

# Gift of the Year 2008 WINNERS

Presenting the 16 category winners and highly commended products in the Gift of the Year 2008 awards



The Gift of the Year  
is brought to you by



SUPPORTING THE GIFT AND HOME INDUSTRY SINCE 1947



# message from the chairman of the GA



I am delighted to present the winners and highly commended companies in the Gift of the Year 2008 awards. The Gift of the Year awards are in their 29th year and are acknowledged as the launch pad for the latest and most innovative products each year. Sponsored and organised jointly by the GA – the UK trade association for the gift and home industry, and emap – the organisers of the Spring and Autumn Fairs, Birmingham, and Summer Fair, London, the Gift of the Year awards recognise excellence within this dynamic and significant sector of the UK economy, accounting as it does for over £10 billion worth of business per annum at retail.

This competition gives us the opportunity to showcase the best designs available in gifts, home and fashion accessories and brings tangible business benefits to both suppliers and retailers within this vibrant and ever evolving industry. To reflect the constantly changing nature of the gift and home market, the competition is under continuous review and this year has seen further changes. Categories have been modified and the new Premium/Luxury and Outdoor Living categories have proved very popular. The winning and highly commended products were revealed in a purpose built 'show house' at Summer Fair. Once again we received a massive number of entries of outstanding quality and we welcomed new judges to the distinguished panel made up of top buyers, independent retailers and consumer journalists.

The creative energy invested in the presentation of so many fantastic products has been quite inspirational and the judges had a tough job to select the winners. I would like to thank the many talented companies who took the time to enter – as without them there would be no competition. I must applaud and thank all of our sponsors for their enormous support and very generous contribution to the Gift of the Year.

The creative energy invested in the presentation of so many fantastic products has been quite inspirational and the judges had a tough job to select the winners.

On behalf of all of us involved in organising the awards and all those who entered, deep thanks go to the judges who so willingly and generously gave hours of their time to reviewing the entries on line and then physically viewing the shortlisted products to select the ultimate winners. Their experience and discerning eye for what is really innovative, well designed, attractively presented and commercially viable is what gives these awards real business value. Whether or not a product even makes it to the shortlist, the retailer judges will often place orders directly with the entering companies, so it is a very good way to get your products out into the market.

Final thanks go to the GA team who have worked long and hard to encourage and help entrants and ease the task of the judging panel in such a professional manner. We know that the winners and those highly commended will benefit enormously from their selection, especially from the attention gained via the various showcases that the GA is organising over the next twelve months, the heightened profile of the awards in the minds of trade and consumer journalists and the display and selling skills of the retailers. Please help us to spread the word as far and wide as you can and we will continue to increase the influence of this unique competition.

**Mike Burgess**  
Chairman of the GA



## The Judging Process

Gift of the Year awards are given to the latest, most original and innovatively designed products that could be given as gifts but which are also commercially viable.

In 2008, the entry procedure and first round of judging took place online at [www.giftoftheyear.co.uk](http://www.giftoftheyear.co.uk). The judges started their online review of the products in April, studying the entry details, product photos and marketing information submitted, to choose a shortlist of up to 10 items in each of the 16 categories.

Round two of the judging process took place on 15 May at the GA offices in Birmingham. Here the judges got together to view the product samples of shortlisted entries and make their final decisions about the winning and highly commended entries.

Judges awarded points to each product according to the following criteria:

- Design innovation and originality
- Quality of manufacture
- Sales potential and commercial viability
- Presentation and packaging
- Customer appeal and value
- Retail profit and potential
- Marketing and merchandising support to the trade and the consumer
- XWow Factor

## Judging Panel

The judging panel was selected to ensure that every area of the industry was covered, from the quirky one-off local gift shop to the UK's most respected department stores and everything in between. A prime objective of Gift of the Year is to bring great gift and home product into the media limelight so high profile consumer journalists are invited to get involved at the judging stage and the GA showcases and promote the winning and highly commended products to the consumer media. In 2008 we were once again delighted to welcome so many star buyers and editors to the judging panel. Everyone worked hard to select the winners but also thoroughly enjoyed the experience and we know that entrants will benefit from sending their products into the competition.

## Judges

**Cathie Broster** – The Chestnut Pavilion

**Peter Burridge** – Montpellier Gallery

**Katie Cambell** – Frankie Doodle

**Robin Collingwood** – BBC Good Homes

**Yvonne Carr** – Ortak

**Janet Fitch** – Author and jewellery expert

**Julie Goucher** – Retail Consultant

**Laura Hall** – Debenhams

**Judith Harris** – NWF

**Nicky King** – Habitat

**Kirsten Linton** – Cornucopia

**Jenny Lockton** – Bliss/Bohemia

**Angel Monzon** – Vessel Gallery

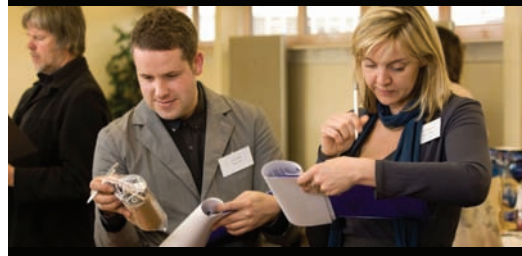
**Jo Percy** – John Lewis

**Marie Shingfield** – The National Trust

**Ben Spriggs** – Real Homes

**Claire Summers** – Lakeland

**Brian Wiseman** – Present Company



[www.giftoftheyear.co.uk](http://www.giftoftheyear.co.uk)

The place to find out all you need to know about the Gift of the Year awards and how you can get involved!

