



Straight talk

From hot headlines to juicy celebrity gossip, she's

Simply having a wonderful Christmas time

PICTURES BARCROFT USA, GETTY, PLANET PHOTOS, CALENDAR: NEIL WHITE/THINK! DESIGN ASSOCIATES/DEBENHAMS PLC

» I love the Christmas TV ads. They really put me in the festive mood. The little boy in the John Lewis ad is making me very emotional this year. I love his face when he rushes in with the presents for his mum and dad. It's so feelgood. And Stacey Solomon is brilliant driving home to Dagenham for Iceland. I'd forgotten what an amazing voice she has. When I made the Christmas Iceland ad with Jason Donovan in 2009, we laughed and laughed. He's so funny – especially when he's wearing a silly moustache. The only ad that doesn't do it for me is the M&S ad featuring the *X Factor* contestants. Sorry but I just don't care enough about the contestants – why didn't they get a major star like Gary Barlow?

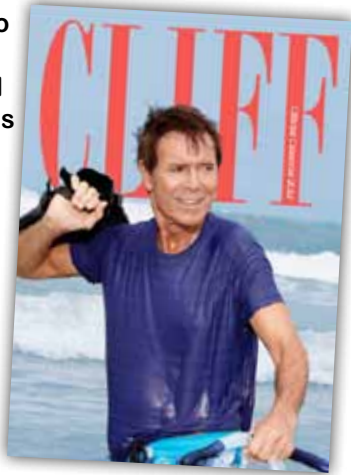


I'm loving the John Lewis ad (left); me and Jase (above)



Marine cor!

» No disrespect to Sir Cliff Richard who I'm sure will sell millions of his 2012 calendar, but this year I'll be buying The Royal Marine's calendar – and leaving it open at Mr July for the next six months. I can't think of a better way to brighten up January than by looking at a real-life commando. If you want your own copy, log on to www.gocommando.org.uk. The calendar costs £9.99 and all the proceeds will go towards looking after Royal Marine families.



Commando
A little brawn to brighten up a dull day

Charity begins at home...

» There's a growing campaign for well-off OAPs to do their bit by donating their Government winter fuel payment of £200 to charity. Good idea. If you don't need the allowance, why not give it to someone who does? But I'd rather give £200 directly to a local pensioner that I know could use the money for food or heating or failing that, give it to Saga's localgiving.com/survivingwinter campaign, so it would go to people in my area. No one should die of cold.

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got an opinion on the lot!

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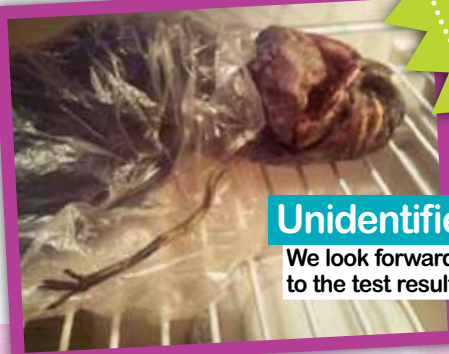


Where are the real celebs for M&S? (above). Stacey's bringing plenty of Essex Christmas spirit to the table for Iceland (left)



It's a fridge Jim...but not as we know it

A close-up photo suggests that a Siberian lady called Mrs Yegorovnam has been keeping an alien creature in her fridge for two years. I've got lots of aliens lurking in my fridge if the Russian Academy of Science wants to come round and take a look at them – although I'm pretty sure they started off as some kind of food.



Unidentified

We look forward to the test results!

The Man Utd star... aged 3

Talented Charlie Jackson was spotted by Man U when he was just three. Now five, he loves training with the club and is set to be signed up by the age of nine. As a mum of a football mad and United supporter son, Shane Junior, I know a lot of young lads develop a passion for the game. Football is such fun when you're three. Shane would have played it all day every day if I'd let him. Good luck to Charlie – just watch out for those two-year-old WAGs!



Early strike

This young'un has magic in his feet