

A GRACEFUL RACQUET      SOURCE: AMAZING GRACE: J JOHNSON

THIS ISSUE:

- Making Your Presents Known
- Glenferrie Festive Calendar
- Profit Over Parking
- Lifestyle Christmas: Festive Flora, Game On and Crafty Christmas



GLENFERRIE SHOP SWAP      SOURCE: ENDEAVOUR GROUP

## Making Your Presents Known

Gift giving can be an activity fraught with anxiety and mis-judgement. It can set you up for ever-increasing expectations or make you come off as a cheapskate. It can be all at once an act of diplomacy, one-upmanship, or a demonstration of deep understanding. However you look at it, the art of gift giving is a trait that many of us struggle with, but is it a natural talent or something anyone can learn?

Technically, gift options are virtually limitless if the aim is merely presenting someone with a bought item of some value that the receiver could buy themselves. However the options become considerably reduced if we consider that just because someone might buy themselves a toaster, it rarely makes for a particularly thoughtful gift. The absence of toast would indeed be a problem solved, but at the expense of a certain personal touch or sentimental value.

### Hey Big Spender

An expensive gift is no doubt ideal for creating an impression. But if the impression is “what an expensive gift giver you are”, expectations can soon be dashed if you fail to produce consistently valuable presents. This gift-giver also runs the risk of being viewed as a ‘show-off’ who, deep down, is maybe a little competitive and misses the whole point of gifting. When encountering the giver who plays to ‘win’, we must never take part in his imagined game. We will never win.

### The Lazy Gift

Nothing says “I ran out of time and ideas” like the lazy, or token, gift. This is typically represented by a general all-purpose gift, such as a box of chocolates or



KIRSTEN AT MISS GOURMET & CO. KNOWS CHOCOLATE

a bottle of mid-priced liquor. While these gifts may be well-suited to an acquaintance, for a close companion or family member, they may come off as “I could have tried harder”. The saving grace of a lazy gift giver is to select more boutique options which would then say, “I may have been pressed for ideas, but I do have taste!”.

### The D.I.Y. Alternative

Nowadays, it’s increasingly the ‘done thing’ to simply offer pre-paid gift-cards as presents. Although a great idea, your role in this exchange could be viewed as merely placing a limit on the receiver’s spending amount and the type of shop in which to purchase ‘your’ gift. This present says “I understand you like things. Here’s \$50 to buy a thing from a shop that probably has things you might want.” Yes, gift-cards are practical gifts, and arguably you are providing the beneficiary with a shopping experience ‘on you’, but they can also scream, “I am bad at choosing gifts.”

### The Award Goes To ...

While a home-made gift could be a risky proposition, it does have the potential to take out the ‘best gift’ award. It not only requires time and effort, it can literally be custom-built for your intended recipient. If you are the crafty type, a well-considered original artwork is sure to please. In this instance, your effort should be apparent in the end result, so a decent frame and a well-chosen subject make all the difference. Anyone can go to a shop and buy a practical gift, but if you delve into your specific skill-set to produce a unique gift, it is sure to strike that all-important sentimental chord.

### The Value of Experience

Much like a disappointing lover, less than stellar gifts that require wrapping and ribbons can quickly lose their sheen once the layers come off. So why not avoid the forgettable trinket gift-trap and shout your giftee,



LUCY AT THE LEAF STORE ATTEMPTING TO BRIBE SANTA

loved or well-liked one an experience instead? This gift could ideally be anything from a day-spa pampering package to a river cruise or a weekend getaway and would provide something non-refundable: a memorable experience to treasure. This is a virtually fool-proof gift option, ideal for a group to pool their funds on, sharing the cost. After all, in this time of tight budgets, luxuries are the first sacrifice at the altar of cost-of-living pressure.

### The Thoughtful Gift That Counts

Ultimately the art of gift giving comes down to how you wish your chosen object or experience to reflect you and your feelings for the lucky recipient. The best gifts always target a person’s interests or speak to that certain familiarity shared with those closest to you. A thoughtful gift adds something to the receiver’s life, whether it is convenience, comfort or enjoyment. Just remember, that at no point is anything related to cleaning chores a suitable, well-considered gift idea.



