



ALL I WANT FOR *Christmas*

WHETHER YOU'RE SHOPPING FOR TRAIL-RUNNING TIM, KAYAKING KATIE OR BRAAIMASTER BRAAM, NICK DALL'S GOT YOUR BACK. AND HE'S ALSO THROWN IN A FEW SNEAKY PICKS TO HELP YOU BEAT YOUR OWN POST-YULETIDE BLUES

Go, go, gadget

Loving the outdoors doesn't have to mean getting hiking socks and biltong for Christmas every year without fail. Here's a look at the most exciting and innovative gear to hit the shelves this year, all at surprisingly pocket-friendly prices.

Powerstick+

The only thing worse than not being able to Instagram the view from the top of Cathedral Peak because your iPhone battery is flat, is realising that you won't be able to find your way home because your GPS is out of juice, too. With the sleek yet hardy Powerstick+, you won't need to worry about either of these calamities, as you'll be able to charge any USB-compatible device on the go.

Unlike some other portable power solutions, the Powerstick+, which can be charged from a laptop or using a USB mains adapter (not included), has minimal cables and plenty of battery capacity (5 200mah is enough to fully charge a smartphone twice). With it in your backpack, "Hakuna Matata" will be the soundtrack to your next adventure...



Powerstick+ R350

LED Lenser NEO Headlamp R300

Alva Digital BBQ Fork R200

Nite Ize DoohicKey R75

LED Lenser NEO Headlamp

If you ever run, cycle, walk or drive after dark (or before the sun comes up) and you don't have a LED Lenser NEO headlamp, you should get one. Like now. And if you already have a NEO? Get another. It's that good. Not only is it the most stylish headlamp I've ever seen, but it's also incredibly lightweight (86 grammes including batteries) and has the best-in-class performance we've come to expect of all LED Lenser products. Its whopping 90-lumen LED casts an extremely wide 16:9 beam, which provides peace of mind and which means running at night no longer feels like running in a tunnel. The main light has three functions and can run for 100 hours on its lowest setting, while the flashing red safety light at the back draws virtually no current but could very well save your life. Three Duracell AAAs are included.

Nite Ize DoohicKey

The stainless steel DoohicKey is less than half the size of a credit card, and at 12g it doesn't weigh much more, either. But the clever folks at Nite Ize have managed to squeeze a ruler, box-cutter, bottle opener and flat-head screwdriver into this tiny tool, which attaches to your keyring or belt loop via a sturdy carabiner. As they say, dynamite comes in small packages.

GoPro Hero

In what has to be the biggest news to hit the global gear market this year, iconic high-definition action camera brand, GoPro, has just launched a new entry-level camera that comes in at only R2 000! The all-new

Hero features the trademark wide-angle HD video we've come to expect from GoPro, and it's fully waterproof. More importantly, it's compatible with all the mounts, poles and other GoPro accessories you can dream up. The lens isn't as versatile as those in the fancier models, and it doesn't have Wi-Fi capability, but when you consider it's three to four times cheaper than the other cameras in the range, you'll appreciate how much of a game changer this is. At a price like this, it may be feasible to buy a whole 'fleet' of GoPro's, and give multiple perspectives on your next adventure. In stores late November.

Alva Digital BBQ Fork

Sick and tired of hubby feeding you raw sirloin and dry turkey? Get him a digital BBQ fork from Alva and consider your meat done. He'll just have to plunge the scary prongs into his beef, chicken, turkey or gammon, check the temperature on the dial, and refer to the chart on the back. Medium-rare beef is 63°C, for example, while well-done is 77°C. If he's clever with gadgets, he can leave the fork in the meat and set the timer to tell him when it's done. What's more, there's a built-in flashlight so he can make sure it's not burning. And the best part? He can use the same fork to carve your roast when it's done. Just make sure Einstein doesn't get the electronic end wet. The fork requires two AAAs (not included).

Leatherman Wingman

In the Air Force, your 'wingman' is the pilot whose job it is to watch your back and

protect you from enemy ambush. It may sound a bit *Top Gun*, but the Leatherman Wingman is also a lifesaver. It really is the perfect tool for outdoor survival, roadside emergencies and even Sunday DIY. When it comes to multi-tools, Leatherman is the gold standard, and the Wingman is their best-selling tool ever. The focal point is the pliers, which are both brawny and delicate, but the Wingman is much more than a dentist's best friend: It has a razor-sharp combination blade (both serrated and plain), proper Phillips- and flat screwdriver heads, not to mention scissors, can openers, belt clips and the like. And it comes with a 25-year guarantee, nugal. Give this to the man in your life this Christmas and you'll get a whole year's worth of brownie points! Just ask my wife...

