



PRINT · RADIO · TASMANIA · INC  
turning print into sound

# CLIPPINGS

## From Philip French

Manager Print Radio Tasmania



### Hello to everyone

This is our first newsletter for 2009 and one of the requirements under your strategic plan goals. We hope you'll enjoy the resumption of this, will participate in the issues that arise in it, and feel absolutely free to vent displeasure or intense delight about our radio station and the programmes we present here.

—Helen Martin.



### PROGRAMME IDEAS

Do you have any ideas for new programmes? From 5<sup>th</sup> April there'll be a new Programme Guide. We'd welcome your suggestions as you may have thought of a topic or publication that we don't cover currently. Please talk to Philip or Mel, or any board member if you can help.

To begin the thought process, here are some suggestions from management. Firstly, a breakfast session (7 days) on Print Radio Tasmania. Would you be prepared to rise early and start work at 7.00 a.m.? Presenters and readers would be required, so please let's have your thoughts on this.

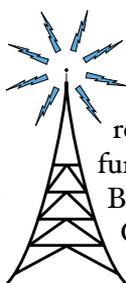
And here's another. What do you think of our station reading *The Australian* newspaper daily, perhaps at 8.00 a.m.?

We'd be very glad to hear from anyone who feels these two ideas are worthwhile.

### MOVING AHEAD WITH TECHNOLOGY

Due to further advances in our new station technology recently Studio 2 is being closed down at 7.00 p.m. nightly (Mon-Fri) until 8.00 a.m. the next morning. The programmes are being presented by our computer system in the Plant Room. This is saving electricity and will hopefully prolong the life-span of all the equipment in Studio 2.

### NORTH WEST COAST OUTLET



Technical investigations are under way to find the best site for a (translator) transmitter in the Devonport area. When an appropriate location is found the station will apply for the relevant broadcast licence. Once we have that, funding will be sought from the Community Broadcasting Foundation and the Tasmanian Government.

# Strategic plan into action

## *Manuals, Volunteers' room and kitchen.*

Since our planning weekend, the following matters identified by you, have been completed or are under way.

1. Improvements to the toilet access and hygienic seat cleaner installed
2. Volunteers' room The bulky furniture should be disposed of and a meeting table made by Basil Smith. We also need to purchase chairs.
3. There is a new fridge in the kitchen and our thanks go to Dave Hunt (alias Len Lobo).
4. The station has been technically prepared for Digital radio
5. Manuals for volunteers' induction, station policy and procedures are in preparation.
6. Programme streaming on our website is under investigation.

## NEW MANUALS

The Board and Management are currently preparing a Policy and Procedures Manual to which all volunteers will have ready access when it's finalised.

Also, a new Volunteer Induction Manual is in preparation, and your ideas on its contents would be appreciated. Please talk to Mel, Philip or any Board member.

Further to all of the above we recognise that the Volunteers' room and kitchen need painting. There will be a working bee soon so please watch the notice-board. Katie Holness will be in charge.

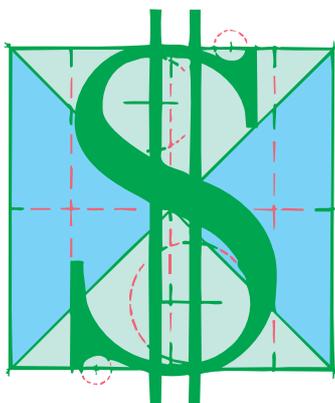
We also need the following:

- **A book-case.** Do you have one to donate for the volunteers' room?
- **New tea -towels and hand-towels.** Many thanks to Gleewyn Sprod for her weekly laundering of tea and hand-towels and for offering to buy new towels for the kitchen and toilet areas.
- **Good cutlery and crockery.** Philip is looking for some new items.
- **Easy chairs.** We need two, and because of limited space they should not be bulky. Both desk and storage cupboard will go. If you have other ideas that may improve the facilities please let us know.

## COST SAVINGS

Talking of money, over the last five years, your Board and Managers have looked aggressively at savings in our financial management with a view to eliminating waste.

Many savings have been made through new technology, the termination of contracts and lease agreements, and interest on these. Approximately \$10,000 in savings has been achieved (annually). Energy saving globes are also being used in many areas of the station.



