

BY **BRIAN CHUNG**

en people ponder bout Christmas, they end to think of an xpensive period of time, somewhat peaceful and a rather insignificant holiday. The significance and prominence of Christmas were further reduced when restaurants and hotels began offering expensive buffets, and malls went about their "unbelievable" Christmas shopping bargains, deals and entertainment showcases.

However, many are unaware that Christmas has in fact, been one of many festivals that has affected history. Below, we share a few significant and interesting anecdotes of Christmases that have gone by, that have made history but had little to do with the true meaning of Christmas.

WORLD WARICHRISTMAS TRUCE

We start our tale at No-Man's land during World War I (WWI). Also known as the Great War, WWI witnessed the deaths of millions of soldiers from many nations. It was a time filled with bloodshed from the war, disease in the form of Trench Feet and Hypothermia - a time of grief and anguish. However, it was at this very war where Christmas and football managed to bring back a tiny bit of hope to humanity. Christmas off914 was a little

different from what many expected - ofbullets and blood. Instead, it was filled with chocolate, snaps and joy as soldiers from the **German and British fronts** celebrated the occasion together. This was the scene at the famous WWI Christmas Truce. Survivors of the war described this special Christmas as a time where gifts exchanged hands, carols were sung and a game of football was played between the Germans and the Brits. These were documented in the letters and diaries of soldiers. It was during this dark time in history that the Christmas of 1914 managed to make a difference, admitting the Great War into history books as a significant event to be remembered.

The impact of this "Christmas Truce" was noteworthy, inspiring the making of music videos and advertisements. An example of its impact and influence is British grocery chain Sainsbury's 2014 Christmas advertisement which gained over 18 million views on YouTube.

SURRENDER OF HONG KONG

From one battle to another. Christmas was a bleak time for

Connections

> Significant events that took place on Christmas day that shaped our world today



An artist's impression from The Illustrated London News of 9 January: 1915 British and German soldiers arm-in-arm exchanging headgear a Christmas truce between opposing trenches.

many in Hong Kong in British history. On Dec 8, 1941, Japan launched an assault on Hong Kong after the destruction of Pearl Harbour. The British was hard for many who Inilitary could not defend the city as the Japanese cut off Brit military Christmas. access, preventing

reinforcement as well as an evacuation route. With no way out, the **British military** had no choice but to surrender on that fateful

Christmas day. The surrender of Hong Kong set Japan for a cruel invasion and occupation of a few countries throughout Asia. The locals dubbed the Christmas of 1941 as the "Black Christmas" many braced themselves for

the massacres

and brutalities committed by Japanese forces. With plenty of photographic evidence of Japanese atrocity committed during this World War II, it survived this war to forget this dark and clouded

DEATH OF CHARLIE CHAPLIN Moving on from the

bloodshed of WWI and II, we continue our historical journey to the days before technicolour. No one echoed the silent film genre better than Charlie Chaplin. The British comedian had made a name for himself in the silent film era. Known was Chaplin across the

globe for his many comedy features and famous films such as The Tramp, The Kid, The Pilgrim and The Great

Dictator. However, it was a sad and mournful day for many fans of silent film when on Christmas day in 1977, Chaplin passed on.

Nevertheless, the silent actor's story did not end at his death and funeral. A group of robbers was reported to have stolen his body and demanded USD400.000 for its return. The robbers were eventually captured and Chaplin's body was reburied π weeks later. The irony of this account is that the incident inspired a 2014 French film entitled The Price of Fame depicting the story of two immigrants stealing the body of Charlie Chaplin for ransom.

GODFATHER III PREMIER

Speaking of films, the Christmas of 1990 led to the conclusion of a



famous movie series directed by Francis Ford Coppola - The Godfather. During this year, The Godfather III, the third and final film of The Godfather trilogy was

The film also saw the end of the main character, Michael Corleone, head of a mafia family. In the film, Corleone's life ends along with the series but with a bang! The greatest twist was kept till the last in this trilogy, which was the godfather's effort to protect his family where instead he lost everything he wanted to protect.

Although the film received mixed reviews, it was nominated for the Academy Awards in a few categories. Since then, the Godfather series has made it into the "classics" among mafia film enthusiasts, a movie they cannot

DISSOLUTION OF THE SOVIET UNION



While the United States enjoyed the conclusion of the Godfather trilogy, the Soviet Union experienced somewhat similar the fate of the Godfather - beginning its decline. The communist superpower started to lose grip in the Cold War, beginning with the destruction of the Berlin Wall It was a matter of time for the Soviet Union to lose its hold on Eastern

In 1991 on Christmas Day, the last president of the Soviet Union Mikhail Gorbachev, resigned from administration after a failed coup attempt by the opposition. The resignation was broadcasted across the country and the Russian tricolour flag was raised to full mast to fly. Gorbachev was succeeded by Boris Yeltsin, the first president of modern Russia. With Gorbachev's resignation, the Soviet Union succumbed and finally bowed out.

THEFT OF THE STONE OF DESTINY

From the cold front of Siberia, we now approach the chilly Scottish isle where something unexpected took place on Christmas. It was 1950

TURN TO PAGE 504





CHICKEN PIZZIOLA RM COMBO

RM 1190

RM 1590
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Stylish time-telling gifts

GLOBALLY recognised Swiss watch brand Rado takes pride in unveiling its first creations showcased at the 2016 Baselworld - the Rado True Open Heart collection.

Relaunched with a new edge, the Rado True family presents another beautiful twist to its two new designs, fabulously communicating its brand philosophy "if we can imagine it, we can make it".

STYLISH MECHANICS

The two new timepieces from the True Open Heart collection is limited to just 500 individually marked pieces. Exceptionally

crafted in matt black or polished white high-tech ceramic, both watches offer designs that bear clean lines of the Rado True essence. The beautifully decorated Swiss movement is framed by stylised cutouts in the dial, lending the piece an airy, spacious feel and giving the wearer a glimpse into the enigmatic mechanics within. An ultra fine mother of pearl layer floats over the dial like a veil, subtly exposing the mysterious inner workings of the watch.

The mother of pearl dial changes colour according to lighting conditions and the angle of view.

Depicting the captivating aurora borealis on one's wrist, the o.6mm dial evokes feelings of weightlessness, as if floating through time and space. Below this is the bare naked movement or the heart of the watch, which effortlessly glides and twirls, powering the precision instrument to become a true object of beauty.

NOTABLY IMPRESSIVE

Housed in the brand's signature monobloc case made from Rado's high-tech ceramic engineered from ultra-fine zirconium oxide powder - this high-tech ceramic is incredibly light, among the lightest materials used in luxury watchmaking, yet impressively hard and durable, five times harder than steel. The non-metallic material is also gentle and hypoallergenic, suitable to anyone with metal allergies or sensitive

Captivating are both timepieces, exuding luxury, lightness, comfort in true Rado elegance and style. For more information, visit your Rado authorised dealer or log on to the Rado website.







► FROM PAGE S02

when four Scottish students decided to make an effort to inspire nationalism among the Scots to get parliament to take Scotland seriously. The plan they had was simple but dangerous - steal the Stone of Coronation from Westminster Abbey and bring it back to Scotland.

The four arrived in London a few days before Christmas to scrutinise the place, run through their plan and finalise the minute details of their brave heist. On Christmas Day, they sneaked into Westminster Abbey and literally stole the Stone of Coronation and made it out of London without being detained. Although the police managed to secure the stone three



Two of the surviving "thieves" Kay Matheson and Alan Stuart with British member of Parliament Alex Salmon (far left) and politician Winnie Ewing during the return of the stone.

and a half months later, rumours heard that the stone may be fake.

However, all that hard work was not left in vain as in 1996, the Stone of Coronation was returned to Scotland but under the condition that Britain may borrow it during coronation. The heist became an inspiration for Scottish nationalism and a 2008 film, Stone of Destiny was made.

FIRST CHRISTMAS

Lastly, there is no one person who can share of any significant Christmas episode without mentioning the first Christmas, which is the birth of Jesus Christ. Although there have been debates on the actual day of Christ's birth, there is no denying that the birth of Jesus is integral to Christians and

Catholics all around the world.

