

Dear Presenters and Members

Here is the September edition of our [3BBRFM Email Bulletin](#).

Included in this edition we provide an update of refurbishments at the station, news about other things happening around the station and news from our Board meeting held 28th August 2019.

Presenters Meeting

A further [Presenters Workshop](#) in our series of workshops at the Drouin Library Meeting Room over the past few months. They have been well received by those who have attended and covered presenting techniques, using the equipment, station policies, and ensuring we do the best we can in broadcasting sponsorship, CSAs, promos, and station IDs. The workshops have also been used to update presenters on the new equipment and computing software. The most recent [Presenters Workshop](#) held 11th September focused on how to use the newly installed on-screen user interfaces for playing CSA's, answering any queries. A very useful session. Unfortunately there are still a number of presenters who have not attended any of the workshops even though they have been scheduled at different times.

It is really important that all presenters become familiar with the new desk top equipment layout and procedures for using the computer software because in the future all CSAs, Sponsors Messages, Promos and IDs will be transferred from Mini-Disks across to the computer.

Station Refurbishments

I'm pleased to report that refurbishments in the on air studio (the *Les Matkovich Studio*) are complete. The new carpet is down making the studio a whole lot warmer and more welcoming. The new desktop layout is less cluttered and somewhat more stylish. The side cabinet unit incorporates the turntable under the benchtop thus giving more useable space for presenter laptops. On the left-hand side the bank of equipment currently consists of 2 CD players and 2 Mini-Disk players. There are two computer screens at front/left of the presenter integrated on a swivelling stand. One is dedicated for presenter program playlists as per the current "Blue" computer. The other is dedicated for CSA's. In future this will also include Sponsors Messages, Program Promos and STATION IDs. This will remove the need to use the Mini-Disk players for these announcements as currently occurs.

While the refurbishments were proceeding presenters were using the production studio (the *Lynn Wells Studio*). This is now no longer necessary however there is still some re-wiring and re-configuring required to set up the two studios as a mirror image of one another. This will improve our ability to provide better quality training for new presenters and will provide greater flexibility when routine maintenance is required.

Some Big Thanks

We are very grateful to lots of our volunteers whose time and effort on behalf of the station is what keeps the station going. This is particularly so in a period of significant change, physical upheaval, technical upgrades and reconfiguration. Big thanks to our presenters who have continued to do a great job during this time.

Here's a few special mentions for their particular dedication and commitment to getting the work done during this difficult transition process. All of these people in their own way have done amazing jobs in getting things reconfiguring and refurbishing the studio, installing the equipment and programming and training. Congratulations to all.

Greg Lia
Andrew Clinkaberry
Tom McGhee
John Beauchamp
Rob Stewart

Also some notes of appreciation from José Meyer our Secretary:

Let me begin by expressing thanks to all those who were involved in the renovations of Studio 1. An amazing effort by everyone. The carpet looks great and so more inviting to be in the studio these days. Also the ease of the new computers and the desk top.

A huge thank you to Russ Hughes for not only purchasing the office window blind (which I might add, is easy to use) but his donation of \$500 to help with funds. Russ is also responsible for doing the painting tasks at the station and recently has painted the office desk and now the office is looking ever so much brighter with his colour choice.

It was lovely to have local lad, Rhys, with us for a week of work experience recently. I know Rhys enjoyed learning some of the things we do at 3BBRFM. His interest in all things music was amazing. I have had talks with the school co-ordinator and hope to have more students come to the station in the future. We really need to nurture these kids if we want 3 BBRFM to be around for a long time.

David Piggin has had a battle with Cancer and thankfully is now home again and hopefully taking things easy as he should be doing. We all wish David all the best in his recovery and hope to see him again real soon. Best wishes also to Annie, who has been with David all the way and thanks also to those who helped with taking Annie to the hospital when required.

As for me, I'm on a very slow road to recovery. The removal of my kidney in early August was a huge shock and the whole process was quick and no time to think. Not knowing the outcome of a cancer or not before the operation, was something I would have to live with, but as it turned out, it was Cancer so a good thing the kidney was taken. Now I have to care for myself as best I can and will now have numerous checks by the Urology team in the future. I'm lucky to have had the care I did these past few months and thank those who have been alongside me in this process and especially my John, who has been truly amazing.

