

### **Christmas and New Year Gadgets**

Last year in my Christmas gadgets column I focused on the “ultimate” Christmas gadgets. This year I am focusing on those that are a bit more accessible to us all (well, apart from the first gadget which is only accessible to those with around €100,000 to spare)....

I am sure a lot of you have seen the JetLev water jet pack that was in my Christmas column last year being demonstrated in a number of locations from Port Adriano, to Antibes and, just this last week, in Falmouth Harbour at the Antigua Charter Show. And where did you see it first? In this column in the Islander!! Always the first with the latest technology!



### **Mophie Juice Pack**

My first affordable, functional and not outrageous gadget for this year is the Mophie Juice Pack for smartphones and tablets. I have had one of these since mid 2012 and it is so brilliant that many of my colleagues and friends who have seen it now have one of their own. Basically it is a good looking protective cover for the phone which provides you with double the charge of the standard battery. I do a lot of travelling, and don't have to worry about charging my phone when on the move. Instead of having to charge my phone every 24 hours, with this Juice Pack I can go for 72 hours – one less thing to worry about.



The only very minor downside is that I used to be able to identify my iPhone at a glance by the slightly chunkier profile, but now all my mates have the same cover, it's not quite so simple!

The website is [www.mophie.com](http://www.mophie.com). Buy on-line or from Dixon's at London Gatwick for about €90.



## Stressberry

If you are still using a Blackberry and are feeling a little stressed at the news that Research in Motion (owners of Blackberry) are in financial difficulties, then here's something to relieve your stress...

Yes, all you need is the aptly named Stressberry!

So instead of damaging your Blackberry, which you wouldn't want to replace, you can unleash your stress on a Stressberry instead?

Based on the popular smartphone, this soft version can be stretched, twisted, punched and thrown. Not a broken phone in sight.



### Features:

- Suitable for all professions and all ages from 3+
- Helps enhance an image of maturity and lack of tech savvy
- Fits more easily in tight pockets
- Goes through airport security like a dream
- No "bill shock" roaming bills!
- Unlike other smartphones, never needs recharging!

It's the cheapest smartphone around for only €7.75 from [www.iwantoneofthose.com](http://www.iwantoneofthose.com).

Talking about Blackberrys has reminded me of one of the funniest YouTube videos "My Blackberry isn't working" with Harry Enfield and Ronnie Corbett. It's priceless.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kAG39jKi0II>

My next Christmas treat is for all golfers everywhere. This is quite difficult to believe, but it is actually for real. I am not convinced of its mass market appeal as it is directed at weak-bladdered men who regularly play golf on a course without trees, undergrowth, walls or buildings – I can't think of any!

### It's the UroClub!

The sales blurb reads:

*How many times has this happened? You're playing 18 holes with your best buddies, drinking sports-ades, water, beer etc. You're coming up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> hole with no rest room in sight. There are no trees or bushes around and you just have to go. What are you going to do?*

*The UroClub is the discreet sanitary way for your urgent relief. Created by a Board Certified Urologist, it looks like an ordinary golf*

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*club, but contains a reservoir built into the grip into which you relieve yourself under a towel. The UroClub is leak proof, easy to clean and no more embarrassing moments!!!!*

When reading this, my initial response would be:

1. It's never happened to me before as I can usually get past the 3<sup>rd</sup>. If it did, there are usually bushes and trees around to use.
2. What is sports-ade and what is water?
3. Make sure you take a leak before you leave the club house.
4. Your buddies would literally "take the p\*\*\*" unmercilessly if you used one of these!



I think it could be more useful in reverse as a rather long "yard of ale" or "hip/shaft flask".

Take a look at the website [www.uroclub.com](http://www.uroclub.com) as there are some very entertaining instructional videos. The badly photo-shopped photo has had all the trees removed!

My next find isn't really a gadget at all and I suppose the last wasn't either, but it just amused me that someone had thought to do this. For those of you who enjoy embarrassing your teenage kids, this is a special! Do you remember the slippers I found a few years back with built in headlights that lit up to guide you to the bathroom in the dark – well these fall into the same category...

### **Silly Socks**

Friends, colleagues, dads take note. Don a pair of Silly Sock Sandals and you can instantly get the "tourist abroad" look all year round.

A great stocking filler, the perfect gift for dad features a brown sandal strap design complete with a realistic black sole. Now the sun doesn't even have to be out for you to get the socks and sandals look! Excellent sartorial complement for the UroClub golfer! One size fits all. Google Silly Socks.



Let's get back to technological gadgets. My last two are proper gadgets. The first is a perfect present for the wizard in your life. It's an amazing Wand Remote Control with which you can control your TV and most other remotely controlled devices.

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## Wand Remote Control.

Ever since Harry Potter flew into our lives some 15 years ago, many of us have secretly yearned to be part of the magical world of Witchcraft and Wizardry and this wand brings you a step nearer.

Cast spells to control the TV: flick from channel to channel, control the volume and much more. All you have to do is **train your wand into learning these commands**, so you will soon be turning your TV on and off with a flick of the wand, and twisting it to adjust the volume. In all there are 13 different motions to learn, and each one can be given a separate task to complete.



I can imagine it must be fun when you're merrily commanding all and sundry around you. The hi-fi, the TV, the computer, the lights, anything that needs flicking on or off in the room can be controlled by a wave of your wand.

Alternatively paint it white to look like a conductor's baton and give it to the control freak in your life.

Finally, the perfect present for all my fellow members of the Mallorca Classic Car Lunch Club!

## The Handpresso Auto

When morning coffee breaks have been arranged by Russ at cafes in the mountains which turn out to be closed (!), make sure you have both a UroClub and a Handpresso Auto in the car as standard fit!



Simply plug the espresso machine into the 12V cigarette lighter, add water to the top and an E.S.E. (Easy Serving Espresso) coffee pod. Then just press the button and the Handpresso Auto will heat up the water and build the 16 bar pressure for your espresso. When you hear 3 beeps your espresso is ready, rotate the Auto, position the nozzle over your cup and release the button to pour your espresso.

Ideal for those with caffeine addiction and beats a flask full of Nescafe! Both of the above can be found by Googling.

Best wishes to everyone for a happy and comfortable 2013, and a very special thanks to all our clients, colleagues and friends.

There has been a great increase in caring and concern for the less fortunate in 2012. Let's all do our bit to change the world in 2013. Remember yesterday is today's memory and tomorrow is today's dream. Ever the eternal optimist!

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