

The Ethnic Broadcaster

Spring 2003 Edition
National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters' Council



Ethnic broadcasting: multiculturalism back on the agenda CONFERENCE 2003

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PRESIDENT'S PEN



Dear Members,

once again we are about to meet - this time in Canberra (Dec 5 - 7) for our Annual Conference and AGM. How quickly the year comes around.

No sooner is the Conference over than work begins for the next one, stretching to the end our limited resources. But with the help of the ACT Government this time, and our Members in Canberra, we are able to say that this Conference will be at least as good as the best in the past - and certainly more "youthful."

The issues are many and difficult - but working together we have a better chance to be successful in finding the answers that lead us forward.

As you will notice, the theme for the Conference has been determined by the actual circumstances: that is, PLACING THE FUNDAMENTAL VALUES AND PRINCIPLES OF MULTICULTURALISM AND ETHNIC BROADCASTING ON THE NATIONAL AGENDA.

The NEMBC is extremely happy to have the nation's leading thinker and practitioner on multiculturalism, Professor Mary Kalantzis, as being the keynote speaker at the Conference - among many other distinguished contributors.

As you know, as a result of the ministerial reshuffle, Senator Richard Alston has retired as Minister for Communications. His position passes to Mr Darryl Williams. The NEMBC acknowledges with appreciation the interest and often the support that Senator Alston has given to community broadcasting and the ethnic sector. We wish Senator Alston the very best in his pending retirement from politics.

The NEMBC has written to Mr Williams congratulating him on his appointment, and requesting an early meeting to discuss with him the work and the role of the NEMBC, and establish a working relationship.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome and acknowledge the good work done by Güler Shaw as AERTP Coordinator.

Looking forward to seeing you in Canberra - and I hope you will make every effort to represent your station or program to this all-important National Conference.

George Zangalis
NEMBC President

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From demented spaghetti to minidisc:

Early days at
5EBI



Peter Perejma shows off the height of broadcast technology... in 1978.

You knew it was 6:12 pm because the window rattled as the evening Ansett flight from Melbourne approached Adelaide airport.

The window resonated before you heard the plane. It was a bit like the movie *Apocalypse Now*, where you heard the Ride of the Valkyries before the helicopters. Being under the flight path for the approach to Adelaide airport is not the ideal place for the studios of the fledgling 5EBI. Yet, programs were recorded there, and then delivered to 5UV for broadcast via access time. It was 1978.

As you can imagine, there was plenty of tape stopping/starting/editing between 5pm and 9pm, which was the best time for people to record after going home from work. This was also peak time for flight traffic. We tried rolling small pieces of paper to squeeze between the window and the frame, but to no avail.

The two 5EBI studios and office were in Cresco House, a large bungalow style house built in the 1920s – a renovator's delight. We shared it with two other community based organisations. It was rumoured that the house was haunted, which explained the window rattling. The communal kitchen was in a perpetual mess

and the coffee disappeared faster than a politician's promise.

It was our fourth annual radiothon, but our first one there. The 22 ethnic groups provided a technicolour array of entertainment, dances, speeches and food. My most vivid memory of that occasion was the unveiling of a brand new mop, ceremoniously dipped into a bucket of the best cooking claret and then scrubbed on a lamb turning on the spit. Marinade à la mop! The studio décor was the universal norm for a novice community radio station, designed by a graduate from the Sir Les Patterson School of Refined Design. Floor to ceiling brown hessian, pre-loved carpet and double doors for acoustic absorption – at least in theory.

For a young person at that time, the technical side was a great attraction. The placement of microphones, tape recording techniques and the console opened up a whole new world of experimentation and discovery. The main recording device was a Cuemaster 77 MK IVB using ¼ inch tape in mono. When you pressed STOP on the recorder, as the tape was in mid flight going fast forward or reverse, several feet of the tape would violently wrap itself around

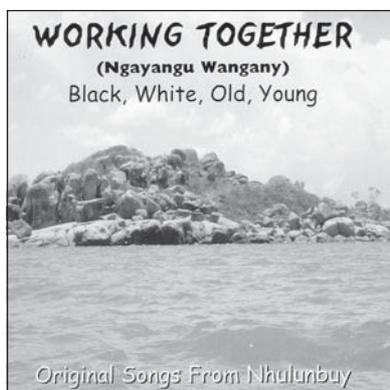
one spool like demented spaghetti. A cause of this would be the take up spool being of a different size. It did not matter whether you were using a 4, 7 or 10 inch reel of tape, there would never be a corresponding take up spool of the same size in the studio, so you had to make do with what was there. Nor would there be a 'centre' to fill in those singles with the big holes. It is impossible to slip cue a record without a middle.

After unwrapping the damaged tape from around the spool, we had to do creative editing using that white splicing tape or record the program again. Sometimes you would spend hours in the studio to do a 30 minute program, meticulously recording community news, features, analysis, comment and music only to find that there was nothing on the tape at the end of the recording session. Surely that was enough proof that the place had a resident ghost.

Things have improved since then. 5EBI-FM occupies premises where tape recorders have been replaced with Mini Disc, operators receive formal training and there is no poltergeist. I still have problems with the windows though – it is hard to clean the middle pane of triple glazing.

New from AMRAP

The Australian Music Radio Airplay Project



AMRAP has been extremely busy with a number of new initiatives recently. Paul Mason provides this update.

Amrap and noise

noise is a national media festival profiling young creative people and their work on radio, television, in print and online in October 2003. The festival is funded by the Federal Government and managed by the Australia Council.

AMRAP has developed a partnership initiative with noise through which 12 young broadcasters from community radio stations around the country have been selected as Music Correspondents.

Each correspondent has been funded to produce three short radio pieces (up to 10mins) profiling a local performer or composer, or covering an issue relevant to the local music scene.

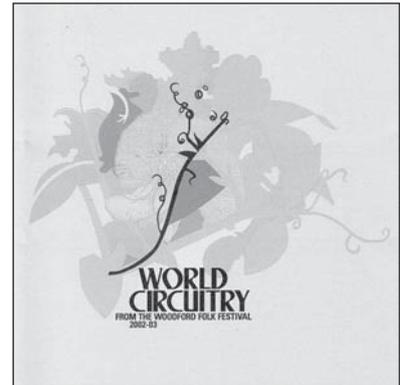
These pieces have been distributed to stations on CD and via satellite and stations are encouraged to broadcast some or all of the work during the noise festival in October this year.

Anthony Colombo from 2000FM (see Meet noise artist Anthony Colombo, page 7) was one of the 12 Music Correspondents and he has produced a fantastic variety of pieces profiling Opera singer Gaetano, pop duo Chablis and RnB DJ Lenno.

"For me the aspect of why I enjoy doing radio is just discovering that there's more to Italian music than the classic hits," says Anthony.

"I also enjoy speaking Italian through the music, it helps you learn the language," he adds.





