

PHOENIX FM “NEWSFLASH”



December 2008/January 2009... No. 9



STOP PRESS

**PHOENIX 89.5 FM TEMPORARY
BROADCASTING LICENSE**

EXTENDED TILL

31ST MARCH 2009

NEW ON AIR TIMES ARE

SUNDAY'S 6.00PM THROUGH TO

WEDNESDAY'S 12.00 NOON

Presidents Report

Where has this year gone??

It has been a very big year for Phoenix FM. From our first day of transmission in January, calling the local football in our first outside broadcast, our first A.G.M., to now, where we have had more air time than any of us would have anticipated.

As you read this Phoenix FM has just secured more air time right up until the end of March 2009. We will be bringing the community the best in radio from 6pm Sundays until Midday on Wednesdays. The end result is that for our first year of broadcasting we have had more that double the anticipated on air time that A.C.M.A regulations suggest.

The extra on air time is an outstanding achievement but it was the time spent off air that the true mettle of our group was tested. We have some wonderful members in our group who give their time so freely to Phoenix. The fundraisers, from the Trivia Nights like the one held on the 29th November, to the sausage sizzles at I.G.A. Long Gully, our raffles and country music shows - it is these things that make sure we have a future. In particular I would like to thank Anne Conway and Glenda Eddy for their tireless work in raising funds. Thank you both.

As the year draws to a close I would like to thank each and every member for your ideas and support. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year. Phoenix FM still has a lot to achieve and 2009 will be a tough year, but as we proved in 2008, we are more than equal to the task.

All the very best for the festive season.

Brad Warren
President

Phoenix Volunteers Meeting **By Ian Shelton.**



The initial Volunteers Meeting was held at 7.30pm on Monday 17th November, 2008. About 20 volunteer members attended. Kate Witcombe volunteered to record minutes of this meeting and these have been circulated by post & email to all financial volunteers. Thanks Kate, I've referred to your minutes for this article. Phoenix Volunteers are defined as being financial members of PhoenixFM/CVCB Inc.

Jacques Soddell started the meeting with a fine explanation of the role of volunteers in community radio and the establishment of a volunteers committee in the rules of CVCB. The volunteers committee is made of all paid-up members who work voluntarily with the station. The committee allows the volunteers to have their say, and offer constructive criticism and ideas. Issues raised in the volunteers meeting will be presented back to the management committee. It is up to the volunteers to decide how they wish to vote on matters. Under the rules, the volunteers must meet a minimum of six (6) times each year. A member asked me this week if this means non-attendance means loss of membership. Well, no it doesn't, it's just that your contribution will help build a stronger community radio station, so come as often as possible and stay financial.

A good discussion about the role of volunteers informing policy of the radio station and our responsibilities under the ACMA's Codes of Practice led to a process of establishing the election of a Chairman of the meeting. Ian Shelton was elected as "Chairman of volunteers meetings". Yes that's me. Our "Newsflash" Editor, Anne has asked me to outline the meeting and report on progress. I aim to be available to every member and to ensure that I take both representative and minority views to the Committee of Management on volunteers' behalf. Leave a note in the feedback book at the station or phone or email me at any time. Of course the main forum for putting your views and concerns forward is the meetings, so try to get along to as many of them as you can.

Kim Ritchie was elected as "Secretary of Volunteers Meetings". Kim has been presenting Phoenix Breakfast very professionally and I'm sure she will bring her very capable skills to the role of producing minutes of our meetings. Most members would be aware that Kate Witcombe is moving away to Melbourne to work in the new year so was not available for nomination.

I want to extend a big thanks to our association President, Brad Warren for your strong leadership this year. Brad reported on several issues to the volunteers, including the state of negotiations with ACMA for time-share of the frequency for the period from 1/12/2008 to 31/3/2009. He urged us to support the Trivia night approaching – 29/11/08 Lets talk it up. He emphasized the importance of being accurate when sponsorship announcements are played. ACMA rules specify that we do not play more than 5 minutes an hour. It is vital that the sponsorship announcements are not cut off early. It is suggested that they are played 20 minutes past and 20 minutes to each hour. A great suggestion was made by a volunteer that the sponsorship tag be placed in the middle of the announcement, so that it cannot be missed if the announcement is cut short. Brad will pass this suggestion on. We will find documentation to see if ACMA have a suggestion of where the sponsorship statement needs to be placed within the announcement.

Committee of Management (COM) member, Anne Conway reminded volunteer presenters of how to bring in the news correctly: at around 35sec to the hour play the “intro”, cue the news on, put to air at the news beep. Straight after the news, play weather “intro” and read the weather. Anne said this was “very important”. The sponsors mentioned in the introductions are paying for their sponsorship.

