

Welcome to the new **EUROPE DIRECT** information centre  
- Wrexham's newsletter!

# europa DIRECT

Summer 2013



Co-funded by  
the European Union



## News in the EU

### European Commission acts to slash red tape in all Member States

**The European Commission is proposing to slash red tape for citizens and businesses by doing away with bureaucratic rubber-stamping exercises currently required to get public documents like your birth certificate recognised as authentic in another EU Member State.**

Currently, citizens who move to another Member State have to spend a large amount of time and money in order to demonstrate that their public documents such as birth or marriage certificates, issued by their Member State of origin are authentic. For more information visit: [www.europa.eu/newsroom/index\\_en.htm](http://www.europa.eu/newsroom/index_en.htm)



Credit © European Union, 2013

### Safer and greener HGVs

**Under the Commission's proposals to update existing EU rules, heavy goods vehicles in the future will become safer and greener.**

New designs will improve driver's field of vision, reduce fuel consumption and cut greenhouse gas emissions.

One of the intentions is to eliminate the current blind spots, which cost the lives of so many pedestrians and cyclists every year. For example, a rounded cabin design would increase sideways vision together with a lower driver seat/or moving the driver to the middle of the cabin with some cameras in the vehicle would make this possible.

The introduction of aerodynamic cabins plus tail flaps would also mean a cut to the fuel used by hauliers of up to 10% and a cut in greenhouse gas emissions of between 7-10%. For more information please visit: [www.ec.europa.eu/unitedkingdom/press/frontpage](http://www.ec.europa.eu/unitedkingdom/press/frontpage)

### We are a European Information centre based in Wrexham Library.

We offer free European publications, and answer queries about Europe and the European Union. If you have any questions about Europe and the EU whether you are a teacher, student or the general public, please do not hesitate to contact us.

All our services are **FREE!**



[www.wrexham.gov.uk/europedirect](http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/europedirect)

# What has Europe Direct Wrexham been up to?

## Primary Teacher Conference 19/02/2013

**Europe Direct Wrexham and Europe Direct Llangollen organised a Primary teacher conference for schools across Wrexham, Flintshire and Denbighshire.**

This informative day consisted of talks from the British Council, Europe Direct, as well as examples of local schools coordinating ESDGC projects. Participants also had the chance to browse information stands from Cafod, Eco-schools and Europe Direct. The day was kindly supported by the European Commission Representation in Cardiff and David Hughes, Head of Office who also officially opened the conference.



## Youth Opportunities in Europe Conference 23/04/2013

**Europe Direct Wrexham and Llangollen alongside Connect Cymru have recently organised a half day conference for Youth Workers across North Wales to discuss the Youth in Action programme.**

More than 50 Youth Workers and Youth Work Students attended talks from the British Council, Connect Cymru, European Parliament in London, UNA Exchange and two examples of volunteering and exchanges programmes from two local young people.



## Darland High School - Welsh Bacallaureate Day 18/04/13

Darland High School in Wrexham has recently held a Welsh Bacallaureate Day and kindly invited Europe Direct Wrexham to deliver a rotation of workshops during the day. The workshop involved an overview of what Europe and the EU means to us, a quiz with prizes and a separate exercise to learn more about our rights in the European Union.



## Early Years Fun Day 7/03/2013

**Early Years team in Wrexham Library organised a wonderful day of storytelling, information stands and activities in Wrexham Library where local mums could bring their toddlers.**

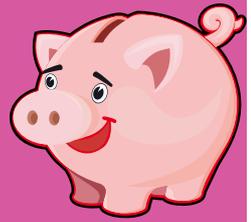
Bookstart Bear also visited the library during the day! It was an excellent way to talk to some of the mums in the local area and inform them of the children's books available for them free of charge to educate their children about Europe.

## Cyfle P.R.U. Workshops 8/03/2013

Europe Direct Wrexham recently held a session at the Cyfle Pupil Referral Unit where Europe and the European Union were discussed during a workshop. The pupils then took part in a fun quiz for a chance to win some prizes!

## WFIS Info counts event Hightown 12/03/13

Wrexham Family Information Service kindly invited Europe Direct Wrexham to hold an information stand at a local event where local families were able to browse info stands and children could take part in fun activities.



## European Fairies at local primary schools in Wrexham

Europe Direct Wrexham has been inundated with 'European Fairies' workshop at Maes-y-Llan and Johnstown Infant schools. Children made their own 'European person' and were able to then discover where they come from on a large map of Europe. The centre also visited Acton Park primary school in May to hold two, full days of workshops with the whole school.



## What we offer!

We offer a vast amount of free European Information about Europe and the European Union, whether it's for a school project, university essays, teachers or lecturers looking for European material to deliver a lesson on Europe or you just want to learn more about Europe and the EU.

We also offer various school workshops for primary and secondary schools in the Wrexham area as part of ESDGC or the Welsh Bacallaureate qualification. If you are a teacher please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss this.



# Future Events

European Citizenship Fair – June 2013

European Day of Languages for local primary schools – September 2013

EU Pub Quiz – October 2013



# Do you know about the European Parliament?

European Parliament is based in Strasbourg and Brussels and consists of over 700 Members of the European Parliament (MEP), which represents 27 member states of the EU. Wales has 4 MEPs who are directly elected by us at the European Parliament Elections.

The next European elections are to take place in 2014.

To learn more about the European Parliament please visit:

[www.europarl.europa.eu](http://www.europarl.europa.eu).

Or contact us at Europe Direct Wrexham – contact details are on page 6.