SOPHIA AT HOMING INSTINCTS GETS GRINCHY



KNOWING YOUR GIFTEE'S LIKES AND DISLIKES IS KEY



## About

The Glenferrie Times is an independent publication for the traders, residents, and visitors of the Glenferrie precinct in Hawthorn.

The Glenferrie Times is produced by a small team dedicated to fostering connection within the local community, aiming to provide the people of Glenferrie with relevant and informative local news and a forum for the betterment of the area.

If you are a Glenferrie trader or resident interested in being featured in The Glenferrie Times, please contact us.

**Publisher:** Leon Pezzimenti  
**Editor:** Antonia Fleming  
**Writer, Photographer, Layout:** Leigh Salter  
**Research:** Sabrina Rommers  
**Printing:** Snap and Ludwig Print

Find us online at:  
theglenferrietimes.com  
facebook.com/TheGlenferrieTimes

### Distribution

The Glenferrie Times is distributed to the traders of Glenferrie Hawthorn and, when resources are available, also circulated to the letterboxes of some residences within the Glenferrie Hawthorn area. Copies of the latest edition can be found at Hawthorn Arts Centre, Hawthorn Library, Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre, Coles Local, the noticeboard in the laneway of 817 Glenferrie Road, or in one of Glenferrie’s many cafes and some retailers.

To receive a digital copy sign up to our mailing list through our website or by emailing us.

**Contact**  
817b Glenferrie Road,  
Hawthorn 3122, VIC  
03) 9819 4371  
sustainable.glenferrie.traders@gmail.com

## End of Year Celebration

Join The Glenferrie Times for a Christmas celebration and to have a chat with our local Councillors, Cr Wes Gault (Glenferrie Ward) and Cr Susan Biggar (Riversdale Ward). Local residents and traders welcome!

Thursday 14 December, 4:30 - 6:00pm  
@ Osteria 20, 818 Glenferrie Rd, Hawthorn

# Glenferrie Shop Swap

Glenferrie Hawthorn is nothing if not an eventful place, and with various developments, new businesses and relocations, 2024 is already shaping up to be a time of more change.

In 2024, [Lawrencia Cycles](#) will cease operating at their historic location of 756-758 Glenferrie Road, which has housed the business since 1938. Liquor store franchise Dan Murphy's approached proprietor Gordon Lawrence about leasing the building which led to the decision to move. While a permanent closure was considered, Gordon explained, “Rather than retire, I'd prefer to move shop and have something to pass on to my children.” The business will relocate across the street to 737 Glenferrie Road, formerly the location of the Coin Laundry & Dry Cleaning outlet. [Dan Murphy's](#) will make its home in Lawrencia’s soon-to-be former address in the coming year. Local history buffs may be aware that the liquor shop mogul himself, Daniel Murphy, was a local resident of Hawthorn during the middle of the last century.

[Haigh's Chocolates](#), a fixture of 715 Glenferrie Road since 1997, is planning a change of premises to the former site of Readings at 701 Glenferrie Road. The move is expected to take place in February 2024, however they plan to only use around 22% of the 673sqm space within the new site. A spokesperson for Haigh’s explained, "Our range will not be expanding, however the new larger location will allow for a fit-out that includes luxurious jarrah, marble and glass with a new chocolate cabinet and larger displays".

A permit has recently been finalised by Boroondara Council for the development of a new six-storey building (over four basement levels) at 655-657 Glenferrie Road.



THE PRESENT: 655-657 GLENFERRIE ROAD, HAWTHORN

The site, at the corner of Glenferrie Road and Grace Street, was formerly home to the Westpac bank before becoming a pop-up political campaign headquarters for local teal independent candidates. McMullin, a commercial property developer, intends to occupy the top two floors as its corporate headquarters, relocating from its current location in Camberwell.

The cluster of shops beneath the rail bridge have served up a mixed bag of activity in recent times. After more than 40 years at 668 Glenferrie Road, Aussie Disposals, with its distinctive yellow and camo paint job, closed permanently in November. Seven years after Mario’s Coffee House departed 666 Glenferrie Road, the shop will finally be occupied by a new retailer. A new concept store, The Selfie Studio, are setting up shop and will house five self-serve photo booths and a larger room for portrait-style photos.