A few other issues discussed included which studio clock displays the correct time. The silver clock in the studio is the clock that shows the correct time. A new photocopier has been set up as the fax. Check out both the old fax and the new photocopier in the studio along with any notices to work out the current state of things! Apparently some volunteers have been unsure of when their membership is due and Brad has undertaken to circulate current advice about the due date for membership renewals. One suggestion raised by a volunteer was for a membership card to be issued. Volunteers wanted to know if they are able to use the phone for phone interview. Brad undertook to take this to the COM and review the policy. Some current presenters sometimes do phone interviews. It is my understanding that specific approval for each program/presenter is required. If you are interested in phone interviews, I suggest you speak to a COM (Committee of Management) member directly and pay careful attention to the notices about this on the studio desk!

Lorna Erwin led discussion about a Christmas party. It was suggested we order Penny’s Pizza (great sponsors!) of Phoenix FM. As a starting point, 19/12/08 was proposed. Lorna will lead the organisation of this and date and format will be decided when we know the licence time share arrangements. It should be a fine celebration of our year.

The next Phoenix Volunteers meeting will be called in December. Keep your ears open for the date. Remember, anyone in the community is welcome as a member, not just presenters! As mentioned already, the feedback book may be used by volunteers who wish to raise an issue at the volunteers meeting. I will read this prior to meetings. Also volunteers can email me with issues at shelton@netcon.net.au The agenda for the next meeting will be put on the notice board prior to the volunteers meeting. I hope to see you there

Ian Shelton

Ernie Johns and Avalanche Band

Ernie Johns and his band Avalanche have run a night of country music to benefit Phoenix FM during the months of October and November and will be running their final one for the year on Sunday 7 December at the Golden Hills Motel, Marong Road Bendigo. Several of our presenters also perform at these shows. The total amount raised over the three shows will be presented to Phoenix FM at the show on 7 December. Thankyou so much to Ernie Johns and Avalance for supporting Phoenix FM. We will advise the total amount raised by Ernie Johns and Avalanche in our next edition of Phoenix Newsflash which, believe it or not will be February 2009! Of course we will let people know over the airwaves in the meantime!

Phoenix FM Trivia Night

A very successful Trivia Night was held on 29th November to raise much needed funds for Phoenix FM. A good crowd of enthusiastic people came along – some of them seasoned Trivia Buffs and others never having been to a Trivia night in their lives came along and dug deep for the raffles and thoroughly enjoyed the night. A special thanks must go to Faggots and Dykes (Rainbow Radio) who were particularly generous with prize donations, prize donations were also received from Alan Lindsay Boromeo (framed print), Anne Conway, Brad Warren and Pat Bamford. Picture on the right is Jean Shadforth receiving her major raffle prize of an Alan Boromeo print – seen with



seen with Jean is our compere for the evening, Mark Hecker. Mark was ably assisted during the evening by his daughter Megan. Mark also organised the questions whilst Glenda Eddy organised the music round tracks. We were delighted in that an amount of \$911.05 was raised. Special thanks to the organisers – Sue and Leighton Rawlings, Anne Conway, Glenda Eddy, and Geoff Morris.

Vale Squirt



Robert and Squirt

Floreana Forbes and partner Robert Ramage lost their “little boy” – Squirt on 18 November.

Squirt lived with Robert and Floreana for over seventeen years and was an integral part of their lives.

His character and personality belied his Chihuahua size and he gave as much love and happiness as he received during his life.

R.I.P. SQUIRT



Floreana and Squirt - 2008

A FEW HAPPY SNAPS



Mark Noulton makes a Point



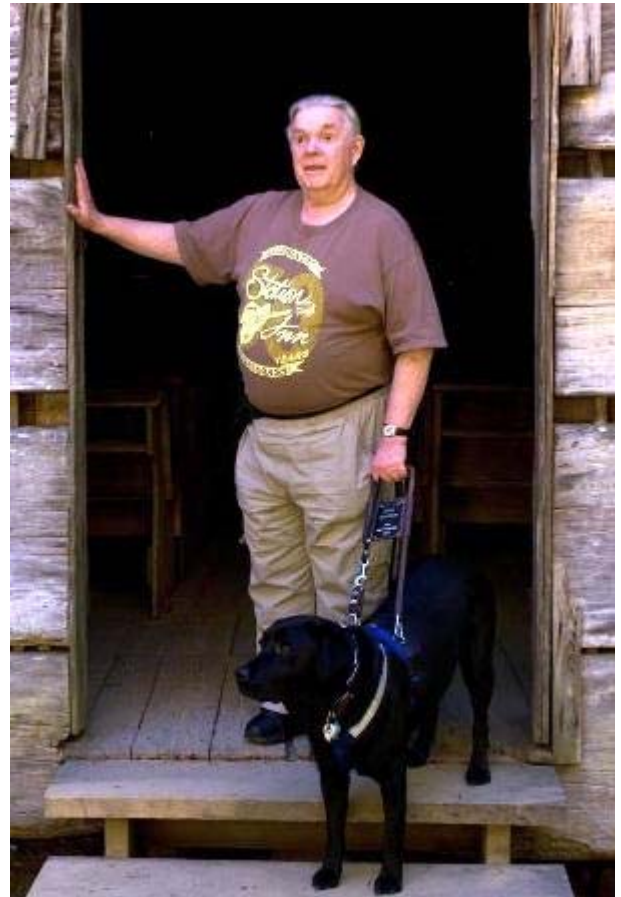
**Russell Ballangarry & Sarah Holmes & Shaun McKenzie – Koorie Grapevine
(These were 3 of the lead actors in film “Call of the Spirit”)**



