

PHOENIX FM

“NEWSFLASH”



June/July 2009 Issue 12

President's Report

Isn't it nice to finally see some rain! Let's hope it keeps up.

Yes Winter is upon us, time for your comfy PJ's, a warm cup of soup and an open fire place... with your radio tuned to 89.5 Phoenix FM of course!

If you have been into the studio recently you would have seen that our services have been largely upgraded. A third computer has been installed allowing us to access the weather via the internet and also receive emails whilst we present our shows. Our internet access is thanks to the good people at Bendigo Community Telco. Peter Williams has been very busy installing all of these upgrades and I ask that you respect his wishes and not alter any of the settings on these computers unless specifically instructed to by a member of the committee. A huge thankyou to Peter for all the work he does on an almost continual basis.

With the introduction of an internet connection and a computer to receive emails I have noticed many presenters taking the opportunity to put it to good use. Live requests have been added to many programs and the feedback we are receiving from our listeners is very positive. Emails from China, Thailand and the U.S. and of course from our local Central Victorian listening area have come into us this week. It's fantastic to see, our listener base is growing at a huge rate.

A big welcome goes to all our new presenters(read further in to Newsflash for more information). It's fantastic to see some new young faces and hear your voices gracing the air waves. I hope you enjoy your time here with us at Phoenix. It's a pleasure to have you along with us. We are always looking for new members, so if you know of anyone who might like to get involved, let them know about us.

I would also like to take this opportunity to give a big thankyou and also congratulations to Chris Bolton. Chris is featured later on in this Newsletter, he does a lot of work cleaning and tidying up at the studio. He spends many hours manning the phones for presenters and is always there with a welcoming smile. Chris has also just recently started hosting programs after a few initial nerves and is doing a great job.

Phoenix FM desperately needs new sponsors. Times are tough and some of our existing sponsors have pulled out, leaving our financials a little short. Have you considered selling a sponsorship? Do you know anyone in business who might be interested in sponsorship? Phoenix FM offers sponsors 5 x peak time and 5 x off peak announcements per day for just \$25 a week. With an ever expanding listening audience this is fantastic value. Just 6 sponsorships would make a big difference. Please let Anne, myself or the committee know if you can help out or if you know of someone we could approach. **This is of the utmost importance.**

If you picked up the Bendigo Advertiser recently you may have caught an article in which our local Federal Member, Mr. Steve Gibbons was talking about another frequency being made available in the Bendigo area. ACMA (Australian Communications Media Authority) have been in touch with us on this issue to gauge our thoughts and ideas and we have responded very positively. The hope is that before the end of the year we will be broadcasting on our own frequency 7 days a week. A final decision on this matter is not expected until later on in the year. WATCH THIS SPACE!!

As you can see exciting times lay ahead for us here at Phoenix FM. Thank you all for your continued support and a huge big thanks to those who give of their time so freely for the benefit of the station. Stay warm and keep safe.

Brad Warren
President

Phoenix FM Welcomes New Members

Since our last edition of Newsflash we have had an influx of new members and presenters. We welcome these young people to our ranks – they have completed their training and now have their radio “wings” and have already been heard on air. Welcome aboard to:

Samual Harrison (Sam has already done several solo stints as well as working in the Overnight Shows. We also welcome William Weatheritt, Samuel Weatheritt, Marcus Kent, Alex Purtill, Alice Guidi and Ashton Brock who collectively are presenting during our overnight timeslots and also on Youth Radio. These young people have brought with them a style of presenting and enthusiasm which is much appreciated. Let’s hope it is the beginning of a long association with Phoenix FM (unless they get snapped up by commercial radio interests)

David Keith Celebrates 25 Years of Presenting Scot’s Corner on Community Radio



I joined 3CCC shortly after it was formed, his first programme of “Scots Corner” was on the 11th of October or November, 1982. My induction was a ten minute “familiarization” of the Panel. The Panel consisted of two turntables and a tape deck, and of course the Cart machine. “Earphones on, switch to cue, now wind back the record on the track that you want to play, and when you can’t hear anything you are cued up!”

