

A photograph of a snowy winter scene. A path covered in snow and fallen leaves leads through a landscape. On the left, a large, dark tree trunk is visible. The background is filled with bare, snow-laden trees. The sky is a pale blue. The overall atmosphere is quiet and cold.

# Cottingham Times

Issue 75 - February 2008





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## COTTINGHAM TIMES

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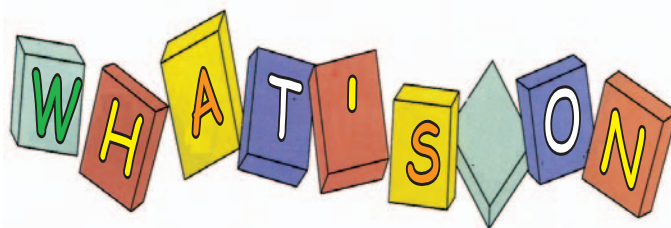
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## In Cottingham and District

### Cottingham British Red Cross

Weekly meetings on Tuesdays in the Methodist Church, Hallgate. New Volunteers and Friends Welcome.

### Cottingham Catholic Women's League

Monday 11th February, Annual General Meeting, in the Garden Room, Holy Cross RC Church, Carrington Avenue at 7.30 pm.

### Cottingham Women's Institute

Tuesday 12th February, at 10.00 am upstairs at Cottingham Civic Hall.

### East Yorkshire Federation of Women's Institute Cottingham Green

Thursday February 14th, Tree Sculptures - Jackie Lomax, in The Darby & Joan Small Hall, Finkle Street, at 7.30 pm.

### U3A

Thursday 14th February, John Horsley and the Speak It Aloud Group, Valentine Theme, also The Driving Standards Agency, at 2.00 pm in the Darby & Joan Hall, Finkle Street, Cottingham.

### Cottingham Gardening Club

Tuesday 19th February, Members Bulb Show followed by Roger Brook, Gardening at Bolton Percy, at 7.30 pm in the Garden Room, Holy Cross Community Meeting Room, Christmas Social Evening.

### Cottingham Evening Townswomen's Guild

Wednesday 20th February, at 7.30 in the Darby & Joan, Finkle Street. Glynn Woolley - Learning from Life.

### Cottingham Men's de Luda Society

Wednesday 20th February, Dr. Luffingham - The Good Old Days - A History of Medicine, in the St. Mary's Church Hall, at 2.00 pm.

### East Yorkshire Association (The National Trust)

Thursday 21st February, 7.30 pm in the Civic Hall, Market Green, Cottingham. Mr. S. Gardner - Bound for Botany Bay.

### Diabetes UK

Thursday 21st February, (A.G.M.), Dr. C. Walton (Consultant and Clinical Director - Diabetes), at the Board Room, Castle Hill Hospital, Entrance 1B, Cottingham. 7.30 - 9.30. (Free Parking). All Diabetics, carers, family and friends are welcome to attend. Please phone 844284 if transport is needed.

### Cottingham Civic Society

Monday 25th February, The Minster Way - Ray Wallis, Ramblers Association, Darby & Joan Hall, Finkle Street, 7.30 pm.

### Wednesday Social Club

Wednesday 27th February, at 2.00 pm in the small Darby & Joan Hall, at the rear of the building, Jill Crowther - "Letter in the Chest".

Front Cover Picture: Is a view taken off Hallgate, Cottingham. The photograph was taken and kindly supplied by John Dewing, who can be contacted at 6A Queens Close, Cottingham. Tel. 847140.

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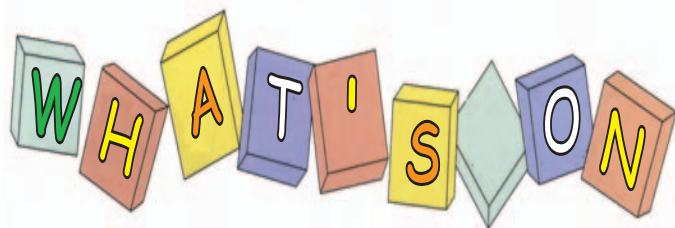
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## In Cottingham and District

### Hull and Holderness Branch, British Sugar Guild

Saturday 1st March, 2.00 to 4.00 pm., The Terrace, Cottingham Parks Golf and Country Club, Woodhill Way, Cottingham. Barbara Stewart - Cakes in a Rush.

### Cottingham Men's de Luda Society

Wednesday 5th March, Mrs. J. Ward Lomax - Sculpture in Wood (Slides), in the St. Mary's Church Hall, at 2.00 pm.

### Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday 7th March, The Annual Women's Day of Prayer Service at 2.00 pm at the St. Mary's Church, Hallgate, Cottingham.

### Wolds Lacemakers

Saturday 8th March, St. Johns Newland Parish Church Hall, Clough Road, Hull, Quarterly Meeting, Tom Wallis of Lowna Dairy. Supplier: Church Meadow Craft. 10.00 until 4.00 pm, Members 50p, non-members £2.00.

### City of Hull Young Musicians' Friends Association

Saturday 8th March, at Cottingham Civic Hall. A Craft Fair from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm with live music from the young musicians, tombola, raffle, cake stall, etc. Admission 30p, accompanied children free of charge.

### Cottingham Catholic Women's League

Monday 10th March, "Sex, Marriage and Canon Law", Father Stephen Maughan, in the Garden Room, Holy Cross RC Church, Carrington Avenue at 7.30 pm.

### Cottingham Women's Institute

Tuesday 11th March, at 10.00 am upstairs at Cottingham Civic Hall.

### U3A

Thursday 13th March, Off-road in Oman - Hector Sutherland, at 2.00 pm in the Darby & Joan Hall, Finkle Street, Cottingham.



### The Blue Bell, West Green, Cottingham

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Please send us your Society or Pub's information for the What's On column, and let everyone know what's happening in and around the Cottingham area. If people don't know they won't go.

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# Have your own Boston Tea Party and Ski in Dubai!

By Marion Owen

The year is disappearing quickly and what happened to January. I hope those of you who attended our cruise & holiday fayre at the Civic hall found it informative and enjoyable.

Can you believe it, Fred Olsen summer 2009 and world cruising 2010 is going on sale on the 10th March, P&O, Cunard etc will follow suit. Book early before they start increasing the prices and get the cabin you want!

New York is still top of the request for breaks at the moment so I thought that I would take this opportunity to give you some other ideas.

Boston, with direct flights from Manchester or Humberside via Amsterdam and no further than New York, this is a great city for a combined shopping & sight seeing weekend. You will find all the big names of New York in the heart of the shopping area and the bonus is that tax is less - your spending money will go even further. If you enjoy a good walk I can highly recommend the 2.5 mile long Historic Freedom Trail although I would suggest you enjoy it over two days and do the sights and shops justice at the same time. Quincy market makes a great place for a spot of lunch the choice of food outlets is unbelievable - I would have a good look at what is on offer before deciding what to pick.

Not as high rise as New York there are some interesting shapes and colours to the buildings mixed in with the traditional red brick buildings.

Wanting to see the sights without the exercise, then the Boston Duck (land & sea tour) or Old Town Trolley may be just your cup of tea. Ah! The Boston tea party is probably what first springs into mind when most of you think of Boston, the ship is anchored by Congress Street Bridge and worth a visit.

If your trip is before October a great day can be spent out on the ocean Whale watching.

There are hotels to suit all budgets a base from which to explore to five star luxury. In the evenings you will be spoilt for choice as you will find many of the big shows in town and music venues, restaurants, etc., in abundance and to suit all tastes.

For a longer holiday Boston can be combined with a New England Tour either by coach or self drive. The countryside and beaches are stunning.

Perhaps a shopping break mixed with the sun is more what you are looking for? Dubai just 7 hours away with direct flights from Manchester or Humberside via Amsterdam is a good spot for you. Air conditioned shopping Malls with every store you can imagine to the local Gold Souk and spice market you will be able to shop until you drop. The great thing I like about Dubai is it is very safe, women will be happy to go out shopping alone and you do not get hassled in any way whilst shopping - you must try and barter especially in the souks.

