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# CLIPPINGS

## Devonport, here we come!

Our long wait is over in relation to our application to the Australian Communications and Media Authority for a broadcast licence for the Devonport region. We have been notified officially of our success.

Planning and equipment purchases will now get under way to start broadcasting as soon as possible, probably in around two months or so. Our allocated frequency will be 96.1 FM. I will keep everyone informed as we progress towards this next milestone addition to our radio service.

Jim Parish will be overseeing the technical management of this new station development. As with our Launceston translator service, the new Devonport service will carry the Hobart studio's programme output, but carry the daily *Examiner* readings. To fund the establishment of this new service I will be applying for grants in March next year.



We will need \$50,000 to purchase and install all the necessary equipment at Kelcey Tier at Quoiba. In the meantime we will be borrowing, begging and doing some deals for temporary equipment to begin transmitting as soon as possible.

It has always been my wish to cover the north-west with our special radio service. Devonport will be the beginning, and when I leave next year, hopefully, the new manager will be able to extend into the Burnie region in coming years.

*Philip French*

## Volunteer Co-ordinator

Another year has almost gone and it's time to organise the rosters for the next six months.

I am nearly back to normal after returning from my holiday of six weeks. I landed in Munich at 5.30 am and as I was wandering around waiting for my hotel room to be ready, I took a good look at the organisation of the bicycle tracks where riding on two wheels is commonplace. I spotted many tourists getting in to the swing of things parking their bikes while they viewed the sights or had coffee. It seemed to me that the bike paths and footpaths were differentiated by the type of surfacing used.

After this acclimatisation it was time for the organised walks I came for: the alps in Austria and Switzerland; followed by Southern Tuscany. The cows grazing in the high country were much photographed until we became used to them. I was excited to be present the week that the herds were walked down from the summer pastures. It is quite an important occasion, with the cows dressed up wearing the largest cowbells with embroidered collars and flowers between their horns led by the herd-master in traditional costume and often parading right down the main street.

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## Happy ending

We recently read on air a story from *The Mercury* concerning a local homeowner needing some minor repairs and maintenance with their double glazed windows. I don't know if it was in Mercury Features, Totally Tas or the daily Mercury readings.

We received a phone call yesterday from the lady owner of the house letting us know that a builder/glazer rang them up asking to let them quote for the work. She has decided to get a quote from him!

Another two listeners we didn't know about..!

# Presidential ponderings

My fellow 7RPH members and volunteers: as your newly-elected president I find myself taking on the role in some very exciting times. I'd like to firstly express my appreciation of the work of both outgoing President, Miles Flanagan and acting President over these last months, Debbie LeGrande. Due to their diligence my transition into the presidential position has been very smooth and much less daunting than it might have been. Station manager Philip French has been extremely supportive as have my fellow members of the 7RPH Committee of Management.

For members and volunteers who don't know me or only know me as one of those rph 'ships in the night' I'll take this opportunity to introduce myself. I auditioned as a reader in July 2004 and was assigned a reading shift shortly afterwards. It was subsequently discovered that I was qualified in broadcasting technology and was set to work repairing headphones. It was also discovered that I had retired from gainful employment and had time to fill in for the Administrative Assistant while she was on leave. I was instrumental in the purchase and setting up of the studio computers and have taken over the maintenance and enhancement of the software by which we play programmes to air in the studio, along with the automation software which keeps us on air after hours.

I was elected to the Committee of Management in 2006 and have been a committee member since then. As I write this I have already chaired my first committee meeting with

quite an intense agenda dealing with a long list of issues surrounding the station's progress into its next 30 years. As I said, exciting times, and one of the most pleasing of which is our application for a broadcasting license to extend our coverage into Devonport and surrounds. For full details see Philip's leading article in this newsletter.

Even though the station's core work is performed free of charge by our valuable band of volunteers, the cost of running the station is very high. An amazing amount of the annual budget goes on electricity alone. Our broadcasting technical equipment comes at a very high cost and some of it, originally second-hand is getting very old and will need replacing in the near future. Therefore funding for the station is of crucial concern and we have a sub-committee dedicated to the task of fund-raising and coming up with new avenues of potential income. However, our station manager has just recently identified two potential sources of additional funding, and if successful these will go a long way towards keeping up with accelerating costs. Looming in the foreseeable but unquantifiable future is the reality of digital radio coming to Tasmania at least to Hobart. Projected costs for setting that up are unprecedented and sources of grants and ongoing funding support will be needed.

The committee is not just limited to financial considerations. The quality of our on-air product comes under discussion frequently. The subject of pronunciation was raised recently with consistency and authenticity

highlighted along with the difficulty volunteers face in keeping up with new words appearing on the printed page constantly. Committee member Philip Tyson has offered his services to compile a pronunciation guide to be placed in Studio One and kept up to date.

