# Centralized Information Space

As part of the site, there will be a centralized information space controlled and managed through a forum. This will take up a bulk of the site as it will provide a means of communication with the community, as well as relay information shared by certain organisations and charities that wish to keep them up to date with their services. The forum can be made up of a variety of programming languages, such as PHP, Perl, JavaScript, and ASP. We would recommend the use of PHP, as it has a simple user interface and can easily manage various forum posts, while at the same time storing the posted information into either text files or a database.

The forum would need to follow a tree like directory structure, allowing users to easily find certain topics discussed or a specific piece of information (for example, where the post office is). This is due to each forum branching out into various topics, thereby managing the workflow of the site and providing user friendly searching for Dunedin community members. The forum, as well as its directory structure, will be managed by administrators and moderators to monitor any “irrelevant” posts and to manage all the technical implications behind the forum and the site as a whole. As for the various charities and organisations that wish to share their information about their available services to the public, they will have a User Group privilege. This means that their forums will be locked to be only edited by them but seen by the general public, allowing them to update any information without any interference from the public.