## FUND-RAISING

Your support of the "chocky" treats in the Volunteers' room assists the station's finances. Please note that Cadbury's Chocolates have increased our buying cost, so, we've had to increase our selling cost. However, it's all in a good cause!



## PRONUNCIATION PROBLEMS?

What do you think of the idea of having a computer in the volunteer's room with access to a good dictionary? What else should or could it access to help volunteers?

## Why is it so?

### *Why does the radio station need financial members?*

The reason for this is to be found in the Incorporation of Associations Act (Tas). RPH Print Radio Tasmania (Inc) is an "Incorporated Association" under the Tasmanian act. We are an association of like-minded volunteers, who by paying a membership fee (\$11.00 P/A) become financial members.

Being a financial member entitles you to :

- stand for election
- become a Board member

- vote at Annual General meetings
- receive annual reports
- change the Articles and Rules of the association (known as the constitution).

Your membership fee also helps your insurance cover while volunteering at the station, i.e. (public and volunteer liability policy). More details are available from the Manager.

### *Have you ever been asked by listeners why the station does not present music programmes or why we don't play more music?*

This is so because we are licensed as a Community radio service to provide the printed word to our community of interest. Also, a condition of our licence is that we do not play more than five minutes of music per hour.

So almost all our air-time is dedicated to readings of interest for our special listening audience.

## Marjorie Wolfe

Marjorie is one of our special listeners. Eighty-five years of age in May 2009, from the mid 1950s until her retirement in 1983 she was secretary to five successive Tasmanian Director Generals of Education.

An avid reader, Marj. began to suffer eyesight problems around the time of her retirement, and today macular degeneration has practically robbed her of sight. In 1982 a podiatrist suggested she start listening to RPH Radio and the rest, as they say, is history. Marj has been a faithful listener ever since. Asked what she likes about our service, she said, "All the local voices and programmes especially the daily poetry readings.

### **Manager's note**

Marj regularly visits the station to meet and talk with us and to get to know our volunteers. She has also been a keen financial supporter.

— Philip French

### THANK YOU FROM JAMES ARCHIE LILLEY — ALIAS BASIL

May I please use the newsletter to express my sincere thanks to all the volunteers of RPH who gave and lent lots of things to make my first weeks "downunder" so very comfortable.

Ten months ago I was born in Barnstable, England. My parents came from Hartlepool in Teeside but were living in Barnstable. I can see that I have a lot of language learning to cope with.: Teeside accents, Devonshire accents and now Basil's North Yorkshire accent! The good news is, Janet (Basil's wife) speaks normally with her Essex accent. Of course now I must learn to speak "dinkum" Australian, so that the Margate neighbours can understand me!.

Mum (Maxine) and Dad (Robbie) seem to be settling in well. They are converting a large van into a campervan so that we can explore Australia.

I'd much rather enjoy my swing and paddling pool and the peace and quiet of Margate! But at 10 months old, no one listens!

*James - a new Australian.*

**P.S. Basil is hoping to teach me to be a Punch and Judy man — some hope.**

NOTES FROM MARGARET GIBBS, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR



### Christmas party

Well, didn't we enjoy our Christmas party! We were very impressed with our venue The Civic Club, and are pleased to be able to have access to it for further functions.



In fact, we have held our Strategic Planning meeting there with Miles Flanagan acting as Facilitator, and we will hold our AGM there later in the year. Of course, there'll be more parties too! I won't though, be able to command people to wait on me in the future as my broken ankle is well on the mend!

At this gathering we were pleased to present **Certificates of Appreciation** for long service to nine wonderful volunteers:

Harvey Bullen, Elizabeth Cloudsdale, Graham Clements, Brian Evans, Jan Miller,, Bett Minchin, Glewyn Sprod, Thea Stephens, and Sylvia Watkins.

**Certificates of Commendation** for expert technical assistance were also prepared for Anders Marchant and Jim Parish, the team which at times has been known to work at the station all night.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP

### Studio 1 goes to air

During my convalescence, when climbing stairs was not advisable, I was able to broadcast from Studio 1, which has disabled access. This was a change for readers to be "on air" in a studio previously used only for the pre-recording of programmes.

