

## Features

# Tune in on South Bristol's

Did you know that Windmill Hill is a broadcasting hubbub? You do now ... as **Beccy Golding** talks her way into Base Radio's studio

**W**HEN I met Mike Shipway (DJ Shippers) to talk about South Bristol's own station Base Radio, we sat in the tiny studio while trainee DJ Dawn confidently delivered her half-hour slot.

Getting local people involved, finding new DJs and training them up is one of the station's big things.

Dawn works with kids and is into performing, so when Mike approached her, wanting to include some programming for children, she "jumped at the chance - I love this stuff, and I

like the sound of my own voice!"

As Dawn played songs from kid's musicals, she was doing intros, outros, shout outs and dedications, fading in songs and pressing buttons like a pro. I asked how long she had been training, expecting an answer in months. "Three weeks!" was the answer!

"There's only three or four buttons to get the hang of," Mike told me, "it's quite simple. People have a perception that it's difficult, but it's not. You just need to like to chat!"

Base Radio started about



DJ Dizzy D, aka Dawn, mastered the controls after just three weeks

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seven years ago, in 2009, when Mike and fellow DJ Darren were youth workers in Hartcliffe. "We noticed that young people were responding to DJ-ing, and had an idea to start a youth station. But there was already something similar running in the city centre and we didn't want to step on anyone's toes."

But they realised that South Bristol didn't seem to have any radio representation - "other parts of Bristol had BCFM, Ujima, Bradley Stoke Radio etc." So they decided to set something

up for those of us south of the river.

The first test run was broadcast from a room in Darren's home. "A family member was working at Windmill Hill City Farm at the time. We asked them (the farm) if they wanted a community radio station and they said yes! They've been really good at backing us. They give us a free room to broadcast from, and we give them radio ads and play at their events."

Their first space at the farm

### Base Radio: schedule highlights

**Monday 6-8pm**  
Stevee Paul's My Music, Your Dedications: Motown, soul, disco & funk classics  
**Wednesday 5.30-7.30pm**  
Dizzy D's Bedtime Show:

children's request show - Disney, nursery rhymes & more - and a bedtime story  
**Friday 5-7pm** The Friday Mix  
Tape: hip hop & dance from DJ Feather Touch