

# Social Inclusion and Nottingham City Libraries



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Nottingham City Library and Information Service

# Some facts about Nottingham

- Regional capital of England's East Midlands
- One of 8 major cities outside London
- Population is 300,800
- Population in wider Greater Nottingham urban area is over 700,000
- The city is the 20<sup>th</sup> most deprived of the 326 local authorities in England

# Some facts about Nottingham

- 24% of the population are from BME (Black and Ethnic) minority groups
- Pupils at City schools have 109 different first languages
- More than 12,000 people have arrived from EU Accession countries since 2004

# City Council Vision

## Priorities

- Helping people get healthier
- Improving Neighbourhoods
- Making Nottingham world class
- Making Nottingham a safer and cleaner place
- Jobs and training for local people

# The Council's Equality Scheme 'Fair and Just Nottingham'

We will:

- make Nottingham a welcoming place
- make services easier to access
- provide fair treatment
- help everyone achieve



# Our Values

- Take responsibility
- Work together
- Strive for better
- Care for people
- Be fair



# Social Inclusion in Libraries

We aim to support the key Council agendas

-especially to improve community cohesion

- Local Area Agreement 2008-11

‘We want a fairer Nottingham

- ❖ where everyone has the same opportunities, no matter who they are or where they live
- ❖ that has high ambitions- and achieves them

One Nottingham is for everyone- and for everyone’s future’

- Chair of One Nottingham

# Social Inclusion in Libraries

## Wide-ranging areas of work

- Older People
- Disability
- Visual Impairment
- Mental Health
- Prison Service

*“Fantastic.  
I feel less  
alone”*



# Multicultural Initiatives

Engagement with:

- African Caribbean community
- Asian Community
- New migrant communities
- Italian community



# Multicultural Initiatives

- Positive Images Programme
- Inter-cultural Cities project
- European Day of Languages
- Supporting Local Studies projects of other organisations



# African Caribbean community

- Consultation
- Black History Month
- Family History
- Books and other materials



# Asian community

- Home Library Services
- Stock circulation
- Reading groups
- Festivals and celebrations
- Friends of the Service



# Asian Friends of the Library

**Next Meeting:  
Wednesday 1 June  
3.30-5.30pm**

**Cecil Roberts Room  
Nottingham Central  
Library**

**Join us to  
exchange ideas  
and express  
opinions on  
Asian services  
delivered to you**

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[syed.anwar@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:syed.anwar@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)



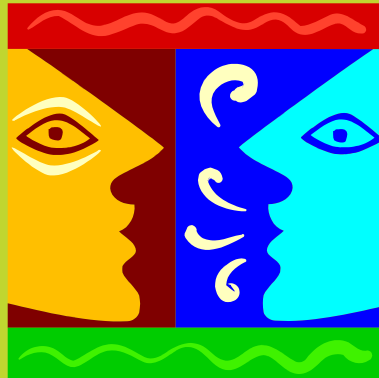
[www.mynottingham.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.mynottingham.gov.uk/libraries)

Libraries  at the heart of your community



# New Migrant communities

- Refugees and Asylum Seekers
- EC economic migrants



# Some Examples of our Work for New Migrant Communities



Conversation Class – Forestry  
Commission Trip



Building Bridges Project

# Building Bridges: Making Connections project

- Funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation through the Reading and Libraries Challenge Fund
- Aims
  - ❖ to improve the quality of life of refugees and asylum seekers through greater use and awareness of libraries
  - ❖ to increase understanding of their position within the Library Service and local community



# Leaflets in different languages

*Kurdish*

Nottingham City Council **proud**  
to serve you



## کتبخانه کەت

پەڕووتنێکردن رە کتبخانەو بێ بەرامبەرە و جێبەجێکردنی لاسانە

هەموو ئەوەی کە پێویستە تەنیا سەلماندنی شوێنی نیشتمجیووتنە وەک ناسە، بانگ،  
وەرەقی ئاو و کاربە و غاز بێ تەلەفۆن بێ نامە، ئەم شوێنە کە خانوو و مەکان بۆ دابین  
کەردووەت بێ کارتی ARC، پاشان دەتوانیت هەتا بۆ ٢٤ کالای قەرز بکەیت بۆ مارهێ سێ  
هەفتە. کارمەندەکان دڵخۆش دەبن بە پارەتێدانت لە دۆزینەوەی پێویستەکانت.

