



Many thanks for your patience during my break/holiday.

We have now caught up with the backlog of orders and new Member's have far exceeded my expectations. A warm welcome and thank you to all.

THE OFFICIAL UK PUZZLE CLUB

The Story behind the latest Accessories from Gibson's and the Designers

Lisa and Colin King have spent most of their lives in the world of horticulture. What is the connection between "Baby plants" and jigsaw puzzle accessories?

From their glasshouse nursery in the Lincolnshire Fens they built a business supplying baby plants to garden centres. They branded their products "KinderGarden Plants" and brightly coloured displays of these can now be found in over 200 large garden centres throughout the country.

Life in horticulture was always hectic –with sales running into millions of pounds (and an overdraft to match!) it is not surprising that Lisa and Colin wanted a hobby that was not stressful, non competitive and relaxing. What better than jigsaw puzzles?

Lisa's mum, Elizabeth, lived with the couple and it was her who introduced them to jigsaws; Elizabeth had a long running illness that kept her confined to the house but she adored jigsaw puzzles. Lisa and Colin used to help her on odd occasions. The odd occasions grew to be frequent and eventually Lisa and Colin were putting in many more pieces than Mum!

The problem was that jigsaws were gradually taking over their home – which all avid Jigsaw Puzzlers can relate to! Try as they might they couldn't find equipment to help them with their jigsaw puzzle storage and display problems so they set about developing their own range – ultimately to be known as **Jigthings**.

The urgent requirement was to find a way of easily moving around a part-assembled jigsaw and to store it when it was not required. After many months of trial and error they developed a prototype board (for construction of the jigsaw) combined with smaller trays (for the non assembled pieces) and a stylish outer case in which the whole assembly could safely be stored. The invention was christened **Jigsaw**.

Lisa and Colin embarked on a national tour of stores to demonstrate how Jigsaw worked, giving them the opportunity to talk to other jigsaw puzzle enthusiasts. It became evident that people have very varied requirements for jigsaw puzzle equipment and the duo resolved to design a suite of equipment that would cater for these diverse needs.

The biggest problem encountered by jigsaw-puzzler's is the "Management" of the non-assembled pieces - the space required for all the non-assembled pieces of a jigsaw is twice that required for the completed article. What was required was a way to keep 1,000 pieces the right way up, safe and within easy reach. After much pondering of elaborate designs of draws, cabinets, sliding trays and revolving mechanisms it was Lisa who alighted on the idea of nesting cardboard boxes. As Colin explains "It wasn't rocket science but it did the job beautifully. It remains the simplest design idea within the Jigthings range. The nesting boxes were christened **Jigsaw**.

The next problem in line for solving was how to store COMPLETED puzzles. To Lisa and Colin it always seemed a little odd to spend many hours constructing a jigsaw only to break it up without enjoying the completed work for a little while. Would you unpick a tapestry as soon as it was completed? Would you disassemble a photograph album as soon as you found out how attractive it could look? The problem was solved by the use of cardboard sheets that are used to "Sandwich" jigsaws between them whilst stored in an outer box. Now every jigsaw that they made could be kept for all eternity without a piece ever coming out of place. What to call the new "Thingy"? It could only be **Jigstore!**

READ ABOUT

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NEWS & VIEWS

Best of the Bunch!

We had a couple of really dreary days on our holiday. One day in particular springs to mind, when it was raining cats and dogs outside and we were at a very loose end. We normally pack a few games and jigsaw puzzles for a just in case day and I fished in our just in case bag. To help with storage, we take the puzzles out of their boxes and label them and take a colour copy of the box lid, however on this occasion, I must have neglected to include the picture. Worse – there were four bags each containing pieces. Couldn't remember which puzzle it was. Whilst I got our puzzle board out, my dearly beloved (being helpful) opened ALL the bags and proceeded to find the straight edges and separate out the colours. After quite some time I realised and remembered that we had ordered a four x 500pc jigsaw by Gibson which was called Magic of the Seasons. If anyone owns this puzzle, I know you'll understand the difficulties in trying to complete four thatched cottages, all the same coloured pieces. A 500 pc jigsaw normally takes just an afternoon to complete. Four days later we, with a bit of extra help from our fellow campers, proudly finished the four. We bought glue on the way home and intend to frame this as a reminder of our jigsaw puzzling holiday.

