

The Good Gift Guide

2020/2021



**CITY OF
PARRAMATTA**



On these pages you'll find many gifts that give twice, or even thrice! Whether you care about protecting rainforests, disadvantaged children, or homeless puppies, you can buy beautiful gifts and make a positive difference to the world.

All of the retailers listed here actively seek to make a positive impact on a range of social, cultural or environmental issues. Through your purchase, you will be supporting innovative and inspirational projects in Australia and across the world. All this while shopping – amazing!

Flick through to one of the following categories to find the perfect gift:

- Food
- Homewares
- Ecoware
- Kids
- Arts and Crafts
- Clothes and Accessories
- Greeting Cards
- Weird and Wonderful
- One Stop Shop
- Support a Charity



Food – delicious treats that give back



Mildura Chocolate Company isn't just a purveyor of fine chocolate. It also provides employment for adults with a disability or experiencing disadvantage. All products are handmade using local produce. They'll even custom-make wrapping for you!



Farmhouse is an online gateway to Australia's best farmers and artisan producers. Everything you buy is produced, packed and shipped by the producers themselves. Chocolate, alcohol, produce, cheeses, body balms, tastings, pet treats, craft products and much more.



Miks Chai sells authentic chai masala that is made in Australia, ethically produced and organic, sugar free and gluten free. As a social enterprise, this business gives 50% of its profits towards supporting suicide prevention – So share a cuppa and help support others in need.



Sample Coffee

Sample Coffee This small business wants you to appreciate the different (and exceptional) coffee flavours as you would with wine, and are committed to building social and environmental outcomes along with financial success. Buy fancy coffee, coffee equipment or even a coffee subscription for your favourite coffee addict.



Aggie Global This little online gem sources all its products locally, and they want to ensure that all their Australian bushfoods come from Indigenous communities. Here you'll find Davidson plum chocolate, wild peach chutney, black garlic aioli, native food mocktails and lots more yum.



Sweetest Gift Order custom cakes and other sweet treats from this little Sydney business and you'll be supporting transplant recipients and people living with chronic illness. Make someone's day with a Christmas Dessert Box, filled with Christmas tree doughnuts, peppermint bark, maple nut fudge and oodles more sweetness.

Homewares – beautiful things making a difference



Based in Parramatta



The Bower sells a wonderful array of quality vintage and refurbished goods in its aim to keep waste out of landfill. Plus you can give the gift of knowledge with a workshop on basic carpentry, furniture restoration, upholstery and more.

SisterWorks sells a range of beautiful homewares and food handcrafted by migrant, asylum seeker or refugee women in Melbourne, Australia. They gain financial independence by developing their entrepreneurial skills. And now in the age of Covid-19, you can donate a handmade facemask through them to vulnerable people in the community.