Enter the annual competition online

Read about the sponsors

Find out about future sponsorship opportunities

View testimonials from past winners

Read about the judging panel



# body, mind & soul winner



## MOODI Range of Aqasensory Globes and Ducks

Opal London  
65 Waterloo Road, London NW2 7TS

**T** 020 8450 7834  
**E** john.poole@opal-london.com  
**W** www.opal-london.com

The flagship product of the exciting MOODI wellbeing range of floating colour changing globes and ducks is a unique aqasensory (the latest buzz word in the SPA industry) pack containing a floating mood enhancing globe and a relaxation CD with over 1 hour of tranquil music. Carrying the promise of rejuvenation through the intrinsic virtues of sound and light, this Relaxation, Meditation and Aesthetics Enhancer is a true wellbeing product.

RRP: from £5.99 to £9.99

## highly commended



### Berkeley Square Natural Couture in association with the V&A

V&A Enterprises  
Victoria & Albert Museum  
Cromwell Road, South Kensington  
London SW7 2RL

**T** 0207 942 2966  
**E** l.sizeland@vam.ac.uk  
**W** www.vam.ac.uk

These toiletries feature contemporary blended fragrances inspired by scents from the Golden Age of Couture (1947-1957). This premium range uses the finest ingredients, natural essential oils and extracts without artificial additives. The packaging is adorned with elegant couture images by fashion photographer John French from the V&A's collection.

RRP: from £5.95 to £19.95



### Pig Radio

Jellycat Ltd  
214 Blythe Road London W14 0HH

**T** 020 7603 9383  
**E** ajackson@jellycat.co.uk  
**W** www.justjellycat.co.uk

Music feeds the soul, and this also nourishes your sense of humour. Pigs can sing!

They also read the news (depending which station you're listening to). They are simple FM scanner radios - very old school. Batteries not included. Other styles are Gnome, Frog and Jack Russell.

RRP: £9.99

sponsored by



As an expanding group CBG understands Private Healthcare is a highly specialised market, which offers a wide choice of covers and options. CBG have a dedicated Healthcare team, with many years of specialist experience, whom are able to advise on and recommend specific plans to meet all client's demands and needs, in a personal and professional manner.  
www.cbgroup.co.uk

### Berkeley Square Natural Collection

These are made of completely natural products, which seems to be a trend that is coming through.

Claire Summers  
Lakeland Ltd

sponsored by



The GA's Legal Helpline is provided by law firm steeles who offer FREE legal advice on agents' contracts, commercial employment, business property and general business law. If the matter cannot be dealt with within the first 30 minute phone call, members will be entitled to reduced charges for up to 3 hours work. [www.ga-uk.org](http://www.ga-uk.org)

highly commended



### Mensa Puzzles

Wow! Stuff

Creative Industries Centre,  
Wolverhampton Science Park  
Wolverhampton WV10 9TG

T 0870 054 6000

E [richard.north@wowstuff.co.uk](mailto:richard.north@wowstuff.co.uk)

W [www.wowstuff.co.uk](http://www.wowstuff.co.uk)

Launched in Autumn 2007, this exciting new range of puzzles have all been tested and approved by none other than Mensa, the High IQ Society. Selected by NEXT Plc as a launch partner, this innovative range beat all sales forecasts and was an instant hit.

RRP: from £5 to £25

### V&A Pens

Yarto

75 Dennis Lane, Stanmore  
Middlesex HA7 4JU

T 020 8954 2661

E [mg@yarto.com](mailto:mg@yarto.com)

W [www.yarto.com](http://www.yarto.com)

Drawing inspiration from the V&A these Grant of London quality pens have been developed with the museum and are available in roller ball and fountain options, each with a collectors case, and represent exceptional value for money.

RRP: £29.99

branded character  
winner



### The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Portmeirion Potteries Ltd  
London Road, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 7QQ

T 01782 743451

E [splimbley@portmeirion.co.uk](mailto:splimbley@portmeirion.co.uk)

W [www.portmeirion.co.uk](http://www.portmeirion.co.uk)

Enthusiastically loved by modern generations and selling one book every 30 seconds, The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle is legendary. Portmeirion's collection features the striking images of Eric Carle's caterpillar story to create a bold and bright giftware range that appeals to the whole family, packaged in treasure boxes.

RRP: from £6.00

# card & wrap winner



## CD Gift Boxes for Music or Photos

Kitted Out

Unit W3 Chester Enterprise Centre  
Hoole Bridge, Chester CH2 3NE

**T** 01438 833 090

**E** [kate@kittedout.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:kate@kittedout.freeserve.co.uk)

**W** [www.kittedout.com](http://www.kittedout.com)

Make a simple gift really special with our new beautiful hand finished CD gift boxes. Slightly quirky fun designs are available to package music CDs for 18th, 21st, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and general birthdays with more traditional designs available for photo CDs of baby, Christenings and Weddings etc.

RRP: £4.99

## highly commended



### Carve your Own Card

Suck UK

31 Regent Studios  
8 Andrews Road, London E8 4QN

**T** 0207 923 0011

**E** [info@suck.uk.com](mailto:info@suck.uk.com)

**W** [www.suck.uk.com](http://www.suck.uk.com)

Love; Do you remember the days of your youth when you and "the one" would walk through the woods and leave behind a symbol of your love that would last forever? Or maybe you never had the chance! Get creative and carve a message to a loved one or someone you secretly love and pop it in the post for the price of a first class stamp. Cupid's arrow, initials... the options are limitless! Made from sustainable cedar wood which is easy to engrave.

