

# www.electricdecember.org

## 24 days of digital distractions

### Press Release

#### Electric December: Wire-less Bristol

17 December 2005

Enjoy a virtual journey around Bristol's free-to-access wireless network, which originated in Easton and is now stretching across Bristol. From pub to house, this digital journey takes in various key points on the network, starting at the ground-breaking system installed in the Princess Royal Gardens sheltered housing complex where a free and open source computer suite installed for the residents allows them to do online shopping and keep in touch with family and friends.

From there we are taken to the Chelsea Inn, a crucial part of the network 'hub' and itself a rich resource for local talent whose performances at open mic nights are streamed live and enjoyed all over the world. The network is still growing, now expanding into Knowle and Kingsdown.

Bristol Wireless seeks to create a digital environment built by local people for local people. The aim is to make computer use, and communication accessible to all at a minimum outlay, by reclaiming and reusing equipment and by using software from the Linux community.

The short film made for **Electric December** involved experimentation with open source video editing and digital image tools, and Bristol Wireless now run training in these and other desk top applications. For further information please visit [www.bristolwireless.net](http://www.bristolwireless.net)

**Electric December** is Watershed's widely acclaimed online digital advent calendar, which offers a new and totally unique digital present every day from 1 Dec - counting you down to Christmas.

#### Notes:

- Find out more about **Electric December**, and download images and press releases at <http://www.electricdecember.org/05/press>
- Find out more about Connecting the UK: The Digital Strategy at [www.dti.gov.uk/industries/telecoms/pdf/digital\\_strategy.pdf](http://www.dti.gov.uk/industries/telecoms/pdf/digital_strategy.pdf)
- The Digital Challenge offers a £10m prize to develop a showcase zone for eGovernment and ICT innovation - find out more at [www.egovmonitor.com/node/1716](http://www.egovmonitor.com/node/1716)
- **Electric December** is a Watershed project supported by Learning & Skills Council West of England, The Campus Bristol, BBC West, Bristol Evening Post and Creative Bristol (an initiative of Bristol Cultural Development Partnership, Arts Council England South West, Bristol City Council and Business West).
- You can see the last six years of **Electric December** now at [www.electricdecember.org](http://www.electricdecember.org)
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