

TOP

GADGETS

THOSE R&D blokes who sit around thinking up stuff just don't know where to draw the line. They'll announce a new camcorder-scissors or pen-washing machine – and ad

guys will then tell us these are what we've always wanted. Before we know it, they're ours, and the wife's stormed down her mother's to "think about things". But, you know, it's worth it.



WHACKO WIRELESS

GOWING'S beaut little retro clock-radio takes you back to a time when folk wore driving gloves, lollies were a penny a sack, and you had to date a girl for 10 years before you were allowed to be alone with her. People also used the word "beaut" a lot more than they do now. Which is a shame. \$89.95, call Gowings on 1800 803 304

WRITING WRONGS

BILLED as "the world's most comfortable pen", which is a bit like saying "the world's angriest chair". The Sensa pen will write underwater, over grease and in zero gravity – very handy should you ever need to write a memo at the site of an outerspace oil spill... in the rain. \$120 from Ikonstore, call (02) 9252 6352

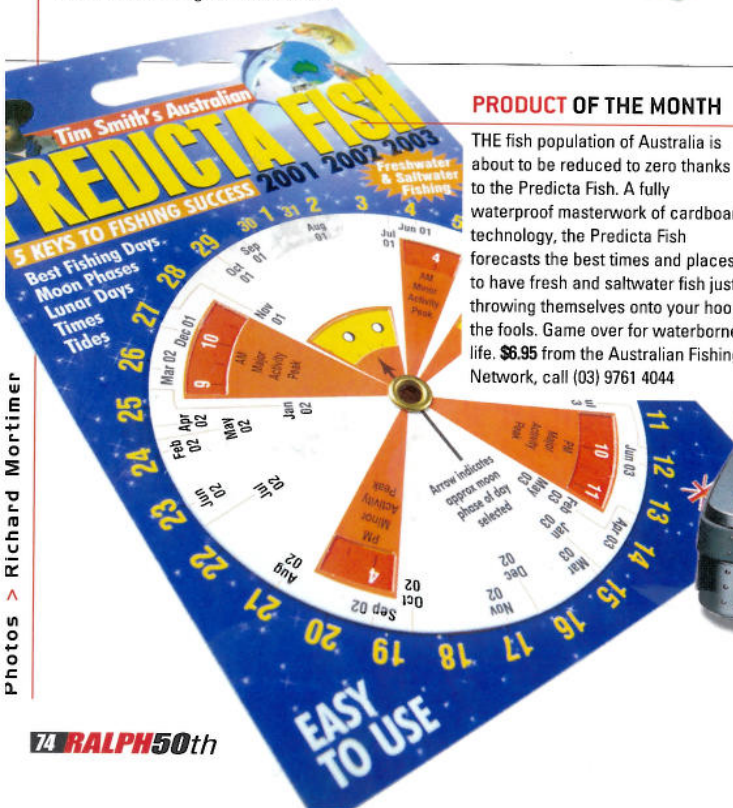
ROAD MOVIES

WE LOVE this. No, really: we love it and want to have its children. So small you could almost pop it in your pocket with the loose change, Sharp's DV-L80S portable DVD player still crams in a watchable 21cm screen. The clever battery installation keeps it streamlined and you get just enough juice to watch a long movie before you have to swap widescreen for the wide brown land out the train window. \$2969, call Sharp on (02) 9830 4600



PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

THE fish population of Australia is about to be reduced to zero thanks to the Predicta Fish. A fully waterproof masterwork of cardboard technology, the Predicta Fish forecasts the best times and places to have fresh and saltwater fish just throwing themselves onto your hook, the fools. Game over for waterborne life. \$6.95 from the Australian Fishing Network, call (03) 9761 4044



SCREEN GODDESS

THE RDC-i500 from Ricoh is so curvy and cute, you just wanna, you know, fool around with it. Looks aside, it's a damn fine digital camera, with a 5cm pop-up LCD screen, eight meg memory, respectable zoom and colossal 3.34 megapixel resolution. In fact, there are so many features, it hurts. But, you know... it's good pain. \$1999, call Ricoh on 1800 646 679

