



Kirkstall Festival Saturday 13th July

Kirkstall Festival 2013 took place on one of the hottest and sunniest days of the year, attracting crowds which must have topped the 16,000 people who attended last year's event.

Europe Direct Leeds took along the citizens' road show and distributed information on travelling and working abroad, citizens and consumers rights, the European Health card and information on the EU and the environment .

Visitors to our stand and the mobile library had the chance to test their knowledge about citizens' rights in the EU by taking part in our quiz with the chance to win one of 3 book tokens, as well as the opportunity to find out more about library services and the library workshops supported by Europe Direct Leeds.

The overall theme of the festival was "Kirkstall, How Green Is Our Valley", so we also took along materials related to Europe and the Environment - we had over 400 visitors to the stall.

Younger visitors had the opportunity to make their own Eugene or Priscilla badges or if they preferred they could learn to say "hello" in one of 6 European Languages with a flag badge.

The festival seems to get better every year and the range of organisations and entertainment available is truly astonishing – all in the beautiful setting of the grounds of Kirkstall Abbey – a truly great day out for everyone!

It's the biggest of the Summer festivals in Leeds and it was a brilliant chance to raise awareness on the themes of citizenship and the environment.

You can watch a video of the day at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLfSD1htiRY>



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Taking your Summer holidays in Europe?

EHIC - European Health Insurance Card:

If you're going abroad on holiday or a business trip, you should apply for a free European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), which may give you access to reduced-cost medical treatment.

The EHIC is valid in all European Economic Area (EEA) countries, including Switzerland. The website has more information about what is covered in each country see our country-by-country guide.

Your EHIC lets you get state healthcare at a reduced cost or sometimes for free. It will cover you for treatment that is needed to allow you to continue your stay until your planned return.

The card is not an alternative to travel insurance. It will not cover any private medical healthcare or costs such as mountain rescue in ski resorts, being flown back to the UK, or lost or stolen property. Therefore, it is important to have both an EHIC and a valid private travel insurance policy. Some insurers now insist you hold an EHIC and many will waive the excess if you have one.

<http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Healthcareabroad/EHIC/Pages/about-the-ehic.aspx>



A new passenger rights app can be downloaded to your mobile phone:

Passengers stranded at airports or awaiting missing luggage can now use a mobile application for free to check their rights immediately and on the spot.

The EU is the only area in the world where citizens are protected by a full set of Passenger Rights – whether they travel by air or rail, and now also by ship, bus and coach. This application covers all modes of transport.

The application is available on four popular mobile platforms: Apple iPhone and iPad, Google Android, RIM Blackberry and Microsoft Windows Phone 7.

<http://ec.europa.eu/transport/passenger-rights/en/mobile.html>

