

I tried writing various Christmas posts this morning. Unusually for me, several drafts hit the bin.

It's not a year for inappropriate sentiment.

It hardly needs saying that for most of us this is the weirdest Christmas ever.

I could add some politically relevant comment, but most readers here now the outlook on that front.

Put together, I am aware how stressful Christmas might be.

And, come to that, disappointing too.

Equally, I can't help but feel some hope. This Christmas is about taking pleasure where we can find it. That means it is about finding the right lens. And what underpins much of my work is the belief that there is a chance of peace on earth and a tangible goodwill to all that has the prospect of improving the lot of everyone. I can hope for that this Christmas.

Have the best time that you can.

Take cheer however it is possible.

Happy Christmas, because we know we can do better than this, and that's the hope we celebrate.