



Good Gifts Guide 2008

www.givingweek.com.au

Australian Giving Week
is an initiative of:



ourcommunity.com.au

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What do you give to the person who has everything?

Use the Good Gifts Guide to help create more meaningful gift-giving this Christmas.

The Good Gifts Guide has been produced as part of Australian Giving Week 2008 – 1-7 December 2008: www.givingweek.com.au

Australian Giving Week takes place around the country during December each year to focus attention on the many ways that individuals, families, businesses and groups can make a difference to their community in the lead-up to Christmas.

It's about helping people take some small, simple steps that open the way for a better supported, more inclusive, more vibrant community – not just during the Christmas period but all year long as well.

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Community Development Gifts

Farm animals, water purifiers, bicycles – gifts sent to communities in need

Choosing gifts is always difficult: if you get the kind of thing they like they've probably got it already, while if you get the kind of thing they don't like then, well, they probably won't like it. Better to give a present you know someone will like – clean water, a breeding pig, a muck spreader – and pass on the warm inner glow rights to your friend.

- **Oxfam Unwrapped** – www.oxfamunwrapped.com.au
A range of gifts from farm animals to buckets to school buildings.
- **Tear** – www.usefulgifts.org
Gifts that help to develop communities such as fish farming training, adult education and health care
- **Gospel for Asia Australia** – www.gospelforasia.org.au
Farm animals, wells, water filters, bicycles, radios etc.
- **Red Cross** – <https://www.redcross.org.au/e/warmfuzzy/>
Breakfast for Australian school children, shelter for families in crisis, phone calls to the elderly/lonely
- **UNICEF** – <http://merchandise.unicef.org.au/home.asp>
Gifts to communities in developing countries (water purification, education, health care), toys, calendars, diaries, clothes, accessories
- **World Vision** – www.worldvision.com.au/Smiles
Farm animals, health care, bicycles, community development
- **CARE** – www.caregifts.org.au
Community development gifts e.g. farm animals, classroom buildings, clean water, bicycles
- **CNEC Partners International** – http://www.cnecpi.com.au/harvest_of_hope_2008.html
Health care (operations, medication, clinic support), mosquito nets, business loans etc.
- **Child Fund Australia** – www.childfund.org.au/dwd
Farm animals, farm equipment, community development items (school buildings etc.), education items, agricultural support
- **Ardoch Youth Foundation** – www.ardoch.asn.au
Public transport tickets, toiletries, back to school pack, tutor, school shows, infant care pack
- **SIM Australia** – www.sim.org.au/giftCatalogue.shtml
Food, school packs, medication, medical equipment, water filters, farm animals
- **Project Concern** – www.projectconcern.org
Medical services, sports team sponsorship, training, farm animals, school breakfasts
- **International Women's Development Agency** – <http://www.iwda.org.au/au>
Notebooks for rural women, domestic violence workshops, training manuals, etc.
- **Sacred Heart Mission** – www.santacause.org.au
'Sleep Tight' Accommodation Package, 'Soul Food' Meals Package or 'Colour My World' Art Package.
- **Wesley Mission** – <http://www.wesleygiftshare.com.au/>
Toiletries and accommodation for people in crisis, meals and Christmas hampers for homeless families, comfort kits for children entering foster care, baby essentials for homeless mothers, etc.

The specific gift you choose – a piglet, say – may be an illustrative example rather than an actual cute animal, because if everybody gave pigs and nobody gave piggeries there'd be a problem; but it's all good, the benefits are real and lasting, and the warm inner glow is well deserved.

Merchandise/General Gifts

Proceeds go to good causes

If you want to give a present, as well as the warm inner glow, get them something smart and useful that also kicks back money to a good cause.

- **Charity Connections** - www.thecharityshop.com.au
Glassware and ceramic gifts, collectible, toys, accessories, etc.
- **Animals Australia** - http://www.animalsaustralia.org/features/christmas_2008/
Natural soy candles, body-care gift sets, plush toys, etc.
- **Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children** - www.ridbc.org.au
Clothing, leisure items, books, CDs and videos
- **The Wilderness Society** - www.wildshop.com.au
Calendars, diaries, clothes
- **RSPCA** - www.rspca.org.au/shop/shopping.asp
Gifts for kids, pets and lifestyle
- **Quest for Life** - www.questforlife.com.au
Scarves, bags, pillows, etc.
- **The Fair Trade Coffee Company** - www.fairtradecoffeecompany.com.au
Fair Trade coffee and tea
- **Vision Australia** - www.visionaustralia.org
Calendars, diaries, audio books, etc.
- **World Wildlife Fund** - www.wwf.org.au/shop
Animal adoptions, eco-gadgets, wine, energy offsetting, clothes
- **Edgars Mission** - <http://www.edgarsmission.org.au/Merchandise.htm>
Hats, shirts, hoodies, bags, tea towels, notebooks, books, etc.
- **Amnesty International** - www.amnesty.org.au/shop
Books, calendars, CDs, etc.
- **East Timor Women Australia** - www.etwa.org.au/
Bookmarks, bags, scarves, hand-woven tais
- **Tribes and Nations** - www.tribesandnations.com.au
Fair Trade gifts including coffee, home wares, toys, clothing, and jewellery
- **Theatre Works** - www.theatreworks.org.au
Gift certificate vouchers
- **St John Ambulance Australia** - www.stjohnqld.com.au
First Aid Kits
- **Arthritis SA** - www.arthritissa.org.au/asp/wineList.asp
Wine
- **Nature Conservation Council NSW** - <http://nccnsw.org.au/>
T-shirts, organic wine, mugs
- **Greenpeace** - www.greenpeacegiving.org.au
Sunscreen
- **Asylum Seeker Resource Centre** - http://www.asrc.org.au/support_us/gift-shop.html
Calendars, cards, gift tags, 'fair go' wine, mugs, tea, coffee, chocolate, shower timers, clothing, spices, books, puddings, mince tarts, bags, aprons.
- **Australian Children's Music Foundation** - <http://acmf.myshopify.com/>
Children's music CDs, DVDs, etc.
- **Lost Dogs Homes** - <http://secure.dogshome.com/merchandise/>
- **Partners Relief & Development** -
http://www.partnersworld.org.au/aus_cart/index.php
Fairtrade clothing, bags, soap, coffee etc