## Country profile LITHUANIA



Capital - Vilnius

Language - Lithuanian

National anthem - Tautiška giesmė

'Hello' - 'Labas'

Food - Kugelis – similar to shepherd's pie but with no meat, Cepelinai – meat filled potato dumplings

EU Member state - 2004

Famous people - Salomeja Neris (poetess)

Learn about other countries in Europe – get your free 'Passport to the European Union' full of facts about the 27 member states, from Europe Direct Wrexham.

## EUROPA

[www.europa.eu](http://www.europa.eu)

Europa is your portal to all that is European.

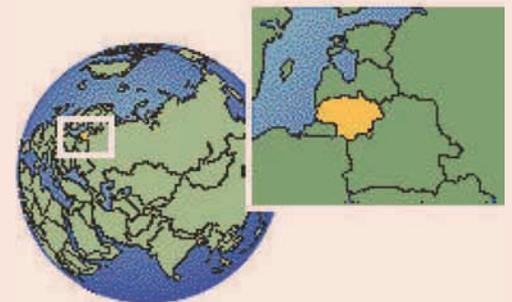
If you want to learn more about your rights as an EU citizen, look at official documents, EU laws, read news in the EU or play some European games you can do all that on Europa. Alternatively you can contact us here at Europe Direct Wrexham to answer any questions you may have about the EU.

## EU BOOKSHOP

This is an online bookshop and archive of publications from the European Institutions and it's managed by the Publications Office of the European Union in Luxembourg.

Publications are available in 23 official EU languages and you can order a single copy for free.

To find out more visit: [www.bookshop.europa.eu](http://www.bookshop.europa.eu)



## EURES -

### European Job Mobility Portal

Ever thought about getting a job in another EU member country?

Well you can look for jobs across the continent on the Eures website. You can upload your CV to be available for employers to find you as well as searching through thousands of jobs. Eures advisors are also on hand for a live chat to answer any questions you may have. To find out more please visit: [www.ec.europa.eu/eures](http://www.ec.europa.eu/eures).



## NEW PUBLICATIONS at Europe Direct information centre!

### 'All U Need is Space'

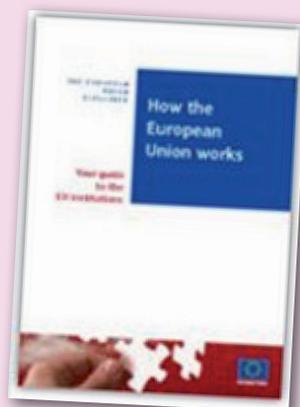
This is a new publication for teenagers in a style of a graphic novel. Follow the adventures of Elena and learn lots of interesting facts about space and the work of the European Space Agency.



## How the European Union Works

This publication is a part of a series that explains what the EU does in different policy areas, why the EU is involved and what the results are.

Pick up your free copy at Europe Direct Wrexham today. Contact details are on page 6.



## Eurodesk

There are hundreds of exciting things to do in Europe and if you fancy working in Italy over the summer for example, why not contact Eurodesk?

They can search for a partner in Italy and ask them for details of local websites, tips for getting a job and what you will need to prepare.

Youth in Action offers a variety of activities to young people, such as volunteering, youth seminars, youth exchanges and youth initiatives. It also provides many opportunities to those working with young people, such as study visits, training and job shadowing.

For more information please visit: [www.eurodesk.org.uk](http://www.eurodesk.org.uk)

## CROATIA - 28th member of the European Union

Croatia applied for EU membership in 2003 and was in negotiations from 2005 until 2011.

On 9th December 2011 leaders from the EU and Croatia finally signed the accession treaty. Subject to its ratification by all EU countries and Croatia itself, it will become the 28th EU member country on 1st July 2013.

Croatia as an acceding country will have active observer status in the European Institutions. The purpose of this is to allow Croatia to become familiar with the working methods of the EU institutions and to be involved in the decision-making process.

For more information please visit: [www.ec.europa.eu](http://www.ec.europa.eu)

## Erasmus for All!

Erasmus for All is the new EU programme for education, training, youth and sport proposed by the European Commission due to start in 2014.

This programme will bring together all the current EU and international schemes replacing seven existing programmes with just one. This will make it easier to apply for grants, as well as reducing duplication and will give the chance for up to 5 million people, almost twice as many as now, to study or train abroad with a grant from Erasmus for All.

Among them would be nearly 3 million higher education and vocational students across Europe. Full-time Masters' students would also benefit from a new loan guarantee scheme set up with the European Investment Bank Group.

For more information please visit:

[www.ec.europa.eu/education/erasmus-for-all/](http://www.ec.europa.eu/education/erasmus-for-all/)

# Consumer Classrooms

The Consumer Classroom website aims to promote consumer education and to encourage its teaching in secondary schools across Europe.

It offers ready-to-use teaching resources on a wide range of consumer education themes, from sustainable and responsible consumption to financial literacy where you can create your own lesson using 'Lesson builder'. The website is suitable for children aged 12-18 years and teachers can collaborate through live chat with other classrooms across Europe.

'Consumer Classroom invites teachers to become part of a dynamic web community of teachers throughout Europe and beyond. It helps them to share with their students, encourages inter-school multi-disciplinary projects and also offers teachers the opportunity to become a consumer education expert on the website.'

For more information please visit: [www.consumerclassroom.eu](http://www.consumerclassroom.eu)



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Any opinions expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

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Follow us on Twitter and like us on facebook!  
We regularly update our followers with news in the European Union and what's on in the world of Europe Direct Wrexham!



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