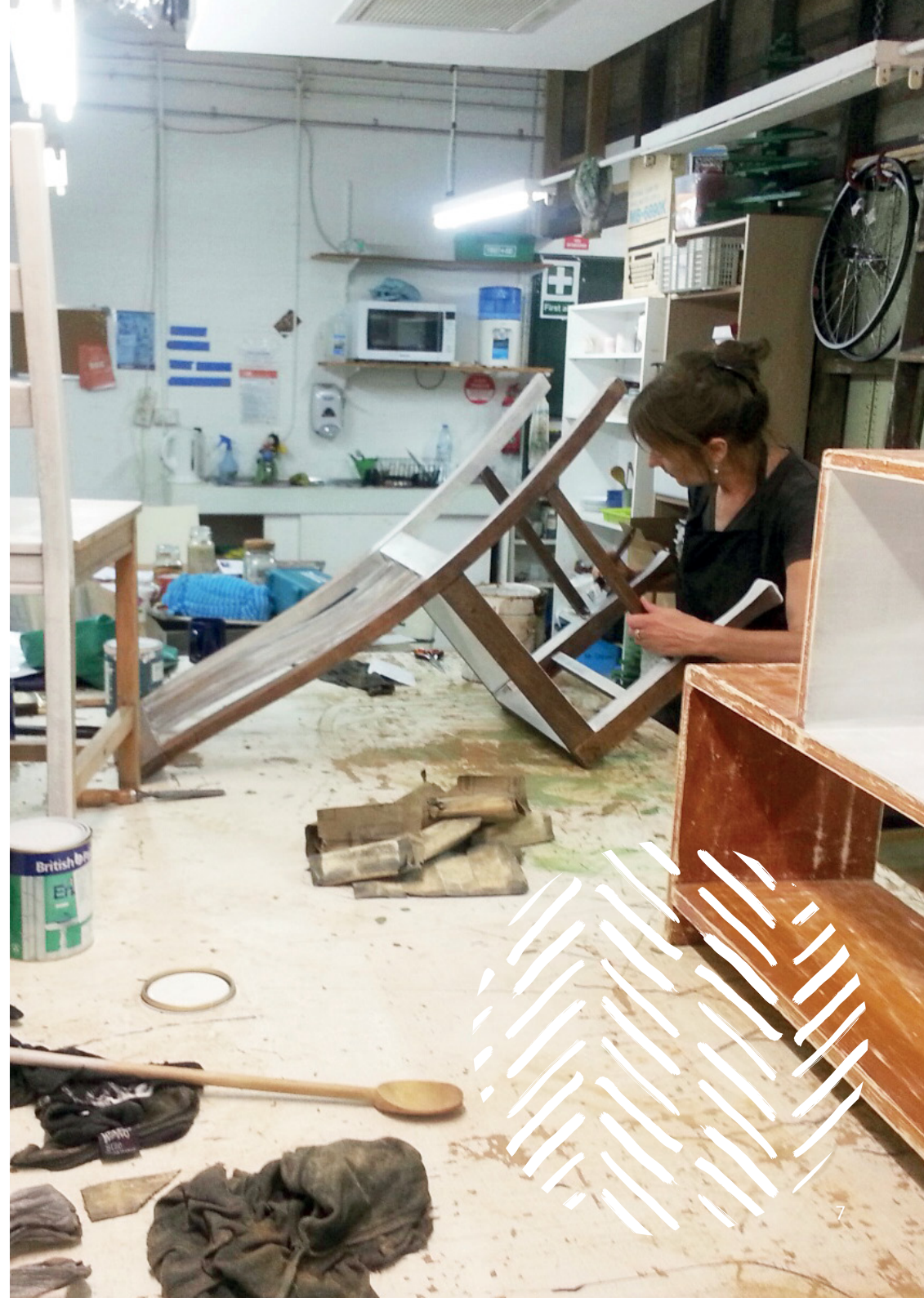
Blessed Earth sells clothing, manchester, rugs and carpets made from certified organically-produced materials. They even have organic cotton yoga mats and pure wool car mats! Their range now includes sustainable cookware (like low-carbon steel non-stick frypans), mosquito nets, homeopathic items, quality knives, bags, and much more.

Sampan specialises in ethical and eco-friendly gifts and homewares from South East Asia and India. All products are handmade from natural, recycled or renewable resources, right down to re-using packaging when shipping customer orders.

Koskela This Sydney-based retailer creates beautiful furniture, homewares, and art in partnership with Indigenous artists and designers. The lovely wares include ceramic hanging planters, hemp and reclaimed-material rugs, hardwood beach cricket sets, organic cotton towels and even clothes. For every ten recycled-material blankets sold, they give one to the Asylum Seekers Centre.

Elkie & Ark This luxury homewares company supports rural and at risk communities. Find linen and organic cotton sheet sets, throws, and loungewear.

The Natural Bedding Company This little business makes solid timber bedroom furniture from sustainably managed Australian oak hardwood, and mattresses are made to order from natural fibres such as latex, organic cotton, coir and wool. Try out the Cloud 9 Mattress in their Stanmore (Sydney) showroom and you'll be in love.





Ecoware – Practical, creative and good for the planet



Big Bite Eco is eco-ware for food lovers. Created in Sydney, the beautiful, affordable and reusable items include food storage, lunchboxes, bento boxes, drinkware, produce bags, and more. They're made from biodegradable bamboo, linen or silicone. Oh, and they sell face masks as well.



