



SOUND EFFECTS



979fm newsletter

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President's message

If you've been at a community event in the Melton area over the years you've probably seen a bright yellow bus. Well that's 979fm's outside broadcast bus. Some of us at the radio station call it the big yellow taxi (in reference to the Joni Mitchell song) or the yellow submarine (in reference to The Beatles song). The OB bus is set up similar to our regular studios, but obviously it's on wheels. In it we can broadcast from anywhere in the Melton area and beyond

If you've got an event, such as the opening of a business or a church fete, coming up you should consider booking 979fm's OB Bus to appear. It's a great way to publicise your event. Your event will be broadcast live-to-air over the radio waves and the internet. Our announcers will play a great selection of music and we can chat on-air to people involved with the event.

If it's a community event, we will appear free of charge. If it's an event to publicise a business we have very reasonable rates. We can tailor the broadcast to suit your event. For more information please contact our Sponsorship Coordinator on 9547 0450 or email advertise@979fm.com.au

If you see our yellow bus out and about feel free to have a look inside, and grab a 979fm sticker, fridge magnet or pen.

"Promoting your business can take many forms. Consider radio for a cheap, immediate way to instantly impact many people, both on site and on the air."



Leigh Stancliffe

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Setting up the OB bus for Summersault Festival at Caroline Springs

Out and About



Important people seek us out

Outside Broadcasts: Benefits for the community

The yellow broadcast bus is out and about in the community as often as possible. Radio is a powerful medium with a wide and immediate reach. When you see our bus in the community, you will realize we are covering some community activity which could be a sporting event, promotion of a council sponsored occasion or highlighting the opening of a new business in our town. Each year we cover the Djerriwarrh Festival, Australia Day at the Willows, Summersault at Caroline Springs as well as helping to promote community sausage sizzles at Bunnings and Masters. We will gladly come and help you promote your activity if you give us a ring or send an email. Of course, for commercial events we make a small charge to help us defray costs of maintaining the bus and keeping it fuelled up.

For football fans we have quite a prominent role in the Ballarat Football League each Saturday. Only on 979fm can you get a live broadcast of the game of the round and updated scores from all other grounds. We take our equipment and callers to local grounds, Sunbury and all grounds in Ballarat. Luckily Telstra's 4G system is being improved all the time and the call comes in loud and clear from anywhere.

Should you need our help in promoting your activity, call us at 9747 8500 and leave all details of the event or send an email to advertise@979fm.com.au. Remember there will be a charge for all events which are not part of a Council or other charitable event..



We support community BBQs at Bunnings



Game of the round from Ballarat

Communication, key to success

Talking and sharing ideas is central to the successful running of any organization. Community radio draws its members from many different walks of life.

Monthly meetings provide a way to get to know presenters whom you never see because of the large number of program slots throughout the week.



Vigorous discussion at the May meeting.



Members listening intently



The main agenda item

May Monthly Meeting

Each month the station holds a “free for all” meeting, which is open to all members. The management committee members outline what is happening around the station to inform everyone of the progress being made in getting our studios up and running and our transmission back to full strength. The meeting is then thrown open to discussion. All too often, members of a community organization feel left out of the loop when changes are implemented by the management. There needs to be an effective means of keeping everyone up to date and allowing discussion and questions for clarification. Big changes are happening at 97.9fm and for some, the progress seems to be too slow or even non-existent. Meetings like this are an opportunity to voice opinion and generally “quiz” the management.

In the May meeting the topics were quite varied. Those present were shown the plans for the construction of studio 3 and they offered a few suggestions for improvement. The troubles with some of the computer systems were also discussed and correct usage clarified. The new doorbell system was explained and welcomed. To help alleviate the worry of not knowing if the next on air announcer will come or not, members were advised of the need to be 15 minutes early and to exchange phone numbers. It was too cold for a sausage sizzled so we ate some pizzas and enjoyed the meeting. All members and any interested people are invited to the next meeting on **June 1st** at the station at the Victoria University Campus.



New dipole assembly restores our coverage

Our coverage

Our broadcasting licence strictly regulates what we are allowed to do. With our equipment we must bring a perfect signal to all places within the old shire boundaries. Sufficient power is allocated to us for this purpose.

We have many listeners outside the shire who want to tune in, especially people who speak other languages. Our new aerials are high enough and have sufficient power to reach most of Melbourne but the quality of the signal cannot be guaranteed everywhere. Increasing the power would violate the conditions of the licence.

Full transmission gradually restored

The delicate job of raising the antenna has been accomplished with few hiccups. The slender pole must support the weight of two reasonably heavy dipole antennas, remain erect, and withstand gale force winds well into the future.

Guy wires are attached to stop swaying and the build up of unwanted vibration in the tower, which is quite top-heavy with the two antennas wanting to topple it. Four of the six guy wires are first attached and the tower pulled into place without the antennas. With the tower in the right position the last two wires are fastened and all of them tightened so that the tower is rigidly held in place.

After that the tower is lowered again and the antennas added. Now the job of raising it is very difficult. Volunteers steadily and slowly lift the tower into place and the guy wires attached and tensioned. Success!! We are now ready to broadcast at full power again. Heinz and the team have done it again.