Surprisingly enough, it went well and the program started at 4.30pm and the first one went for 30 minutes, this later was changed to an hour and was always Monday afternoon.

There came a time when the committee decided the program would be better on a Sunday, however the calls from listeners suggested otherwise, so “Scots Corner” went back to Monday. The timeslot stayed for many years and was increased to 90 minutes some time later. This was a magic time at 3CCC, there was a constant air of expectation, remember the hard working committee was breaking new ground and kept busy ensuring that 3CCC was here to stay.

Geoff Langdon, the inaugural manager left the station to take up a position in South Australia and Gerry Pyne took over, overseeing our move to Bendigo where it was thought that we would have a larger profile and be more accessible to a greater cross-section of the public of Central Victoria.

Gerry managed the Station for over ten years, until he moved to other areas of technology. I am glad to say that both Jeff and Gerry are strong supporters of Phoenix FM.

An old Scottish song tells us that “when the battle is o’er the war has just begun”. So it is then with Phoenix, we have come through the “war” and who would have thought, that after about two years, we

would have such a vibrant radio station with so many supporters and a “Bevy” of great committed presenters.

I feel blessed that I am still on Community Radio (Still on Mondays) and part of a great group, many of whom put in many hours to ensure the longevity of Phoenix FM.

Editors note: Phoenix FM is privileged to have David Keith on board. Many of our more mature presenters have a similar background and memories of the early days of 3CCC – Goldfields Community Radio. Scots Corner can be heard on Phoenix FM each Monday afternoon at 3.00pm

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for all the details

Thank You To Chris Foley

Thanks and acknowledgement must go to Chris Foley who has taken some of the load from our Committee members firstly by assisting with the training of new presenters and secondly by taking a rotation of the Shift Co-ordinator phone. This means that Chris may be rung up at any time of the night should there be an emergency at our studio – e.g. a presenter not getting there. Chris has already had one or two calls in the small hours of the morning – but that is Community Radio!

Chris Bolton

Chris Bolton has been a member of Phoenix FM for some time now and has been a great help with fund raising, cleaning, answering the telephone, greeting studio guests etc. etc. etc. However Chris’ greatest wish was to be able to present his own shows. This was a challenge for Chris but one that he took on, never wavering once in his belief that he would be able to present a show.

Over the months Chris learnt different aspects of presenting and panel operation by having one on one sessions with our trainers and also observing the process at every opportunity. Congratulations to Chris who is now a fully fledged Phoenix FM presenter. “If You Can Dream It – You Can Do It”

Editors Note: Chris can be heard 3.00am to 6.00am each Monday morning and every second Wednesday morning and he also acts as a fill-in presenter when required during the day. Once we have



Chris helping raise funds for Phoenix FM on Australia Day 2009

CBAA Opportunities

The Community Broadcasting Association of Australia (of which Phoenix FM is a member) is offering some great opportunities. For more information it would be best to go onto their web site www.cbaa.org.au but set out below are just some of the opportunities currently on offer – particularly for those who are hoping to make a career out of radio or media.

For community radio volunteers who've been giving their free time to keep local voices on air, now is a good time to strengthen their broadcasting skills by accessing vocationally recognised courses. These qualifications could also lead to more job opportunities for many in the sector.

So, if you haven't yet enrolled, **Management Training** (round 2) from the **CBAA Radio School of Management** still has vacant spots!

Courses on offer include:

- **Governance** – taking the mystery out of managing people and your local station.
- **Industry Practice** – Will give you a good understanding of the radio industry in Australia.
- **Program Management** – Planning, review, staff management and programming.
- **Station Administration** – Grant applications/acquittals, membership and subscriber databases, every aspect of “administering stations”.
- **Financial Management** – A course for non-accountants - budgets, financial reports, policies and procedures to keep the Australian tax office happy.

Contact: Paris Pompor
Administrative Assistant to the CBAA Training Manager
02 9318 9227 or ppompor@cbaa.org.au

CB Online Assistant

Do you have a strong interest in the community broadcasting sector and excellent writing and administrative skills? Would you jump at the opportunity to write stories, source new content and maintain information standards for the online portal for the Australian community broadcasting sector, the CBOonline website?