Extended local programming over the last couple of years has greatly enhanced the service we provide to our audience but at the same time it is stretching our quite substantial volunteer resources, particularly during the winter months when many of our readers escape Tasmania for longer holiday periods. We need to address this situation soon or it may be necessary to re-think some of our local on-air presence. Evening shifts and some of the weekend once live, are now automated saving the need to roster volunteers. New volunteers join our ranks from time to time and we welcome them wholeheartedly but we find the rosters thin on the ground at certain times. I am going to ask all volunteers to have a look at their diaries to see if they can spare any additional time, even if not regularly as fill-ins when other volunteers are away. Maybe you might consider expanding your regular shift to include newspaper preparation ahead of your reading. Do you have expertise and skills over and above those required for broadcasting, which you might care to offer the station as needed? Please contact Philip or Mel if you think you can help.

Finally, if you need to contact me as president you can email me at [ron@7rph.org.au](mailto:ron@7rph.org.au). I am at the station on Thursdays so you can phone me on that day as I take a break between 11.30 and 12 if you would like to see me in person.

*Ron Anderson.*

# First outside broadcast in Launceston



RPH has been operating in Launceston since 2003 and has often discussed a northern outside broadcast. Seniors Week 2011 was seen as an opportunity to place our Examiner presenter and readers in the Brisbane Street Mall for a live broadcast.

The Launceston City Council was approached and gave us the necessary permits as well as a \$300 contribution towards the cost of the broadcast.

To get the programme back to Hobart we used a FAX line generously loaned to us by Birchalls. This meant running a cable out of a Birchalls window, across their street awning and down to the



broadcast point. Monaghan's Lucky Agency in the Mall were also generous in giving us the power point we needed to get the broadcast to air.

Leading up to the day Philip Tyson and Peter Johnston prepared the content for the two and a half hour broadcast. Jim Parish sourced the technical equipment from Hobart FM, City Park Radio in Launceston, MCM Agencies and Total Audio Solutions. Temporary equipment was placed into Studio 3 to give us our connection through Birchalls to the broadcast location.

The weather on the day of the broadcast was fine but cool, with just a little too much wind. Jim was there at 8.30 am to set up while the others (Belinda, Katie, Peter, Mel and Philip Tyson) were driving up



from Hobart. Once they arrived there was a somewhat frenzied paper cut-up in the short time available. This wasn't helped by the occasional gust of wind.

Brian Evans in Studio 3 put us to air with Philip Tyson being the on-site presenter for the broadcast. Katie and Belinda did the reading. Peter played pre-recorded items from his computer and Mel operated the mixing desk.

We had two live guests including the mayor of Launceston.

A number of northern listeners came to chat with us and a couple of them offered donations as a gesture of appreciation for the service we provide.

The broadcast was a significant event for RPH and there's now talk of another broadcast during next year, perhaps something to celebrate our presence in Devonport.

*Jim Parish*

# Just what is CWC?

*Mala Anthony-Ramu*

Mala is a founding member of this amazing group and was interviewed by Peter Johnston during our Launceston OB. This was just after we had learnt that CWC would be donating \$1000 to RPH.

**Her story:**

Lunch with friends with a twist started as an idea — bring lunch for yourself and extra to share. Now for the twist — you need to pay for lunch as well!

Well, not pay but donate towards a fund. Once a sum of \$1000 is reached the members decide to whom they will give the money.



This idea was tossed around in early February 2011. In April we had our first fund-raising lunch. In May at our second luncheon we felt the group needed a name. Many names were suggested mainly lofty, but Chin-Waggers' Club was chosen and the acronym CWC was settled on, giving room for many interpretations: come with cash being a favourite, as well as being apt.

The gatherings have included lunch and a movie, lunch and learning to play poker, lunch and sharing a favourite poem or just writing your own, but we mainly chin wag.

By the end of June CWC had raised the first \$1000 which we donated to the Fred Hollows Foundation. Our second \$1000 we have donated to RPH. As I often listened to the station I heard the need for \$5000 and proposed the idea to the group when it was agreed on unopposed.

Yes you've got it in one. We are a friendship group and everyone is welcome to come and increase our circle of chin-waggers.

In November the plan is to try for a cocktail party.

For further information just ring 0427 888 816 and ask for Nancy Corbett.

## KEEP THESE DATES FREE!

**Update your RPH Print Radio social calendar**

Date	Time	Event
Saturday November 19		Hobart City Council's Christmas Pageant
Sunday December 4	3:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Volunteers' Christmas party at The Civic Club
Saturday March 17	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon	St Patrick's Day AND the now famous RPH Garage Sale
Tuesday June 26		RPH turns 30, celebrating with an outside broadcast in Mawson Place, Hobart
Wednesday June 27	6:00 – 7.00 p.m.	Reception at Government House
Friday June 29		Farewell party for Philip French

Look for details about each event in the Volunteers' room nearer the actual date.

## MARGARET'S REPORT CONTINUES

My idea of travel is to choose a small area and get to know it very well. I met lots of people including fellow Australians. I was the lone Aussie in my group in Italy however, and I felt a bit of an oddity with the British contingent crowding around. I took with me a map of the world, but wish that I had taken a map of Tasmania because fellow bushwalkers asked all sorts of questions. I talked about our wild areas of wilderness with thick scrub where it can take hours to bash your way through a few hundred metres of it if you go off-track but their eyes would glaze over with



disbelief. One man said that he was disappointed that I did not have corks on my hat. By surreptitiously gathering ammunition, as people drained their bottles I was able one day to appear suitably attired.

