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always been about getting the family together and doing fun, silly things.

Samanta Pong Sum-ye, co-founder of WOM guide



CitySeen with Vivian Chen
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Carols, family and friends, and the odd Christmas gig

Although the gifts have already been opened, the wine has flowed, the turkey dinner has got you stuffed and you may be suffering from overindulgence, the holiday spirit is still in the air and is likely to linger until New Year. Here are some local personalities to tell us about their festive rituals.

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My fondest Christmas memory is lying in bed as a child, listening to carol singing in the street on Christmas Eve. Having grown up in a devout Protestant family, I still love carolling and I still remember most of the lyrics in my dotage. This year, I am spending the holidays partly with my daughter in Canada and partly with friends in Hong Kong and on the mainland. As for gift giving, I'm a real sucker for giving people presents they enjoy, and doing charity work. A bunch of us, mostly Diocesan Girls School alumni, once taught a class of Form Two students to recite *Jabberwocky* (a poem of nonsense verse by Lewis Carroll) and won third prize at the choral speech festival. Most rewarding! Personally, the most thoughtful gift I've received recently is a kiss and a hug from someone I love.
Diana Lin, television anchor and producer

I know most Hongkongers unwrap their Christmas presents on Boxing Day. But in my family, we unwrap ours on Christmas Day and it's still a mystery to us why Boxing Day exists. Even now that I am all grown up, my mother still gives me presents in a Christmas stocking with a card signed Santa Claus. Every Christmas is memorable for me, but the most unforgettable is probably the one when I got my first computer. I was around 10 and had no clue about how to assemble or use a computer. What really impressed me was that my younger brother could actually do it. For next year, my biggest wish is to get married and have children. If I can find the right girl, I'm ready to settle down. I love rabbits and it's the Year of the Rabbit next year. I wish my child could be born in the Year of the Rabbit. But now I don't have a girlfriend yet; it's not something I can control.
Ivan Wong Yau-leung, singer



I'm a pretty boring person when it comes to planning events for festivals. I usually spend Christmas with friends, and New Year is reserved for my family. Our regular check list is to sing karaoke, exchange gifts then go out clubbing. The next day, if we don't have to nurse any hangovers, I also play mahjong and video games with my friends.
Mikki Yao, model



Since becoming an actor, what I crave every Christmas are Christmas jobs instead of presents. The pay is always better, and I can work and enjoy the festive atmosphere all at once. But I do not always get such opportunities so I treasure each one of them. I remember the time when I was invited to be a guest performer in a parade held by a local television station in Singapore. I was very happy because it was the first time I had experienced a hot Christmas of over 30 degrees Celsius. And at night after the show, they burned firecrackers. Remember, it was Christmas and they burnt firecrackers. It was an interesting experience.
Wong Hei, actor

