



Macarthur Community Radio Association Incorporated

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UPDATE – February 2017

President's Report

Welcome members to your 1st Edition of Update for 2017. In this February edition I firstly report, VP Laura Bradshaw has chosen to step down from the Management Committee (MCom) for her own reasons which I will leave her to relay those to you members. I Would like to thank Laura B for all that she has done and continues to do for our Group.

The VP position will be filled from within MCom ranks by former President Gordon Manning. With this move we create a casual vacancy which will be filled by Isileli Tiutavuki who for many years has assisted the Treasurer with the CBF grant funding for our Ethnic programmers. Issi as he is fondly known to everyone recently completed the Reports which secured funding from previous rounds to the current round ending 30th June 2017. Issi is assisted by his son James and our Thanks go to him also. I am sure you will join me in welcoming these gentleman into their new roles on your MCom, until the AGM in September 2017.

This year like last year is going to be one of many changes. Some will be easy and others harder to execute. Our group will be supporting and promoting TechnoRama 17. For details on this Event, click the link on our Web site.

TechnoRama 17 will be held at the CRSL Club 17-18th June this year.

MCom is working on securing our Digital Future, becoming the 1st Digital Radio station in Macarthur along with securing long term digital studio facilities in

Macarthur, as I outlined in my December Report to members. Our existing location has been well advertised regarding what CRSL will become in future years.

In having aspirations and achievable goals are our aims from your MCom by the time you read this report we will have met with AVC, whom supply Axia Studio console's and equipment. We will communicate any outcomes at a later date. Exploring ALL options of a Digital transition and implementation Plan. Doing these upgrades gives opportunities for flowing into a Digital Radio trial hopefully this year.

I Would also like to Congratulate Jane Kellaway being Awarded in Tamworth recently with "**People's choice Most popular Country music DJ**". It's the 3rd year in a row now for Jane. This reflects well on our Group and Jane individually, producing entertaining and refreshing radio both locally and nationally with GMC on CRN. **Well Done Jane KellawayApplause!**

I, along with others on MCom are looking to build community engagements in Macarthur. I will have more on this hopefully when we meet end of this month. Please do come along and get involved.

I have asked the Editor to include the original letters from the ACMA regarding our licence renewal application and remind you all that we have a long way to go still. This should not be forgotten and is something that all members should reflect on.

Rodney Simpson – President 100.3fm

Dates to put in your Calendar

General Meetings for all members

7.30PM @ Cabra Vale Diggers, Campbelltown RSL Club. Supper with Sandwiches, Coffee & Tea Supplied from 7pm.

Monday 27th February 2017
Monday 29th May 2017
Monday 28th August 2017
Monday 27th November 2017

Annual General Meeting Dates 2017/18

Monday 25th September 2017	Monday 24th September 2018
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Monthly Committee of Management Meeting Dates, time 7.30pm

Monday 6th March 2017	Monday 4th September 2017
Monday 3rd April 2017	Monday 2nd October 2017
Monday 1st May 2017	Monday 6th November 2017
Monday 5th June 2017	Monday 4th December 2017
Monday 3rd July 2017	Monday 15th January 2018
Monday 7th August 2017	

The above dates and times are subject to change.

Programming Report

I would like to encourage everyone to please take a little time to listen to 100.3 one afternoon in February. We are trialling an afternoon Current Affairs program called **The Wire**.

It goes to air at 6:35pm and runs till 7pm Mon to Fri after having first been aired on the Community Radio Network (CRN) 1 hour previously. There is now automatic code which runs each week night to download the file and place in the correct directory as per the run sheets.

It would be good to get some feedback on the program at the general meeting next Monday. The program generally has 4 to 5 stories each night and aims to have at least one item relating to Indigenous Affairs.

As this is an area we are sadly lacking, the addition of this program not only gives an alternative current affairs perspective but helps to diversify our already broad content.

Please let me or a committee member know your opinion on this programme.

Thanks, Michael Hayes

Early Australian Radio Timeline

1926:

- The British Government nationalises radio by buying out the British Broadcasting Company and forming the British Broadcasting Corporation. The Australian Government held a Royal Commission into Wireless but didn't immediately follow the British lead. It did encourage the "A" class stations to amalgamate in order to maximise efficiencies and maintain standards.

1927:

- AWA conducts a series of transmissions to Britain. These regular broadcasts were heralded by a kookaburra's laugh - a practice that's still used by Radio Australia today, nicknamed "Jacko".
- 3DB Melbourne commences broadcasting

1929:

- 2BE closes due to financial collapse. (The first "B" class station on air was 2BE in November 1924)
- The Government nationalises the transmission facilities and contracts the provision of programming to the Australian Broadcasting Company (now Australian Broadcasting Corporation), a consortium of entertainment interests.

