



## Bulletin #3

*July 2021.*

HELLO

Welcome to another edition of the Bulletin. Hopefully you'll find it interesting and informative as to what things are happening at the station.

### **OUR TRANSITION TO LIVE BROADCASTING**

One of the things that may be uppermost in your mind is how we are travelling in managing the station in the context of the Covid-19 restrictions. In one most important sense the answer is very well! Through the extraordinary efforts of our programming and production team – Andrew Clinkaberry, John Beauchamp, and Tom McGhee the station has maintained a virtually uninterrupted 24 hour broadcast service. The feedback from listeners has been overwhelmingly positive – many not realising that for a considerable period of time last year there were no live broadcasters – all programs were either pre-recorded or being broadcast through the Community Radio Network via satellite. In the second half of the year we commenced a cautious process of permitting some presenters to come back to the studio to do live broadcasting under strict cleaning and sanitation conditions reflecting the government's covid-19 restrictions. For a while, when the Greater Metropolitan Region lockdown was being enforced, we had presenters who were not allowed back to the studio, even if they wanted to, because they lived on the wrong side of the border between Baw Baw and Cardinia Shires!

3BBRfm's policy regarding a staged return to live broadcasting has been a standing item on the agenda of the Board for many months. This has enabled us to monitor government covid-19 restrictions and public health measures to determine what we need to do to manage risks and comply with the requirements. During the extended time since the onset of the pandemic we have transitioned from full reliance on pre-recorded broadcasting to a hybrid of pre-recorded programs and live broadcasting presented by a small number of presenters.

In the context of the Victorian Government's recent relaxation of some restrictions and improved preventative and contact tracing procedures and the vaccination roll-out (slow and confusing as it may be), the Board at its last meeting held 23/06/2021 considered our staged return to live broadcasting policy and have decided on the following.

*Subject to the imposition of no further restrictions by government health authorities, 3BBRfm plans to resume live broadcasting as our normal mode of operation from the beginning of September. Presenters who still wish to pre-record their programs may still do so.*

*The requirements that will remain in force are:*

- QR scanning using the Service Victoria QR code and station log-in code
- Hand sanitising and cleaning of surfaces on arrival as per checklists
- Cleaning of all surfaces and contact areas prior to departure as per checklists
- Masks and social distancing

## RADIOTHON

Planning for our proposed **Radiothon** is being progressed by our **Radiothon Sub-Committee** convened by Ian Hill. We think 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).

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

**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.**

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!!

Here are some specific ways you may be able to help:

- a) Contacting and enlisting support from businesses and community groups in Baw Baw
- b) Preparing advertising copy for newspapers other media and on-air broadcasting
- c) Graphic design for posters, and other displays
- d) Communication coordination
- e) Webpage content and design

**Email:** [info@3bbrfm.org.au](mailto:info@3bbrfm.org.au)

**Phone:** 5625 1103

Or contact me at the email or phone number below

**A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS**

3BBRfm extends a big vote of thanks to our sponsors who support us to maintain our broadcasting service for the West Gippsland Community. We strongly encourage all our members and listeners support our sponsors in return. Keeping our sponsors in business, keeps our station in business! So it's a Win – Win situation.

Here they are:

- Aureole Systems P/L - [david.edelman@aureolesystems.com](mailto:david.edelman@aureolesystems.com)
- Bapcare - Abbey Gardens Warragul and Amberlea Community Drouin. - [henright@bapcare.org.au](mailto:henright@bapcare.org.au)
- Baw Baw Shire Council
- Drouin & District Community Bank - [admin@drouinddfs.com.au](mailto:admin@drouinddfs.com.au)
- Fairview Village Warragul. - [reception@fairviewvillage.com.au](mailto:reception@fairviewvillage.com.au) (attention Lois Tarrant)
- Hearcare Audiology and Sleep Clinic - [previn.pillay@hearcare.com.au](mailto:previn.pillay@hearcare.com.au)
- Hymans Legal - [mafalda@hymanslegal.com.au](mailto:mafalda@hymanslegal.com.au)  
- [jms@hymanslegal.com.au](mailto:jms@hymanslegal.com.au)
- Phillip Island Jazz Festival - [jazz@phillipislandjazzfest.org.au](mailto:jazz@phillipislandjazzfest.org.au)
- Warragul Computer Repair - [jon@warragulcomputerrepair.com.au](mailto:jon@warragulcomputerrepair.com.au)
- Warragul Lighting & Accessories - [wglighting@dcsi.net.au](mailto:wglighting@dcsi.net.au)
- WAS Gallery - [anne.lorraine@bigpond.com](mailto:anne.lorraine@bigpond.com)
- West Gippsland Taxis. - [willie\\_moss@hotmail.com](mailto:willie_moss@hotmail.com)
- Wolf Partner Telstra Stores - [shae@wolfstores.com.au](mailto:shae@wolfstores.com.au)
- Speedy Locksmiths - [workshop@speedylocksmiths.com.au](mailto:workshop@speedylocksmiths.com.au)