Being part of the Amrap / noise Music Correspondent Initiative has also expanded Anthony's radio experience.

"I'd like to do this full time, broadcasting and producing different segments" says Anthony "With noise/AMRAP, it's pushed me to come into the studio every day – I wouldn't usually come in tis much – and it's something that I've really enjoyed".

Other highlights of the pieces produced through this initiative include work produced by Mundanara Bayles from Brisbane's 4AAA, profiling young Indigenous musicians expressing themselves through hip-hop; work by Rico Adjrun from 8KNB in Darwin that includes profiles of "Katamaran" a local trio who claim to have conceived the genre "new school bush" and the legendary June Mills; and a profile of local hip hop artists including Curse Ov Dialect by Simone Ubaldi of 3PBS.

If you haven't received the 3 CD set, more are available by emailing amrap@cbaa.org.au and you can listen and download all the pieces from the amrap web site www.amrap.org.au

Other Amrap news

New Amrap-funded CDs worth looking out for include:

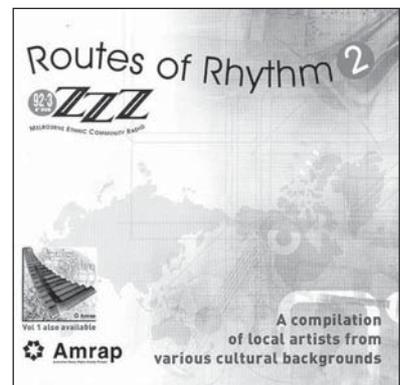
Local and Live A new compilation of live to air recordings made by Melbourne's 3CR

Routes of Rhythm 2 Volume 2 of this fantastic world music series produced by 3ZZZ

World Circuitry A compilation of world music artists who have appeared at the Woodford folk Festival produced by 4EB

Working Together A musical slice of the Top End produced by 8EAR Nhulumbuy

Check with your station for copies of these cds or email amrap@cbaa.org.au



New from AMRAP

Noise Festival



Noise Festival featuring one of our very own NEMBC members
Anthony Colombo

In March of this year, young people from across the country (aged 25 and under) were invited to submit their creative work to noise for the opportunity to receive mass media exposure. Thousands of submissions were received: the resulting creative critical mass is what Australia will see this October.

For those of you who are not familiar with noise... noise is a media-based festival happening throughout October 2003, profiling young artists and their new work on radio, television, in print and online.

Noise is unique, hanging creative works across the media instead of in traditional art spaces. The festival will showcase writing, animation, e-works, moving pictures, images, DJ sets, zines, comics, spoken word and new and remixed music – all created by young Australians and projected to a national audience of over 15 million.

NEMBC Member Anthony Colombo is one of these artists who has featured in this festival. As part of the noise / AMRAP Music Correspondents project Anthony created three short radio packages: Chablis - "The Taste of Music" - sisters who have grown up singing together; Gaetno - a story of a young man's achievements both nationally and internationally and his experiences in opera music, which is new to him; and DJ Lenno and RnB - DJ Lenno talks about what it's like being a DJ plus RnB music and its followers.

Interested in where you will see noise?

Noise will reach this sizable audience thanks to collaborations with over 80 media and arts organisations. noise partners include Triple J, Channel 10, the ABC (Radio, TV and Online), the National Gallery of Australia, Channel [V], The Australian, The National Gallery of Australia, and a host of magazines including IdN (International Design Network), HQ, Inside Film, Kerrang, Chik, Design Graphics, Black + White and more. Noise has also created a magazine and a book **noise: words and pictures**.

For more information on this festival check out the website www.noise.net.au as well as **AMRAP**: Australian Music Radio Airplay Project www.amrap.org





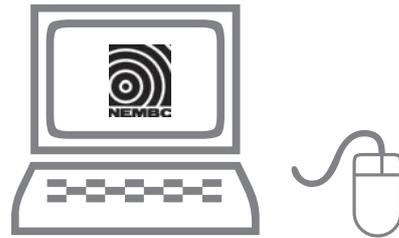
Meet Noise artist Anthony Colombo

Anthony Colombo (or to some known as Mr.C), a Radio Announcer from Italian Community Radio Program Movimento FM on Radio 2000 98.5FM in Sydney, is one of the noise/AMRAP music correspondents. Since 1999 he has been looking after Movimento FM, an Italian youth radio program spoken in English with a modern Italian and European flavour playing all the new music from there.

Anthony is heavily involved in many community groups and projects such as being NSW State Representative of NEMBC Youth Committee and the Vice President - Italo-Australian Youth Association Inc. He is from the eastern suburbs of Sydney and has grown up there with an Italian background; explaining his involvement in an Italian youth radio program and his love for Italian music and food of course.

Mr C says "There's not much that I hate." Instead he says the one thing that keeps him sane is his love for music and being able to do things that he enjoys so much and that is producing radio programs and Dee Jay parties.

Recently completing an Events Management Adv Diploma, Anthony is looking at getting into event management or radio broadcasting. Whilst in between jobs he has been serious about his radio programs and regularly produces segments to go on air.



What's at the NEMBC website?

Make the most of what we offer online by becoming a regular visitor to our website:

Search for programs by language or by state - find out about broadcasts happening all over the country.

Funding database: where to look to apply for money for your program.

All the latest **news** and **Conference** information.

Everything you need to know about **training by the AERTP**.

News from the **Women's Committee**, the **Youth Committee** and on the **New & Emerging Communities project**.

The Ethnic News Digest (END): news you can use in 20 languages. See pages 23-27 for Research Resources, a new addition to the END.

Articles, stories and news from past editions of **The Ethnic Broadcaster**.

and

How to get in touch with us! The NEMBC website is your **membership one-stop shop**:

www.nembc.org.au

Airtime for youth and new communities:

how does ethnic community radio compare to SBS?

In March of this year the Minister for Communications, Senator Alston, wrote to the NEMBC asking for details of our sector's progress in developing strategies to increase the participation of young people and emerging communities.

The NEMBC has a long standing and deep commitment to promoting an increase in participation by these groups. The letter from the Minister led us to attempt to quantify our progress in this area.

As an initial indicator, we decided to benchmark the progress of ethnic community radio against that of SBS Radio, for which Senator Alston had a direct responsibility. In order to ensure that we are comparing apples with apples, we measured the performance of "full time" ethnic community stations in the major capital cities against their SBS counterparts.

The results show that ethnic community stations on the five major capital cities (Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth) provide almost twice as much time to youth and members of emerging communities as their SBS counterparts (see table opposite).

After noting the performance of community stations compared to SBS radio, and hinting that perhaps Senator Alston should pay attention to his own backyard first, NEMBC President George Zangalis wrote to the Minister:

The most obvious strategy is to significantly increase the number of frequencies available for ethnic community broadcasters.. With a low population density, and a lack of near neighbours, Australia is fortunate in this regard. Even with existing technologies it is much easier to find additional frequencies in Australia than comparable countries.