A Dog Story with a Happy Ending

Many of our Phoenix members will be used to having Geoff Morris' seeing eye dog Milo taking part in just about everything we do. Being a seeing eye dog, Milo has a particularly close relationship with Geoff. Last month Geoff took Milo to the vet to have his annual shots and unfortunately Milo reacted very badly to the inoculations with near fatal consequences.

Fortunately, after quick intervention from the veterinary surgeon, some more medication and a few days rest Milo was as good as new but certainly a worrying time for Geoff. The picture on the right shows Geoff and Milo in the USA last year. Geoff could be described as a Bluegrass fanatic and went to America (with Milo of course) to enjoy all the bluegrass music in the USA.



Eaglehawk Lions Club



Maureen Cross and John Hall at Centro Lansell, Kangaroo Flat

The Eaglehawk Lions Club have been tremendously supportive of Phoenix FM having financed our Public Liability Premium in both 2007 and 2008. As the linkage between our two organisations continues to grow we undertook the task of selling 1000 tickets for the Eaglehawk Lions Club Christmas Raffle

At the Bendigo Show held at the end of October a dedicated band of Phoenix FM volunteers manned a raffle table for the entire duration of the show. Many thanks must go to Floreena Forbes, Colin James, Glenda Eddy, Kraig Krieger, PamDrescher, Zac Harris and Anne Conway. Total number of tickets sold over the show period was 298 bringing in a revenue for the Lions Club of \$596.00. WELL DONE

Our efforts to reach our target continue and we have been selling tickets at the Community Desk at Centro Lansell as well as individual members doing their very best to sell as many tickets as possible. Volunteer ticket sellers at Centro Lansell were John Hall, Bill Whitbread, Glenda Eddy, Maureen and David Cross, Anne Conway and Colin James. As this edition of Newsflash goes to print we only have around 50 tickets left to sell to reach our target of 1000. Anne is going to try and sell them at the Showgrounds Market on Sunday and if there are any left after that she will sell outside U-Paint Ceramics in High Street Eaglehawk next week.

Community Broadcasting Association of Australia (CBAA) Awards

As Phoenix FM had not been broadcasting continually throughout the past twelve months we did not enter any of our shows although if we had we probably would have stood a chance as we have such a wide range of community representation amongst our shows – perhaps next year!

The winners were announced on Saturday 15 November at the Gala Awards Dinner at the Alice Springs Convention Centre, part of the CBAA's National Conference for 2008.

However, we do broadcast an award winning show! The **Excellence in Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasting Award** went to Viva Italia produced by Carlo Giampietro. Carlo produces his shows out of Radio 98.9 North West FM however he also records editions of Viva Italia specifically for Phoenix FM. These shows have been being heard at 6.00pm each Wednesday evening during our previous licence period. As a result of new time share arrangements Viva Italia – which, as the name would suggest is an Italian language program will now be heard at 6.00pm on Tuesday evenings (subject to final programming arrangements for new License period)

Thankyou Rian Howells

Peter Williams put out a call for a computer that someone may be able to donate to the station for use in our production studio. Quick as a flash Rian Howells donated a computer he no longer needed. The computer turned out to be ideal for our needs – thanks again Rian. We are going to put a plaque on the computer to formally acknowledge Rian's generosity. Rian is also going to be doing panelling for some of our presenters who need this extra assistance.

Presenter Profile – Brad Warren

A bit about Brad.



I like to think of myself as a regular guy. I'm 31 years young, married to my beautiful wife Sheridan, proud father of a gorgeous 3 month old son, Elijah and 2 poodles, Lucy and Daisy who are constantly destroying my shoes!

I'm a massive fan of music, I've spent thousands on my C.D. collection and listen to almost anything, but being a member of generation X my biggest passion is grunge and alternate music. I sing in a local cover band and love every minute of it.

Brad and Sheridan

I got involved in community radio this time last year. I answered an add in the Advertiser and before I knew it I had a my first show in our first time share allocation in January, I wasn't as good as I would have liked and my second show was even worse but I had caught the bug that is community radio, I wanted more!

