

## **B4SH news: Fibre blowing this month November 2018 update**

After approximately 3 months of solid machine and hand digging, mole ploughing, chain trenching and backfilling we now have a duct linking our first chamber at Staple Lane to our brand new cabinet in Home Farm. Duct is installed to around 90% of the houses and all the businesses above the A25, including the 200 metres or so over the Silent Pool dam to reach Albury Vineyard. The same team has done amazing work with our installation so far, but we **really need new volunteers** to get involved. If you want an alternative to going to the gym, and can give even a few hours to help us install this network, please get in touch [enquiries@b4sh.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@b4sh.org.uk) No experience is needed.

The other big news is that we have our first cabinet in place; the main hub of our network.



*Our main cabinet at Home Farm*

With all the duct in the ground we have invited a fabulous team from Broadband for the Rural North (B4RN) to visit for a week to blow fibre into our ducts and connect up the cabinet. Our dark fibre provider is scheduling their side of work to connect us to their national fibre network so we are on track for a live service by Christmas for the Silent Pool/Home Farm area. What a good Christmas present!

So we must now turn our attention to contacting people to invite them to sign up to our truly hyperfast broadband service, 1 gig up and down. I would love our excellent product to sell itself based on its speed, value and the fact that we are a local, not-for-profit company with the support of B4RN who themselves already have nearly 5000 customers. But this is not enough, to keep the network rollout on track we still need investors who, in investing, will be influencing the network route. Does our free installation for a minimum £2,000 investment persuade you to invest? If so please contact us.

As I said in my last update, we have selected our next routes with the aim of picking up as many subscribers as we can, before we head south and into more rural areas:

**Phase 2 East** - to The Bothy, Albury Park and towards western Shere

**Phase 2 West** - into the south of Albury

We presented to the businesses at The Bothy and a number have already said that they would like service. We have also been meeting with local residents in southern Albury to establish numbers of residents south of The Street who would like service. We are discussing our plans with Blackheath and Littleford Lane plus Farley Green. We have a number of residents who are very supportive, but many are still unaware of our plans so we need you to go out and talk to your neighbours to help us spread the word.

There are many ways you can get involved

If you live on the **southern side of The Street in Albury** – talk to your neighbours and get them to make contact if they are interested.

If you know any residents in **Blackheath and Littleford Lane**, tell them to get in touch as we are actively looking at this area.

**Farley Green** – we have two fantastic local champions. If you live in the area, get in touch and we will put you in contact with them.

Practical help needed

We need a horsebox trailer that we can customize into a travelling workroom which will enable us to splice fibres out of the wind and rain. If you have one you no longer need or know of one, please let us know.

Homeworker needed – we can train

Someone with an eye for detail who can help us keep a record of our network. We can train you.

Thank you to those who responded to my requests last month. We now may have another suitable tractor to pull the mole plough; several new champions in the areas above – though more are needed; and our brand image is receiving some attention.

We still need help with our GIS mapping software.

As always, we are very happy to do presentations about our service in small groups in people's homes or in village halls, whichever is available.

Keep us informed of any road closures local to you – we always try to work with civils contractors to install our duct at the same time – saving inconvenience as well as expense.

To help us get our message across, B4RN have helped us with a short film which is on our home page <http://gigupanddown.net/> Click the green button and please do share it widely – it's only 2 minutes long.

Find out more: [enquiries@b4sh.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@b4sh.org.uk) or [www.gigupanddown.net](http://www.gigupanddown.net)

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