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Results of the 2014 European Parliamentary Elections in the UK

The UK voted on Thursday 22nd May to elect the 73 MEPs who will represent us in the European Parliament from 1st July. Turnout in the UK was 34.19%, up slightly on the 2009 elections. In England, Scotland and Wales the [voting system](#) is the d'Hondt system of proportional representation - regional closed list. In Northern Ireland the system is Single Transferable Vote.

Across [the UK as a whole](#) the UK Independence Party (UKIP) won 24 seats (up 11 on last time), Labour won 20 (up 7), the Conservatives won 19 (down 7), and the Greens won 3 (up 1). The Liberal Democrats won only 1 seat (down 10) and the British National Party (BNP) lost the 2 seats they won last time. The Scottish National Party won 2 seats. In Northern Ireland, which elects 3 MEPs, Sinn Fein, the Democratic Unionist Party, and the Ulster Unionist Party each won 1 seat. In Wales Plaid Cymru won a seat.

With **UKIP** topping [the poll](#) in the **Yorkshire and Humber region** with over 400,000 votes, they were allocated three of the six seats available, with **Labour** getting two and the **Conservatives** one. If you live anywhere in the region, all six of these MEPs will represent you and you can contact any or all of them. Click on the images below to visit their websites. Further information about your MEPs can also be found on the website of the [Information Office in the United Kingdom](#).

The MEPs sit in political groups. These are organised by political affiliation rather than by nationality. A group needs a minimum of 25 MEPs from at least one quarter of the 28 member states. There are currently seven groups: Group of the European People's Party ([EPP](#)); Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists



Amjad Bashir
UKIP



Jane Collins
UKIP



Mike Hookem
UKIP



Richard Corbett
Labour



Linda McAvan
Labour



Timothy Kirkhope
Conservative



Go to the European
Elections website
www.elections2014.eu

and Democrats in the European Parliament ([S&D](#)); Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe ([ALDE](#)); European Conservatives and Reformists Group ([ECR](#)); Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance ([Greens/EFA](#)); Confederal Group of the European United Left / Nordic Green Left ([GUE/NGL](#)); Europe of Freedom and Democracy Group ([EFD](#)). There are also Non-attached Members who do not belong to any group. New groups may emerge in the period between the election and the first plenary session starting on 1 July.

MEPs divide their time between their constituencies, Strasbourg where 12 [plenary](#) sittings a year are held, and Brussels, where they attend additional plenary sittings, as well as [committee](#) and political group meetings. During the first plenary session in July, MEPs will choose a new president and the vice-presidents of the Parliament.

Useful websites:

[European Parliament - Elections night is over: what follows](#)

[BBC News: UKIP gains in Yorkshire and Humber](#)

[BBC News: UK European election results](#)

[BBC News: INSIDE EUROPE](#) – News, features and analysis from across the EU.

The seventh annual Eurofest is to be held at Selby College on Thursday 26th June 2014



Eurofest is an exciting simulated international trade fair, developed by the Selby Modern Languages Forum, to encourage the active use of modern foreign languages. Year 8 students from local schools sell products which they have designed themselves and run tourist information stands – and have a lot of fun at the same time!

The students practice their language skills in a realistic, but safe environment – the College's sports hall – speaking and listening in one or two languages, giving information, answering questions and writing down details.

Europe Direct Leeds has supplied learning materials for the event.

www.selby.ac.uk





The world's biggest cycle race starts in Leeds on Saturday 5th July!

The Tour de France, the Giro d'Italia and the Vuelta a España make up cycling's prestigious three-week-long Grand Tours. Started in 1903, the Tour is the oldest and generally considered to be the most prestigious of the three. It covers a distance of some 3500km (2200 miles), with 22 teams of nine riders competing for the winner's yellow jersey.

The Tour has a massive global following, and is especially popular in neighbouring countries. For this reason, the race regularly starts outside France and last visited the UK in 2007. This year the race begins in Yorkshire where there are two stages - **Leeds to Harrogate** on Saturday 5th July and **York to Sheffield** on Sunday 6th - before it moves south for a third stage from Cambridge to London on Monday 7th.