The birth was promised to God's people with the Old Testament prophets echoing the same prophecy of the coming of the Messiah. According to the Holy Book the birth was dated the year of Herod the Great and was



filled with miraculous events, from angels announcing the birth to the sight of a bright star and the arrival of the three wise men from the orient land.

Christmas, as it falls during year end is also made a public holiday in most countries around the globe. While Christians gather in their churches to celebrate the birth of their Saviour listening to sermons on the nativity, singing of carols and enjoying family time, others who do not observe the religious celebration spend holiday time with family and friends.

We hope that our tall stories

and short tales have made interesting reading this festive time. Though many strike a grim and gloomy chord, they tell of momentous times that have led to consequential changes to lives and nations, some impacting the world. There are many more historical events that occurred on Christmas Day, some made known and many close to each of our hearts. With that, we hope this Christmas will be special and pleasantly meaningful to you, our valued readers. With that, the Sun wishes all readers a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday.

DID YOU KNOW?

Other momentous and almost earth-shattering events that need mentioning include:

England adopts the 'Julian' calendar

In the year 597, England adopted the "Julian" calendar, otherwise known as the modern day calendar. It was a significant event as this proved the beginning of a completely new calendar and date measuring system that did not only become the standard in England and the US, but the entire world, uniting one and all in the common way time is looked at.

► Halley's **Comet first** sighted Many of us have heard of

in 2061.

Halley's Comet but few are lucky enough to have actually seen it. On Christmas Day in 1758 a German farmer and amateur astronomer Johann Georg Palitzsch sighted the comet and established the fact that it makes its return in a 76year loop. Halley's Comet has reappeared in 1835, 1910 and 1986, and is due to return next







A contemporary Christmas

IF variety is what you seek this Christmas, Sunway Pyramid has got you covered. From a Star Wars-inspired Christmas to a Mattel Christmas Roadshow, there is something of interest to everyone. The highlight however, is the sparkling display of modern Christmas trees, adorned with twinkling fairy lights, cheerful baubles and a majestic tree topper. On weekends, shoppers will be serenaded by holly jolly carolers with Santa lending a ear to your Christmas wish list.

When the time comes for some Christmas shopping, drop your little ones off for a day of fun at the hippest play land in town at The Parentood Playland. Then head out to the 900 specialty shops throughout the mall offering fashion and sports, lifestyle and beauty, plus a wide range of gadgets, toys and an endless variety of holiday deals and seasonal offerings.

Want to enjoy a festive dinner with your loved ones? Head on over to the new Sunway Pyramid West, which offers a plethora of new dining options, ranging from fusion delights as well as Thai, Japanese and Korean cuisine, not forgetting Malaysian favourites and Western classics.

As a reward, shoppers can redeem a sparkling "Crystal by Swarovski" pendant, with a minimum spend of RM2,000 (RMI,000 for HSBC Credit Cardholders) in a maximum of three receipts. Meanwhile, shoppers who spend RM500 (RM400 for HSBC Credit Cardholders) in three receipts or less, can redeem a pair of tickets to The Parenthood Playland.

Check out the table below for some exciting activities taking place at Sunway Pyramid.





	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
	25 Nov - 25 Dec	Go Rogue this Christmas with Star Wars	LG2 Blue Concourse
		Star Wars LEGO display	G Floor Main Entrance Railing
	9 – 11 Dec	AIA Vitality Move It Movement featuring Cartoon Network characters Adventure Time & We Bare Bears	LG2 Orange Concourse
	13 – 26 Dec	Mattel Christmas Roadshow featuring Barbie, Hot Wheels, Thomas and friends & more	



For more information, log on to the mall's website, call 03-7494 3100 or visit its Facebook, Twitter or Instagram page.

A handy gift to keep you looking sharp

MAKING life a lot easier when it comes to getting your whites white this festive season, Sharp brings you a solution to remove stubborn

This festive celebration, go ahead and indulge in all the glorious food and worry not of dribbles or spills that fall onto your

attire. Sharp Ultrasonic Washer uses a revolutionary stain removal technology that takes the effort out of removing the "sloppy evidence" via ultrasonic energy.

Looking not much different from a marker and weighing just 200g, the Sharp Ultrasonic Washer is so compact that it can fit into any handbag or man bag. Small yet strong enough to clean tough stains including that from blood, lipstick, ink, grease, even nail polish on delicate fabrics.

The device works by creating vacuum bubbles in water via ultrasonic vibrations at 38,000 strokes per second. These strike

away stains that return stained material to its original clean white slate. The cleaning performance is said to improve with the use of detergent, especially collar and underarm stains, and without damaging one's clothes

Sharp's Ultrasonic Washer is easy to use, convenient and works superbly in emergency situations. To charge the device, simply use a USB cable. Each charge takes about five hours and provides 30 minutes of use, working to some 15 good tough cleans or 90 for easier or lesser stains. To remove stains,

depending on how big a stain or the compound that caused it, a mere 20 seconds or two minutes is all that's required to get stains removed.

Ideal for today's modern man or woman on the go, Sharp's Ultrasonic Washer makes a stylish and necessary accessory to have. It also comes in two colours - pink and silver, and makes a lovely statement piece as much as an object of importance and desire. This Christmas, give a gift that's practical and useful by giving a Sharp Ultrasonic Washer.







Christmas Special

Christmas with a fancy twist





TIRED of the usual Christmas customs and routine? eCurve is putting a spin to the good ol' festive season with its unique Christmas celebration themed showcase - Misty Belle and her BFFs Come to Life. Until January 1, it will be a doll's world at the mall's centre atrium displaying five unique, life-sized doll boxes or "homes" of Misty Bell, the "Style Goddess". This festive time, hop over to the mall to catch Misty Bell and her best friends Victoria Snow the Social Butterfly; Josh Aspen the Fitness Junkie; Dexter Hope the Gadget

with their entertaining performance. The enormous doll boxes feature distinct patterns and props to match the

personalities of each doll". The whimsical setting is sure to lend the familiar excitement of entering a toy store to children of all ages. Nevertheless the young and young-atheart will surely be treated to a fun and exciting

showcase. Not just any dolls, Misty Belle and her BFFs will entertain visitors with their lively and upbeat musical performance twice a day on weekends throughout the Christmas campaign. The show takes off with the five fun-loving

dolls coming to life just in time to celebrate the festive season. Taking the stage in spectacular fashion, the dolls will captivate and delight with

thrilling dance routines. In addition to the show. shoppers and visitors can get

their colourful costumes and

creative and stand the chance to win RM100 cash vouchers by simply striking a pose with a doll box of choice in the picture, in conjunction with eCurve's Instagram contest. Participants simply need to follow the mall's official account, @eCurve_official,

put on their best doll-like impersonation, and upload the picture to Instagram with the relevant hashtags. Five photos with the best poses will be selected each week. Winners will be announced on eCurve's Instagram and Facebook sites every Friday throughout December.

That's not all throughout the Christmas season, an adorable Christmas cuddly bear awaits shoppers who spend a minimum of RM200 in a

maximum of two receipts at any outlet in eCurve. All redemptions are subject to terms and conditions and while stocks last.

For more information, call 03-7725 0277 or visit eCurve's website or Facebook page.



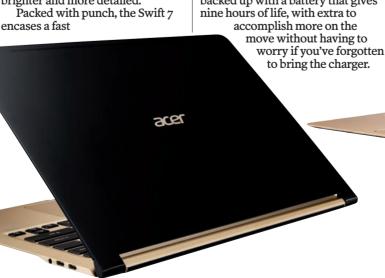
IF there is all that I want this Christmas, it is a laptop that is especially designed to reflect style and useful convenience - ideally, the Acer Swift 7.

Recognised by Japan's Good Design Award for striking the right balance between super slim form and functionality, the Acer Swift 7 features a silhouette of just 9.98mm thin, weighing a mere Likg feather weight. Simply called the Swift 7, this sleek looking laptop also received the title "Honoree" under the Computer Hardware and Components category at the CES 2017 Innovation awards.

