



Wow! Where has the year gone? We've just finalised the last issue for 2006 and have lots of interesting articles and special editions coming up for you. A few surprises too. Is there anything you would like to read/know about? Help us by letting us know which topics you would like us to cover and we'll do our best to include them.

## THE OFFICIAL UK PUZZLE CLUB

### What do you want to be when you grow up?

**I always wanted to be an Opera singer or actress, but unfortunately didn't have the required skills for either. Imagine what it must be like to earn a living doing the one thing that your dreams are made of.**

Having met a number of very talented Artist's and Illustrators, and listened to their enthusiasm about their work, they seem to fall into just this category. In fact their works often cover a wealth of varying talents, but the subject matter produced by the comic artist fills me and many of you with awe. How does one come up with so many diverse ideas and include them so interestingly within the bigger picture! Does it start with a doodle type image and expand from there? Does one have a subject in mind and work on the elements of the idea in advance before completing the final picture? Or does one just take a blank canvass and fill it from start to finish.

Here are just a few and an insight into how a commissioned design becomes a unique piece of artwork and ultimately a 'Good fun Jigsaw' for our enjoyment.

Award-winning artist and author Anna Nilsen has been commissioned by Ravensburger and has produced "It Shouldn't Happen to a Gardener" and "It Shouldn't Happen to a Chef" (see our

Featured Jigsaws), part of an on going series to watch out for. I spoke to Sarah Stevens, product manager with Ravensburger to get an insight into the original ideas. Her brief was to create a new series of comedy jigsaw puzzles, which could be developed and extended. She decided to base the series around a central theme which people could identify with, but it had to be flexible enough to be applied to a whole range of subjects, and allow the artist to illustrate all sorts of visual "gags". After some research, Sarah decided to opt for a general title of "It shouldn't happen to", as it would give her lots of opportunity to show all sorts of misfortunes (which seem to make most people laugh). The first puzzle would be "It shouldn't happen to a Gardener".

Anna Nilsen's brief was to create a scene almost like a crazy Chelsea Flower Show, where people were working on different "show" gardens, but everything was going wrong. The image started as a rough pencil sketch, then became an accurate pencil drawing and finally a full-colour piece of

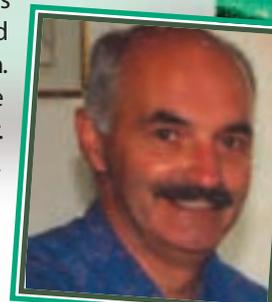
artwork - all of it hand drawn and painted and absolutely packed with detail and the closer you look, the more you see!

Following on from this fantastic concept, is 'Mirror Image' where the Jigsaw is a totally reversed (as you would see in a mirror) to the picture shown on the box. There are currently 4 in this series and many more planned for the future in Ravensburger's extensive range. These are illustrated by William Rudling, who comes from Plymouth, and studied at the Manchester College of Art. His cartoons have been exhibited widely throughout the UK and Europe and lists his major influences as Ronald Searle, Giles, Roland Emmett and London artist and historian Peter Jackson. Mike Jupp describes himself as "a Freelance cartoonist, character designer, author and illustrator. Oh, and recently cartoon Jigsaw Puzzle Illustrator. (Someone has to be!)" He is responsible for the very successful 'I LOVE SERIES' by Gibson's, who have commissioned him to produce many various titles. Each full of detail and fun to do and as with all our comic images, each time the picture is completed you'll find details you missed the first time round.

Gibson's have also commissioned Dick Bogie producing 'The Great British Seaside' and 'The Great British Supermarket'. Dick is extremely popular, producing comic art for newspapers, Company brochures and greetings cards. He started his working life as an apprentice engineer, but now concentrates on his career as a professional cartoonist.



