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**NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2020**

**CHAIRPERSON'S DESK:-**

Greetings members and welcome to our spring newsletter.

Firstly, for those who may not know, in early September long time member Ellen Beard passed away at home. Ellen joined KCR in 2002 and soon became a member of the committee. Over the years she served as secretary and treasurer.

We are grateful for the work she put in over the years.

When COVID 19 hit, instead of closing down like some of the other Community Radio stations KCR ramped up its operations by working on the "Open For Business" campaign. For this we canvassed local businesses that were still trading and provided free advertising. We ran advertising for some 40 local traders right through until COVID restrictions were relaxed.

Another project completed by KCR was the production and broadcast of this years' Anzac Day Service in conjunction with the Kalamunda Subbranch of the RSL. This entailed recording the service and the bugle work was performed by the City of Kalamunda's Mayor, Margaret Thomas. We edited the service with the addition of a poem and appropriate music, creating a 50-minute service. This was very well received by the public and delivered us our highest listener levels on internet streaming.

A number of weeks ago, the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia launched their awards nominations for "Best Special Events" programs. KCR have taken part in this event (read further into the newsletter).

During this time of COVID some members self-isolated but most presenters kept their " On Air " commitments going, for doing so I thank you all. Since COVID started we have had a surprising increase in membership requests, just about every week we are having new people join, thank you to the newbies, I hope you find your stay with KCR rewarding.

A few months ago, KCR suffered a lightning strike at the transmitter site; as a result, we had the transmitter fail. We were able to secure grant funding for a replacement unit but had to wait for it to be manufactured in Victoria (we chose to support Aussie industry); also the Exciter had to go east for repairs as well. We now have a reliable transmission system.

The Bunnings Sausage Sizzle fundraiser date is yet to be advised; dates were changed due to COVID.

Thank you for supporting our great little radio station.

Harry Nijssen - Chairman

**WELCOME TO KCR 102.5FM AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2020**

**AS YOU ARE ALL AWARE, 2020 IS THE MOST CHALLENGING YEAR OF ALL TIMES SINCE THE CONCEPTION OF KCR 102.5FM**

**THE CORONAVIRUS HAS CAUSED HAVOC WORLDWIDE AND THE PLANET IS FAR FROM BEING OUT OF THE WOODS.**

**A GENTLE REMINDER TO ALL, TO BE AS VIGILANT AS YOU POSSIBLY CAN, BY CONSTANT HYGIENE PRACTICES, SO WE CAN KEEP THE STATION AND MOST OF ALL PRESENTERS, THEIR FAMILIES AND ANY VISITORS FREE FROM INFECTION.**

**PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO CATCH UP ON WHAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE THE ONSET OF 2020.**



*KARL BEYER*

## FROM THE TECH. DESK:-

It has been busy few months since the AGM by Email and then COM sessions via Zoom and then as things heated up COVID-wise because of my age I backed out of active service @ KCR for a few weeks until COVID in WA reduced to low levels. Did not wish to pick any nasties up and bring home to a couple of family members who both have compromised immune systems.

However, before I backed out KCR had some excitement at the transmitter with the main unit failing most likely caused by the series of mains bumps during the recent periods of those earlier thunderstorms. The maker (SRK in Melbourne) was closed until Mid-April and once they re-opened enquiries were made re having the units repaired. Sadly the power amplifier was not repairable due to its age (18 years) as most components used are no longer available so a decision was made to purchase a replacement at a cost of \$5000 and the Treasurer (Graham) and Secretary (Roger) were able to secure a grant from CBF to cover that cost. COVID restrictions in Melbourne wreaked havoc with the maker and the replacement was manufactured and managed to get out of Victoria just days prior to the current lockdown. It has now arrived in WA and is now installed and working well.

Luckily for KCR the smaller Standby transmitter which is even older than the main unit came up on line with no issues and has been keeping KCR on air since March...albeit at a slightly reduced power level which has affected our normal signal coverage in many places going by the reports that have come in.

