



## I Wish! I Wish!

BY CAROLINE MONCUR

Should the story of Christmas be retold in a modern setting, the Three Wise Men would be swapping the frankincense and myrrh for an iPod, a tablet PC and a top of the line cell phone.

The trio of sages would ignore that wandering star and find their way do the manger with a GPS navigation unit and write a blog on the whole fantastic adventure.

Such is our love of gadgets. However it can be very hard to buy a present for someone who loves gadgets. Gadget-lovers usually know the best of the best to buy and it is all too easy to disappoint them.

So to assist with the Christmas gift-giving process, we have hand-picked a few of the best devices. Of course, we at Providence would also like to receive any or all of them!

### Nikon D50

A Digital SLR camera is essential for someone who is looking to be much more creative than the standard digital camera allows. An SLR camera enables you to move away from the point and click approach and become a Picasso!

The Nikon D50 has been rated by PC Magazine as the best in the market Digital SLR camera in terms of value for money and performance. It is a 6.1 megapixel camera with an 18 to 55 mm zoom range, which translates to a 27 to 82.5mm zoom (35 mm equivalent) due to the 1.5X magnification factor. It has all the elements that a novice SLR user requires: easy Help menu and user-friendly features as well as offering excellent resolution and colour results.

### Adobe Photoshop Elements 4

Any amateur photographer who is keen for better results would love a copy of Adobe Photoshop Elements 4, the best software available for editing and managing photos. It enables you to fix red eyes, adjust lighting and contrast and even remove whole objects (such as people) from your photos. Where Photoshop Elements also shines is the simplicity it brings to organizing your digital shoebox of photos and sharing them as multimedia slideshows (complete with music and narration) to email to friends or burn onto CD or DVD.

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### **Apple iPod nano**

Generic MP3 players are no match for the much sleeker, eminently more exciting Apple iPod nano.

The iPod nano looks great, is very easy to use and has excellent sound quality. In addition, it has a huge amount of features such as its ability to sync with Microsoft Outlook and Outlook Express contacts and calendars. It is also great for exercising as it has both a stopwatch and a lap recorder. Finally, it supports photos and slideshows with music accompaniment.

### **Nokia 7280**

Most women would only need to see a Nokia 7280 to know that they need one! It is by far the coolest cell phone in the market. When closed, it looks like an art-deco lipstick case with a tiny, 1.5 inch mirror. When it rings, it glows bright red.

The Nokia 7280 also has some great features such as Bluetooth, speakerphone and an FM radio.

The phone is not intended to be a primary phone. It has a tiny screen and it can be difficult to dial. Its intention is to be a night-time fashion accessory and for this it is absolutely perfect!

### **Microsoft Office Live Meeting**

If you are feeling generous and you would like to buy your office a present, Microsoft Office Live Meeting is what to buy. This is a hosted Web conferencing service that makes meeting with staff, customers and partners in remote areas so very easy. With Live Meeting, groups of people can view and change files, collaborate with whiteboards and demonstrate products, using only a PC with Internet connection and a phone. It has teleconferencing capabilities as well.

Given the cost and time involved with travel in New Providence let alone the rest of the Bahamas and the world, it is an excellent product as it will significantly reduce the need for face to face meetings.

As this is our last column for 2005, all of the team at Providence Technology Group would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a successful and prosperous 2006!

To provide feedback on this column, please email [MakingITwork@providencetg.com](mailto:MakingITwork@providencetg.com)

### **About the Author:**

Ms Caroline Moncur is Manager, Business Development at Providence Technology Group. Ms Moncur has over ten year's business development experience, primarily within the Information Technology industry. Providence Technology Group is one of the Bahamas' leading IT firms, specializing in Networking Solutions, Consulting & Advisory Services and Software Solutions.