

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

It seems to have been a long, cold winter. In the world of this radio station the vagaries of the weather played havoc with the electricity supply to our Mt Wandera transmitter site, seeing us off the air for a day or so, damaging our major transmitter. Twelve months ago we secured a backup, but lower powered, transmitter and we have been relying on it for the last month or so. We are in the throes of sourcing a new, dare I say it, 'state of the art' 500 watt transmitter for our main transmission site.

It seemed to be only days after the Mt Wandera difficulties when our Narooma translator 102.9 FM decided it would go out in sympathy. All of a sudden we had two of the three transmitters we own, out of order! Our technical team got us back on air in Narooma on the first day of Spring with a temporary fix. New equipment is expected within two to three weeks and, once installed, will bring that area back up to 'speed'.

Prior to our transmitter drama, our technician Nic Schirmer had been working diligently to bring our Studio B up to broadcast standard and Saturday afternoons Kimberly Tickner commenced broadcasting from Studio B on 18 June 2011. Some of our Presenters didn't flinch, others have found it uncomfortable or difficult. Perhaps we should have waited until Summer to commission a South-facing studio. Nonetheless, the studio has worked, and whilst difficult for some Presenters, our broadcast quality has remained good and listeners have not been affected. The move to Studio B has allowed Studio A to be given a complete overhaul, and has ensured that we will have two good operational studios.

New equipment, funded from the 2010 Radiothon, continues to arrive and be installed. New Presenters are in training and they will be taking to the airwaves over the next three to four weeks. I'm sure they will be welcomed. In the meantime, stay tuned!

OUR NEW DRIVEWAY

The photo shows Steve and Ted from the Eurobodalla Shire Council (ESC) hard at work putting in the apron, drainage and guttering at our Rose Street Studio and offices.

Kerb and guttering at Rose Street has been a long time coming. In fact it dates back to a letter that was sent from the Shire Council 20 years ago, agreeing to do at no charge the work that they've just completed, but on the condition that we would upgrade drainage and re-surface our driveway.



After some initial reticence from the Shire, we are very pleased, that with the personal support of Mayor Fergus Thomson, the work has now been carried out. We have also completed our part of the deal, by engaging local station supporter Steve Ziegler (SJ & M Zeigler Excavations) to re-dig the road and car park drainage, level the area, re-surface and roll the drive and parking bay.



The drainage is now much improved and should prevent formation of rivulets causing driveway washout during heavy rain.

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the 2EAR FM newsletter. My, how time has flown! Lots of things have been happening at your Community radio station and you will read it all here!

As you can see, 2EAR FM is a hive of activity with lots going on.

We are ever grateful to our listeners, members and sponsors. Without you we would not be able to broadcast this wonderful station.

Remember, 2EAR FM is YOUR radio station and we would love to receive any comments, suggestions or constructive criticisms. Also, suggestions as to what you would like included in the newsletter.

We are here to serve you so please feel free to contact us at any time. Our contact details are at the top of this newsletter. – *Gina McFarlane*

2011/2012 MEMBERSHIP

The deadline for 2011/2012 Renewed Membership of 2EAR FM has come and gone (01 September) so if you have not renewed your membership then this is the last Newsletter you will receive and if you have renewed or are a new member we thank you for your support of the Eurobodalla Shires only community radio station which functions purely on membership, donations and sponsorship and with no support from any government agency.

Membership Categories are:

Single \$25; Family \$40;

Community Organisation \$50; Business \$100.

EAR INC. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at the CWA Hall in Queen Street Moruya on 26 November 2011 at 2:30pm. We will be asking for nominations for (MC) Committee positions from 1st October and we'd like our members to consider the skills they could bring to this volunteer organisation, a necessity in our community and a source of entertainment, information and encouragement. Nominations must be in to the Returning Officer by 24 October. Start writing a small profile on yourself so we can submit it with your nomination form which will be coming your way very shortly.

'TEXAS' DAVE MCGARRY HANGS UP HEADPHONES AFTER 25 YEARS

'Texas' Dave McGarry - a veteran of 25 years in local community radio - has retired after presenting a regular radio programme on Eurobodalla Community Radio station 2EAR FM. 'Texas' Dave's recently announced his retirement from radio 'for personal reasons'. His Wednesday night radio programme had a loyal

following over the years, bringing entertainment and nostalgia to the Listener. More recently Dave was also on air on Monday nights. Dave is pleased that Bob James - the new host of Monday nights on 2EAR FM - is carrying on his music tradition.



Photo shows Tony Groube, President of 2EAR FM (left) presenting 'Texas' Dave (right) with a Certificate of Appreciation from 2EAR FM for his achievement of 25 years service to the local community and in acknowledgement of his achieving 'Legend' status.

NEW PRESENTER PROFILE: BOB JAMES (Monday 6PM till 8PM)



Q1: Which music album would you take with you to a deserted island?

Difficult, but maybe the Duanne Allman Anthology Volume 1, it was a double and Duanne was such a great session player that a stack of great artists appear on the disk, people like Aretha Franklin, Boz Scaggs, Eric Clapton.

Q2: What is/ was the most thrilling/

terrifying/ challenging/ enjoyable time in your life?

When we decided to take a chance and work overseas, our children were grown, and we decided to head off for two years, we returned almost seven and a half years later, I worked mainly in the UK 3 years and then the USA for 4 years.

Q3: How or why did you get into radio?

I've always loved music, and have always had the urge to have a go, my inspiration was an ABC show that was on many years ago, prior to 2JJ, Room to Move, with Chris Winter.

Q4: What is your favourite food?

Hot and spicy, love dat chilli.

Q5: When you were a child, what did you want to be?

