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Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum Development Fund profile

Development Fund granted	£1,500
Total cost of project	£9,374
Forum member community	Chipping Campden

Overview of project June 2009

Community Radio Station receives Forum boost

North Cotswold Community Radio has received £1,500 from the Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum to help keep it on the air.

Chipping Campden, where the volunteer-run radio station is based, is a member of the Forum and therefore local community organisations are able to apply for a Development Fund grant.

John Bowlt from the radio station said: "The Forum's support is particularly welcome as we are currently lobbying our member of parliament for a change in the ofcom rules which will allow the station to apply for an FM licence. All our staff are volunteers but we need help with the costs entailed in running the web-based station, including rent, computer equipment and on-line services.

"The station has been running for two years and has built a very strong awareness in the area. Programmes have been produced by volunteers on local and national issues with great success – for example, our programme Green Your World featured contributors from local Government agencies and national figures involved in the green world."

Robb Eden, Chairman of the community radio station said: "We fully appreciate the grant and the work of the GMTF."

The station at www.northcotswoldonline.com currently broadcasts seven days a week from purpose built studios in Chipping Campden, and receives well over 2,000 hits a week on its website, clocking up around 450 listeners a week. For more information, contact John Bowlt on 01608 684140.

The Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum is a membership organisation of the county's rural towns and large parishes, all working hard to breathe new life into their communities. It offers Development Fund grants to its member communities to support local projects, as well as expert advice and networking opportunities to learn from other rural communities. For more information about the Forum, contact chairman Peter Godfrey on 07931736957, or visit <http://www.town2town.org.uk>

- For a GMTF Development Fund application form and more details, contact Geoff Wheeler (01453) 545583 or geof.wheeler@btinternet.com