This "baby" looks as good outside as it does inside. Elegant is its all-aluminium unibody, coupled with black and gold dual tone hues, complemented by the durable Corning Gorilla Glass that is superior scratch-resistance throughout its 13.3-inch full HD IPS display. The laptop comes with a HD webcam with high dynamic range imaging support to give clearer photographs that appear brighter and more detailed

encases a fast

256GB SSD supplemented with 8GB of memory and seventh Gen Intel Core is processor to offer top-of-the-line performance. This is backed up with a battery that gives nine hours of life, with extra to

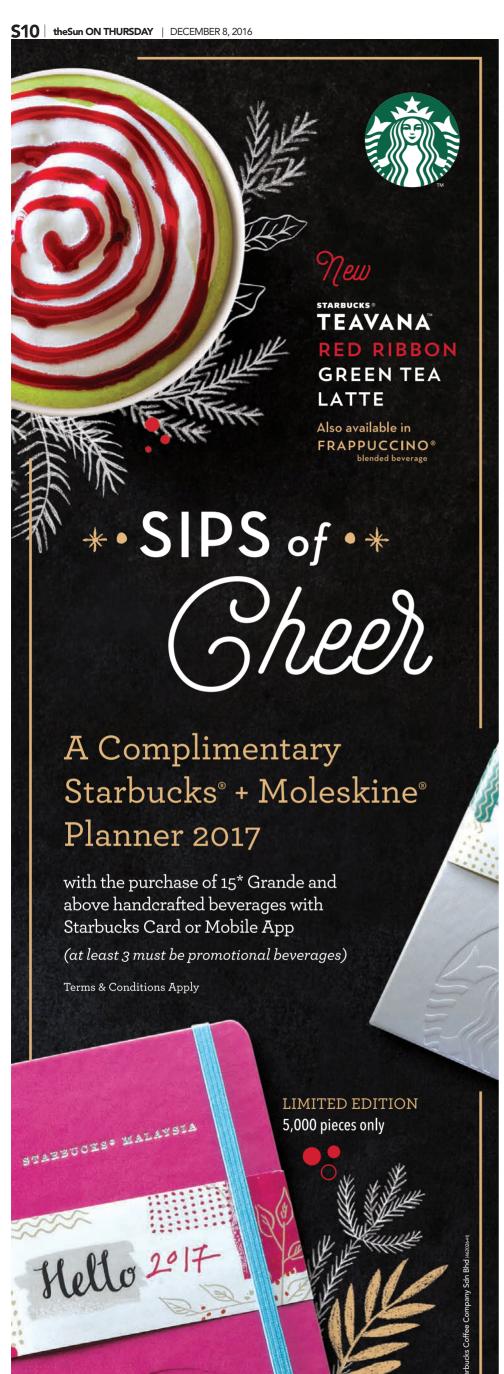


Equipped with wireless technology that delivers threetimes faster connection, quick data transfer and a whole lot more including Dolby Audio Premium and Acer TrueHarmony surround sound - these are just some of the many more reasons (extra-large

precision touch pad and premium warranty service included) why the Acer Swift 7 is tops on my Christmas wishlist.

Psst! Santa ... It's available immediately on IIstreet Malaysia and authorised Acer resellers nationwide.









Spend a minimum of RM200 in any eCurve outlet from 25 November 2016 to 1 January 2017 and redeem your Christmas Cuddly Bear!*

*Maximum of 2 accumulated receipts. Terms & Conditions apply. While stocks last.



Damansara Entertainment Centre Sdn Bhd (547844-U) No.2A, Jalan PJU 7/3, Mutiara Damansara, 47810 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia. Info Counter: 603 7725 0277 Website: www.ecurve.my

Christmas Special

Good old-fashioned Christmas



SUNWAY Putra Mall invites you to get into the good old fashioned Christmas spirit this year. With decor showcasing 19th century red brick houses, Victorian-inspired decor and a horse carriage, getting into the charming festive mood there is easy.

In its programme and festivities, revelers will be treated to enigmatic and soulful Victorian carolers, story-telling sessions and the sharing of Christmas wish lists with good ol' jolly Santa Claus. There's also Kids Arts and Crafts workshops, free shoe polish service by The New Era Cobbler and even a Victorian lady walkabout spreading festive cheer at the weekends and on public holidays.

While immersing in the Christmas spirit of yesteryear, enjoy the exclusive promotions and seasonal specials available at the

main concourse and throughout the mall. Shoppers should look out for in-store redemptions that include show tickets to the extraordinary Live Year-End show Cirque Panda featuring high-flying acrobatics and award-winning acts at Sunway Lagoon as well as Parenthood Playland tickets and an exclusive notebook with a quill pen.
In the spirit of gift giving,

shoppers are encouraged to spread the love of reading by donating books at the Pre-loved Bookstore located at the main concourse. Besides books for donation, reading materials are also available for purchase in the store, ranging from RM5 to RM15. Additionally, shoppers and the public are welcome to make donations to The Salvation Army's Christmas Kettle in support of the poor during this festive season.



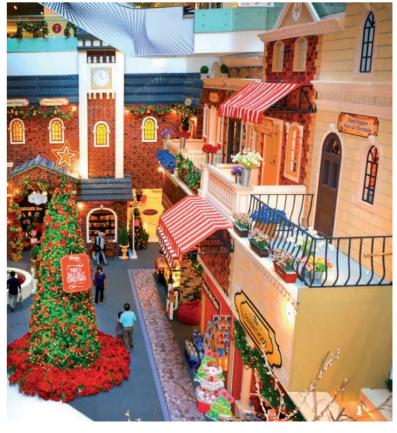
As Christmas takes place during the Malaysian Year End Sale, shoppers can also expect a wide array of promotions and discounts of up to 70% mall-wide. Sunway Putra Mall shares cheer and joy this season with Christmas festivities going on until Dec 27.

For more information please contact 03-2786 9300 or log onto the mall's web page.















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Grand celebration



THE Curve is sounding the trumpets and rolling out the red carpet this festive season for a noble celebration themed Princess Anastasia's Mesmerising Christmas Gala. With on-going festivities up until January I, patrons are in for a royal treat as the the Curve transforms its centre court to include a massive 4oft-tall indoor castle adorned with Christmas lights and trimmings.

Enter the castle gates, past the four ivory-and-blue towers and arrive at the majestic Royal Ballroom, which sets the stage for the Mesmerising Christmas Gala performance. Performed twice a day on weekends and public holidays (except on Dec 13), dancers will captivate the audience with their graceful dance routines and glittering costumes.

Santa Claus and his lovely



Santarinas who will also be doing their walkabout around the Curve spreading merriment and joy. In addition to all the exciting performances above, there's more to enjoy in the melodious tunes of classic Christmas medleys in The

Carol of Christmas performances. During this season of giving,

shoppers who spend a minimum of RM550 (RM500 for UOB card members) in a maximum of two receipts at any outlet in the Curve will be able to redeem a Kids Play

Tent, courtesy of the Curve. All redemptions are subject to terms and conditions, and while stocks last. For more information, contact the Curve customer care officers at 03-7710 6868 or visit the Curve's website or Facebook page.

Sugar and spice make Christmas nice

IT'S the school holidays once again and that time of the year when Christmas is just around the corner. With so much to be happy and thankful for, add "sugar and spice" to elevate the joy factor when you visit Malaysia's Largest Indoor Theme Park at Berjaya Times Square Theme Park.

This year end, let Professor Cosmo, Oorts and Ooops welcome you to experience the best of both worlds at the Galaxy Station and Fantasy Garden. Taking on the "Sugar & Spice Make Christmas Nice" theme this year - the theme park invites you to come and taste the sweetness of the season as you explore Candy Town, packed with sugary goodness and tons of fun-filled activities.

LET IT SNOW

Until Jan 2, 2017, come experience snow fall in the theme park daily at 2.30pm and 6pm. If you ever wondered if snowflakes can dance, drop by and see for yourself.



JINGLE MINGLE

Well, it is the season to be merry so come by and have a fun-tastic time mingling with Professor Cosmo, Oorts and Ooops as they put the groove in you to move to their fabulous dance medleys taking place daily at 2pm and 5.30pm.

CANDY TOWN PHOTO BOOTH

Get a free photo printout and capture memorable moments in Candy Town with the photo booth open daily from 11am to 5pm. To get a complimentary photo printout, simply LIKE the Berjava Times Square Theme Park Facebook page. Valid while stocks last, on a first-come, first-served basis.

