



PO BOX 977, BAULKHAM HILLS NSW 2147 P: 02 96863888 E: WWW.ALIVE905.COM.AU

NEWSLETTER: July 2021



#### **EDITORIAL**

Winter and Covid seem to go hand in hand. We're doing well keeping a friendly voice on the microphone and those who can't do their shows, I hope you are faring well. There have been a lot of changes with shows finishing up and new presenters coming on Board. For more detail read on.

Leonie

## NAME THIS NEWSLETTER COMPETITION!

Our current name for this newsletter is "Newsletter". I know we can do better.

Alive & Now? It is Alive!

Send in your ideas for the name of this newsletter. Winning idea gets Alive90.5 FM merchandise. Send your entry to mail@alive905.com.au.

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

To the Members,

Thank you for your continued support of the Association in these very difficult times.

Many family businesses are struggling in these very uncertain times, and we won't see the full effects of these shutdowns for many months. I am sure the uncertainty itself causes a lot of stress. If you need help, take a deep breath, and know that it will pass. Focus on what you can control. We will get through this together. If you or your family are struggling please reach out and we will help as best we can.

It is great to see during these times that Alive90.5 FM continues to attract high quality sponsors. This month we welcome;

- Blacktown Workers Club
- SE Timbers
- Hills Family Funeral (renewed)
- Cherrybrook Real Estate

Sponsors recognise that Alive90.5 FM offers the best value for advertisers to reach their audience in the Hills and Parramatta area. Advertising on Alive90.5 FM is about half the cost of a letter drop and below 10% of a Billboard.

Thank you to all the Members that have renewed, and a gentle reminder to the remaining Members that have not renewed — please renew asap. All renewals are online now, so if you have not received a link to renew, please send an email to mail@alive905.com.au.

Regarding Air Fees, there has been some discussion regarding the air fees. Our previous not-really-working system was unfair. Some people paid, some didn't. Air Fees are standard in Community Radio, and our air fees are low in comparison, SWR is \$22/hr.

Air fees also create an incentive to go and find sponsors.

There is one easy way to get rid of air fees – find a sponsor for \$100 K a year!

Stay safe during this lockdown, and if you have any questions or comments, please send an email to <a href="mail@alive905.com.au">mail@alive905.com.au</a>.

#### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**



Welcome to Lee Hannaford who is helping in the office. Lee Hannaford was a volunteer for Meals from the Heart, and also had a long time in Admin at Honeywell.

Lee is going to help us connect with Members, including calling members who have not renewed,

Lee has been getting familiar with our systems and the Renewal Process. She will target Presenters first. If you haven't renewed, Do it TODAY!



## FOR OUR MEMBERS

If you haven't already heard, Perkbox has arrived for **ALL** existing Business and General Members of Alive 90.5 FM.

Our members are so important to us and we wanted to find a way to thank and reward you for your loyalty. That's why we have given **ALL** General and Business members access to **Perkbox**.

Perkbox is a membership business that engagement platform that opens the door to hundreds of exclusive national **discounts** (and some **freebies**) to help you with your financial, mental and physical wellbeing (yay!!)

On or just after the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, you should have received a welcome email from Perkbox. A second email was sent on or around the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 to those that may have missed the first one. Both come from Perkbox directly.

So, check your junk mail as their emails can be caught in your spam filters, but please let us know if you haven't got it.

In that email all you need to do is:

**Activate** your Perkbox account by clicking the activation button on your welcome email

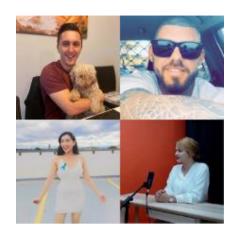
**Scan** the QR code (in the poster attached to this email) to download the Perkbox app (iOS and Android)

Redeem your free perks: DoorDash, Boxx, Magpie Check out where you can grab some great discounts Read the user guide to get you started (attached to this email)

If you need some help you can reach out to PERKBOX directly:



#### **NEW PRESENTERS**



#### PRESENTERS IN TRAINING

- Cameron Cortazzo (Top Left)
   Completed some training with
   Sunday Sports Roundup.
- 2. Karenza De Leon (Bottom Left)

Karenza has studies and will present with Andsley when possible

- 3. <u>Daniel Brett (Top Right)</u>
  Training with Andsley and Darryn
  New show soon.
- 4. Holly Shields (Bottom Right) Training with Darryn.