I'm a small business owner with a passion for movies and customer service, hence I own a video store and I'm a firm believer that the best thing you can do for someone is make them smile.

Since becoming involved with Phoenix I have taken a keen interest in the local music scene. Phoenix presents the only chance to have these artists played and promoted. It is a great responsibility that Phoenix has in keeping 89.5 truly community access. We keep doing it week in week out and I'm proud to be apart of such a wonderful group.

Brad Warren.

Each edition of Phoenix Newsflash will see a different presenter/volunteer being profiled – if you would like to see your profile in Phoenix Newsflash please let Anne Conway know – otherwise she will just have to choose people AND IT COULD BE YOU!

Thankyou's and Feedback

We have had an overwhelming response to our request for feedback and since we have been streaming on the World Wide Web, hits have been coming in from all over the globe. Our most popular listening countries would be U.S.A. and New Zealand and of course Australia which had 10,038 hits during the month of October!

We ask for feedback of all kinds – positive and negative with the hope that any negative feedback will be constructive. We have had very little negative feedback but have taken on board any comments as, being a community station we need to know what our listening audience is thinking and wanting. Naturally though, if that feedback comes from groups and their supporters who just want to see us off the air there is nothing constructive about that and little we can do, especially when the people hide behind false names in cyberspace as is what has happened in at least one case.

We received an email from Terry Dennis from Nashville thanking us for playing his Christmas song “The Blue One’s Me” and we also received a beautiful letter from Graham Rodger who is thrilled with the support shown to his song “Give This Hug To Daddy” (about a little girl who’s father is serving in Afghanistan).

It was my intention to do a list of all the shows that had received excellent positive feedback but in attempting to do this the list became too huge! However the comments and feedback have all been forwarded on to the presenters concerned.

Anne’s Learning Curve Continues

Last month we brought you the riveting news about Anne Conway managing to destroy her computer keyboard by using Spray and Wipe. The little article ended happily enough saying that the problem was now solved with the purchase of a new keyboard. Well.....after only three weeks the lettering for the keys of “M” and “N” had completely come off the new keyboard. Anne took the keyboard back into the dealer who said they had never seen such a thing. They took a photograph of the keyboard but said there was nothing could be done and that Anne must have *“used those two keys excessively during the last three weeks”*. Anne pointed out that the most commonly used keys would be vowels in any case and that no work she had done would see those two keys (which of course are not vowels) being used excessively. A call to the manufacturer did not do any good either. Anne is actually a very good touch typist so does not need to actually see the lettering but is thinking of using whiteout or something similar to paint the letters back on the black keyboard. Stay tuned for the next newsletter – and find out what happens next! Perhaps we could create a radio serial about the adventures of Anne’s computer keyboard!

December/January Birthdays

We wish the following members are very happy birthday as they celebrate their special day during the next couple of months.

| | |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| Ian Shelton | 1 st December |
| Val Hicks | 1 st December |
| Peter Sheahan | 31 st December |

Please make sure we have your birthday recorded so that we can help you celebrate

HOW TO CONTACT PHOENIX FM

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Postal: PO Box 107
California Gully 3556

Email: info@phoenixfm.org

Web: <http://www.phoenixfm.org>

SUBSCRIPTIONS

| Ordinary Membership | | Concession Membership | | Life Membership | |
|---------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|-----------------|----------|
| Joining Fee | \$20.00 | Joining Fee | \$20.00 | Joining Fee | \$200.00 |
| Annual Fee | \$30.00 | Annual Fee | \$15.00 | Annual Fee | \$ 10.00 |
| Total | \$50.00 | Total | \$35.00 | Total | \$210.00 |

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



CITY OF GREATER
BENDIGO

Community Grants Program



We thank and acknowledge our business sponsors for their support and encouragement. When out and about please consider using the services our sponsor's provide.

If you do visit one of our sponsors please try to make sure that you mention that you heard about them on Phoenix FM.

Feed Of Fish – Bendigo Fashion Plus – Strath Butcher – Cycle Concepts – Strath Village Drycleaners – Fairy Floss (Marlene Quay) – Dr. Jim Thompson (Dentist) – New China Restaurant – Lakeside Autos – Penny's Pizza – Eco PC – Strath Pharmacy – Strath Village Centre – Warehouse Sales – The New Victoria Hotel – Midland Irrigation – Hattam Street Tyre and Mechanical – Ratikarn Gift Shop & Thai Massage - Condon Street Takeaway – Ruffell Family Jewellers – Bendigo Bowen Centre – Rose-Glen Crafts - Look Video Surveillance Bendigo – Bendigo Voice and Data

As an additional service to our sponsors we are offering all our sponsors a free link on our web-site if they so desire. This is a great opportunity for increased exposure for our sponsors.