1930-1939

1932:

- The Australian Broadcasting Company is nationalised by the Australian Broadcasting Commission Act (1932). This finalised the two-tier system with the national broadcaster, the newly created Australian Broadcasting Commission, having 12 stations, and the commercial sector, with 43 stations. The ABC was funded by listeners' licence fees until the 1970s, when Federal Government appropriation became the primary source of funding. Initial plans to permit advertising on the ABC were dropped from the final bill presented to the parliament.
- On 29 June 1932, 2WG in Wagga Wagga, New South Wales goes on the air on a purpose built 2000 watt transmitter.
- At 8.00pm on 1 July 1932, the Prime Minister, Joseph Lyons, inaugurates the ABC. It then controlled 12 stations – 2FC and 2BL in Sydney, 3AR and 3LO in Melbourne, 4QG in Brisbane, 5CL in Adelaide, 6WF in Perth, 7ZL in Hobart and the relay stations 2NC in Newcastle, New South Wales, 2CO at Corowa, New South Wales, 4RK in Rockhampton, Queensland and 5CK at Crystal Brook, South Australia.

1935:

- The Sydney studios of the ABC installs a disc recorder, enabling the recording of programs to occur for the first time.
- Many Australian radio stations change frequencies on 1 Sep 1935 to accord Australian 10 kHz frequency raster
- 1936: In March, the Bass Strait cable links Tasmania to mainland Australia and permits the ABC to relay national broadcasts to Hobart for the first time.

1939:

- Radio Australia was formally incorporated as part of the ABC.

1940-1949

1945:

- Hector Crawford Productions, later called Crawford Productions, was founded by Hector Crawford and his sister Dorothy Crawford. They would also run the Crawford School of Broadcasting, which taught radio actors such as Noel Ferrier skills for a radio broadcasting career. Crawford Productions as one of the few companies that successfully made a transition from radio to television.

1948:

- Experimental FM broadcasts commence
 - The regulatory body, the Australian Broadcasting Control Board, is created
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Renewal Letter and Conditions from ACMA (3 pages)



Australian
Communications
and Media Authority

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www.acma.gov.au

ACMA File Ref: 2013/567 and 2015/423

19 January, 2016

Mr Al Parker
President
Macarthur Community Radio Association Inc
PO Box 1420
CAMPBELLTOWN NSW 2560

Dear Mr Parker

Renewal of community broadcasting service licence 1150150

I refer to Macarthur Community Radio Association Inc.'s (2MCR) application for renewal of community broadcasting service licence no. 1150150 in the Campbelltown RA1 licence area, NSW.

On 19 January, the Australian Communications and Media Authority (the ACMA) decided to renew the said licence for a period of five years from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2021. Enclosed is the new broadcasting service licence certificate.

2MCR's apparatus licence will also need to be renewed. The ACMA will shortly issue a renewal notice prior to the expiry date of the current apparatus licence. If you do not receive an apparatus licence renewal notice by 1 February 2016, please contact the ACMA's Customer Service Centre on 1300 850 115.

While the ACMA has decided to renew the licence, the assessment of the renewal application and additional information raised a number of issues against various matters under section 84(2) of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* (the BSA). These matters are set out below and will require action by 2MCR.

Extent to which the service is meeting the existing and perceived future needs of the community within the licence area (paragraph 84(2)(a))

To meet the needs of the community in a licence area, a licensee must be responsive to its community. It should identify and monitor community needs, encourage members of the community to provide feedback about programming and respond by implementing appropriate programming changes. A community broadcasting licensee is obliged to encourage community participation in the operations of the service and in the selection and provision of its programs.

It is noted that the Campbelltown RA1 licence area has a population of more than 230,000 people, with close to 30% of the population in the 15-34 age group and a similar percentage in the 35-54 age group. Additionally, close to 75% of the licence area population identify as Christian and about a quarter of the population speak a language other than English.

In terms of its 67 members, 2MCR's figure is well below the national average of 170 members for a community broadcasting service in a suburban licence area. It also represents a significant decrease (34%) in membership since the licence was last renewed (down from 102 members). 2MCR needs to increase the number of members over the next licence period, given the size of the licence area population. Additionally, it would be reasonable to expect 2MCR's membership to include students and youth, given the size of this section of the licence area population and as a licensee representing the general community interest in the licence area.

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communicating | facilitating | regulating

In terms of its programming, there appears to be an emphasis on country music and there is limited content directed at the youth sector in the licence area. This may be due, in part, to members of the community not being more broadly involved in the selection of programming. 2MCR has indicated that it has a 'Programmer Committee Member'. However, it is unclear whether this is a member of the Executive Committee, who has programming duties such as the selection of programs and deciding on the program schedule, or a Program Committee comprising several members who are not members of the Executive Committee.

In terms of monitoring community needs, 2MCR has indicated that it conducts surveys. However, it is noted that these were done some 2.5 years ago and over a series of outside broadcasts. While it is understood that a web survey is underway, this would cover only some sections of the licence area population. It would have been preferable if 2MCR was able to provide information to demonstrate that it had implemented a range of measures to ensure that it was monitoring community needs to the broadest extent possible, given its representation of the general community interest.

In light of the foregoing, 2MCR is required to take the following actions:

1. Develop and implement a Community Consultation Strategy (CCS) and Structured Engagement Program (SEP) to cover the next licence period from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2021. Given the delays in submitting its renewal application and the additional information requested, 2MCR should provide a draft of the CCS and SEP to the ACMA by **2 May 2016** to enable ACMA consideration of the documents and 2MCR finalisation of the CCS and SEP by **1 July 2016**. Samples of the CCS and SEP are attached to assist 2MCR in developing these documents.

