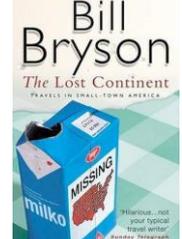
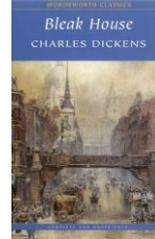
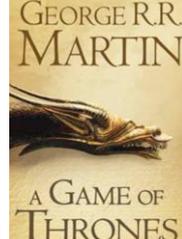
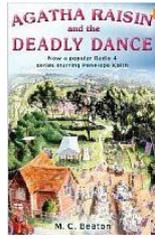
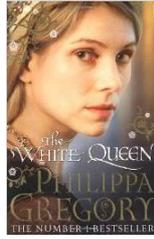
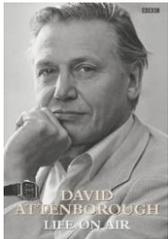


## What is Listening Books?

Listening Books provides a high-quality, affordable online and postal audiobook library service for anyone who struggles to read in the usual way due to an illness, disability or learning difficulty such as dyslexia. By joining Listening Books, you will have access to thousands fantastic audiobooks. You can choose to download, stream or receive audiobooks on MP3 CD sent through the post. Our library boasts fiction and non-fiction titles covering many popular genres such as crime, romance, historical novels, travel and biographies. Here are some of the great titles we have available. You can view our full catalogue by visiting: <http://www.listening-books.org.uk/library.aspx>.



## Benefits of the service

Our service not only provides a link to the wonderful world of books but is often a relief from pain, boredom and loneliness. For many of our members who cannot hold a book, our service is a lifeline, a friend and a comfort, lifting them out of what are often challenging circumstances.

**“I have a neurological condition that makes it impossible for me to read (or even watch TV). Listening Books is an absolute Godsend for me as audio books are my main form of entertainment (and distraction from my illness). Listening Books offer a wide range of books in all genres and the staff could not be more friendly and helpful. I don’t know what I would do without the service.”** Wendy, member of Listening Books

## Becoming a member

Membership fees start at just £20, giving you access to thousands of titles during your membership.

**Step 1:** Choose how you would like to access the books:

### Online Membership: Downloads and Internet Streaming (£20 per year):

Our online service is straightforward to use. All you need is internet access and a PC, Mac, laptop or mobile device to listen to audiobooks at any time of the day or night. For just £20 per year, we’ll issue you with a unique username and password to enable you to access our huge online catalogue, and you can either listen online or download a title to a portable device for when you are on-the-go!



## Postal MP3 CD service (£35 per year):

MP3 CDs look just like standard CDs and can play on modern CD players, computers and DVD players. For just £35 per year you will have access to our full library of MP3 CDs which will be delivered straight to your door. You will have an allocation of two audiobooks in circulation at any one time; we're constantly adding new titles to our library and you can borrow as many as you like throughout your membership. All postage and packaging is included in the cost and there are no late fees!

### How our MP3 CD library works



## Combined Postal and Online Membership (£45 per year):

Not only will you be able to listen to your audiobooks via download or stream, you'll also be able to receive them through the post. This option is available to you for just £45 per year.

**Step 2:** Follow the link to join online: <https://www.listening-books.org.uk/join-us.aspx> or telephone our friendly library team on 020 7234 0522. Paying for your membership couldn't be easier. You can choose to pay in full or spread the cost throughout the year. If you would find it difficult to pay the membership fee, please contact us as we have a limited number of free places available and may be able to help.

### Step 3: Start listening!

Once we receive your completed application form, we will send you your welcome pack by email, which will include everything you need to start enjoying your audiobooks. We are open Monday- Friday 9am-5pm and our friendly library team are on hand should you need any help.

