



Happy New Year to all our members. Can't wait to show you the fabulous ranges of new puzzles available from our many Manufacturers. As soon as new catalogues become available, we will send them but for the moment we'll keep you up to date with our monthly news!

THE OFFICIAL UK PUZZLE CLUB

New research overturns popular view of puzzling

I'm sure you will remember the 'Puzzling Profile' that you helped with during 2007. The results have just gone to press and are very interesting!!

If you prefer to let your Christmas Dinner go down poring over a jigsaw puzzle than with a brisk walk around the local park, then you've cause for celebration. You're likely to be an extrovert.

New research by Ravensburger, one of the UK's leading puzzle manufacturers, suggests that contrary to the commonly held view of puzzling as a solitary activity for shy and lonely types, the typical puzzler is more likely to be an extrovert with an addictive personality.

Psychological profiling, undertaken amongst members of the Official UK Puzzle Club, found that puzzlers are more organised and determined than the average Brit. Puzzlers are also good people to have as friends. They are likely to be loyal, dependable and cope well in stressful situations.

More surprising, however, is the finding that the majority of puzzlers also display extrovert qualities being sociable, energetic and assertive. These extrovert puzzlers are impulsive sensation seekers, it seems, buying more jigsaws, working through them at greater speed and seeking greater levels of challenge and excitement.

An estimated 5.5 million jigsaws are sold each year in the UK with around half of all sales taking place in the run up to Christmas. Nearly three quarters (71%) of British Puzzlers complete one or more puzzles a month, with one third completing one or more a week. However, it's the Welsh who claim the title of the most dedicated puzzlers with 81% completing one or more puzzles a month.

Margaret Green, from Tredegar in South Wales, a lifelong puzzler with 500 puzzles in her collection, believes puzzlers are afraid to admit to their habit:

"I think people don't like to own up to puzzling because it's viewed as a sad past-time, but that's far from the truth. I always have a puzzle on the go and out on display. It's amazing the amount of visitors and tradesmen who declare their love of puzzling, with great relief as if they're coming out, and are delighted to find a fellow addict."

Margaret was introduced to jigsaws by her surrogate grandmother and as a nursery nurse encouraged the children in her care to puzzle:

"Puzzling has brought me such pleasure and I wanted to share

that with others. It proved to be an excellent past-time for children, encouraging their concentration and fine manipulation skills as well as their conversation skills as they talked and laughed about the subject matter of the puzzle. And as an adult, I've found it a perfect way to unwind at the end of a busy and stressful day."

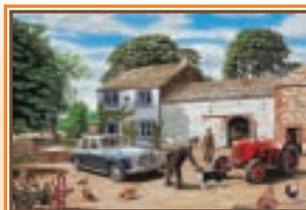
Sarah Stevens, Product Manager for Ravensburger Puzzles, says: "We're delighted with the results of this research. Of course puzzling has always been a pleasurable past-time since it was invented back in 1767 but as this research shows puzzlers themselves are good people to be around"

Many thanks to the many members who took the time to fill in the questionnaire. Just out of interest, we've shown the top 5 in this newsletter. (All available from the Club) As Ravensburger provide more information - we'll keep you posted.

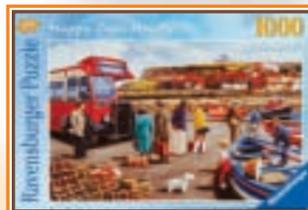
To view the entire range of Ravensburger puzzles visit www.ravensburger.com



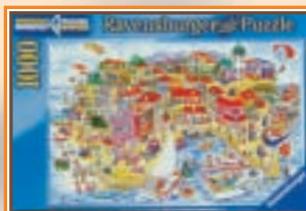
It shouldn't happen to a Gardener



Greeting the Vet



Happy Days Whitby



Mirror Image: Holiday Park



Thornton Dale Cottage

READ ABOUT

-  **New research on behalf of Ravensburger**
-  **News & Views**
-  **Previews & Coming soon**
-  **Reader's letters**
-  **Official Puzzle Club selected Jigsaws**
-  **Jigs corner-Keeping you informed**
-  **Winning Ways**

NEWS & VIEWS

Just a reminder that the first letter published in this section qualifies the writer to a free 1000pc jigsaw of their choice – Just let us know which you would like.

