

Case study.

Home business.

I first heard of B4RN a few years ago and was intrigued, especially as our incumbent supplier, PlusNet, provided an extremely poor service. After some investigation I decided to buy shares, even though Borwick, the village I live in, was only classed as “Phase 2”.

After much discussion, our two villages, Borwick and Priest Hutton decided to get involved and digging! At that stage in February 2014 I gave B4RN a 10 year loan to assist with raising the funds for our villages.

Digging commenced on the auspicious day of 1st April 2014 and the first houses went live on B4RN hyper fast broadband on the 1st November 2014; with more being connected over the following months. Our house went live on the 1st June 2015 due to our location in the village.

My wife and I work from home see www.hosteddesktopuk.co.uk (our servers and infrastructure are located in Newbury in Berkshire and Ash in Kent – not here!). My wife is also a jewellery designer and she relies on her web site and social media for orders. <http://silverbymichele.com>

The difference is like chalk and cheese!

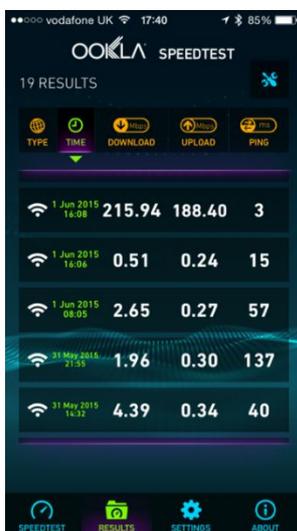
This was the speed on the morning of the 1st June 2015, just before B4RN went live on my 5 year old PC:

6/1/2015 2:42 PM GMT	81.174.246.224	1.98 Mb/s	0.23 Mb/s	173 ms
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And this was the speed after turn on:

6/1/2015 4:45 PM GMT	5.83.13.186	291.33 Mb/s	293.82 Mb/s	4 ms
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My iPhone gave very impressive results – from 0.51 download to 215.94 download!:



Because of our interior layout, I have invested in Devolo 1200 boosters which run from the main router via the electric cabling around my house into 3 adaptors:

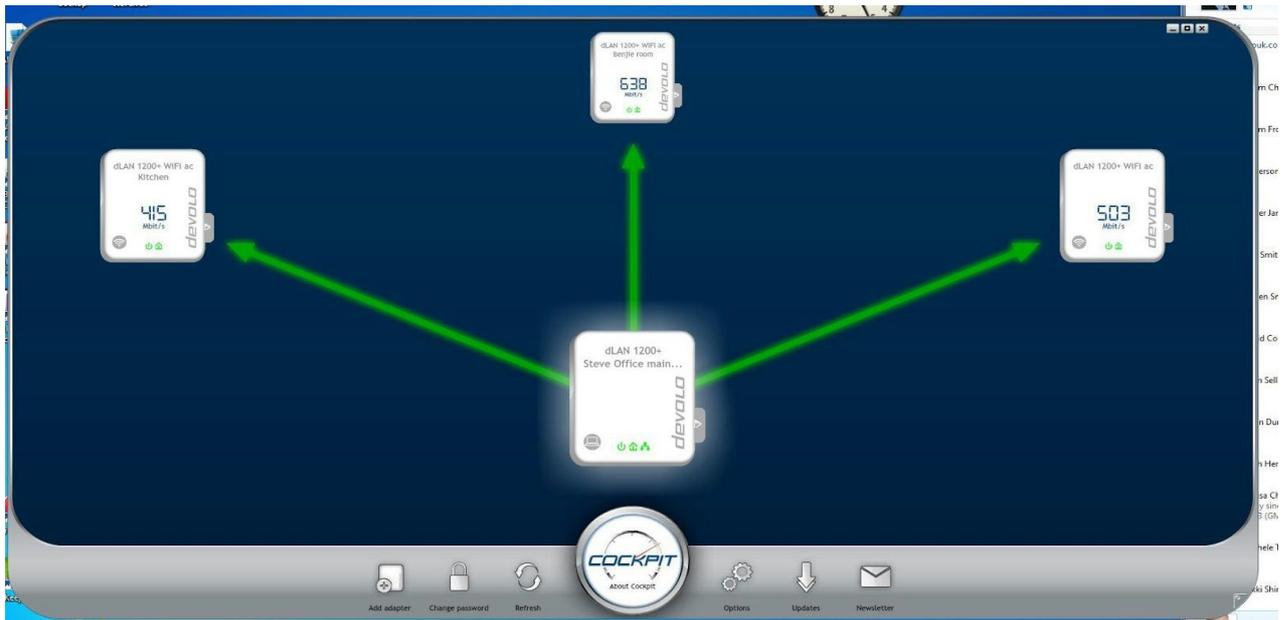
1. In my lounge to connect my Smart TV via cable and to broadcast via Wi-Fi for iPhone / iPads / laptops etc.
2. In my kitchen / dining area via Wi-Fi for iPhone / iPads / laptops etc.
3. In my son's bedroom upstairs to serve all the bedrooms and his PlayStation gaming console and Wi-Fi for iPhone / iPads / laptops etc.

This is the console for the Devolo booster, amazing speeds! (eat your heart out PlusNet / BT):

415 MB in kitchen / dining area

638 MB upstairs via Wi-Fi and cable

503 MB in lounge



What about the costs?

- BT Last 12 months average monthly bill = £94.50
- PlusNet Last 12 months average monthly bill = £43.13
- Total outgoing for both BT and PlusNet including VAT = £137.63

Now?

- B4RN monthly fee = £30.00
- Vonage monthly fee = £20.00 (not the cheapest tariff but suitable for our needs as we need more than one phone line)
- Total monthly now is £50.00

This gives a massive saving of £87.63 per month or £1,051 per annum!!

Not to mention a much better service (the Vonage includes all UK landline calls, call forwarding, 750 minutes of calls to mobiles plus 2 iPhones connected so I can call when aboard via Vonage within my monthly Vonage charges).

For me and my family, all the digging and effort was worth it – we have met numerous folk from our villages we did not know before, got fitter with the digging, and can at last watch movies on demand – and our working life is excellent with the improved speed.

Steve & Michele Thorns - Borwick