When you are done with shopping bask by the pool or enjoy a game of golf or a spot of sightseeing. I can highly recommend the dune drive and Bedouin dinner for something a little different.

If you want to cool down you can do a spot of skiing or boarding at the indoor ski centre, yes real snow in the desert! Dubai cannot fail to give you the Wow Factor when you visit.

Dubai also makes a great stopover on route to the Far East, Australasia and Mauritius.

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## Haltemprice Art Group Annual

### Exhibition

The Haltemprice Art Group is mounting its Annual Exhibition. This will take place in Cottingham Civic Hall, Cottingham in April. The exhibition will be open to the public from its official opening at 7.30pm on the evening of Wednesday 2nd April and will continue to be open 10.00am-8.00pm Thursday and Friday until it closes at 4.30pm on the afternoon of Saturday 5th April.

The exhibition which has free admission, will include framed and unframed pictures and, a selection of hand made cards produced by the members of the group. Some ceramic exhibits may also be on show.

At last year's exhibition (our 60th) more than 200 framed paintings were exhibited. As the framed pictures are priced from around thirty pounds and the unframed from five pounds, it represents and ideal opportunity to buy an original gift.

## Cottingham Lights Xmas Quiz 2007

### Raises £350 for Cottingham Lights

The subject this year was The Flora and Fauna of the British Isles.

The sum raised for the lights was £350, and the winner was Brian Summers of Willerby. Who requested the £10 prize be given to the Lights Fund.

He scored 43 out of a possible 50. Second position was Keith Allison with a score of 38. Keith had been a previous winner in 2005 and 2006 and had donated his prizes to the Cottingham Lights

Such is the appeal that copies are sent as far afield as Pickering, Ipswich, Isle of Wight, Australia, and the USA.

Look out for the 2008 Quiz which will be on sale to coincide with the Cottingham Lights switch on.

## "If one of your New Year Resolutions was to try something new" . . . .

Cottingham Little Theatre would like to invite anyone who may be interested to attend a playreading session in The Brewery Bar, King William, Hallgate on Monday 25th February starting at 7.30pm.

These sessions are very informal and everyone who attends will be given the opportunity to read. There is no acting involved, just get yourself a drink from the bar and join us for a fun evening. For further details please call Sue 842250.

Don't be shy - give it a try!"

## Big "Thank You" from Tony Tordoff for donations during Myeloma Awareness Week

Anne and Tony Tordoff of Dunswell would like to thank all those who contributed so generously to their successful fundraising events for Myeloma UK during Myeloma Awareness Week.

Anne managed to complete her 100 lengths of the swimming pool at David Lloyd's in 1 hour 40 minutes, and Tony completed his "Triathlon Gym Marathon" in 2 hours 23 minutes

Between them they managed to raise £5,000 for Myeloma UK.

### Quote of the Month:-

This is your life and it's been waiting for you to discover it!

Until now you may have been thinking that life is hard and a struggle, and so by the law of attraction you will have experienced life as hard and a struggle.

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# Cottingham Parish Council



## PCSO's report to Parish Council

Crime statistics for Cottingham, which covered the two-month period November 13 to January 15, were presented at Cottingham Parish Council's January meeting by Police Community Support Officers Mark Bentley and Scott Foster. They showed an increase over the statistics for the periods September 13-October 12 and October 13-November 12 - presented to the council's previous (November) meeting, but it was stressed that the latest figures reflected the usual increase in crime over the seasonal (Christmas and New Year) period.

## Community Trust could help King George V Playing Fields

Kevin Hadfield, Head of the East Riding of Yorkshire Council's (ERYC) Leisure Unit, explained the process of setting up a Community Trust - and how it would apply to Northgate's King George V Playing fields - at the village authority's January meeting.

He stressed that it is a staged process with input from community organisations, the private sector and organisations, such as The Football Foundation.

The refurbishment of the fire-damaged sports pavilion at the KGV presented a good opportunity for the community to take an active role in what will replace the former facility.

Funding could be available from various organisations, including The Football Foundation, who may help to pay for changing facilities, for example, at the KGV, which is used by a large footballing community.

The basis for a community group - supported in principle by the village authority - is already in place with an elected Friends of the KGV Group, which is aware that there is a need to involve more residents, businesses and ERYC officers.

*Footnote:* The Friends of KGV, who are seeking support for a proposed Community Trust, have been a driving-force behind the BMX track facility at the playing fields on which construction has now started. See special article on page 00 in this issue of the Cottingham Times.

## Planning Applications objected to by Parish Council

Cottingham Parish Council has objected to an application by Croft Hall Estates Ltd. for outline permission for residential development on the site of the former Danish Bacon building on Victoria's Way, close to Cottingham's train station. It is thought that the density of the proposal is totally unacceptable to the area and character of the village. It is pointed out that the site is one of the most low-lying areas in the village and prone to flooding. Houses in the area were flooded in 2007 and, consequently, access for the maintenance of Creyke Beck must be maintained.

If the ERYC Planning Officer does not agree with the parish council's objections, the village authority has asked for the appli-

cation to be placed before the ERYC Planning Committee.

Similarly, it is requested that an application for building 97 houses with associated access, parking and public open space at Swift Group Ltd., Dunswell Road, Cottingham, for Swift Holdings UK Ltd., Boundary Park, be referred to the ERYC Planning Committee if the planning officer does not agree with the parish council's approval, which was made subject to conditions.

The conditions are that the development does not start until the link road to the A1079 is complete and in use, and that the full drainage report is made available to both the village authority and the ERYC. The parish council also has serious concerns about the density of the development and would not want to see any three-storey dwellings.

The council has also objected to an application by Church Mews Ltd. for the building of a six-apartment property on land to the west of 33, Longman's Lane, Cottingham. Councillors feel that it would be overdevelopment of the site and totally out of keeping with the surrounding dwellings.

## Allotment plot waiting list reduced, but more vandalism problems

Coun. Don Hardwick, chairman of the parish council's Allotments Association Committee, reported that the waiting list for plots on the site to the north of King George V Playingfields, off Northgate, has been reduced after people on the full-plot waiting-list had been offered half plots on a pro-rata rent basis.

Coun. Hardwick also said that there had been more problems with vandalism at the site, where the gate lock had been damaged. In a bid to overcome the problems, a meeting is to be held to discuss the siting a CCTV camera - in association with the system which is to be installed at the BMX track facility, now under construction - on the access lane.

## In brief . . .

- With the exception of six scheduled for Harland Way, all trees have been planted in the Cottingham Parish Council-funded project.
- Because of staff changes at the ERYC, there has been a delay in the installation of litter-bins in the village, but the project is expected to be completed by the end of this month. The selected sites are: Newgate Street (at the bus stop between Carrington Avenue and Carisbrooke Avenue); Priory Road (at the bus stop outside The Arches residential home); the corner of Linden Avenue with Northgate; Abbots Walk (outside the play area); Endyke Lane (at the bus stop outside Endyke Tyre Mart) and Hull Road (opposite the West Bulls public-house).
- After a site meeting, the Millbeck Wildlife Area has been selected as the most suitable location for a fishing pond. With a view to moving the project forward, another site meeting, which will also be attended by representatives from the ERYC and the Environment Agency, is due to be held.
- Coun. Mark Ward has offered to set up a Cottingham Parish Council web site. When it is up and running, the authority's clerk Judith Macklin and assistant clerk Tina White will be able to maintain the site. Coun. Ward is expected to present his ideas to councillors at the February meeting.

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## Springboard Music Festival expands to four venues

Following the unparalleled success of the Cottingham Springboard Music Festival last year, the event will be expanded to four venues - the King William IV Hotel (Hallgate), the Duke of Cumberland Hotel (Market Green), the Blue Bell Inn (West Green), and the Back Room, in Hallgate - for the weekend of Friday to Sunday, June 6-8, this year when admission will again be free.