Of course, this situation is also only temporary in order to restore coverage for those listeners who lost transmission when the storm hit and the mast fell over. With the help of a grant, we hope to erect a full size and higher tower which can accommodate, not only all of our transmission aerials and dishes, but can be offered to other companies requiring a transmission tower for their radio or message services.



Reaching for the sky



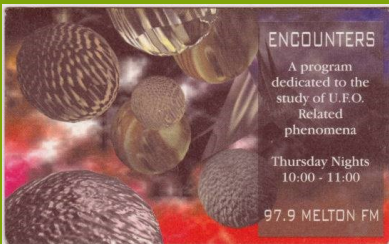
Matthew Cocks and Barry Agg clean up after the job. The antenna is now securely in place.

The station relies on the dedication of the presenters.

Each presenter enjoys putting a program to air every week. We have many slots to fill and rely on the dedication and persistence of members. Many music styles are covered and each announcer adds their personality to their show so that the listener gets to know them over time.



Alex McMurray getting ready for his program



UFOs are real. "Encounters" brought us case histories of UFO sightings and other paranormal phenomena and investigated the evidence for and against the existence of beings from other worlds.

Announcer of the month : Alex McMurray

Alex is one of the longest serving members, who has worked in various capacities over the years. He joined us in 1988, when we were still at the Regional Shopping Centre (now Woodgrove). Those who listen to Alex's program these days will notice his predilection for comedy which began long ago on a Thursday night in his program of light rock and comedy. This turned into a program about UFOs in 1990 in which he brought us proof of the alien invasion and other strange things. The "Community Diary", still heard on 979fm today was started by Alex in 2008 after he had spent some time on both the committee of management and programming sub committee.

All of the insomniacs of Melton must be familiar with the "Comedy Overnight" program on Friday night, compiled by Alex and Colin Vinten. Six hours of hard to come by older comedy programs are broadcast each Friday night from Midnight to 7 am. As if that is not enough Alex also produces the Old Time Radio Show, "OTR" which keeps the insomniacs entertained each Thursday night from midnight. Here you can hear programs on Science, drama, Science fiction and fantasy.

Other activities in which Alex is involved are Karate, becoming a black belt at 62, and acting with the Bacchus Marsh Theatre Company. Having undertaken singing lessons, Alex now obtains parts as the leading actor in productions.

Finally, who can remember the days of square dancing? Another of Alex's achievements was to be a square dance caller. Maybe it will return someday. Who knows?

979fm Program Guide

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
6:00	Serbian Program George Djukic	Serbian Program George Djukic	Serbian Program George Djukic	Voice of Samoa Rev Pio	St. John's Mission Sr. Diavatis Greek	Rock'n'roll Breakfast Mark Ryan	Jesus is Alive Leo Strebs
8:00	Rise and Shine Leo Strebs	Nicholodeon Kaye Nichols	Born to be Alive Janet Stewart	Moments of Inspiration William Osgiede	Keepin' it Country De'Arne Marshall	Swinging Sixties Mark Ryan	Beat Street Bob Turner
10:00	Macca's Morning Coffee Alex MacMurray	Dingo's Brunch Dingo	Top 30 Country Hits John Peppin	Voice of Samoa Rev Pio	Music all sorts Frank Val	Saturday Morning Sixties Anthony Barnes	The J - Factor Jordan Veith
12:00	Jazz and Blues Frank Val	Sal's All Kinds of Music Salena Sevcuk	At Noon Carolyn MacGavin	Best Music Mix Gerard Zapelli		Behind the net Shaun George	Sunday Smorgasbord Anthony Barnes
14:00	Living in the Land of OZ Lee-Roy	The Tea Break Bill Lucas	Soul Food Café Johnny Soprano	West's Best Country John Peppin	Game of the Round Matthew Cocks Sam Young Barry Agg Bill Lucas	Anything Goes Colin Vinton Nostalgia	MelodicMemories Various Easy Listening
16:00		Ethiopian program Nibret Kassa	What's Up Tim Staunton				
18:00	Radio Mania Spanish Daniel Lagos	Bisnietra Maltese Program Miriam Vella	Dingo's Dinner Time Dingo	Serbian Program George Djukic	Radio Mania Daniel Lagos Spanish	Smithy's Night Shift Ian Smith	Smithy's Night Shift Ian Smith
20:00	Harness review Len Baker	Berkana Ed Story Indigenous	Sugar High Cassy and Carol	Very Best of Rock Michael Knight	Memories of Elvis De'Arne Marshall	Off the beattle Track Ed Story	A very Special Blossom Leonie Armstrong
22:00	Voice of Samoa Tony	Combo Breaker Jordan Hendrix <i>video gaming show</i>	Croatian Program Josip Djopa	In the Mix Scott Agnew	Reminiscing Colin Vinton	Saturday Club Ed Story	Croatian Program Josip Djopa
0:00	Community Radio Network	Community Radio Network	Community Radio Network	OTR Show Alex MacMurray	Comedy overnight Colin Vinton Alex MacMurray	Community Radio Network	Community Radio Network