We'd also like to extend thanks to a number of community organisations who support us through their patronage:

- Drouin Anglican Church Op Shop and Warehouse - [john.griffiths557@gmail.com](mailto:john.griffiths557@gmail.com)
- Lions Club of Yarragon - Lions On Mane shop
- The Crossing Drop in Centre Drouin - [crossing@exemail.com.au](mailto:crossing@exemail.com.au)
- Trafalgar Bowls Club - [trafalgarbowlsclub@bigpond.com](mailto:trafalgarbowlsclub@bigpond.com)  
- [k.capper@yahoo.com](mailto:k.capper@yahoo.com)
- VACCA ( Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency) - [tabathac@vacca.org](mailto:tabathac@vacca.org).  
- [haylevj@vacca.org](mailto:haylevj@vacca.org)

## GOOD NEWS DEPARTMENT

### • **Bunnings Sausage Sizzle**

Graeme Marriott, our Treasurer and Sausage Sizzler Extraordinaire announced that we had a great success with the 3BBRfm Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings in Warragul on the 19<sup>th</sup> June netting \$931.00 for our community radio station. This is wonderful news. Many thanks to those that helped out on the day. Graeme mentioned that in spite of early worries about the weather, as the day progressed a beautiful day unfolded, the people flocked to Bunnings and we were selling snags up until closure at 4pm. Along with Graeme I'd like to add my thanks to Susan, Phill, Glenys, Brian and Lois for their unstinting help during the day.

### • **Baw Baw Shire Support**

In 2020 we applied for a grant through the Baw Baw Shire's Community Development Grant Program. We were presented with a framed Certificate of the Award at a Shire Grants Ceremony held 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021. Since then we have actually obtained the equipment funded through the grant to enable broadcasting of 3BBRfm Regional News. The equipment consists of a photocopier/printer of A3 size paper to enable presenters to copy newspaper size articles, 5 sets of high quality headphones, and a new computer for use in the studio. We express our appreciation to Baw Baw Shire who continue to support the station generously through grants such as this, sponsorship and low rental charges for the building which houses our studios and office at Oak Street, Drouin

- ***Community Broadcast Foundation***

Grants received from the CBF last year included \$534 to support the 3BBRfm Regional News Service with equipment needed to broadcast from home-recorded programs because of the Covid 19 restrictions.

The CBF also awarded us a Covid 19 crisis grant of \$8074 to cover projected loss of income.

This grant has been exceedingly helpful in supporting the financial viability of the station. 3BBRfm is very grateful to the CBF for the financial and other advice and support that they have provided to the station.

- ***Community Bank Drouin***

In March this year we were awarded a grant of \$3000 for upgrading and replacing furnishings from the Community Bank Drouin. We have not fully spent this money as yet but we have on order new curtains and blinds to replace the old and tattered ones that have been hanging around for a very long time indeed.

Many thanks to our Community Bank in Drouin for their support.

## **BAD NEWS DEPARTMENT**

### ***Unsuccessful Grant Application***

Unfortunately we had some bad news in our grant applications. We had submitted an application for funds to (1) hire an experienced community engagement facilitator to assist us to build up strong community networks and develop a community engagement and membership enhancement plan and (2) hire appropriate technical expertise to undertake a review of the reliability and maintenance needs of transmission equipment. This grant application was perhaps overly ambitious but would have helped to provide a clear pathway for the future development of the station. You can't win 'em all I suppose.

### ***Interruption to Transmission***

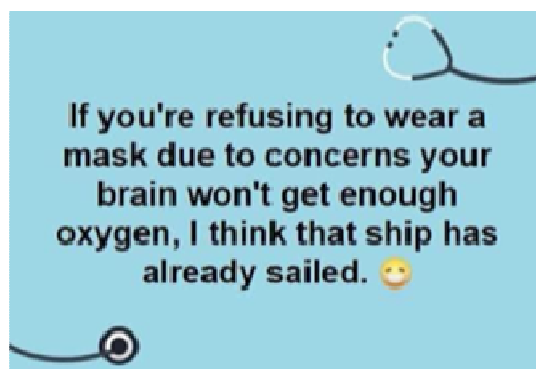
The recent storms which devastated the Dandenong Ranges, caused significant flooding in Traralgon and other parts of Gippsland also created havoc in the Strzelecki Ranges including around Mt Worth where our transmission tower is located. Power outages were reported in large numbers and many property owners lost power for days before power was restored. Tony Hayes, our landlord who lives close by was keeping us posted as to what was happening and the extremely high winds made conditions pretty rough up there. Dozens of trees and branches came down on the roads which became impassable until cleared. As a result of the storms we lost power for around 3 days. The station possesses a stand-by generator to maintain power when there is a short term interruption to power but the duration of the power outage caused by this weather event was well beyond our capacity to maintain transmission.

### SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2021.

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

July 28th  
August 25th  
September 22nd  
October 20th  
November 24<sup>th</sup>

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Cheerio! Keep Safe!

**Rod Wellard**  
**President**



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