Mike Jupp



William Rudling



Anna Nilsen

## READ ABOUT

-  **Creating Jigsaws to make you laugh**
-  **News & Views**
-  **Featured Artist**
-  **Previews**
-  **Readers letters & Jig's Corner**
-  **Official Puzzle Club selected Jigsaws**
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# NEWS & VIEWS

## Best of the Bunch!

Forty years ago when I was a 'Working Girl' I worked along side a woman, the mother of a mentally handicapped near blind boy, who considered himself a jigsaw puzzler. How? Well he sorted out all the pieces into piles-plain edges-one prong-two prong-three prong and four prong. His mother then made up the puzzle, but he felt that he was the major factor in its completion. Sad? Well maybe but it gave him a great deal of pride in himself.

**Anonymous - but you will know who you are and we look forward to receiving details of your puzzle-prize choice.**

*We have many disabled and handicapped children and adults in our club and it's a real pleasure to talk to them and find out how 'puzzling' fills such an important role in their well being and development. There are so many benefits, not excluding the sense of pride. We have one member in particular that springs to mind that is unable to pick up pieces and uses long tweezers to position the pieces. The world can be a sad place but I doubt these members would totally agree!*

TIPS FOR NEW PUZZLERS: (1) Put all the edges in one place. (2) Sort different shapes in another place. (3) Start from the middle so you can turn your puzzle around anyway. Then when you've done a few puzzles, you can make it harder and leave them all in one box.

**Mrs Trood from Wraybury.**

*We prefer to separate all the colours and then work on the jigsaw section by section we've just tried out the Jigsaw by Gibson's and it is a real asset. We can complete sections and then move them into position. Not quite so easy though with some of the jigsaws we are previewing this month!*

I have just completed a Jigsaw that has really tested my patience to the limit. The jigsaw by Russo has proven to be the toughest yet. When I first started to assemble it, I started with the sky, since this is usually the most time consuming part and then progressed with the sides. Then disaster struck when my sleeve caught the edge of the board and the puzzle finished up in a heap on the living room carpet. The air was blue – all that work and time wasted. I had every intention of putting the box complete with puzzle in the rubbish bin, but somehow, couldn't bring myself to do it. Instead, after a week I decided to try again, but this time started with the bottom. It's now complete (no pieces missing) and I feel as though I have won the lottery!

**Mr Mills from Stafford.**

*It always amazes us when we hear about the patience and pleasures on fitting that final piece, but we as avid puzzlers understand this so well.*

## QUESTIONS & INFORMATION

**A:** 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 do our best to provide you with the best available titles for 2007, so if you have a few favourites please let us know.

**B:** To all our Wasgij collectors. Although we don't feature the Falcon or Jumbo range, they are available through the club. We have just taken delivery of Wasgij 13-Calendar Girls & and Xmas Wasgij 2... both new for 2006 and not usually available until later in the year.

**C:** I would like to be able to complete & store my jigsaws, but find that the boards available can be very expensive. Doesn't anyone supply a cheaper alternative?

Gibsons have introduced a very inexpensive alternative to their Jigsaw - Just a very basic Board with an edging to prevent pieces falling off. It is light and portable and is available from the club at £14.99 for a 1000pc and £12.99 for a 500pc. However, Mr Harris has made several plywood trays and edged them with dowelling and informs me that they are perfect for the job and very reasonable to produce

**D:** Just a reminder that the office will be closed from 4th August -20th August. However, both the phones and post will be taken care of, so do contact us and leave a message and we will get back to you on our return.

**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.**

## WINNING WAYS

Our Issue 10 winner is Mike Roberts from Scarborough, one of our founder members who guessed the exact number of members to the end of June. Mike wins our brand new Limited edition by Kevin Walsh, due to be released in September.

**And our Winning Ways question for Issue 11:**

**How many Artists have we featured in our August issue newsletter?**

**Answers by 31st August please.**

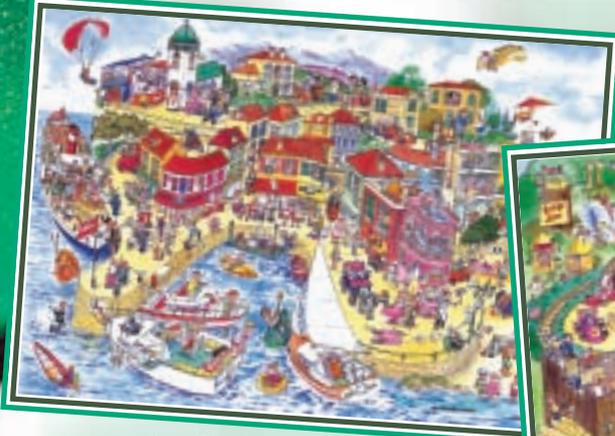
*(Just a reminder! Our winners will not receive a voucher in future but can choose any 1000pc puzzle of their choice from any of our extensive ranges, unless we specify the prize on offer. Just let us know which you would like. You have 12 month's to register your choice.)*