A little further up the street, the Glenferrie Authorised Newspower agency at 660 Glenferrie Road, has shut due to significant issues with the aged building’s floors. On 29 October, Gao Kitchen – two shops away at 656 Glenferrie Road – was also forced to close after an out-of-control car rammed into the shop front. Police reported that the car’s driver was under the influence of drugs and alcohol and was apprehended trying to escape the scene.

Just off Glenferrie Road in the Railway Arcade, [Alley Tunes Records](#) and Urban Man indicated that they may need to relocate. Their landlord, Swinburne University, appears to be considering repurposing the shops in view of their pending purchase and the development of the Serpells Lane car park. [Urban Man](#), a hairdresser, sees the possible relocation as an opportunity to diversify by offering a shoe cleaning service.

Keep your eyes peeled in the coming months for these developments and more in 2024. ■



THE FUTURE: ARTIST IMPRESSION OF NEW DEVELOPMENT

SOURCE: MCMULLIN

# Glenferrie Festive Calendar

## CHRISTMAS UNDER THE BIG TOP

Burnley Oval, Richmond  
24 Nov - 24 Dec 2023, 10.30am, 2pm, 6pm  
Activities, interactive experiences, thrilling performances by Circus Royale, carnival games, kids rides, delightful treats & more.  
Tickets at [christmasunderthebigtop.com.au](https://christmasunderthebigtop.com.au)

## CHRISTMAS SWING PARTY

Hawthorn Arts Centre  
360 Burwood Road, Hawthorn  
Friday 8 Dec, 8pm  
Featuring Swing-era Big Band, Steve Purcell & the Pearly Shells, & guest vocalist Julie O’Hara.  
Tickets at [boroondara.vic.gov.au/events](https://boroondara.vic.gov.au/events)

## GRACE PARK CAROLS

Hilda Cres, Hawthorn  
Sunday 17 Dec, 5.30pm  
Carols for the family, bring a picnic. Featuring Boroondara Brass Band, choirs from Glenferrie Primary School & Hawthorn West Primary School & a visit from Santa.



SANTA ROLLS INTO GRACE PARK CAROLS

## ST COLUMB’S ANGLICAN CHURCH

5 St Columbs St, Hawthorn  
Sunday 17 Dec  
10am - Kids Christmas service with animal farm in the church  
Christmas Eve, Sunday 24 Dec  
7pm - Carols service with community choir  
Christmas Day, Monday 25 Dec  
10am - Service of Holy Communion

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

345 Burwood Road, Hawthorn  
Christmas Eve, Sunday 24 Dec  
4pm - Mass with carols  
6pm - Family Mass with children re-enacting nativity story  
8.45pm - Carols followed by Mass at 9pm  
Christmas Day, Monday 25 Dec  
9.30am - Mass with carols  
11am - Mass with carols

## HAWTHORN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

580 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn  
Christmas Eve, Sunday 24 Dec  
11am - Christmas themed service in English & Mandarin

## ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH

108 Denham St, Hawthorn  
Christmas Day, Monday 25 Dec  
8.30am - Mass with carols





GRACE PARK HAWTHORN CLUB STARS, TERRY AND SANDRA STONE, ARE RETIRING AFTER 43 YEARS SERVICE

SOURCE: SUPPLIED

## A Graceful Racquet

**Present day Grace Park Hawthorn Club (GPHC) is a smart, modern complex that is part recreational facility, part social club and part working museum. The 135-year-old club continues to welcome new members, all while celebrating its long and illustrious past.**

The foundation of GPHC in Hilda Crescent, Hawthorn, dates back to the birth of the late-19th century tennis craze and survived the sport’s waxing and waning popularity from then on. The land on which it sits was originally purchased in 1848 by eccentric Irish hotelier, Michael Lynch; the same man who near-by Lynch street is named for. In honour of his wife, Julia, née Grace, Lynch bestowed the name Grace Park upon his sprawling 40-hectare tract of land.

The first build on his land was the church of the Immaculate Conception, which adorns the corner of Glenferrie and Burwood Roads to this day. Before being subdivided, the remaining acreage was resplendent with game such as deer, pheasants and

grouse. Lynch, a gourmet cook and avid hunter, would throw lavish feasts, enticing guests with his home-reared game banquets.

