



Bulletin #2

April 2021.

HELLO AND AN APOLOGY

Despite my best intentions to publish an E-Bulletin after each Board meeting (usually monthly) we've now had two meetings and we are into April (time passes quickly when you're having fun!?)

My main excuse is that I was spending quite a bit of time writing a grant application to the Community Broadcasting Foundation for funding to improve our level of community engagement and recognition following our year of lockdown.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- *Australia Day Celebration*

As part of the Australia Day Celebrations held on the 26th January we had a stall and actually attracted quite a bit of interest. Tom McGhee and Paul Strickland were interviewing people and we were doing live crosses to the studio which along with a raffle was a great way of engaging people. It was pretty ordinary weather but we were lucky to be able to borrow a Gazebo from Neighbourhood Watch – it saved our helpers from getting very damp! Thanks are due to Josè and John Meyer, David and Annie Piggim, Susan Burton, Kaye Knight, and Ian Hill, for “personing” the stall. Footnote: We subsequently discovered hidden in the back of our shed, that the station has a Gazebo!!

- *Baw Baw Council Award*

In 2020 we applied for a grant through the Baw Baw Shire's Community Development Grant Program. We applied for funds to purchase equipment required to enable broadcasting of 3BBRfm Regional News. The application was successful and we were presented with a framed Certificate of the Award at a Shire Grants Ceremony held 23rd March 2021. Baw Baw Shire through grants such as this, sponsorship and low rental charges continue to support the station generously.

- *Asset Inventory*

In an Auditor's report prior to the Covid-19 lockdown we were requested to do an inventory and revaluation of our assets. The lockdown prevented this happening in 2020 but thanks to

Graeme Marriott, John Beauchamp, Tom McGhee, Josè and John Meyer the job is nearly done. They have done a fantastic job sorting through the stacks of old audio equipment in the shed and the shelves for valuation purposes. Broadcast technology has changed dramatically during the life of the station and as a result of some is obsolete, some may have some residual value, and some may be serviceable. The Board is yet to consider which equipment is surplus to requirements and how it will be disposed.

- **Notes for Presenters**

A special note of thanks to our presenters for making our broadcast work pretty well under the unusual circumstances we are operating under. Programming and production are vital roles at the station. Our team: Andrew Clinkaberry, John Beauchamp, and Tom McGhee are doing a terrific job keeping the station broadcasting. Programming is particularly challenging at the best of times and even more so when prerecorded programs and live broadcasting are being mixed into the 24 hour schedule by remote control.

For presenters who come in to do live broadcasting it is quite a challenge to ensure the pre-recorded programs, CSAs and Promos, etc are all inserted carefully following the documented procedures. It certainly keeps you on your toes as a presenter! For these reasons it is ESSENTIAL to communicate with colleagues well in advance and in a cooperative and considerate way if you need to change your scheduled time slot or you have some other request which requires cooperation of colleagues. Similarly, if you are not clear or confident about what procedure you need to follow don't just try to wing it and hope for the best – ask for help!

PLANS FOR 2021

As the Covid-19 restrictions have been further relaxed we are progressively moving getting back to normalised broadcasting arrangements. The number of presenters broadcasting live from the studios has increased but quite a few programs are still being pre-recorded. All the programming is still being coordinated remotely by Andrew Clinkaberry but as presenters express a willingness to observe the QR scanning and/or sign in requirements and the cleaning and sanitising conditions they are coming back to live broadcasting. One of the conditions we have retained is that there should be a time space between each presenter to enable proper cleaning and sanitising of studio console surfaces between presenters. However Studios 1 and 2 have now been set-up to be “mirror images” of each other which means that we have presenters alternating between studios so continuous live broadcasting is possible. A very big thank you to Greg Lia for his technical support in making this possible.

You may remember that the January E-Bulletin included a summary of a **SWOT** analysis undertaken by the Board. (**S**trengths **W**eaknesses **O**pportunities **T**hreats). We invited readers to respond with any comments. A few did and were generally supportive of what the station was doing.

The thrust of the comments was to continue emphasising community engagement, developing the profile of the 3BBRfm “community”, ensuring that we broadcast to serve the diverse needs of the community offering a range of programs that others do not.

We are using the information at a Board level to set our future directions and plan our activities. The next Board meeting scheduled for April 28th will commence earlier than usual and be devoted entirely to Governance and planning matters.

RADIOTHON

Planning for our proposed **Radiothon** has progressed a bit since the last E-Bulletin news. Our **Radiothon Sub-Committee** has met and determined that the best time for holding the **Radiothon** would be in Spring. (Better weather! More time to involve people! And looking pretty positive that the Covid-19 restrictions will have eased). Having a **Radiothon** directly reflects what the station is all about:

We want to be seen as THE Community Radio Station of West Gippsland – a unique, friendly, informative and entertaining radio service catering for the diverse needs and interests of the West Gippsland community.

The idea behind our **Radiothon** is to engage with and involve our members and listeners in achieving this.

We’d love any members, listeners, sponsors, supporters and friends to email or phone us if you are willing and able to help in any way. The more the merrier!!

Email: info@3bbrfm.org.au

Phone: 5625 1103

Or contact me at the email or phone number below.

SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2021.

Board meetings are normally held 3pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month. The dates are:

~~January 27th,~~

~~February 24th~~

~~March 24th~~

April 28th *Starts at 1.30pm and will be devoted to Governance and Planning matters*

May 26th

June 23rd

July 28th

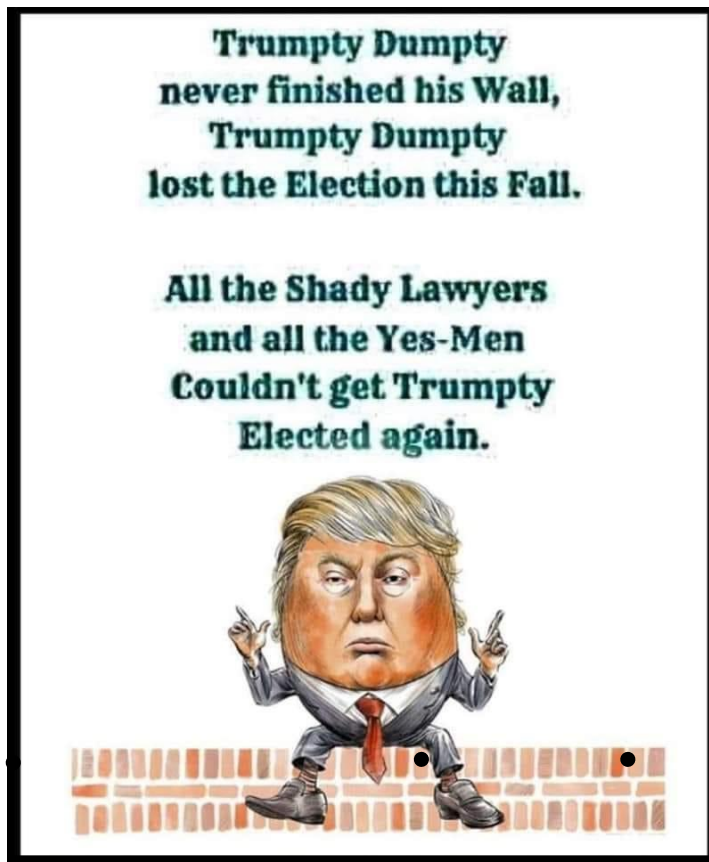
August 25th

September 22nd

October 20th

November 24th

SOME PLANS CAN GO ASTRAY (Thankfully!)



Cheerio! Keep Safe!

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