While significant progress has been made in getting more youth and members of emerging communities to air, and while there is still some capacity for movement within the existing structures, there is a limit.

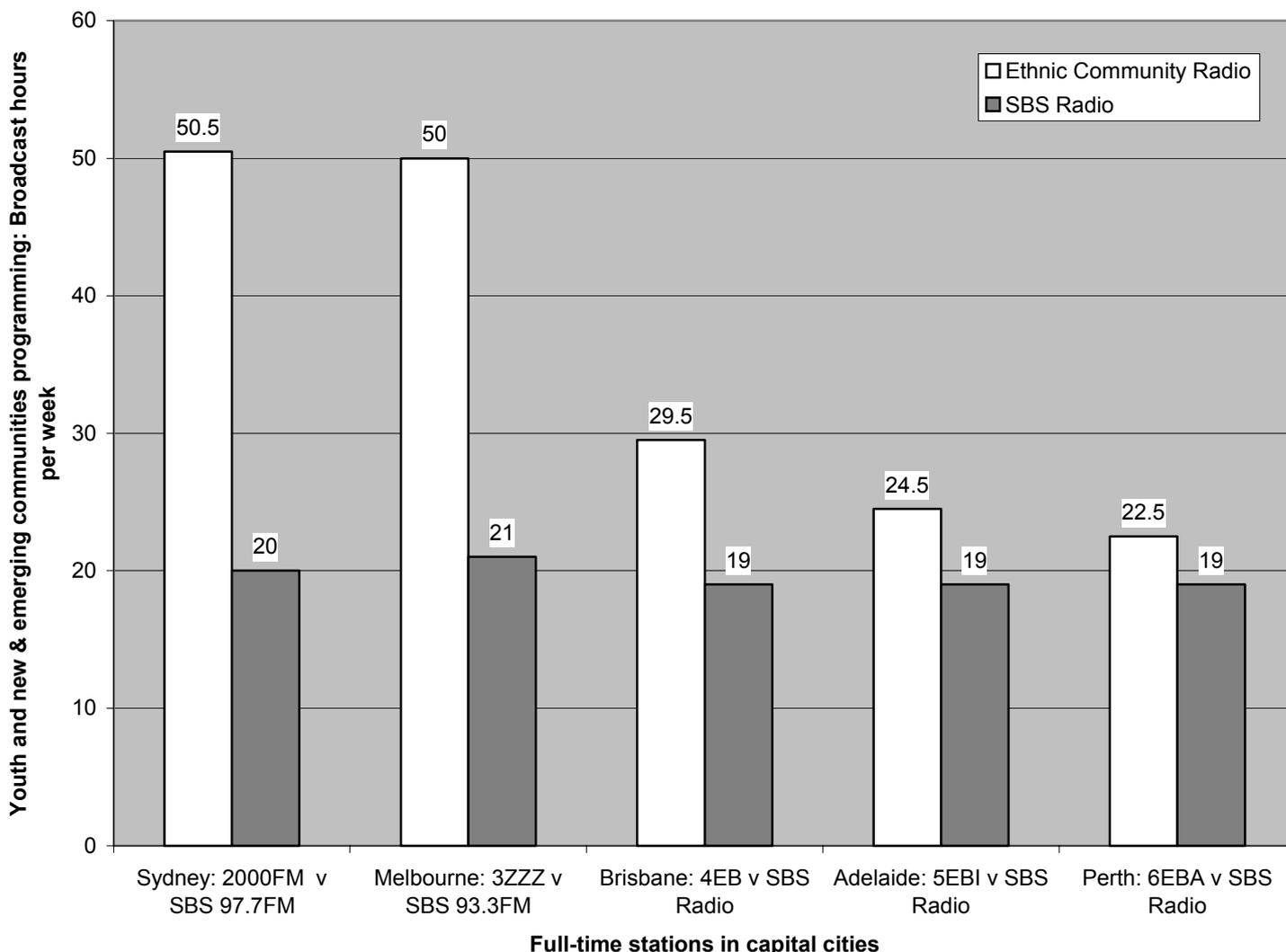
We recognise, and indeed we have championed, the legitimate needs of youth and members of new communities. But we are not comfortable evicting the existing tenants. These broadcasters value their language and their culture. They fought hard to establish ethnic community broadcasting, and they worked hard to learn new skills. They will not go quietly. Robbing Peter to pay Paul is not a solution.

He also referred to the government's decision not to continue funding for the NEMBC's highly regarded training of ethnic broadcasters through the Australian Ethnic Radio Training Project (AERTP). Noting that newcomers to ethnic community radio, principally youth and members of new and emerging communities, were the principal beneficiaries of the AERTP, he continued:

Another hurdle that (young people and members of new communities) have to jump before they can go to air is acquiring the appropriate broadcasting skills. We acknowledge your expressions of high regard for the



Youth and new & emerging communities: how the full time stations perform



Australian Ethnic Radio Training Project. The funding for this project has now expired. A sensible strategy for getting new groups to air would be to continue support for training new ethnic broadcasters.

In short, ethnic community broadcasters have welcomed young people and members of new and emerging ethnic communities. We have done much better in this regard than the SBS.

There is a great and legitimate demand for airtime from ethnic communities. The best way to meet this need is to make more frequencies available to ethnic community broadcasters, and to provide funding support for the training of new ethnic broadcasters.

Update

Senator Alston replied to us in July. He expressed some reservations about the validity of our comparison of full time ethnic community radio stations with SBS stations in the same city. We maintain our view that ethnic

community stations in the capital cities have a much better record with regard to youth and emerging communities than their SBS counterparts.

In his letter the Minister advised:

I have requested the Department to include in the 2004-2005 deed of grant for the CBF a requirement that at least 20% of the targeted funds for ethnic community broadcasting be provided to support ethnic youth programs, new language groups and new and emerging communities (including any training initiatives for these groups).

In response to our suggestion that the provision of additional frequencies would help accommodate the needs of young people and emerging communities, Senator Alston mentioned a number of difficulties. We continue with our view that if much larger and more densely populated cities in Europe can have so many stations available, Australia should be able to match them.



MEMBERS' NEWS



At 4EB, the more languages the merrier!

It has been a busy couple of months at 4EB FM in Brisbane (that's our building, above) – recently fundraising well into the evening on many occasions that I presume many stations across the country have been working on as well. But now doubt the primary goal once the bills are paid is to maximize the use of airtime for all communities within a station's coverage area.

4EB FM has had increased involvement from certain communities and as a result the station has managed to increase some of the language and youth programming on the station. Recently, the station saw the return of a Japanese language programme and soon once again the station will have Korean and Turkish Language

Programmes being broadcast on a weekly basis. An Italian youth programme was re-invigorated recently and the station's Persian youth programme cemented its place within the station's weekly programming. With so many different demographics to consider with limited community radio airtime across Australia it will forever be a challenge to broadcast programmes not only for the general audience of a specific community but programmes for youth as well. I look forward to the NEMBC Conference – hopefully, many stations will take the opportunity to pass on contact details for broadcasters to allow for increased communication and support across Australia. At worst, once we all meet we will be just a little bit more knowledgeable and wiser for the experiences we share!

