

Chaotic Times

Organised Chaos Newsletter

"Helping you to
clear clutter and
feel -

Better!"

Issue - December 2010
'Clutter-free Christmas Gifts'

Dear Friends of Organised Chaos

Welcome to the December edition of **Chaotic Times!**

December can be rather manic as we rush round the shops searching for those elusive ideal gifts. Unwanted gifts are not only a waste of money, they inevitably end up as clutter. Who can put their hand on their heart and say they only ever buy presents that they know will be cherished by the recipients?

So, what are the alternatives to those surprise, but unwanted gifts?

Step one is to use [Christmas lists](#) to ensure that everyone gets things they actually want. Check out my blog post for further information.



My next suggestion is to give 'virtual' gifts which are available from charities. Obviously this needs to be agreed beforehand, but it's a lovely way to support your favourite charity in the true spirit of Christmas.

Ideal for those who have everything and don't have a Christmas list.

For instance, the RSPB have what they call '[Good Natured Gifts](#)' which enable you to do anything from sponsor a Puffin, to planting native trees for the benefit of wildlife. Google your favourite charity to see what they have on offer.

One which caught my eye was [Send a Cow](#), a charity which aims to improve the lives of African families by supplying animals, seeds, training and support.

If you don't fancy a virtual gift, why not consider buying some kind of treat, which is an experience, rather than a *thing*?



Top Christmas treats - no clutter!

Mini Pamper Night with Neal's Yard Remedies at HOME,

Karena Ellis-Greenway says "Host a small party for friends you would like to pamper for Christmas and you get free gifts for hosting the party.

Themed nights can be arranged, for example 'Snuggle Night' - wear your PJ's, bring a towel, bowl (for feet) and your slippers. Enjoy a DVD and let me supply the mini face, hand, head or feet treats! Lots of Neal's Yard Remedies products to try as well".

Cost: £5 per treatment or £15 per person for all! Max 6 people. Contact [Karena Ellis-Greenway](#) on 01926 614462, for more details.

Helen Jinks of H J Image, says "UK women wear 20% of their wardrobe 80% of the time! When I tell people this statistic the women are not surprised and the men laugh recalling the many times their partners have complained about having 'nothing to wear'! Once we have put together an outfit we like, we remember it and often repeat it resulting in dressing habits! Your wardrobe should be full of garments that you like to wear and coordinate with one another If they don't then they are *cluttering* your wardrobe!

Maximise your wardrobe, gain confidence, and rediscover the pleasure of shopping to create new outfits.

A Personal consultation with [H J Image](#) will guarantee success as you discover the colours that naturally flatter your skin tone and the cuts that compliment your shape.

Gift vouchers and gift consultations are available as a unique Christmas gift that will last a lifetime".

Contact Helen on 07836 332374, or email mail@hjimage.co.uk. Check out her website to read [client testimonials for H J Image](#).



Instead of buying a wholly inappropriate gift, one possible solution is of course a gift voucher. But these can appear rather dull and unimaginative.

Why not make up your own vouchers? Something like, 'name the date - I'm taking you to the theatre'.

Consider vouchers from local traders rather than chain stores. Choose a shop you know your friend or relative uses - or would like to use.



Think of local delicatessens, boutiques, jewellers or shops selling hobby supplies. All these show that you have given thought to your choice and the recipient gets to spend time in their favourite store buying your gift to them.

Best of all, you know they've got exactly what they want. No clutter!

Well, that's a few tips for a less cluttered Christmas. Enjoy!

*Best regards,
Judith*

t: 01327 705294

e: clutter@judithmorris.co.uk

w: www.judithmorris.co.uk

follow my blog on: <http://clutter-free-mind.blogspot.com>

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