



Touchbutton

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All I want for Christmas is...

Millennials keep telling the old folk that these days it's all about experiences, not acquiring stuff, especially if you can't afford to put a roof over your head in which to keep all the stuff. Books like 'The life changing magic of tidying up' are flying off the shelves, so in the spirit of spending large sums of money on experiences, Touchbutton offers some ideas for Christmas on how to really indulge your loved ones.

First up, the Royal Albert Hall. Not all of it, obviously, but a box for life. Enjoy everything from the Proms through Cirque du Soleil to Chas and Dave. Boxes very rarely come onto the market, but a box was offered by Harrods Estates earlier this year for £2.5 million. Three years ago, a broadly similar box was on offer at £1.2 million. The seats are private property, very rarely come onto the market, and are protected as set out in the royal charter which created the hall in the late 19th century.

If you can't stretch to a box, or perhaps have rather more highbrow taste in entertainment, the Royal Opera House now offers what they call *Friday Rush* seats. Pretty much everything at the Opera House is booked months in advance, mainly by members and friends, but every Friday at 1pm, the House offers 49 tickets for the main stage performance for the following week.

For the sport minded, Wimbledon debentures will impress anyone opening an envelope on Christmas day expecting another book token. The current debenture series covers the period 2016 to 2020, and the latest price for a single Centre Court debenture earlier in November was about £108,000. The series for 2021 through 2025 will be announced after the Championships in July 2018. Perhaps therefore one for next year.

If you are seeking a second opinion on investment strategy, perhaps some lunch with Warren Buffett? There are occasional charitable offerings from the Sage of Omaha: back in June he offered some lunch in return for a donation to a San Franciscan homeless charity, which at auction went for US\$2.68 million.

And just to prove that the best things in life are actually free, and not all experiences have to cost money, a visit to our King Street offices in November could have combined with an entirely free viewing of Leonardo da Vinci's *Salvator Mundi* at Christie's auction house opposite, prior to its eventual sale in New York for \$450m later in the month.

Happy Christmas!

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