The CBOonline Project is currently seeking to appoint a CBOonline Assistant to fulfill this role. It's a great opportunity to work creatively within a dynamic sector-wide project committed to the promotion of independent media, social justice and the power of communities.

Interested in applying? Click [here](#) for more or go to CBAA Website as previously shown

PHOENIX FM MEMBERSHIPS NOW DUE

Membership Renewals are due on 30 June 2009. Within the next month emails or hard copy accounts will be sent to all current financial members. Renewal Rates are \$30.00 per year ordinary membership, \$15.00 per year for Concession Holders and \$10.00 per year for Life Members (this entitles Life Members to Voting Rights at the AGM)

Phoenix FM BBQ

Sunday 19 April saw a group of happy Phoenicians get together and have a BBQ at our studio premises in Reservoir Road, Kennington. It was a great chance for us to mix together in a purely social setting and get to know other presenters. It is hoped that these events will become more regular as we become more and more established

It is easy to become isolated from our fellow presenters and members when one comes in, presents a show and then leaves – these events bring us all together!

Pictured to the right are just some of the people who attended.



Birthdays

A very happy birthday to the following members/presenters who are celebrating a birthday in the month's of June and July. Please let me know your birthday so that you can be included. Contact me on birubi@impulse.net.au

Evelyn Sheahan	14 June	Geoff Morris	15 June
Craig Whan	6 July	Alice Guidi	11 July
Carlo Giampetrio	27 July		

Sick List

Evelyn Sheahan was recently taken very ill whilst in Tasmania with her husband Peter. After a stay in the Launceston Hospital, Evelyn is now home and well on the way to recovery.

Floreena Forbes has finished her chemotherapy and radiotherapy in her bout with breast cancer. Floreena too is on the mend and has presented two shows recently and as her strength improves will come back as a presenter on a regular basis. Floreena, who is also known for her Dolly Parton tributes took up a challenge given to her by the Radiotherapy Department and, on the second last day of her Radiotherapy turned up as Dolly Parton. This would have been a great mood lifter for everyone – including Floreena. How many hospital's can say they have had the chance to work on Dolly Parton's biggest hits?



Dolly with two young spunks she impressed in Radiotherapy Department



Group Picture Above L/R Kerrie Archibald, Floreena Forbes, Julie Chalmers, Anne Conway, Olive Bice

Floreena Says Thanks

On the 24th November 2008 I found I had breast Cancer.

I thought that it only happened to other people not me, I realised that was far from the truth after visit to my GP. My first thoughts were of Robert and my Family, how bad was it and what was going to follow over the years.

After a Mammogram, Ultra Sound Specialist visits and so on, the next thing was to have it removed and as soon as possible. The waiting game is very hard to handle. I knew I had to stay positive.

On the 17 Dec 2008 I had the cancer removed at the Mercy Hospital in Melbourne. Millions of thoughts run through your mind and all I could think of was to get rid of it and get on with my life as soon as possible. The follow up was Chemotherapy, Radiation and tablets for 5 years.

Now 7 Months later I look back and say “**Thank you to everybody** “for all the Visits, Cards, Phone calls and Emails during my treatment. I know there is still lots of appointments with Specialists in the future but being positive is my only answer with a smile.

Losing my hair and the sickness from the treatment took a great toll on me but I know I have to keep positive thoughts in my mind.(By the way do you like my new hair style. It grew over night!)

One evening I was not feeling well and decided to open my emails, there was an email from Anne Conway suggesting that many of the musicians and friends would like to organize an evening to raise money for me to have a restful holiday after my treatment.

The show went ahead .it was called ***SEND FLOREEN PACKING*** held on the 8 May 2009. Thank you to all the Family and Friends that helped Anne make the evening such a happy event. I was able to attend the evening and I felt so good to be out amongst the musicians and the people again. The room was packed full with good wishes from everybody.

I was asked if I could sing a couple of songs ,it was like a tonic to me as I fought back tears of happiness to see all encouragement coming from the people and I knew I was so very lucky to have such a wonderful life.

