

# Spirit of Christmas

## Start now – it takes time and imagination to find the perfect gift

LISA CARTWRIGHT  
Features

There are only 23 days until Christmas – have you done all your shopping yet?

If you are like many of us, it's the daunting task of finding the perfect gift that discourages you from beginning your Christmas shopping.

If you are stuck for ideas, the following is a list of potential Christmas presents that will be perfect for everybody on your list.

When we were younger, my two brothers and I would make Christmas presents for our family.

We did it for many years and our gifts were always appreciated.

One year we spent weeks baking Christmas cookies.

We then painted and decorated six-quart wooden baskets and put the cookies in them.

If you want to use this idea, you can bake the cookies and put them in a beautiful tin.

In the past we have also made gingerbread houses (very difficult and very frustrating – I would start early), bird feeders and more.

**And more ideas...**

- Blow up one of your photographs and frame it.

- There is a picture frame to suit everyone's tastes.

If you have a talent of any kind – use it. It is probably works out cheaper and homemade gifts are always appreciated.

If you can make woodcrafts, there are lots of ideas – a cabinet to hold collectables, a table, wood decorations, hope chests and more.

If you can paint, you can paint a picture then frame it. If knitting and sewing is right up your alley – clothes, housecoats, slippers or wool sweaters are perfect gifts.

Is there a person on your list who enjoys crafts?

You can purchase a gift certificate for one of the craft stores or purchase supplies yourself. A sketch pad, a how to draw book and some drawing pencils would work. There are also pastels, charcoal, pencil crayons and markers. Clay, paints, paint brushes, colouring books, fimo, construction paper, scissors, beads and other craft supplies would be perfect.

If the person on your list has a hobby, you can purchase items that are associated with it.

If the person is a wine drinker, you could purchase them a nice bottle of wine, a pewter wine corks, wine glasses and a wine encyclopedia.

Tickets to a game or a show – whether at professional theatre or the local one – can extend the holidays a little longer.

A budding photographer would appreciate batteries, film, a gift certificate for developing film and different lenses or filters. Coffee drinkers may be interested in a beautiful mug, flavoured coffees, a

chocolate spoon, a coffee grinder and a hot pad. Hot chocolate drinkers may also enjoy different flavoured hot chocolate – or a jumbo box of the regular stuff.

Do you have an unorganized person on your list? Help them by purchasing a daytimer, either electronic or the old fashioned kind.

Don't forget the sports fan on your list.

Just because the person can't play golf any more, doesn't mean she has to stop thinking about it.

Now is the time to purchase golf balls, tees, golf gloves, a golfing outfit and even a book on the best places to play golf.

Calendars make wonderful presents. There are many beautiful ones out there.

And if the person on your list loves photos, you can make your own calendar.



A nice mug and a jumbo box of hot chocolate will keep any chocolate lover happy.

Photo by ANDREW MAIR

Most photography stores do it, but I would purchase this gift as soon as possible so it arrives in time for Christmas.

The folk-art calendars in wooden frames seem to be a popular item and can be purchased in many different stores.

And don't forget about Fido and Kitty. Treats, wet food and a new toy are perfect for a favourite pet.

The ideas are endless. You don't have to spend a lot of money, you just need to use a little imagination and spend a little time.

## New Year's Eve Celebration



### 4 Seasons Country Club

1900 Cons. 8 (E. of Brock Rd., Pickering)

Celebrate with D.J.

### Emotion in Motion

TOP HITS

50's - 60's - New Country  
Plus Polkas, Walizes  
and more

**\$100/couple**

Buffet served 10:45 p.m.

Including:

Assorted Cheese, Vegetable  
Trays upon arrival  
Prizes, Party Favours

### Menu

Selection of Breads and Rolls  
Choice of Salads  
Chicken Kiev with Mushroom  
Cream Sauce  
Roast Potato  
Buttered Baby Carrots  
Selection of Traditional  
Desserts  
Coffee or Tea  
Swiss Chocolate Patty  
Champagne Toast at Midnight

(Pickup service available from Whitby, Pickering, East Metro, Markham, Stouffville and Uxbridge areas).  
(Minimal fee - reserve in advance)

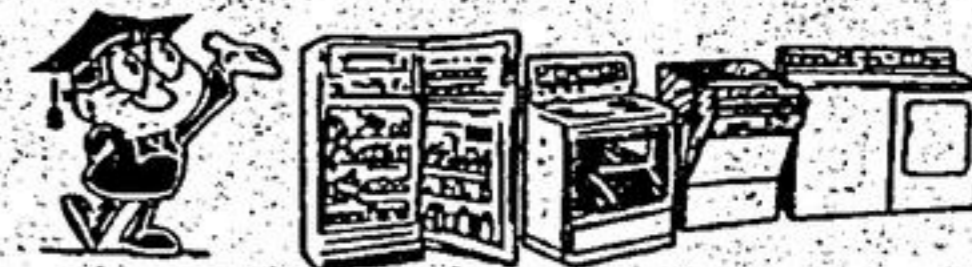
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Kinsmen Church  
Dinner & Auction

at  
*The Uxbridge Legion*  
Thursday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>  
Cocktails at 6:30  
Dinner at 7:30

Tickets are \$25.00 each  
or \$45.00 per couple

Tickets available at the door.  
Proceeds to local charities

## Happy Holidays

Complete Wine Kits, Equipment & Large Selection of Fine Wines to choose from.



For the Holiday Season, we invite you take advantage of our specials and wish you and your family all the very best!

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STARTER PACKAGES MAKE 30 BOTTLES OF WINE!

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of 30 bottles at one of our on-premise U-Vint locations and receive a FREE CASE OF BOTTLES for every batch started.

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