

# The Ethnic Broadcaster

Summer/Autumn 2015 Edition – Journal of the National Ethnic & Multicultural Broadcasters' Council



## Features

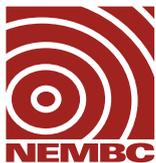
Dr Irene Bouzo on 'Bonding, Bridging and Linking'

Dalal Smiley on 'The White Ceiling'

Full coverage and photos from 2014 NEMBC Conference

News from Around the Stations including Radio Skid Row, 5THE and 2WOW

Steven Oliver's poetic reflection on January 26



The National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters' Council (NEMBC) is a national peak body that advocates for ethnic community broadcasting: promoting multiculturalism, addressing racism and contributing to media diversity.

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#### NEMBC Staff

Executive and Policy Officer: Russell Anderson  
Operations Officer: Juliana Qian  
Project Officer: Tara Egan  
Bookkeeper: Rod Borlase

#### The Ethnic Broadcaster

Chief Editor and Design: Russell Anderson  
Graphic Design: Emma Borlase  
Editorial Team: Juliana Qian  
Journal Printers: Highlight Printing

#### NEMBC Contact Details

PO Box 1144  
Collingwood VIC 3066  
Phone: 03 9486 9549  
Fax: 03 9486 9547  
Email: [admin@nembc.org.au](mailto:admin@nembc.org.au)  
Website: [www.nembc.org.au](http://www.nembc.org.au)

The Ethnic Broadcaster is the Journal of the National Ethnic & Multicultural Broadcasters' Council (NEMBC). The views expressed in The Ethnic Broadcaster are not necessarily the views of the NEMBC.

*We welcome contributions to The Ethnic Broadcaster, especially from NEMBC Members.*

**Front Cover Photo:** Columbian dancer

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We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nations as the traditional owners of the land on which *The Ethnic Broadcaster* is edited and printed, and pay our respects to their Elders both past and present.

# President's Pen Maloo e lelei (Greetings in Tongan)

Welcome to the Summer/Autumn edition of The Ethnic Broadcaster (EB)! Since the last EB, NEMBC ran a very successful conference in Darwin NT, starting off with the Youth Media Conference prior to the actual NEMBC's conference. Feedback from both events has been great and constructive. The Conference Sub-Committee is working on your suggestions to further improve the content and delivery of this year's conference.

The NEMBC Board has set a couple of priority areas of focus for the year: advocacy and increased membership. On the advocacy front, we want to stress and send our politicians a clear message of the significance of ethnic and multicultural community broadcasting in building a cohesive and harmonious Australian society. Guaranteed financial support from governments will ensure proper resourcing and continuity of the marvellous work that ethnic and multicultural broadcasters do, and do so totally as volunteers.

Last month, the NEMBC Lobby Group spent a couple of days in Canberra meeting a number of politicians and advisors to make them aware (if they weren't already!) of the fantastic job our volunteer broadcasters are doing. The outcomes have been very positive, including from time to time, a number of articles penned by politicians stating their support. Establishing a good and long-term relationship with politicians is important for the NEMBC, so our lobbying activities are extended to relevant ministers and politicians, including those from outside the major parties.

The NEMBC membership database has been recently updated and plans are put in place with the intention of increasing membership numbers. A follow up on membership renewals and promotion of NEMBC in many of the full-time ethnic as well as access stations are top in the 'to-do' list.

A number of significant events for NEMBC are to be celebrated this year. Uppermost is the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the NEMBC. Yes, we have come of age, literally speaking in a broadcasting sense; when young

people are turning 30, they no longer classified as 'youth' broadcasters. So it's a milestone event for NEMBC, celebrating 30 years of history during this year's conference in Melbourne. Details of the conference and the anniversary will be presented in future EBs.



In this issue you will find Dr Irene Bouzo, one of the speakers at our 2014 Conference, discuss the importance of balancing "bonding and bridging" – bonding within ethnic communities to strengthen language, culture and social support, as well as building bridges beyond the community. A quite complementary feature article comes from another one of our conference presenters, Shankar Kasynathan. He discusses how young people from culturally diverse backgrounds are using varied forms of media, from live comedy performance and television to Twitter and blogs, alongside ethnic community broadcasting, to extend the reach of important conversations about multiculturalism and racism outside what is traditionally considered ethnic media.

In addition to the above articles, stories from around the stations always make an interesting read, especially as many stations are celebrating major milestones - 30 years at Radio Skid Row, 25 years at 3ZZZ. If you have a great story to tell, please let us know.

Thanks are extended to the editorial team and staff of the NEMBC Secretariat for the huge effort taken to collate this journal. We look forward to future productions.

Enjoy!

Maloo 'aupito (Thanks in Tongan)



**Tangi Steen**  
NEMBC President

SAVE THE DATE

Our national conference this year will be **27-29 November 2015 in Melbourne, Australia.**





## **Bonding, bridging and linking – a partnership strategy for ethnic communities**

**When immigrants and displaced people come to Australia they do**

**a lot more than find a house, a job and get their children to school.**

When a multicultural peak organisation such as NEMBC looks at its strategic approaches to creating successful relationships with its partners and key stakeholders, it is important to consider the historical development of community building amongst some of the more established ethnic and faith-based communities in Australia. Since the 1950s and 1960s, Australians from culturally diverse backgrounds have devoted years, even decades, of hard work, volunteering and personal sacrifice to establish ethnic and multicultural welfare and aged care services; community languages schools; same-language social and recreational activities; and ethnic media.

Community building processes involve each immigrant generation in finding meaningful connections with its roots, and establishing social networks within its immigrant community. The accumulation of social capital or networking has two forms, namely the development of internal ties, or bonding of people within their culturally diverse groups, as well as networking with outside groups or building bridges.

When Robert D. Putnam in his book *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community* (2000) wrote about on the decline of social capital in America, he showed how people became increasingly disconnected. He described how they were impoverishing their lives and communities through lack of trust to connect more broadly with others. He gave the example of people increasingly bowling alone and missing out on the social interaction and civic discussion that might occur in more broadly connected bowling clubs or leagues. Furthermore, he made the important distinction between bonding groups, which reinforce close-knit networks amongst people of similar cultural and linguistic backgrounds, and bridging groups, such as youth sports clubs, which bring

together people of different cultural backgrounds.

Studies of immigrants in Chicago and Canada found that when people from culturally diverse backgrounds developed dense networks of social relationships within their ethnic groups, they had a deeper feeling of belonging. They found, however, that the development of personal networks outside the immigrant community was also an important factor in successful settlement adaptation within a new country. Research by Rose et al in *The Role of “Weak Ties” in the Settlement Experiences of Immigrant Women with Young Children: The Case of Central Americans in Montréal* (1999) and by Kuzmickaite in *The Adaptation of Recent Lithuanian Immigrants in Chicago* (2000), shows that whilst small, locally based ethnic organisations are high in social capital, immigrants may become too encapsulated in their closed social networks and lose some of the advantages of other economic resources and sources of information available outside the community. Their networks consisted of ‘strong ties’ to coethnics (bonding) and ‘weak ties’ to non-coethnics (bridging).

Similar findings emerged from the Melbourne-based research that I conducted on the Temple Society Australia, or Templers, a German-speaking faith-based group of accidental immigrants deported to Australia from former British Palestine during World War II. That study is described in my chapter, *Adaptation after displacement: A case study of the Temple Society Australia in the forthcoming book, Hopeful Places: Migration and belonging in an unpredictable era* edited by Chris McConville (2014).

‘Strong ties’ are associated with protected communities, or urban village life, where immigrants develop a dense network of primary social relationships with family and friends within their ethnic group. Many Templers chose to live near each other in the eastern Melbourne suburbs. Strong ties reinforced by residential proximity lead to stability over time assisting with cultural and language continuity. The downside was that they gradually missed out on information and activities on the outside, such as in local government and other ethnic organisations.

Sometimes early experiences of immigrants are characterised by hostility, marginalisation, alienation to the host country, loss of self-esteem and mental turmoil. Successful immigrant establishment and adaptation to the new country depends on more than social networks. Economic support and government policies play a crucial role. In the 1950s and 1960s, many immigrants in Australia

were the unintended victims of the assimilation policy. “Forget your culture, forget your language, you’re in Australia now,” was the catch cry under that flawed policy. Unable to give up their language and culture, many first generation Templers, who were born and grew up overseas, withdrew into the safety of their communities. They developed strong bonding ties and became inward looking pioneers of their ethnic communities.

Like other immigrant groups, during the initial stage of settlement and adaptation, the Templers tried to seek out and negotiate assistance, opportunities and resources. They found social support within their community. They set up language schools and many even found employment opportunities with Templer-owned companies that were expanding during the 1960s economic boom. Initially this provided access to resources in terms of employment and neighbourhood that often resulted in higher social mobility and economic opportunity.

However, over a period time, especially when that internal bonding model persisted for several decades, they started missing out on a broader range of resources, knowledge and skills to expand their organisation. Some people had even lost the inter-cultural skills needed to reach out and interact with other groups.

