



## News

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## INSIGHT

The November 2006 issue of Insight was packed with facts but easy to read. The new tax allowances along with the other Rule Changes, however did take some careful reading. If only we had been able to afford 'input' at anywhere near those sums into our pensions. Reading between the lines of the PPC report, it is clear that Hugh McNair and his team are carrying on from the level of dialogue with the Trustees established by Richard Rigby.

A pat on the back for the Trustees and PPC are in order don't you think?

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[PLINTH at Southampton](#)

In answer to the question regarding the plinth at Southampton factory, Derek Jeffs sent in a copy of the Echo which featured several War Heros.

'Flight Lieutenant James Nicolson was Fighter Commands only VC which he won when flying with No 249 Squadron over Southampton on August 16 1940. Citation reads "During an engagement with the enemy near Southampton, Flt Lt Nicolson's aircraft was hit by 4 cannon shells, two of which wounded him whilst another set fire to the gravity tank. When about to abandon his aircraft due to the flames in his cockpit he sighted another enemy fighter. This he attacked and shot down although as a result of staying in his burning aircraft, he sustained burns to his hands, face, neck and legs. "After recovering, he returned to flying in April 1941, but tragically went missing while flying as a passenger in a Liberator over the Bay of Bengal on May 2 1945.'

Thank you Derek.  
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#### GUARDIAN Newspaper, recent articles (November 2006)

- More than seven millions British adults- 20% of adult population - have fallen victim to credit or debit card fraud,
- NHS £94m predicted shortfall in a report published earlier this month, compared with a predicted £18m surplus just three months ago.
- More than 1,500 immigrants arrived in Britain every day last year. The Office for National Statistics data revealed 565,000 people came to live here for at least a year during the course of 2005.
- Olympic costs rise from £2.4bn - which won the bid against France - to latest estimate by Tessa Jowell (21 November) of £3.3bn,excluding land purchase, regeneration and management. Wise forecasters are predicting a final overall cost of £12bn. Brown is set to increase his share of the Lottery from the present 17%, and goodness knows what London council tax will do!
- Whitehall cabinet pensions will average £75k pa, based upon their average calculated pension 'pot' of £1.7m. But there is no 'pot', pensions are paid each year from that year's taxes.
- Abandoned Home Information Packs cost us £2.7bn.

- Iraq war has costs us 125 UK lives and £7bn so far. <http://icasualties.org/oif/>
- Personal UK debit grows at £1m every 4 minutes. Brown's economy is built on 'borrowed money'.
- Some £940 million in benefits were overpaid last year, according to official figures. £400 million was due to civil servant error, while fraud accounted for £310 million. Overpayments were equivalent to 5.1% of benefit expenditure in the 12 months to September 2005. Income support overpayments totalled £500 million, while jobseeker's allowance added £120 million, and pension credit £320 million.

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## AREA Contacts

Some of you may have seen the bottom lines of the epepnet.co.uk Welcome page since it has been updated. The link takes you to the Philips Pension web site where there are names and addresses for PPC members in your area.

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## BROADBAND

More and more of you are now connected to the internet by broadband. This means you no longer have to take care about how long you spend searching online, or receiving pictures attached to emails. (Please remember to say in your email what is attached, if anything).

If you are into jazz, try  
[www.radiojazz.co.uk](http://www.radiojazz.co.uk)

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## DIGITAL RADIO

This email was sent by a friend. Please read and forward to anyone you think cares about saving AM - FM

- LW radio broadcasts after 2012!!

"I am very worried about the imminent demise of broadcasts for transistor radios in the UK, currently scheduled for 2012. Digital radio uses between 5 and 15 times as much energy as the transistor, and the simplicity of the circuit in the tranny makes it egalitarian, affordable and environmentally friendly. Not all developments are necessarily progress, and I think DAB is a case in point here. We need to lobby for the retainment of MW, LW and FM radio transmissions in the UK. The BBC are trying to keep quiet about the amount of power consumed by DAB radios, a minutes wind on a clockwork transistor radio will give power for up to half an hour, on DAB equivalents, power lasts about three minutes. That's 15 times as much energy consumed by DAB than conventional radio. Aren't we all supposed to be trying to save energy in any way possible??? What sort of strain is this going to put on the national grid??? I suggest a petition as a good way to start saying something like;

"We, the undersigned believe the proposed ending of transmission for terrestrial radio in 2012 is ill conceived, and poses a threat to the environment due to the large volume of energy consumed by DAB radio, up to 15 times that of the transistor, and also to national security due to the opportunity this demise will afford to illicit pirate broadcasters."

Please go to:

<http://www.PetitionOnline.com/wireless/>

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## THE BENEVOLENT FUND for Philips UK Pensioners

The working procedure with the EEIBA continues to assist us in helping our needy pensioners and we are now making donations up to £250 out of the funds so generously supported by our Pensioners for our Pensioners.

We do see that the number of requests for those essential items is decreasing. We are certain that the need is still there so please, if you do have a request for something to make life that bit more comfortable - and you can't afford it yourself, don't hesitate to apply. Remember, your application is discussed only between the 3 Trustees and in the strictest confidence.

<http://www.pensions.philips.co.uk/html/pensioners/benevolentFund.htm>

There will be a flyer included in the valuation copy of INSIGHT with a standing order form which we

encourage our donors to use. If you want to make a donation , you can send a cheque made out to *The Benevolent Fund for Philips UK Pensioners* to:

Hugh McNair,  
PBF,  
c/o The Philips Pension Fund,  
Cross Oak Lane,  
Redhill,  
Surrey, RH1 5HA.

Please include the completed GiftAid form if possible.

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