The Grand Départ will start at 11.10am on the Headrow in **Leeds**, opposite the Art Gallery and Central Library. The publicity caravan will set off two hours before that. The route will begin with a ceremonial section which will take them down The Headrow, along Regent Street to Sheepscar Interchange, then along the Ring Road to Arthington Lane by way of the grounds of Harewood House, a former Royal household. The race proper will then begin.



Chris Froome, the winner of last year's Tour, wears the yellow jersey during the 19th stage.

[Photo: Brendan Ryan](#)

After passing through Otley, Ilkley and Skipton, they will head north to begin a clockwise circuit of the Yorkshire Dales, where it will begin to get a bit hilly! They will take in such locations as Grassington, Kettlewell, Kidstones, and Buttertubs Pass before dropping down to Ripon and then on to the finish in Harrogate, which they are expected to reach between 4.20pm and 4.45pm. The race might end with a sprint finish and give Mark Cavendish the chance to win the first yellow jersey of this year's tour!

The start of the second stage will be in **York** on Sunday 6th July, rolling out from York Racecourse. They will take in Keighley, Haworth, Hebden Bridge and the climb of Cragg Vale before going on to Huddersfield and then Holmfirth and the climb of Holme Moss, before heading into the Peak District and towards the finish in Sheffield.

On Sunday 22nd July 2012, on the Champs-Élysées, **Bradley Wiggins** became the first British rider to win the Tour de France. In second place was another Briton, his teammate Chris Froome, who went on to win outright in 2013. The first British cyclist to wear the yellow jersey of race leader was **Tom Simpson** in 1962. (The tradition of awarding the [yellow jersey](#) – the famous maillot jaune – to the leader was begun in 1919 because the sponsoring L'Auto newspaper (later L'Équipe) was printed on distinctive yellow newsprint.)

To date there have been 51 stage wins by British riders, with the sprinter **Mark Cavendish** taking the lion's share with 23, followed by the Yorkshireman [Barry Hoban](#) (8), **David Millar** (4), **Michael Wright**, **Robert Millar** and **Chris Boardman** (3), **Brian Robinson** (another Yorkshireman) (2), **Bradley Wiggins** (2), **Sean Yates**, **Max Sciandri** and **Chris Froome** (1). [Brian Robinson](#) was also the first Briton to win two stages, first in 1958 and then in 1959. He was the first Briton to finish the Tour and [the first](#) to win a stage.

Leeds itself was the birth place of one of the pioneers of women's cycling: back in the sixties [Beryl Burton](#) claimed seven World titles on the track and the road and she dominated the domestic scene for a quarter of a century. A [play](#) about her is to be staged at the West Yorkshire Playhouse from 30th June to 19th July. Today, Otley's [Lizzie Armitstead](#) is one of the world's top female riders.

In the days leading up to the start of the Tour, there are a couple of local evening races which will be well worth a visit, in [Otley](#) on Wednesday 2nd July and [Huddersfield](#) on Friday 4th. And why not go along to the Arts space on the first floor of Leeds Central Library for the '[Cycling Roots](#)' exhibition, which runs from 16th June to 27th July, during usual library opening hours. The exhibition features cycling in the 1950s from the Kirkgate Cycling Club, West Riding Track League in Roundhay Park, cycling in fiction and innovative patent drawings.

More information:

Yorkshire Grand Départ <http://letour.yorkshire.com>

Leeds City Council www.leeds.gov.uk/granddepartleeds

Harrogate Borough Council www.harrogate.gov.uk

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council www.bradford.gov.uk/tourdefrance

York City Council www.york.gov.uk/tourdefrance

Visit Calderdale www.visitcalderdale.com

Kirklees Council www.kirklees.gov.uk/letour

Welcome to Sheffield www.welcometosheffield.co.uk/tdf2014

Le Tour de France www.letour.fr/le-tour/2014/us/



The Tour de France visits the UK for the first time in 1974 for a stage in Plymouth and Barry Hoban leads the way!

[Photo: British Cycling](#)



Bradley Wiggins, the winner of the 2012 Tour, wears the yellow jersey during the final stage on the Champs-Élysées. Immediately to our left of Wiggins is Mark Cavendish, who would win the final stage for a record fourth successive year.

[Photo: Josh Hallet](#)