at M&S in the 1950s, from full pinafores to half aprons like this.

The taste of Christmas

The taste of Christmas means the taste of quality at Marks & Spencer. St Michael quality. You can take your pick from a wonderful variety of delicious food. All the best in traditional Christmas fare for the festive table – from plump and tender St Michael turkeys to the sweetest and juiciest of fruits. All beautifully *fresh* and full of flavour. Treat yourself to the taste of Christmas, from Marks & Spencer.

Here are some suggestions for your Christmas shopping list.



OVEN-READY POULTRY—

Turkeys and Chickens, *fresh*, not frozen.

CANNED MEATS

Ham and Ox Tongue—
Sweet Cure Pork
Shoulder in 1 lb. cans

FRESH PROVISIONS

Bacon Joints
Beef and Pork Sausage
Pork Pies
Sausage Rolls

FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Satsumas
Cox's Apples
Tomatoes
Brussels Sprouts

WHOLE NUTS IN SHELL

CHRISTMAS CAKES
All-butter
with rich fruit

Iced and decorated
Marzipan topped
Undecorated
for you to ice

MINCE PIES

CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS

FRESH CREAM
Single or Double

POTATO CRISPS
in family packs

SALTED PEANUTS

ENGLISH CHEESES

BISCUIT ASSORTMENTS

CONFECTIONERY



the taste of quality

A mouth-watering Christmas dinner from M&S in 1970. Can you spot any of your festive favourites?



This couple are enjoying a Christmas party in 1977. The pair wear typical 1970s clothing – the man is wearing a black velvet jacket, the lady wears a full-length kaftan dress.

This Month in... 1955



In December 1955, British engineer Christopher Cockerell patented his design of the hovercraft. A prototype was unveiled to the public in 1959, and the craft successfully crossed the channel the same year. These photographs show a fashion shoot for M&S in 1968, onboard the 'Princess Margaret', a hovercraft docked at the Dover Hoverport.

This Month in... 1967



RMS Queen Elizabeth, an ocean liner operated by the Cunard Line, was retired from service in December 1967. The ship had provided weekly services between Southampton and New York since its maiden voyage in 1946. These photographs show a family onboard the ship for a fashion photoshoot in 1961

