

## WebLinks



### Make A Noise in Libraries (MANIL) Fortnight

<http://www.rnib.org.uk/manil>

### Leeds City College

<http://www.leedscitycollege.ac.uk>

### Jobcentre Plus

<https://www.gov.uk/looking-for-work-if-disabled/looking-for-a-job>

### Leeds City Council Disability Sport

<http://www.leeds.gov.uk/disabilitysport>

### Leeds Vision Consortium

<http://www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk/leeds-vision-consortium/>

### Association of Blind Asians

<http://www.abaleeds.org.uk>

### ZEST Health for Life

<http://www.zesthealthforlife.org>



The Europe Direct Leeds display

THE MONTHLY  
NEWSLETTER FROM  
EUROPE DIRECT  
LEEDS

# Europe Talk

[www.europedirectleeds.org.uk](http://www.europedirectleeds.org.uk)



ISSUE  
**51**  
JUNE  
2013

## Make A Noise in Libraries!

Leeds Library and Information Service supports the Six Steps for Blind and Partially Sighted Library Users campaign led by the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB). One of the steps is to organize events for the annual Make A Noise in Libraries Fortnight (MANIL) during the month of June, to bring public libraries and blind and partially sighted people together to improve access to books and information. This year the theme was 'Signposting'.

A number of agencies that work with or provide services for the visually impaired within the city were on hand to give short presentations and to talk with individuals about their services. These included Leeds City College and a Disability Employment Advisor from Jobcentre Plus. The Disability Sports Officer from Leeds City Council talked about sport and recreation for disabled people in Leeds. Leeds Vision Consortium, which is the main organization in Leeds providing advice and information were also present, as were the Association of Blind Asians. ZEST Health for Life gave guidance on healthy cooking and eating.

There was also live guitar music, poetry performances in English and Bengali, and a presentation from a large print and talking book producer.

There were two library stalls at the event. Europe Direct Leeds provided a display, leaflets, booklets and information packs. All the attendees were given one of the packs. There was also an assistive technology area where relevant equipment and services were demonstrated by library staff.

Posters and flyers had been distributed through the relevant networks internally and externally, including Braille posters and information posted on the RNIB MANIL website. Around 30 people attended and got a lot out of the afternoon.

If you would like to work with the Library to develop our offer for the visually impaired or want to find out more about this work then please get in touch with Zahir Ahmed, Area Development Librarian (Equality and Diversity) [zahir.ahmed@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:zahir.ahmed@leeds.gov.uk)



Zahir Ahmed, Area Development Librarian (Equality & Diversity), on the right, talks about Large Print and Talking Books with an attendee



Central Library

Information Centre

Calverley Street

Leeds LS1 3AB

Tel. 0113 247 8282

Fax. 0113 395 1833

[europedirect@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:europedirect@leeds.gov.uk)

<http://www.europedirectleeds.org.uk>

<http://www.twitter.com/europedirect>

<http://www.facebook.com/europedirectleeds>



# Horsforth Gala Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June



Bramley the barn owl

Horsforth Gala proved to be a great success again this year. There was plenty for the local community to see and get involved with. Entertainment included dancing from the Starlight Academy and the Encore Dance Theatre and Academy. Visitors also enjoyed a birds of prey display (including a barn owl called Bramley), as well as many children's attractions, such as an assault course and a bouncy castle. The parade was led by the City of Leeds Pipe Band, with the Air Cadets' marching band bringing up the rear. A children's fancy dress parade included 'welcoming the royal baby,' world culture, circus, and Dr Who.

The Library Service was there with one of its Mobiles, which proved to be a great attraction. While many were already members of the Library (though we did get 12 new joiners) they all enjoyed looking around the mobile, with many parents using it as a venue to read to their children. Over 40 children's books were issued and 11 adult. Outside, we offered badge making, balloons, bubble blowing, Storytime, Connect 4, toys, and more books!

The Europe Direct Leeds display included leaflets and booklets. The 'Passport to the European Union', 'United in Diversity', pencil cases, pens and erasers proved to be particularly popular with young people.

The total numbers of people we engaged with were: Adults 19 -59 - 200+; Older adults - 100; under 5's - 40; primary age -155; young teen - 20; older teen - 10. Many thanks to Rimpu for planning and organizing the Library's contribution to the Gala and to the rest of the Library's team on the day - Tim, Keith, Carol, Ramesh and Sarah.

Overall attendance at the Gala was estimated at between 4 and 5,000. Organiser, Councillor Dawn Collins said, "It was fantastic. It is quite heart-warming when you see all these people enjoying themselves". She said there was great community spirit at the event, and added, "We always get lots of positive feedback."