See you soon,

Peter Rohweder
4EB FM Manager

and New waves at 4EB

In the previous issue of Ethnic Broadcaster we reported on the activities of the Youth Coordinators at Radio 4EB. Well it's been yet another busy month for the Queensland gang. The Radio 4EB Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday 21 September 2003. Sinéad Lee has been elected as the Secretary of the Board of Directors and Adam Lo has been elected as a Member of the Board of Directors. The outcome of the AGM is an indication of 4EB's commitment to youth participation in ethnic broadcasting. The station coopted two youth members at the beginning of 2003 and has been working to promote and encourage

youth involvement since then. Adam and Sinéad have worked together to create a multicultural youth program, to promote the accessibility of the station and to encourage young members from differing backgrounds to work together and learn from each other in the broadcasting arena. Their position on the Board of Directors will facilitate the youth voice at Radio 4EB, and hopefully encourage other young members to get involved in the station on all levels. The new Board members are looking forward to a challenging and exciting year and to having continued communication with their colleagues interstate.



AROUND AUSTRALIA

Beating the drum: TaikOz at EBI

Dr Riley Lee from TaikOz (on the left), showed 5EBI-FM's Peter Perejma the art of Wadaiko (Japanese drumming) improvised on upturned waste paper bins, during a recent visit to the studios. TaikOz was formed in 1997 and has established itself as one of Australia's most energetic and exciting drumming groups, combining the power of traditional Japanese taiko drums and the ethereal tones of the bamboo shakuhachi flute. Dr Riley Lee is Australia's only Grand Master of the shakuhachi and one of few outside of Japan.



New faces at 7THE

In the state where less than 8% of the population speaks a language other than English at home, Multicultural Broadcasters Inc is Hobart's sole local source of audio information in different languages. We share the airwaves with other community programs on 7THE FM Sound of the City - Community and Multicultural Radio Station, and provide programs in 20 languages. We have had our AGM (top left) and elected the board (bottom left, left to right: Mahandra Pathik - Secretary, Teodino Ottavi - Multicultural Coordinator (the one standing in the picture), Davor Perovic - President, Benetos Gavallas - vicepresident, and Danijela Ivkovic - Treasurer). After the election of the office bearers, the evening ended on a festive note, thanks to our friends from the Chinese program who brought a cake, and the Italian broadcaster who provided wine.

Danijela Ivkovic

MEMBERS' NEWS



6EBA: How to make your AGM fun!

Annual General Meetings can and often are boring affairs. However, some 59 of the 67 member groups constituting the Multicultural Radio & TV Association of WA Inc. (6EBA-FM) turned up to the AGM held on Saturday 27th September 2003 at the WA Yugoslav Centre Inc., 78 Jones street, Stirling, WA. In total 153 persons attended the evening.

A new 16-member council was elected with a mandate to take the association and the station forward into the 21st century. The following were elected:

Office Bearers:

Mr. Nikola Nikolich, Chairperson (unopposed); Mr. Bruno Rabensteiner, Vice-Chairperson; Mr. Said Padshah, Secretary; Ms. Diane Popovich, Treasurer (unopposed)

Ordinary Councillors:

Mr. Andrew Basinski; Mr. Daniel Stojanovski (Youth); Mr. Vlado Radalj; Mr. Islam Abduramanoski; Mr. Mick Bellis; Mr. Robert Wegman; Mr. Joe Kaldas; Mr. Roland Rosario; Mrs. Irene Szabo; Mr. Tugomir Matokovic; Mrs. Ingeborg Trittler; Ms. Paula Tsakisiris (Youth).

Two young people, Daniel Stojanovski (Macedonian United Society) and Paula Tsakisiris (Hellenic Community of WA Inc.) made history by being the first to be elected to Council.

Our three 'Life members' – Mr. Alessandro Lutero, Mrs. Joyce Lutero and Ms. Diane Popovich – were in attendance and were thanked for their individual contributions to the association over many, many years. Mr. Lutero the President of the Association for over 25 years did not seek election this term and becomes our past President (Chairperson).

A magnificent dinner then followed with the provision of Halal and non-Halal food. Two belly dancers looked after the entertainment for the evening.

It just goes to show that AGMs don't have to be boring.

Photograph: New Council MRTA of WA Inc & Life members. Back row L-R: Vlado Radalj; Robert Wegman; Nikola Nikolich (Chairperson); Joe Kaldas; Diane Popovich (Treasurer); Mick Bellis; Islam Abduramanoski; Said Padshah (Secretary). Front row L-R: Andrew Basinski; Tugomir Matokovic; Paula Tsakisiris; Ingeborg Trittler; Bruno Rabensteiner (Vice-Chairperson); Alessandro Lutero; Joyce Lutero; Roland Rosario; Irene Szabo. Absent from the photograph: Daniel Stojanovski.

NEMBC Members! Did you know...

Your NEMBC Membership comes up for renewal at the end of every calendar year. That's **31 December, 2003!**



Why not **renew your Membership with your Conference registration?** See the Conference form for details - it's been inserted into this edition of *The Ethnic Broadcaster* - or visit our website: www.nembc.org.au



AROUND AUSTRALIA



AERTP Training at Plenty Valley FM 88.6. From left: Michal Morris (Trainer), Aylin Eser, Güler Shaw and Öznur Ünal (Trainees).

What an AERTP graduate can tell you

At the recent NEMBC Youth Conference the question was asked: Just how many people in this room have been trained by the AERTP (Australian Ethnic Radio Training Project)? As I raised my hand, other people did too. I felt a sense of belonging – greater than that to my communities and the station where I broadcast, and where I was trained and train others. The connection I felt was to multicultural communities, through their broadcasters around Australia. AERTP strengthens a national communal voice.

Here's what some recent AERTP trainees had to say about it:

Aylin Eser: "I thought it was a really good experience. It was different to everything else I've ever done. I met a lot of people through it – I associate with a lot of people but this was a different atmosphere. I liked interviewing people and gathering different opinions. The things I learnt helped me a lot.

"When I went on the show and course I couldn't speak Turkish properly. I gained heaps of confidence, I didn't care what people thought. Just having my part in my community and having input meant a lot. I could do something to help educate the community. As I gained confidence my Turkish improved. When I started I paused a lot; near the end it was more fluid."

Öznur Ünal: "I loved the atmosphere and made lots of new friends. I learnt studio use, recording, program research skills, writing for radio and broadcast law."

– Güler Shaw, AERTP Coordinator



free radio training for ethnic broadcasters

AERTP still lives - don't miss this opportunity!