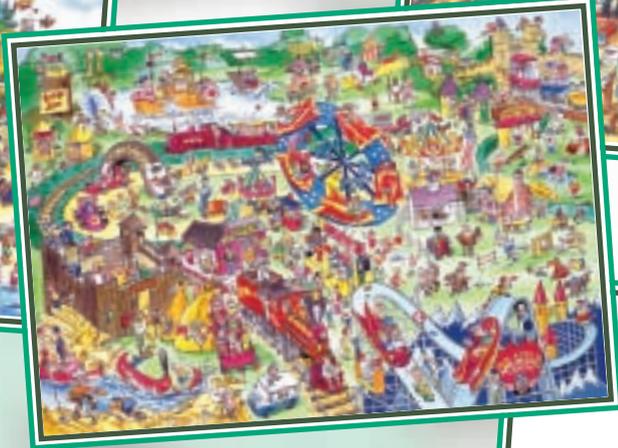
## MEET THE ARTIST

The books of Cicely Mary Barker have enjoyed an enduring popularity with adults and children alike. Her pictures of nostalgic children and floral sprites are charmingly delicate in detail and exhibit her understanding of nature. Her father paid for a correspondence course in art which she continued until at least 1919. It provided her with details and the constructive criticism that she needed. He also enrolled her in an evening class at the Croyden School of Art when she was thirteen, which she continued to attend into the 1940's, eventually earning a teaching position there. She is best known for her 'Flower Fairy' series which were based on her knowledge of plants and flowers and her artistic studies of real children, each dressed to represent a different flower. We have selected one of her many works which has been purchased on behalf of Members of the Club and is not currently available in the UK.

## PREVIEWS



*Holiday Village  
(1000pcs)*



*Theme Park  
(1000pcs)*



*Airport  
(1000pcs)*

*I love the Country  
(1000pcs)*



*Great British Seaside  
(1000pcs)*



*I love Boats  
(1000pcs)*

*I love the Weekend  
(1000pcs)*



# OFFICIAL PUZZLE CLUB SELECTED JIGSAWS

An Official Puzzle club exclusive produced by Ravensburger and not available in the UK. This 1000pc Jigsaw Called Butterflies of the World, has a flock finish adding another texture to your puzzling experience. Available at £19.99.



*Butterflies of the World*

Another Puzzle Club Exclusive produced by Ravensburger called Flower Fairies by Cicely Mary Barker and cannot be purchased in UK shops. Available at £9.99.



*The Rose Fairy*

Latest from It Shouldn't Happen series. It Shouldn't happen to a TV Chef. The latest Great Image from Ravensburger and available at £9.99.

*It shouldn't happen to a TV Chef*



To order Butterflies of the World, The Rose Fairy and/or TV Chef 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
Butterflies of the World- Exclusive	£19.99		
The Rose Fairy by Cicely Mary Barker	£9.99		
It Shouldn't Happen to a TV Chef	£9.99		
I Love the Country	£10.99		
I Love the Weekend	£10.99		
I Love Boats	£10.99		
Great British Seaside	£10.99		
Mirror Image Airport	£8.99		
Mirror Image Holiday Village	£8.99		
Mirror Image Theme Park	£8.99		
Mirror Image Garden Centre	£8.99		
It Shouldn't Happen to a Gardener	£9.99		
<b>Postage and Packing</b>			£3.50
<b>Gold members deduct 10% from above prices</b>		<b>Total Value:</b>	

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Membership No. \_\_\_\_\_

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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**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