Immigrant adaptation processes are defined in many ways. Immigrants go through an arduous transformation process, which is never finished. The Australian policy shift to multiculturalism in the 1970s gave rise to a celebration of cultural differences, and fortunately we saw the demise of assimilation policies. Monolingual polices were replaced with community languages schools. State Governments introduced ethnic and multicultural funding grants.

A key driving force for continuity of the Temple Society Australia came from the one-and-a-half generation of Templers. They had arrived in Australia as teenagers and young people, having gone to school both overseas and in Australia. In their research interviews they said the most important issues facing the Templers in these changing times were twofold: the increased need for the development of internal connectedness and bonding within the Temple Society; and the need for more public recognition by the outside community.

Through cultural heritage arts projects, they strengthened their sense of identity. They continued working together

*“Bridging is an important gateway to resource systems beyond the immigrant language and community group”*

inside the community, but also focused on forming stronger partnerships outside the Society. They worked with local governments and joined inter-faith activities with other ethnic groups. Bridge building beyond the boundaries of the Temple Society played an important role in changing the landscape of their local community life. The second immigrant generation, born in Australia, also brought useful reaching out skills. Reconnecting with their historical German diaspora heritage was important. In undramatic, ordinary ways they continued their day-to-day transnational living between Australia, Israel and present-day Germany. Quietly the small but vibrant Templer community in Melbourne was effectively launched on the road to sustainability.

Immigrant adaption to a new country is never finished; it goes on across the generations. It was natural for older, established ethnic groups to seek out connections with people that were culturally familiar. For new and emerging community organisations in present-day multicultural Australia, building same-language ethnic groups is strengthening. However bridging is an important gateway to resource systems beyond the immigrant language and community group.

Sometimes a third party linking support is needed to help them make connections with other groups. The formation of a positive sense of identity alleviates the fears some people may have of losing their cultural relevance through reaching out. Too much bonding and not enough bridging may require an intervention strategy to assist groups form broader partnerships and maximise their access to better resources.

Internal bonding is one way of preserving the group’s identity, language and culture. More importantly developing the skills for outward connection with the wider community is also a way towards sustainability. Rather than becoming stuck in the familiarity of insider looking bonding, the smarter option for ethnic organisations may well be to transition from bonding to bridging through partnerships with other groups in our increasingly inter-connected global world.

**Dr Irene Bouzo (PhD)**

*Acting Executive Officer, Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria*



**“Each generation imagines itself to be more intelligent than the one that went before it, and wiser than the one that comes after it” - George Orwell**

Today, we find ethnic broadcasters involved in a wide variety of aspects of program production.

The emergence of ethnic blogs from the younger generation, twitter feeds, and the fast development of websites for campaigns, businesses, community groups etc., challenge traditional definitions of ethnic media. The role of social media has created multiple venues of information dissemination and news.

Young people are looking for ways to express themselves, and they are finding it everywhere. My niece and nephews are more plugged in and engaged with what's happening around the world than I certainly was at their age. For me, at 14, I was excited about being able to easily email my friends using a laptop. Today, my niece is plugged into social media, communicating with the world – which of course brings opportunities, as well as challenges.

The question emerges in this context – what does this mean, this emergence of new media forms, to the role and importance of ethnic broadcasting? What does this mean, for the existing work force of broadcasters? How and in what ways, does this present challenges of intergenerational dialogue and communication, between different groups of people within the same community...

The more integrated second, third and fourth generations of immigrant communities become more adapt to finding what they need, in diverse and dynamic ways – these filter into their own grappling with, and engagement with their

contemporary versions of ethnic media, and we see this certainly in programs such as Tectonic Youth Radio, with Darwin FM. In some ways, the first-generation versions of ethnic media, have become a part of their history, even if it's the present day reality for many veteran broadcasters.

The media which was initially developed as a means to share common experiences via the home language, cultures, traditions and historic problems that created the diaspora community in the first place, are championed less frequently by the emerging young voices. For the young voice, the 24 hours news cycle, the blogosphere, the global interconnectedness, has challenged the paradigm, the parameters, and their very participation in their local ethnic media station.

As a Tamil Sri Lankan, I look to the story of a young man I had the pleasure of growing up with in high school, as an example of a case study of where ethnic broadcasting and media as a niche, can be lost with integration – or if not lost, diluted in the mix of multiple and various forms of mainstream media. I am talking about my friend Nazeem Hussain, one half of the successful comedy act

*“Champions born in ethnic media spaces are today trailblazing as mainstream media personalities”*

‘Fear of a brown planet’. Nazeem started on a Channel 31 show, ‘Salaam Café’. He started with ethnic media and TV broadcasting. As his popularity grew, he has found little need to return to ethnic broadcasting, as he has found a larger audience with mainstream media spaces –

although he of course still talks about – ethnic issues. He has a large following on social media, twitter, facebook, YouTube, and he has his own show – and it's not bi-lingual, it's in English, and only in English.

There is absolutely no need, for Nazeem to return to ethnic broadcasting with the force or passion, that he began it with. He has a larger audience, who still gets the messages he wants them to get.

I'll take now a more local case study, of a young man in Darwin, Kenneth Kadirgamar, who plays a big role with

NEMBC. Kenneth started a show with a strong ethnic focus from the age of 11, he and his family had more or less just arrived in Darwin before he walked into a studio. His early shows would involve other young Tamil people in Darwin, would involve Tamil language, it was ethnic. Over time, his show has had little to do with ethnic communities, as much as it does with broad issues such as community fundraisers, sports, world music and mainstream events and projects, because as its driving principle, the show recognizes that multicultural youth are just that – they practice and are engaged in the various cultures that make up life in Darwin. The multicultural young person, has many identities in Darwin today, of which ethnicity is only one part.

So what am I saying? Champions born in ethnic media spaces are today trail blazing as main stream media personalities, talking about main stream issues and happenings, and across multiple platforms, including radio broadcasting.

The question: is this a challenge to the sector? Do the changes compromise the future of ethnic broadcasting? Will the old cohort die out, as the new blood achieves success in a broader spectrum of media spaces, creating a situation where ethnic may well fall off the title, of ethnic broadcasting?

I say no. I say, that what's happening is not a threat, but if nothing else, an opportunity. It is an opportunity to work together, between generations to merge the roles as well as the legacy of traditional ethnic media, and what I mean by that, is the more the exponents of ethnic media, and ethnic new media, a meeting place of old ideas as well as new ideas.

Ethnic newspapers and broadcasting outlets can bring together the social media spaces, make references to them, much like mainstream media spaces seem to be quoting social media as a legitimate source of information.

So really, has the sector changed at all? Well, yes, it has. But in ways that can build capacity, and gain an audience

far greater than ever imagined. We now have for instance, many more diverse stories to share on the airwaves. After all, people like Nazeem Hussain and Kenneth Kadirgamar are assets that can be used to strengthen existing spaces.

Historically, ethnic media has built advocacy and community around common negative experiences, such as the press' coverage of violence against Islamic community, attacks against Indian international students, police brutality towards Aboriginal young men, as well as Sudanese young people in parts of Melbourne.

Young people contribute to the carriage of this kind of news, but they have also brought something else. Taking the case of my old uni buddy, Aamer Rahman, Nazeem's other half with 'Fear of a brown planet'.

Aamer has certainly advocated for social justice and racial equality on the platforms of broadcasting, as well in his own career as a stand-up comedian, but what he has also done for several young people from ethnic backgrounds is that he has made it cool to be ethnic.

A young woman on the bus the other day asked a young African looking boy, "where do you come from?" The young man without hesitating says "I am from Nightcliff."

This is a generation for whom identity is a choice, which is not the same for those legends, literally and figuratively, who have established the ethnic broadcasting landscape across Australia.

Ethnic media, which traditionally has been cut across more defined lines, will be challenged to speak to this new audience, to engage with this audience and to play that convening role – of bringing information together, to a target audience that is interested in that information.

In a multicultural society, people pay attention to media that pay attention to them.

**Shankar Kasynathan**  
*Communications Specialist*



**When I came to Australia in 1976, I was a young teenager. I did not know much about Australia's policies at the time. My encounter with multiculturalism was later when I was approached to apply to the Department of Immigration to become an Arabic Interpreter.**

**So I did. Australia was at the time receiving a new wave of Lebanese migrants escaping Lebanon as a result of the civil war.**

Becoming an interpreter opened my eyes to what was happening in Australia, where we were heading as a nation, and the promise of the Multicultural Project that started under Whitlam and was being implemented under Fraser.

The eighties and nineties surged ahead with programs and services emerging in response to the needs of non-English speaking citizens. Great institutions and policies came about such as Access and Equity, The Charter of Public Service in a Culturally Diverse Society, SBS TV and Radio, Ethnic Affairs Commissions, Ethnic Communities Councils, Bureau of Immigration and Population Research, Migrant Resource Centres, Interpreter services and ethnic press to name a few.

As we matured as a nation of culturally diverse people, and as our service delivery approaches evolved, we hit a brick wall, I call it "the white ceiling". The white ceiling represents the no go zones for multiculturalism. This is where signs such as Wrong Way Go Back are plastered on every path you dare to cross.

There are aspects and parts of our society resistant to change and protected by a dominant cultural elite. That's where power and privilege reside and that is where multiculturalism is being curtailed.