"Because of the success in 2007, many more artists have enquired about this year's festival, and over 120 acts are expected to perform," said Ian Kennington, a spokesman for the organisers, who added that the Arts Council have again agreed to provide some funding for the event.

But more sponsorship - no matter how little - will be welcomed for 2008 and future Cottingham Springboard Music Festivals. Anyone who would like to support the event is asked to email [iankj76@iankj76.karoo.co.uk](mailto:iankj76@iankj76.karoo.co.uk) or telephone Ian Kennington (07922 490372).

*Below: Sarah McCluskey performing at Cottingham Springboard Music Festival 2007.*



## ABCD News

The next meeting of the Association of Business in Cottingham and District (ABCD) will be held on Tuesday 26th February in the Back Bar at the King William IV on Hallgate, Cottingham.

All members are welcome and if any businesses who are not members would like to come and see what happens at the meeting, then they would also be welcome to attend.

An ammendment to the 2008 ABCD Directory is as follows: The telephone number for Strouds, 149 Hallgate, Cottingham should read 845600. Please alter your copy accordingly.

## So, who do you think you are!

I am sure nearly everyone at sometimes has wondered who there ancestors were, what did they do?, and where did they live? Most of these questions can be answered, some however, cannot.

Many people think that with modern technology all the answers are on the internet. Whilst computer technology has widened the accessibility of research, it does not have its limitations, especially researching pre 1837 - before all births, marriages and deaths had to be registered by law. More accurate information is available by searching the original Parish Registers where you have a full transcript of the entry.


When doing research it is essential that methodical, detailed and accurate research has to be carried out, which resulted in me tracing my family back to the late 1500's. I have also traced other lines of my family to the mid 1700's and early 1600's. Sometimes, there are gaps in the early Parish Registers or some have been damaged, resulting in coming to the end of the research due to lack of records.

This has led me to do research for friends and relatives who have always wanted to know about their ancestry, but never had the time, or do not know where to start. With the experience I have gained, what may take me a couple of hours to find, would take others many, many hours or more.

I can honestly say I have had so much satisfaction researching for friends and relatives as I have doing my own.

I am now offering a professional, affordable family research service to anyone who would like to know more about their ancestry or just want research into a birth, marriage or death.

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## Cans for collection!

**You don't have to be a nurse to help people affected by cancer**

Fundraising Manager for Macmillan, Robyn Mountain is delighted to introduce a new member of our local volunteering team-Robin Edwards.

Robin is going to be a collection box coordinator for Macmillan, delivering and exchanging collection boxes from companies and organisations in Cottingham who kindly hold our collection boxes.

Robin will be giving up his time freely to take on this role, having had his own personal experiences with cancer after losing his sister 20 years ago, he appreciates how important volunteering to help charities such as Macmillan is. Robin says 'Cancer seems to affect too many people these days and I have some spare time and want to do something worthwhile with that time- Macmillan was the perfect answer'

Over £2000 has been raised so far this year in our collection boxes in Humberside, but we are hoping with Robin's help that we can increase this. There are a great number of companies and organisations; large and small in and around Cottingham; you do not have to be a nurse to help people affected by cancer- all you have to do here is hold a collection box on your premises!

Robyn Mountain says 'Collection boxes are the bread and butter of our fundraising but they are quite time costly- with delivering and exchanges across the region as a whole. I am hoping with Robin concentrating solely on collection tins in Cottingham we can run a smooth and efficient procedure whilst raising those vital funds for local people affected by cancer'.

If you would like a collection box at your organisation please contact Robyn on 01482 676657 and Robin will come and deliver it to you.

*Pictured above: Robyn Mountain and Robyn Edwards raising their cans to help local people affected by cancer.*

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## BMX Dirt Track and Multi-Sports arena at King George V Playing fields expected to be completed by early April 2008

Work on the BMX Dirt Track and Multi-Sports arena at Cottingham's King George V Playingfield, was due to start last month and is expected to be completed by early April. Main contractors are PBS Construction.

Coun. Gary Cooper, Chairman of the Friends of KGV - he is also a member of Cottingham Parish Council - said: 'I am delighted that we have been able to work together with East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) officers and local residents to provide the track for such a large number of local youngsters to enjoy'.

The state-of-the-art dirt track will offer exciting BMX fun for people of all ages - from young learners to the older and much more experienced riders. Coun. Cooper added that extensive soft landscaping will help reduce any noise issues for local residents. And with CCTV cameras to deter and detect crime, the installation of the much-wanted facility at the KGV Playingfields will improve the site and set the tone for the future as discussions are held to try and establish if community ownership of the playing fields is the way forward.

The Friends are also exploring the possibility of setting up a Community Trust which would be responsible for re-building the site after last year's fire at Cottingham Pavilion.

Coun Cooper said that it is a very exciting time for KGV, and 2008 could be a pivotal year. 'But help is needed from the community, including local residents and local businesses', he stressed.

A statement from the ERYC, who are supporting the project, revealed that, with the track construction work, total investment in the KGV Playingfields site over the last three years is about £350,000.

### First purpose built BMX track in East Riding

The project will see Cottingham hosting the first purpose-built BMX track in the East Riding and a multi-use outdoor games area which will enable football, basketball and tennis to be played on a specifically-designed surface under spotlights.

Coun. Cooper said that the track project is a £110,000 investment. 'Over the last two years the Friends have worked tirelessly to raise the necessary capital to bring the exciting project to fruition. A grant of £50,000 was secured from Biffa Waste Services, plus £5,000 each from the Youth Opportunity Fund and Community Safety Fund. The remaining capital has been secured from East Riding of Yorkshire Council'.

Graham Taylor, of Cottingham, who has designed the BMX track said: 'As a member of a group of lads who approached the Friends of KGV two years ago on an off-chance, it is now a dream come true for us'.

The 22-year-old added that BMXing is a growing sport - both locally and nationally - and the KGV facility will enable participants to practice more often and, hopefully, encourage more people to get involved. 'Previously we were having to travel as far as the Dalby Forest, Leeds and Sheffield to take part in our chosen sport', he added.

Coun. Jane Evison, portfolio holder for Culture Services at the ERYC, said that she is delighted to see the development of the facilities which will enable more people to take part in the sports they love. 'Combined with the recent new children's play area, site access works and the woodland walk developed by the Woodland Trust and Millbeck Wildlife Group, I believe this site can be at the heart of the local community. That is why the site has been submitted for a Green Flag Award - a national benchmark for the provision of parks', she added.

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## Wordsearch - Find the Occupations

hidden in the puzzle below, they maybe horizontal, vertical or diagonal, forwards or backwards.