RRP: £7.50



### Greeting Card with Detachable Felt Snuggler

Noonoo Design

Halter Inn Workshops, Holcombe Brook  
Bury, Lancashire BL0 9SA

**T** 01706 283926

**E** [joashburner@noonoodesign.com](mailto:joashburner@noonoodesign.com)

**W** [www.noonoodesign.com](http://www.noonoodesign.com)

A detachable snuggly felted lambswool gift on a quality square white greeting card with the words 'A little handful of snuggle comfort for a special little person' printed on the front of the card. A choice of card in five colours with coordinating gingham ribbon and matching coloured text. All cards are supplied in acetate pocket with white envelope. FSC certified card and compostable starch acetate pocket. A great little treat for a busy little person!

RRP: £ 5.00

sponsored by



**Spring Fair**  
Birmingham

Spring Fair is the keystone event in the UK retail calendar. A crucial launch showcase for 4,000 British and international suppliers, it draws over 70,000 visitors every year, hungry to snap up the thousands of brand new gift, home, greetings and jewellery collections revealed at the show.

1 - 5 February 2009.

[www.springfair.com](http://www.springfair.com)

sponsored by



Bibby Distribution provides a portfolio of supply chain services ranging from managing the importing of products, through storage, value added service and delivery to the end user. Bibby Distribution has a successful reputation built on its expertise in providing logistics solutions that meet the needs of the customer. For the smaller customer, benefits are provided through economies of scale and flexibility in our approach.  
[www.bibbydist.co.uk](http://www.bibbydist.co.uk)

### The Robot Collection

The illustrations, packaging and presentation are absolutely fantastic - it's contemporary, it's colourful and it's sophisticated at the same time.

Nicky King  
Habitat

## highly commended



### More Than Words

Arora Design Limited  
Arora House, Owls End Lane  
Upton Snodsbury  
Worcestershire WR7 4NH

**T** 01905 381156  
**E** [debbie@arora-design.co.uk](mailto:debbie@arora-design.co.uk)  
**W** [www.arora-design.co.uk](http://www.arora-design.co.uk)

"More than Words", a stunning new figurine collection full of emotion. Natural texture, mixed with subtle colours skillfully brings life to each beautiful sculpture, capturing those most sentimental moments. Each poignant pose powerfully expresses those unspoken feelings straight from the heart. The perfect gift for a loved one to cherish.

RRP: from £15.00



### Coffee Cups

Two Bad Mice  
Lampeter House  
Lampeter Velfrey  
Narberth SA67 8UQ

**T** 01834 861166  
**E** [twobadmice@btconnect.com](mailto:twobadmice@btconnect.com)  
**W** [www.twobadmice.com](http://www.twobadmice.com)

Two Bad Mice Ceramics was launched in January 2007 after three years development work between Two Bad Mice cards and Staffordshire Fine Ceramics. We aim to combine contemporary design and traditional craftsmanship to make finer bone china that can be made by machine. The shapes of the coffee cups were inspired from classic French and English design.

RRP: from £35.00

# collect it winner



## The Robot Collection

Big Tomato Company  
75 St Helen's Gardens  
London W10 6LL

**T** 0208 968 1815  
**E** [sales@bigtomatocompany.com](mailto:sales@bigtomatocompany.com)  
**W** [www.bigtomatocompany.com](http://www.bigtomatocompany.com)

Inspired by 1950s tin toys, Big Tomato commissioned the graphic artist Clifford Richards to create 10 Robot characters. The collection includes adult mugs, childrens mugs, egg tots, bowls, and cake and dinner plates on their signature creamware manufactured entirely in Stoke-on-Trent.

RRP: from £11.95

eco friendly  
winner



## I Am Not A Paper Cup

DCI  
Unit 6 Oakwood Estate  
South Road, Harlow CM20 2BZ

T 0870 850 2978  
E [damon@dcigift.co.uk](mailto:damon@dcigift.co.uk)  
W [www.dcigift.co.uk](http://www.dcigift.co.uk)

Get your fix and save the planet with DCI's 'I'm Not a Paper Cup'. This ceramic alternative looks just like the standard, take-away cups found at coffee shops and in rubbish bins world-wide, however is 100% reusable and eco-friendly. Its double-walled design and silicone lid also keep your drink hot.

RRP: £12.99

highly commended



## Solar Torch

Addject  
16 Hertford Road  
London N1 5SH  
T 08700 133 026  
E [mnyder912@gmail.com](mailto:mnyder912@gmail.com)  
W [www.addject.com](http://www.addject.com)

Solar torch - The solar torch is a super bright light with a key ring attachment. When left in direct sunlight power is stored to light the LEDs. A shock resistant rubber exterior give the torch extra protection if dropped or banged. You'll never have to replace batteries. Perfect for camping or hiking.

RRP: £7.00

## Dinosaur Puppet Kit

Crafty Kids Ltd  
PO Box 560  
Fareham PO14 9EL  
T 01329 661161  
E [sally@craftykids.co.uk](mailto:sally@craftykids.co.uk)  
W [www.craftykids.co.uk](http://www.craftykids.co.uk)

Crafty Kids is honoured in this our first 'real' year of trading to the Gift, Toy and Craft market. Our 12 current kits are selling extremely well, 6 new kits in Autumn. Kits include full instructions, all parts, paints, brush and glue. All EN71 passed, great for children of 4+.