The Howard years disrupted our journey towards a more mature and deepened multiculturalism. We were starting to explore interculturalism as a next paradigm to define and shape our community relations. But while some advances were made at a number of levels, some vital indicators for success continued to be disappointing. Notably the participation of non-English speaking migrants in employment and specifically in the public service.

Whether at federal, state or local levels the percentage of NESB employees at the three tiers of government remained much less than their overall representation in the Australian population.

While we prided ourselves on being such a culturally diverse country, our public service continued to apply assimilationist recruitment practices.

The federal government had taken steps to monitor the recruitment of women in the private and NGO sectors, as a strategy to increase women's participation, but no such scrutiny existed to call into account the representation of NESB employees.

Unlike the US and UK where both countries adopted strategies to diversify their public service, Australia shied away from assertive measures, opting for a hands off approach to workforce planning.

The US imposed affirmative action, the UK enacted positive action and Australia took no action. As a result of both policies in the US and UK, much academic work emerged from both countries providing evidence based studies regarding the case for diversity. Workplaces were called to account regarding their workforce profile and their recruitment and promotion practices. Sure they faced resistance, legal challenges and accusations of reverse discrimination but they persevered with such policies which have benefited minorities in gaining positions they would never have dreamt of otherwise.

Participation in employment and at higher levels of leadership and management helps a nation to integrate and harness its culturally diverse talent, leading to more creativity and innovation in workplaces, better connections and outreach with communities and lesser risks of isolation, marginalisation and exclusion which breed resentment, disengagement and disillusionment experienced by many migrants and refugees seeking to fulfil their dreams for a better life in a new land.

In Australia, systemic institutional racism lurks beneath a veneer of equal opportunity. The concept of hiring on merit is wheeled out whenever a challenge is mounted that threatens the recruitment practice status-quo.

For example, to be accepted as a recruit firefighter at the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, one has to pass very gruelling entry tests. A review of the MFB written test proved upon examination to be discriminatory towards non-English speaking and Aboriginal applicants and in favour of the traditional profile of Anglo-Australian males.

In one of my many roles, I initiated an in-house multilingual communication service which utilises the bilingual skills of staff in customer service as a way to communicate directly with customers in their preferred language. In order to support such a service, it became necessary to recruit staff fluent in a language spoken by the service users. Bilingual skill was deemed as an inherent requirement of the job. This policy endured for 13 years until it was watered down under an administration that lacked the understanding of the value of bilingualism and its benefits to both the organisation and the community.

What's happening at the local level is symptomatic of a nation where the process of multiculturalisation has been weakened and diluted due to multiple factors. Every time

we receive a blow to our still very shallow multicultural sense of identity, our insecurity about who we are as people rises to the surface, seeking reassurances and comforting words from our nation's leaders, who will respond and repeat the mantra we yearn to hear 'we stand united in our diversity...we are very diverse people and we value our multicultural nation...' or, 'we are all in team Australia'.

These words ring hollow, as reality on the ground, in our streets, neighbourhoods, institutions and workplaces tells a different story. A story of concentrated power and privilege and no go zones if you happen to be of the wrong colour, race, religion or ethnicity.

Multiculturalism has made some difference at the service delivery levels, it's a fact. However, it has stalled in its endeavour to deepen its reach and transform our brand, image, symbols, curriculums, institutions, and most importantly our core DNA. Why? Simply because we lack the leadership and political will in this country to venture with our multicultural project beyond the white ceiling.

**Dalal Smiley**

*Interim CEO, Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre*



*Carol Dowling of Noongar Radio, winner of the Radio Award in 2013 and 2014.*



*Daniel Haile-Michael and Maki Issa, 3CR broadcasters and winners of the Young People's Human Rights Medal.*

## Community broadcasters recognised at 2014 Human Rights Awards

Several community broadcasters were among the recipients of the 2014 Human Rights Awards, announced on Wednesday 10 December 2014 at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney.

The awards are presented annually on 10 December (Human Rights Day) by the Human Rights Commission to celebrate the day and recognise the achievements of those working to advance human rights.

The Radio Award went to Carol Dowling of Noongar Radio for her documentary *Another Stolen Generation* which highlighted the disproportionate placement of Aboriginal children in out-of-home care in Western Australia. This feature was originally created as part of the CBAA and CMTO's National Features & Documentary series and is available free to any community station for local replay. Carol also won the Radio Award category at the 2013 Human Rights Awards.

The Young People's Human Rights Medal was awarded to Daniel Haile-Michael and Maki Issa for challenging racism as the lead applicants in a historic Federal Court case addressing racial profiling by the Victorian police force. Following the case and an extensive community campaign, Victoria Police launched a report and three year action plan to address discriminatory policing. Daniel and Maki both present *African-Australian Voice*, a multicultural youth show on 3CR Community Radio 855am in Melbourne.

Transgender Victoria won the Community Organisation Award and Executive Director Sally Goldner accepted the award on behalf of the organisation which has been operating for 15 years. Sally is also a broadcaster on 3CR, presenting *Out of the Pan* on Sundays.

Congratulations to all the winners and finalists and everyone who contributes to promoting human rights.

**Juliana Qian**

*Operations Officer, NEMBC*

The annual national conference of the NEMBC was held in Darwin last year, with the theme **The Challenge of Change**, and hosted by the **Multilingual Broadcasting Council of the Northern Territory (MBCNT)**.

## Welcome Reception

After a very successful Youth Media Conference, the program for the main conference began with an evening welcome reception on Friday 31 October 2014, with the Lord Mayor of Darwin, **Mrs Katrina Fong Lim**. Held at the Darwin Civic Centre, conference delegates turned out in tropical style to hear the Lord Mayor's address, praising the community radio volunteer sector for its contribution to cultural diversity, and reminding ethnic broadcasters of our responsibility to disseminate emergency information in language at times of cyclone and bushfire warning.

Certainly ethnic community radio has a vital and unique role to play in informing and supporting communities during emergencies and natural disasters, when it's essential that everyone in the community understands crisis information.



Lord Mayor Katrina Fong Lim with NEMBC President Dr Tangi Steen and ethnic broadcasters.

## Official Opening

The main conference on Saturday, 1 November commenced with a Welcome to Country by Larrakia Traditional Owner **Dr Donna Odegaard**, who would return to the podium later as one of our keynote speakers.



Two prominent politicians, **Michelle Rowland MP (ALP)** and **Senator Scott Ludlam (Greens)**, opened the conference with speeches recognising the incredible social, cultural and economic value of the ethnic broadcasting sector.

As the Shadow Minister for Citizenship and Multiculturalism and the Shadow Assistant Minister for Communications, and also someone from a culturally diverse background herself,



Michelle Rowland is uniquely placed to appreciate ethnic community broadcasting as an institution at the intersection of both her portfolios, and her personal passion.

Western Australian Senator Scott Ludlam holds the portfolio of Broadband, Communications & Digital Economy for the Greens and spoke of the importance of media diversity, and his commitment to community radio and community television.

The politicians generously stayed to take questions during the Q&A session.

## Keynote Speakers



**Dr Donna Odegaard**, founder and CEO of Aboriginal Broadcasting Australia, spoke about the policies and structures that Aboriginal Broadcasting Australia has put in place to meet the challenges of change and create organisational sustainability, according to clear principles. Over the years Aboriginal Broadcasting Australia has grown into a 100 percent Aboriginal owned and managed media group comprising four digital television channels, a production company, a training college, and three radio stations including Radio Larrakia 94.5 FM. Radio Larrakia is Darwin's only Aboriginal community radio station, which broadcasts 24 hours a day, in over 40 Indigenous languages, as well as owning Darwin FM from which MBCNT broadcasts.



Associate Professor **S. Ram Vemuri** is an economist at Charles Darwin University and himself an ethnic community broadcaster on the Friendly India program for the last 25 years. He discussed different approaches to change and told the story of his daughter, who works in a hospital, and a patient who was overheard saying they did not want someone with 'dark skin' to attend to them, he used this story to explain that to be an Australian is to be accepted for who you are, rather than where you come from.



Chair of FECCA **Joe Caputo OAM JP** spoke about the different challenges he has encountered in advocating for the rights of minorities throughout all of his adult life. Having campaigned for the rights of migrant workers, served as Mayor in the City of Moreland, and been a member of the Victorian Multicultural Commission, Joe Caputo had a wealth of experience to share.

## Q&A Session

Our three keynote speakers and two politicians participated in a question and answer session, moderated by NEMBC Treasurer **Joe De Luca**. Conference delegates had plenty of questions for the panel, whether seeking advice on lobbying and funding, how to address issues at their station, or broader political questions around cultural maintenance, refugee rights, and racism.

## Workshops

In the 'Talking to Decision Makers' workshop, **Luke Gosling** (Advisor, Office of Warren Snowdon MP), **Joseph Caputo** (Chair, FECCA), and **Russell Anderson** (Executive Officer, NEMBC) discussed strategies to help broadcasters and their language communities to be better represented and involved in decision making.

The 'Working Together on the Challenge of Change: Communication within the Sector' workshop saw **Dr Irene Bouzo** (Senior Policy Officer, ECCV), **Luchi Santer** (EGAC representative, MBCNT broadcaster) and **Shankar Kasynathan** (Communications Specialist) discuss challenges in ethnic community broadcasting such as funding, audience growth, new technologies and planning for succession, as well as challenges specific to each station and region. The presenters discussed how to communicate better within the sector, across language communities, geographic areas and generations, so we can work together more closely, and communicating more effectively as a sector when it comes to better networking and advocacy.