Reduce your food waste, save money and reduce the amount of plastic in the world! The Swag have created a range of food storage bags made from 100% natural, unbleached, unseeded cotton. Rather than the unnatural environment of a plastic bag, **The Swag** is a natural breathable bag that helps your food stay fresher for longer.

#untrashy

#Untrashy have a huge range sustainable and reusable alternatives to single-use plastic products. Everything from brightly coloured squishy, unsmashable silicone wine glasses to a take-anywhere telescopic straw and matching straw cleaner in a keyring case – you're sure to find something for everyone.



Amber's Food Wraps let you throw away your clingwrap and use non-toxic wax wraps to keep your food fresh. Amber's Food Wraps are made from 100% cotton designed by the traditional owners of the Northern Territory, Australia. They are dipped and finished in organic beeswax, which is locally sourced; organic resin, and organic jojoba oil.



Natural Panaa have created a beautiful alternative to plastic party plates and cups with products made from the Areca leaf. Make these a talking point at your next party! Did you know these products are created from fallen Areca leaves – so no trees are harmed in the production of these products – WOW!

Kids – gifts for children with heart, inspiration and fun



For a beautiful range of timber and natural toys for children of all ages, head to Malvern (Melbourne) store **Honeybee**. You'll find non-toxic face pencils, nativity sets, music and jewellery boxes, child-sized gardening gloves, wobble boards, castles and even a kitchen sink



Little Earth Nest has a lovely range of toys, from fairy doors to pirate ships. There's a dump truck made from recycled plastic, a sustainable timber Victorian dolls house, recycled silver earrings, a gardening board game made from 75% recycled materials, natural bath crayons, and eco-chalk for hair colouring (instead of spray cans!).



100 Story Building produces books and a quarterly magazine edited by young people for young people. Read some crazy tales and find a whole lot of inspiration to get writing, drawing and creating. Inspire a young reader or writer you know with a magazine or workshop.



Lost in Books A kids' bookshop in Western Sydney with titles in 65 languages, Lost in Books is also a café, safe space for women, creative learning centre and language exchange hub. The books cater for newborns through to young adults and grown-ups.



Mama Maya's baby swaddles are made from organic cotton muslin, and each one purchased funds at least one clean birthing kit and its journey to the hands of a birth attendant in a developing country.



Grow Your Mind If a child in your life has difficulty with emotional regulation, these little gifts could be just what they (or their parents) need. From a fridge magnet that reminds children how to put their problems into perspective, to a "feelings" version of Snakes and Ladders and a breathing-style treasure wheel, this is a lovely and way fun to help.



Arts and Crafts – beautiful products supporting Australian artists and artisans



Parramatta Clay and Arts Inc. Gallery and Studio sell a range of items handmade ceramic items including bowls, platters, mugs, jugs, ornamental jewellery and Christmas decorations as well as gift vouchers for classes. Drop in to view the collection at Shop 5, 10-14 Hunter Street, Parramatta.



Injalak Arts is a non-profit Aboriginal-owned social enterprise. 200 artists and weavers from Gunbalanya and surrounding outstations produce artworks, beautiful screen-printed fabric and unique Pandanus baskets. Buying from Injalak Arts supports a 100% Aboriginal owned business and delivers positive social, economic and cultural outcomes for its members.



Find a beautiful, unique or quirky piece of art from **QArt Gallery**. Their gallery is full of work featuring the exceptional talents of artists with intellectual disability. Find original paintings, prints, greeting cards, art tiles and even hand-embroidered bags.



Notely sells beautiful notebooks printed with sustainable ink onto FSC certified paper, and with 100% post consumer waste recycled, carbon neutral paper on the inside. Planet friendly, attractive AND supporting real artists.



Based in Parramatta

Social Canvas This social enterprise in Sydney's west engages indigenous artists to produce art and artifacts, including wall art, linen tea towels and stunning valet stands made from reclaimed timber.



Better World Arts Working with traditional artists from remote regions of the world (including Australia's Arnhem Land), Better World Arts sells original artworks as well as putting artists' work onto practical items such as cushion covers, drink bottles, crockery, laptop bags and hankies.





Clothes and Accessories – Look good. Feel good.



Socks that fight poverty? **The Conscious Step** donates a portion from every pair of socks sold to organisations that protect oceans, fight hunger, treat HIV, provide clean water, educate kids, plant trees and work to end poverty and provide disaster relief.



