

LAKESIDE

CHRISTMAS
2002

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NEW YEAR'S DETOX

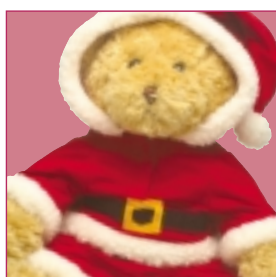
TOP TIPS FOR SHAKING OFF THAT
CHRISTMAS HANGOVER

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MUCH, MUCH MORE!

CHRISTMAS CRACKER!

KYM MARSH REVEALS ALL ABOUT
HER BEST CHRISTMAS YET AND
WHAT SHE REALLY WANTS FROM
SANTA CLAUS THIS YEAR...



"I'm lucky to have such a supportive family... if they weren't cool about my work, I wouldn't be doing it"

KYM LIGHTS UP OUR CHRISTMAS

HEAR'SAY-SINGER-TURNED-SOLO-ARTIST KYM MARSH TELLS US ALL ABOUT HER PERFECT CHRISTMAS...

Lucky Lakeside! This festive season we've been truly honoured to have singer Kym Marsh turn on our Christmas lights. In fact, it's a miracle the singer's managed to fit us in. The last 12 months have been crazily busy for Kym – as any headline-follower will tell you.

First came her New Year split from chart-topping TV sensation Hear'Say. Next up was Kym's wedding to EastEnders star Jack Ryder and the media mania that surrounded it. And throughout the summer and autumn, the Lancashire lass has been planning her solo assault on the charts.

But, of course, Kym's more than just a pop star. She's also a busy mum to two beautiful children, David and Emily, and is very close to her parents and two brothers and sisters. In fact, as Kym reveals to us, for



Kym's launching a solo career – while her private life is far from solo...

all the celebrity hype, she really is a family-loving sort. She'll be spending this Christmas at home with hubby Jack and the kids. Here, she gives us the exclusive low-down on what the Christmas season means to her...

Q ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO CHRISTMAS?

A Yes! When you have kids, they bring back all the magic. I get so excited for them – putting out a carrot for Rudolph and a mince pie and sherry for Santa. It's also really great to see everyone's faces on Christmas Day, as they open the gifts you bought them. I get excited just thinking about it!

Q WHAT ARE YOUR FAVOURITE ITEMS OF CLOTHING?

A Denim dungarees I bought from Miss Selfridges and a pair of grey jogging bottoms that I got in Top Shop. They're my two favourite stores.

Q DO YOU ENJOY A CELEBRITY LIFESTYLE THESE DAYS?

A To be honest, I'll never get used to the celebrity lifestyle. I actually prefer staying at home with Jack and my children. We never really go to any celeb bashes, as we're very much home birds.

Q HOW DO YOU COPE WITH BEING A WORKING MUM?

A It's pretty full on, as any other working mum would agree. But I'm lucky to have such a supportive family. They're always on hand to look after the children if I have to work. If they weren't cool about my work, I wouldn't be doing it. The kids also live with their father on alternate weekends.

Q HOW MUCH OF A SHOPAHOLIC ARE YOU?

A Not too much, but if I'm guilty of one thing it's buying people gifts all the time for no reason. They don't seem to mind, though – the kids especially! I must admit I do spoil them a bit, but there was a time when I couldn't afford to, so who cares!

Q WHAT'S THE MOST YOU'VE BLOWN IN A SINGLE DAY?

A About £5,000 – and that was just on a few Christmas presents! I actually shocked myself when I realised. There was a time when I could only dream of having that much money, never mind spending it in one day!

Q WHEN YOU SHOP, IS YOUR IMAGE A CONSIDERATION?

A Not at all! I just go for what I like. I've never been one for following a fashion or buying expensive designer gear. Shopping malls like Lakeside are the best – you can get everything you want in there and it looks just as cool.

Q WHICH MAKE-UP PRODUCTS DO YOU TEND TO GO FOR?

A Again, I just go for what I like or what I think looks and feels good on my skin. I have to be careful with what I use because I have eczema and it can flare up if irritated. I use a lot of MAC, Ruby & Millie and Rimmel.

Q YOU USED TO WORK IN A CLOTHES SHOP. DID YOU ENJOY IT?

A I remember when I was working in Top Shop's menswear section and was told to check the changing rooms were tidy. I was sure they were empty but noticed one of the cubicles had its curtain shut. So, I walked over, pulled back the curtain and found a man trying some jeans on. He wasn't wearing any underwear! I was so embarrassed.

Q WHERE DO YOU USUALLY CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS?

A I spend it with my family, but this year's going to be different. Jack and I spent last Christmas with my folks in Wigan, and New Year with his father in Canterbury. This year we're staying in our own house – just us and the kids – having our first Christmas as a married couple. I'll be doing the cooking, so I hope Jack has a strong stomach – he may need it!

Q WHAT'S YOUR IDEA OF A PERFECT CHRISTMAS?

A Just being with family and sharing good food. That's good enough for me. Happiness is what it's all about.