This Month in... 1967

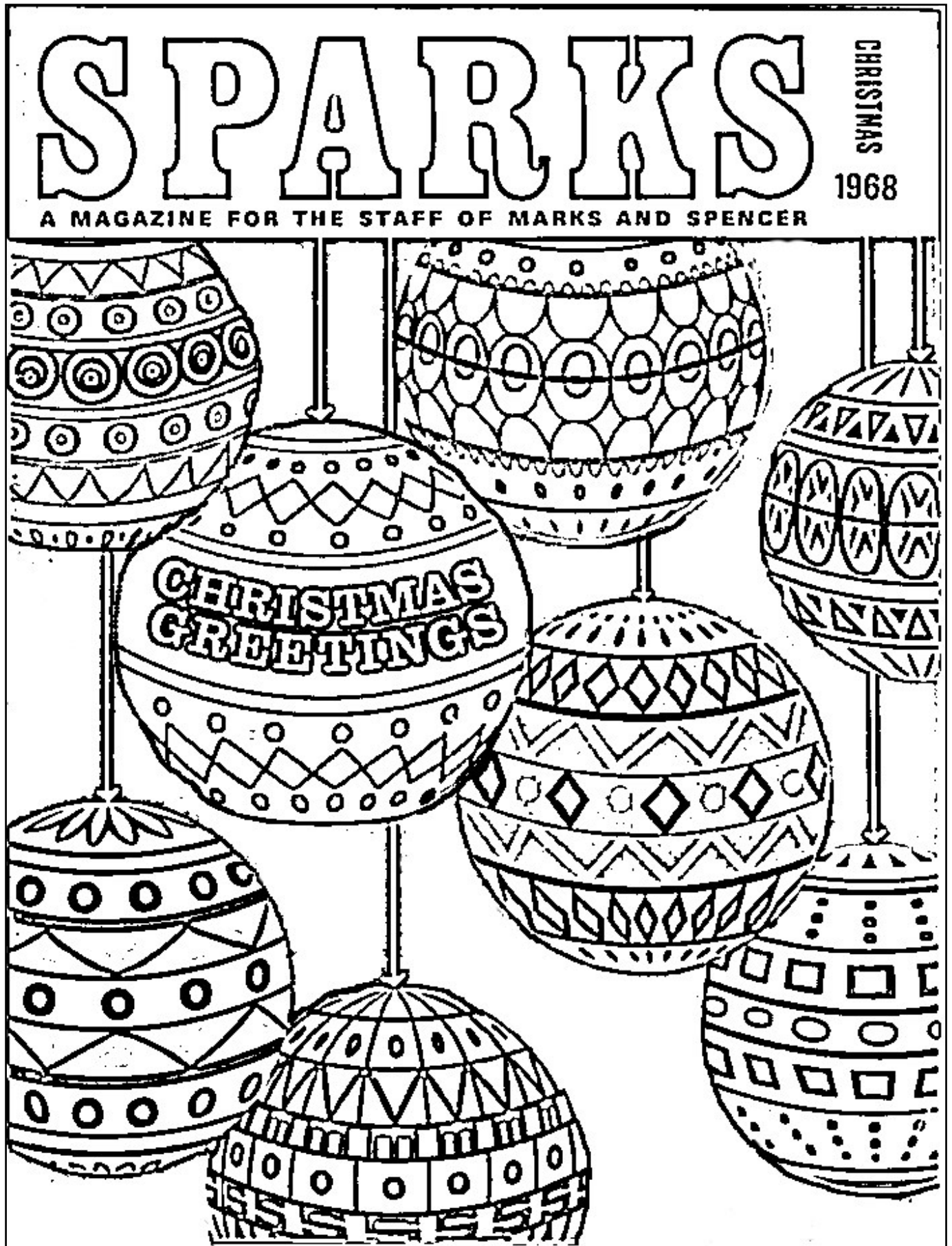
... Continued



More photographs from the M&S photoshoot onboard HMS Queen Elizabeth in 1961, six years before the ship was retired in December 1967.

Have a Go

Use coloured pens, pencils or paints to colour this picture



Have a Go

Use coloured pens, pencils or paints to colour this picture



Have a Go

Christmas Pomander - Try making this sweet smelling Christmas decoration to hang on the Christmas tree.



You will need: An orange, cloves, cocktail stick, ribbon, four or five pins, optional ground cinnamon and sandwich bag

- Push the cloves through the skin of the orange. You could try making a pattern, or simply scatter them around the orange. If you find pushing the cloves in difficult, try making a hole with a cocktail stick first.



- Tie your ribbon around the orange and pin in place at the top and bottom of the orange

- If using spices, place a teaspoon of cinnamon and/or ginger in a plastic sandwich bag. Place the orange in the bag and shake around.



- Remove from the bag and hang up to enjoy the festive smell!

Have a Go



Find the festive words in this grid - don't forget some go diagonally, and some run backwards!

F L M G Y N I S O U D N
A Y E I N O J C T H E S
M L I G S I X T H O C T
I L Q M N T D T P P E U
L O R E U A L D R H M O
Y H O R K R N E U B B R
X D K X I B S I T P E P
B E T H L E H E M O R S
Y Y Y V N L S N E S E O
X V R T Q E A D V E N T
I R S W X C R E T N I W
U Y A D I L O H A V N T

ADVENT

ANGEL

BETHLEHEM

CELEBRATION

DECEMBER

FAMILY

HOLIDAY

HOLLY

IVY

MISTLETOE

PRESENTS

PUDDING

SPROUTS

TURKEY

WINTER

Have a Go - Quiz

Take some time out and enjoy this Christmas themed quiz - you could try it on your own, or why not give it a go as a group? Answers are on the next page.

1. Which country donates the Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square?
2. Who banned Christmas carols after the English civil war in 1647?
3. What colour are mistletoe berries?
4. Can you name all eight of Father Christmas' reindeers?
5. What is the name of Ebenezer Scrooge's partner in Dickens' A Christmas Carol?
6. Who recorded Blue Christmas?
7. In the carol 'Twelve Days of Christmas', how many gold rings are there?
8. And how many lords a-leaping?
9. What is traditionally hidden inside a Christmas pudding?
10. What's the name for sausages wrapped in bacon, traditionally eaten on Christmas day?
11. Which plant, beginning with P is associated with Christmas?

Have a Go - Quiz Answers

1. Norway - the city of Oslo has donated the tree every year since 1947
2. Oliver Cromwell
3. White
4. Blitzen, Comet, Cupid, Dasher, Prancer, Vixen, Dancer, and Donner
5. Jacob Marley
6. Elvis Presley
7. Five
8. Ten
9. A silver sixpence
10. Pigs in blankets
11. Poinsettia