But it was thanks to Lynch’s son, who disregarded his father’s request for the land to be ‘retained in perpetuity’ after his death, that eventually led to a portion of it being repurposed as a sports precinct. In 1884, Michael Lynch Jr leased out Grace Park Estate to Henry Moore, who subdivided it into 300 lots. This was a boom time for development in Hawthorn, whose population nearly doubled in three years from 9,500 in 1887 to 16,500 in 1890.

By then, tennis was fast becoming a popular sport among the upper classes and Moore, seeing an opportunity to boost land sales around Grace Park, established plans for a recreation club. In 1889, two tennis courts were commissioned and by the end of the year, the club’s membership comprised 35 men and 29 women. By the start of 1890, the club had already begun entering teams in local competitions, and went on to win its first premiership in 1899.

In more recent history, the club has been a second

home to two giants of local tennis; head coach Terry and his partner Sandra Stone, who, after 43 years of devoted service, have announced their retirement. The couple have worked together building the club’s reputation as an inclusive space for kids who just want a ‘hit and giggle’ through to more serious competitive types. Terry, who estimates that he has coached about 153,000 kids in his time, feels he and his wife are “going out on a high”.

“When I started, there were no junior tennis teams, now we have 14 individual teams.” He states, “But I am most proud of being involved with coaching the students from Rossbourne School.” Rossbourne’s students experience learning difficulties and are neuro-diverse. Terry has seen these kids overcome personal barriers and develop a genuine enthusiasm for the sport.

Although a local icon, the club has had an uneven past with tennis’ popularity experiencing a slump in the 1980s. “We rode it out, but you know, Grace Park has its squash courts also, and that sport has been very consistently popular here.” The saving grace of GPHC, as Terry sees it, was “amalgamating with the Hawthorn Club and making the Club a great squash club and a great tennis club. Prior to this we only had one squash court and a couple of squash teams.”

One thing that has remained consistent is the club’s illustrious membership in competitive tennis. Luminaries such as Paul McNamee, Pat Cash, Frank Sedgman and Margaret Court have all carved, loved and deuced at GPHC on their way to victory. Terry has personally “nurtured the champions of the future”, with one of his pupils even qualifying for the Australian Open.

Although such successes add up to an impressive cluster of feathers in GPHC’s cap, Terry says “watching the children I have coached grow up and bring their children to lessons gives me the most pleasure.” In retirement, Terry and Sandra have no plans to hang up their racquets. “No way. It just means more time to play tennis with friends!” Terry enthuses.

The GPHC has appointed a new head coach, Adam Hubble - a former Australian professional tennis player - who will be assisted by his partner Miranda Poile. Terry’s parting words serve as a beacon of encouragement for Adam and Miranda. “It is a wonderful, friendly club that has been a tremendous pleasure to be a part of.” ■

## Profit Over Parking

**At a Boroondara Council meeting on 13 November 2023, Councillors agreed to sell Serpells Lane carpark, located next to Glenferrie Station at 399 Burwood Road, Hawthorn (the Property) to Swinburne University by private treaty for \$16 million. Council will now finalise negotiations with the university.**

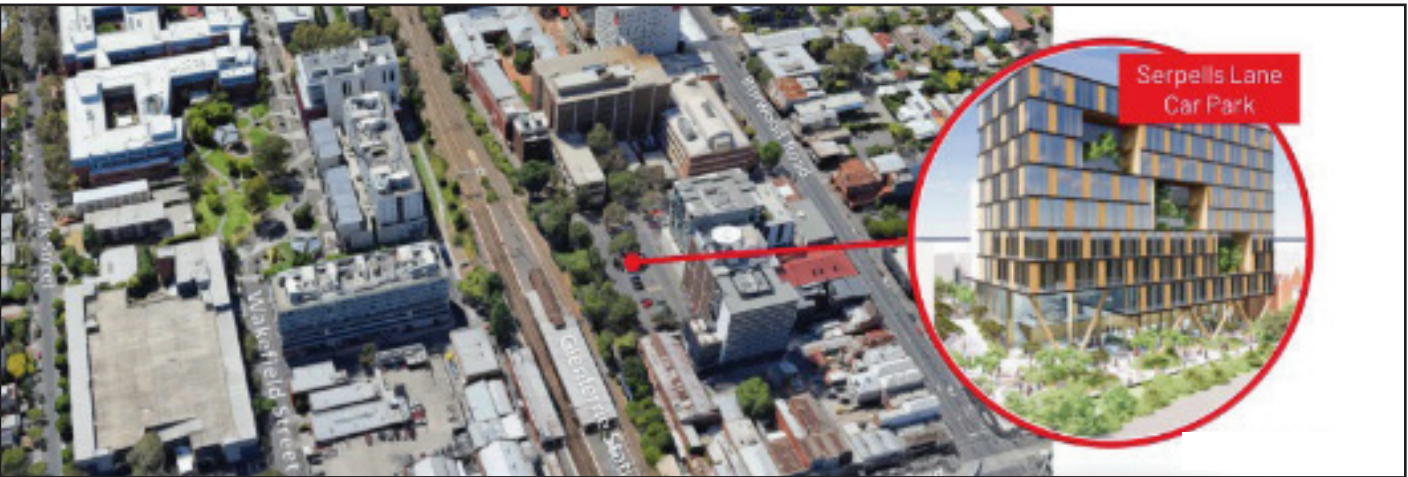
Last year, on 25 July 2022, Council explained that they “initiated the Serpells Lane Strategic Property Project, which included rezoning and exploring potential sale of the Property. Subsequently, Council was approached by Swinburne, which led to an offer being received to purchase the Property.”