CANDIES GALORE

Want to win a party for 20? Simply guess the amount of candies in the treasure box at the entrance of the theme park and stand a chance to win. Moreover, the winner also gets to keep ALL the treasured candies.

JUST BE-CLAUS GIFT

To add joy and an element of surprise this festive period, simply purchase Berjaya Times Square Theme Park Christmas "mystery bundle" for RM35. You will receive exclusive merchandise worth at least RM8o.

For more information on goings-on, schedules and additional information, log on to Berjaya Times Square Theme Park website, its Facebook page or call its customer service at 03-2117 3118.







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FREE Scratch & Win card with minimum ™50 spend

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SALE UP TO 50%



Mach 3 Sensitive/Turbo Razor NP: RM17.44 - RM17.80 each



Dettol Shower Foam 950ml + 250ml Gold (on pack) Range NP: RM19.99 each NOW: RM14.99 each



Roller Moist Cream 20g Range NP: RM73.90 each NOW: RM55.42 each





Fluocaril Toothpaste 100g Range NP: RM12.90 - RM14.90 each NOW: RM10.32 - RM11.92 each



Banana Boat Sunscreen Range NP: RM20.50 - RM56.50 each



100% Pure Tea Tree Oil 10ml NP: RM14.43



Cetaphil Baby Ultra Moist Wash Promo Pack Range



BUY 2 AT

7 Days Mask 1s Range NP: RM18.90 each



Playboy Men/Women EDT 50ml Range NP: RM39.90 each PWP: RM27.93 each

FREE Baby Cutlery (off pack) NP: RM51.88 - RM79.38 each



Biogrow Oat Bg22 Powder 480g NP: RM61.38 each



Plus Vanilla Flavor 900g FREE Guardian RM5 Voucher NP: RM72.98



Sebamed Liquid Face & Body Wash 1L FREE Liquid Wash 200ml + Lotion 15ml + Liquid 20ml (on pack)



Fish Oil 1g 120s Pack-of-3



Capsules 100s Pack-of-2

Limited to 3 units per item, per receipt. While stocks last.







Sunsilk

Shampoo/Conditioner

320ml Range NP: RM13.85 each







Christmas Special

Much to celebrate at Avenue K

WITH Christmas just around the corner, Avenue K Shopping Mall is all set to warm the hearts of shoppers with its classic festive

celebrations.
Inspired by a Christmas village, the mall presents visitors an "Enchanting Christmasville" theme beautifully decked out in full swing at its ground floor atrium. From a classic English railway station and clock tower to pretty poinsettias and attractively decorated shopping kiosks among

a sea of evergreen Christmas trees, festive baubles and fairy lights. Enchanting Christmasville is more than a sight to behold. Children and adults can enjoy express train rides for free when they spend RM250 and above in a single receipt. Alternatively tickets for rides can be purchased at RM5 per ride. As part of the mall's CSR endeavour, a portion of proceeds will go towards the Living Hope Shelter for children.

Visitors to the mall can also take joy in the many promotions and bargains offered at the festive kiosks selling all sorts of Chrsitmas paraphernalia, foodstuff, toys, beauty and health products, home furnishing and decorative ornaments. Christmas essentials can also be found at the festive bazaar among other knick-knacks.

Says the mall's deputy general manager Phang Sze Sze, the English theme was taken on as many were mesmerised by their childhood often fantasised in English storybooks that often depicted the English-themed Christmas. Moreover, Avenue K recently ran a campaign called "The



Great Britain Festival at AK". "Christmas is also the best time to bring families and loved ones

together in the spirit of celebration," Phang added, encouraging visitors to reunite, create lasting memories and fulfil their Christmas shopping wants and needs at Avenue K.

For the list of exciting activities and schedule of Avenue K's musical production "Enchanting Christmas Musical Showcase", carolling, Jazz band showcase, Children's Showtime, magical snowfall and more, visit the mall's website or call 03-2168 7888.

Shoppers get to redeem a Christmas Sock filled with goodies when they spend RM550 and above (RM500 for Visa credit/debit card holders) across not more than two receipts. Spend RM650 or more across two receipts and stand to win a pair of return trips to London on British Airways, a weekend Mini drive experience, return tickets to Macau and Bali on







AirAsia plus other fabulous prizes worth over RM100,000 when you take part in the Enchanting Christmasville Top Spender Lucky Draw. Free gift wrapping service is also available at the information counter on the ground floor upon purchase of RM300 and above across two receipts of the same day.











The Lightweight With A Powerful Punch

At 9.98mm the Acer Swift 7 is the thinnest¹ laptop in the Acer range. With 9 hours² of battery life, you'll have immense power in your hands.

Swift 7

- 7th Gen Intel[®] Core™ i5 processor Windows 10 Home 8GB DDR3L
- 256GB SSD 13.3" Full HD IPS (1920x1080) Corning® Gorilla® Glass

Intel Inside®. Extraordinary Performance Outside.















¹ Based on a July 1, 2016 comparison of Windows OS and OSX clamshell laptops that were available on the market.

²Battery life varies depending on power settings and usage.

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Christmas special

Holly jolly festive time

FESTIVITY is in the air as Christmas gets closer and folks are bustling about in preparation. At Evolve Concept Mall the festive spirit is seen in the decor and design, along with the line-up of holiday events and activities.

Come by and see how Santa and his elves have decked the interiors and put some magical yuletide colours and charm to enhance the spirit of the season. There are lots of fun and photo-worthy backdrops to get creative and snap festive pictures against. Meant to deliver a sensational experience that will put anyone into the festive mood – families are invited to come by and celebrate the holly jolly season and indulge in the plethora of festive fun waiting to be had.

From holiday-themed

performances, seasonal craft making sessions and culinary workshops, there's also the Christmas Marketplace where you can get all your festive essentials. For those looking to decorate their living and working spaces to the yuletide theme, indulge in the wide range of festive decorations and ornaments available at the marketplace.

On Dec 18, come and share the joy of Christmas with children and senior citizens, especially those spending Christmas alone or required to rely on the charity of others. Together with Evolve Concept Mall and Voices of Charity, let's make brighter the lives of these forlorn individuals through the "Spread the Joy of Christmas" experience.



From Dec 16 to 18, shoppers can also indulge in festive giving via the "Festive Season and Charity Bazaar". Make purchases of toys, books, art and craft essentials, fashion and homemade goods and help spread awareness on the charitable organisations that will be present to share their cause.

Other interesting festive and holiday activities include photography sessions with Santa and Santarina on Dec 24 and 25, Holly Jolly Christmas Sax Ensemble on Dec 24 and 25, and Holly Jolly Christmas Dance Performance on Dec 25.

For more information, dates and time schedules, visit the mall's website or its Facebook page.









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ENCHANTING CHRISTMASVILL Gift Redemption

Spend RM 550 & above (RM500 & above for

Visa Credit / Debit Cardholders)

in a maximum of 2 combined receipts on the same day to redeem an exclusive AK Christmas Sock filled with goodies.**

**Images featured are solely for illustration purposes

ENCHANTING CHRISTMASVILLE TOP SPENDER

Stand a chance to win fabulous prizes worth RM 100,000 when you spend RM 650 & above in a maximum of 2 combined receipts on the same day.*

Joyful **FESTIVITIES**

Don't miss the Enchanting Christmas Musical Showcase every weekend till 25 December 2016.

Hop on board the AK Express Train Ride when you shop and dine in Avenue K. Enjoy 1 FREE ride (1 adult or 1 child) with a minimum spend of RM 250 & above in a single receipt on the same day.*

*Terms and conditions apply.

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Merry tunes and festive cheer

VISIT Berjaya Times Square this Christmas and festive season and delight in its showcase called "A Musical Extravaganza". Said to be a musical experience like none before, the production spreads cheer and promises an unforgettable experience.

MUSIC FOR THE HEART
Adding to the festive merriment are Santa and Santarina in the Saxophonic Christmas perfomring jazzy classics and contemporary carols to enhance the festive mood.

LITTLE MUSICIANS

Watch and support the little ones in their performances by The Abundant Music Art School on Dec 4; Mont' Kiara International School on Dec 6; and Musica Academy on Dec 18. Christmas Concerts will be showcased on the second floor East.

