

Showcase

Dinnington Area Regeneration Trust Rotherham Connected Community

Bob Holland
Director
Bradwell IT



The Rotherham Connected Community Project (RCCP) is an extension of the Rotherham Grid for Learning that aims to broaden the community actively connected to learning through ICT. The project's pilot phase began in January 2006 and will put in place a technology infrastructure that will benefit education, business and the local community in Rotherham.

Services that RCCP plans to include:

- Video Conferencing and video on demand
- Internet and email access through wireless hotspots
- Telephony services
- Virtual Classroom service

Dinnington Area Regeneration Trust (DART) has been running for around 7 years now and is a good example of the kind of work that the Rotherham Connected Community Project aims to achieve throughout the borough.

Dinnington, a former pit village, has been undergoing extensive community developments thanks to the work of the Dinnington Regeneration Trust not only in forging partnerships but securing invaluable funding for the ongoing provision of community ICT resources.

People from Dinnington are working together to install a community-wide open-access wireless network to make ICT facilities available anywhere/anytime across the community. Based in a restored former church hall the project uses recycled computers and Open Source Software. Bob Holland, Director of Bradwell IT and who works on both DART and RCCP, summarised the vision behind this work; **"if we can encourage people to develop ICT skills around their own lifestyle then they're more willing to engage."**

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www.learninginrotherham.org.uk/connected_community.htm
www.dinnington.org