

Media information
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The gift of reading

Enjoy relaxing with a good book but struggle to read standard or even large print? Why not join the RNIB's Talking Book service.

This Christmas, you could ask friends or family for a gift subscription. It's a present that's more useful than the usual gifts of sherry or scented soaps – and it's one you can enjoy all year round.

Whether you are addicted to thrillers, love a good romance or simply want to brush up on your cookery skills, with over 19,000 audio books to choose from, there is something to suit everyone.

Talking Book customer Stephen Andrew, 63, from Warrington, says he loves crime books and thrillers: "Every night, I plug into my Talking Book player and before I know it, I am miles away. I get totally absorbed in the books and if it's a really good one, I can still be listening into the early hours of the morning."

To buy a gift subscription from just £50 or to find out more information, call RNIB on 0303 123 9999 or email library@rnib.org.uk or visit our website at www.rnib.org.uk/talkingbooks

ENDS

For more information or for an audio version, please contact Lucy Dixon on 0191 252 3312 or email: lucy.dixon@rnib.org.uk

Notes to editors:

About RNIB's Talking Book Service

RNIB Talking Book Service offers the following benefits:

- Access to over 19,000 unabridged audio books on CD. Customers can borrow up to six titles at a time and books are delivered free to their door.

- Books recorded to the highest standards using professional actors and broadcasters.
- Quality titles on just one CD - thanks to the unique DAISY format we use to produce our audio books. DAISY stands for Digital Accessible Information System.
- Easy-to-read books which enable readers to bookmark sections, or skip to specific chapters or pages.
- Choice of subscription: Full loan subscription, which includes the loan and maintenance of an easy-to-use DAISY player, costs £82 a year. A Books only subscription costs just £50 a year. Payments can be made in ten monthly instalments.

About RNIB

Everyday around 100 people in the UK start to lose their sight. There are around 2 million people in the UK with sight problems. RNIB is the leading charity working in the UK offering practical support, advice and information for anyone with sight difficulties. If you, or someone you know, has a sight problem RNIB can help. Call the RNIB Helpline on 0303 123 9999 or visit www.rnib.org.uk

Help RNIB continue to provide reading services for blind and partially sighted people. Join Read for RNIB Day on October 13, visit www.rnib.org.uk/readforrnibday