### PRESENTERS ON PROBATION

- 1. Hamish Sinclair (See below) New show – Nineteen Hundreds and Thousands. Wednesdays 10-12pm
- 2. <u>John Keating (Pic coming)</u> New Wednesday Drive Presenter

Please welcome these Presenters. When they are ready, the next steps are a probationary period under the guidance of a mentor from the Program Committee.

#### **NEW SHOW**

# NINETEEN HUNDREDS & THOUSANDS



Having done everything from rock bands, concert bands, mixing, stand-up and more, Hamish is bringing his pizzazz for the audio medium to Alive 90.5 FM.

Hamish's current show, tracking music from 1900 to now, seems obvious considering his teenage years spent rummaging through old records at school fetes and second- hand stores.

As an active member in the greater Parramatta community,

Hamish is keen to serve up stories and songs from every culture and age group.
When he is not on the air, Hamish spends time with his family in the great outdoors, or trying to tame a small piece of it in his garden.



### **MERCHANDISE SALE**

Get your Alive 905 FM branded merchandise now on sale at 50% off usual prices. - \$10 T-Shirt, \$6 – Cap, \$17.50 – Polo, \$5 – Thermo Cup - https://www.alive905.com.au/me mber-resources/merchandise/.

If you are not a member Join Now! for your chance to win free merchandise

- <a href="https://www.alive905.com.au/me">https://www.alive905.com.au/me</a> mber-resources/membershipsignup-renewal/.

Already a member? Then invite your friends to join Alive 90.5 FM and if you invite 2 friends you will go into the draw for an item of merchandise each month. Just make sure they enter your name in the 'Referred By' section of the sign-up form.

### HANGING UP HIS MIC

Tony Jenkins will be sorely missed by those who knew him. On behalf of the membership I'd like to thank him for his wonderful contributions over the years. I asked him to report about his experiences at Alive and he obliged with the following wonderful report.



Tony Jenkins

When I joined 2CCR-FM in 2006, David Bunt had just been elected Chairman. My objective at that time was to host a Big Band Jazz show called "Sounds Easy" and get on the music committee so that I had some input into our Station music. These two things occurred and a couple of years later I put my name forward to get on the Station Committee. I was

elected and volunteered to act as secretary. I did this for about three years. That position provided a certain amount of prominence at the station and allowed me to learn from David Bunt regarding what was needed to run the station. I ran for the Chairmanship position in 2010 and was duly elected.

Our old logo at the time Tony was elected



My time with the Station has been most interesting. I have met many dedicated people, some of whom are still involved with the station. Graham Johnson (hasn't missed a GM or AGM), Frank Dengate, best Music Committee chairman we've had, our recent Chair, Gillian Schrickker, long-time presenter, my lovely Secretary Leonie Dixon, and new Secretary, Julie Jordan, also a long-time presenter.

Two members that helped me enormously when I became Chair were Anthony Eden and Jeff (Jeffro Jefferson) Ruitenbach.

Anthony at about 16 years old was our IT guru. He single-handedly bought the station into the computer age. He put the station online and allowed presenters to play content directly through or from our new computers. Eventually it meant we no longer had to fade one analogue audio channel into another. We began to sound a lot more professional. Needless to say, there were (and probably still

#### YOUR SOUND YOUR COMMUNITY

are) some presenters who clung to the old ways. There are almost certainly turntables, CD players and minidisks still gracing our studios.

Jeffro was of the nicest people I've had the privilege of working with. He suffered from Cystic Fibrosis and had to be admitted to hospital once a year for a 'Grease & Oil". In my last Jeff



"Jeffro Jefferson" Ruitenbach

year of my Chairmanship, it caught up with him and he died quite suddenly. I seem to remember he was about 47 (could be wrong) but a lot older than the 30 years he had originally been told. He had been so helpful in running the station, and I missed him terribly.

I have had a remarkably interesting time with Alive 90.5. When I joined it was called 2CCR-FM, not the most exciting callsign. One of the things I was proud of was eventually winning the battle to change the name, and also our logo



The other highlight was the upgrade of Studio 1. We had talked about it for ages, and it was

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wonderful to complete it. Our other wish was the idea of turning the rear room into a recording and teaching studio. Oh well, one out of two ain't bad!!!



Tony with Alex Hawke – Federal MP for Mitchell

I am sad to be leaving the station, it gave me an opportunity to meet politicians, business leaders and a lot of really interesting folk.