The Social Outfit is a fashion label with a difference. It employs and trains people from refugee and new migrant communities in clothing production, retail, design and marketing. Collaborating with fashion designers, they hand-make clothing, homewares and stationery.



Based in Parramatta

The Conscious Closet Fast fashion is bad for the environment and your bank balance – so here you'll find some high quality, pre-loved clothes and accessories that deserve to find a second home. 100% of the profits support women experiencing disadvantage to get work, keep work and navigate their world of work.

h i l d a

Apart from selling a gorgeous collection of batik clothes and accessories from Ghana, West Africa, **Hilda** is an Australian brand that's providing regular employment and support to women in Ghana.



Created by Culture creates sustainable and stylish jewellery made from broken glass bottles that would otherwise be in landfill. An ethical business that provides a fair wage to artisans and helps to keep traditional Ghanaian crafts and traditions alive.

THREAD HARVEST
ETHICAL FASHION

Thread Harvest is an ethical online fashion company wants you to spend your money where you want to make the most difference, allowing you to filter by such ideas as eco-friendly or empowering women. Clothes and accessories for men, women and children include swimsuits made from recycled yarn, organic cotton shirts and earrings made from art deco spoons and old buttons.



Bellroy This B Corp Certified business makes accessories from sustainable leather and recycled fabrics. Their products include slimline wallets, phone and laptop cases, and a variety of bags including backpacks designed to fit larger laptops.

Weird and wonderful – for the person who has everything (or is just really hard to buy for!)



Send your loved ones on a mouth-watering food adventure in Sydney! **Taste Cultural Food** Tours is building strong social connections and cross-cultural understanding through unique food tours. The tours also make memorable parties or office events.



Explore the beautiful parks and riverside tracks around Parramatta with **Parramatta Bike Tours**. You can buy gift vouchers for guided bike tours along the Parramatta River or you can hire a fleet of bikes for a fun day out for the whole family.



Send someone a gorgeous flower arrangement from **Angkor Flowers** and you'll also be helping them to provide employment and training opportunities and financial independence for women from low-skilled migrant and refugee backgrounds in Sydney.



RSPCA offers presents for both animal lovers and the animals themselves. Designer dog collars, books and DVDs, a monkey-shaped luggage tag, cat cufflinks or even Christmas presents for pets.



With the gift of a lottery ticket from **yourtown** (formerly BoysTown) you will support Kids Helpline and your loved one could be inviting you over for tea in their new luxury home or taking you for a drive in their prestige car.



For a really unusual present, how about a box of toilet paper? **The who gives a crap** rolls are made from 100% recycled paper or bamboo. They're Australian-owned, with half their profits used to build toilets in the developing world. Check out their limited edition extra-soft rolls!



If the surfer in your life takes minutes to get his/her wetsuit on, **Surf Sock** is the answer they didn't realise they were looking for. This handy item, made from reclaimed sails, gets a wetsuit over a foot in a second and then provides a nice, dry place for a mobile phone.



Designed in Bondi Beach and made in Western Sydney, the **2xo** quality bags are made from upcycled billboards, firehoses, banners, sail cloth and rubber. From laptop sleeves to totes and tiny "fortune cookie" bags for coins.



The Pluralist make watches with numbers in kanji or Arabic, and donate \$5 from every watch sold to a not-for-profit organisation. Stylish and different!



Nue Bar have a selection of PH balanced hair care bars. Everything you want from your shampoo and conditioner but without the plastic bottle. The products are palm oil free, handmade, vegan, cruelty free, contain no SLS, SLES, parabens, silicones, petroleum by-products or artificial fragrances. As an added bonus, worldwide shipping is 100% carbon offset!



Australian Red Cross merchandise including solar powered radios, a book about Man Caves, tea towels, herbal dog wash, Christmas puddings, room fresheners and much more.



Dresden Optics make lightweight frames for glasses with easily interchanged or replaced parts. Most frames are fully recyclable, some are even made from materials that can't typically be recycled, such as milk bottle lids and beer keg caps.