**Claire Stuchbery** (Grants Administrator CBF), presented the workshop 'Engaging with your Community Through Ethnic Grants (CBF)', which gave an overview of ethnic program grants including ideas for how to connect your community with your program. Claire also explained other grant opportunities available through the CBF to support special projects, outside broadcasts, training, equipment and support for stations more broadly, fielding many questions from broadcasters keen to know more.

The 'Making Great Radio Content' workshop was very popular with broadcasters. **Lisa Pellegrino** (ABC Darwin) gave a memorable presentation of her tips for finding great stories and making them sparkle, while **Jason Hagen** (trainer, 4EB) and **Werner Albrecht** (trainer and broadcaster, ICMS) gave practical examples from their experience. Looking at how research and preparation, flow and production can help turn good content into great content, the workshop helped broadcasters enhance their existing skills in developing interesting ideas into engaging radio.

**Amy Hetherington** (Amiable Communications, Music NT) and **Edgar Mirantz-Tan** (trainer and broadcaster, 3ZZZ) led the 'Beyond Airwaves: Social Media and More' workshop discussing social media,

blogging, video and what these platforms can bring to community radio broadcasting. Designed for participants with little to no experience in social media, participants found the workshop helpful and engaging, and were given the confidence to build an audience through social media outside of their radio programs, with the aim of increasing listenership.

## Gala Dinner

Our conference venue at the DoubleTree Hilton on the Esplanade was transformed from the workshop space of the afternoon into a glamorous setting for our evening Gala Dinner.

With a beautiful buffet dinner, and appetising dessert menu, the accompanying gala dinner entertainment was a smash and included Rince Na H'Eirean, a Darwin based Irish dancing group, and a flash mob style performance from women ethnic broadcasters.

Three young broadcasters, Joseph, Tupz and Moi, wowed the audience with a spontaneous pan-Pasifika performance, inspired by the Haka and similar traditions.

Gafa Gafa was the breakout star of the evening, with his amazing dance moves and instruction on Samoan dance, guests then received another dance lesson from the Hindi broadcasting group on ICMS. It proved a fantastic way of highlighting the diversity and varied traditions of community broadcasters from around Australia.

The night culminated in dancing to old and new hits from Darwin duo Angie Sublime and Bob Marshall.

The NEMBC would like to thank those who attended the NEMBC Conference in Darwin, and we hope to see you again next year in Melbourne. Stay tuned to [www.nembc.org.au](http://www.nembc.org.au) for more information soon.

**The NEMBC 2014 Annual Conference was proudly sponsored by:**

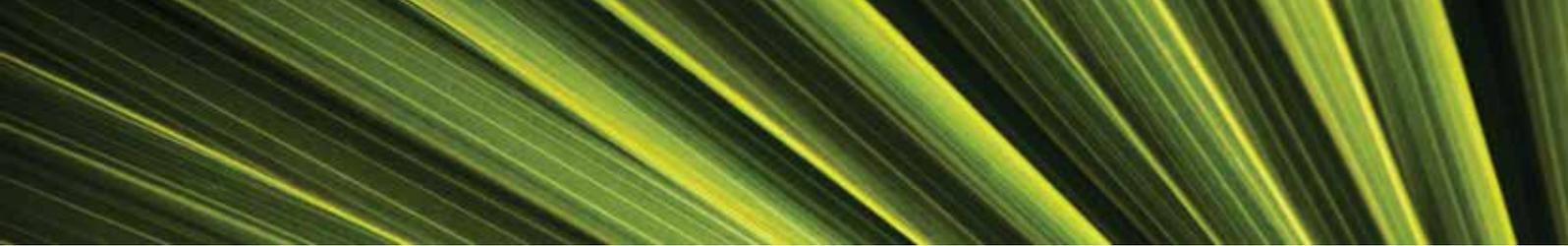


# NEMBC 2014 Conference Photos



For more photos and to see who was at the conference, visit [facebook.com/nembc](https://www.facebook.com/nembc)





# 2014 NEMBC Broadcasting Awards

Each year, the NEMBC offers an awards program recognising and rewarding the outstanding achievements of ethnic and multicultural broadcasters at community stations across Australia. The 2014 NEMBC Broadcasting Awards were announced at the Gala Dinner of the NEMBC Conference on Saturday 1 November 2014.

The awards represent a unique opportunity for community language broadcasters to receive recognition and reward from Australia's national body of multilingual community broadcasters.

The NEMBC would like to congratulate all shortlisted nominees and winners, and to those who helped to celebrate community broadcasting excellence and recognise the accomplishments of community radio stations, staff and volunteers. We encourage you to apply again in 2015.

Congratulations to the 2014 award winners:

## 2014 Program of the Year: Radio Manpasand, 1CMS

Radio Manpasand is a Hindi Language Radio program which broadcasts twice a week. It aims to connect India and Australia, and particularly to serve Canberra's local Indian community. The program features a comprehensive look at Federal and local government news, news from India, service information, community news, cultural events, youth and women's issues and sport.

## 2014 Women's Program of the Year: Women's Profile, Radio 4EB

Women's Profile explores issues involving women from all backgrounds and professions with a particular interest in volunteer and community not-for-profit organisations. The program aims to highlight achievements of women in business and community roles.

## 2014 Youth Program of the Year: Where Are You From? Radio 4EB

Where Are You From? is a multimedia project aimed at giving a voice to multicultural Australian communities to promote positive cultural identities. The program features news, recordings and interviews with people from ethnic and multicultural backgrounds talking about what it means to be Australian in a diverse community.

## 2014 Youth Feature Program of the Year: Are We There Yet? 3ZZZ

Are We There Yet is a series of eight radio programs featuring in-depth interviews with asylum seekers and refugees, explaining how and why they came to Australia, and the challenges they have faced adapting to a new way of life.

**Tara Egan**  
NEMBC Project Officer



Nasreen Hafesjee 1CMS, Manish Raj 1CMS, Tangi Steen NEMBC President, Michelle Rowland MP, Adrian Basso CBAA President, Nikhil Wable 1CMS, Peter Batchelor CBF President.



Left to right: Tangi Steen NEMBC President, Irene Tavutavu 4EB, Lee Hubbard Spots and Space.



Left to right: Youth Program of the Year Krishna Capaque MBCNT, Irene Tavutavu 4EB, Kevin Kadirgamar MBCNT.



Left to right: Gemo Virobo 1CMS, Santiago Santos 3ZZZ.

## Social media storm hits Darwin – eChamps at the NEMBC conference

**Traditional broadcasting is in revolution, and never before has the means to mass broadcast been more accessible to more people. We are the people, and as technology is ever changing – we need to be part of the transformation.**

At this year's NEMBC Youth Media and National Conference six community broadcasters were given the opportunity to join eChamps, an ongoing training project developed by the NEMBC, aimed at young people interested in expanding their online and social media skills.

Training and online preparation for eChamps was held in Darwin on Thursday 30 October, 2014. This included an introduction to social media platforms and a tutorial in uploading content to the web and publishing content on social media.



2014 eChamps team left to right: Lyngaranathan Selvaratnam, Malama Psarianos, Ivan Puggioni, May Yuen, Santiago Santos, Edgar Mirantz-Tan and Jake van Dam.

The 2014 eChamps team was made up of ethnic broadcasters: lyngaranathan Selvaratnam, Santiago Santos and Jake van Dam from Darwin, May Yuen from Brisbane, Ivan Puggioni from Melbourne and Malama Psarianos from Sydney. Following training, the team put their media skills to use, producing live online coverage of both conferences across Facebook and Twitter, uploading photos and videos of workshops, and conducting interviews with conference delegates and workshop hosts.

The eChamps coverage of the conference was a great way to showcase the value social media has in connecting people, sharing information and visual and audio material in real time, as well as providing a stage for communicating on a big scale.



Twitter coverage during the 2014 NEMBC conference.

## May Yuen, Radio 4EB, Brisbane

'It was a great experience to become part of the eChamps for these few days! Starting from the NEMBC Youth Media conference on Friday, we kept tweeting, posting updates on Facebook and Google+ in order to generate the vibe and engage with participants. I learnt how to manage different media platforms at the same time and post valuable content. It also gave me the opportunity to interview all the inspiring speakers! Once again, I am very grateful that I was given a chance to join this conference.'



Steve McLachlan, Radio Larrakia and May Yuen, eChamp.



eChamps Jake van Dam, Ivan Puggioni, Malama Psarianos, May Yuen.

To take a look at the eChamps conference coverage and follow the NEMBC on social media, head to: [nembc.org.au/nembc14](http://nembc.org.au/nembc14)

Facebook: [facebook.com/nembc](https://www.facebook.com/nembc)

Twitter: @nembc\_official

If you would like to know more about eChamps and how to get involved please contact Tara [projectofficer@nembc.org.au](mailto:projectofficer@nembc.org.au)

**Tara Egan**  
NEMBC Project Officer



# 2014 NEMBC Youth Media Conference

**On Friday 31 October 2014, the National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcaster's Council (NEMBC) held their third national Youth Media Conference at the DoubleTree Hilton in Darwin. This was the first time the conference was held in the Northern Territory.**

More than 70 young people attended the 2014 NEMBC Youth Media Conference from all over the NT and many made their way to the Top End from interstate.