Boroondara Council-owned Serpells Lane carpark is 2,950sqm and currently provides 89 open air car parking spaces including two disabled spaces, three loading zone spaces and one Flexi-car space. Traffic analysis reports by Council showed that the Serpells Lane carpark is mostly used by people associated with Swinburne University and that the public use 29-32 spaces.

On this basis on 25 September 2023, when Councillors resolved to to give notice of its intention to sell the Property to Swinburne and call for submissions on the proposed sale, the sale included a Section 173 Agreement stipulating that Swinburne are to make an additional 37 spaces available for community use in its car park.

Community engagement was conducted from 3-17 October and invited submissions about the sale, Council received 109 submissions:

81 (74.1%) opposed the proposed sale of the carpark.  
21 (19.4%) supported the proposed sale of the carpark.



ARTIST IMPRESSION OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT SERPELLS LANE

SOURCE: SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY

4 (3.7%) considered mixed.  
3 (2.8%) considered neutral.

At the Council meeting on 13 November 2023, twelve local residents spoke in opposition of the sale and a Swinburne representative spoke in favour.

Ultimately, a majority of six councillors voted 'for' and three 'against' the sale of the property to Swinburne, however two councillors were absent and did not vote. Arguing against, Glenferrie Ward Cr Wes Gault highlighted the Boroondara Council's Property Holding Principle that says “Assets will only be considered for disposal where there is no clear Council or community need for that asset in the foreseeable future.”

Cr Gault and some other Councillors questioned if this principle had been followed in this instance and if all options for community use of the land had been considered thoroughly.

Representations to Council by Swinburne University about the future development of the property included

a concept design for approximately a ten-storey building. A spokesperson for Swinburne confirmed that “The new high-tech teaching, research and student spaces on Serpells Lane will enhance educational opportunities for students, staff and the community” and that “the decision by Boroondara Council was the first step in the process and Swinburne is excited about engaging with the local community as planning progresses.”

With regards to parking alternatives, they stated “Swinburne is committed to ensuring any future development will provide at least the same number of carparks as is available from the Serpells Lane carpark today.” It is unclear if the 37 parking spaces will be incorporated into the proposed new development or at another site.

The university claims that “the future redevelopment of Serpells Lane will provide continued economic and social benefits to Glenferrie, with students, staff and visitors to campus frequenting local businesses.” ■



# Festive Flora

Richard from [Panache Flowers](#) shares some easy to follow tips on how to create some living, eye-catching indoor decorations for your Christmas table and beyond.

To create a floral arrangement for the Christmas table you first have to decide what colour theme you are going with. If it's the traditional red, white and green you will need to buy flowers in these colours. My suggestion is red roses, green chrysanthemums, red berries, white Lisianthus, white roses and Christmas spruce.

If your colour theme is gold, I suggest white flowers, gold calla lilies and gold embellishments like baubles etc. If it's a silver theme, you could use white Lisianthus, white hydrangeas, white roses and white Veronica with silver bauble embellishments. And of course you can go with an Australian native theme including some lovely banksias for a rustic look.

