

Local company wins grant to bring Small Scale DAB to South Gloucestershire

Local not for profit company, South Glos Digital Community Interest Company (SGDCIC), has been successful in its recent grant application to Thornbury Town Council. SGDCIC is owned by Thornbury Radio, the local station for Thornbury and the surrounding area.

SGDCIC was successfully awarded the licence by Ofcom to run small-scale DAB covering Thornbury, Yate and Almondsbury areas. The proposed DAB coverage region covers a large part of the South Gloucestershire, along with the crossroads of the M4 and M5 corridors.

The grant for £3000 was presented to Chris Criddle and Glyn Roylance, members of Thornbury Radio by Thornbury Town Mayor, Cllr James Murray (photo attached).

Cllr Murray visited the Thornbury Radio studio on Castle Street recently, meeting presenters from Thornbury Radio and hearing about the local community radio station.

Nigel Lane, Director of SGDCIC said, "Thank you to Thornbury Town Council for this grant. It will be used towards to the set-up of a digital transmitter covering Thornbury and the surrounding area. Our DAB transmissions will benefit listeners across South Gloucestershire by bringing them a wider choice of radio stations including a new way to listen to Thornbury Radio."

Thornbury Radio already covers 45,000 people in and around Thornbury and has 15 volunteers working together at the station. When DAB transmissions run by SGDCIC commence in 2024, the popular local station will be available to listeners on DAB as well as FM, smart speaker and online.

SGDCIC are continuing to raise the money needed to establish transmissions from two sites in South Gloucestershire. One site is near Thornbury and the other in Yate.

SGDCIC have brought in Nick Piggott from Muxnet as technical consultant and technical provider.

SGDCIC are looking for any service, local, regional, or national that might be interested in expressing an interest in broadcasting to this area of South Gloucestershire. The proposed DAB service area covers listeners in and around Thornbury, Yate and Almondsbury.

Radio stations that would be interested in covering this area on DAB can contact the group via dab@tmcic.org or at <http://tmcic.org/dab>

END

Notes for Editors below

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Small-scale DAB is an innovative technology which provides a low-cost route for local commercial, community and specialist music services to broadcast on terrestrial digital radio to a relatively small geographical area.

Several small-scale DAB multiplexes have been running on a trial basis over the past five years, but Ofcom is now advertising non-trial small-scale radio multiplex licences.

Thornbury Radio is a not-for-profit organisation regulated by the Office of the Regulator of Community Interest Companies. Our mission is to deliver a hyper-local radio station serving Thornbury and surrounding area.

We aim to deliver high quality, relevant programming to Thornbury and the surrounding area. We support development of our community through frequent on-air mentions, sponsorship and campaigns. Unlike other stations, scarcely 10 minutes will pass without you hearing the word "Thornbury" or something else that is locally relevant!

Community radio is special as it is created by the local community and can be enjoyed anywhere; at home, in the car, at work, when exercising, etc.

We work with everyone in our local community of Thornbury and the surrounding area from individuals through to local organisations.

Our service is for the people of Thornbury and surrounding area, about Thornbury and surrounding area by the people of Thornbury and surrounding area. Thornbury Radio is the hub to find out about everything going-on in and around Thornbury and surrounding area. Many local stakeholders have told us how important they think local radio is for social cohesion in our community.

We work with anyone whose aims are aligned to our own:

- The promotion of diverse local voluntary organisations
- The provision of local information and news
- Information and education on health issues
- Highlight education, training, and employment opportunities for young people
- Encourage self-help in addition to community assistance to the less fortunate members of our area
- Showcase local talent in their artistic and cultural endeavours
- Promote participation in sports and other keep-fit activities
- Working with local organisations to encourage involvement in the station

- Provide opportunities to reduce social isolation and make new friends
- Provide uplifting and cheerful programmes to lift the spirits of listeners

We are a fully inclusive non-discriminatory organisation who welcomes all volunteers.