After 30 years as a professional entertainer. I am very much against the principle of paying to (hopefully) entertain people. When I did my own show "Sounds Easy", I was sponsored, and it contained my choice of music. Music I knew and could talk about without having to rely on Google! Even though Frank has improved the listenability of our music considerably, I'm not prepared to pay to play it. Sorry guys, I still have principles (not many perhaps). I just become a bored turntable operator, without any incentive to talk about the music I grew up with. It isn't my music, and I can't provide any personal insight. I will miss Alive. I hope and trust that it continues to make its mark in this increasingly competitive world.

Thanks Tony and I am joining you leaving my Afternoon Show and taking on more office work.

Presenters might like to note, I will be available for casual fill ins if you are absent-Leonie

Business Insights will replace The Afternoon Show on Wednesdays 2-4pm

Thanks to Raygena Pringle who will no longer be presenting Sunday Grooving, but remains dedicated to her wonderful Tuesday show Rayg on the Radio

#### **NEW MEMBER**



Roshni Angelo

A welcome addition to Alive with lots of qualifications, is Roshni MaryAnn Angelo who is a software engineer experienced in Web designing, Digital marketing and WordPress websites. She also worked as an ICT Trainer for 3 years in Singapore. As a WordPress specialist, Roshni has managed a portfolio of WordPress pages, governed the general running & maintenance of the websites. Roshni is volunteering as a Website Content Editor for Alive FM and her main responsibility is to Maintain Content (posts) of Alive 90.5 FM Website.

#### **MUSIC**

Roger Brant and Frank Dengate have formed a working party to initially capture music from a few private sources that include Frank's daughter's collection. They are ready to take the next step to place selected tracks from the assortment into the Station Library as soon as the present round of discussions and

#### YOUR SOUND YOUR COMMUNITY

feedback are finalised by the Board. With music being such a personal choice, we are grateful to you both for making the hard decisions. The guys will be taking a break due to Covid but expect to resume input and discussions in coming weeks.

#### **FEEDBACK**

# OPEN LETTER OF APPRECIATION:

In many ways it seems that offering a special thanks, and a genuine appreciation, to willing and enthusiastic supporters is hardly enough. When coupled though with an acknowledgement of effort from the men and women so vital to our existence the opportunity is just far too good to miss. It is for all the obvious reasons very important to thank with "heart on sleeve" our major and minor sponsors alike and the many supporters who see the extraordinary value in what we do. Helping others is the great secret in what we do and the key ingredient to good-will and our existence when faced with adversity.

Yours in admiration

The Hills Mens Shed Committee.

Hi Kerima-Gae,

Greetings from the U.S. I've been listening off and on for several years after stumbling upon 2CCR looking for streaming radio online. I primarily listen to you and Graham Johnson's Early A.M. Attitude. Summer is the best time to listen to Jukebox Jive as I can listen to most of the program in the morning. Thanks for all you do. Larry

#### **WELFARE**

Good to see Stan back in his Saturday afternoon time slot after a stint in hospital with sepsis following an operation.

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE:

## 1. Broadcasting Legal Aspects for Presenters

The Legal Seminar presented by Graham Johnson was highly successful with a very informative presentation covering a wide range of legal issues that have relevance for radio presenters. Thanks Graham



Here is our latest group of legal eagles

# 2. Introduction to SPL software & Editing

The recent Zoom seminar on Station Playlist Broadcast Software prepared and presented by Darryn was very successful.

Some seminar topics will be more difficult to deliver online, though this option will need further consideration.

Once the current covid situation is clearer, we will have to reschedule the Advanced Audacity Course and set new dates for the following schedule of education events.

# Community Media Training Organisation (CMTO)

Due to the covid lockdown we have not been able to set a face to face meeting date with the CMTO.

In spite of Ross's range of education qualifications and experience, he will still need to do the two update modules of the Cert 4 TAA and due to COVID have not been able to book into training sessions that also now are on hold because of covid.

However, CMTO are interested in discussions on a partnership arrangement.



#### **TOWER OF POWER!**

For those of you who might have missed it;

- Council will be replacing our current 23 m tall radio mast with a 23 m tall mast in the carpark.
- We had the option to extend the height to 40 m as per our ACMA licence
- We studied the FM coverage for both proposed 23 m and 40 m towers, and the difference in coverage was negligible.
- Council will deliver the tower and the connection from the Station to the Tower.
- During the changeover, a mobile tower will be in place.