[www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/libraries)



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# English Conversation Groups



# English Conversation Groups

“I am very supportive of these groups as they create a massive potential for integration”

African Institute for Social Development



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# Tours



# Citizenship Information



# Provision of Health Information

- Working with local Refugee organisation
- Aim to increase access to medical information
- Health leaflets obtained in relevant languages
- Promoted on tours and through agencies



# Refugee Week



Refugee  
Week



*“I’d never been to the  
Central Library before  
and its great that you have  
such events”*



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# Work with specific communities

## The Polish community

- Welcome evenings
- Participation in festivals



# Language Cafe

“I enjoyed the languages and learning, the hospitality and the warm welcome.”



# Language Cafe



# The Italian Connection

## The *Italian Connection* Project

- Oral History
- Recording experiences of elders since arrival in Nottingham
- Worked with several partners including schools
- Inter-generational
- Recordings, book, website

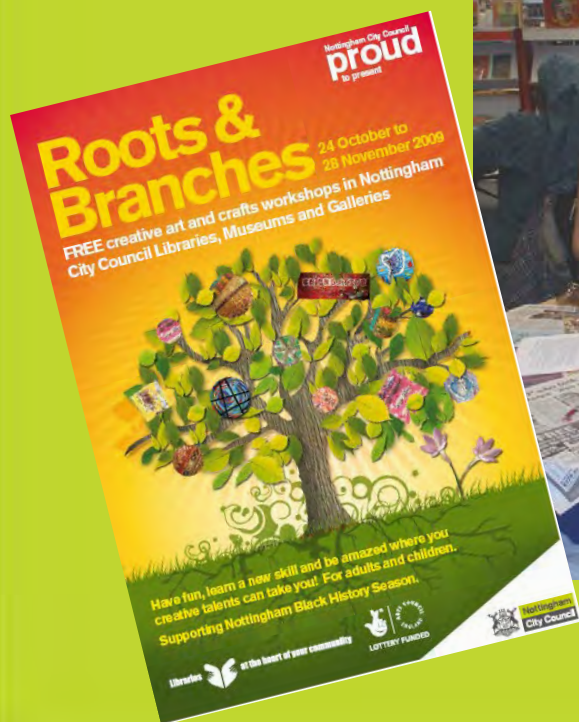


# The Italian Connection



# Increasing Understanding through Arts and Crafts

## *Positive Images Programme*



*“A whole new world opened up to me”*



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# Intercultural Cities Project

## ‘Year of Intercultural Dialogue’ -2008

- City of Nottingham part of a project which involved 23 members of the Eurocities network
- ‘Ambassador’ visits from one city to another
- Libraries’ contribution involved:
  - ❖ ‘*Tastes of the City*- Food of Many Countries’ event
  - ❖ Presentations at Council House conference by members of Conversation class

# Projects in individual libraries

## Sneinton Library and the Czech community

- Meetings with the community
- Red Cross project
- Book Selection



# Projects with individual libraries

## St. Ann's Library

'Hands Around St. Ann's'



# Projects with individual libraries

Meadows Library

*Meadows Alive* project

- Funding
- Management Board
- Community Sounding Board
- Project workers
- Programme of events



# Engagement with local Business

## The Pizza Factory

- Library Staff approached by the factory
- Wanted to help workers improve English and other services
- Visits to factory



# Key Points

- Importance of partnership working
- Sharing of information
- Offering a safe, welcoming and neutral environment
- Use and empowering of volunteers
- Support of councillors, management and staff
- Good planning and evaluation
- Funding
- Mainstreaming



# We can make a difference!

*“The doctor, the priest, the librarian”*



