

# NEWS RELEASE

22/11/06

For immediate release

## Huddersfield's blind kids cut it on the ice rink

Blind and partially sighted children of the **Huddersfield Actionnaires** will get their first taste of ice skating on Saturday 25 November, 10am–11am, when they take to the rink on Huddersfield's Piazza courtesy of Kirklees Council. Huddersfield Actionnaires is a free weekly sports club for visually impaired children run by national charity, **Action for Blind People**.

\*\*\*\*\***PHOTO CALL**\*\*\*\*\*

**WHO:** Visually impaired children, aged eight to 16, from the Huddersfield Actionnaires.

**WHAT:** The children will learn to ice skate.

**WHERE:** Huddersfield's Christmas open air ice rink, The Piazza, Huddersfield. Kirklees Council has given the children the use of rink free of charge

**WHEN:** Saturday 25 November, 10am-11am.

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Action for Blind People's Sports Development Officer, Ross Ford, said:

"The Huddersfield Actionnaires gives local blind and partially sighted children the opportunity to try sport, make friends and develop confidence – opportunities they don't always get at school or at regular sports clubs. Over the past few months the children have taken part in football, swimming and climbing but they have never

# NEWS RELEASE

tried ice skating before. It will be great to see if we can spot any future Torvills or Deans!"

Councillor Ken Sims, Kirklees Council Cabinet member for regeneration, said: "This will be a fantastic opportunity for this very special group of youngsters to enjoy the experience of ice-skating.

"Since opening last week it is proving very popular with people of all ages. This is what it is all about - providing a facility that can be enjoyed by everyone. We are delighted that it is proving such a success, and we will give every support and opportunity for specific groups to enjoy this special attraction."

Huddersfield Actionnaires was set up by Action for Blind People over two years ago and is supported by BBC Children in Need. The club meets every Saturday and visually impaired children, siblings and friends are welcome to join. For further information please call Ross Ford on Tel: 01772 320 550, Mobile: 07900 026 830 or email [ross.ford@actionforblindpeople.org.uk](mailto:ross.ford@actionforblindpeople.org.uk)

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For further information please contact Zoë Patel, press office on 020 7635 4898 / 07739 819954 or email: [zoe.patel@actionforblindpeople.org.uk](mailto:zoe.patel@actionforblindpeople.org.uk)

## Notes to editors:

- Huddersfield Actionnaires meet every Saturday, 10am-1pm, at Huddersfield Sports Centre, Southgate, Huddersfield, HD1 1TW.

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- Action for Blind People supports over 20,000 blind and partially sighted people in the UK every year. Action for Blind People's National Freephone Helpline is 0800 915 4666.
- Action works to inspire change and create opportunities to enable blind and partially sighted people to have equal voice and equal choice and to live a full and valuable life.
- Action provides visually impaired people with opportunities through employment, housing, leisure and information and support.
- If abbreviating "Action for Blind People", please use "Action" rather than AFBP or ABP.