Capacity to provide the service (paragraph 84(2)(d))

A community broadcasting licensee's capacity to provide a service includes its management, financial, technical and compliance capacity.

Management capacity

Lateness of application

Given the lateness of 2MCR's renewal application, much of which was incomplete, it was necessary to seek additional information, which was inadequate to enable proper consideration, with the most recent information received as late as 8 January 2016, some 2.5 months before the expiry date of the licence.

This is unsatisfactory, especially as licensees have indicated that they wish to have certainty about the status of their licence as early as possible after they submit their applications some 12 months before the expiry date of their licences. Late and incomplete applications and deficient information provided by some licensees prevent the ACMA from doing this.

2. To demonstrate that it has the management capacity to continue to provide the service, 2MCR should provide its next licence renewal application by **31 March 2020** at the latest.

Constitution

2MCR's current constitution:

- does not make it clear that written notice of rejection of an application for membership should include reasons and
- does not include provisions for an applicant whose application for membership has been rejected to have a right of reply and ability to appeal the decision.

The ACMA expects community broadcasting licensees to be open, accessible and transparent, as it assists them to meet their licence conditions under the BSA. Provisions in a licensee's constitution which specify the grounds on which a membership application may be rejected, require reasons for

rejection of membership applications to be provided, and provide appeal rights and right of reply for rejected applications, assist a licensee to meet their licence obligations.

3. 2MCR should provide the ACMA with a draft copy of the amendments to its constitution by **2 May 2016**, with a view to providing a final copy to the ACMA by **1 July 2016**, together with a copy of the minutes of the meeting at which the proposed amendments are adopted.

You may be aware that the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia has developed a constitution template to provide guidance to the community broadcasting sector. The template assists in the drafting of constitutions and rules of association that are consistent with the requirements of community broadcasting licensees under the BSA. 2MCR may wish to refer to the attached template in reviewing its current constitution.

AGMs

While 2MCR provided minutes of its annual general meetings (AGM), it is noted that the minutes did not contain some details, such as the number of members who attended. This is important to ensure that there was a quorum and so that 2MCR is able to demonstrate active participation by members in the operations of the service through their involvement in decision-making.

4. 2MCR is asked to include the number of members attending each AGM or special general meeting so that such details are available in the minutes provided with the next application for renewal of the licence.

Financial capacity

To enable the ACMA to assess a licensee's capacity to continue to provide a service, information required of a licensee include a five-year business plan and a five-year budget (a community broadcasting licence is renewed for a five-year licence period). While 2MCR provided copies of these documents, they were not adequately scoped.

5. 2MCR should complete the five-year business plan and five-year budget to cover the licence period from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2021 and provide copies to the ACMA by **2 May 2016**.

Compliance capacity

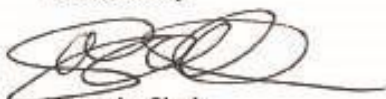
Community broadcasting licensees are required to have appropriate corporate governance policies and procedures, as set out in the *Community Radio Broadcasting Codes of Practice 2008* (the Codes): programming; membership; internal conflict; complaints handling; community participation; volunteering; and sponsorship.

6. 2MCR has not provided copies of any of the policies required by the Codes. If 2MCR has these policies, copies should be provided to the ACMA as soon as possible. If 2MCR does not have these policies, they should be developed and copies provided to the ACMA, including copies of minutes of meetings at which they were adopted, by **1 July 2016**.

Please be aware that failure to address the issues set out in this letter may have an adverse effect on 2MCR, particularly in the event the ACMA receives a complaint which relates to these issues and/or if the same issues arise when the ACMA assesses 2MCR's next licence renewal application.

I can be contacted on (02) 9334 7927 or via email at communitybroadcasting@acma.gov.au if you have any questions about these matters.

Yours sincerely



Alexandra Slack
Community Broadcasting and Safeguards Section

Encl. Service Licence Certificate

Your Committee of Management Office Bearers.	
President president@2mcr.org.au Rodney Simpson – 0438 452 305	Vice President vicepres@2mcr.org.au Gordon Manning – 0412 996 915
Treasurer treasurer@2mcr.org.au Robyn Manning – 0402 217 570	Secretary secretary@2mcr.org.au Promotion & Marketing marketing@2mcr.org.au Remington Ball – 0447 452 171
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Off Committee Representatives	
Office Services Trevar Langlands feedback@2mcr.org.au	Production Services Andy Bunce and TJ Miller Copy Production Services John Kemp.
Resolution Services Britton Morrison.	Online Services & Group Publications. Glenn Longbottom. online@2mcr.org.au
These Members contribute additional hours in Community Service at No Charge to You. We appreciate them and do please give thanks whenever you can.	

Pictured below is one of the new racks, which will house CD players and Recorder along with the MiniDisc unit.



All of the people at 100.3FM congratulate Jane Kellaway for her award again this year!

Australian Country Music Awards



Jane Kellaway !
2017 People's Choice Award for Most Popular DJ