Update from the Council on the Tower replacement;

The Project Manager has requested additional funds due to the Tower quotations being over budget. Heritage have requested a like for like tower therefore it will be the same as existing.

Once this project is approved by the council team the structural consultant will provide drawings for approval.

In the next couple of weeks the Engineering Department will be meeting to discuss the budget issues, in order to proceed further.

Council will contact the Station once the meeting outcome next steps have been confirmed. This will extend to the time to deliver the Tower into early 2022.

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

A big welcome to Noel Dona, Michelle O'Shea, Keira-Jane Rizk, Eva Mosna, Merven Virueda, Neville Fortune, Roshni Angelo, Holly Shields Harrison Green, Naresh Bishnoi, Craig Lyons. Lovely to have you on board with the Alive family.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

As we all know, the end of the financial year means renewing memberships. It's always a difficult time for numbers and that's especially true for this year given last year's membership was free. It's a bit shocking to report that, including our new members, just 100 have paid, leaving 178 who haven't yet renewed.

### **OUTSIDE BROADCAST**



Alive90.5 FM team at Ronald McDonal House

The Alive 90.5FM team successfully delivered an outside broadcast and charity cook at Ronald McDonald House Greater Western Sydney in Westmead on Monday May 31, 2021. The 12 station members who participated in the cook were provided a Q&A and tour of the

house before cooking commenced.

The cook was 'American' themed which included southern fried chicken wings, buffalo wings, stuffed potatoes, and Gumbo. The outside broadcast content was diverse and included interviews with the head chef from the Meals from the Heart program, first-time participants in Meals from the Heart, Parramatta Leagues Club board members and a Ronald McDonald House Family.

Parramatta Leagues Club were very grateful for allowing them to volunteer with us that I have booked a meeting with their communications lead and Darryn Capes-Davis to discuss grant opportunities.

The ideas put forward will be the walk around Parramatta and the local female sports volunteer award.

A big thank you to Darryn Capes-Davis for organising the technical side of the outside broadcast but also Tiz Porreca, Andsley Dennis, Dave McDonald, Mitchell Farrugia, Cameron Cortazzo, Lee Hannaford, Julie Jordan, Richard Foda, Sue Coleman, Jim Taggart, and Noel Dona for participating on the night.

This concluded the Alive 90.5FM sports team execution of the My Local Sports Bag which brought in a \$5000 grant to the station, \$1000 dollars of that was donated on our behalf to the Ronald McDonald House



#### **OUR HISTORY**

Bing Kinsey chaired the first formal meeting which was held in October 1983. Among the 20 who attended was Peter Herlinger who would later serve on Holroyd Council for Labor, Mike Smith the first Honorary Secretary an AWU union organiser. Trevor Easlea (unfortunately passed away from cancer a few years ago) and Peter Worthington an AWA engineer the first technical bods who both stayed involved nearly right up to the licence hearing and who built from scratch the groups broadcasting rigs. Many of the others at that first meeting stayed involved serving on the committee at various stages.

At that time, it was thought it wouldn't be long before the station would be on air. Little did those people know it would be ten years that the then Department of Communications would cite "bandwidth restrictions" over and over again to delay the licensing of the second wave of community stations in Sydney.

A second group Parramatta Regional Radio came into existence about six months after CCR run by a couple of older guys whose names escape me. They operated more like a group wanting to establish a commercial station out of the second floor above a shopping mall in Parramatta and this eventually caused trouble with their younger members who wanted a more community oriented and democratic group. This young group formed Radio West formed shortly after.

More next Newsletter

**DATES TO REMEMBER** 

AGM- Wed 26th August

## **Our Partners**

Here are some of our partners that we would love you to support the way they support us











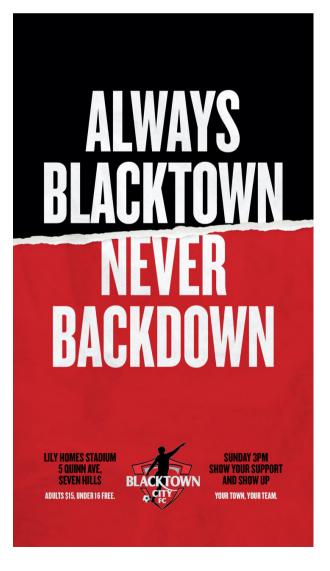


























Hills to Hawkesbury Community News