Don't forget that op-shops are a great place to find vintage and pre-loved gifts, with profits from your purchases going to help those in need.

Give a Virtual Pet

Sponsor an at-risk animal

Everybody likes cute pets, but nobody likes cleaning up after them – sponsor a dolphin or a koala or a Tasmanian devil and leave it to Mother Nature.

- **Dolphin Research Institute** – www.dolphinresearch.org.au/adopt.php
Adopt a dolphin
- **The Donkey Shelter** – <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~donkeysh/>
Sponsor a rescued Donkey or Mule
- **Edgars Mission** – <http://www.edgarsmission.org.au/BestBuddy.htm>
Sponsor a rescued farm animal through the Best Buddy program
- **Nature Conservation Council of NSW** – www.ncnsw.org.au
Adopt a grey nurse shark
- **Wildlife Currumbin Sanctuary** – www.currumbin-sanctuary.org.au
Assist with the cost of keeping your chosen species in food, vet care and habitat upgrades
- **Devils in Danger** – <http://www.devilsindanger.com.au/members.htm>
Adopt a Tasmanian devil
- **Australian Koala Foundation** – <https://www.savethekoala.com/foster.html>
Foster a koala
- **Save-A-Dog Scheme** – <http://www.saveadog.org.au/help/foster.asp>
Adopt, foster or sponsor a stray dog, cat or rabbit
- **Stanhope & District Development Committee Inc.** – <http://www.sponsoracow.org.au/>
Sponsor a cow in a drought-affected area
- **Greyhound Adoption Program** –
NSW: <http://www.gapnsw.org.au/>
QLD: <http://www.greyhoundpets.org.au/>
SA: <http://www.gapsa.org.au/>
VIC: <http://gap.grv.org.au/index.html>
WA: <http://www.greyhoundsaspets.com.au/>
Adopt or foster and ex-racing greyhound
- **Nature Conservation Council NSW** –
http://nccnsw.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=66&Itemid=596
Adopt a shark
- **Greenpeace** – www.greenpeacegiving.org.au
Protect an emperor penguin's home
- **Assistance Dogs Australia** – www.assistedogs.org.au
Sponsor an assistance dog for people with physical disabilities

Give a Gift to the Planet

Gifts that benefit environmental causes

Counteract some of the carbon debt from your celebrations. Plant a tree or two, or pay others to do the work on your loved ones' behalf.

- **Rainforest Rescue** – <http://www.rainforestrescue.org.au/>
Plant a rainforest
- **Trees for Life** – <http://www.treesforlife.org.au/home/>
Local native seedlings grown and planted
- **Australian Rainforest Foundation** – http://www.arf.net.au/tree_for_life.html
Plant a tree
- **Greenpeace** – www.greenpeacegiving.org.au
Protect a forest tree

Give Money

Cash gifts to good causes

It's better to give than to receive – give a cash donation in the name of your loved one.

- **The Australian Giving Centre** – www.ourcommunity.com.au/giving

More than 1000 great causes are listed on this secure site. Browse for a cause your loved one will love – by location or interest area.

Other Good Gift Ideas

Share the joy!

Joy to the world! Spread the joy around by helping others.

- **Toys/Gifts for distribution to those in need**

[The Salvation Army](#) and [Melbourne Citymission](#) accept donations of toys/gifts for distribution to children, or buy a gift at Kmart (or anywhere) and leave it under a [Kmart Wishing Tree](#)

- **Donate blood**

Give the gift of life by donating blood. Find out more at www.donateblood.com.au

- **Become an organ donor**

Sign up to save a life at www.ourcommunity.com.au/giving

- **Secret Santa**

Make a donation to St Vincent de Paul in lieu of a gift. Find out more at www.vinnies.org.au/secretsanta/

- **Volunteer your Time**

The Salvation Army needs volunteers to deliver hampers and boxes of Christmas toys. Find out more at www.salvos.org.au/. Find out more about volunteering at www.ourcommunity.com.au/volunteering

- **Give Shares**

ShareGift Australia can help people put their small parcels of shares to good use by converting them into donations for good causes in Australia. For more information go to <http://www.sharegiftaustralia.org.au/>

- **Gift Wrapping**

Myer gift wrapping services raise funds for Vision Australia

- **Give Blankets, Clothes, Furniture, Land, Computers, Bikes, Mobile Phones, Corks**

Find out how and where at the Australian Giving Centre:
www.ourcommunity.com.au/giving



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If you would like to add a listing to this guide please email the details to
donations@ourcommunity.com.au