KEEN Men's Newport H2 Sandal

I've worn ankle-length hiking boots that offer less support, comfort and protection than the KEEN Men's Newport H2. When it comes to footwear, KEEN doesn't mess around—and the amphibious H2 is a perennial (get it?) favourite. Being an avid fly-fisherman, I've tried every strop, sandal, bootie and water-shoe known to humankind. But I've never found one that ticks as many boxes as the Newport H2. The anatomical outsole is as at-home in water as it is on land; the tough toecap is an absolute pinkie-saver (you never know what could be lurking under that piece of kelp) and the antimicrobial footbed keeps your feet dry and pong-free for longer. Much longer.



GoPro Hero R2 000



Leatherman Wingman R600



KEEN Men's Newport H2 Sandal R600

Extreme makeover

If you're feeling a bit pap from filling everyone else's stockings, why not treat yourself to some retail therapy to ring in the New Year?

K-Way Men's Explorer Kowie Shorts

A great pair of shorts can be the difference between an epic adventure and a chafe-ridden ordeal. K-Way has certainly pulled out all the stops with the quick-drying Kowie. Featuring no fewer than five roomy pockets and an oh-so-useful durable water-repellent coating that withstands rain in the same way a water lily stays dry, the absolute best thing about its construction is the four-way stretch nylon-spandex blend that makes the shorts comfortable even when you're dragging your kayak up the bank after a long day of paddling on the Orange. They're the kind of shorts you could wear all summer; just give them a wash every third night or so, and they'll definitely be dry in the morning. What's more, they're smart enough to wear on the golf course.

Old Khaki Callia Belted Shorts

The Callia is so much more than a pretty face. Yes, the candy-stripe belt does look great, but it also ensures you'll be comfortable while trekking through OR Tambo to catch your connection to Bangkok. Yes, the crisp cotton fabric practically screams summer sophistication, but it's blended with 2% Lycra to give it some much-needed suppleness. Yes, the boxy, stitched pockets lend a dash of symmetry, but they're also big enough to hold your smartphone and your purse—a very rare thing in a pair of women's shorts. The Callia comes in a variety of different colours, with a few different belt options as well.

Old Khaki Men's Rimmel Shorts

If you're anything like me, summer hasn't truly begun until you've put on a pair of long, baggy, cotton cargo shorts. The 100% cotton Rimmel is laid-back and comfy enough to keep you happy, but also tailored enough to make sure you don't look like a slob. The garment has loads of pockets, big and small, and comes in 50 shades of green, beige and khaki—no grey anywhere to be seen.



K-Way Men's Explorer Kowie Shorts R500



Rare Earth Lindsay Sandal R500



Cushe Men's Manuka Wrap Sandal R700



Old Khaki Callia Belted Shorts R400



K-Way Men's Explorer Addo Shirt R400



Old Khaki Men's Rimmel Shorts R400



Old Khaki Men's Fabian Golfer R325

Rare Earth Lindsay Sandal

The Lindsay plaited thong is elegant, comfortable and all-natural. Wear it to breakfast in the morning, at the beach at noon and while sipping cocktails at the club well into the wee hours. The sophisticated, intricate design accentuates your foot's natural contours while the leather uppers and insole make all-day wear enjoyable. The adjustable heel strap means you won't have to do any flipping or flopping this summer, leaving you with plenty of time to look your best.

Cushe Men's Manuka Wrap Thong Sandal

You get flip-flops. And then you get these flip-flops. United Kingdom brand Cushe (pronounced 'cushy') strives to challenge the boundaries of footwear design and is absolutely obsessed with detail. Every aspect of every one of its shoes is thought through to the nth degree. And it shows. The first time I tried it on, the Manuka Wrap felt like an old friend. On a hot, sticky summer's day, the natural suede was a soothing balm and the ultra-soft footbed and contour-hugging outsole gave me a renewed spring in my step. But the Manuka Wrap didn't just feel amazing—it looked great, too. A stylish accoutrement to shorts, jeans or chinos. Try not to get them wet, though: suede's a bit hydrophobic!

K-Way Men's Explorer Addo Shirt

The K-Way Explorer Addo is the Jacques Kallis of shirts: It can do anything and everything—extremely well. But unlike King Kallis, this chic workhorse is nowhere near retirement age. It can be worn as a short- or long-sleeved shirt and is as at home fishing for grunter on the Knysna Lagoon as it is mingling with the polo socialites at Kurland a few hours later. Weighing in at an airy 165g, the quick-dry nylon fabric also boasts UPF40+ sun protection. When you get back to work in January, you won't want to take it off—and luckily it's smart enough so you won't have to...

Old Khaki Men's Fabian Golfer

Nothing screams summer style more loudly than a 100% cotton golfer. The Old Khaki Fabian features very high quality piqué cotton, superior workmanship and a 'slim fit' cut, which all add up to ensure it'll never go out of fashion. It's available in a variety of colours, making it the perfect addition to any wardrobe. ©