

**COMMEMORATION OF LOUIS BRAILLE.**

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**1.0 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report gives Members information regarding a recent request made to the Council to mark the bi-centenary of the birth of Louis Braille.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 Members are asked to consider the request made by the Royal National Institute of Blind People, that the bi centenary of the birth of Louis Braille be marked appropriately by the Council.

**3.0 DETAIL**

- 3.1 Members considered a report at the Area Committee meeting held in December 2009 regarding a written request from the Royal National Institute of Blind People that the Council mark the bi- centenary of the birth of Louis Braille (1809-52).
- 3.2 The RNIB has indicated that naming a street or building in Argyll and Bute after Braille would celebrate this world-famous invention, and highlight the Council's commitment to helping people with a disability achieve their full potential.
- 3.3 The Area Committee agreed to investigate the possibility of naming a room or an area in perhaps one of the local libraries, one of the secondary schools or perhaps in Rothesay Pavilion after Braille to mark the bi-centenary of his birth.
- 3.4 Following approaches made to the Culture and Libraries Manager, the manager of the Pavilion, and the Head Teachers of both Rothesay Academy and Dunoon Grammar School, each has said that there is no clearly identified area in any of their facilities which would particularly lend itself to being named in this way. Both Head Teachers have said that they could perhaps name a reading area within their libraries after Braille, and the manager of the Pavilion has indicated that a room in the

refurbished Pavilion could be named in this way, but clearly it will be some time until the refurbishment is due to be carried out and completed.

- 3.5 The Culture and Libraries Manager has indicated that he does not foresee any suitable space within facilities in either Rothesay or Dunoon, but has suggested that if a commemorative plaque were to be commissioned either of the libraries might be a good location for displaying this.

#### **4.0 CONCLUSIONS**

Members are asked to consider this information in light of the request made by the Royal National Institute of Blind People.

#### **5.0 IMPLICATIONS**

Policy: In line with Council's policy on Inclusion.

Financial: None

Personnel: None

Equal Opportunities: None

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