X	M	R	P	L	U	M	B	E	R	R	O	L	I	A	S	D	D	D
N	A	A	A	A	Y	R	E	Y	A	L	K	C	I	R	B	C	T	T
C	D	R	D	S	U	Z	P	E	R	E	M	R	A	F	A	C	N	E
H	F	T	C	O	T	T	L	D	L	E	H	V	J	R	F	A	N	A
E	T	I	E	H	C	R	H	Y	Q	E	O	A	P	T	T	E	E	E
M	C	S	R	V	I	T	O	O	C	B	C	E	N	N	O	S	P	T
I	S	T	I	E	F	T	O	N	R	R	N	T	U	D	R	L	R	V
S	D	Z	P	T	F	S	E	R	A	T	E	O	R	U	Y	E	I	K
T	W	V	J	L	N	I	D	C	E	U	C	J	N	I	I	M	P	P
H	B	M	O	O	A	E	G	R	T	C	T	H	A	Z	C	O	A	D
M	G	E	R	N	U	W	I	H	A	R	X	R	A	V	L	I	T	N
B	D	N	R	G	B	R	Y	C	T	D	E	L	O	I	D	S	A	T
W	U	A	V	O	U	R	N	E	S	E	G	H	T	L	R	R	L	N
R	N	I	N	T	T	E	H	A	R	N	R	I	C	L	I	E	B	N
E	E	C	L	R	C	B	P	G	L	T	C	P	V	A	V	A	D	R
K	J	I	X	D	H	S	O	L	D	I	E	R	E	V	E	I	T	K
A	W	S	T	M	E	N	M	A	A	S	S	V	V	J	R	T	R	D
B	D	U	W	S	R	R	H	N	L	T	G	T	E	G	X	Y	C	I
V	J	M	B	T	P	R	R	E	H	P	A	R	G	O	T	O	H	P

Find the occupations in the letters above:

Accountant, Architect, Artist, Astronaut, Author, Baker, Bricklayer, Builder, Butcher, Carpenter, Chemist, Dentists, Doctor, Driver, Electrician, Farmer, Firefighter, Glazier, Handyman, Journalist, Lawyer, Musician, Nurse, Photographer, Pilot, Plumber, Politician, Sailor, Scientist, Soldier, Tailor, Teacher

Wordsearch courtesy of [www.puzzlechoice.com](http://www.puzzlechoice.com)

## Sudoku No. 14 -

This is a medium challenge

	9		5					
	3			4			2	9
		5	3			1		
						9		7
	5						6	
7		6						
		1			4	7		
5	7			3			8	
					5		1	

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We will be supporting you every step of the way!

We expect places to be taken up quickly so if you want to join HERIB on one of their great challenges in 2008 just contact Melinda at HERIB on 01482 342297 or email: melindao@herib.co.uk for an information pack.

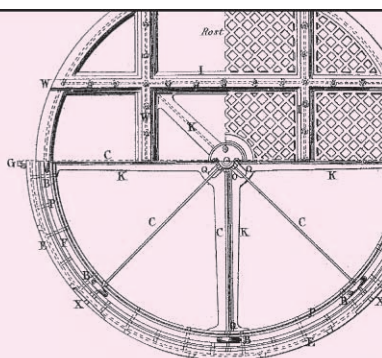
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This promotion has been immensely successful before and already looks to be just as popular.

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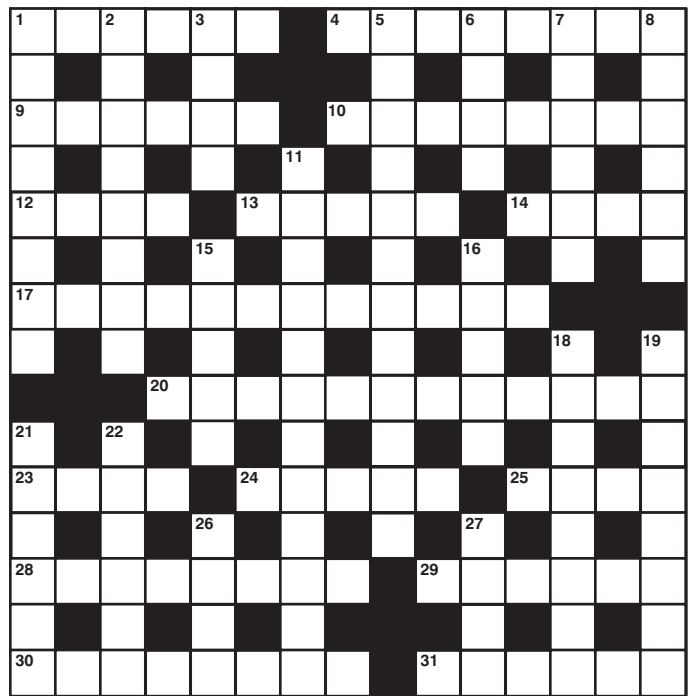
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## Crossword - Solution on page 30



### Across

1. See 8 down (6)
4. Forrest Gump star (3,5)
9. Black Magic (6)
10. Short latest info film (8)
12. Make sleepy (4)
13. Cartoon kiss sound (5)
14. X rated film colour (4)
17. No where nearly done (2,3,2,5)
20. Supplying of movies (12)
23. Film slices (4)
24. Historic Hollywood theatre (5)
25. Puppy cry (4)
28. Hams it up (8)
29. Film cutter (6)
30. Stall at a fair (8)
31. Hitchcock, thriller maker (6)

### Down

1. Making a movie (8)
2. Got on tape (8)
3. Her in Paris (4)
5. Too dissaproving (12)
6. Quiet (4)
7. Annoy (6)
8. +1 down, motion pictures nick name (6)
11. 60 or 120 secs (1,6,2,3)
15. Wing it speach (2-3)
16. Yell (5)
18. Actors boss (8)
19. Met a muse? (8)
21. Thespians (6)
22. Go to (6)
26. Over actors (4)
27. Loved Hollywood icon (4)

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## Brian Southerington relinquishes role as Competition and Handicap Secretary at Cottingham Parks

**B**rian Southerington (pictured above) relinquished his role as competition and handicap secretary at Cottingham Parks - he had held the post since the club was founded in 1994 - when he took over as captain from Frank Wharton for 2008.

He has been succeeded in the desk job by David Wilson, a former captain.

Lesley Marsden has succeeded Jean Hart as captain of the ladies' section.

The appointments were celebrated with a Texas Scramble on New Year's Day, but their drive-in ceremonies will be at Easter.

Southerington, 66, who played soccer for Hull City's Boys' and Juniors' sides, was the first president of the Humber Alliance when it was founded in 1997, and was a leading figure of the British Gas Golf Society - he was a former chairman and captain - with whom he was closely associated for 15 years before he retired in 1992.



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## Valentina Seferinova, acclaimed Bulgarian International pianist to play at Cottingham Methodist Church, Hallgate on Sunday March 16th

Valentina Seferinova, the acclaimed Bulgarian international concert pianist, will make a return visit to Cottingham on Sunday, March 16, with a concert at the Methodist Church in Hallgate (2.30pm). She will perform a programme of popular pieces which form the basis of her forthcoming CD recording session in Warsaw.

Highlights will include from the works of Rachmaninov, Chopin and Scriabin.

Valentina last appeared in Cottingham two years ago when she accompanied a leading violinist. After that visit, Richard Barton, of Mill Walk, Cottingham, one of the concert organisers, decided that the pianist should take centre-stage with her own recital, and next month's date was the first opportunity.

Mr Barton said: 'For real music-lovers, this is an extremely rare occasion to enjoy and experience the presence of a leading international musician in Cottingham and promises to be another cultural landmark for the village'.

Tickets (£8) will be available from February 18 at two Cottingham outlets - Gilly's Balloons, Hallgate, and The Photo Shop, King Street - or by telephoning Mr Barton (01482-847122), who will provide further details, if required, or 01482- 842347.

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# Income Shifting is Coming Soon!

by Nick Robinson

From 6 April 2008 it will be far more difficult to reduce your tax bill by paying dividends or profit shares to less active shareholders in your company or members of your partnership. This is because of a new law on income shifting that will affect nearly every partnership and jointly owned company in the UK. It doesn't matter whether those co-owners (partners or shareholders) are married, other relatives or simply friends.

If you make a bigger contribution to the business than your co-owners, but receive a similar share of the profits, the Taxman could argue that you have shifted income away from yourself, so it falls into the hands of those co-owners who play a less active role in the business. You will have to pay tax on the amount of shifted income, and the less active co-owner(s) will be treated as having never received that shifted income.

Although the new income shifting law will only affect dividends or profits shares paid out from 6 April 2008, those profits may have been earned by the business many years earlier. If you are planning to pay a dividend on 6 April 2008, to place that income in the 2008/09 tax year, you may want to bring the payment forward to avoid the new income shifting rules. However, you should be careful of pushing your total income for 2007/08 into the higher tax bracket.