BUILD IT TO PLAY IT

Shoppers are encouraged to redeem a DIY miniature piano to discover the musician inside. Just spend a minimum of RM150 in no more than four receipts of the same day and enjoy countless hours of delight "putting the pieces together". Redemptions are limited and while stocks last.

SINGING CAROLS FINALE The main highlight of Berjaya

Times Square's Christmas campaign is its social initiative to bring cheer to the hearing-impaired community. Come by and learn to "sign" as sign language trainers will be on hand to teach patrons how to communicate using sign language. The result of this amazing endeavour is a Christmas Carol





performance alongside 50 children and adults from the YMCA Pusat MajuDiri "Y" For The Deaf. A











#GRATEFULATBTS

Partake in this contest by Berjaya Times Square on Facebook and Instagram by following these simple steps.

- Step 1 Snap and post an awesome picture of yourself among the mall's Christmas decoration on FB or Insta.
- Step 2 Remember to set your post to public and use these magic hashtags #GratefulAtBTS #BTSKL
- **Step 3** Send in your best caption on why you are grateful for this moment in less than 20 words.

For performance dates and times and additional information, log on to the Berjaya Times Square website, its Facebook page or Instagram via Berjaya Times Square KL.



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Meaningful gift and giving

EVERY year at Christmas, people are bustling about searching high and low for that perfect gift to present to family members, loved ones and close friends. In your hunt for the perfect gift, Guardian. together with La Gourmet and the National Autism Society Of Malaysia (NASOM), present "the perfect gift" for the season.

Beautifully designed by Akhtar, a talented autistic young man who

gourme

speaks through his art, is a La Gourmet collection built to last yet made from ecofriendly materials. This particular collection $designed \ by \ him$



- Vacuum flask of superior quality.
- Keeps hot or cold between six and eight hours.
- **▶** Protective scratchresistant film on exterior.
- ▶ 100% leak and spill proof. BPA-free and US FDA and CE approved.

Comes with a five-year warranty.

Sales of products from this collection sold only at Guardian will see proceeds going to NASOM in support of Akhtar and the autistic community.

The La Gourmet-Nasom campaign only available at Guardian runs until Dec 31, 2016. Simply follow these



steps to become a proud owner of one of these items:

Step 1 – Spend RM20 and receive one stamp.

Step 2 – Collect five stamps.

Step 3 – Redeem any La Gourmet thermal limitededition series as mentioned above from as low as RM49.90.

- ▶ La Gourmet o.35L One Touch Thermal Hydration Flask at RM49.90
- La Gourmet o.5L Thermal Tumbler at RM59.90
- La Gourmet o.5L Thermal Food Mug at RM64.90

Gift for keeps

A Swiss brand founded in 1918 by Georges Schaeren the name Mido comes from the Spanish word "yo mido" which means "I measure". And Mido surely does measure up to the essence behind its Swiss-made philosophy depicting captivating aesthetics, authencity and functionality.

This Christmas, set eyes on the Ocean Star Captain Titanium that is ultimately light yet uncompromisingly robust. Designed for conquering depths

with its satin-finish and polished titanium case and bracelet that is water-resistant to 20 bars (66oft/200m), this is the perfect watch for diving enthusiasts and seafarers, plus the outdoor and nature buff always on the lookout for an adventure.

Built to withstand any storm, the Ocean Star Captain Titanium is fitted with the latest generation automatic movement, the Caliber 80 known for reliability and accuracy. The uncluttered grained anthracite dial with generous hints of Super-LumiNova on the indexes and hour, minute and second hands give easy readability of time whether underwater or at night.



Measuring 42.55mm in diameter with up to 80 hours or power reserve, the Ocean Star Captain Titanium bears a sporty outlook with its orange-coloured hints on its dial, bezel and second hand reflecting the Mido identity's sporty spirit. The caseback bears a starfish - the symbol reflective throughout the Ocean Star collection that also speaks ultra hip, modern style and a "quiet

strength" that appeals and attract.
The Ocean Star Captain Titanium comes in five other versions. Mido is part of the Swatch Group. It is available at all 2,700 official retailers across 70 countries. For more, visit www.mido.my

Free! (non-member) or RM200 (member) Evolve Concep Mall Stores to redeem an **Exclusive Limited Edition** EVOLVE

Christmas Market Place

25 November - 31 December

Gifting with the Festive Season and Charity Bazaar from 16 - 18 Dec, where they can purchase toys, books, arts, crafts, fashion and homemade goods for family and friends.

Festive Season & Charity Bazaar

16. 17 & 18 December

Host of holiday activities such as holiday-themed performances, seasonal crafts and culinary workshops, Christmas Market, charity events and also the arrival of Santa Clause.

Spread the Joy of Christmas

18 December

Charitable organizations participating in the bazaar to spread awareness about their cause.

Children Christmas Arts & **Crafts Holiday Workshop**

3,10,17,24 & 25 December | 2:00pm

3 Dec – Paper Plate Snowman

25 Dec - Candy Cane Reindeer

10 Dec - Reindeer Lollipop

17 Dec – Glass Candy Container

24 Dec - Dried Pasta Ornament

Xmas Junior Chef Holiday Workshop

4, 11, 12 & 18 December | 2:00pm

4 Dec - Non-Bake Oreo Bar Making

11 Dec – Christmas Bread Workshop

12 Dec - Cookies Pop Decoration

18 Dec - Cupcake Decoration

- * FREE for all children aged 4 and above
- * Pre-registration required
- * Limited space only

Holly Jolly Christmas Sax Ensemble

24 December | 12:00pm & 3:00pm

25 December | 12:00pm & 2:30pm

Santa Clause & Santa Rina Walkabout

24 December 12:00pm 25 December | 2:30pm

Holly Jolly Christmas Dance Performance

25 December | 12:00pm

Events are subject to change without prior notice. Terms and conditions apply

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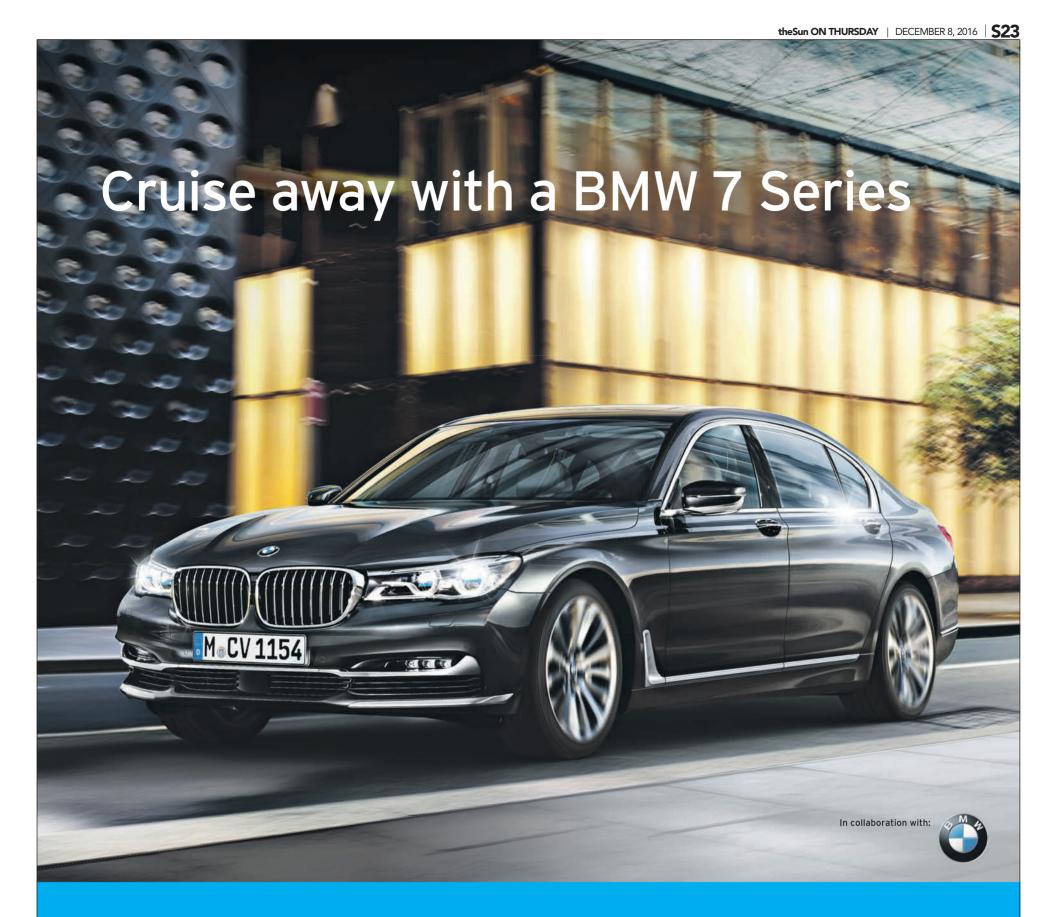
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Charming interiors with Metrojaya

Metrojaya has long been known for providing homemakers and interior decorators, along with the fashion conscious set with options galore. This festive occasion, indulge in the wide and varied options available to one and all.

