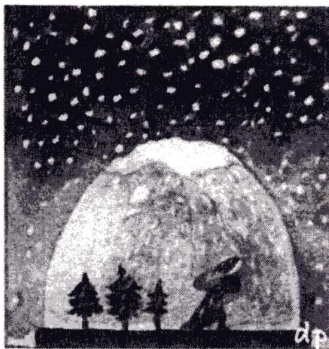


[Concertina-fold card with six faces]

A CHRISTMAS
ENCHIRIDION



Interactive edition



In the interests of not having a blank page,
this card contains 0.16% recycled material.

SOME FURTHER SEASONAL TERMINOLOGY (with more apologies to Douglas Adams and John Lloyd)

BRINKLOW Sudden realisation, usually at 6 p.m. on Christmas Eve, that you have forgotten to buy a present for one of several relatives visiting on Boxing Day. **Stow longa** or potentially a **dundraw** will be required. C.f. **penge** (click).*

DUNDRAW Gift opened Christmas morning and rewrapped in the afternoon, usually after a **brinklow**.

FRITHELSTOCK The only remaining Christmas tree in the shop under 9ft; inevitably an overpriced, undernourished specimen with branches on one side but not the other.

TEIGNGRACE Seasonal phenomenon, whereby an installed and decorated **frithelstock** appears oddly winsome and the perfect choice.

THURNING Frantic and ultimately fruitless search for **stow longa**, leaving a **dundraw** as the only possible option.

* Sorry, you appear to running an older version of CardViewer. Go to <http://www.debbepullinger.com/christmas.html> to download the seasonal terminology archive.

STOGUMBER Type of Christmas pudding produced by kindly aunts and college kitchens; boiled for several days, it is dense, black, and bitter as any gall. Scientists at Cern are running experiments on a **stogumber** made by Mrs Price of Bagshot in 1978, believing it to be a likely site for antimatter.

STOW LONGA Generic gifts bought in January sales and kept at the back of a cupboard for emergencies.

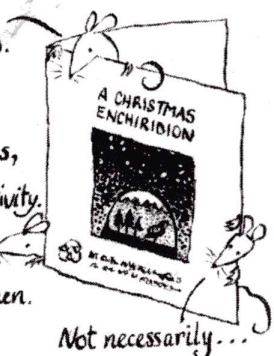
THE POSTMODERN CHRISTMAS CARD

Hmph. It's just everything we've had before, all mixed up.

But it's also a comment on the nature of Christmas, Christmatism and theories of Christmativity.

So it's all meaningless, then.

Not necessarily...



FOGGYE PUDDINGE

1 slightly stale panettone, crumbled	1/2 lemon
2 cups goose fat, shredded	3/8 orange
6 eggs (for the meringue)	1 pod, or similar
A pinch of currents	Stoned dates
4 gills milk, or vodka	2 lb fairly plain flour*

**Optional*

Infuse the pod. Rub all the dry ingredients together, fold in the fruit and then the infused liquid. Turn into well-greased moulds, cover each with a large woollen sock, and boil steadily for 7 hours. Serve with mulled wine. Makes ten 2-pint puddings.



Erratum

It has been brought to our attention that in the 2004 edition, the quantity of orange was given erroneously as $\frac{5}{8}$. It should of course be $\frac{3}{8}$, as here. The editor apologises for any inconvenience caused.

GREEN CHRISTMAS

As part of the industry-wide environmental audit, Father Christmas's December operation is coming under fresh scrutiny. Like all forms of air travel, reindeer are responsible for a large proportion of carbon emissions – vast quantities of methane in the case of the antlered super-ruminants. An FC spokesperson said, “We have faced challenges before and we remain confident. The introduction of the gas fire posed a real obstacle, but we developed an ingenious way to overcome it.” There are rumours of encouraging results from early trials with the woolly tapir.

Red-hot tips for a green Christmas

- ❖ Boil your turkey carcass to make a nourishing mineral bath soak.
- ❖ After pulling Christmas crackers, save the inner cardboard tubes to reuse as toilet-roll middles.
- ❖ Dropped pine needles make colourful and tasty sprinkles on top of mince pies or trifle.
- ❖ See also *Dundraw* (p.2).

THE OX&ASSBRIDGE ENGLISH DICTIONARY
(Christmas comestibles section)

Brussels sprouts The green shoots of economic recovery in Europe: coming soon, like Christmas.

Mulled wine Highly contemplated alcoholic drink.

Stollen Alternative breadlike Christmas cake, so-called because it is stollen from the Germans.

Trifle Alternative cakelike dessert, so-called because it is taken from the French (originally a Parisian multi-layered gateau, the Trifle Tower.)

Yule Log Ancient form of diary written over the Christmas period. The earliest surviving example has been set to music.



Wishing you a very Happy Christmas