If you want to continue to pay profit shares or dividends to less active co-owners of your business from 6 April 2008, you will need to justify the amount paid according to the recipient's contribution to the business. This contribution could be measured by:

- \* the amount and type of work done
- \* the individual's responsibility for making key decisions for the business
- \* the capital contributed to the business
- \* the business risk taken on, such as a personal guarantee of a business loan

You may need to adjust the agreed profit sharing ratio of your partnership, or the number of shares each individual holds in your company, to reflect the actual input of each individual. We can help advise you on the best action to take and what to do in order to reduce the risk of being attacked for income shifting.

If you need any further advice please contact us.

## January Question's and Answer's

**Q. How do I know the VAT number on my suppliers invoice is genuine?**

**A.** It's a good idea to check any VAT number you have doubts about, as you can't reclaim the VAT charged if the VAT registration is invalid. The quickest way to do this is to ring the VAT helpline on 0845 010 9000. The VAT officer will tell you if the VAT number and address details you read out match theirs. If they don't match, they won't tell you the details they have on file, but then you know you have a problem, so go back to your supplier.

**Q. I'm going to be a bit short of money for the self-assessment payment due on 31st January and was wondering what the Taxman would do if I paid another creditor I have instead of the Taxman?**

**A.** If you don't pay your income tax bill by 31 January 2008 you will have to pay interest at 8.5% on the unpaid balance. Also if you delay paying beyond 28 February 2008 you will have to pay a surcharge of 5% on the outstanding tax due for 2006/07, which will also carry interest at 8.5%. What's more the Taxman marks late payers as high risk cases. A high risk marker means you are more likely to get investigated and end up paying penalties for any tax errors you have made in the last six years. If you are really going to struggle to pay it is sensible to talk to them to arrange a payment plan.

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# In the Kitchen



## Ingredient of the Month

### Cranberries

Cranberries belong to the family Ericaceae (Heather) which includes other plants such as blueberries, huckleberries and gooseberries. Although they can be found growing wild in many parts of the northern hemisphere, it is the cultivated large-berried variety, *Vaccinium macrocarpon* which is the most widely eaten.

#### Origin and History

The English word cranberry derives from the word craneberry, because when the flowers dip down they resemble the head of a crane and also the fact that cranes were seen eating the berries which grew in bogs where they nest. The botanical name *Vaccinium* comes from the Latin *vacca*, meaning cow because cows seem to be fond of them. They are also known as Bearberries because bears like to eat them.

They were well known to American Indians long before Europeans arrived and were considered a symbol of peace, used as food, medicine and even a dye. These peoples already knew about the natural preservative power (benzoic acid) in the berries and used to mix them into pemmican, a sort of cake made with dried meat which was pounded into a paste and mixed with animal fat and grain to extend its keeping time.

By the 1820's commercial cultivation was well under way in America and the fruit were being exported to Europe however it wasn't until 1864 when General Ulysses S. Grant apparently ordered cranberry sauce to be given to the Union troops during the siege of Petersburg that the serving of Cranberries at festive times in the US became a well entrenched tradition. Cranberry sauce was first commercially tinned in 1912 in America.

#### Cultivation

The Cranberry plant is an evergreen groundcover plant which spreads via runners (rhizomes). In the wild they look more like a small shrub, however when commercially cultivated, they are grown as low trailing vines which eventually create densely packed beds. The flowers form on the short, upright shoots which bloom from May to June with the fruit ripening in late September to early October.

Contrary to common belief, the beds are kept dry until harvest time at which point they are flooded with water to a knee-deep level. Fresh whole berries are sometimes hand-picked which makes them more expensive however much of the crop is now harvested by machine..

The machines travel through the bog shaking the berries off the vines which are then skimmed off. The berries are bounced down a stair-stepped processor to separate out the old berries from the fresh.

#### Buying, Storing and Cooking

Fresh cranberries are firm and should bounce if dropped giving rise to the nickname 'bounceberries'. They should be shiny and plump although they can range in colour from bright light red to dark red. Shrivelled berries or those with brown spots should be avoided.

Because the berries contain a natural preservative called benzoic acid they can stay fresh for a relatively long time.

Store fresh cranberries in a plastic bag or box with a tight seal in the refrigerator when they will last up to 8 weeks. As with all berries, if one starts getting soft and decaying, it will quickly spread to the rest so make sure you remove any soft fruit if you plan on storing them for any length of time.

Cooked cranberries can last up to a month in a covered container in the refrigerator and if cooked with alcohol, can last for many months in the refrigerator.

Fresh whole berries can be washed, dried and frozen in airtight bags up to one year.

Dried berries are also available and should be stored similar to raisins i.e. in a cool, air-tight container.

Although cranberries have too tart a flavour to eat as a fresh fruit by them-



selves, their taste goes very well with many ingredients in both savoury and sweet dishes. When cooking fresh cranberries, stop cooking once they pop as over cooking will make them mushy and bitter tasting. When using frozen cranberries in cooking, there's usually no need to thaw the berries.

### Cranberry Mustard Sausages Serves 4

#### Ingredients

450g/1lb Cumberland Sausages  
1-2 tbsp Dijon Mustard  
3 tbsp Cranberry Sauce  
1 teasp Sugar  
1 teasp Red wine Vinegar

#### Instructions

1. Cook the sausages under a medium grill for about 15 minutes, turning from time to time.
2. Meanwhile, mix together the remaining ingredients in a bowl until well combined.
3. Brush a little of the mustard mixture on the sausages for the last 5 minutes of cooking. Serve the sausages with the remaining mustard sauce on the side.

### Pears with Spiced Cranberry Sauce - Serves 4

#### Ingredients

600ml/20fl.oz. dry White Wine  
100g/4oz Cranberries  
175g/6oz Sugar  
180ml/6fl.oz. Water  
4 whole Cloves  
The grated zest of 1 Orange  
1 level teasp Ground Cardamom  
4 Ripe Pears

#### Instructions

1. Place all the ingredients apart from the pears in a saucepan, bring to the boil, stirring and cook for a couple of minutes until the sugar completely dissolves.
2. Cut a slice from the bottom of each pear so they can stand erect then add them to the wine mixture, reduce heat, cover and simmer for 15 to 20 minutes until the pears are just tender.
3. Remove the pears with a slotted spoon, transfer to a dish, cover and refrigerate until well chilled.
4. Return the wine cooking liquor to a high heat and boil for about 15 minutes, stirring from time to time or until reduced to about 300ml/10fl.oz. Allow to cool to room temperature.
5. To serve - stand pears in a shallow serving dish and spoon the sauce over the top.

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### EYRC funding for chapel at Cottingham Cemetery, off Eppleworth Road unsuccessful

Cottingham Parish Council has been informed that an application by the ERYC for funding for the refurbishment to the chapel at Cottingham Cemetery, off Eppleworth Road, has not been successful and the project will not go ahead. The village authority had agreed to give £1,000 sponsorship for work on the stained glass window.

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## Vacant table available at HERIB's annual Craft Fayre at the Cottingham Civic Hall on Saturday 23rd February 2008

HERIB's annual Craft Fayre is fast approaching. We have one place left so if you have a craft and would like a stall please contact Lisa at HERIB on 01482 342297 or email on [lisac@herib.co.uk](mailto:lisac@herib.co.uk)

There are a varied display of gifts and crafts this year, from jewellery, ornaments and paintings to kitchen & garden ware, embroidered gifts, cards, stationery and dolls house miniatures, plus much more!

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The Fayre opens at 10am - 4pm at Cottingham Civic Hall on Saturday 23rd February. Entry 50p Adults, 20p Children. Refreshments available

## New free guide to fight IVA Spin - Don't believe IVA adverts's hugely profitable hype

With January debt worries at a high, MoneySavingExpert.com is launching a new free guide to take on the myths surrounding Individual Voluntary Agreements. The millions of TV pounds spent on advertising by IVA companies leave many believing it's an easy way to write off debts; sucking in those who are desperate for a seemingly easy get-out clause. This isn't really surprising though as when an IVA is flogged it'll often make the companies five grand a time.