News from the Board

At the Board's last meeting held 28th August 2019 some points of interest were:

- Approval of \$600 for purchase of some further computing equipment
- In preparation for a review of station policies templates regarding bullying and sexual harassment have been obtained from the CBAA
- Agreement to have a stall at the Garden Expo at Lardner Park 12th and 13th October
- Future sausage sizzle stalls to be held at Woolworths Warragul and Drouin in October and November
- Agreement to support a proposal from Mick Nicholls to reinstate Veterans Corner
- Consideration was given to doing a Strategic SWOT analysis
- The AGM is to be held Wednesday 20th November 2019

Additionally there was a wide-ranging lengthy discussion which occupied most of the remaining meeting time on programming and production matters. Points included:

- *Andrew Clinkaberry is taking up the Programming Role.*
- *the Board should set the parameters the music is less disjointed through the day.*
- *Denon CD only working on one channel?*
- *Difficulty to interview with the screen set up in new studio format.*
- *Presenter motivation and contribution.*
- *Lack of input linked to lack of brand/sound and broad radio station experience.*
- *we have no current 'listener survey' data*
- *The overnight music is a key selling point, a key sound.*
- *The decision as to what music goes to air over night is too important to be left to one person noting that the software/set up already existed,*
- *Offers to assist were not taken up.*
- *Studio 2 should have been revamped before studio 1, to allow presenter to train and broadcast from there.*
- *Problems associated with the broadcasting from Studio 2 when the revamp of Studio 1 went ahead.*
- *Carpet seems to have been more important than improvement of the sound and focus on sponsors.*

- *Lack of communication is a problem. Messages and documents are not being shared.*
- *As volunteers many of us do what we can be we are not professionals, and have little experience.*
- *There is NO clarity as to who does what in terms of duties/responsibilities.*
- *We need to be more supportive and communicate better. But this requires clarity of the various roles people are performing.*
- *Many suggestions are made but are not pursued, and not recorded in the minutes.*
- *Radio is undergoing great changes and 3BBR is not part of these changes, for example the clash of some of the music played through the day. We have no 'sound/brand' that there is no 'strategy'.*
- *There are Community radio station with \$250,000 who are serious and who are attracting sponsor and listeners.*
- *There is a lack of direction, the lack of people in key positions listening to/responding to member/presenter input.*
- *There was too much disagreement without fully listening to each other's views and that more attention should be given to discussion to try to find workable solutions.*
- *Some of the settings behind the Windows Media Player are being changed, resulting in tracks "crossfading" beyond his control.*
- *He said this was very frustrating as he had no way to fix this. Tom agreed to talk to Greg L about the crossfading issue, and to get Greg to insert a half-second gap into the Station Playlist music settings.*
- *David P spoke of his passion for this radio station, especially the music, which you do not hear anywhere else. He spoke of his time in hospital recently and how 3BBR was the only radio station that met his needs as a listener.*
- *There have been plenty of suggestions but little taken on or implemented. Such as local news, local traffic reports.*
- *The New Software (OTS) for CSA can also include instrumentals and will eventually incorporate SPA and IDs, and Minidisks will not be updated with new announcements.*

Two other important items on the Board Agenda had to be deferred because of the time taken on the above discussion. These were:

1. Policy Review – general review including as a priority policy related to sexual harassment and bullying
2. Job roles and responsibilities

These items will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting to be held 2.30pm 25th September 2019.

Who to contact for help

You should contact any member of the Team if you have questions or suggestions. If you'd like to do so here are the relevant email addresses:

programming@3bbrfm.org.au
production@3bbrfm.org.au
technical@3bbrfm.org.au.

If you'd like to contact me here's my dedicated 3BBRFM address:

president@3bbrfm.org.au

We still have some way to go in the process of transition and upgrading of equipment and software however I'm confident we are well set up to do what we do best: be **the community radio of choice in West Gippsland**.

Please don't forget to check out our website and/or Facebook page for our current program schedule, details of different programs and presenters, how to hear us through our live stream, and lots more.

Rod Wellard
President

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