My last few words are “my hair will grow. The sickness will leave me and I will soon be back doing what I did before” enjoying life” with all my friends and not worry about what might or might not happen in the years ahead

Floreena

Phoenix FM Crew at The Howie Brothers Concert



*L/R Bill Whitbread, Anne Conway, Helen Quinn
Chris Bolton, Front – Geoff Morris, Floreena Forbes*

Sunday 24 May saw the Howie Brothers come to Bendigo RSL and along with Anne Conway they performed to a reasonable sized crowd.

Funds raised on the day for Phoenix FM amounted to \$307.00

Pictured at left is “The Phoenix FM Table”.

Rian Howells was also present on the day but is absent from the photograph. Also not seen (because he is under the table but not drunk) is Milo, Geoff Morris’ faithful seeing eye dog.

David Kennedy

June 7 is the 40th anniversary of David Kennedy’s first election to Parliament, on June 7, 1979. Picture shows Gough Whitlam, Labor Opposition Leader of the time, with Helen and David Kennedy at Parliament House after his swearing in as MHR for Bendigo following the election.

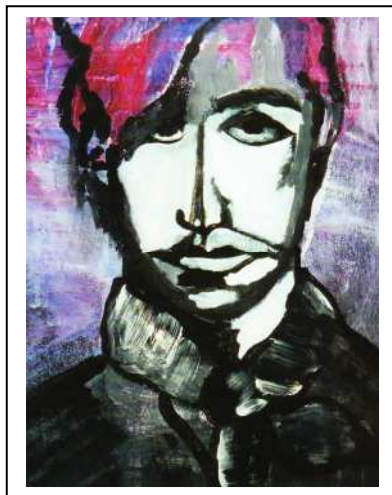


David was MHR for Bendigo, 1969-72, and later MLA for Bendigo and Bendigo West, 1982-92. David has also been involved with Community Radio since the early to mid 1980’s and presents a Classical Music Program on Phoenix FM each Monday afternoon at 1.30pm. David’s knowledge and appreciation of Classical Music is legendary.

Angela’s Work Chosen To Be Part of Cancer Council Arts Award Exhibition

"Angela Morrissey’s who is known to Phoenix listeners as Miss M entry to the Cancer Council Arts Awards Exhibition has been selected to be part of this wonderful exhibition.

Angela’s composition "Mourners at Funeral" will be part of the exhibition at St Michael’s Uniting Church, 120 Collins Street, Melbourne. (Cnr of Collins and Russell Sts).



*Mourners At
David McComb*



Mourners At Funeral

Admission is free.

The exhibition will be open to the public 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

In addition, selected works will be touring to Kyneton, Shepparton and South Gippsland. The Arts Awards Exhibition Opening will be on Sunday 19 July @ 3.00 pm.

Another artwork by Angela was selected to be part of the annual Contemporary Art Society "Collectors' Exhibition." That was held at Steps Gallery in Carlton from 4 - 17 of May. Her composition was a portrait of David McComb, lead singer of The Triffids who passed away February 2, 1999. He was just 36.

Angela draws her experiences from all the music, mysteries, mania, madness and mayhem that life has to offer."

Editors Note

It is wonderful being able to demonstrate the multi-faceted lives and talents of our presenters - please keep us informed

Kim Ritchie's Northern Territory Road Trip

Kim recently travelled to perform at the Katherine Country Music Festival – here is her account of the adventure

On Sunday April 26 At midnight, my good friend John and I along with two others, Dave and Hazel set off on a two week voyage by road to the Northern Territory.

Travelling through Central Australia is something that John and I have always wanted to do and we saw this trip as an opportunity to make it happen.

We drove to Port Augusta in South Australia where we spent the first night, of course stopping several times along the way to grab a bite to eat, refuel and stretch the legs. On arrival after a 12 hour journey, John's good P R skills led us to a country music afternoon that was taking place. I was given the opportunity to sing a couple of times and sell cd's. As tired as we were, I don't know how we got through the day without falling asleep on the spot but we did. Bed was most welcoming that evening and by 8 pm, we were well and truly in the land of nod.