Often the key phrase is, "it's a little known government loophole that can write off 75% of your debt". Yet IVAs are not an easy get out-of debt. They are an alternative to bankruptcy and should only ever be considered in that light! This doesn't mean it's always wrong, in certain circumstances it's a great solution, but not for everyone.

**To get hold of the free PDF "IVAs: Are they worth it?" guide  
Visit [www.moneysavingexpert.com/ivas](http://www.moneysavingexpert.com/ivas)**

The most important lesson if you think an IVA is right for you, is not to go direct to an IVA company which has a vested interest in flogging you its product. Instead visit one of the free non-profit debt counselling agencies such as Citizens Advice, National Debtline or the Consumer Credit Counselling Service.

Martin Lewis, creator of consumer revenge website, MoneySavingExpert.com, says: "I was inspired to put this guide together after a former colleague called with a 'quick question'. She'd seen the TV ads for IVAs and wanted to check there wasn't a problem using them.

As she was considering an IVA, I assumed she was in major debt crisis so I asked her how big her debts were, yet the answer was just £6,000 all on 0% rates; while not good certainly not a crisis for someone who had to be earning £40,000 plus a year.

It turned out she'd thought this was a simple loophole to write off debts and wanted to take advantage of it. A nightmare scenario. This proved to me that the ignorance is widespread and we have to ensure people know what they're getting into."

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# In the Garden



## Vegetables

Plan a crop rotation system for your vegetable plot, to ensure that the same crops are not grown in the same beds year after year. This helps to prevent disease build up.

Cultivate and prepare seedbeds, covering them with clear polythene, cloches or fleece to warm up the soil before sowing.

Finish any major digging and weeding if you have not done so already. Try to avoid digging in wet weather, but if gardening on top of wet soil, work from a plank of wood, to avoid treading on the bed and compacting the soil.

When spring cabbages are ready to harvest, cut them off the stem and make a cross in the top of the cut stem. Sometimes

## Top 10 jobs

1. Prepare vegetable seed beds, and sow some vegetables under cover
2. Chit potato tubers
3. Protect blossom on apricots, nectarines and peaches
4. Net fruit and vegetable crops to keep the birds off
5. Prune winter-flowering shrubs that have finished flowering
6. Divide bulbs such as snowdrops, and plant those that need planting 'in the green'
7. Prune Wisteria
8. Prune hardy evergreen hedges and renovate overgrown deciduous hedges
9. Prune conservatory climbers
10. Cut back deciduous grasses left uncut over the winter

mini-cabbages, or 'spring greens' will grow from the cut stems.

From mid-February onwards sow greenhouse-grown tomatoes and cucumbers. Use a heated propagator or warm room at 21°C (70°F) to encourage germination, and then keep them potted on at a lower temperature of 15-18°C (60-65°F).

Peas can be sown in the greenhouse in old (but clean) guttering that has had drainage holes drilled in the bottom. Starting them under cover gives them a head start. When the seedlings are ready for planting out, the whole row can be gently pushed out of the guttering, into a ready prepared drill in the vegetable garden.

Chit potato tubers Stand them upright with the rose end (having most shoots) facing upwards in a light, cool but frost-free place. Old egg boxes make excellent holders.

## Fruit

Mulch all fruit crops with well-rotted manure or garden compost.

Pot-grown strawberries that have been in a cool greenhouse all winter should be placed outside, as they flower only after exposure to the cold. However, outdoor strawberries (already exposed to the cold) can be brought into the greenhouse to force them into fruit at warmer temperatures. Hand pollination may be necessary in cold weather.

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## Flower garden

Cut back ornamental grasses and other perennials left for winter interest.

Divide and/or plant bulbs-in-the-green such as snowdrops (*Galanthus*) and winter aconites (*Eranthis hyemalis*).

Divide clumps of herbaceous perennials that you want to propagate, those that have become too large for their allotted space, and those that are flowering poorly or have lost their shape.

At the end of the month prune back the stems of pot-grown overwintered fuchsias and place in a well-lit, warm place to encourage new growth.

Continue to deadhead winter pansies and other winter bedding. Pansies will carry on into the spring and even to early summer, if attended to frequently.

Cut off old leaves of hellebores that produce flowers from ground level (including *Helleborus x hybridus* and *H. niger*) to expose the flowers and remove possible foliar diseases such as hellebore leaf spot.

Hellebore blooms can look unsightly when splashed with muddy raindrops. Bark chip mulch will reduce this splashing effect, and cloches can be used where practical.

Root cuttings can be taken of Papaver (perennial poppies), *Verbascum* (mullein), *Acanthus* (bear's britches) and Phlox.

Place gladioli corms in seed trays or boxes and place in a light, warm (around 10°C-50°F) spot to encourage them to sprout before planting. This will ensure an earlier display.

Dahlia tubers that were stored over winter (or bought this year) can be started into growth in the same way, placing them in a light, warm place to sprout before planting. They will need additional misting with a spray-bottle of water, to stop them drying out.

Lily bulbs can be planted in pots, for flowers this summer. After growing on indoors or in a cool greenhouse, they can be moved onto the patio when in flower, so that you can enjoy the blooms.

Hardy annuals can be sown in pots or modules to provide colour in the garden. They are inexpensive and can provide a fun activity for children.

Sweet peas can be sown this month, under cloches, in a cold frame, or in a cool room in the house. Fleece covering can be used to raise the temperature and encourage growth of plants outside or in a cold frame. Some seed varieties need chitting (nicking of the seed coat), and/or soaking, in order to germinate. Any sweet peas that were sown earlier in the autumn can now be potted on - one 9cm (3.5in) pot per plant is recommended. Place them on a sunny windowsill, or on a high shelf in the greenhouse that gets plenty of light.

Top dress spring-flowering alpines with grit or gravel to show off the plants and to help prevent stem rots.

Bulbs coming up in the rock garden or in containers may benefit from overhead protection from the rain and snow. A sheet of glass or Perspex placed on piles of bricks will do the job.

Plan your summer bedding and container planting schemes in good time for ordering the necessary bulbs, annuals and seed, and for propagating the relevant material.

Citrus trees in pots should be top-dressed with fresh compost, and/or repotted if necessary.

Cool conditions and regular watering will help keep potted indoor azaleas looking good for longer. Remember to water azaleas with rainwater collected in a rain butt, not with tap water.

(Reproduced by kind permission of the Royal Horticultural Society, [www.rhs.org.uk](http://www.rhs.org.uk).)

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## Hallgate Schools - continued

*by Peter Railton*

We have seen the problems that overcrowding had created - discipline was slipping in the boys' department according to the Headmaster - some boys were being taught in the infants' department while others had to be sent to the old National building King Street Rooms. It was clear to all that extra school building was needed. County Council officials came and went, meetings were held with the Heads of the three Hallgate Schools' departments and surveyors examined the site opposite the existing Board School building.

### New Building

It appears that the proposals for a new building was in fact for a new infant school at first and a Mr Leaf, an HMI visited during March 1911 to inspect the site. Minds were changed, further talks were held and it was decided that the new building should be a boys' school.

So preliminary plans were drawn up during the summer of 1911, with the final plans being drawn up by the Borough Surveyor Mr B.B. Stamford in December. The proposals were approved by the Board of Education in London on 10 February 1912 and the tender was awarded to J.T. Levitt, builder, of Hull at a cost of £3,693 and work began. More of that later.

Mr Moorby had been away with a bad attack of lumbago but had returned to school in March 1911 - probably to persuade the HMI that a new building for his boys made more sense than a new infants' building!

### Labour Exemption Examinations

Labour Exemption examinations were held that Spring - W Charlton, F Scott, F Dunderdale, S Trantham, R Longbone, A Wiles, W Dixon, W Horsley, A Knaggs, J Burrell, A dunling and T Fairweather, five of whom were successful and left school. Many Cottingham people will know those names! Quarterly exams were held as usual in the departments between 20 March and 7 April.

