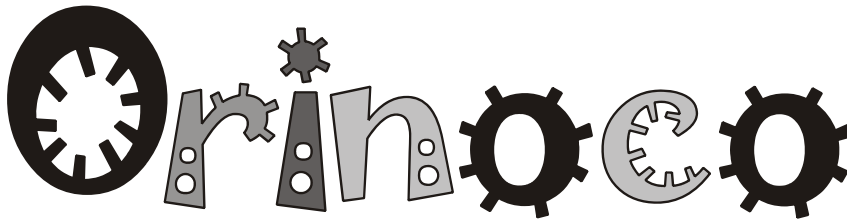


News Release (15/03/07)



Orinoco - The Oxfordshire Scrapstore
Bullington Community Centre
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Registered Charity No. 1041798

Online on the internet Super-TRASH-way

Orinoco – The Oxfordshire reuse and recycling charity has been successful in becoming one of 540 groups nationwide to receive a free NEC Internet-ready PC along with a contribution towards the costs of a BT internet connection and a copy of Microsoft Office 2007, giving access to word processing, spreadsheet and presentation applications.

The award has been made by the BT Community Connections award scheme. Howie Watkins of Orinoco said, 'this is a huge help for the store. Our volunteers can now work in the store designing signs, labels and instruction leaflets on how to turn our scrap into fabulous pieces of art. They'll also be able to work on our website – www.oxorinoco.org and keep it up to date with all the fabulous scrap that comes in as soon as it arrives.'

Howie and the Orinoco management team are busy setting up the computer so that it can be put to use running the charity and providing training opportunities for Orinoco's volunteers but are a little concerned that it looks too shiny and new. Howie said, 'It stands out a bit because it's so shiny and new. I think we'll need to decorate it with some nice fabric or some cardboard so it blends in.'

Over 2000 applicants were received as part of this round of applications. Beth Courtier, BT's head of charity programmes said: "We were inspired by the quality and diversity of applications in this round. The continuing popularity of the BT Community Connections scheme, now in its fourth year, demonstrates the vital importance of providing IT equipment and internet access to local communities. Where many of us now take internet access for granted, it is a lifeline for groups who still don't have the resources to bridge the digital divide. BT's investment will enable groups such as visual libraries, sea cadets, home hospital links or women's support networks to maximise their communication, reaching as many people as possible."

More about the BT Community Connections Scheme (now in its fourth year) at:

www.btcommunityconnections.com

Orinoco Website: www.oxorinoco.org

Contact Howie Watkins on: 07771 708178

Staff (& the computer) will be at the Orinoco Scrapstore from 1pm on Friday 16th March. Photo opportunity of attempts to decorate it possibly?