Sustainable Handmade Collective are an online gallery and concept store showcasing Australian sustainable and handmade design. Made from delightful upcycled vintage fabrics, you'll find hair accessories, kids', tween and women's clothing, produce bags, and cloth wings to turn your little one into a fairy or butterfly.

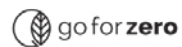


Sahaja Yoga Mats are made from natural tree rubber and recycled plastics to give you the sweaty grip of a towel and the support of a yoga mat. Their designs are all based on Sacred Geometry, yogic texts and life experiences, and a solar light is donated to a family in Mozambique for every mat sold.

One-stop shop – find all your 'Good Gifts' in one place



Flora and Fauna is an Australian online store that guarantees that all your purchases will be vegan-friendly and ethical. Look for the Dirty Hippy makeup range with truly sustainable packaging, pretty cloth nappies, stylish water bottles, mushroom elixirs, bags, clothing, eco-crayons and lots more. They also support Sea Shepherd and the Where Pigs Fly Sanctuary.



Go for Zero has a mission to help every home be toxin-free and conscious of their environmental impact. Discover fantastic Australian products which are great for you and the environment and support small Australia business. You can find some beautiful and unique gifts from bath products, perfumes, makeup, skincare, health foods and tea.



Spend With Us was set up to promote Australian rural and regional small businesses affected by drought, bushfire and COVID-19. You can buy pretty much anything here, from a hand-forged herb chopper or cocktail hamper, to a Bluetooth speaker and a handmade timber lazy susan. There are even dozens of pay-it-forward gifts where your money goes directly to an Australian in need, giving them anything including baby chickens, fresh eggs, a technology consultation or gift vouchers to spend in store.



Uplift Fair Trade sells products purchased directly from fair trade organisations. They sell clothing, food, "trinkets and treasures", homewares, toys and cute dresses for children, face masks and a wide range of Christmas decorations. They can also organise corporate gifts.



By buying from **Oz Fair Trade**, you are helping to improve the lives of many women and their families who live in extreme poverty. Full profits go back to purchasing more fair trade products. Find spoons and jewellery made from bombshells, super soft t-shirts, cards, cushion covers, bags, slippers, and lots more.

Ethical living

Ethical Living specialises in ethically made and fair trade goods. There's a huge range of products including clothing and shoes for adults and children, toys, home décor and plastic-free living tools, skincare and lots more. Check out their sweet children's dresses and the cute cloth bunting.



Change Merchants source beautiful, fair trade products from all over the world. Fabulous cotton "pumjammies" (pyjamas or pants!) for men and women, sustainable leather passport covers, jewellery made from bomb casings, tooth fairy pillows, cufflinks and other cool stuff.



Biome sells everything you need for an eco-lifestyle: bags, skincare, educational toys, home décor, natural makeup, natural deodorant, crayon rocks made from soy wax, lunch boxes, sustainable clothing, cookware, Manchester and lots more. Online or in store (Queensland only).



Upcycle Studio sells a gorgeous and eclectic range of gifts made from upcycled materials. Check out their bags and accessories made from sail cloth, fire hoses and billboards, sustainable lunch boxes and water bottles, and more. Shop online or in St Peters (Sydney).



Eco at Home sells all sorts of everyday but beautiful essentials including baby olive oil soap, books on eco living, natural house paint (which actually has a pleasant smell), children's gardening tools and gifts. Available online or in their Willoughby (Sydney) store.



Amnesty International Australia sells clothes for adults and babies, books, bags and stickers to fund their work in protecting human rights around the world. Your loved one will look great in a "Love is a human right" t-shirt, and the baby in your life will look cool protesting against anti-bikie legislation in Queensland.



Fair Go Trading is a Perth (Australia) based retailer of fair-trade and organic goodies. Go retro with their beautiful hand-painted cake tins. Get stylish with their artisan bags. Treat your flowers with a hand-painted and upcycled watering can. Or browse the wide range of hemp bags, puppets, jewellery and more.



Dinidae is a dedicated marketplace for social enterprise and not-for-profits. They sell clothing, accessories, food and drink, and more. Buy headphones to support cancer research, funky socks that help fund prosthetic limbs for people in developing countries, coffee mugs that fight disadvantage in South East Asia or face masks that create jobs for people living in poverty.