In August 1911 Mr Moorby recorded that - "Considerable time is taken up transferring material and apparatus to the King Street Rooms"

The Head was getting more exasperated as the months passed. The Staff were St. I Miss Hancock; St II Miss Coulter; St III Miss Baker; St IV Mr Hall; St V Miss Youngson; Sts. VI, VII, and ex St. VII were all at King Street Rooms with Mr Amery and a Mr Rhodes a student teacher. Interestingly, a Miss Eleanor Hooton appeared at the girls' department as a student teacher. These were the first references to student teachers at Hallgate and the beginning of a new element in education brought about under the 1902 Act.

### Teaching Experience

Up to then all teaching experience was gained 'hands on' as a pupil teacher apprenticed to a school for several years and learning themselves as they taught other younger children, as we have seen. Pupil teachers could go on to a college for a year at the end of their apprenticeship, but very few did and qualified as uncertificated teachers having passed yearly exams in the school. After 1902 local authorities were empowered to establish teacher training colleges where students were taught academic subjects as well as the theory and practice of teaching. Hull Training College was set up in 1907 on Cottingham Road and trainee teachers were placed in local schools for teaching practice for several weeks each year. At the end of the, usually, two year course they were examined in all aspects of education and if successful were awarded a Certificate in Education.

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A series of rail strikes in August prevented teachers in Beverley and Hull getting to school on time causing some dislocation in all three departments and it was fortunate that the Heads and some teachers lived in Cottingham to cope with bulging classes until the rest of the staff arrived.

Basketball games in the yard became popular in the boys' and girls' departments; the game lent itself more to the restricted confines of the school yards in those days.

On 18th September Mr Moorby noticed -

"Water percolating from the boys' closets or urinal, through the outer wall and into the lane. Informed Rev Wolstencroft who telephoned County Hall."

### PT or Drill Lessons for fitness

The 'lane' would be the snicket running at the back of the school from Hallgate to Northgate. A good job there was a ditch there!

A Mr Veasey, HMI saw 'drill' lessons in progress in Sts. II, III, and IV. Later he spoke of the importance of P.T. to the staff and fired Mr Moorby's enthusiasm for the subject to the extent that he reprimanded a teacher for 'skipping P.T. in favour of an English lesson. Mr Moorby continued his singing lessons.

The songs taught had not moved out of the Victorian period. "Arcady is ever Young," "Charley is my Darling," "I would that my Love," and "Old Simon the Cellarer" were staple diet. Similarly, lessons in botany seemed rigid in content and were perhaps spoilt by the insistence that the boys should remember the Latin names of plants. Yet a 'General Information' lesson in Sds. VI and VII.

"Served a useful purpose in teaching boys where and how to search out information for themselves."

### Scarlet Fever

In the girls' school Kathleen Lingfield had to be excluded because a member of her family had scarlet fever and the M.O.H. feared the spread of this dangerous disease. Thirty ex-infant girls were moved up to the department in July (1911). In October girls from Std. VI and VII began a course of cookery lessons under the guidance of Miss Williams from County Hall, at the 'cookery school' on Northgate somewhere. The teacher went off ill almost immediately - the girl's culinary efforts or a bad cold? In the same month May Halliday and Marjory Lyon were excluded due to diphtheria at home, and six girls were prepared for the Labour Certificate.

The lower standards were examined and Mrs Holmes records that - "The worked of Std. II is very satisfactory and reflects great credit on Miss Buttery who has charge of the girls."

The Rev. and Mrs Minton called at the schools to say goodbye as they were leaving Cottingham. Rev. Minton had been a frequent visitor to the schools as a Manager, along with Rev. Wolstencroft.

### Boiler Breakdowns and Sickness

The year 1912 opened with the heating being off in all departments due to a broken pipe near the boiler. Fortunately, the weather was mild just then, but the school buildings were cold for the pupils due to the Christmas holidays. Even when mended the boiler struggled to exceed a temperature of 46F. and a 'violent snow-storm' hit the village on 18th January resulting in many children staying away from school.

In February, Muriel and Kathleen Stephenson were absent with diphtheria and the cases were reported to the MOH. In March Miss Williams (presumably now fully recovered) suggested that domestic science lessons should perhaps be prepared for the girls to compliment the practical lessons, evidence of a more liberal approach to the curriculum.

May Richardson, Doris More and Elizabeth Hardy received extra lessons during May as they were candidates for County Council Scholarships. Elizabeth Hardy was to become a long serving teacher at Hallgate, like Miss Buttery and Miss Whitehead, but entering the profession by the Training College route.

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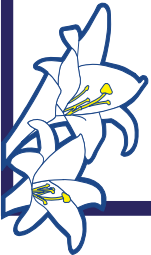
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## Your Stars for February 2008 -

By Kay Gower

### ARIES - (Mar. 21- April 20)

Getting started is half the battle, if all you do this month is tackle the first task then you've won! Try to establish a communication link with someone that you've admired from a distance.

### TAURUS - (Apr. 21- may 21)

Material possessions are important to you, Taurus. There's nothing wrong with that, but if it's accumulated to a level that is out of control then this might be a good month to let some of it go.

### GEMINI - (May 22-June 21)

Exciting social circles are featured this month. Pursue hobbies to meet the most interesting mix of characters. Luck is among them.

### CANCER (June 22-July 22)

There could be chance of a cash windfall from an unlikely source. This unexpected gain will not only improve your financial position but will give you more time and energy to concentrate on a spiritual matter.

### LEO - (July 23-Aug 22)

Your generous nature means there is always the danger of over-spending. However, you are about to be blessed with a period of good luck. Any extra money this month would be best invested in improving the home.

### VIRGO - (Aug 22 - Sept. 23)

The stars encourage your entrepreneurial abilities this month, and if you plan carefully, you could begin a project that will yield a measure of success in the future.

### LIBRA - (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23)

Travel plans suffer from negative planetary influences so you may find trips away difficult to arrange. Around the 19th /20th you will need to put in more effort at work if you want to move up the career ladder.

### SCORPIO - (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Any efforts that you make this month to advance your career or other important long-term plans will be very effective. Independent action, or taking on more of a leadership role are favoured now.

### SAGITTARIUS - (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21)

Your playful or dramatic side is accentuated during February. You will be enjoying sports, games, entertainment and creative activities this month.

### CAPRICORN - (Dec 22.- Jan. 20)

This is a favourable time for meeting new people, potential friends or romantic interests. If you are married the time and attention that you give to your partner will make your relationship much smoother and happier.

### AQUARIUS - (Jan. 21.- Feb. 19)

You are in a transition phase where you are more concerned with bringing your dreams down to earth and implementing them in your life. This month gives you the green light!

### PISCES - (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)

This is a very positive time period. You drop many of the "I can't" attitudes that have previously limited your potential. Your view of life is expanded and your image of yourself is broadened.



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By RDM Computers

**L**aptop prices continue to fall and represent excellent value for money when you consider the specification available on most models. For those of you who have often wondered what's the difference between a laptop (also known as a notebook) and a normal PC (aka desktop or workstation), the answer is not a lot really.

The main difference of course is the portability, but a lot of people now use them as a 'desktop replacement'. In other words they can do anything a normal PC can do; you can connect up to a printer, scanner, camera, internet connection etc. If you don't like the touchpad that controls the cursor on screen, you can easily attach a mouse, wired or wireless.

The laptop as we now know it, can be traced back to the early 1980's when the first 'portable computers' were developed by various pioneering manufacturers. Bearing in mind in those early days a computer was about the size of a small bungalow, this was quite a revelation. A good example is the Osborne1, weighing in at a hefty 11 kg (24 pounds), and of similar dimensions to a Singer sewing machine in its case. The first 'portables' were indeed bulky items and had only a 5" monochrome screen. Not an item that would slide effortlessly into an overhead locker and you certainly wouldn't want one on your lap!

