

# BAH! HUMBUG!

## says Rolf Harris

**ROLF HARRIS** doesn't look forward to Christmas. He seems very bored with the whole business and dislikes the way it has become more of a commercial proposition than a religious festival.

"I'm not a particularly religious person, and Christmas doesn't involve me very much, but I do abhor the way it has become a roundabout of people buying more and more and prices rising all the time. I can see a change in my daughter; she used to be thrilled with whatever presents she received, but now she is beginning to expect them from everyone who visits us on Christmas Day. People should give presents because they want to, not because they feel they are obliged to.

"I suppose I am a bit of a misery, but it seems that at Christmas everyone is forced to be happy. It's like the festival in Germany where citizens are told that for a week they will eat, drink and be happy, but the rest of the year they're as miserable as sin.

"'Thou shalt be happy' seems to be the order of Christmas Day.

"The one thing nice about Christmas is that it's a time when families get together, and it's an excuse for seeing people.

"Usually I work over Christmas so my wife Alwen does all the organising. She goes in for it in a big way. We have all the decorations and things, and celebrate because it is also the birthday of my wife on the 26th.

"This year we've had to cut out sending cards because it was becoming a nightmare trying to get them all sent out on time.

"Christmas here is very different to what it was in Australia, mainly I suppose in temperature. All the Christmas songs were rubbish because we'd sit around with the perspiration dripping from our noses singing about a White Christmas! We'd wear open-necked shirts and shorts, and sit in the shade of a tree eating Christmas dinner.

"I don't appreciate the English cold, but for kids a white Christmas is great fun. My little girl, Bindi, who is five, is dying to see more snow and every morning she looks out the window hoping it will be all white.

"You know the fascinating thing about my record 'Two Little Boys' being a hit at Christmas is that it says all the messages of Christmas without mentioning Santa Claus and snow. Unselfish love and kindness is what it is all about."



**ROLF: no cards**