



A warm 'puzzling' welcome and many thanks for your continued support of our club. With your help and support thus far we have introduced the club to almost 2700 members. We love to receive your letters and comments, so do please let us know what you think! Good or bad.

THE OFFICIAL UK PUZZLE CLUB

A Taste of Ireland

From Artist Rachel Arbuckle and a Few Myths

Dublin born artist Rachel Arbuckle graduated from Dublin's National College of Art and Design in 1990. She has always been fascinated by Celtic heritage. Inspiration found in the intricate knotwork adorning the ancient manuscripts, stone and metalwork, coupled with Rachel's love of a good story, have combined to produce some of the most popular images in contemporary Irish Celtic Art. Tailten Games have had some of Rachel's stunning images produced as Jigsaws, three of which we have featured this month and more to come in March.

Courting Peacocks

The image of the peacock can be found in many cultures and traditions. The early Celts looked to the beasts of the earth, sky and sea in an attempt to understand life and believed animals taught them how to live in harmony with Nature itself. The peacock appeared as a symbol of beauty, paradise, rebirth, pride and the incorruptibility of the soul. It also tells the story of the heavens and the rays of the sun. As legend had it, the peacock's flesh did not putrefy, so the Celts considered it a symbol of the Resurrection and everlasting life. Hence, it is widely used throughout early Christian Celtic manuscripts as a representation of Christ.

The Twelve Days of Christmas

A stunning interpretation of the classic Christmas song in Rachel's inimitable style. It was illegal to be a Catholic in England from 1558 to 1829, so this was written as a catechism song to help young Catholics learn the basics of their faith. Since it sounded like rhyming nonsense, Catholics could sing it without fear of imprisonment. The song had hidden meanings; "true love" refers to God and "me" refers to the church. The twelve gifts also had their meanings. On the twelfth day of Christmas my true love sent to me twelve drummers drumming (the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostles' Creed), eleven pipers piping (the eleven faithful apostles), ten lords a-leaping (the ten commandments), nine ladies dancing (the nine fruits of the Spirit), eight maids a-milking (the eight beatitudes), seven swans a-swimming (the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven sacraments), six geese a-laying (the six days of creation), five golden rings (the first five books of the Old Testament, the "Pentateuch"), four calling birds (the four Gospels, the four evangelists), three French hens (faith, hope and charity), two turtle doves (the Old and New Testaments) and a partridge in a pear tree (Jesus Christ, symbolically presented as a mother partridge that acts as a decoy to save her helpless chicks from predators).

Yuletide Offerings

The modern English word Yule derives from the Old Norse Jól, which refers to pagan feasts during the Germanic winter solstice. These would sometimes last twelve days and were later Christianised into Christmas. They involved the giving of gifts, festive meals, decorated trees and coloured lights to ward off evil spirits. Live evergreen trees were often brought into homes during the harsh winters as a reminder to inhabitants that soon their crops would grow again. Holly was placed over doorways in the belief that it would ward off evil spirits; its berries were also thought to be a food of the gods...



All this information and more appears on the boxes produced to hold these unusual challenging Jigsaws, which I'm sure you'll enjoy.

READ ABOUT

-  **A Taste of Ireland at Christmas**
-  **News & Views**
-  **Previews & Coming soon**
-  **Reader's letters**
-  **Official Puzzle selected Jigsaws**
-  **Jigs corner-Keeping you informed**
-  **Winning Ways**

NEWS & VIEWS

Our winning letter qualifying for this month's free puzzle

What a good idea!! I ordered a 'random' jigsaw as mentioned in the last newsletter and was reminded of many years past, when jigsaws came in boxes with no clue to the eventual picture. It took me a little longer than usual, but finally I completed it and revealed a beautiful picture – a lake scene, with mountains in the background. AND a good quality fit! The only clue given was the word scenic written on the label and what a pleasure it was! With the wind howling outside and torrential rain... it was a 'little ray of sunshine. Please keep this going. I shall be ordering more.