Early the next morning after at least seven hours sleep, we made our way to Alice Springs. We felt the more miles we could put behind us, the better off we'd be. We stopped at Coober Pedy along the way to look at a few of the underground buildings and where the opal mines are. We also stopped at the border between South Australia and the Northern Territory so John could take a photo of the sign as living proof that he was there. This was definitely the Outback and I knew it! It was so quiet, and it felt rather eerie just standing there in the stillness listening to your own heartbeat. We arrived in Alice Springs at 7.00pm. Knowing that we didn't have to be in Katherine until Thursday April 30, we decided to spend two nights in The Alice. After being on the road for hours on end, I can say that a decent relax was something to look forward to and we certainly made the most of it. We did the usual mundane chores of catching up with the washing but we also took the time to look around.

The blokes went to visit a Reptile Centre while the ladies went to take in some of the sights and indulge in a leisurely coffee. John has always enjoyed looking at reptiles and I guess we all enjoy different things.

Going for a camel ride is something I've always wanted to do, so John found a pamphlet with some information about a camel farm nearby which made it possible. Hazel went with me while the men watched and took photos.

Never having been on a camel before in my life, it was a new experience for me and one that I won't forget in a hurry. Markus, The guy in charge was absolutely brilliant in the way he explained what to expect when I got on the camel as far as movement was concerned. He allowed me to place a hand on his arm while he went through the motions of the camel standing up from the sitting position to give me a better idea of what it would be like. I dam near changed my mind after this explanation, and I hadn't even climbed on. He could see I was a little apprehensive and tried his best to reassure me that everything would be fine. Apparently, I'm not the first blind person he has taken for a ride, hence the reason his explanation was so well done.

The camel I rode was the biggest one of the lot. His name was BJ and he was a gentle giant. I was quite happy while he was sitting down but when he stood up, that was a different story. Unfortunately, he stood up before Hazel had a chance to get on so I had to go through the motions all over again. I was in tears before BJ even took his first step. I'm such a girl! However, once we got moving, I was ok. I was relaxed while we were going in a straight line but when we either turned or went over a bump, that's when I became tense. I'm glad I gave it a go but I'm in no hurry what so ever to do it again. After the ride, I gave BJ a big hug and told him what a good boy he was.

When we left the camel farm, we went to the Memorial club for tea and I pondered over a nice cold coke about the day's happenings and how I had accomplished yet another mission. I guess I have a lot of jealous friends and family out there because not everyone has had a hump between their legs now have they! Or have they?

When we left Alice Springs, we headed to Tenant Creek which was only a short distance. We spent the night there and met up with a couple of other artists who were also appearing at the Katherine Country Music Muster. Tenant Creek is a lot smaller than Alice Springs with not much to see or do so apart from having tea at Red Rooster, the walls of the motel room and our beds were all we saw that evening.

On the final day of our journey, we left Tenant Creek and headed for Katherine. This was a slightly longer distance than from Alice Springs to Tenant Creek.

When the worms started biting, we stopped at a pub called the Pink Panther Hotel at a little place called Larama. It was a place with character and brilliant atmosphere. I got the guitar out of the car and sang a couple of songs. I was given a donation towards fuel by the publican and I gave him a cd in return as a token of my appreciation.

Meanwhile, John spotted what he thought was a statue of a crocodile out the back of the pub and when he went to pat it, it winked at him. Therefore, he came to the realization very quickly that it was real!

We arrived in Katherine mid afternoon which gave us plenty of time to settle into our accommodation and prepare for the evening's activities. We stayed in a lovely two bedroom apartment. It was just like being in my own house. We were certainly well looked after. The artists had a chance to get to know each other and help organise a few last minute things prior to the event commencing. It wasn't a late night as the following day was taken up with more organising, sound checks and a bit of recreation. Some of the artists went on a tour of the Katherine Gorge. John and I opted not to go. We completed my sound check and got to know a few of those who stayed behind as well.

The muster commenced at 6 o'clock on the Friday night and it was an absolutely full on weekend. The evening consisted of Territory Talent which was pretty good. Most of the artists sang original songs and I was impressed with some of their song writing ability.

