

Presidents Report August 2019

Welcome to the AGM of Mansfield Community Radio Inc.

The last 12 months have been fantastic for Radio Mansfield. We have undertaken many important projects, all of which have increase our connectivity with our community and improved our broadcasting.

Some of these have included:

- Modifying and equipping out a new outside broadcast van which was fully funded from donations from local service clubs.
- Installing a new repeater and standby generator at Tolmie in the north of the Shire using \$17700 of our own funds raised from sponsorships and memberships.
- Upgrading our outside broadcasting equipment including obtaining Tie Line equipment with a \$12088 grant from the CBF.
- Refurbishing Studio 1 to allow disabled access.
- Replacing equipment rack.
- Installing emergency broadcasting signs at Shire and town boundaries.
- Revamping our website www.radiomansfield.org.au and our Facebook and Twitter accounts to improve our online presence.
- Improving our sponsor, presenter and member numbers.
- Increasing our live broadcast hours by recruiting and training new presenters.

We have several projects that we plan to complete in the next financial year. These are:

- Installing a new repeater at Frenchman's Gap in the south of our Shire. We were successful in obtaining \$28117 grant from the CBF towards this project.
- Improving transmissions at the Paps transmitter.
- Improving telemetry links from studio to the main Pap's transmitter.
- Upgrading automatic changeover relay between mains and generator at Pap's.
- Relocating OB receiving antennae on studio roof.
- Initialising the Chris Deutscher Memorial Fund which will assist young up and coming musicians.

We will continue to:

- Recruit more young presenters to increase youth content.
- Obtain more sponsors and members.
- Increase the participation of local schools in presenting programs.
- Increase the participation of Shire representatives, local politicians and community groups in our interview programs.
- Circulate newsletters to members and sponsors.
- Update our program guide and contact list regularly.
- Have social get-togethers, some in conjunction with working bees, so we can improve connections with our community and members.
- Pursue grants and donors for current and future projects.
- Be involved with the Shire's Emergency Management Committee and Emergency Management Victoria.

This year we welcomed several new presenters: Ingrid Ueno, Paul Britton, Corleen Cooper, Nina Meires, Ian Todd and Tim Morgan. Trish O'Doherty and Graeme Cadman also returned to presenting.

Radio Mansfield is really quite an amazing volunteer community organisation. Our 32 presenters now broadcast 78.5 hours per week live, 10.5 of them also on relay to our sister station UGFM. When you consider these broadcast hours, the additional time presenters take preparing shows and the behind the scenes management and technical operations, that's a lot of volunteer hours per week, every week.

A big thank you to all our volunteers for giving your time to keep our community entertained and informed.

We must also thank all our sponsors and members. Their support keeps us on air.

We had a great committee this year which resulted in productive meetings. It was a busy year for the station and I must thank the committee for sharing the workload. The station has progressed forward this year and is in a sound financial position.

We have a happy and dedicated group of volunteers which makes Radio Mansfield a popular radio station with our community.

Thanks to all of you again.

John Coffey
President
August 2019