We have a Christmas lunch each year at our local community centre. Father Christmas comes along after lunch and distributes his sack of presents (donated and wrapped by everyone attending) so we all get a gift!! It's quite nice really as so many of the attendees have few surviving family members and this is their Christmas. During the year someone gave me a jigsaw, which wasn't to my taste, so I wrapped it in really pretty paper and ribbons and took it along... Guess who's gift this ended up being?

Anonymous.

We know who you are! So don't forget to claim a jigsaw of your taste and choice!

As very new to 'puzzling', I am finding my new hobby very enjoyable so my Christmas list consisted of lots of puzzles chosen from the catalogues I received when I joined the Club. The family were really pleased because they normally struggle to find me surprise gifts. But I've since found out it wasn't as straight forward as I thought! In most cases the jigsaws I wanted were either sold out or not available. Not to be outdone my list was sent to Margaret at the club and low and behold, all but one of my selection was under the tree on Christmas morning. A big thank you to all concerned. I am really pleased I found you.

Linda Moss - Huddersfield.

We were delighted to help and hope you'll be enjoying your Christmas presents for many months to come. It was quite a shipping order.

Apologies to all who pointed out two glaring errors in our last newsletter! Firstly we advertised 'Lamplight Lane and Mountain Chapel' as 2 x 1000 piece jigsaws. They are in fact 2 x 500pc Jigsaws and a BIG apology to the residents of Stourhead, which we transcribed as Stourbridge.

We received so many cards and best wishes in December; we just had to say a big thank you to you all. Lou & Jig were delighted with the chocs, bones and good wishes too. We'll do our best to give you the very best in 2008. It's so nice to know you have enjoyed being part of our unique community.

Best regards to all

Margaret, Lou & Jig and the rest of the team.

JIG'S CORNER QUESTIONS & INFORMATION & MORE

Happy New Year & Happy Puzzling. Did you have a great Christmas? I certainly did, but put on pounds and pounds (Spent lots of ££'s too!). So back to the exciting task of finding new puzzles for you all.

We're off to Toy/Gift fairs in the next two months- so watch this space for new manufacturers and the latest great jigsaws.

Are you on our 'Wasgij collectors reserve list?' Collectors will be pleased to know that Wasgij Mystery 4 – Live Entertainment & Destiny 8-High season are ready for despatch.

Still no news of Mike Jupp- puzzle club exclusives, but we hope to have them available soon. Will keep you informed.

You shouldn't have, but a big thank you for taking the time to remember me. I'm feeling more a part of the club now and have been given big new projects for 2008!

Still trying to get madam to let me publish a picture of the team. Hope we have more success in 2008.

Any questions?? I'll do my best to help.

Happy 2008 Puzzling

Jig



WINNING WAYS

Christmas activities certainly didn't stop you from entering our competition. The answer was 'Santa was caught dozing by the Fire' and our winning entrant is Mrs J E Barber-Bideford, who can choose a 1000pc jigsaw of her choice.

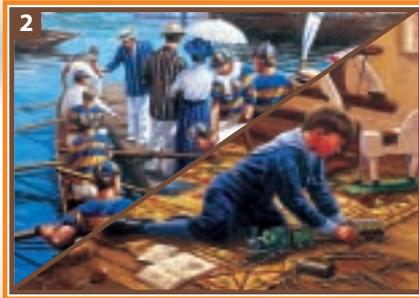
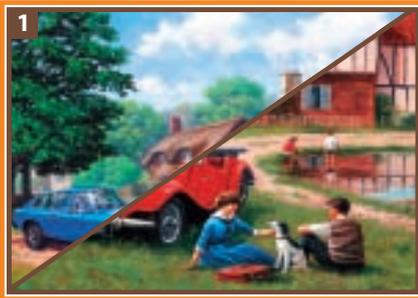
AND OUR WINNING WAYS COMPETITION FOR ISSUE 28!

Who received the most jigsaws for Christmas 2007? How many did you have as gifts?

Answers by 24th January 2008 please.

PREVIEWS

Just a few of Classic Deluxe most popular jigsaws which are available to purchase from the club. A fairly new Jigsaw Manufacturer with many great issues to come.



