

## Gift guide

Finding that perfect Christmas gift can be a tough task. Matthew Gooding takes a look at some quirky new products that have been developed in Cambridge in time for the festive season.

# 'Tis the season to go SHOPPING

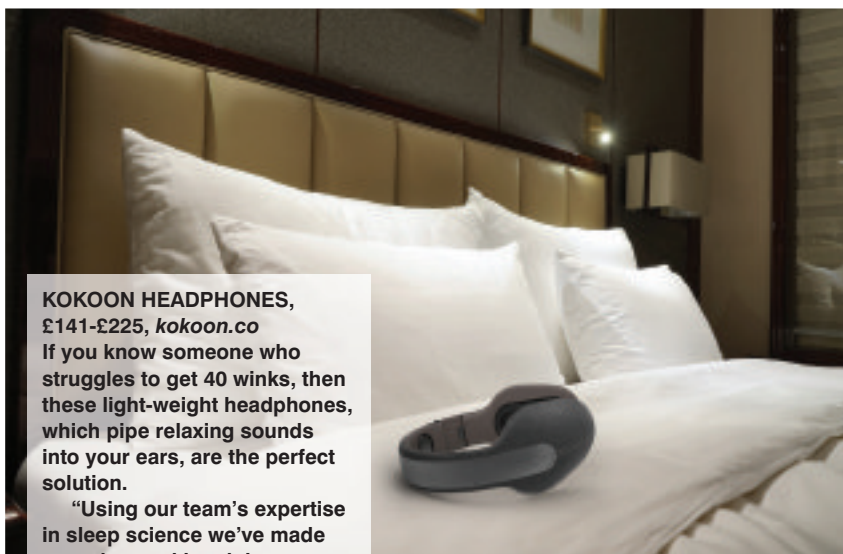


**SEESPEAK TABLET,**  
£149, [seespeak.co.uk](http://seespeak.co.uk)  
Elderly people often struggle with technology, but this specially-configured tablet computer takes the hassle out of making Skype video calls.

Designed as a stand-alone video-phone, all users have to do is turn the device on, and click on a photo of the person they want to call. Currently it requires a wi-fi connection to get online, though a version which can connect directly to data networks could follow.

Inventor Damian Helme hopes it will turn so-called silver surfers into silver Skypers.

"A lot of people love being able to make video calls to their grandchildren or other loved ones, but we found that a lot of tablets go unused because of people not being able to log in to Skype," he said. "I thought it didn't need to be so difficult."



**KOKOON HEADPHONES,**  
£141-£225, [kokoon.co](http://kokoon.co)  
If you know someone who struggles to get 40 winks, then these light-weight headphones, which pipe relaxing sounds into your ears, are the perfect solution.

"Using our team's expertise in sleep science we've made our advanced headphones intelligent with our own sleep sensors which can track how you are sleeping by measuring your brainwaves," explained Tim Antos, Kokoon's creator.

"This enables the headphones to perfectly tune your audio to your sleep, and helps you understand exactly how you are sleeping in detail. We combine this with an app which has a specially-developed relaxing audio library and data explaining your sleep and how different techniques have helped you."

**SPECTRUM VEGA GAMES CONSOLE,**  
£100, [retro-computers.co.uk](http://retro-computers.co.uk)

The likes of *Elite: Dangerous* and *Block N Load* are currently maintaining Cambridge's place at the forefront of the video games industry, but back in the day it was all about Sir Clive Sinclair's ZX Spectrum.

The legendary 1980s console, designed in the city by Sinclair Research, has been brought up-to-date in the form of the Spectrum Vega. Although the original's keyboard has been forsaken, making way for a joypad-style control system, the new version comes pre-loaded with 1,000 titles which should keep even the most dedicated of retro gamers busy through Boxing Day and beyond.

With the seal of approval from Sir Clive himself, the Spectrum Vega has been selling well since a Kickstarter campaign earlier this year, but still has a way to go to reach the original's sales figures of five million.