- learn defamation/media law, panel operating, talkback, documentary making and much more!
- training is **accredited**
- Stations can apply for funding from the CBF by **14 November 2003** at www.cbf.com.au

For training information go to: www.nembc.org.au or contact Güler Shaw, AERTP Co-ordinator on (03) 9415 8566 or aertp@nembc.org.au



Conference 2003

Canberra, 5 - 7 December

It's that time of year again! Time for NEMBC Members to meet, exchange experiences and ideas, and make plans for the coming year.

The theme for this year's NEMBC Annual Conference announces that the time has come to put multiculturalism back on the policy-making and funding agenda. Despite growing demand from youth and new & emerging communities, ethnic and multicultural broadcasting are in real danger of being overlooked, and funding for the Australian Ethnic Radio Training Project looks like being discontinued.

We need to remind politicians, policy makers and most importantly ourselves, that our power lies

behind the microphone. We are opinion leaders – active members of our communities, with plenty to say and plenty of people listening.

The Conference this year will take place from Friday 5 – Sunday 7 December with the Annual General Meeting of the NEMBC on the Sunday morning. The conference concludes at 1:00pm on Sunday, giving most of you time to get home by Sunday night.

The venue for both the Conference and for delegates' accommodation will be the Hotel Heritage, 203 Goyder St, Narrabundah, Canberra. Hotel Heritage offers a swimming pool, sauna and spa plus a variety of accommodation options to suit most pockets. It is located close to cosmopolitan Manuka and Kingston.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME - DRAFT

Friday 5th December

11am – 1pm

Registrations

1 – 2.30pm

Plenary: Multicultural community building and youth.
Patrick Abboud TBC

2:30 – 3pm

Afternoon tea

3 – 4:30pm

Workshops

Getting heard

Youth

Hands-on

3:00pm – 3:45pm

Media Law workshop
Phil Kafcaloudes

Patrick Abboud TBC
Be a broadcaster
for the afternoon

Maureen O'Keefe: streaming audio
demonstration

3:45pm – 4:30pm

Getting your message
across
Phil Kafcaloudes

Maureen O'Keefe
Demonstration of 3ZZZ's online
sponsorship booking system

6.00pm –

Cocktail reception

Indigenous welcome

Formal conference opening/ welcome from ACT Government.



Ethnic broadcasting: multiculturalism back on the agenda

Their website at <http://www.hotelheritage.com.au> provides more information, including many images and a map.

As usual the NEMBC will provide subsidies for Members' travel and have negotiated attractive accommodation rates – see the Registration Form for details. Please make your accommodation arrangement directly with the Hotel Heritage, and be sure to book as soon as possible. Conference registrations on the other hand need to be received here at the NEMBC, with your payments in full, by **Friday 21 November 2003**.

We look forward to meeting with as many of you as possible.

*We acknowledge the generous support of:
the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the ACT
Government, Centrelink and the Community
Broadcasting Foundation*



Saturday 6th December

9am – 10am	Government and Opposition: Media Policy (Invitations issued to Ministers and Shadow Ministers)		
10am – 11am	Plenary - Keynote address: Mary Kalantzis. Multiculturalism back on the agenda.		
11 – 11:30am	<i>Morning tea</i>		
11:30 – 12:30pm	Plenary: The challenges facing ethnic and multicultural broadcasting today.		
12:30 – 1:30pm	<i>Lunch</i>		
2 – 3pm	Plenary: Women in ethnic community radio Or Workshop discussions.		
2:30 – 3pm	<i>Afternoon tea</i>		
3:30 – 5pm	<i>Workshops</i>		
	Getting heard	Youth	Hands-on
3:30pm – 4:15pm	Planning a media campaign	Policy and planning.	Training: options for the future? Alternative models?
4:15pm – 5pm	Lobbying effectively.	Concrete outcomes.	Internet media skills.
7pm –	<i>Dinner at the Hotel Heritage Restaurant</i>		

Sunday 6th December AGM from 10:00am

Tony Manicaros Award

Up to \$1500 of one-off funding for projects to be completed within six months.

The Tony Manicaros Award is an annual award to fund a project of significance for ethnic community broadcasting. It is open to stations, programming groups and individuals. Proposals that will be considered for the award include projects which:

- produce special programming of significance to a national audience, specific target group or to mark significant historic or present day events
- produce programming across a number of stations as part of a festival, to celebrate a significant event, etc.
- assist with oral history, documenting or archiving of material of significance for ethnic community broadcasting
- produce cultural information or programming of benefit to ethnic community broadcasting
- produce and distribute information of benefit to ethnic programmers or stations with ethnic programming
- provide specialised training for broadcasters and particularly broadcasters under represented in ethnic community broadcasting
- undertake study in the media that would assist a programme or station in its programming, technical, administrative or management development
- develop equipment of benefit to the sector

Preference will be given to projects that are significant for the ethnic community broadcasting sector. Creative and innovative projects are encouraged. Preference will be given to projects that would have difficulty receiving funding or sufficient funding from other sources

CONDITIONS OF THE AWARD

- Funding of up to \$1500 will be made to the winner of the award
- Projects must be completed within 6 months.
- An individual applying for training must demonstrate they are of low income.
- The NEMBC is to be given permission to use the project for non-commercial purposes
- A successful applicant cannot reapply in the following year. The award is a one off grant.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE AWARD

- The winner of the award will be announced annually at the NEMBC conference in December 2003.
- The decision of the Tony Manicaros Award trustees is final.
- As an equal opportunity organisation we welcome applications from young people, women and emerging communities.

Applications close Friday 14 November

For further information phone the NEMBC on (03) 9486 9549 or email nembc@nembc.org.au

The Tony Manicaros Award is given to commemorate and celebrate Tony Manicaros' work for ethnic community broadcasting on a station, state and national basis. Full time ethnic community broadcasting stations, ethnic umbrella groups and the Community Broadcasting Foundation have provided funding for the award.



Have we got your email address?

Are you missing out on vital correspondence from the NEMBC because your details aren't up to date?

We send regular newsletters by email, as well as passing on valuable news and information as soon as we get it.

We also rely on having your postal address - not your stations' - so we can get stuff **straight to you**.

Call (03) 9486 9549 or email Esther on nembc@nembc.org.au to update your details.



Publicly funded broadcasting – a barrier to trade?

Synonymous with global protests, the World Trade Organisation (WTO) is now proposing to expand its power over media and culture – including community broadcasting – writes Sasha Costanza-Chock of the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC).

Cancun 08/09/2003 – At this September's WTO meeting, the US Trade Representative has proposed to submit Communications and Audiovisual Services, including film, radio, television, video, and music production, as well as media distribution services such as satellite, cable and broadcast, to the WTO's General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS).