Mr & Mrs A E Saunders – Swindon.

Hopefully, it didn't rain for the whole of your holiday and I'd be interested to know how you commandeered the other campers to help. Anyway, you've qualified for a jigsaw prize!! Please choose any of our 1000pc puzzles....and would you like it with or without the picture?

A special thank you to Mr Wakeford, who went to the time and trouble to find us a source for TREFL (correctly spelt this time) puzzles. As we had traced this manufacturer and were going to use this information in our competition, we didn't acknowledge his letter; however, we would like to give Mr Wakeford a free puzzle of his choice for researching this for us. Please let me know which image you would like.

What a lovely surprise I got when I read the letter page in issue 8 to find that you had printed my letter. Things have been really fraught lately because of family illness and this really cheered me up. I laughed when I read the front page about missing pieces, because we had a classic case of frantic searching when my beloved Red Setter, Max was alive. I had just come to the end of a jigsaw but couldn't find piece, so the lounge was turned upside down, but we couldn't find it. Two days later, whilst grooming Max guess what we found? As he was such a huge dog and I mean huge it was well hidden. Now we have a tiny puppy who likes nothing better than standing on his hind legs supposedly helping. Puzzles are such a wonderful way to spend several hours and I am not surprised that your club is growing. I recommend it to everyone.

Mrs S J Murray-Mendis – Mansfield.

Seems that pets also love puzzling or could it be a way of gaining extra attention? We have had many letters telling us of your pets help! Thank you for your comments re: the club. Do make sure that if one of your friends joins we have a note of your recommendation. This way you will get your free jigsaw for the introduction.

Thanks too to Margaret Grey for her card & very flattering comments. I hope we will continue to bring pleasure to all our jigsaw club members.

QUESTIONS & INFORMATION

A: Mrs Atkinson, from Tamworth asked about a puzzle in our last issue. This was published by Falcon or Ravensburger approximately two years ago. Out of print now. Michael Gibson-Gibson's Games.

B: Ms Coppen found an old leaflet in a puzzle recently. Unfortunately the two puzzles are no longer available. If anyone has either Rose Petal Gift shop or Peaceful place or comes across them in a shop (both by Ravensburger) please let me know and I'll pass on the information.

C: Mr J E Thompson from Stratford is trying to trace the following jigsaws published by Ravensburger. Peanuts Gang, Snoopy/Woodstock holiday and Snoopy at Football stadium. Perhaps you one or all of these puzzles and can offer them to Mr Thompson who would love to add them to his collection.

D: Not all Educa & Clementoni products are listed. Those not listed are not available in the UK for 2006-i.e: Some Character products and Licence products. We will obviously do our best to provide you with a full range during 2007.

If you have a question you'd like to include, write or phone and let us know and we will endeavour to find an answer for you.

No doubt I shall speak to many of you during July, but I'm being greedy this year and taking another break during

WINNING WAYS

Our Issue 9 winner is Jacqueline Howe from Doddington who gave us the correct answer to our questions re: Trefl and spelt it correctly and also sent her answer on a specially designed card. Thank you. Jacqueline wins a 1000pc jigsaw of her choice.

And our Winning Ways question for Issue 10:

The Official Puzzle Club will be celebrating their first year on 30th September 2006. Guess how many members we are at the beginning of July. Closest member will receive our brand new Kevin Walsh Limited Edition which is due for release in September. Answers by 31st July please.

(Just a reminder! Our winners will not receive a voucher in future but can choose any 1000pc puzzle of their choice from any of our extensive ranges. Just let us know which you would like. You have 12 months to register your choice.)



