Welcome…

to this edition of our monthly broadband newsletter.

It contains information about the community libraries and an update on what North Yorkshire County Council’s adult learning and skills service is doing to encourage residents to get more out of life on line.

If you have anything you would like to share with us in future editions please email
louise.heaps@northyorks.gov.uk

County Councillor Carl Les
Chair of Connecting North Yorkshire

Welcome…

Community Broadband Schemes

Residents of Marton cum Grafton, Great and Little Ouseburn, Upper and Lower Dunsforth, and Whixley are about to be able to enjoy the benefits that a high speed internet connection brings.

The Connecting North Yorkshire project is going live at the end of the month and the internet connection will enable individuals and businesses to access high speed broadband utilising a fibre hub to transmit wirelessly to surrounding communities.

The Darley to Appletreewick wireless network is now in operation. A transmitter was installed on the roof of Darley School earlier this month and Sue Welch, one of the community champions for the scheme is now testing it. So far Sue is experiencing speeds of around 20Mbps for both downloads and uploads.

People living in Upper Wharfedale and Littondale are being urged to sign up to the latest CNY high speed broadband project. To find out more please contact Andrew Laycock alaycock@cravendc.gov.uk

District Community Co-ordinators

District Community Co-ordinators are your local points of contact to find out more about broadband developments in your community. They will be able to let you know how you could get involved to bring high quality broadband to you and your friends and neighbours.

You can access the contact details for all the District Community Co-ordinators at

The new co-ordinator for Hambleton and Richmondshire is Peter Cole, replacing Rosemary Taylor.

We would like to thank Rosemary for all her hard work and welcome Peter to the role.
Go ON North Yorkshire News

Get a free bite size taste of the internet

People across North Yorkshire who have never used the internet are being encouraged to log on as part of the recently launched Go ON North Yorkshire campaign.

To help people get started, the County Council’s adult learning and skills service is offering free bite-size Go ON courses. These aim to inspire people who have never gone online to enjoy the benefits the internet can bring to everyday life.

The courses range from taking the first steps with the internet and email, to shopping, researching a family tree, job hunting and discovering music and photography online.

It is hoped that more than 500 people will benefit from Go ON courses between now and June.

If you know someone who could benefit, you can find out more details of the courses by searching for “Go ON” here.

Get more out of life online

Using a computer to access the internet is easier than you think. Go On, register for a free bite size course with the County Council’s adult learning and skills service and discover a whole new world online.

Call the Craven area office on 0845 300 2414 to book your place.

Posters and leaflets have been distributed to promote the courses – this is the poster for Craven area.
Digital Switchover

Go ON North Yorkshire has joined forces with the Switchover Help Scheme and Digital UK to work on an information campaign. It will support both the push for broadband take-up and the digital TV switchover programme for the county.

The Help Scheme team will be out and about with their Help Scheme Bus and at events in the run up to the switch over to digital television in the autumn. They will use the opportunity to push the drive for broadband access demand and encourage people to support the Go ON North Yorkshire Campaign.

In return, the Go ON North Yorkshire team will be briefed about who is eligible for practical help from the Help Scheme support to convert one TV to digital. They can then spread the message on through Go ON North Yorkshire activities.

You could be involved in the Digital Outreach programme to help charitable and voluntary organisations and community sector groups reach people to ensure that they get reassurance, advice and help to make the switch without any worries.

For more information, to order supplies of information or to arrange a meeting, please contact Jaime Flinn on 084488 15072, e-mail tynetees@digitaluk.co.uk or write to: Digital UK, c/o ITV plc, The Watermark, Gateshead NE11 9SZ

The Help Scheme is writing to all eligible people over the next few weeks and it is important to tell people to watch out for the letter and then respond. They can do so using the Freepost envelope that comes with the letter, or use the free phone number.

For advice about the Switchover Help Scheme call 0800 40 85 900 or visit www.helpscheme.co.uk

Get connected with the past - and much more

The County Council is supporting internet service in community libraries with access to a wide range of information and services through the council’s network.

Community groups will run the community libraries – in Ayton, Barlby, Bilton, Gargrave and Great Ayton – from May 2012. They will be supported by the county council’s professional library service, and the county council will supply book stock. Community libraries are already up and running in Hawes, Grassington and Masham.

The internet systems at community libraries will provide public access computers at each location with a high speed internet connection. The network gives access to on-line services including membership and reservations through the library website.

The network also allows each community library to have a self-serve terminal for issue and return of items. This terminal also provides automated stock management and performance data to enable the community libraries to benefit as part of the county-wide service.

And last, but not least for many, it also provides online services such as Ancestry.com to give users a chance to get connected to their past!
**Procurement update**

The major Connecting North Yorkshire Project ("CNY") procurement to select a Telecommunications partner to supply Broadband across North Yorkshire began last year.

We are now a significant way through the process and we are pleased to say the procurement is on target to award a contract in late June/early July 2012.

North Yorkshire was chosen by Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) - a team within the Department for Culture, Media, and Sport - in October 2010 as one of four areas for a pilot rural broadband project.

Next month’s edition of this newsletter will include an update on the procurement. There will also be a feature on the questions we are asked about the broadband project, including:

- When will I get broadband?
- Who will provide it?
- How much will it cost?

If you have a question you would like answered please email

louise.heaps@northyorks.gov.uk

**Become a digital champion**

The Go ON North Yorkshire campaign promotes the benefits a fast broadband connection will bring local people, local businesses and local services.

Go ON North Yorkshire aims to sustain demand for superfast broadband and this means supporting people, communities, and businesses to build their digital skills so they are able to maximise a superfast network.

We aim to do this by recruiting a network of local digital champions to support their family, friends, neighbours and colleagues to build their capability and confidence over time. Find out more and join the UK’s growing network of digital champions at

[www.go-on.co.uk/champions](http://www.go-on.co.uk/champions)