This would spell disaster for vibrant media systems worldwide: public funding for media, including mass, alternative, community, and citizens' media, could be attacked as "barriers to trade." Media ownership limits, as well as laws and initiatives that encourage diverse, locally-owned media, could be considered outright trade violations. Public funding for cultural and artistic production could also come under attack.

On September 9th, representatives from the Movements assembled in Cancun met to denounce the idea of surrendering media and culture to the WTO or any other 'free trade' agreement, and to strategise on how to build the international movement for Communication Rights.

Background

In Cancun, trade ministers from 146 countries (including Mark Vaile, Australian Minister for Trade) continued negotiations on the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS). Critics argue that this agreement is used to override the democratic process, weaken national laws, and undermine public interest regulations around the world. This is done through trade mechanisms that favor the privatisation of every sector of life and the sale of all public services - including education, health care, electricity and water, just to name a few - to the world's largest, most powerful transnational corporations.

Requests to include Communication and Audiovisual Services in GATS - film, radio, television, video, and music production, as well as media distribution services such as satellite, cable and broadcast - have been put forward before. To date, many countries have resisted these requests and fought for an (albeit limited) exemption from GATS known as the 'cultural exception.' So far, this stopgap has kept many media and cultural services out of

the agreement. If Communications and Audiovisual Services do find their way into GATS this September, the repercussions will be severe.

Certain measures taken by governments to defend or build media localism, diversity, and pluralism could be classified as 'barriers to trade;' other WTO member nations would be able to attack them using the binding dispute mechanism of the WTO. Decisions on 'trade disputes' made by the WTO are enforced by international law - member nations must comply with WTO rulings or face multi-million or -billion dollar punitive sanctions. A variety of measures crucial to delivering high quality public service broadcasting would be seen as clear violations of GATS rules, including limits on media ownership, specific restrictions on foreign media ownership, public service obligations, and rules regarding cross ownership.

For these and further reasons, concerned citizens in many nations (including the European Union) have so far successfully lobbied their governments to reject US proposals on Communications and Audiovisual Services, and to block agreements that could impact their nations' media systems.

People everywhere recognise that a free, diverse, local, and independent media system is a fundamental requirement for a functioning democracy, and that ensuring such a media system requires regulation in the public interest as well as support for public service, local, nonprofit and independent media.

AMARC International Secretariat
Email: amarc@amarc.org
Web: www.amarc.org





Welcome Andrew Apostola



I was standing at the front of a long queue at the Victorian Arts Center waiting to make an inquiry. There were other people in the queue behind me, all around the same age, which was surprising for the Arts Center. I was about to step forward to the counter when a woman, around the age of fifty wearing a red suit, pushed right in front of me.

"Excuse me," I said, "I think you have mistaken the front of the line for the back of the line".
"So what?" she said as she stepped forward to the woman waiting at the counter.

I was taken back by the rudeness of her response and her audacity but I wasn't surprised. For those who have forgotten what it's like to be a young person, let me refresh your memories. In Australia, being young denies you a whole range of privileges and activities that older people take for granted. Not only are young people overlooked in decision making processes and denied jobs in management, they are also almost entirely ignored and under-represented by Australia media, including radio.

I see my new position as Youth Coordinator at the NEMBC as a positive step towards balancing out the age inequalities that exist in most institutions in Australia. Around one third of all Australians are under the age of 26 and I think it is a realistic aim to have this figure reflected in ethnic broadcasting across Australia. Ethnic community radio stations need to

accurately reflect the communities they purport to represent.

My general aim is to get more young people involved in ethnic broadcasting. That's the bottom line. In order for this to happen stations need to take a highly structured and positive approach to youth participation on every level. I don't expect stations to flood their time-slots with young people or to kick out long-time broadcasters. There needs to be an adequate process of planning and implementation to allow space for young people to make their way onto the air. If a program is retiring at the end of the year then why not work towards putting together a multicultural youth program?

I will be contacting ethnic broadcasters all over the country in coming weeks offering them ideas and support to help them get more young people on the air. If you have any ideas or require any assistance, send me an email on youth@nembc.org.au or call the NEMBC office on (03) 9486 9549. In conclusion to the story, I didn't let the woman get away with pushing in. I stepped right up beside her and explained to the woman behind the counter what had happened.

"No, no I was here first, this boy is trying to push ahead of me," she said emphatically.
"I don't think so -" replied the woman behind the counter, "you're going to have to take a walk to the back of the line and wait your turn."





Over the past few weeks we have seen a few significant successes for youth across the nation.

The appointment of Andrew Apostola as the Youth Coordinator for the NEMBC signifies a new push by the NEMBC for ethnic broadcasters to become aware of young people and youth programming at their stations. It also reflects a growing shift in the general attitude of community broadcasters across Australia towards strengthening the sector and ensuring that community broadcasting is sustainable for the future.

In Queensland, Tasmania and Perth several young ethnic broadcasters have been elected to the Board of Directors at their respective stations. These are very positive steps towards creating regenerative cultures at stations across the continent. If young people have a representative looking out for their interests then makes it easier to get involved in broadcasting.

Plans to broaden the scope of the NEMBC Youth Committee are under way which will involve the creation of subcommittees in each state, convened by delegates of the youth committee. This structural change will help stations to work together to get more young people from community groups involved in ethnic broadcasting. This is combined with ongoing changes to the way in which the Youth Committee communicates. If you are interested in getting involved now is the time to put your hand up: send an email to youth@nembc.org.au.

Recently a youth survey was sent out to all ethnic broadcasters to gather information about youth participation across the nation and from early signs, the response is quite good. This information will be used to assist individual stations in generating youth interest and to provide information to young ethnic people in the community about broadcasting in their areas. In coming months, all stations will be contacted regarding their level of youth participation and hopefully some headway will be made into addressing some of the major issues preventing stations from moving forward.

Be sure to check the youth section of the NEMBC website www.nembc.org.au for any changes or updates taking place from now until the conference.

NEMBC Youth: Getting active, getting heard

OPPOSITE PAGE Ziad Ajaj, Sinéad Lee, JoAnne Fettke, Tewell Gewargis, Adam Lo, Anthony Colombo and Vida Karabuva of the NEMBC Youth Committee. Photo by Esther Anatolitis. ABOVE Helene Hoi-Ying Fung and Naim Saifullah report back to the group. BELOW Top image: (clockwise from left) Helene Hoi-Ying Fung, Jagdeep Shergill, Esther Anatolitis, Naim Saifullah and Maarten de Weerd. Photo by Darce Cassidy. Bottom image: (from left) Jagdeep Shergill, 'Ailini Steen, Adam Lo, Darce Cassidy, JoAnne Fettke, Vida Karabuva, Guler Shaw, Naim Saifullah and Tewell Gewargis. Photo by Esther Anatolitis.



Community broadcasting:

by the people, for the people

Community broadcasting stations should be controlled by the community they represent. This principle may be threatened when grant money is involved. Many community stations would find it difficult to survive if they did not receive sponsorship money, or government grants.