Our groups, usually about twenty five people, were mainly English but there was a smattering of Canadians and Americans as well. I was fascinated to find out, when we had an informal quiz that the

British and Australian cultural heritage was not shared by the Canadians. For example, they had never heard of the books, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S.Lewis or John Buchan's *Thirty-nine Steps*.

I chatted to people about my hobbies and radio work came up. One of my fellow walkers was interested, mentioning that she worked for a firm that provided a reading service for those who needed documents read to them, for example, bank statements. I told her about our Jan who has a talking computer.

As I take a deep breath and approach the task of preparing for the next six months I request that anyone who would like a change in their regular commitments contact the office, and put in writing their wishes, so that we don't lose track. We also need more people for the programme 'From far and wide' as we have lost a few regulars leaving some gaps. Thank you to all those who take the trouble to find such interesting articles for the programme. It is one of the few instances where we ask people to provide their own material. 'Pause for Poetry' is another one. The programme 'Sunday Features' is going well and I need to know whether those on the roster are happy to continue and whether anyone else wishes to join in.

It has been about a year since we advertised for volunteers. The statistics are interesting. We have recorded the names of everyone who has contacted us and many people made initial enquiries, but did not follow up. We have seven very valuable volunteers who remain active from this effort out of thirty-one who approached us mainly by email. Every inquiry was answered with an invitation to visit.

*Margaret Gibbs*

## GIANT CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



There is a hamper in the volunteers' room and we hope it will be filled to over-flowing for our annual Christmas raffle which will be drawn at the Christmas party on Sunday 4th December.

Books of tickets (10 or 20) will shortly be available from either Mel or Philip and will sell for \$1 each or three for \$2 .

Don't miss the chance of winning one of THREE great prizes, and or, the top ticket-seller's prize.

PLEASE HELP US WITH THIS MAJOR FUNDRAISER

MEET AN RPH VOLUNTEER: PHIL TYSON'S PROFILE

Reading the newspaper at home one Saturday morning 16-year old Philip Tyson found an advertisement inviting applications for a position: 'turntable operator at commercial radio station'.

'This is the way into a radio career', he told his parents excitedly.

His father pointed to another advertisement on the same page: 'teacher trainees, two year course commencing May 1st'.

'There is your future son. Get into a profession first. You can think about radio later. You will always have your teaching to fall back on.'

Phil followed his father's advice, spending almost forty years in education, working in Department of Education schools and administration, the University of Tasmania and the Australian Army Educational corps. He loved it most of the time. He held positions of classroom teacher, vice-principal, housemaster, instructor, lecturer, ministerial adviser, manager and most recently as an assistant director.

He reached retirement without ever achieving his teenage dream to have a paid career in radio. However, thanks to community radio Phil has been able to write, produce and present for radio in a voluntary capacity for over thirty years.

RPH is one of two stations for which he is currently working. His contributions here are preparation and presentation of a breakfast programme, participation on the Committee of Management, writing and recording promotional material and occasional special projects like developing a documentary for the 25th birthday of the station, recording profiles of forty-four

volunteers and planning material for use in the recent Brisbane Street mall outside broadcast.

In between his radio commitments Phil helps his wife Pam care for their grandson, runs a small



audio-visual business, guides visitors around the Theatre Royal where he also manages small sub-stage rejuvenation projects, and presents music programmes on another radio station, walks the poodle, socialises with friends from education, media and other circles, and continues research for a book still a long way from completion.

Without doubt his favourite pastime is spending time with his family. 'Our lawyer daughter keeps me on track legally, her husband helps me keep abreast of twenty-first century technology, our son a statistician keeps tally of my misdemeanours and Pam determines the penalties', says Phil.

TRAPS TO TRIP YOU UP

As if the long sentences that *The Australian's* journalists love writing aren't tricky enough to navigate as you read aloud, it only needs a typo or appallingly awful hyphenation to bring the fearless reader down. Or how about a quirky website address? Peter Johnston has collected a few recent howlers from the Oz. Come back proofreaders, we need you!

**SID MAHER**

LEGISLATION establishing the carbon tax will enshrine Australia's international commitments to limit global warming to 2C and give the new Climate Change Authority discretion to set an overall limit by 2050 on greenhouse gas emissions. set

*The Australian* understands the legislation, to be introduced into

...over me, power over me, and it all went in my eyes.

"That was my biggest worry, otherwise I'm fine."

Besnard, from the Gold Coast, and competing at his 12th Bathurst 1000, was quick to praise the quick response of the marshals.

"They were great," he said.

"I thought here we go, a BBQ, but before I knew it, the flames

During the Galle Test, one fan put up a banner calling for Katch's reinstatement.

"The (bring back) Simon Katch" sign with its professional pictures, and faux "whatwere-theselectorsthinking.com.lk" web address upset somebody as Australian security asked the fellow to take it down.

**HUSSEY'S MIND CHALLENGE P42**