This conference was an opportunity for young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to share their experiences and thoughts about community radio broadcasting and the media, learn a host of new skills and allowed them to create national networks with fellow broadcasters and media students.

The day kicked off with an engaging Q&A panel session featuring three very distinguished panelists: Hon Alison Anderson MLA; Migration Lawyer and co-founder of Multicultural Youth Northern Territory (MyNT) Kevin Kadirgamar; and Northern Territory Anti-discrimination Commissioner Sally Sievers. The panelists were asked about their thoughts on the topics of racial vilification in Australian society, the treatment of asylum seekers and spoke about the importance of language in preserving and expressing culture. The Hon Alison Anderson received a spirited response from participants following her inspirational stories related to her Indigenous culture and

personal story, highlighting the ignorance and racism she has experienced in her pursuit of equality.

Next up, Sarah Tam-Perez, vice Chairperson of MyNT with NEMBC Youth Committee Convener Kenneth Kadirgamar, talked everybody through ways to get a message heard. Ms Tam-Perez, who has extensive experience in advocacy, and an enthusiasm for the power of young people to make a difference for their own future, steered a breakout session which saw participants devise their own campaign ideas surrounding an issue they were passionate about. From there groups developed a framework for delivering this message to the appropriate audience. Out came the paper and colored textas, as participants discussed and shared ideas and worked as a team to create and map out strategies for their very own fictional campaign.

*"I've learnt so much and have lots to bring home with me in regards to voice training, interview skills and networking"*

Making lifelong contacts and connections seemed like a breeze with the help of Steve McLachlan, General Manager of Aboriginal Broadcasting Australia. Mr McLachlan talked participants through his own experiences in the media and broadcasting industry and went through the crowd to ask people what they wanted to be doing in ten years. He also explained the impact social media has had on people's ability to connect, but stressed the importance of meeting people face-to-face and described ways to break down personal barriers to establish beneficial relationships and forge new pathways. Participants sat captivated as Mr McLachlan explained



2014 NEMBC Youth Media Conference delegates.



to them how his successful networking saw him having dinner with popular American television host Oprah, and spoke about how his ability to spend time with people and really get to know them has led to some of the most pivotal events and opportunities in his life.

Fresh off the campaign trail, Lauren Moss, recently elected Member for Casuarina, presented participants with all the tools they needed to run a successful social media campaign. Ms Moss created the Skin Deep Project, an online blog dedicated to promoting a healthy body image in the community and shared her know-how of search engines, online spaces, and how to define which is the most appropriate social media platform for your message. Participants learnt that there's much more to social media than connecting with those within your circle and reaching out via social media is becoming a more effective way to create awareness, spread positivity and tap into global communities.

Henry Gray from Toastmasters International delivered a presentation about the correct use of language and grammar, with some helpful tips for pronunciation and public speaking. He also pointed out that body language plays an important role in confident communication.

Presenter of ABC Darwin's Morning radio program Julia Christensen shared her tips and instruction on how to get the best out of interviews, and techniques for tackling tough talent. She talked about her enthusiasm for radio, her biggest on-air bloopers, the power of storytelling, using the dump button, tackling tough issues and interviewing politicians. Young broadcasters had an opportunity to ask Ms Christensen for some pointers to take back to their own programs.

The day also featured a workshop on creating an award-winning radio program, presented by broadcasters from 3ZZZ, Australia's largest ethnic radio station. Santiago Santos, Mindy Dinh and Edgar Mirantz-Tan were the producers of Student Xpress, a program which won the 2013 NSW Parliament Multicultural Media Award for Contribution to Social Inclusion, and the 2013 NEMBC Youth Program of the Year Award. They taught young broadcasters how to find the extraordinary in the ordinary and explained how big story ideas can be sparked by the smallest of things. It was a great way to showcase the wealth of talent and ideas that can be found at community radio stations across Australia and displayed the strength independent media has to tell the stories we don't often hear in the mainstream.

To close the 2014 NEMBC Youth Media Conference, Alpha Capaque, Chairperson at MyNT addressed participants and told of her inspiring personal journey as a multicultural youth striving to make a difference in an often indifferent world.

The conference was an impressive day filled with learning, knowledge, inspiration and connecting. A variety of topics were covered to equip young media makers and engaging

stories were shared. Participants, who came from culturally and linguistic diverse communities, came away with a bank full of knowledge, ideas, practical skills and inspiration to take back to their community radio stations and related organisations.

One attendee remarked, 'I've learnt so much and have lots to bring home with me in regards to voice training, interview skills and networking'. Another stated, 'I gained valuable insights and information in regards to broadcasting, social media and skills within this sector of the media industry, I also met some really great people'.

This conference in Darwin follows on from the continued success of NEMBC Youth Media Conferences held previously in Perth and Brisbane. It will now become a permanent fixture and will be held annually in different states around Australia.

Catch the next one in Melbourne this year. Stay tuned to [www.nembc.org.au](http://www.nembc.org.au) for more information soon.

**Tara Egan**

*NEMBC Project Officer*

**Kenneth Kadirgamar**

*NEMBC Youth Committee Convener*

**The 2014 NEMBC Youth Media Conference was proudly sponsored by:**





# Multicultural Youth Broadcasting Experiences



## Multicultural youth broadcasting and what it means

**When I came to Australia, entering the world of community broadcasting was the very last thing in my mind.**

It was only with the combination of many happy accidents that I came across the Tectonic Youth Radio program in the NT. The adrenalin that comes when you are about to go on air, the excitement you feel when preparing a show, and most importantly, the friendships you form are just some of the most memorable moments from the group that I take with me.

The story of Tectonic is not without its own share of challenges. It has experienced loss of funding, broadcasters, and even a station. It has faced the threat of having the cops called to stop a broadcast and every technical failure in the book. And yet the team has risen to every challenge with a grace that belied their age. They evolved. By constantly changing while holding on to their identity, they adapt to an ever-changing industry.

While most people would avoid change in fear of losing their individuality, the Tectonic team recognised that change itself lies in their individuality. After all, most of them, at one point, had to become part of a new country and learn a language that was not their own. Instead of hiding the fact, they embraced everyone's different capabilities and united to overcome every challenge.

If there is one lesson that I would take from my community radio experience, it is this story of seeing

unlimited potential in everyone. They come together as Australians who, by a lucky chance, have different experiences, heritage, stories and opinions. Different individuals who at their very core, are one people. And it is by this definition of multiculturalism that we stand. Multicultural, not because we come from an ethnic background but because of the multifaceted contribution that we bring to the table. Multiculturalism is not the 'special' treatment that people perceive we get because of the background we come from but the level in which we treat each other equally, whatever our heritage is.



It is with this level of open-mindedness and understanding that the Tectonic team welcomes its members and it is my great hope that this fresh face of multiculturalism makes its way across Australia.

**Alpha Capaque**

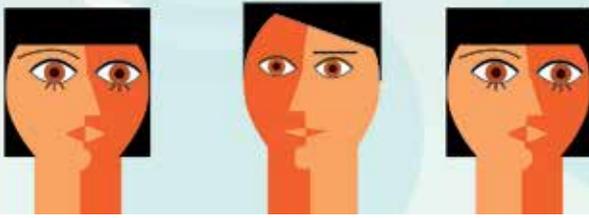
*Chair, Multicultural Youth Northern Territory (MyNT)  
and MBCNT broadcaster*

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## Conference delegates visit Tectonic Youth Radio

It's become tradition for NEMBC conference delegates to visit the host station. So after the close of official business at the 2014 NEMBC Conference, several conference attendees crowded into the studios at Larrakia Radio where MBCNT broadcasts, to join the Tectonic Youth Radio show live on air. There's nothing like the taste of fresh airwaves to rekindle your love of community radio!





# NEMBC Women's Living Stories Radio Project

**The NEMBC Women's Committee invites women to participate in the Living Stories Radio Project. This is a fantastic opportunity for women broadcasters to share their work and to share stories of women from all cultures and in all languages with the rest of Australia.**

The NEMBC Women's Committee initiated the Women's Living Stories Radio Project for women broadcasters to share their work and share the stories of women from all walks of life, from all cultures and in all languages.

The project is a way to facilitate understanding, dialogue and sharing and is a great opportunity to recognise the achievements, celebrations and various challenges faced by women in Australia.

The project gathers interviews as edited radio features, which are available online through the NEMBC website. The topics, reflections, memories, stories, experiences and perspectives you choose to discuss and feature are up to you!

Opportunities for participation:

Broadcasters are encouraged to produce a 5-10 minute radio feature. Interviews can be recorded in any language but please submit a short summary of the interview in the same language as well as in English.

This is an ongoing project and we welcome you to submit a story to be posted as a podcast and shared. Community members who wish to be interviewed can also be part of the project. Just contact the NEMBC to be put in touch with a broadcaster to assist with the recording.