RRP: £9.99

sponsored by



T H March are the Leading Insurance Broker to the UK's gift and home industry in addition to being the Association's appointed Broker. We have developed a range of insurance solutions for the industry with premium concessions for GA members. Offering a high level of service with attractive premiums has seen many GA members choose T H March. [www.thmarch.co.uk](http://www.thmarch.co.uk)

sponsored by

**giftfocus**  
MAGAZINE

ABC accredited Gift Focus magazine is an essential read for all those working in the giftware industry. With a clean contemporary design and up-to-the-minute, incisive editorial it also offers a dynamic online presence at [www.giftfocus.com](http://www.giftfocus.com). The website acts as a comprehensive sourcebook for consumers, retailers and manufacturers and includes an invaluable service, the supplier directory providing easy access for readers to contact current advertisers for further information. Simple to use and available worldwide, 24 hours a day, the supplier directory is truly a reader reply service for the 21st century. Telephone 01376 535 609

## highly commended



### The Travelwrap

The Travelwrap Company  
Parkfield, Copse Avenue  
New Milton, Hampshire BH25 6ET

**T** Tel: 0844 8001296  
**E** [niamh@thetravelwrapcompany.com](mailto:niamh@thetravelwrapcompany.com)  
**W** [www.thetravelwrapcompany.com](http://www.thetravelwrapcompany.com)

The Travelwrap Company offers exquisite knitted, Scottish cashmere Travelwraps in 10 new designs. Choose from the Eclectic, Plain Gorgeous or Evening Collection. Beautifully wrapped and presented in their signature gift box. The Travelwrap can be used at home and away. It is a sort of comfort blanket for grown ups! The perfect gift for yourself or someone special.

RRP: from £195.00



### Smoking Mittens

Suck UK  
31 Regent Studios  
8 Andrews Road, London E8 4QN

**T** 0207 923 0011  
**E** [info@suck.uk.com](mailto:info@suck.uk.com)  
**W** [www.suck.uk.com](http://www.suck.uk.com)

Don't let the smoking ban get you down. You can now smoke outside in comfort and warmth. Our 100% cotton, fire resistant Mittens are fitted with a metal eyelet to perfectly accommodate your cigarette and are suitable for left or right handed smoking. Remember, smoking is not big or clever and it WILL kill you, but if you want to die you may as well die with warm hands!

RRP: £15.00

## fashion accessories winner



### Fun in the Sun

Clere Vision  
31 George Street, Kingsclere  
Newbury RG20 5NH

**T** 01635 297 911  
**E** [info@clerevision.co.uk](mailto:info@clerevision.co.uk)  
**W** [www.clerevision.co.uk](http://www.clerevision.co.uk)

Last years winner, Clere Vision, has hit the spot again with its range of sunglasses and co-ordinating watches in eight designs, from sophisticated spots to wild animal prints. With this fun range everyone can be cool throughout those bright summer days and long into the night.

RRP: from £12.95

# home accessories winner



## Who Tall Are You Mirror

Suck UK  
31 Regent Studios  
8 Andrews Road, London E8 4QN

T 0207 923 0011  
E info@suck.uk.com  
W www.suck.uk.com

Ever wondered if your Hollywood hunk is tall enough for you? Will your leading lady tower over you as you whisk her around the dance floor? Now you can compare heights with famous faces from across the globe. This fun and functional mirror comes complete with mounting instructions to ensure you can measure yourself up against an exclusive group of celebrities. The perfect home accessory gift for anyone interested in the rich and famous.

RRP: £60.00

## highly commended



### Key Door Stop

j-me  
Unit 1.15 Oxo Tower Wharf  
Barge House Street  
London SE1 9PH

T +44 (0)207928 8828  
E info@j-me.co.uk  
W www.j-me.co.uk

The j-me key doorstop is a bit of a design rebel holding your door open rather than locking it shut. Not too big to cause a trip hazard but big enough to have a humorous appeal. Sure to raise a smile and make a great talking point

RRP: £7.50



### Driinn (Mobile Phone Holder)

Worldwide Co.  
3 Warple Way  
London W3 0RX

T 0208 735 2777  
E michael@npw.co.uk  
W www.npw.co.uk

A tidy way to deal with phone chargers and cords. The holder hangs between the charger and the socket. The phone sits on the support and the cord wraps neatly around the back. No phones and cords all over the floor/worktop etc. Driinn is made in Italy in 6 colours.

RRP: £3.99

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**PROGRESSIVE**  
GIFTS & HOME WORLDWIDE

Many gift trade magazines have come and gone but there is only one publication that is number one on the gift industry's reading list and that is Progressive Gifts and Home Worldwide. Progressive Gifts is also the home of The 'Greats' Gift Retailer Awards. Progressive Gifts & Home Worldwide, the undisputed market leader.

www.max-publishing.co.uk

The quality that emerged this year is really good. Every one of these products is interesting and fun.

Marie Shingfield  
The National Trust

sponsored by



The Copywatch team consists of highly qualified and experienced Intellectual Property lawyers from Eversheds and Halliwells who accompany the GA at a large number of gift and home trade fairs each year to offer on-the-spot advice to members on design protection. They offer half an hour free legal advice and the following four hours at a significantly discounted rate.  
[www.ga-uk.org](http://www.ga-uk.org)

## highly commended



### Adopt a Donkey

Gift Republic  
Unit 4a, Riverside Business Park  
Lyon Road, London SW19 2RL

**T** 020 8542 4315  
**E** [marketing@giftrepublic.com](mailto:marketing@giftrepublic.com)  
**W** [www.giftrepublic.com](http://www.giftrepublic.com)

Make a difference to the life of abused and ill-treated donkeys with this fun gift. Choose which donkey you wish to adopt and then receive a colour photo and a personalised certificate. Visit your donkey at the Island Farm Donkey Sanctuary and receive updates on how they are getting on.

RRP: £19.99



### Dad's Cab Meter

Bluw Ltd  
Capital Tower, 91 Waterloo Road  
London SE1 8RT

**T** 0207 098 9826  
**E** [jamesgray@bluw.com](mailto:jamesgray@bluw.com)  
**W** [www.bluw.co.uk](http://www.bluw.co.uk)

Dad's Cab from Bluw is perfect for anyone who provides the family taxi service, with interchangeable labels this gift quickly becomes Mums Cab or Family Cab. No more free rides – Turn on the meter and run up the bill. Payment is by forfeit so the kids will be cleaning all week.