I sang at the Big Breakfast in the town square on the Saturday morning and then on the main stage that Afternoon. I also took part in the street precession which was a lot of fun. There was talent from miles around and the event was broadcast live on CAAMA Radio which is an Indigenous radio station. There was a Maori presenter there who was known as G-Man and he was rather taken with me. He broadcast the 45 minute set I did on the main stage live to air so people all over the Territory could hear it. I also had the opportunity to be interviewed on Katherine Radio. I was certainly granted a lot of exposure and I met lots of lovely people who I hope to see around the traps again in the near future.

While I didn't sing on the Sunday which was the final day of the event, I still went along to soak up the atmosphere. I sat around listening to the artists I hadn't yet heard and chatting to people.

Later on that day, I was given the opportunity to perform at the Low Level Caravan Park just down the road from where the Muster was. Geoff Evans who was entertaining allowed me to get up and sing a couple of songs but I ended up singing for a whole hour and a half. He said the crowd were quite happy listening to me so he left me to continue.

When that performance was over, we went back to the muster for the wind up and to say goodbye to all the artists. Sadly, the event had come to an end and it was like saying goodbye to a new found family.

Early on the Monday Morning, we left Katherine and went to Alice Springs where we spent three nights but not by choice. Before we got there, the power steering went on the car which made it a rather long day. We had to wait for a tow truck to come and collect the car and two of us to be taken into Alice Springs. I was glad to see my bed that night. John and Dave were stuck at the Titree Road House 195 kms from Alice where we broke down while Hazel and I travelled with the car and stayed in the motel. We went back to Titree the next day in a hire car to collect the blokes. When we all got back to Alice, Dave and Hazel had a fair bit to sort out with their car so John and I went and did some shopping and left them to it. That night, we went to the pub next door for a meal and then went to bed ready to face the following day.

The mechanics report for the car wasn't good so we thought we might as well jack up a gig for me at the Alice Springs Plaza which I did. I sang there on the stage from 11:30 am til 2 pm and I had a good day. I met lots of people, even some distant relations from New Zealand and we had a meal with them later that night.

On Thursday May 7, we left Alice Springs and made our way to Port Augusta where we spent the night. We were now out of the Territory and back in South Australia, getting closer to home once again. We arrived in Port Augusta early evening so we just got some tea and settled into our cabin for the night.

On Friday May 8, we made our way to Wentworth in New South Wales where I had a gig that night. It had certainly been a long haul and I was glad it was coming to an end. The gig went off well and I was glad to see bed by the end of the night.

On Saturday May 9, we made our way from Wentworth back to Bendigo. We arrived home mid afternoon and it was good to be back on our own turf.

It's hard to believe how many miles we covered and how much of Australia we managed to see. You don't realize how big it is until you go exploring. Furthermore, I thought Pyramid Hill was the outback but I have since discovered different. Mind you, I'm always going out back – I go out the back door more times a day than I can count. That's a pretty good definition of out back wouldn't you think? Going to the territory has certainly been an eye opener for me and I hope to do it again some time, perhaps not by road but by air. It would certainly be a lot quicker and less costly.

Editor's Note Kim Ritchie (Kimbo) can be heard on Breakfast In Bendigo with Kimbo from 6.00am to 9.00am each Monday. This was quite a long article and originally I was going to cut it down but found it all so interesting that I left it as Kim had written it.

HOW TO CONTACT PHOENIX FM

Address: 128 Reservoir Road, Kennington

Contact: 5444 1129
0403 186 466

Postal: PO Box 107
California Gully 3556

Email: info@phoenixfm.org
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Web: <http://www.phoenixfm.org>

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Total	\$50.00	Total	\$35.00	Total	\$210.00

ANY MEMBERSHIP PAID NOW IS ONLY PRO-RATA TILL END OF JUNE 2009

If you have any information you would like included in the next Phoenix Newsflash please contact the Editor – Anne Conway birubi@impulse.net.au or 0418 579501

PHOENIX FM – MAJOR SUPPORTERS

This project is funded through



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