## Patricia's Story

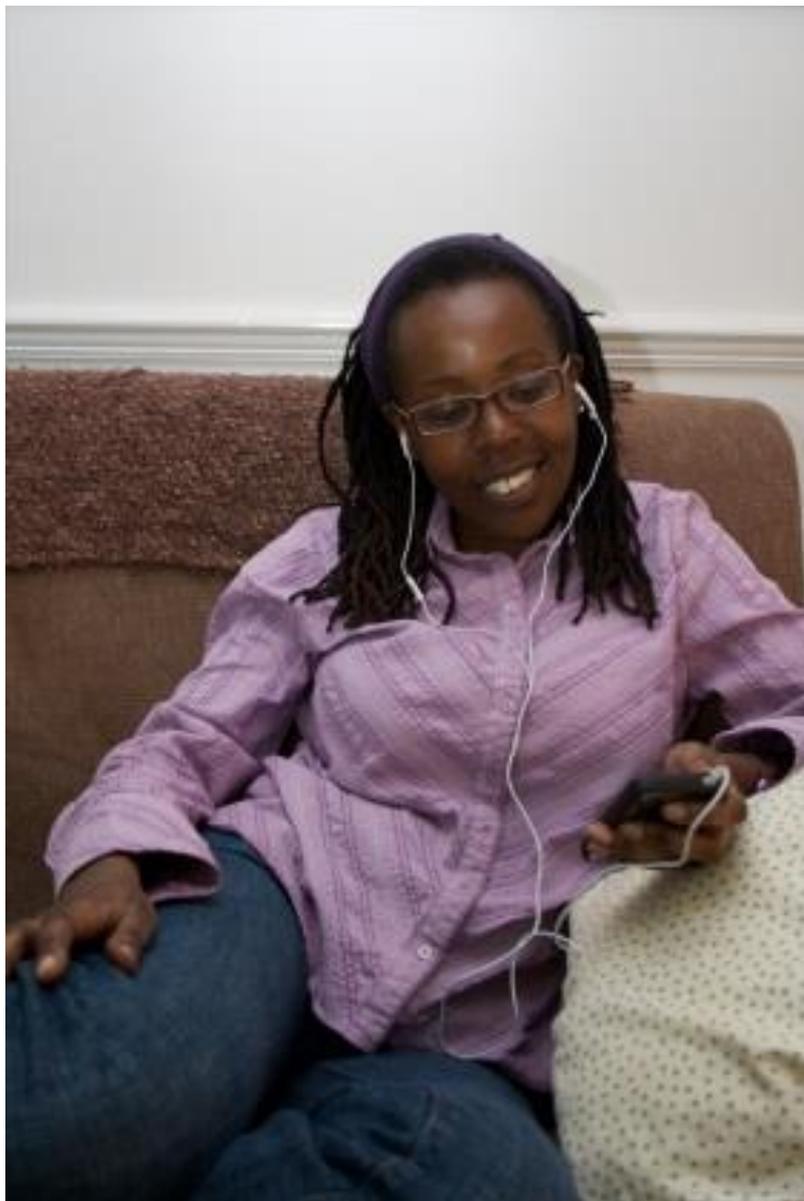
Patricia turned to audiobooks when the late effects of polio made it increasingly difficult for her to read printed material.

“When illness cuts one off from life, Listening Books becomes a very bright beacon in one’s life. For people who’ve always been great readers, coming up against a health challenge that makes actual reading a difficulty, is an enormous blow. I’d had polio as a child but led a very active life. It was only at age 50 when the late effects of polio (very like M.E.) kicked in, that concentration and the ability to focus on reading print started to disappear. Short bursts at articles are fine but the concentration to physically read and absorb a book has gone.

Once I became a member of Listening Books, it opened up new horizons on a big scale. Listening to books was a brand new discovery! One had the radio but missed good programmes if too poorly to listen at the time of broadcast.

Listening Books has opened up a whole other world – a personal library of fiction and non-fiction at any time, at the touch of a button. The vast library means that you can choose titles to suit different levels of concentration. I listen to speech radio much of the day, but because sleep is not always easily come by, I find that novels, stories and mysteries are the perfect companions for painful or sleepless nights.

For me, Listening Books was a serendipitous discovery. At the beginning of the illness, things were pretty tough and I felt isolated where I’d had to give up so much of the life I’d had. The audiobooks coming through the letterbox were real red letter days! Books – one of the best contacts with the outside world you could have! Listening Books was so important. It made all the difference from being shut out to entering into a whole new universe of audio listening. The streaming service is amazing too.



### Articles for the Blind

If you can read this text (size 12 font) but nothing smaller with your spectacles on, you qualify for the 'Articles for the Blind' postage service. Please tick the box on the application form if this applies to you.

I've gained so much from Listening Books and want others to discover the wonderful constant and sheer expansion of another life that an association with Listening Books can bring.”

