

# We're Connecting Cheshire

www.connectingcheshire.org.uk

May 2014

## Fibre broadband arrives for 15,000 homes and businesses

Reaching our first homes and businesses was marked with May Day celebrations in Alderley Edge, Weaverham and Westwood in Warrington as the first Connecting Cheshire areas were switched-on to fibre. More areas will follow as our first phase roll-out gathers pace.

You can check your availability of fibre broadband by contacting your broadband provider or by visiting the [Connecting Cheshire website](http://www.connectingcheshire.org.uk).

Connecting Cheshire is a partnership between BT and Cheshire West and Chester, Cheshire East, Halton and Warrington Councils, bringing fibre broadband to 96% of Cheshire by 2015. [Read more and see our video](#).



Alderley Edge first cabinet switch-on 1<sup>st</sup> May

## Welcome to the fibre fast lane...

Acton Bridge, Alderley Edge, Chester North, Christleton, Holmes Chapel, Tattenhall, Weaverham and Westwood

### Come and see us at:

**Cheshire County Show**  
17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> June 2014

Nr. The Bandstand  
Come and say 'hi' and find out  
all about superfast fibre broadband  
coming to your area!

### Introducing...

The newest additions to the team here at Connecting Cheshire...

## The Fibre Guys!

Superfast fibre broadband will have a big impact at home and for businesses and these guys are here to help you do more online.

You'll be hearing lots more from The Fibre Guys in our monthly newsletter and out and about in your communities as the Connecting Cheshire programme continues its roll-out of fibre to 80,000 premises by summer 2015.

In the meantime, here's a sneak preview of the Fibre Guys coming to life on our new Connecting Cheshire van livery on a road near you soon!

[Click here to see the video](#)

Follow us! Like us!

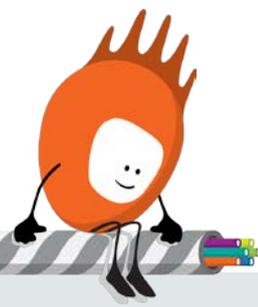


@SFB\_Cheshire



ConnectingCheshire

# helping you do more



## Alan's Story – life in the fast lane!

Alan Barker of Warrington has recently upgraded to fibre. Here's his story: "Before fibre, we were achieving around 5Mbps, but at peak times connection speeds would drop to 2Mbps and below. Although we are a small family of 3, we still have 13 connected devices, some of which need regular software updates. Speeds are now mostly consistent at 60-70 Mbps and upload is consistent at around 18 Mbps. Even at peak times, where speeds do drop to around 50 Mbps, there is still enough bandwidth for multiple use of our connection. I work in IT and my job can entail downloading large images of 2-3GB in size. Previously that would be something I would not even attempt from home, but with fibre it's now a possibility. In fact, our fibre connection at home downloads files quicker than when I'm at the office! Overall, I am so glad we now have fibre. It was a long wait, with what seemed like most of the country getting fibre, and Warrington was being left out, but thanks to Connecting Cheshire and their campaigning, fibre is now a reality."

### Connect

You can use Skype to talk with up to 25 other people for free on one call, as long as everyone's on Skype. To initiate a Skype group call, you simply create a group with everyone you want in it and hit the call button.

### Learn

High school students spend an average of six times as many hours on the internet than they do on homework. Use [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize) for great revision resources for revising for your GCSEs, Standard Grades, AS levels and SATs.

### Watch

About 15 hours of video are uploaded to YouTube from around the globe each minute. Watch movies & TV shows online or stream right to your TV via Xbox, Wii, PS3 & many other devices.

### Play

More than 1.2 billion people are playing games worldwide. Of those, about 700 million play online games. That amounts to 44% of the world's online population.

### Shop

Households off-line miss out on savings of £560 per year from shopping and paying bills online.

## Help spread the news and become a Connecting Cheshire Champion!

We're making great progress in spreading the word that fibre is becoming available, but we really do need you to help and tell your communities, societies, friends and families that we're coming to them. If you're interested and would like to know more about becoming a Champion, or would like any of our materials, please email us at:

[info@connectingcheshire.org.uk](mailto:info@connectingcheshire.org.uk)

## Free business events!

Our Superfast Business service is running 4 events in June and July covering topics such as Google Analytics and search engine optimization. See [more](#)