RRP: £9.99

## hot novelty winner



### Natural History Museum Radio Controlled Tarantula

Wow! Stuff  
Creative Industries Centre, Wolverhampton Science Park  
Wolverhampton WV10 9TG

**T** 0870 054 6000  
**E** [richard.north@wowstuff.co.uk](mailto:richard.north@wowstuff.co.uk)  
**W** [www.wowstuff.co.uk](http://www.wowstuff.co.uk)

The Radio Controlled Tarantula is based on the bird eating Goliath Tarantula and was our lead product in a new and innovative range of Natural History Museum toys and gifts launched Winter 2007. Designed in conjunction with the scientists at The Natural History Museum this incredible gift line has proven to be one of the fastest selling ranges in the gift and toy industry.

RRP: £24.99

kids  
winner



## The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Portmeirion Potteries Ltd  
London Road, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 7QQ

T 01782 743451  
E [splimbley@portmeirion.co.uk](mailto:splimbley@portmeirion.co.uk)  
W [www.portmeirion.co.uk](http://www.portmeirion.co.uk)

Portmeirion have created a bold and bright children's giftware collection that appeals to the whole family. Featuring images from Eric Carle's legendary book, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, these ceramic sets educate children about healthy food, counting and science and also come packaged in treasure boxes that can be re-used.

RRP: from £6.00

highly commended



## Baby Socks Gift Box

American Modern  
2 Milton Road  
London SW14 8JR

T +44 020 8876 2149  
E [daniela@americanmodern.co.uk](mailto:daniela@americanmodern.co.uk)  
W [www.americanmodern.co.uk](http://www.americanmodern.co.uk)

American Modern presents a unique collection of baby socks for those who appreciate fine quality, great design and originality. Each set is bundled in an adorable keepsake box personalised for each collection and beautifully detailed inside and out. The perfect gift for baby and Mother too!

RRP: £10.99 - £15.99



## Croshettas

Jellycat Ltd  
214 Blythe Road  
London W14 0HH

T 020 7603 9383  
E [ajackson@jellycat.co.uk](mailto:ajackson@jellycat.co.uk)  
W [www.justjellycat.co.uk](http://www.justjellycat.co.uk)

Sweetly whispering to each other, these two are sharing secrets of how to be a best first friend to a boy or a girl. Their delicate crochet cardies add a nostalgic touch for parents, and their super-soft fur makes them irresistible to tiny tots' tiny fingers.

RRP: £9.99

sponsored by

review  
**giftware**  
The No 1 product finder

The Giftware Review prides itself on being the magazine of choice for discerning buyers. Its colourful pages are packed with all that's new as well as tips and trends from key industry players. This is the place to flaunt your new lines to ensure they get the exposure they deserve.

[www.giftwarereview.net](http://www.giftwarereview.net)

The Very Hungry Caterpillar  
Very commercial and  
beautifully executed.  
The cake-making in  
the Kids category is  
a real gem!

Jo Percy  
John Lewis

sponsored by



Autumn Fair is the most important gift and home show of the season, bringing together 32,500 buyers from around the world and over 2,000 major brands, key suppliers and independent designers. Autumn Fair is proud to sponsor the Kitchen and Dining award and would like to congratulate all the winners and those highly commended.

Autumn Fair 7 - 10 September 2008, NEC Birmingham  
[www.autumnfair.com](http://www.autumnfair.com)

### MyDrap Napkins on a Roll

These are very nice quality and well priced as well

Claire Summers  
Lakeland Ltd

## highly commended



### MyDrap Cotton and Linen Napkins on a Roll

Rolldrap UK Ltd  
33 Lower Street, Pulborough  
West Sussex RH20 2BH

**T** 01798 874621  
**E** [rolldrapuk@btconnect.com](mailto:rolldrapuk@btconnect.com)  
**W** [www.rolldrapuk.com](http://www.rolldrapuk.com)

MyDrap cotton and linen napkins on a roll bridge the gap between paper and more expensive linen napkins. The manufacturing process uses a patented technology which enables the cotton and linen material to be fused at the edges. This produces a "kitchen towel" type product without hems and without fraying. MyDrap napkins are ideal for formal and informal dining with a range of sizes and colours to meet all requirements.

RRP: £12.40 for 25 napkins



### Condiment Gun

The Monster Factory  
Hurlingham Studios  
Unit 26a, Ranelagh Gardens  
London SW6 3PA

**T** 020 7610 8929  
**E** [mandy@themonsterfactory.com](mailto:mandy@themonsterfactory.com)  
**W** [www.themonsterfactory.com](http://www.themonsterfactory.com)

Chips without ketchup? Hotdogs without mustard? It doesn't bear thinking about. Now man's favourite comfort foods have been given their own specialist kitchen tackle – the Condiment Gun! Simply fill one of the squeeze cartridges with your favourite sauce, pull the trigger and start squirting! Burgers, fry-ups and the Great British banger have never tasted so good...

RRP: £14.99

# kitchen and dining winner



### Index Chopping Boards

Joseph Joseph  
Unit 1.21 Oxo Tower Wharf  
London SE1 9PH

**T** 02072611800  
**E** [info@josephjoseph.com](mailto:info@josephjoseph.com)  
**W** [www.josephjoseph.com](http://www.josephjoseph.com)

'Index' is our new chopping board categorisation system. In a neat ABS storage case that has a non-slip base, the four colour coded chopping boards have illustrated tabs labelling which board should be used for which food type (vegetables, fish, raw meat and cooked food). Made from dishwasher safe polypropylene, the tabs are staggered for visual ease.