The Living Stories Project features many fantastic stories in podcast form from women of all walks of life and is a great way to highlight the diversity that can be found in all pockets of Australia. Here's a look at just a few:

## Luciana Cedro - Starting Over

Like many young brides, Luciana Cedro left Italy in the early 1950's to join her husband and start a brand new life in Australia. Luciana's husband had arrived two years before to find work and make a home for his beautiful young wife and baby son. On her arrival in Brisbane, Luciana was horrified to discover that her husband had made other arrangements and their plans of a happy family life together in a new country were not going to eventuate. With determination and great courage, Luciana chose to stay here with her two year old son to build her own new life. Her story highlights the social and cultural hardships faced by many migrant women arriving in Australia after World War II.

## Syahisti Abdurrachman - The Spice of Life

Syahisti Abdurrachman is a community broadcaster who hosts the Indonesian program and multicultural women's

program on 3ZZZ in Melbourne. Syahisti speaks of the imagination, intuition and dedication one needed to be able to cook Indonesian dishes in Melbourne during the 1950s.

## Kalisi Bese Volatabu - Seni Dilo Yalo Qaqa (Courage of a Young Girl)

Kalisi Bese Volatabu is a volunteer broadcaster with the Fijian Program Group in Brisbane at Radio 4EB. When Kalisi was 14, she was sent on a four week holiday to relatives in Sydney. When her visit time expired, Kalisi asked her Mum if she could return home to Fiji. Her Mum refused, as she believed that Australia was the best place for her, a popular dream of parents from the Pacific. This decision resulted in trauma, abuse, homelessness and even detention at Villawood Detention Centre. She currently works as a Community Development Officer in Brisbane and is an active member of the Pacific Island Reference Group Inc (PIRG).

## Kylie Cassidy - Freedom Ride

Kylie is a young Aboriginal woman working for Koori Connect and was involved in the re-enactment of the 1965 'Freedom Ride' with Charles Perkins, which visited Bowraville Theatre to protest against the segregation of Aboriginal people in the theatre. The event coincided with a conference being held at the theatre for Well Being & Mental Health. The Freedom Ride sets out to give remote Aboriginal communities an active role in supporting constitutional change for Indigenous Australians.

## Mahboba Rawi – Mahboba's Promise

Mahboba Rawi is an Afghan-Australian woman, and founder of Mahboba's Promise, a not-for-profit organisation assisting Afghan women and children in Afghanistan. Rawi has experienced first-hand the effects of a country torn apart by years of war and civil unrest.

For Women's Living Stories radio features, information and contribution guidelines, head to the NEMBC website [www.nembc.org.au](http://www.nembc.org.au) or contact Tara (03) 9486 9549.

**Tara Egan**  
NEMBC Project Officer



## Wake the town, tell the people: Radio Skid Row celebrates 30 years

On 31 January 2015, Radio Skid Row invited 400 of its closest friends to raise a glass to the past and celebrate the station's three-decade-old cultural and political history at its 'Wake the Town, Tell the People' 30th Anniversary Fundraiser. As one of Sydney's oldest community radio stations, the evening was rich with nostalgia for a station that has maintained its commitment to representing the most marginalised members of communities around Inner Western Sydney since the early 80s.

The course of the evening saw a diverse and talented line up of acts take to the stage at the Addison Road Community Center. From reggae to rock and spoken word performances, the acts included members of Skid Row's past and present and showcased the station's rich multicultural and activist roots.

Members of Skid Row's Lion Mountain Project, a community project initiated by members of Sydney's Sierra Leonean community, also made their voices heard performing tracks written and recorded from a cupboard studio within the station.

Across the evening, stalwarts of Skid Row's past pieced together the chronology of the community broadcaster's eclectic and at times challenging past. Audiences also heard from the NSW Labor Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Member for Canterbury, Linda Burney and the Greens Member for Balmain, Jamie Parker. Both have been interviewed on Skid Row over the years.

Radio Skid Row began with test broadcasts on a landline to Long Bay Jail. It first went to air as a fully licensed station in 1983. The first broadcasters included members of the Indigenous community, the Communist Party, migrant workers committees, squatters, prison activists and young people.

During this time Skid Row allocated 20 hours of airtime to the local Koori community. These programs became known as Radio Redfern and developed into a partnership between Indigenous and non-Indigenous broadcasters.

The station called itself the Radio Skid Row-Radio Redfern Connexion and an Aboriginal-owned studio was built in Redfern, with a landline connecting it to the main studio at Sydney University. Radio Redfern later evolved into Koori Radio, which continued to broadcast on Radio Skid Row until they applied for and won their own city-wide licence. Today, Koori Radio is a force unto its own and has been broadcasting ever since.

Radio Skid Row would like to offer immense gratitude to all who contributed to the 30th Anniversary fundraiser. The proceeds of the evening will go toward the refurbishment of the main studio and ensure the ongoing success of Sydney's very own radical radio, Radio Skid Row.

**Emma Couch**

*Live Talks Producer, Radio Skid Row 88.9 FM*



Top to bottom: Birthday cake, Fijian dancers, French volunteers on the merchandise desk, group photo including some volunteers who've been with Skidrow since the beginning, and long-time volunteer Kween G.



## 2014 AFC Asian Cup on 3ZZZFM

In January of this year, 3ZZZ's multicultural youth program, Polyfonix, had the privilege of being media representatives for the Melbourne-based matches at the 2014 AFC Asian Cup (in which the cup was eventually won by Australia, hooray!). My co-presenter Salam and I basked in the electric atmosphere of each game we attended. It was colourful, appropriately loud and a feast for the senses. I had never seen such excitement and energy in any sporting event I have attended.



I covered four games – three pool matches and the Quarter Final between Korea Republic and Uzbekistan, and each game was as exciting as the last. On a cool and patchy Friday night, the opening match between Australia and Kuwait started off with a slightly disappointing performance by the Socceroos. After the Soccerroo's post World Cup performances, I was worried that our chances of winning the Asian Cup would be zilch. However, 25 minutes into the match, the Socceroos turned the ignition key and redlined it to the very end, winning 4-1 in the process.

With my hot chocolate, hot dog and large chips in my grease and salt laden hands, sitting amongst the world's media in the hallowed tribunes, I knew that this would be a spectacular tournament to cover.

DPR Korea v Saudi Arabia was a close affair in the first half, with the teams being deadlocked at 1-1, but in the second half DPR Korea conceded defeat at the hands of the Saudis, 4-1. The faces of despair on the DPR Korea's coaches and players when the full-time whistle blew said it all, and the Saudi supporters were in raptures with their comprehensive victory. In fact, in the press conference for Saudi Arabia, some journalists were cheering when the players entered to answer questions!

Japan v Jordan demonstrated why the Samurai Blue are one of the dominant forces of Asian football. Much like their way of life, the Japanese were all precision, hardly making any errors, as they cruised to a 2-0 victory over Jordan. The Jordanian supporters were never deflated by this however, and their supporters were probably the most vocal and excitable group I saw at the tournament.

The Quarter Final between Korea Republic and

Uzbekistan was very competitive, and it was virtually neck and neck (the match even went into extra time, cor blimey!). Korea Republic nailed two goals in the space of ten minutes, winning 2-0. This was also the first time the ratio of people to selfie sticks far exceeded anything that I could have comprehended; Korean fans love their selfies.

The experience of covering the games and press conferences was eye opening. A lot of effort and hard work is put into staging, as well as covering major sporting events. The staff and venue were terrific, the chips were laden with chicken salt (which is how I like it), and being up close with the coaches and players was an experience I will never forget. The AFC Asian Cup was a monstrous success.

**Ivan Puggioni**

*Polyfonix presenter, 3ZZZ 92.3FM*

## Tamil Oliparapu Servai on 1CMS - Tamil Radio in Canberra

Canberra Tamil Oliparapu Servai on 1CMS FM91.1 has been serving the Canberra Tamil community with local, national and international news, music, drama and educational programs for the last thirty years. Tamil Radio is administered by the Canberra Tamil Association (CTA) which is committed to serving the Canberra Tamil people. We are pleased that our Tamil Radio has also grown with Canberra Tamil Association.

Tamil radio service commenced in 1985 with a 30 minute time slots and increased to one hour over time. Currently we are broadcasting three hours per week and you can also listen online. Many volunteers are now taking a keen interest in broadcasting. Our youth radio program is on Sundays (12 to 1 pm) with the name "Thendral FM". They are very active and Tamils around the world have been participated through their Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/thendralfm>). As well as the youth program, we broadcast on Thursdays (8 to 9 pm) and Saturdays (11 to 12 noon).

Our broadcasts provide young people with the opportunity to maintain their home languages and diverse cultural heritages. Many Tamil community members are contributing to the development of our Tamil radio programs. People can listen online from all over the world. Our strategy is to expand on our existing community and into new communities that have a significant Tamil youth presence. We believe radio broadcasting primarily targeting Tamils has real growth potential.



**Nesan Chelliah**

*Tamil Program Co-ordinator  
1CMS 91.1fm Canberra*



## Around the Stations

It's off to new digs for two of SYN's long-serving staff, JB (Jonathan Brown) and Danae Gibson. The two have been instrumental in building innovative multicultural programming and training projects at SYN.