Probably a Rugby League star, but I don't really remember, and yeh I was a Balmain boy.

Q6: What is your hobby/pastime other than radio?

I enjoy reading, the movies and am involved with the Batemans Bay Bushwalkers.

Q7: What was your first job/employment?

It was with the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission, I don't remember which department I was in, but the offices were located in the Rocks, and I sure remember the pubs fondly.

Q8: What is one of your greatest achievements?

Raising two great kids, both done a whole lot better than me, what more can a parent ask for.

Q9: What's your favourite part of Australia other than the Eurobodalla?

Still Sydney, but couldn't live there permanently anymore.

Q10: Where did you spend your childhood?

Sydney, at Ryde, it was a whole lot quieter then.

Q11: What's your favourite film?

Chinatown, any movie where the hero spends half the movie with his nose bandaged, has to be something special.

Q12: What's the TV programme you would avoid watching at all costs?

Any of the current so called talent shows, including dancing.

OUTGOING MC MEMBER

SUE MITCHELL

I was elected onto the Management Committee (MC) of EAR Inc. in March 2009 and have now served as Secretary of EAR Inc. for three terms of office. It is with regret that, due to the Station's

policy that members cannot stand for election after completing three terms in office, I must stand down as a member of the MC. In the absence of a designated 'General Manager' for the radio station, it has been necessary for the station's MC to assume most of those duties that would normally be carried out by a General Manager (GM). These duties go well beyond the normal range of duties expected of the members of the MC of an Incorporated Association.

However, my background as the GM of a radio station in Canberra and my formal training in Community Radio equipped me well for this role. I'm grateful that throughout the past three years, my husband Alan (who has a similar radio background and radio training) has supported me in carrying out my duties.



During my period on the MC I have sought to build a positive Vision for 2EAR FM which engages other station volunteers who have a similar Vision.

If the new MC chooses to give me the opportunity I look forward, with Alan's support to continue to share skills and train up other volunteers to achieve their potential. Our Annual General meeting (AGM) is scheduled for 26 November 11, and the MC is looking for members to nominate for the new MC. We really would like members who have a selfless attitude, who have a heart for this community radio station and a desire to share, encourage and entertain the radio Listener to consider nominating for the MC. Perhaps some members will nominate who have not even thought about this before.

Looking back over the past three years, I have enjoyed the challenges of being on the MC and I've probably grown stronger from facing what seemed at times insurmountable problems. Many issues could not have been resolved without teamwork and cooperation of fellow MC members.

If you would like the best for this radio station and if you can bring a positive approach and work with a committed team, then please consider a position on the MC, I'm sure you will find it as rewarding as I have. - Sue Mitchell

PRESENTER PROFILE: PAUL ISRAEL 'MONDAY/THURSDAY BRECKIE'



Q1: Which music album would you take with you to a deserted island?
The Great Military Bands.

Q2: What is/ was the most thrilling/ terrifying/ challenging/ enjoyable time in your life?

Skiing down the "Olympic" Black graded run at Perisher Valley. It was well above my grading at the time. Our instructor "conned" us into it, saying "When we got up there we didn't have to tackle it if we didn't want to". What she - yes she - forgot to tell us it was the only way down. A vertical "drop off" then giant size moguls, how I ever made it I will never know. Half way down I didn't think I was going to live to tell about it. Any way I made it!!!!

Q3: How or why did you get into radio?
I actually started off by being interviewed by David Wise in a slot called *Veteran Voices*. He was looking for potential interviewers to take over the slot and I agreed to give it a go. Then David needed somebody to take over his Jazz slot, when he travelled overseas, Tony Groube took over the slot and asked me if I would like to do it with him, That's how I got "hooked" so to speak. I have never looked back since and love every minute of being on radio.

Q4: What is your favourite food?
A Lamb Roast Dinner or Traditional Italian.

Q5: When you were a child, what did you want to be?
I had Three passions: 1. Soldier, 2. Policeman, 3. Locomotive Driver.

Q6: What is your hobby/pastime other than radio?
Golf and non-fiction reading.

Q7: What was your first job/employment?
Junior Assistant (Public Service) in the Dept of Navy at HMAS LONSDALE, Port Melbourne.

Q8: What is one of your greatest achievements?

You might think this is a strange answer, but when my first listener rang me, when I first went solo on the morning show, and told me how much they enjoyed my show, I also had my critics, but that one listener really gave me a real sense of achievement, I had never really felt before.

Q9: What's your favourite part of Australia other than the Eurobodalla?
Melbourne.

Q10: Where did you spend your childhood?
Frankston and Albert Park in Melbourne.

Q11: What's your favourite film?
Now that's a hard one but if I have to make a choice "Dances with Wolves".

Q12: What's the TV programme you would avoid watching at all costs?
Pick any show on mainstream 7,9,10 except the Football, and I will avoid watching it at all costs.

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SOME DAFFY-NITIONS

ARACHNOLEPTIC: the frantic dance performed just after you've accidentally walked through a spider's web.

BALDERDASH: a rapidly receding hairline.

COFFEE: the person on whom one coughs.

FLABBERGASTED: appalled over how much weight you have gained.

FLATULENCE: emergency vehicle that picks you up after you are run over by a steamroller.

NEGLIGENT: describes a condition in which you absent-mindedly answer the door in your nightgown.

SARCHASM: the gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.



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IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

- **24 September** Presenters' Meeting:
3pm at Rose Street Moruya;
- **15 October** General Meeting for all:
3pm at Rose Street Moruya;
- **26 November** Annual General Meeting:
2:30pm at CWA Hall Moruya;
- **10 December** Members' and Listeners'
Christmas Party: 1pm at Rose Street Moruya.

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