1 Country Drive & TF for two 2 x 500pc
4 Local Deliveries-1000pc

2 Henley Regatta & Playing 2 x 500pc
5 The Cotswolds-1000pc

3 Chatsworth House-1000pc
6 Ilfracombe-1000pc

And a small taste of things to come SOON from Gibson's 2008 range



1 Henshaws Mobile Shop

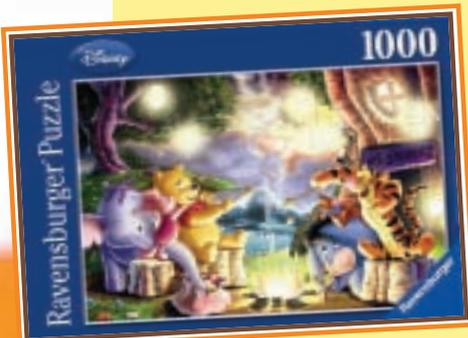
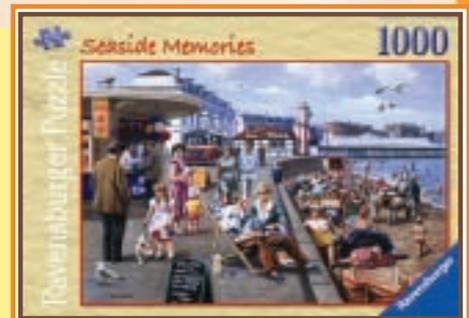
2 No Stone unturned

3 Great British Pub

OFFICIAL PUZZLE CLUB SELECTED JIGSAWS

Seaside Memories by Kevin Walsh from 2008 Ravensburger collection to bring you a little sunshine-1000pc available at £9.99.

Seaside Memories



Latest Disney Winnie the Pooh called Campsite. A must for all our Disney Collectors-1000pc available at £9.99.

Campsite

A Great favourite from the Gibsons range- Always on the Go by Kevin Walsh (Summer & Winter)-2 x 1000pc Jigsaws in one box. Available at £16.99.

Always on the Go x 2



To order **Seaside Memories** and/or **Campfire** and/or **Always on the Go** or any of the other products featured in this issue complete the Order form below and send with your remittance payable to: **The Official UK Puzzle Club, PO Box 3351, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 2WE.** (If you don't want to spoil your newsletter, simply put your request on paper).

Please send me:

	Price	Quantity	Value
Seaside Memories by Kevin Walsh -1000pc		£9.99	
Campfire-1000pc		£11.99	
G909-Always on Go		£16.99	
5003-Country Drive 2 x 500pc		£9.99	
5002- Henley Regatta 2 x 500		£9.99	
3021- Chatsworth House-1000pc		£8.99	
3027- Local Deliveries		£8.99	
3028- The Cotswolds		£8.99	
3022- Ilfracombe		£8.99	
Shouldn't Happen to a Gardener-1000pc		£9.99	
Greeting the Vet-500pc		£6.99	
Happy Days Whitby-1000pc		£9.99	
Mirror Image-Holiday Park		£8.99	
Thornton Dale Cottage-1000pc		£8.99	
Ref:			
Ref:			
Ref:			
Postage and Packing		£3.50	
Gold Members- Please deduct 10% from above prices excluding specials & p&p		Total Value:	

Name

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Email

Membership No.

I enclose a cheque/postal order for £ _____ made payable to THE OFFICIAL UK PUZZLE CLUB.

Please debit my credit/debit card for £ _____ from my: MASTERCARD VISA MAESTRO/SOLO

CARD NO *

ISSUE NO

SECURITY CODE (last 3 numbers on reverse of card)

EXPIRY DATE

VALID FROM

Please allow up to 28 days for delivery

* Please attach cardholder's details if different from above

Contact us:

Official UK Puzzle Club, PO Box 3351, Wokingham, Berks RG41 2WE · Telephone: 0118 978 9599 · Fax: 0118 979 5077

Email: mb@jigsaw-puzzle-club.co.uk or sales@whispers.co.uk. · Web Address: www.jigsaw-puzzle-club.co.uk

Other great Websites. Jigsaw Gallery have a wider variety of manufacturers to choose from but do try us first.

Tel: 020 8661 7597 · Web address: www.jigsawgallery.com

Another Great website with lots of manufacturers we don't yet deal with available through the club or direct

www.jigsawpuzzlesdirect.co.uk

General Sales, helpline, retailers in your area, and general membership enquiries. Tel: 0118 978 9599