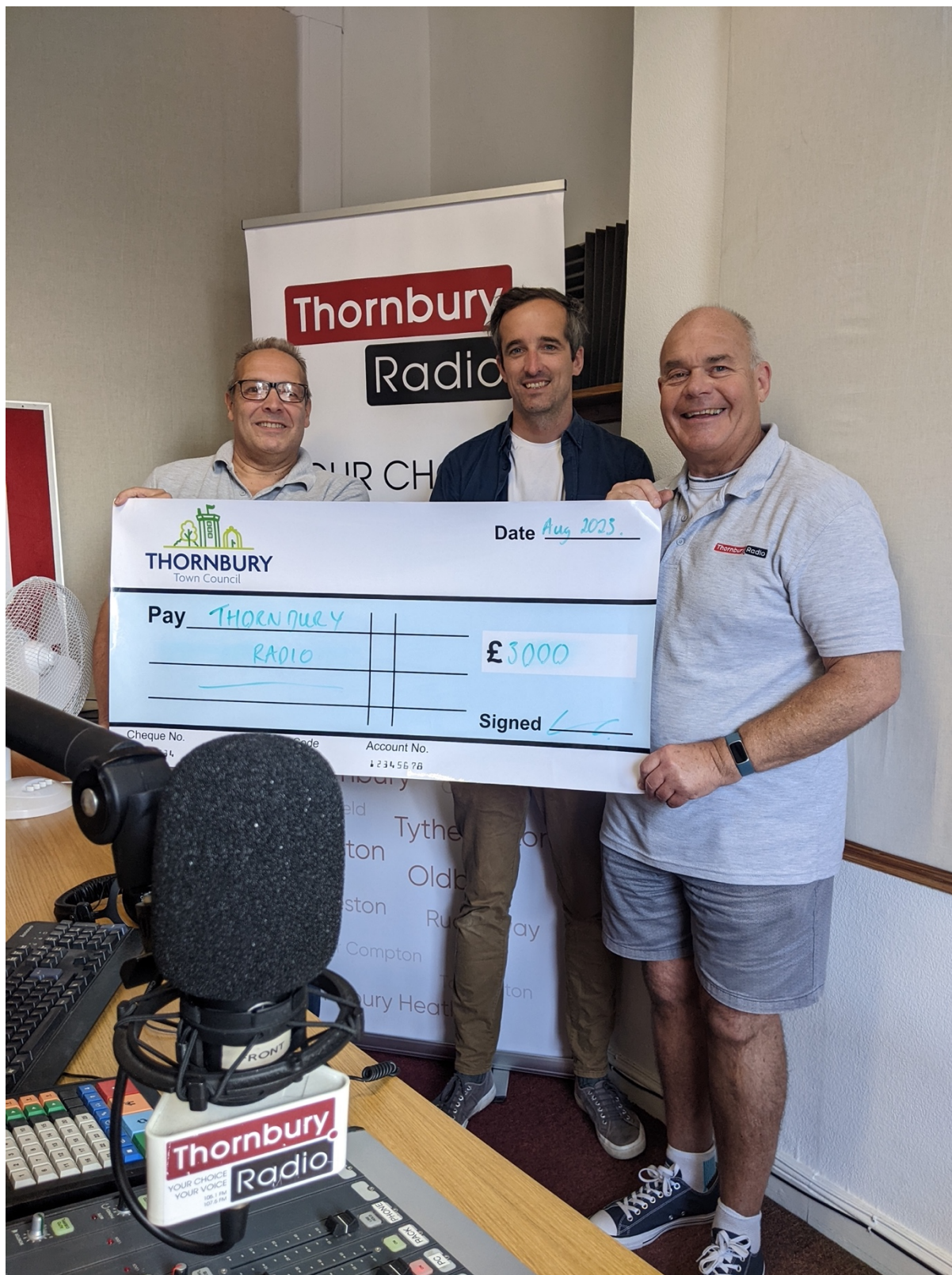
We provide ongoing training and support to our volunteers and presenters who have told us being part of Thornbury Radio is so rewarding, knowing you can reach the whole community from a microphone and potentially give everyone a voice!

Musically we are far more diverse than other stations on the dial. In contrast to most commercial stations that play only 300-400 songs, our playlist has over 5000 songs, and that excludes the music we play in specialist shows!

This website and web station were just the beginning. We launched on FM across much of South Glos in 2021! In time we hope to broadcast digitally to Thornbury on DAB.

Thornbury Radio is more than a radio station – we are: Your Choice. Your Voice! While the big faceless commercial stations go increasingly regional and national, Thornbury Radio will continue to highlight local news, events and causes in and around Thornbury. We will spotlight local organisations and get to grips with local issues that affect Thornbury.

Thornbury Radio is owned and operated by Thornbury Media Community Interest Company which is registered in England & Wales, Company Number 10727113.



From left to right: Glyn Roylance, Cllr James Murray (Thornbury Mayor), Chris Criddle

Location: Thornbury Radio Studio



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