West-Highland Internet Exchange Collaborative Network Infrastructure in Scotland

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Corran

Arnisdale





- ▶ 9 miles from BT remote exchange
- Barely good enough for 2400 baud
- Ladhar Bheinn blocks satellites
 ... slow & expensive anyway

- ► Write letters?
- Build it yourself!







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Tegola¹

- ► Tegola Loch Hourn from 2008
- 15km trial link \rightarrow 512kbps ADSL
- Expanded to a ring of six masts
- Gateworkx, OpenWRT, Quagga, OSPF, 802.11a
- Giacomo Bernardi, Peter Buneman, Mahesh Marina (UoE)
- Upstream bandwidth from UHI Sabhal Mòr Ostaig



¹An Italian word meaning *tile*, this name is in honour of the effect of wet roof tiles on 2.4GHz RF propagation which beset some early experiments.





The Neighbours





- Nearby islands Eigg, and Rum build networks on a similar model with advice from Tegola.
- Knoydart in the next Loch builds theirs with help from Eigg.
- Later, Applecross to the north joins in...
 - ... and Locheil
 - ... and northern Mull
 - ... and Sleat
- ► Farther afield Laggan, Lothian, Heriot, Stobo ...







- ► Heterogeneous networks → encapsulate in AS
- ► Physically adjacent networks → connect them
- ► Good radios are poor routers → transparent ethernet bridges
- ► Local skillsets differ → advise, but *do not* dictate intra-AS methods, topology, policy
- ► *Much* smaller scale than usual







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- ► Borders: West Coast pattern repeated
- Several adjacent networks
- Good bandwidth available in Edinburgh
- Confederation within AS60241

Works well except:



- Networks don't just want transit
- Unmediated bilateral connections
- Facilitates mutual support
- ► Help with internal links (★

 \rightarrow Need Layer 2







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HUBS Heriot







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West Highland Access Network



Layer 2 services only:

- VPLS pseudo-wire
- PtP or PtMP
- ► 802.1q handoff (MEF-style)















































Great! We're done, right?

- Networks fully-connected by default
- Uniform border router configuration
- Arbitrary L2 virtual circuits are easy































































Further Reading

William Waites, James Sweet, Roger Baig, Peter Buneman, Marwan Fayed, Gordon Hughes, Michael Fourman, and Richard Simmons. Remix: A distributed internet exchange for remote and rural networks. In *Proceedings of the 2016 Workshop on Global Access to the Internet for All*, GAIA '16, pages 25–30, New York, NY, USA, 2016. ACM. ISBN 978-1-4503-4423-4. doi: 2940157.2940162. URL http://doi.acm.org/2940157.2940162.





Thank you

https://hubs.net.uk/