In return for that funding, there can be times when the providers of those funds, both commercial sponsors and governments, seek to influence – or even dictate – the policy of community broadcasters. This, of course, is inconsistent with the concept of community control of community broadcasting.

The CBAA's Code of Practice recognises some of the problems that can arise. It requires that community broadcasting stations adopt a sponsorship policy which ensures that "the content and style of individual programs is not influenced by the sponsors of programs" and that "overall programming of community broadcasting stations is not influenced by sponsors."

There is however no provision relating to similar conditions attached to government grants. In recent years this has become more and more of an issue.

Most of us would accept that public money received by community stations should be properly

accounted for. It should be used only for the purposes for which it was intended, and should be fully documented. Increasingly however governments have been developing "tied" or "targeted" grants.

For many years the government had been subsidising ethnic broadcasting. This subsidy had been provided at an hourly rate by the Community Broadcasting Foundation from funds supplied by the government. With the number of ethnic broadcasters steadily increasing, and with the funding having been static through the early part of the 1990s, the hourly rate had slipped to \$28 per hour. We were therefore very pleased when the Coalition government, which won office in 1996, increased the funding to the point where the Community Broadcasting Foundation could raise the hourly rate to \$43.50. With the increase in the number of stations on air, this rate has since declined.

In announcing the funding increase Senator Alston said nothing about tied or targeted funds. As time progressed however the additional funds, the money that had allowed the rate to increase from \$28 to \$43.50 per hour, began to be treated differently. To start with it was simply described differently, as targeted funding. We weren't required to treat it differently, or use it for different purposes. Then in March of this year the NEMBC and

the CBF both received letters from Senator Alston.

In his letter the Minister suggests that the additional \$3 million provided in 1996 has special conditions attached to it. He indicated that the government wanted greater influence over how this money was spent. In particular, he seemed to be suggesting that ethnic community broadcasters had not done enough to provide access for young people, and for members of new and emerging communities.

Ethnic community broadcasters can be proud of their record in this regard. As another article illustrates (*see Airtime for youth and new communities: how does ethnic community radio compare to SBS?*, p.8), the major ethnic stations in the capital cities broadcast nearly twice the hours in these categories as do their SBS equivalents.

We have an excellent record in supporting young people and members of new communities, and will continue to pursue those policies. We will be happy to adhere to strict standards of financial probity for the use of all public money, but we will not be happy to abandon the principle of community control of community broadcasting.

Darce Cassidy



Radio Adelaide Radio Neo



A focus on youth and emerging communities meets Radio Adelaide's mission "Diverse radio for curious people", writes Deborah Welch.

This Radio Adelaide station community is being invigorated by the arrival of a team of ten young people from Iraq, Iran, Sudan, Somalia, Afghanistan, Liberia and India. The three women and seven men are between 16 and 28 years. Some are still at school, some are very new to Adelaide. All of them have something to say. They have each produced a short report, for broadcast on air in Refugee Week and for distribution to all South Australian community stations.

Why is the project called Neo? We needed something to convey that these are new voices on South Australian airwaves. If you have seen *The Matrix* (or if you have some knowledge of Greek) then you will know that it means "new".

Radio Adelaide has always tried to present an alternative voice in current affairs, and in the last 12 months we have been even more aware of the importance of that, as we face a media full of the "war on terror". With this in mind, Station Manager Deborah Welch sought and won some funding from Multicultural SA to run a radio project with young people from new and emerging communities. Training Manager Nicky Page has worked with the Migrant Resource Centres Youth Project Officer to set it up.

This is a partnership made in heaven. They have a Youth Network of people ready to learn new skills for their communities and we want to hear those voices on air. The first stage of the partnership was in April when several of young Radio Adelaide broadcasters attended *Sharing the Future*, a National Youth Conference organized by the MRC. Some of the Neo team were speakers at the conference.

Who would be the right people to run the radio course? One of our Chilean broadcasters Estela Fuentes is a youth worker, she was the obvious person to co-ordinate the team. Hermione Gilchrist has been involved in many radio production projects at the station, including the *Live at the Gov* series. She has also run some very popular workshops for the South Australian Country Arts Trust. Hermione was taken on as a specialist consultant for the project.

The group is now finalising their radio features about multiculturalism and their experiences. The CD of their work will be launched at Radio Adelaide in October during Refugee Week, when the Neo team will also receive their certificates for completing their first stage of training. If all goes according to plan, and our further funding applications are successful then this is just the beginning! The group are continuing their training to run a multicultural youth show over the summer season, and beyond on Radio Adelaide.



Chung Wah Radio

NEMBC Youth Committee Member Helene Hoi-Ying Fung tells us about her program.

Chung Wah Association has been providing funding towards the production and broadcasting of community radio programs in Chinese on Perth airwaves for more than two decades. It's on 6-EBA (FM 95.3), a full time multicultural and ethnic community radio station:

Program times:

Cantonese - every Saturday 10am-11am

Mandarin - every Wednesday 6pm-7pm

Often we got confused with the programs on SBS and I've had to explain to people that we're not the same as SBS, in that

- 1) we are not employed to broadcast
- 2) the level of resources is more limited than SBS.

But hey, there is a sense of satisfaction about doing everything from information research, selecting music, actually announcing through the microphone, to panel operation, and seeing something through from start to finish. (I wouldn't have kept going with it for 9 years if it wasn't fun!!! Oh and before anyone questions my status as "youth": I started REAL early OK? :P)

The Cantonese and Mandarin programs pretty much operate independently, and format and content of the program is only limited by the announcers' creativity.

The Cantonese group do our 1 hour weekly

program live on a weekly-rotation basis. At any one time we probably have around 4-6 announcers in the group, of which 2-3 are qualified for panel operation. In each week we usually have one panel-qualified and one not-yet-qualified on duty for the program.

We have opted for a "magazine" approach with a bit of everything for the format of the program.

International and Australian news, weather, then each announcer picks a segment/topic or two of their choice, with the segments separated by Cantopop songs. Sometimes these segments may be interviews with people or phone-in games such as IQ quizzes.

Other types of topics we've done include:

- 'travel shows': my previous involvement with an international professional body gave me a chance to fly to different places around the world 7 times in 2001-02, plus now I get some inter-state travel with NEMBC too, so killing 2 birds with one stone :)
- customs, origins and folk lores of festivals at appropriate times of the year: mid-autumn (moon) festival, dragon boat festival, Chinese New Year, Christmas, Mother's day etc...
- how to prepare for job interviews: I learnt a thing or two while going to all the job interviews while in final yr uni which I thought I'd share
- new science/technology: interesting scientific research or new inventions that recently made it to news headlines
- information on healthy living, nutritional value of food etc...
- psychology/personality tests
- HK entertainment news

The choice of topic really depends on the interests of each announcer. Being a language program rather than a youth-specific program we are aiming for broad audience appeal, although it just so happens that most of the announcers now are in their 20's so that youth-interest will come through in some of the topics.