MEET THE PHOTOGRAPHER

Tom Mackie has been a photographer all his working life. His degree in commercial photography took him first of all to Los Angeles, where he spent five years as an industrial and architectural photographer. It was during this period that he travelled widely in the Western States, discovering in himself a previously unknown fervour for the beauty of those vast 'cinemascope' panoramas. After that, the confines of a Los Angeles commercial studio were never going to hold him. Tom married his art to this new-found passion and embarked on a 'til death-do-us-part' relationship with landscape photography. Moving to the UK in 1985, he pursued a full-time career as a landscape photographer. His talents have also won accolades from The British Institute of Professional Photographers, the Ilford Awards and Business Calendar Awards.

PREVIEWS

Jigthings

A complete selection of really useful accessories to help you get the best out of your hobby.

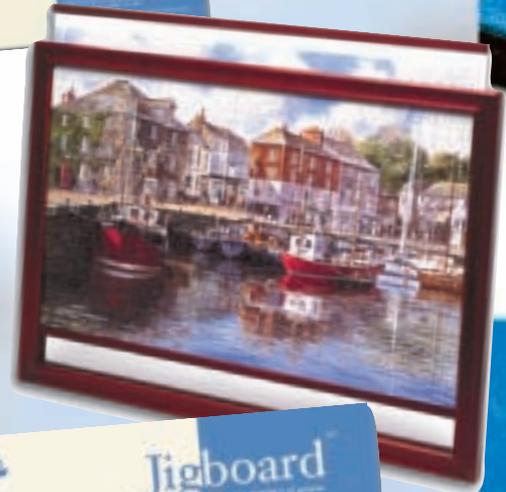
Jigsafe

Seven nesting trays to provide storage for all your puzzle pieces. Holds up to 1000 pieces



Jigframe

Beautiful elegant frame with a unique sliding tray to allow easy storage and display of your favourite puzzles



Jigstore

Store up to 10 completed jigsaws, reduce your storage and have your favourites ready to display in the Jigframe.



Jigboard

A cheaper and practical solution for assembling and moving your puzzle. Light & portable.



Jigsort

Excellent quality and flexibility makes this the best I've seen so far.

Includes a Jigboard and four sort trays and is available in 500, 1000, and 1500 sizes.

This great range will be available direct from the puzzle club during July. Most will be in stock at the beginning to middle of July.

OFFICIAL PUZZLE CLUB SELECTED JIGSAWS

Chatsworth House-one of England's beautiful buildings, set in the Peak District and photographed by Tom Mackie from Classic Deluxe 1000pc. Available for £8.99.



Nostalgic Railway scene by famous Artist Malcolm Root from Gibson's range. 1000pc Jigsaw at £10.99.

Chatsworth House

Summer Outing (10158)

To order Chatsworth House and /or Summer Outing or any of the other products available, complete the Order form below and send with your remittance payable to: (no payments taken until despatch)

The Official UK Puzzle Club, PO Box 3351, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 2WE

Please send me:

	Price	Quantity	Value	Name
Chatsworth House by Tom Mackie	£8.99			_____
Summer Outing by Malcolm Root	£8.99			Address _____
Jigsaw-500	£29.99			_____
Jigsaw-1000	£39.99			_____
Jigsaw-1500	£49.99			_____
Jigsawsafe	£14.99			_____
Jigsawframe-500	£29.99			Postcode _____
Jigsawframe-1000	£39.99			Telephone _____
Jigsawstore-500	£15.99			Email _____
Jigsawstore-1000	£29.99			Membership No. _____
Postage and Packing			£3.50	
Gold members deduct 10% from above prices		Total Value:		

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

Please debit £ _____ from my: MASTERCARD SWITCH VISA

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:

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

For all international sales we recommend Jigsaw Gallery
Tel: 020 8661 7597 · Web address: www.jigsawgallery.com

Helpline, retailers in your area, and general membership enquiries. Tel: 0118 978 9599