Support a Charity – give a gift where it's really needed



Choose from The **Australian Red Cross's** three donation gift cards, including the \$50 Gift of Connection, which helps a sick or elderly person get to essential medical appointments or community services.



Care Australia offers a great range, from \$10 drought resistant seeds to \$665 to provide a community watering pond for crops. Care Australia is a non-government and non-religious.



Give the gift of sight with **The Fred Hollows Foundation**, starting at \$25 to restore the sight of a Cambodian mother who had never seen her baby.



Give a gift that celebrates and protects animals with **Humane Society**. You can help protect India's elephants, rescue dogs, protect whales and dolphins, and more.



With **Muslim Aid** you can give personal or business Zakah, pay Fedyah or cleanse your income received from interest. You can choose how the money is spent, such as for sustainable development, orphan aid, health and education.



Parramatta Mission Buy a loved one a virtual gift card from Parramatta Mission and you can help support the Festival of Christmas giving gifts and support to people in need.



The Smith Family Give a gift that puts a Christmas present under the tree for a disadvantaged child who might otherwise go without.



Bush Heritage Australia Give a Bush Gift Card to support the conservation of magnificent Australian landscapes and irreplaceable native species.



Oxfam Unwrapped offers a massive range of cheesy gifts for people who already have everything they need. "This gift is deep and meaningful" says the card giving a well to a family in Bangladesh.



Rainforest Rescue's gift cards include a cassowary care package, tree planting in the rainforest and buying back the rainforest to protect it forever (every \$10 protects 2-square metres).



RSPCA has five gift cards representing the five freedoms for animals, including freedom from hunger and thirst, freedom from fear and distress, and freedom to express normal behaviour. A lovely set of gifts for the animal-lover.



With **Simply Giving**, you choose a Christmas present for a disadvantaged Australian child through Barnardos, Anglicare, The Children's Hospital at Westmead, The Smith Family and more – and you get a certificate, gift card or origami for your tree.



This is where the concept of giving to people who need it most actually started. **Tear Australia** is a Christian group helping the world's poor. Gifts are priced from \$5 (for chickens) to \$5,000 (to help a community transform their village). There are even build-a-village cardboard toys!



Unicef allows you to buy a range of gifts helping with education, clean water, nutrition, maternal health and more. For just \$51 you can provide 200 polio vaccines.



Help conserve endangered animals such as tigers, orang-utans and pygmy elephants by "adopting" an animal through **WWF**, and your loved one will receive an adoption certificate, sticker, factbook and other goodies, including optional soft toy.



GiveNow is an Australian online donations platform that connects you to the causes you and your loved ones care about. You can donate money on someone's behalf or find other creative ways to give, like donating stamps to help a charity reach a bigger audience.

Greeting cards – send a message and help others

Noteworthy CARDS

Noteworthy Cards Find some beautiful, funny, weird and wonderful greeting cards made from recycled materials and produced carbon neutral. 100% of profits towards life-changing gifts that support community, education, food and livelihoods, good health, safe water and sanitation for people suffering in poverty.



Words With Heart combines environmentally responsible production, funding for women's and girls' education projects, and word that empower. With your artwork they'll make anything from business cards and stickers to posters and notepads, and they'll use the profits to pay for education for women and girls in the developing world.



For beautiful Australian-made cards printed on 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper, head to **Earth Greetings**. They have cards for a wide range of occasions, and also sell wrapping paper, gift tags, bookmarks, and calendars. 10% of their profits are donated to environmental organisations.



Rosie Lou's Australian designed and made cards are beautiful and quirky, like the play-on-words "I love you from my head tomatoes" card, printed with vegetable ink on recycled paper. There are also gift packs of seeds, wrapping paper, notebooks and some textile items as well.



Charity Greeting Cards gives you dozens of charities to support when you buy your cards. The charities on offer include Father Chris Riley's Youth Off the Streets, The Children's Hospital at Westmead, MS, Kids Helpline and Parramatta Mission.



Customise your gift cards with **Charity Card Market**, a company that donates 20% of the takings to your chosen charity (over seventy to choose from!), prints the cards on eco-friendly paper and uses soy-based inks. You can even upload your own image.





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