With so many sets and styles to dress interiors with, check out the trend for this year at Living Quarters. This festive time, transform houses to become homes by giving interiors a rustic warmth feel with the classic country cottage array of Christmas decor and themed tableware.

Complete with burnished silver and gold ornaments, miniature trees and pine cones, charming crystal candle holders and matching furnishings. Let interiors glisten and glow with charm and and charisma that leave guests oohing and aahing about the captivating setting.



Once again it is that time of year to enjoy and celebrate with family, relatives and close friends. So take some time to make home a little more special for a memorable time against a backdrop put together by virtue of time, effort and lots of



















and discover the secret tune within.*

Get yours today when you spend a minimum of RM150 in no more than 4 receipts. Valid while stocks last.



spirit of Christmas with us!

Performances are scheduled every weekend from now till 25 Dec 2016.





BerjayaTimesSquareKL

Check out our pages, and stand a chance to bring home this season's hottest gadgets,



*Terms and conditions apply. For more details, visit www.berjayatimessquarekl.com



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BY ALYSSA JOON

WHEN Christmas comes around, the same playlist of tunes is broadcasted at shopping malls and on radio stations. It's not unusual to hear songs with lyrics on silver bells, sleighs drawn by reindeer and white snow as it has been universally acknowledged for the longest time, that these songs are Christmas songs, hence, is what Christmas is about.

The truth is, there are many popular "songs of the season" that have zero relevance to the festive celebration itself. Here is our take on such "Christmas carols":



JINGLE BELLS

Originally published under the title "One Horse Open Sleigh", composer James Lord Pierpont wrote the popular song in the autumn of 1857. It tells the tale of a man riding a horse-drawn sleigh with his love interest, a certain Miss Fanny Bright at his side. The narrator eventually loses control of his sleigh and falls into a snowy ditch, where his rival proceeds to howl in laughter at the spectacle before riding off on his own sleigh - as narrated in the commonly excluded third verse of the carol. Pierpont then ends the song with a verse giving advice on proper equestrianism. The word "bells" in the title however, refer to the act of adorning the horses' harnesses with bells in order to avoid collision at blind corners. The rhythm of the song mimics the sound of the bells jingling when the horse trots.

So much for a song that has any relevance to the upcoming festive occasion - pertaining horses, jingling bells, being amused by someone who falls off his sleigh and such.



WINTER WONDERLAND

Another famous carol shares a whimsical tale of wintertime but with a dark history behind it. The lyricist of "Winter Wonderland" is Richard "Dick" Smith. While recovering from tuberculosis. Smith spends time to watching children play in the snow at a nearby park. Combining what he saw with his own memories of snow flurry playtime, he wrote a song and added an element of romance to it. Smith presented the lyrics to Felix Bernard who then composed a cheery tune to complement the lyrics. The Richard Himber Orchestra eventually picked up on the tune and recorded the song. Musician Guy Lombardo heard it and produced his own version. The song hit number two on the charts which during the Christmas



season, hence, it was "cemented" as a festive carol. Although the Winter Wonderland continued to snowball and receive tremendous success, spawning covers by a range of artistes over the years, Smith lived long enough only to see it working its way up until Lombardo's time. Smith passed on in the fall of the following year.

Not bad in terms of tune and lyrics considering certain countries where Christmases are celebrated against a "white" backdrop, yet, no relevance at all to the real meaning of Christmas.

FROSTY THE SNOWMAN

Sadly, the tale of everyone's

favourite snowman Frosty,

really has no mention of

Christmas in its original version. Written by Jack

Rollins and Steve Nelson -

person reported to record the

song. Autry had had previous

the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and

research, Autry had wanted a song that would be a "non-seasonal hit". Unfortunately,

that wish did not materialise

as the song made it to the top

Gene Autry was the first

seasonal hits with "Here

(for Easter). According to

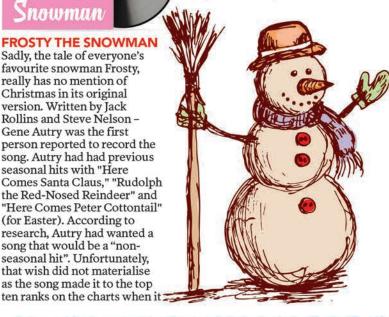


Good on Frosty and the likes of snowmen and snow-covered cities during Christmas, yet, still no relevance to Christmas.



LET IT SNOW

On the contrary, the song "Let It Snow" made it to become the popular song it is today due to lyricist Sammy Cahn and



in this carol.

song in 1944 and premiered it with his wife Lynn, who was a former nightclub singer, at their Navarro Hotel in New York housewarming party. The duet soon became a hit that the Loesser pair

were said to be invited to many more parties to perform it.

Their son John Loesser said in an interview with The Palm Beach Post on Dec 7, 2010: "If you were invited to a party, you were expected to sing for your supper. Oscar Levant, Roger Edens, Harry Warren - they all did it. But the song was a private social piece for parties. My mother just loved

Nevertheless, for those who do not celebrate the real and religious significance of Christmas, these "carols" would surely make the festive occasion a lot more merrier, if not the lyrics, at least the tunes.

BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE





Options galore at Wangsa Walk

WANGSA Walk Mall invites its shoppers to celebrate the festive season via its Christmas musical performance entitled "A Musical Christmas Story".

Besides the spectacular show, shoppers can indulge in a variety of programmes and activities lined up for the month of December 2016 right up to early January 2017. Enjoy photo sessions with loved ones at the Christmas Snap Shot on Dec 4, II and 24.

Then let your children participate in the contests and creative activities to showcase their talent and win some prizes. There is also a sensational variety of shows to enjoy at the Concourse I from Dec 4 to Dec 31, ranging from traditional caroling to the Joyful Elves Dance Performance.

MSL Properties Sdn Bhd retail mall general manager Foong Meng Khum shared the reason for this year's musical theme. "This holiday season, we're positive that our Wangsa Walk Mall's A Musical Christmas Story will delight shoppers of all ages, not just the children.

In Malaysia there's no chance of experiencing a 'Winter Christmas' at all, but we've managed to transform the mall into a winter musical wonderland for the holidays. In addition, we have a list of exciting, family-oriented Christmas and New Year events planned to make this festive season an unforgettable one for all our



customers. Come with your loved ones and see it for yourself," he said. Besides activities, shoppers can treat themselves to the many F&B Christmas Special deals offered by Hokkaido Baked Cheese Tart, The Manhattan Fish Market, Texas Chicken, BBQ Chicken, Absolute Thai, Aryan Corner, CampurCampur, Lecka-Leka and Ice Cream Village, among other food outlets.

For those looking to do their festive shopping, drop by the Christmas bazaar at Concourse I and 2 from Dec 3, 2016 to Jan 2, 2017 to enjoy great deals, discounts and bargains. Supreme Home, Playboy Boutique, Princess, Gintell and Hugo Clothier are only some of many more offers to get you the best buys. Tech savvy individuals can visit IT@The Walk offering an array of the latest technical gadgets and accessories at competitive prices.

Those up for a challenge can partake in the "Christmas Snowball Redemption Challenge" and stand to win some Christmas gifts when they spend RM50 and above in a single receipt at any outlet. The contest runs until Jan 2, 2017 and takes place in front of Cold Storage.