SYN formed as the Student Youth Network in 2003 out of a merger between two small temporary community broadcasters, and in just 12 years has grown into a media organisation with an impressive program grid, television programs on Channel 31, and training initiatives across the country.

JB joined SYN as a volunteer in 2010 and has been SYN's Education & Training Manager since August 2011. He started multi-faith programming and training at SYN, and laid the foundations for the role of a Diversity Programming Coordinator to drive culturally diverse youth involvement at SYN. Jonathan played a big role in facilitating youth media and learning, partnering with the NEMBC to deliver the pilot Next Generation Media project in 2012, which continues to train young people from diverse backgrounds in broadcasting. The project won the 2012 CBAA Excellence in Ethnic & Multicultural Broadcasting Award.



*JB and Danae with Adrian Basso. Photo credit JB.*

Danae Gibson has been SYN's Diversity Programming Coordinator and developed a number of SYN's broadcasting and education initiatives for young people, youth community groups and Victorian metropolitan and regional schools. Danae played a crucial role in broadening the opportunities and perspectives of the young people who get involved at SYN through multi-faith and access programs, including Intersection, a program connecting young people of diverse faith backgrounds, and forming program partnerships with a number of disability organisations and schools to provide broadcast airtime and experiences for young people living with a disability, which has resulted in several access and multi-faith programs on SYN.

Tess Lawley, General Manager at SYN says: "JB and Danae have brought so much to SYN, and the community broadcasting sector, in just a few years. With passion, dedication and diligence, they have supported young people from all backgrounds and abilities to have a voice

in the media. We want to extend a massive thank you and wish JB and Danae all the best."

With sponsorship from the Scanlon Foundation, in January 2014 SYN offered free radio and media training to individuals from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds aged 12-25, with the aim of getting cross cultural perspectives on air. Broadcasters trained through this project went on to host their own weekly radio show for a season on SYN (February-April), with ongoing support in content development from SYN staff.



*Next Gen crew with JB. Photo credit JB.*

At the same time SYN also offered scholarships to three organisations working with young people under their Cultural Partnerships Program, funded by the Australian Government Diversity and Social Cohesion Program. SYN has also prioritised representation of diverse religious and spiritual backgrounds through their Multifaith Perspectives Program, supported by funding from the Victorian Multicultural Commission.

Along with these special initiatives, part-time dedicated Diversity Programming Co-ordinator, and regular events like Diversity Programs Information Nights, SYN has been both active and innovative in seeking and sustaining culturally and linguistically diverse programs.

SYN welcomes Areej Nur as the new Diversity Programming and Training co-ordinator. Areej's first taste of community radio came from SYN as part of the NextGen Media training in 2012. Areej has trained young people from all backgrounds and walks of life at 3CR and led the fantastic Girls Radio Club project.

Campbell McNolty is also joining the SYN team as Education and Training Manager. Campbell is a community media and training devotee, getting involved at 3PBS in his teens and going to train new PBS volunteers and host Bop Gun on a Monday morning.

It's an exciting time for SYN's Media Learning department, and for multicultural training and programming!



## Victorian African Community Awards 2014

The 2014 Victorian African Community Awards took place on Saturday 25 October 2014 at Richmond Town Hall. Approximately two hundred people attended the event organised by Africa Media Australia and partners to showcase the impressive social, cultural and economic achievements of Victoria's vibrant African-Australian communities.

The memorable gala night celebrated the contributions of notable community leaders, professionals and achievers in 15 categories, with the awards judged by a distinguished cross-community panel.

Some important figures of Victoria's government agencies and the not for profit sector attended the night, including Chin Tan, the Chairperson of the Victorian Multicultural Commission, Assistant Commissioner of Victoria Police Luke Cornelius, Jesuit Social Services' CEO Julie Edwards, amongst others.

The award winners for 2014 include:

- Francis Acquah - Community Leadership
- Nkandu Beltz - Women in Leadership
- Hashi Kaar - Business and Entrepreneurship
- Monica Forson - Youth Leadership
- Theresa Ssali & Faduma Musse - Unsung/forgotten heroes
- Zero Degrees - Artistic and individual talents
- Majak Daw - Best Sport Star
- African Australian Inclusion Program - Best project with a focus on Africans (project run by the NAB and Jesuit Social Services)
- Devine Restoration Church - Most proactive faith-based organisation
- Gil-Soo Han and John Buddarick - Friends of Africans/ Organisations supporting Africans
- Moustapha Barry - Outstanding professional achievement (Engineering)
- Kimani Boden - Outstanding professional achievement (Legal)
- Dr. Kalumba Kongolo - Outstanding professional achievement (Medical/health)
- Dr. Charles Mphande - Outstanding professional achievement (Academia)

Africa Media Australia thanks sponsors Victorian Multicultural Commission, Newforce Recruitment, VICSEG New Futures, Asgori Money Express, Ashley Training and Education, and Negassa & Associates for their support.

For more information about the event including video coverage and interviews with award winners, go to [africanmediaaustralia.com](http://africanmediaaustralia.com)

<http://www.africanmediaaustralia.com/vaca-is-embraced-widely-in-the-community/>

**African Media Australia**





## Meet Jaime Palacios - one broadcaster, three stations, four programs

I came to Australia 43 years ago from Chile. After I worked in different jobs, I had the opportunity to go to the Sydney Teacher College, I graduated and worked as a

Primary School Teacher for 25 years here in Australia and 10 years in Chile.

When I retired in 2000, I moved to the South Coast in 2002 to Shoalhaven Heads, where in 2003 I was approached by Triple U FM Community Radio and I was given a spot of two hours a week on Thursday from 2 to 4 pm to run a Latin American Show, which I did and still I am doing it.

By 2007 I sold my property and I bought a unit in Wollongong and I continued coming back to Nowra to do the show on Triple U every Thursday. By 2010 I was approached by Bay and Basin Community Radio 92.7 FM and they offered me a spot of two hours on Wednesday from 7 to 9 pm which I took. Then while I was living in Wollongong I approached the local community radio station 2 VOX 106.9 FM and they gave me a two hour spot on Friday from 7 to 9pm every fortnight. So I was doing shows on 3 community radio stations. Later on in 2011 at Bay and Basin Community Radio, they asked me if I would like to do a breakfast show too, which I accepted, therefore at the moment I am doing as follows:

Tuesday 7.00 am to 10.00 am on Bay and Basin Community Radio 92.7 FM

Tuesday 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm on Triple U Community Radio 104.5 FM

Wednesday 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm on Bay and Basin Community Radio 92.7 FM

Friday (fortnightly) 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm 2 Vox Community Radio 106.9 FM

And that is how I spend my retirement time, which I enjoy very much and has kept me quite busy!

### Jaime Palacios

Broadcaster, Triple U, Bay and Basin and 2VOX FM



## 2MFM Annual Corporate Dinner 2014 – Voice of Diversity

Muslim Community Radio 2MFM 92.1 has represented the plethora of linguistically and culturally diverse groups in the Australian Muslim community for two-decades. 2MFM has played an integral part in making a strong and ethnically diverse voice for all. This resounding, multicultural, multi-lingual and multi-award-winning voice was accurately echoed through the 2MFM Annual Corporate Dinner 2014 with the theme, 'The Voice of Diversity'.

The event saw a host of dignified Islamic leaders and imams, distinguished political and community leaders, police officers, academics, media representatives and broadcasting members celebrate the achievements of Muslim Community Radio, 2MFM.

Following the opening speech presented by MC Ola Nafeh, the dinner commenced with an inspiring recitation from the holy Qur'an performed by Muhammad Hazarvi. With Pakistani heritage, Muhammad is a student of Al Amanah College who memorises the whole Qur'an off by heart.

The National Anthem was then followed by a speech delivered by the 2MFM president Mr. Muhammad Mehio who acknowledged that the role of the Muslim Community Radio, 2MFM, is paramount in helping to build diversity, inclusiveness, an ethnically diverse Muslim community and project the moderate teachings of Islam.

'Our work at 2MFM is geared towards social cohesion, integration and using radio as a medium to serve the Muslim community,' he said.

The Prime Minister of Australia Tony Abbott kindly shared his message through a personalized video message in which he thanked 2MFM for their work in serving the Muslim community and giving the wider community a chance to learn more about Islamic faith and culture. A number of other parliamentarians and senators also sent messages of congratulations, while Member for East Hills, Glenn Brookes, spoke in person, representing the NSW Premier Mike Baird. Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Linda Burney, also attended and spoke of eliminating the ignorance that fosters racism towards Muslim communities.



New recruits who have recently completed their Certificate III in Media with CMTO. Mr Mehio, Mr Khayat, Mr Hussein, Ms Burney, Mr Brookes & award winners; Mr Moselmane, Sheik Natheerulhsan, Mr Gily, Mr Almuddine, Dr Anmar, Mr Scaf, Ms Nafeh, Ms Tebbo & Ms Awad.



As one of twenty-two organizations affiliated with Darulfatwa – the Islamic High Council of Australia, 2MFM was proud to be recognized by his eminence Sheikh Ibrahim El-shafie as an imperative mechanism of projecting the moderate face of Islam and strengthening the ties of harmony and cohesion amongst fellow Australians.