Maeve Thomas from Banbury

We are delighted to hear that you enjoyed your challenge! This idea went down extremely well with you all, however we did have requests for 500pc jigsaws, and some specifics: i.e.: Comic-Scenic-Animal-etc. The comic, animal & scenic pose no problem and we do have a few 500pc challenges too but further specified selections are a little difficult, since these are usually jigsaws that arrive in damaged boxes, which are taken out of their boxes and labelled by size and manufacturer, so in some cases, we don't recall what the original jigsaw looked like. We'll be adding these to your general price list at £4.50 for 1000pc & £3.00 for a 500pc.

Dear Jig, with reference to your newsletter about 'Bits & Pieces' – I have been a customer of theirs for several years and they really are amazing. They are based here in Manchester. Do try to get their catalogue - it does have very unusual gifts and jigsaws.

Mrs K Costello - Manchester

We had many letters and phone calls regarding 'Bits & Pieces' a few gave us cause for concern. Apparently, the UK arm of this company went into liquidation early this year, but have since resurfaced at a new address. Until we are able to establish whether they are one and the same company and also due to the fact that several of our members were left out of pocket, we'll not be pursuing this range at present.

I wanted to share an idea I came up with this year for sorting puzzle pieces into colour, shapes etc. I've been using strawberry punnets which I find are just the right size. (Shallow ones are best) plus they have a handy lids, most of which have 'puzzle piece size slots. If you overlook a piece there's no need to take the lid off. Hope this is helpful.

Barbara Curtis - Soham

WINNING WAYS

Issue 36

Our winner is Pearl Delderfield from Benfleet who gave the correct answer and followed up by naming several other states where you can find Jackson!! We didn't find it boring!! And we haven't discarded your poem. Don't forget to let us know which Jigsaw you would like as a prize.

JIG'S CORNER QUESTIONS, INFORMATION & MORE

I always feel 'TOP-DOG' when I can point out mistakes made by our editor in chief and golly, there have been a few! The Xmas leaflet which we're going to send out again (for anyone who felt like me –that Christmas was far too early) featured G500- Christmas shopping. Underneath it says the jigsaw is 500pc and on the price list 1000pc. IT IS a 1000PC jigsaw...

May be wrong, but a disappointment for all our 'Wasgij' collectors. Destiny & Mystery will not be coming out this year. And Graham Thompson's Xmas hasn't been produced for 2008?? Will keep you posted when I know more. We do have Christmas 3 & Christmas 4 (2008) and last years Graham Thompson available.

Q. Wondered whether you've come iiiacross Tesselz puzzles?

A. Looked on the web?? Can't find who manufactures them, but notice that Jumbo are featuring one on their site. Will research it further and let you know. Probably 2009!

Thanks for all your letters & ideas for main topics. We'll start on these early next year, so watch out. It could be your idea!!!

AND FINALLY...

...We have a new forum for those of you that like that sort of thing. Be good to have a chat on line sometime. Just go to www.jigsaw-puzzle-club.co.uk

click on the link and I'll help you through!!

Here to help! Even got to answer the phone last month (Just once) She's very protective of her members!

Have a great November

Jig

Have heard of all sorts of 'sorting' methods, but this is a very different idea. Jig's already gone off to the local supermarket to test the method. Think he only went for the strawberries!!

**AND OUR WINNING WAYS COMPETITION FOR ISSUE 38
Entries by 30th November please.**

We've given you the IRISH version of the Twelve Days of Christmas. What's yours? (doesn't have to follow the rhyme) The most fun version will receive a beautiful 1000piece Jigframe or a 1000pc Jigsaw from Gibsons collection.

New Products & Previews available now

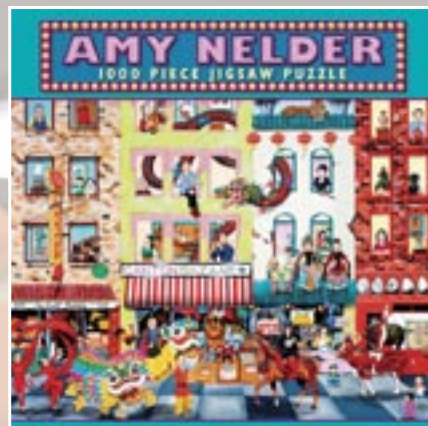
A new fun range from Ceaco an American Company based in Newton, MA – USA. Just a small selection available for this year by Artist's Walter Wick (can you see what I see series) & Amy Nelder. We'll give you more info on these Artists in the next newsletter. Sizes in 'Old Money' 20" x 27" or 51 x 68cm.