Wangsa Walk also provides shoppers with seasonal lifestyle and entertainment options to enjoy hours of fun and excitement.

Watch a movie with family or friends at TGV, enjoy bowling at Wangsa Bowl and have a whale of a time or opt for some leisure pursuit at Wangsa Leisure Amusement Station – there are loads of avenues for a good time. Fitness buffs can also enjoy a sweat out session burning all the festive calories they've indulged in at Celebrity Fitness.

For more information, visit Wangsa Walk's website.



Christmas SPECIAL

X'mas embellishments and their significance

FESTIVITIES are a time when families, friends and loved ones gather. Drawing people together, these occasions often see gatherings where more often than not, stories of the past pop up. While reminiscing the good old days of yore, here are some snippets of interesting information that could make lovely conversation pieces, especially during this Christmas season.

The ringing of a bell is said to serve as a meditative trigger, calling one to calm down, look inward and awake a higher awareness. Bells of old were also ancient symbols of protection and ringing them was a way of warding off negativity. In medieval days, bells were said to be a form of communication, a sound that gathered large crowds together. At Christmas, bells are said to symbolise festive joy. Some claim that the shape of the bell is reminiscent to heaven's dome. In Christianity, ringing of the bell marks a sacred announcement during service at church, rung to signify a particular part of the mass order, to bow or kneel.

For Buddhists, sounding of the bell is said to resonate wisdom, symbolising harmony, balance and clarity. Apparently, in some churches, Easter was a three-bell



event while Christmas was a four-bell event, hence, its significance during this festive celebration

FLOWERS

There are many flowers that make its presence at Christmas. One such is the Christmas Poinsettia siad to come in various colours and shades like red, burgundy, pink, white, yellow, peach and lilac, even marbled and spotted poinsettias. Most significant during Christmas are red poinsettias. Ancient Aztecs were said to refer to the flower as Cuitlaxochitl which means "star flower" and symbolised purity. The flower is said to have come from Mexico, called Taxco del Alarcon by the people there. Reports claim the plant became famous when the first ambassador from US to Mexico, Joel Roberts Poinsett, became very interested in the plant and sent some back to South Carolina, where he started growing them and sending them to friends and botanical gardens. The plant is said to make its appearance at Christmas because it is thought to be symbolic of the Star of

Bethlehem and the red colour, the blood of Christ, the white leaves, representing his purity. The poinsettia is the national emblem of Madagascar.

CANDY CANES

According to a German folklore, a choir master at Cologne Cathedral wanted a remedy for the noisy children that would disrupt the "Living Creche" tradition on Christmas Eve. He asked the local candy maker to create some sweet sticks that could satisfy the children. The choirmaster added in some changes of his

own such as adjoining a

shepherd's crook at the top of the stick and adding meaning to the white colour, to justify the handing out of candies during a church service. These surely got the children quiet, but for a while. The tradition of presenting candy canes during the re-enaction of the Nativity eventually spread to other

parts of Europe. However, others relate the candy cane to the name "Jesus" as the shape of the cane forms the letter "J", and it is His birth that Christians celebrate at Christmas.

CONTINUED ON PAGE S29 ▶









Christmas SPECIAL

► FROM PAGE S28

CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS

The Christmas stocking became a tradition inspired by the legend of Saint Nicholas' generosity. According to the story, a widower was worried about his three unmarried daughters who were of age to tie the knot but remained eligible as they were of poor status. Saint Nicholas heard about the family's situation and decided to slip down the chimney of the family's house and filled the girls' socks with gold. This act deemed the daughters' "worthy" and soon got them married, putting their father's anxiety at ease. The legend soon spread and grew to see children hanging up huge stockings in the hope that Santa (or Saint Nicholas) would come by and fill their stocking with gifts, if not gold. This tradition is mostly practised in Western countries where children would hang their stocking at the fireplace. In Western tradition, it is also believed that children who were "good" throughout the year, would receive gifts while the "naughty" ones will find a



piece of coal in their sock.

Ever wondered why cakehouses and bakeries often sell yule log cakes at Christmas? And restaurants would decorate buffet spread tables with magnificent desserts or breads in yule log shape? Well, legend has it that the yule log, which is of the Ash tree, is thought to have protective qualities, particularly protective of children. According to Nordic tradition, a piece of yule log saved from the winter solstice is also used to burn newer logs. The symbolic meaning behind the yule log that is revered is its significance to the continuity of life, renewal and sunlight from the darkness. The largest end of the log would be placed in the fire hearth and the fire is said to remain throughout the twelve days of Christmas. Generally, the logs were burnt to keep the inhabitants of the house safe and festive merriment rife





CRIB AND NATIVITY PLAY

Christians around the world will usually convene at church to celebrate Christmas mass and the birth of Jesus. While most churches would celebrate one main service, complete with the re-enactment of the birth of Christ - not everyone will attend this service (as other masses will be said).

However, it has been tradition for some Christian families to attend the midnight Christmas mass where the nativity play is usually played out. Some say it brings more meaning to the festive and religious occasion. Though not an obligation to witness the nativity play - it is a significant part of the religious celebration. Some however, put up a crib in their homes, as a reminder that Christmas is not merely about buying and exchanging of gifts, shopping, huge dinners, parties, merry making and over-indulging, instead a time to reflect and come together with family, friends and loved ones to celebrate the Saviour's birth, which proclaims "love".



FESTIVE SALE

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24cm steamer

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RM38.70

COMPLIMENTARY

CASH VOUCHER with every RM100 nett purchase from the Cosmetics & Fragrances department from now till 31 Dec 2016.

Not available on 10 - 12 Dec, 24 - 26 Dec & 31 Dec - 2 Jan 2017

voucher **RM30** **COMPLIMENTARY**

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Christmas Special

Starbucks'seasonal traditions

FOR coffee lovers, the holiday season only begins when the iconic red cups arrive at Starbucks stores.

First introduced in 1997, the red cup has evolved over the years to include varying designs that are meant to invoke the festive feeling which is also why fans were upset when the cups in 2015 rolled out design free. However, something even more beautiful resulted from those blank red cups and the people's despair.

PARTY OF SIX

This is the first time since 1997, the iconic red cups will feature designs created with love by Starbucks' customers. At Starbucks Malaysia, coffee lovers can sip from cups sporting one of the six varying designs.

▶ Birds & Flowers by Florencia (Bandung, Indonesia)

The nature-inspired design is of a bird in a field of magnolia flowers and berries. The magnolia symbolises friends and love while the hedge sparrow represents faith and creativity. Florencia hopes to inspires people to joyfully love life and be creative, even in tough times

► Holiday Lights by Maria Lauren (New York City, United States)

An aspiring artist, Maria loves creating bold, graphic patterns. The inspiration for this design was taken from the beautiful lights on her very own Christmas tree.

► Birch Forest by Chloe (Illinois, United States)

The nurse aide created the wintery design using acrylic paint. To her, the sight of bare trees covered in snow is a beautiful sight that reminds her of home.

Candy Canes by Jennifer

(Seattle, United States) Jennifer has illustrated several colouring books during her career as a professional artist. Using a common holiday icon, the candy canes are merged with botanical patterns in a cohesive, symmetrical design that captures the spirit of the holiday season.

► Graphic Swirls by Erica (Ontario, Canada)

The paralegal graduate was helping her sister recover from knee surgery when she playfully doodled on her holiday cup with swirls. The cup was a switch from the usual colouring they did together for a whole month.

Snowflake Sweater by Alisa (St Petersburg, Russia)

Drinking a gingerbread latte put Alisa in a holiday mood, which then inspired her to doodle on her Starbucks cup for the first time. Her design features snowflakes and











reindeers on cosy sweater.

FAMILIAR FLAVOURS

The holiday season is never the same without familiar handcrafted holiday beverages from Starbucks. And this year, a new flavour makes an appearance.

Starbucks Teavana Red **Ribbon Green Tea Latte**

The velvety green tea is combined with a splash of sweet, tangy pomegranate juice to create a very localised flavour. The drink is topped with milk foam and ruby red pomegranate drizzle.