RRP: £39.95

made in UK  
winner



## Armchair Spirits

Dartington Crystal  
Linden Close, Great Torrington, North Devon EX38 7AN

T 01805 626241  
E [hsing@dartington.co.uk](mailto:hsing@dartington.co.uk)  
W [www.dartington.co.uk](http://www.dartington.co.uk)

Designer Matthew Persson combines a fresh and stylish approach with the simple functional product design we expect from Dartington. Serving a good drink always starts with a well made glass that feels comfortable and looks good. All these evocative messages have been wrapped up ready for that special gift, in this collection of hand made crystal items. Matt's clever theme is carried through at point of sale with special illustrative packaging. Another added touch is the "in pack" leaflet that tells you how the Sipper, Snifter and Swirler can serve up both fine spirits and moments to savour.

RRP: £20.00

highly commended



## Salvaged Leather Garden Apron

Sting in the Tail  
Units 1&2, Bardsea Business Park  
Ulverston LA12 9RA

T 01229 869111  
E [stingin@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:stingin@globalnet.co.uk)

Sting proudly launch the eco friendly, UK designed and manufactured salvaged Leather Apron. The recycled leather is an eco-friendly alternative to traditional leather, made from 70% of leather industry waste fibres. Durable, water repellent, light and comfortable the recycled Leather Apron is ideal for the garden.

RRP: from £40.00



## Felt Flower Slippers

Isolyn  
33 Tryfan Close, Ilford  
Essex IG4 5JX

T 020 8551 3578  
E [michelle@isolyn.com](mailto:michelle@isolyn.com)  
W [www.isolyn.com](http://www.isolyn.com)

Isolyn's Felt Flower Sandy Slippers with Daisy are contemporary shaped house shoes made from 100% wool felt of the highest quality. Each slipper has applied leather grip pads to ensure there is no slipping on wooden flooring. These slippers are great for the home, office and even aeroplane travel. They are available in 4 vibrant colours red, orange, pink and green and 3 sizes, small, medium and large.

RRP: £35.00

sponsored by



The BJGF represents the interests of 2,600 member companies, in the most exciting and vibrant sectors of British industry - mostly small to medium size enterprises (SMEs), between them employing 46,000 people. The mission of the BJGF is to provide efficient business support to its trade associations operating in the Jewellery, Giftware, Travel Goods and Accessories and Surface Engineering sectors.  
[www.bjgf.org.uk](http://www.bjgf.org.uk)

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## highly commended



### Habotai Silk Welcome Blanket

Noonoo Design  
Halter Inn Workshops, Holcombe Brook  
Bury, Lancashire BL0 9SA

**T** 01706 283926  
**E** [joashburner@noonoodesign.com](mailto:joashburner@noonoodesign.com)  
**W** [www.noonoodesign.com](http://www.noonoodesign.com)

Wonderfully soft and luxurious, the Tink® Habotai silk welcome blankets are handmade and stitched to the highest quality and finish, and are available in four colours – ice cream, pistachio, dove blue and oyster pink. Silk has temperature regulating properties ideal for little children and these welcome blankets are as light as a feather and a perfect investment gift that will never date. Fully machine washable at 30°C.

RRP: £45.00



### Chocolate Bouquets

Harpers Luxury Gifts  
10 Selby Close, Llanfrechfa  
Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 8TT

**T** 07725 477959  
**E** [atomictherapies@webster.uk.net](mailto:atomictherapies@webster.uk.net)  
**W** [www.harpersluxurygifts.com](http://www.harpersluxurygifts.com)

A scrumptious alternative to flowers that will leave the word "wow" echoing around your head long after your flora has wilted - a present you would be very proud to give or receive. These hand-crafted gifts come in any design and colour ... the only limit is your imagination!

RRP: from £20

# occasions winner



## From You to Me Journals

From You to Me Ltd  
Hackless House, Murhill  
Limply Stoke, Bath BA2 7FH

**T** 08454 393933  
**E** [hello@fromyoutome.com](mailto:hello@fromyoutome.com)  
**W** [www.fromyoutome.com](http://www.fromyoutome.com)

Journal of a lifetime – invite someone special to complete one of these intriguing journals to capture precious memories, experiences, family insights and social history. The 'journals of a lifetime' are a gift with a twist as, once completed, you get them back. This personal record of anecdotes and stories as well as hopes and aspirations for the future is then a priceless story for you and future generations to treasure. The perfect gift that lasts forever.

RRP: £11.99

# outdoor living winner



## Fire Bucket BBQ

Suck UK  
31 Regent Studios, 8 Andrews Road  
London E8 4QN

T 0207 923 0011  
E info@suck.uk.com  
W www.suck.uk.com

Be the envy of all your friends this summer by hosting an alfresco party with this funky retro BBQ. Before the fire extinguisher, sand filled metal buckets like this were used to fight flames. Now you can flame grill your burgers! Easy to use, the convenient handle allows you to take it to the beach or even camping. Simply fill the base with coals and ignite. So spice up those long summer evenings by sizzling your sausages on something much cooler than the average BBQ.

RRP: £25.00

## highly commended



## V&A Watering Can

Wild & Wolf Ltd  
The Icehouse, 124 Walcot Street  
Bath BA1 5BG

T 01225 789909  
E marlene@wildandwolf.com  
W www.wildandwolf.com

Truly delicious watering cans are the latest addition to the fabulous V&A range of tools and garden tools from Wild and Wolf in collaboration with the V&A. Available in three classic William Morris prints of daisy, cray and anemone, these mouth watering cans continue with the Wild and Wolf ethos of being Pretty and Useful.