How things have changed. Now the standard laptop comes with a 15.4" full colour screen, more processing power than the original NASA computer, and most even have a DVD-writer as standard. If weight is a consideration, think a bag of sugar rather than a flour sack as mentioned previously! Pricewise, we now have excellent models a shade under £500.

Laptops truly do come in all shapes, sizes and prices. We have supplied some interesting models recently, including a super lightweight one designed for real mobility, with a 10" screen and weighing in at only 1.25kg. It even comes with an integrated webcam (a tiny lens in the screen surround), a fingerprint reader for additional security, plus WiFi and Bluetooth to cover all connectivity requirements. At the thick end of £1100, it's not cheap, but with all this technology it's more James Bond than Basil Don Bond.

By contrast, a project called 'one laptop per child' was started in the USA a few years ago, by someone called Nicholas Negroponte. The stated aim was to provide children in the Third World with a basic laptop costing US\$100. The first 10x units were shipped out at \$150 but with volumes growing the cost will reduce. Like all new technological advances, this is now filtering down to the mass market, and manufacturers are starting to produce similar 'mini-laptops'. At the moment they look more like toys, with 7" screens, solid state memory and a basic Linux operating system. But watch this space; there will be a lot of development in this sector in 2008.

But the good old PC is not dead! Prices continue on the downward trend with specifications going past on the up escalator. For those who prefer their computer to be more beefy, the PC tower is alive and well. Gone is the big old noisy beige box to be replaced by the swish black and silver tower of smaller proportions. The huge lump that was the traditional screen (I used to have a 19" model that was like a sideboard and almost as heavy!) has now become the svelte 17" - 22" flat screen TFT. Keyboard and mouse can be wired or wireless and with a good broadband connection - the world is yours.

Bill Gates of Microsoft retires from day to day operations this year to concentrate efforts on his \$37 billion charity foundation. He gave his last keynote speech at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas recently including a prediction of the end of the keyboard and mouse, and that there will be other ways for us to interact with our computers in future. Speech and touch and the use of mobile phones to transfer and upload our pictures and data, with digital screens everywhere, are his vision. Interesting then that Microsoft has been busy buying more shares in Logitech, who specialise in producing computer peripherals, including, yes you guessed it, keyboard, mouse and other interactive items!

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Gino's is a bright, clean and friendly premises, and there is a small well-lit waiting area. There is an excellent

choice of Pizzas, Burgers, Kebabs and Fried Chicken, and the meals are of ample proportion, even for the biggest appetites. There is also a Gino's Kids Club menu.

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Gino's is now open from 4pm till midnight every day, and is open till 1.00am Fridays, Saturdays and Bank Holidays to provide his customers with good food for longer.

There is a local delivery charge of £1.00 (subject to change). Visit Gino's soon.

You can now download Gino's Menu from the Cottingham Times website [www.cottinghamtimes.co.uk](http://www.cottinghamtimes.co.uk) under Takeaways. Download the menu, make your choice and telephone Gino's and order your meal, and enjoy.



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# Don't switch energy provider, even if you're with British Gas!

The following is a comment from Martin Lewis, creator of consumer revenge website MoneySavingExpert.com, on British Gas's announcement that it's increasing both gas and electricity prices by 15%, effective immediately.

## Hold it! More price hikes to follow...

"British Gas is the third big beast of the energy world to announce a price rise. EDF and npower have already increased prices, and it's now extremely likely the other three main providers will follow at speed. Only when these three do it, will it be time to take advantage of the level playing field and compare prices. Switching now's a waste of time, as the company you switch to may end up increasing its prices even more. Frankly all most people can do is sit tight and wait until this latest tranche of rises passes.

"It's important to be very careful at the moment, as many of the energy comparison services grasp the PR opportunity to yell 'switch supplier now!'. Each switch nets them £20 to £60 meaning they've a vested interest in churning the marketplace as often as possible. To counter this, MoneySavingExpert.com has a switching traffic light that indicates whether it's a good or bad time to switch; at the moment it's on Red for don't switch.

## The only people who should switch right now

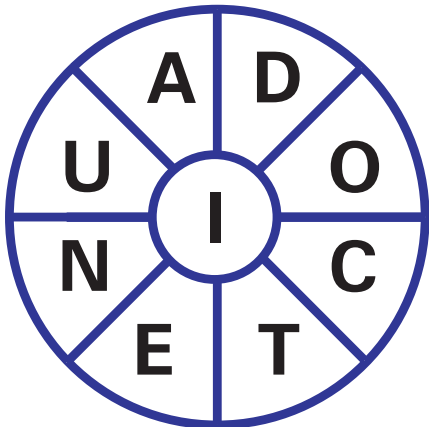
"It's still worth it if you've never switched before, ie you're using British Gas for gas and your regional electricity company for electricity. This is because you're paying so much over the odds, even if prices go up you'll still save.

"If this applies to you, the sheer size of MoneySavingExpert.com also means that if you go to the comparison services via it, rather than going direct, they'll give a cut of their revenue back to customers in the form of a crate of wine; or up to £30 cashback when switching."

For more information, and to get the traffic e-mail light alert which will tell people when it's time to switch again, go to [www.moneysavingexpert.com/gaselec](http://www.moneysavingexpert.com/gaselec).

*(Reproduced by kind permission of Martin Lewis, MoneySavingExpert.com)*

**Hub-Words** - How many words can you make from the letters in the wheel? Each word must contain the hub letter I. Can you find a 9-letter word and at least 20 other words of five letters or more avoiding proper nouns?



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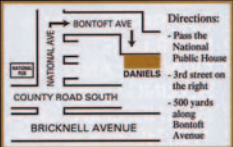
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## Alternative Health Matters

by Carole Headley

### Ear Candling

Ear candling is an old established method that has been used over the centuries by the Ancient Chinese, Greeks, Egyptians, and also North and South American Indians.

It is a safe, pain-free alternative to syringing. If you suffer from any of the following problems then perhaps ear candling would help.

#### What Happens?

Following a consultation you will be made comfortable on the couch/bed on your side. The candle is placed just inside your ear canal and the opposite end of the candle will be lit and burnt down to an area marked on the candle. The chimney effect thus created draws the wax and impurities up into the hollow candle. While the candle is in your ear, your face and neck are gently massaged with essential oils, particularly in the area of the lymph nodes, to assist with the clearing of the sinuses and the removal of the impurities from the ear. You may hear either a 'sea shore' sound (as when you place a seashell against the ear) or a faint crackling, as the wax loosens and is drawn out. The treatment is then carried out for the other ear, and the total time taken for both ears is approximately 45 minutes. A separate candle is used for both ears and it is important to treat both ears otherwise you could upset the balance.

With more technology i.e. mobile phones and ear pieces for those working in call centres, it is known that more wax is produced in the ear that is used most. The treatment is also beneficial before and after a long-haul flight.

#### What Possible Benefits from a Treatment

- In some cases restoration of smell and taste
- Regulation of ear pressure (flying & diving)
- Proper balancing of ear fluids (car and air sickness)
- Catarrh resulting from Nasopharynx problems
- Activates proper ear fluid circulation
- Irritation of the ears
- Excessive or compacted wax in the ears
- Glue ear
- Improved hearing
- Increased hair and nail growth
- Migraines and headaches
- Improved mental clarity
- Menier's disease
- Improve eyesight
- Rhinitis (irritation of the lining of the nose producing large amounts of mucous).
- Sinusitis
- Snoring and Hangovers
- Better Lymphatic Circulation
- Relief from Vertigo
- Hay Fever, Colds and Flu

As you see there are many benefits to this treatment and you will find it calming and relaxing.

**Carole Headley MIFR**

**The Healing Hut, 221 Hallgate**

*Editors note: Having undergone the Ear Candling treatment with Carol I found this very relaxing and a sense of wellbeing afterwards and can highly recommend it.*



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### Crossword Solution from page 14

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