Whilst isolating at home research continued into examining the potential to use the 4G system as a superior method of providing the critical Internet at the Studio. A 4G modem/router was purchased to evaluate the potential of using the 4G system. As many are aware mobile coverage at the studio is very marginal and the only place in the studio that provided a stable 4G signal was near the sink in the common room/Studio3...Not a good location at all. The only answer to that was to provide an external antenna up on the roof which was purchased and installed by Harry and even though it improved the performance it was still marginal on the upload path which is critical to getting the KCR studio audio into the Internet and up to the transmitter site.

To make the best possible use of the modem/router capability a second identical antenna was required and duly installed again by Harry and now the Internet service at the studio has improved by a factor of 4. The upload speed has gone from the miserable 0.4Mbps to just under 2Mbps and the Download has gone from 5Mbps to 18Mbps and the path is very stable I.E. NO Dropouts like used to frequently happen.

On Tuesday August 18<sup>th</sup> the Studio-Transmitter link was moved to the 4G equipment and is being monitored for quality and to date it is performing flawlessly which is a huge relief as iiNet recently advised KCR that as of August 31<sup>st</sup> iiNet was terminating the existing ADSL service which KCR has had at Ledger Road studio since re-locating to there about 6 years ago. As the phone service (92930548) was also to be disconnected the phone has been migrated to VOIP via the 4G modem/router. Both phone and internet are now running on 4G at the Station end and this seems to have settled down well after a few minor hiccups.

If and when NBN does finally become available at Ledger Road the purchased modem/router is NBN ready and to connect it's only a matter of plugging in the line and doing some minor configurations to have it online via the NBN system and the 4G path can be terminated.

**MILESTONE:-**



*Country Comfort  
Herb & Merle*

*After two decades presenting the best of country music to their dedicated listeners, time has come for them to tether horse and hang up the saddle and reigns and enjoy Saturdays at home, as their country music continues to surf the airwaves*

*on KCR 102.5 FM.*

*“Country Comfort” lives on for all to enjoy.*

*By Karl Beyer*

**MILESTONE:-**



*With A Song in My Heart  
Ossy Schokman*

*For two decades of bringing joy to the Residents of Perth Nursing Homes; Ossy has been playing their favourite All Time requests each Sunday. Come rain, hail or sweltering 40+ C heat. Ossy is there behind the microphone, lining up the next requested piece of music.*

*Tune in every Sunday afternoon to KCR 102.5 FM, from 1500 hours. as Ossy presents 2 hours of all-time favourites.*

*By Karl Beyer*

## FROM DAVID'S. DESK:-

It's been 5 months since we had a new management committee and since I took over Programming. At the same time COVID 19 took over Australia and the world. It was a strange time and a trying time for all the members and presenters at KCR. We stayed away from the station and 'Zoom' became the in thing.

I would like to thank all the presenters who self-isolated and looked after their health and returned. I would like to thank all the Presenters who stepped up to cover for the ones who isolated, namely:- Rob Anderson, Harry Nijsen, Terry Duke, Peter Meinema and George Robinson. There were always live presenters right through the day. The great thing is, KCR stayed live on air throughout the lockdown period while some other Community Stations closed their doors and stayed on air with recorded music.

Thanks to the Tech staff [Roger Jennings, Lindsay Morris and Harry Nijsen] who made that possible.

I would like to thank all presenters for following the COVID 19 Safe Studio procedures, and for the amicable studio hand overs, which we will follow for a long time yet.

A big thank you to Richard French our [professional cleaner] and roving interviewer and KCR ambassador who had joined us just in time to keep the Virus at bay with all his cleaning!!!

Something that I'd like to shout about and beat my drums about is that with the help of our hard-working secretary, Roger Jennings, we entered '**The '2020 CBAA COMMUNITY RADIO AWARDS'** in 3 Categories namely:-

### **1. Excellence in Innovative Programming and Content.**

**Jazz Café** - Is the brainchild of the Station's Jazz Presenter - Rob Anderson - who is also a jazz musician. His program has been running weekly during the COVID 19 lockdown, when jazz venues have been closed and Perth jazz artists were unable to perform live and earn a living.

Rob has been active in promoting the music of local artists, music, ideas or concepts not adequately represented by other broadcast media.

### **2. Best special event broadcast.**

**2020 RSL Anzac Day Service** - Because of the COVID 19 crisis the local WA Branch of the RSL was unable to hold its annual Anzac Day Service at the local Cenotaph. Instead the Service was created and recorded at our studios and broadcast at 5.50 am on the 25th April 2020.

