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Decibel Hi Fi Newsletter No. 59 December 2017

Dear Brian

Well it's that time of the year again when things get a bit frantic.

I have reinstated the [Xmas Gift Suggestions](#) category if you are looking for ideas as to what to give a music enthusiast.

There's also several products that have been added to the [On Sale](#) category.

We don't have much of a problem with items being lost in the post, but recently there have been a couple of occasions where packages have been delivered but the customer did not receive them. This is more common in large apartment blocks, but if you have had a problem in the past we have now added the option to include the Signature on Delivery service. This will mean the postie will not leave a package if there is no one home, and will leave a card so you can collect it from a local post office. The product code is SoD.

It's been an interesting year and I hope a successful one for you. All the best for the festive season, and I hope you get the opportunity to enjoy your music system.

Musical regards

*Brian Maddern
Decibel Hi Fi & Soundring*



Product News

JELCO tonearms

We have been advised that the SA750 and SA250 tonearm models are being discontinued at the end of this month. This includes the popular [SA-750D](#). We still have five in stock so if you have had your eye on getting one for a while don't leave it too long.

The new TK-850 and TK-950 models will be available soon and I'll publish details in the January or February newsletter.

New accessories brand - GOKA

We are now importing a brand of mainly vinyl-related accessories from a Chinese factory. This will result in lower prices for the popular items such as [carbon fibre brushes](#), [stylus brushes](#), [45 adapter](#), and in particular a very nice record weight. Record weights are useful as they help hold a record firmly onto the platter, enabling the cartridge to retrieve information from the grooves more faithfully. The [GOKA record weight](#) is a beautifully finished solid aluminium unit which comes nicely packaged in a gift box. At \$65.00 it is some 30% less than other models we have been selling.



Replacement styli for Garrott K cartridges

Over several decades Garrott Brothers cartridges have been popular in Australia and worldwide. The K-series are available with round, elliptical, or SuperTrack3 (Shibata-style) diamonds. By fitting Shibata-style diamonds and cantilevers from some N.O.S. 4-channel stylus assemblies into K-series grips we (in conjunction with the Garrott Lab technician) have produced an economical alternative to owners of K-series cartridges. At \$275.00 these [special stylus assemblies](#) are not much more than an elliptical replacement, but feature a far more advanced line contact diamond which provides lower wear, lower surface noise, better tracking and detail retrieval. They can also be used in P77, P66 and Optim cartridges, although we are not suggesting that they are as good as the genuine replacements for those cartridges.



Mobile Fidelity Original Master Sleeves

These have been popular for decades, but are quite expensive when imported in small quantities. We are pleased to advise that due to a new importer we have been able to reduce the price by 39%.



Nitty Gritty closure

We were disappointed to hear that after being in business for over 40 years Nitty Gritty has ceased operations. Evidently there are ongoing discussions with a possible new owner. We are uncertain regarding the availability of maintenance parts at this time although we do expect to receive a small quantity of vac-sweep kits this month.

Record Doctor V "factory seconds"

With over 300 units sold, the [Record Doctor V](#) is by far Australia's most popular vacuum record cleaning machine. The reliability has been excellent with less than 2% faulty machines under warranty. A small number of machines have cosmetic blemishes and are being sold as "factory seconds", still with full 1 year warranty. You'll find these in the [Clearance category](#).

Vinyl Record Production

There is now a page on the website with a listing of recommended brands. I'll add to it as more suggestions come in.

<http://www.decibelhifi.com.au/recommended-vinyl-record-brands/>

A recent [article by the ABC](#) is suggesting that cassette tapes are making a comeback due to the ease with which they can be made in small quantities compared to pressing vinyl. The writer seems to be unaware that there are companies who will produce small numbers of vinyl records economically by cutting them individually.

Malpa - our company's charity

We are very pleased to be a supporter of an organisation which has implemented a program to address the incidence of otitis media (glue ear) in indigenous communities. Please visit their [website](#) to find out about their Young Doctors program.



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