RRP: £24.95



## BBQ Sword

Luckies of London  
Unit 209, The Saga Centre  
326 Kensal Road, London W10 5BZ

T 0845 230 3533  
E sarah@luckies.co.uk  
W www.luckies.co.uk

THE BBQ accessory this year has to be this musketeer style sword which is actually a BBQ fork. The BBQ sword is crafted from high quality stainless steel with a wooden handle, and comes packaged with it's own pop-out musketeer mask. Bangers and burgers beware!

RRP: £14.95

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Fire Bucket BBQ

It's very versatile -  
a clever idea

Marie Shingfield  
The National Trust

sponsored by



Summer Fair London is the edited, sister event to Spring Fair and Autumn Fair, presenting an unparalleled line up of contemporary brands and newcomers from both the UK and overseas at the optimum point in the mid-year buying calendar. Summer Fair, ExCeL, 22-25 June 2008 [www.summerfair.com](http://www.summerfair.com)

The Travelwrap  
Just so soft you  
wanted to wear  
it all day.

Jo Percy  
John Lewis

highly commended



### Luxury Machine Washable Cashmere Layette Set

Bonnie Baby  
22b Brooker Place  
Hove BN3 3ZN

**T** 01273 227779  
**E** [info@bonniebaby.co.uk](mailto:info@bonniebaby.co.uk)  
**W** [www.bonniebaby.co.uk](http://www.bonniebaby.co.uk)

Designed specifically for the baby gift market, this compact range of essential machine washable cashmere layette items includes hats, mittens, booties, shawls and a Cute 'Bonnie Bunny' knitted toy. Packaged in a specially designed high quality gift box featuring a "cut out apple" which doubles as a cute gift card.

RRP: £120.00



### Swan Decanter

Riedel Crystal (UK) Ltd  
Lakeside House, Trentham Office Village  
Trentham Lakes South  
Stoke on Trent ST4 8GQ

**T** 01782 646105  
**E** [gemma@riedelcrystal.co.uk](mailto:gemma@riedelcrystal.co.uk)  
**W** [www.riedel.co.uk](http://www.riedel.co.uk)

There is no more elegant bird than the Swan, so Riedel thought it only fitting that their new Swan decanter should embody the same natural grace. Wine is simply poured into the wider opening of the Swan then effortlessly poured from the narrow "neck". The Swan decanter separates sediment from older wines, while allowing the younger ones to aerate and mature.

RRP: £240.00

premium luxury  
winner



### The Travelwrap

The Travelwrap Company Ltd  
Parkfield, Copse Avenue  
New Milton, Hampshire BH25 6ET

**T** 0844 8001296  
**E** [niamh@thetravelwrapcompany.com](mailto:niamh@thetravelwrapcompany.com)  
**W** [thetravelwrapcompany.com](http://thetravelwrapcompany.com)

The Travelwrap Company offers exquisite knitted, Scottish cashmere Travelwraps in 10 new designs. Choose from the Eclectic, Plain Gorgeous or Evening Collection. Beautifully wrapped and presented in their signature gift box. The Travelwrap can be used at home and away. It is a sort of comfort blanket for grown ups! The perfect gift for yourself or someone special.

RRP: from £195.00

# stationery winner



## Envelope Angel

Blue Marmalade  
36 Dalmeny St.  
Edinburgh EH6 8RG

**T** 0131 553 7766  
**E** [trent@bluemarmalade.co.uk](mailto:trent@bluemarmalade.co.uk)  
**W** [www.bluemarmalade.co.uk](http://www.bluemarmalade.co.uk)

Did you know you can't recycle most padded envelopes? But you can re-use them, and now you can re-use them in a stylish way that is easy on the planet as well as your pocket. Go on, be an angel and give your envelopes a second life.

RRP: £4.50

## highly commended



## School Year Calendar

K TWO Products  
27a Haddington Place  
Edinburgh EH7 4AF

**T** 0131 4679004  
**E** [elise@ktwoproducts.com](mailto:elise@ktwoproducts.com)  
**W** [www.ktwoproducts.com](http://www.ktwoproducts.com)

Organised around the academic year, the School Year Calendar is just what a busy family needs to keep track of everyone's activities. The multi-column calendar features a tear-off note pad and stickers that take the pain out of planning. A deep storage pocket for each month means invitations and event information are always there when they are needed.

RRP: £12.99



## Cassette Tape Dispenser

j-me  
Unit 1.15 Oxo Tower Wharf  
Barge House Street  
London SE1 9PH

**T** 0207 928 8828  
**E** [jamie@j-me.co.uk](mailto:jamie@j-me.co.uk)  
**W** [www.j-me.co.uk](http://www.j-me.co.uk)

It's official....tapes are back! j-me has taken the iconic cassette tape and bought it back to life with an easy to use tape dispenser in the form of a cassette tape in non-slip rubber. The iconic cassette is once again fashionable!

RRP: £12.50

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[www.itstheawaytotravel.com](http://www.itstheawaytotravel.com)

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The GA's Costwatch service could save you money on your day-to-day overheads such as energy, telecoms, waste, print, carrier bags, stationery and cleaning materials. Co-Save, the GA's Costwatch partner will analyse your recent invoices and negotiate with alternative service providers to find you comparable quality but at a reduced cost. [www.ga-uk.org](http://www.ga-uk.org)

## highly commended



### Really Useful Bags

ECP Design  
Station Road, Wickwar  
Wotton-Under-Edge  
Gloucestershire  
GL12 8NB

**T** 01454299100  
**E** [john@ecpltd.co.uk](mailto:john@ecpltd.co.uk)  
**W** [www.ecpdesign.co.uk](http://www.ecpdesign.co.uk)

Really Useful Bags are practical, stylish and environmentally friendly. They magically transform from a place mat to a string bag. Available in 4 bright colours – orange, green, fuschia and blue – and 3 sizes (from single bottle to a shopping bag). They are durable and washable and pack completely flat for shipping.