Recently we've also been trying to progress with a government grant bid for a public health promotion/ education campaign targeted towards the WA Chinese community that's designed to utilise the radio program as the main delivery medium. I am currently working with people from many WA health agencies to develop the proposal.



Ethnic News Digest Research Resources



The Ethnic News Digest now offers new media resources for broadcasters – access them at the NEMBC website

<http://www.nembc.org.au/news/research.html>. They are designed for ethnic community broadcasters who broadcast on community radio stations around Australia, and they cover a range of issues of interest to ethnic communities:

- Refugees and Immigration
- Health
- Economics (including globalisation, small business, unemployment etc)
- Women
- Youth
- Aged
- Indigenous
- War and Peace



Each research page has useful links offering information in many languages. Some websites offer alternative sources of information on issues covered in the mainstream media.

The Ethnic News Digest is also aware that our communities have members whose expertise is rarely used by the mainstream media. We are compiling a list of media commentators who have bilingual skills and will add names to the Media Commentators Lists as they come in. If you have information you would like to add to these pages, email Nicola Joseph at nicolaj@ozemail.com.au

How can I use the Ethnic News Digest?



1. View current news stories at our website
www.nembc.org.au – short Australian news stories in 20 languages



2. Print the articles you want to use



3. Use them in your program – no copyright worries, this news is for you!

It's that easy!

Ethnic News Digest Research Resources

Refugees and Immigration

Issues about refugees and Australia's immigration policy have been at the top of the list of news stories for both Ethnic Community Broadcasters and the mainstream media. Keeping up with changes to the Federal Government's immigration policy regarding business visas, family reunion and skilled migration programs can be time-consuming for broadcasters who want to keep their communities informed. To save time, migrant resource centres and immigration advisers often have the information in plain English and, in some cases, in languages other than English.

There are many websites about and the Federal Government's policy on refugees but they rarely carry information in languages other than English. When reporting about refugees it is important to know the facts about refugees in Australia, rather than depending on the mainstream media for information. There are several websites listed on this page which presents "myths and facts" sheets about refugees, some provide these in languages other than English.

When writing news stories about refugees remember to avoid language which stereotypes refugees such as "illegal migrants" and "boatpeople."

Find commentators and research links at
http://www.nembc.org.au/news/refugees_and_immigration.html

Health

One of the most important roles of ethnic community broadcasters is to provide information which is available to the wider community in languages other than English. Information about health issues and services are a high priority, especially for newly arrived communities.

There are many useful websites which cover health issues offering multilingual resources. These cover all health issues from general health problems to mental health. Some of the websites are helpful in providing ways of dealing with sensitive issues in the community.

Finding media commentators in the area of health is not difficult. Start with considering a local GP, nurse or health worker who has bilingual skills. Local migrant and health services also provide a wealth of information and possible



media commentators.

Find commentators and research links at <http://www.nembc.org.au/news/health.html>

Economics (including globalisation, small business, unemployment etc)

Covering economic issues can be challenging for Ethnic Community Broadcasters. Most of us shy away from these stories because they seem too complicated or boring for our programs. It is important, as broadcasters, that we take up these issues and try to make them relevant and understandable to our audiences. The issue of economic globalisation affects us all wherever we live. There are several website listed which cover global economic issues.

While globalisation has an impact on our domestic economy, important issues for ethnic audiences in Australia include the GST, small business issues and unemployment. Government agencies like Centrelink and the Australian Taxation Office have websites which offer information in languages other than English which you will find useful.

Find commentators and research links at <http://www.nembc.org.au/news/economics.html>

Women's Issues

Women from ethnic communities are widely ignored by the mainstream media. When they are included it is often in stereotypical roles as mothers and housewives. It is therefore important to think about any coverage of women in ethnic community broadcasting to ensure it represents a wholistic picture of women's achievements.

Its also important to remember that women, especially recently-arrived women, are often isolated in the home and have special needs when it comes to information and resources. In many cases they rely on information from community language radio programmes to inform them of what is going on the



Ethnic News Digest Research Resources

community and of services available to them.

Find commentators and research links at <http://www.nembc.org.au/news/women.html>

Youth

Ethnic community broadcasters have an important role to play in reporting information both for and about young people from their communities. Young people from ethnic communities are often misrepresented in the mainstream media, so it should be the responsibility of all community broadcasters to provide a more realistic picture of young people from their communities.

Positive stories about young people from ethnic communities are rare, so it is useful to highlight the achievements of young people in the community. Of course, nothing beats having young voices on air regularly, and one way to ensure good coverage of youth issues is to have some young people on your broadcast team.

Rather than avoid talking about “youth problems” you can deal with these issues in a constructive way. There are many local youth workers and support services to approach for help with stories. Information is available in various languages on the websites listed on the links page.

Find commentators and research links at <http://www.nembc.org.au/news/youth.html>

Aged

Australia’s population is an ageing one and issues concerning older people such as retirement, superannuation and health care are covered regularly by the mainstream media.

Older Ethnic Australians are almost absent from the mainstream media. While they might not suffer the stereotypes of younger generations, they certainly don’t get the coverage they deserve as Australians. Ethnic community broadcasting has played an important role in getting information to older members of their community. Indeed, many ethnic community broadcasters are senior citizens themselves!



There are several websites listed in the Useful Research Links which provide multilingual information on a range of issues concerning older people.

Find commentators and research links at <http://www.nembc.org.au/news/aged.html>



Indigenous

Ethnic community broadcasting is not just about reporting news from back home. It is also an essential service for getting information to communities about Australia. It is important that people in migrant communities are informed about the issues concerning indigenous Australians and promote a greater understanding of these issues through their programmes.

Like many migrant communities, indigenous Australians are often misrepresented in the mainstream media. At the local level, you may find the local reconciliation group has members with bilingual skills who can contribute to your program.

Find commentators and research links at <http://www.nembc.org.au/news/indigenous.html>



War and Peace

Gathering independent news during times of war is a difficult task. The recent war on Iraq demonstrated the important role the media plays in a war. The Internet provides a wide range of sites which are “unembedded” and provide a wealth of stories on the issues of war and peace.

Many of these sites are useful in providing “news from the frontline” and you will often find messages from people with personal experiences of the war. This can be useful in giving a human face to war.

When using the Internet for research it is important to check the reliability of the story you are interested in. Check the story on different sites.

Find commentators and research links at http://www.nembc.org.au/news/war_and_peace.html

The Ethnic Broadcaster

We welcome contributions to *The Ethnic Broadcaster*, especially from NEMBC members. Send us your station news, letters, short pieces, photos...

Advertise in *The Ethnic Broadcaster* – please contact us for rates.

For more information please contact Esther Anatolitis on 03 9486 9549 or nembc@nembc.org.au.

VISIT THE NEMBC WEBSITE: www.nembc.org.au

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