My thanks to all readers, always so reliable and lovely to work with. Please feel free to talk to me about any roster ideas, changes or suggestions.

### And don't forget the calico bag

The RPH calico bag proved indispensable while my ankle was mending, and I was on crutches. It's big enough to carry all sorts of things about the house, with the strap fitting comfortably over the shoulder. I've also noticed Joan and Mary finding their bags useful for carrying their *Bon Appetit* material to the studio.

If you don't have one yet they're available at the bargain price of \$2.00 at the office.



### GREAT IDEAS CORNER

Ron Anderson has suggested that we use our internet connections to save dollars on outgoing phone calls. This will be achieved by Ron connecting us to a V.O.I.P. system. If you want more details talk to Ron, Mel, Philip or any Board member.

If you have a great idea please send it to the Editor, Helen Martin, c/- RPH Print Radio Tasmania. Inc.

## Lyn Muir

Hi everyone. After retiring from college teaching four years ago, I'm fortunate in having a fulfilling, active retirement. Formerly a reader for Hear a Book, I began at RPH when reading for that service was no longer available to Tasmanians. Some of my other volunteer work is with Guiding and Scouting, particularly the organisation of the Scout Guide Regatta, and with Coast Radio Hobart. Retirement has given me more time to garden, read, sew, spend time with family, and to indulge in pursuits such as bushwalking, playing tennis and travelling. My husband and I have had some great trips in recent years: around Australia in our A-van, to Bolivia and Peru (where we walked to Machu Picchu) and last year, to Europe. This latter trip included an eight-day cycling trip along the Czech Republic/Austrian border. It also gave me the opportunity to visit some literary sites in England.

I look forward to continuing to read.

*Lyn Muir.*

## Jim Beresford

I was born in the city of Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the Scottish side of the Tyne which makes me a true Geordie.

I've had many jobs in my life. Opting out of going "doon the pit lad" I became in turn a rent collector, bouncer at the local childcare centre and then enlisted in the R.A.F. in 1965. I was sent to work on air-sea rescue in Scotland, Bomber Command in Germany, Fighter Command in Berlin and back to Doncaster, Yorkshire for Training Command.

Having heard from a friend that Australia was the place to be, I moved the family to Adelaide where we had the tragedy of losing our son in a car crash. After having a holiday in Tasmania though we chose to move again.

I used my piano-playing skills to join a local band, and later a children's entertainment group, moving around the island with face painters, fire eaters, and jugglers. Now I've mostly retired.

I've known Basil for about nine years and he put my name forward to read for RPH. I've done some reading and thoroughly enjoy it, and hope to continue doing so for as long as I can.

*Jim.*

## A note from your editor

Since editing this newsletter I've been searching the Internet for information about other 'Reading Radio' stations and have found many different responses to the need for reading to the visually handicapped. Obviously I can't include all that I found but there are interesting ones.

WRBH in New Orleans for example, read from all the local, national and international newspapers, weekly and monthly magazines, do listings of local events, (all that we do) with the addition of grocery-store ads, and they have a relationship with other cultural and indigenous communities, an inclusion programme which may take various forms of interviews and discussion programmes. Their website is [www.wrbh.org/](http://www.wrbh.org/)

KPBS in San Diego do all this and include more light-hearted moments like grocery ads, horoscopes, comics and readings from Ladies' Home Journal.

But - there was this anonymous call to WRBH 88.3 FM from a listener, March 2007.

*"You are my eyes, not my brain".*

Maybe trying to please everyone is just too hard.

To my knowledge we receive helpful and appreciative calls mostly. Here are a few.

JG: Thank you for many hours of interesting and entertaining listening.

PM: Your services are much appreciated.

IR: I enjoy your programmes very much.

VB: My Mum is very appreciative of the service of RPH.

ML: I especially enjoy Afternoon Extra and Presenter's Choice, but prefer the ones with local readings, not the music ones or magazine mixtures. I also enjoy the book-readings. I am not print handicapped, but enjoy the company of your cheerful, friendly announcers!

So that's it. May we have some of your contributions next time please?

Good Reading!

*-Helen Martin-*

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