3332-2 East Village Opera - 1000pc
Amy Nelder



3332-3 Coney Island Melody - 1000pc
Amy Nelder



3332-1 Lunar Parade - 1000pc
Amy Nelder



3327-1 Ever After 1000pc - Walter Wick



3327-2 Little Mermaid 1000pc - Walter Wick



3327-3 Magic Mirror 1000pc - Walter Wick

Four perfect gifts for you or your 'puzzler friends'



Set of 6 x 60pc Christmas Puzzleballs®



Twelve Days of Christmas-500pc/1000pc



WM 337-Bringing Joy & Happiness
1000pc (76 x 61cm)

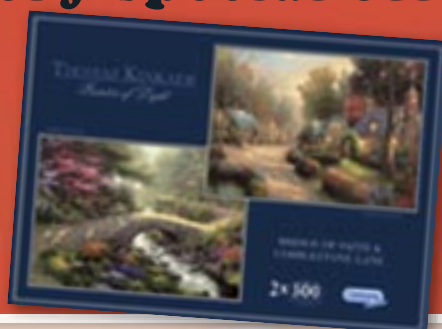


WM315- 'Twas the Night before Christmas
1000pc (76 x 61cm)

And finally a very special offer

Buy any three Jigsaws from our Issue 38 and receive Bridge of Faith & Cobblestone Lane 2 x 500pc jigsaws **FREE**

Bridge of Faith & Cobblestone (2 x 500pc)



OFFICIAL PUZZLE CLUB SELECTED JIGSAWS



TG307 - Courting Peacocks

Courting Peacocks by Artist Rachel Arbuckle from Tailten

24.99 Games - Challenging 1000pc

11.99 Jigsaw available at **£12.99**

10.99



TG310 - Twelve Days of Christmas

TG314 - Yuletide



Yuletide Offerings from Tailten

Games - A 1000pc Christmas challenge available at £12.99

Twelve Days of Christmas by Rachel Arbuckle. Clever interpretation of the well known Christmas song available in both 500pc & 1000pc at **£8.99/£12.99**

To order **Courting Peacocks** and/or **Twelve Days of Christmas** and/or **Yuletide Offerings** or any of the other FOC products featured in this issue complete the Order form below and send with your remittance payable to: The Official UK Puzzle Club **The Official UK Puzzle Club, PO Box 3351, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 2WE.** (If you don't want 3.00 to spoil your newsletter, simply put your request on paper)

Code No/Description	Price	Quantity	Value
TG307-Courting Peacocks-1000pc	12.99		
TG310-Twelve Days Christmas-1000pc	12.99		
TG404-Twelve Days-500pc	8.99		
TG314-Yuletide-1000pc	12.99		
3327-1 Ever After-1000pc	8.99		
3327-2 Little Mermaid-1000pc	8.99		
3327-3 Magic Mirror	8.99		
3331-1 Lunar Parade	8.99		
3332-2 East Village Opera-1000pc	8.99		
3332-3 Coney Island Melody-1000pc	8.99		
Set Six Christmas Puzzleballs	24.99		
Bridge of Faith & Cobblestone Lane 2 x 500	11.99		
WM315-Night before Xmas - 1000pc	10.99		
WM337-Joy & Happiness - 1000pc	10.99		
Special Offer-(Purchase Three...)	FOC		
Random 1000pc Jigsaw	4.50		
Random 500pc Jigsaw	3.00		
Postage & Packing			£3.50
Total Value			

Gold Members- Please deduct 10% from above prices, excl p&p

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Membership No. _____

I enclose cheque/postal order for value £ _____ made payable to the Official UK Puzzle Club
 Please debit my Credit/Debit card for £ _____ Card Type Master Card Visa Maestro/Solo

*Card No: _____

Issue No: _____

Valid From: _____

Signature: _____

Please allow up to 28 days for delivery

Security Code : _____

Expiry Date : _____

*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

Barneys Newsbox holds one of the largest puzzle selections available and caters for ALL sizes. Tel: 01539 435627
 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: Tel: 0118 978 9599

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