RRP: from £1.65



### Technokit Stunt Buggy

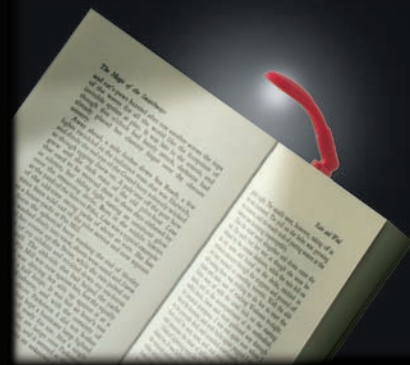
Interplay UK Limited  
Unit D, Meter House  
Fieldhouse Lane  
Marlow SL7 1 LW.

**T** 01628 488944  
**E** [sales@interplayuk.co.uk](mailto:sales@interplayuk.co.uk)  
**W** [www.interplayuk.co.uk](http://www.interplayuk.co.uk)

Build a super-cool and fast little electric buggy that performs amazing stunt wheelies! Easy to construct with no glue or mess – just fit together the interlocking wooden pieces, add electrical and mechanical components and decorate with the stickers provided. A perfect and inexpensive gift for boys (and tomboys) aged 8 to 108!

RRP: £7.99

## under £10 winner



### The Really Tiny Booklight

That Company Called If  
IF House, Thornton Road  
Pickering YO18 7JB

**T** 01751 475757  
**E** [john@thatcompanycalledif.com](mailto:john@thatcompanycalledif.com)  
**W** [www.thatcompanycalledif.com](http://www.thatcompanycalledif.com)

Accessorise your books with this year's 'must have' book light. Clip it onto the back cover of your book, angle the super-bright LED light onto the page and read on 'til morning! Available in 5 glamorous colours and rubber coated finish. Presented in colour co-ordinating packaging. A truly innovative gift!

RRP: £6.99

I've had a wonderful time. I've seen a lot of products that I like. It's been great to see innovation and good design.

Brian Wiseman  
The Present Company

## Entrants Listing for 2008

This brochure shows you the results of the judges final choices from the hundreds of entrants who entered the competition and range from the small independant right through to international companies, and this is a great indication of the importance of the Gift of the Year awards. We would like to recognise everybody who has entered and we look forward to your entries next year.

Bombay Duck  
V&A Enterprises  
Dartington Crystal  
Rex International Ltd  
Wild & Wolf Ltd  
LSA International  
Clere Vision  
Jellycat Ltd  
Giles & Posner  
Opal London  
Parlane International  
Portmeirion Potteries Ltd  
Noo Noo Design Company Ltd  
Yarto  
Peers Hardy Ltd  
Bluw Ltd  
Riedel Crystal UK Ltd  
Isolyn  
The Travelwrap Company  
Bonnie Baby  
Candles Naturally  
Empty Me Ltd  
Santoro Graphics Ltd  
American Modern  
Kitten Kit Ltd  
Mama Baby Bliss  
Thumbs Up (UK) Ltd  
Chiggs Ltd  
Hypnoimp.co.uk  
Novelty Gift Company  
Winter in Venice Gifts Ltd  
Worldwide Co  
From You To Me  
Silverthorne Designs

Bearing Gifts  
The Monster Factory Ltd  
Kitted Out  
Tallon International Ltd  
Desertrose  
Towell & Scott  
The Lagoon Trading Co  
Boxer  
Two Little Boys  
C&S Collectables Direct Ltd  
Harpers Luxury Gifts  
The In Thing  
Natural Products Ltd  
The Flower Stork  
Ceramic Decals Ltd  
Sarah Sheridan Designs Ltd  
Arora Design Ltd  
Kitted Out  
Peachy  
That Company Called 'if'  
Canova Gifts  
Protocol Jewellery  
The Healthy Back Bag Co  
Maria Helena Spector Jewellery  
Vendula London Ltd  
Sting in the Tail  
Candy Queen Designs  
Pico Products  
Fabric & Bags  
Best Years  
Dyson Design Cards Ltd  
The Craft Kit Company  
Forever Natural UK Ltd  
Funtosee Ltd

K Two Products  
Interplay UK Ltd  
Babyblooms Ltd  
Touch of Ginger  
Two Bad Mice  
Clippykit  
Zelda Wong  
Apollo Business Ltd  
Half Moon Bay  
Crafty Kids Ltd  
Blue Poppy Art Ltd  
W2 Products  
Rolldrap UK Ltd  
White Cotton Cards  
Addject  
Blue Marmalade Ltd  
Luckies of London  
Big Tomato Company  
Gift Republic  
La La Luna  
ECP Design Ltd  
Make International  
Culinary Concepts London Ltd  
Aroma Home  
So Jewellery  
Suck UK  
Fludes S.H Ltd  
Joseph Joseph  
Electrickery  
Paladone Products Ltd  
WOW! Stuff  
j-me  
ZPM



visit the Gift of the Year website today  
[www.giftoftheyear.co.uk](http://www.giftoftheyear.co.uk)



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The GA  
Federation House, 10 Vyse Street, Birmingham B18 6LT  
tel: 0121 236 2657 | fax: 0121 237 1106  
web: [www.ga-uk.org](http://www.ga-uk.org) | email: [enquiries@ga-uk.org](mailto:enquiries@ga-uk.org)



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COPYWATCH  
COPYWATCHING COPYCATS!