Several thousand people would normally have been present at the Service on Anzac Day morning. This pre-recorded Service enabled those people to be a part of Anzac Day commemorations at these difficult times.

The bugle and the trumpet were played by the Mayor of our City, Margaret Thomas. Thanks to Roger Jennings and Harry Nijsen for recording and presenting it.

# LEST WE FORGET



**KEN WYATT MP**  
Federal Member for **Hasluck**

EO:KCR102.5FMSupportLetter:LMc

To all it may concern

I write to express my appreciation for the efforts made by the local community of Kalamunda to ensure the gratitude we usually display each ANZAC Day could continue during the very trying year of COVID-19.

Kalamunda Community Radio ensured the community-minded people of Kalamunda and surrounds could be together, from our driveways, to commemorate those who protected and continue to protect us; an activity that could have made us feel alone and isolated, but instead served to bring us even closer together in a most poignant way. Their pre-recorded Service was compassionate, professional and compelling in the cold, damp dawn and I know from speaking to so many of my neighbours it was appreciated by all and will be remembered for its uniqueness.

As Federal Member for Hasluck, I commend and congratulate all involved in the magnificent Kalamunda ANZAC Day Dawn Service of 2020. I am so proud to have such community-minded services in my electorate. Their dedication to the people of Kalamunda and surrounds is evident and needed now more than ever.

Kalamunda Community Radio would be very worthy of consideration for *Best Special Event Broadcast* in the CBAA Community Radio Awards 2020 and I look forward to hearing of their success.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ken Wyatt', written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP  
Federal Member for Hasluck  
Minister for Indigenous Australians

16/7/2020

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# LEST WE FORGET



28 July 2020

To Whom it may Concern,

Letter of Commendation

I would like to acknowledge and congratulate the collaborative efforts of the Kalamunda Community Radio Station and the Kalamunda Returned and Services League in regard to conducting, and airing, of the 2020 ANZAC Day Commemorations within the City of Kalamunda on 25 April 2020.

These organisations showcased the true spirit of collaboration in very difficult times during the COVID-19 pandemic. They assisted the City to achieve one of its vision of a connected community.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret Thomas".

Cr Margaret Thomas JP  
Mayor



### **3. Best Station Production.**

#### **Open for Business During COVID 19**

During the current COVID 19 crisis it was apparent to the station that although many local businesses were still open and trading, our listeners were not aware of this. Many businesses were approached for a "free shoutout" on the station.

Nearly 40 businesses responded positively. Short announcements were recorded and broadcast once or twice an hour throughout the day.

There was a very positive feedback from the businesses and local community. A number of different voices were used to increase the impact of the messages and prevent monotony.

Thanks to the sales team Terry, Kevin, and Rob, and the production team Lindsay and Roger.

We were the first Community Radio Station in Western Australia to do something like this during COVID 19.

In closing my 'COVID 19 Bulletin,' - just a quick reminder that we continue with our COVID 19 Hygiene practices.

Looking forward to my next Bulletin with some new and exciting happenings.

David Lazaro  
Programming  
KCR 102.5FM.





Terry and Angie enjoying a day at the beach on their Broome

Holidays



*Oops! Terry had one too many, finding it hard to make a clean sweep of the beach and thus had to spend the Knight at the local Boab [Goal] Motel.*



**SPONSORS/SALES:-**

Hi All

Over the past months our sales team, Rob Anderson and Kevin Coombs have been out there door knocking, with results that are now coming apparent in our sponsorship weekly logs, and with additional sales partnerships coming on stream in the near future.

My thanks go out to them, not forgetting Lindsay Morris and Roger Jennings whose vital production skills have made this as professional as one can expect. The process is running as smoothly as possible.

Sales is a vital aspect to keeping KCR 102.5 FM afloat; reducing the financial burden to our business running costs.

**Please note:**

If you know of any business organisation within your daily life, that would be keen to sponsor KCR 102.5 FM; please make them aware that KCR 102.5 FM will be more than happy to welcome them on-board and help them achieve their business goal.

Thank you

Best Regards,

Terry Duke

Sales Co-ordinator