Starbucks Toffee Nut Crunch Latte

Half of the duo of returning flavours, the latte is back with an all-new crunch topping that blends well with the espresso and steamed milk accented with subtle but sweet caramel. The beverage is topped off with whipped cream.

Starbucks Peppermint Mocha The other half of the duo is a blend of espresso and steamed milk sweetened with flavours of chocolate and peppermint. It is finished off with whipped cream, mocha drizzle and candy cane pieces.

FESTIVE GOODIES

Also available in stores is the festive Holiday Blend. Since 1984, Starbucks has showcased its artistry in roasting and blending with the special Holiday Blend.

The 2016 blend is made with aged rare Sumatran beans. During the resting period of five years, the beans develop a cedary, deep and earthy flavour. The beans are then mixed with carefully selected

robust coffee beans from Asia-Pacific and vibrant coffee beans of Latin America to deliver a full-bodied coffee that offers layers of spiciness and sweetness. which pairs well with a variety of foods.

Customers with a stronger palate may want to try the deeper Starbucks Holiday Blend Espresso Roast. Have it alongside the Starbucks signature Espresso Roast in

handcrafted espresso beverages this season. For those with a pension for milder tastes, the Starbucks Holiday Blend Blonde Roast has a more subtle flavour profile.

OF GIVING AND RECEIVING

"I'm delighted that the holiday season has arrived in our stores again, a special time at Starbucks with tastes and experiences that inspire our partners and customers. We are honored to be a part of our customers' yearly holiday tradition in Malaysia," said Starbucks Malaysia and Brunei managing director Sydney Quays.

"Our customers highly anticipate our seasonal beverages, and this year we offer a delicious mix of returning favorites and new handcrafted beverages - celebrating the best of the season with them."

This festive time, don't forget to check out the wide range of merchandise that could make great Christmas and festive gifts. From ceramic mugs, traveller double-wall ceramic mugs, double-wall and vacuum-sealed tumblers, holiday ornaments and festive boy and girl Bearista Bears - there is something for everyone, including Starbucks' cards that bear attractive festive designs, not forgetting its special anniversary card.



THIS year Swatch brings you a Seasons Special gift that offers a beautiful and utterly attractive limited and numbered edition God Jul watch, paired with a pair of Swatch The Eyes sunglasses called The Eyes of Santa. These make the perfect gift for that perfect couple this Christmas.

STORY OF THE MISSING GIFT

According to a Scandinavian Winter's tale by Swatch, the air was freezing cold as trees were covered with fluffy layers of white snow. This was the landscape in a faraway village north of Scandinavia.

During this time, villagers were bustling about preparing for the upcoming festivities. Cosy wooden houses were decorated with red-ribboned wreaths and the smell of homemade gingerbread cookies filled the air.

Everyone was happily bustling about and so was Magnus, but in a different way. Magnus the village postman was stressed out because he had lost a parcel while making his deliveries the day before. He was worried

that someone would not be getting their gift under their Christmas tree this year and they'd be in despair, due to his negligence.

He backtracked and looked everywhere, desperately trying to catch sight of that missing box and deliver it in time for the big celebration.

DISCOVERING JOY

Just when he was about to give up, Magnus discovered it under a huge fir tree, almost covered in snow. Overjoyed, he grabbed it and checked the address. To his astonishment, he discovered his own name and address on the

label. He couldn't believe that he had lost and found his own present and was curious to find out its

> contents. He opened it right away, only to find a box in the shape of a house. On opening it, he saw the most beautiful watch he had ever laid eyes

The iridescent foil on the dial reminded him of the Northern Lights he loved so



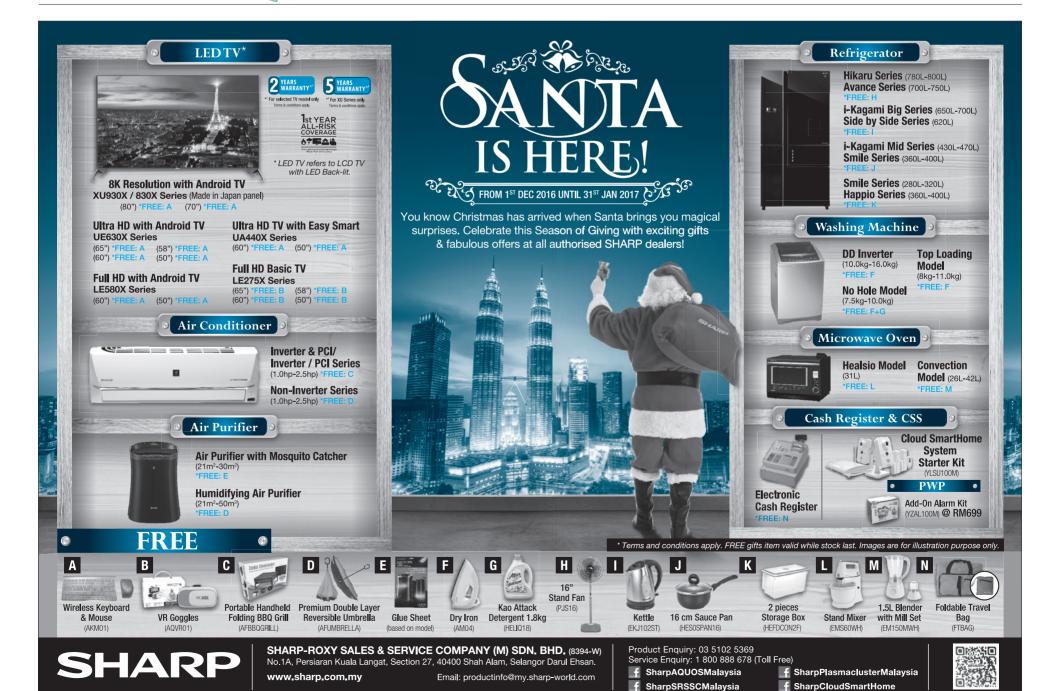
much. The strap featured snowflake motifs in white against a baby blue background. It was the perfect gift for the postman who was always a little tight on time.

In the box, Magnus also found the loveliest pair of sunglasses, bearing designs of glittery powder

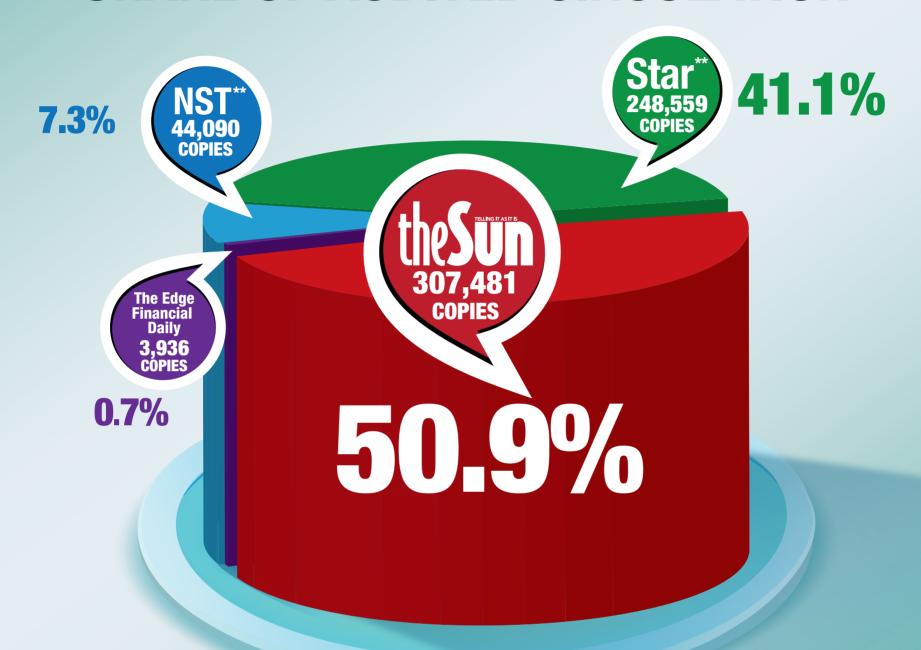
snow, which he thought would look amazing on his wife. Indeed, Magnus went home the happiest man on earth, or at least in northern Scandinavia.

For more, visit your nearest Swatch authorised dealer or log on to the Swatch Group website.





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