If the table is rectangular in shape, it's best to use a white glass or ceramic trough. If the table is

round then I would go with a fish bowl or a low round glass bowl vase that you leaf-line on the inside to hide the flower's stems.

In construction of your table centrepiece, if using a trough, place flora foam in the trough first, then put in the foliage to create an outline and place flowers in the order of the ones you want to be the focal point. For the fish bowl posy, make a foliage base in your hand, which is one and a half times the height of the vase, then add the flowers throughout the foliage. When finished, tie the posy together and cut the stem at an even level but be careful not to cut it too short.

People often want to create a Christmas wreath of fresh flowers for the door, but this can be difficult as the flowers are not in water and are exposed to the hot weather. The flowers will not last. You can get very good natural looking wreaths as a base made out of twigs and cane and then you can add artificial berries, ribbons etc. Holly can be easily purchased around Christmas time and can be placed on tables, mantle pieces etc. as a lovely Christmas decoration. ■



Richard at Panache Flowers  
712 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn

# Game On

Board-game aficionado, Matt from [Mind Games](#) took some time out from play to share his tips for some fun holiday alternatives to well-worn family game options.

We are currently living in a board game renaissance. Indeed, there are more board games now than ever before. Ones that you can play on your own, with friends, families or groups; games where you compete and games where you co-operate, even some games that have a little bit of both. If you want to play a 15-minute card game, or a 6-hour epic strategy game these holidays, you're covered.

## Single and Two-Player Highlights

**Final Girl** is a single-player game that places you as the sole survivor and protagonist in an '80s horror movie.

**Hive** is an excellent two-player game that's kind of similar to chess. **Patchwork** and **Fairy Trails** are both neat two-player puzzle games that are going down really well at present.

## Family Favourites

People tend to love games they've been playing since they were kids; Monopoly, Cluedo, UNO and the like aren't going anywhere anytime. I'm retreading old ground here, but **Ticket to Ride**, **Catan**, **Azul**, **Sleeping Queens**, **Rat-a-tat Cat**, **Carcassonne** and **The Quacks of Quedlinburg** are all games I'd consider to be "modern classics." Christmas in Australia is also the season of **Finska** and **Kubb**, Scandinavian outdoor games that involve throwing a wooden chuck at pins.

## Family Feud

People who are a little frightened of a family spat don't need to worry, there are plenty of games that have us working together rather than against each other. These games are strategic or puzzley and reward teamwork. Great for groups who don't particularly enjoy competition, or parents who want to teach their children how to work together. Recommend for families are the **Forbidden** series of games. **5 Minute Dungeon** and **5 Minute Mystery** are also both really fast, loose, and chaotic cooperative games that are a blast to play. Great for kids with a short attention span. ■



Matt at Mind Games  
760 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn

# Crafty Christmas

“Why just buy generic Christmas decorations?” Asks Jasmine at [Eckersley's Art & Craft](#). Her and her staff have come up with a few fun and easy-to-do home craft ideas to make your seasonal decor really pop.

There is something about art materials that can evoke excitement in almost anyone. At Christmas time especially, we see a lot of crafty types stocking up on materials, or just seeking some inspiration for craft projects for the school holidays.

If you are sentimental, like me you might still have the Christmas decorations you made as a child, macaroni wreaths, something made out of popsicle sticks, perhaps? It's special looking back at a collection of Christmas decorations, especially when you or someone you love made them. But craft is not only reserved for kids (though maybe they do it best) anyone can give it a go. And this year, with budgets a little tighter, it's the perfect opportunity to get crafty and have a DIY Christmas.

All the staff at Eckersley's Hawthorn are artists and the team have come up with a few ideas to get you started. Why not pop in for a free set of instructions on these inexpensive craft ideas?



## Mini Easel

There is something about the novelty of tiny things. No-one can resist a mini easel, and at about 7cm high, we thought they'd make the perfect tree decoration for any aspiring artist.



## Star Candle Holder

Air drying clay is very popular right now. It's a great, easy to use material with many applications. Candle holders can be used for any celebration and if you're feeling confident you could come up with more complex designs.



## Reindeer Frame

These ornaments went down well with my family. You could put a photo of your pet in the frame or one of your friends or family members. ■



Jas and Cam at Eckersley's Art & Craft,  
654A Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn