



Changes to PAYE Tax codes

With effect from pay days starting on or after 7th September the new personal allowances announced in May come into effect. This means that in general most annual tax codes will increase by £600. This will mean an extra £10 per month in take home pay for basic rate taxpayers.

However, for higher rate tax payers the not so good news is that the basic rate band (that's the band of tax that suffers 20% tax) is being reduced from £36,000 to £34,800. This means that higher rate taxpayers will be £10 per month worse off.

Sadly the NIC bands have not altered, which means that NICs will now be payable in cases where employees' salaries take them up to the tax threshold but not beyond. For those of you who operate your own payrolls, you will need to ensure that these changes are effected in your systems.

National Minimum Wage

The new rates of National Minimum Wage take effect as from 1st October, 2008. These are:

Adult rate (workers aged 22 and over)	£5.73 per hour
Workers aged 18-21	£4.77 per hour
Workers aged 16-17	£3.53 per hour

Team Matters at Thomas Cox

Most of you will now be aware that sadly Yvonne left us earlier in the summer to pursue her career in commerce. We are delighted to let you know that Amanda Codling will be joining us on 1st September. Amanda is a Chartered Accountant and is resuming her professional career now that her family are growing up. We are very excited about her being part of our team, as it will help ensure the long term future of the Practice.

We recently experienced one of those classic "excuses" for not turning up for work on a Monday (for "Corrie" fans this even beats the Janice Battersby school of employer/employee relationships) when Helen from our Tax Department recently called in to say that she was fog-bound in the Arctic!! Allegedly, Helen and her husband had gone on a four day trip to Spitzbergen and were planning to return on the Sunday when inclement weather set in and passengers could neither fly in nor out. Must have been something to do with the day out to Henlow Grange that the Thomas Cox girls enjoyed at the end of July!!

And finally, Helen's niece – Emily Freeman – made it to the Olympic womens' 200 metres sprint semi finals. So well done to Emily and all those other magnificent Team GB athletes.

Peter
26th August, 2008

BUSINESS IS GREAT AND WE ARE READY FOR MORE. PLEASE REFER US TO YOUR BUSINESS ASSOCIATES.