Social Inclusion and Nottingham City Libraries

Roger Parish
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 20th 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
Exemptions for replacement cards:

Under 18s and Looked After children.

www.mynottingham.gov.uk/libraries

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

For more information contact Rekha Vasishta or Syed Iqbal Anwar on 0115 915 1189 or email rekha.vasishta@nottinghamcity.gov.uk / syed.anwar@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
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
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
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

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

From Arabic to Zulu, we can help you meet your language match

Nottingham Central Library

Language cafe

Learn a language! Teach a language!

Nottingham City Council
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”
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”