'2MFM's work against extremism and radicalization has been established since its first broadcast on air, to project the true moderate teachings of Islam and to protect our youth against radical and fanatical ideologies', Sheikh El-Shafie added.

Other speakers included Amy Moon, representing CBA President Adrian Basso; Giordana Caputo, CMTO Training Manager; and Fipe Nasome, representing the President of the NEMBC, Dr Tangi Steen.



Fipe Nasome (Radio Skid Row) representing NEMBC President Dr Tangi Steen.

Ms Nasome conveyed Dr Steen's message that applauded the work of 2MFM and encouraged the station to continue its role of being a resilient and dedicated broadcaster.

Highlighting the importance of the theme used for this dinner, the Voice of Diversity, Ms Nasome said: 'You have chosen your name very well, your job at a national level is to make sure that governments - federal, state and local recognise the voice of diversity and its prominent place in the Australian media landscape'.

The evening also included a powerful, multilingual

performance in English, Arabic, French and German with strong melody and impassioned lyrics that evoked an enthusiastic response from the audience. The multilingual musical presentation Muslims of the World imparted a significant message about the proper stance that Muslims take on terrorism. It's not only a spectacular example of melodic flair, but more prominently a powerful and influential expression of Muslims standing against acts of terrorism especially those done in the name of Islam. The musical piece is a resounding voice for all Muslims regardless of race, language or skin colour.

Later, a sensational line up of Bosnian vocalists captivated the entire audience with their charismatic performance that displayed the distinctive charisma of their Bosnian cultural identity.

The attendees also discovered the beauty and vibrancy of Malaysian culture through a performance of the musical piece titled 'The attributes of God'.

Following that, the exotic Sudanese chanting band offered a glimpse into the flavour of African culture by their vivacious traditional attire and mesmerising tune and lyrics. The exuberant ambiance invited the crowd to be a part of their performance which included drumming and traditional dancing. Almost everyone was seen recording the performance on their mobile devices, applauding and beaming with smiles and giggles. It was truly an enchanting African experience.

The night drew to a close with the anticipated 2MFM Awards Presentation conducted by 2MFM Executive, Mr Rafic Hussein and assisted by 2MFM President Mr. Mehio, Station Manager Mr. Muhammad Khayat, Ms Linda Burney MP and Glenn Brookes, MP.

The Muslim Community Radio, alongside its management, staff and volunteers strives to continue to be recognized as the multicultural, multilingual and multi award winning voice of diversity.

**Nadia Zahr**

*2MFM Administrator*



Award winners: Fr left M.Khayat, Faten El Dana OAM, D. Saad, H Chamma, Krim Al Shelh, N.Awad, M.Ayyoub, A. El Hge, M. Mehio, Front left, G. Cputo, H.Alwn , Z.Tebbo, N. Zahr & S. Zahr.



Sudanese chanting band.



## 5THE Filipino broadcaster Terry Laucirica wins local council 2014 Senior of the Year Award

On Friday 31 October Terry Laucirica, valued volunteer broadcaster with 5THE FM, was named Senior of the Year 2014 at the award ceremony organised by the Wattle Range Council Seniors of the Month committee. The Award was sponsored by the SE Times and was announced by the Mayor Peter Gandolfi who presented Terry with her award.



*Terry Laucirica in the studio at 5THE.*

Terry Laucirica is a quiet achiever who has contributed to her community in many ways since arriving in Millicent 35 years ago, with her new husband, local Millicent man Sec Laucirica, whom she married in the Philippines. They have a daughter Amaya who is a successful recording artist.

Since settling in Millicent, Terry has been actively involved in many aspects of the community. While her daughter Amaya was in school, she helped at the school canteen. She's volunteered with Meals on Wheels in Millicent for 13 years. And she has undertaken a variety of tasks in her church community, including cleaning the church and visiting residents at Sheoak Lodge. Terry has been a member of the Millicent Catholic Parish Pastoral Council for 2 years and a member of the Multicultural Council in Adelaide for 2 terms.

In 1991, Terry began what has now become an annual Christmas event for the past 23 years. It began as a Filipino Christmas Party but quickly developed into a multi-cultural Christmas Party attended by up to 80 people from many different backgrounds. Last year it was held at Lake McIntyre celebrating with multi-national foods. Terry arranges gifts and entertainment and makes everyone feel welcome.

For 35 years Terry has welcomed all newcomers to Millicent. People settling here from the Philippines, Africa, Asia or anywhere at all; she passes on her experiences to them and helps them settle into their new home. She quickly befriends them, offers them emotional support, has get togethers in her home to cook traditional food and helps their orientation into their new home. She is

regarded with great respect by all who know her and is loved by the numerous people she has helped settle in to the region.



*Filipino and Multi Cultural Christmas at Lake McIntyre Millicent 2013.*

Terry began hosting the Filipino radio program on 5THE FM 8 years ago to make sure that the program would continue, when the original presenter moved overseas. She wanted to make sure her Filipino friends still had information about their community in their birth language. Terry also presents an English speaking program during the day, and enjoys hosting the day time programs using her daughter's collection of music to entertain listeners.

Home for Terry is both Australia and the Philippines – 'both are my home; the Philippines are in my heart because I was born there and my family are there but Australia has been kind to me and I love it here and I have my family here too – so I have two homes,' she says.



*The 5THE FM team celebrate Terry's Award.*

Terry's appreciation for her new homeland Australia extends in so many ways. When she first arrived in Millicent she did not drive and a neighbour's husband used to kindly drive her to the shops and appointments when her husband was at work, so as soon as Terry received her driver's license she began driving others to their appointments simply to return the kindness she had been offered. This still occurs 35 years later. Terry will be 70 years old on Christmas Eve this year.

Terry's surprise and nervousness prevented her from



speaking at the award ceremony, as she had had no prior warning until her name was announced by the Mayor, but she told Wattle Range Now:

“I would like to thank the Senior of the Year coordinator Catarina Santos for her kindness and understanding of my excitement and nervousness yesterday at the award ceremony. Thank you to Mayor Gandolfi for his kind words and thank you to Budz Florist for the beautiful flowers. I am so happy and so proud and honoured to receive this Award and it is a big honour for me. Thank you Sheryl, 5THE FM’S manager for nominating me.”

“I feel like the proud tennis players when they hold their beautiful trophy above their head,” she said.

“I am also very honoured because I am the first Filipino person to win such an award in the region. Thankyou everyone.”

Thank you Terry for everything you have contributed to this community and the region.

**Sheryl Lowe**  
*Manager, 5THE Millicent*

## 3ZZZ 25th Anniversary Event

3ZZZ celebrated their rich and eventful history with a 25th Anniversary Celebration Event. This special occasion was held on 6 July 2014 at the Alphington Grammar School Multipurpose Centre in Alphington, Melbourne. The venue accommodated all of those people involved in various capacities at 3ZZZ. There was a significant turnout of people from various ethnic groups, particularly broadcasters and those who work behind the scenes to make 3ZZZ programming informing, engaging and to the highest quality. The event provided an opportunity for all involved with 3ZZZ to get together to celebrate the many milestones that 3ZZZ, formerly known as 3ZZ, had reached over the years.



3ZZZ group photo.

There were plenty of musical and dance performances from different groups, including the Croatian, Greek, Colombian, Laotian and Indonesian ethnic groups, among many others. The performances were all awe inspiring,

and the collective performances that were on display throughout the proceedings captured multiculturalism at its very best.



Karen.

Key members of parliament, including Communications Minister Malcolm Turnbull via a pre-recorded video, presented various speeches thanking 3ZZZ for their efforts over the last 25 years. There was also plenty of food, which was enjoyed (and quickly finished off) by all.



Slovenian presenters.

The formal proceedings concluded with awards presented by key members and stakeholders of 3ZZZ. They included the NEMBC President, George Salloum, who was the first person to hand out certificates of appreciation. Many others followed suit and presented awards to all of the ethnic groups with programs that broadcast on 3ZZZ. We would like to thank 3ZZZ management for organising such a wonderful day for such a wonderful occasion, and thank you as well to all of the broadcasters, members, staff and associates who attended the event.

We also extend a big thank you to all of the volunteers who have helped make 3ZZZ what it is today. It was a joyous occasion, and definitely a day which will be remembered with great fondness for many years to come.

Here is to another 25 years for 3ZZZ!

**Ivan Puggioni**  
*Polyfonix, 3ZZZ*



## 2WOW's Majid turns 70 – and 25!

Majid Piracha was the subject of a feature story in the local paper in St Marys, The Western Weekender, when he celebrated two important milestones in the same week – his 70th birthday, and his 25th year on air at WOW FM.

The host of international show 'New Home New Light' has logged more than 3000 volunteer hours since he started at the community radio station only a few years after arriving in Australia. The Indian-born broadcaster has also volunteered with other local charities and organisations, and formerly worked with homeless youth in Penrith.

Majid has been recognised with a host of different awards for his work, as well as receiving thank you letters from listeners of his multicultural program. He says his personal ethos is to "love everybody with no hate and serve the community without confining yourself to one people". Broadcasters who attended the 2014 NEMBC Conference will be able to attest to Majid's generous and sunny nature.

You can hear Majid's program 'New Home New Light' every Tuesday afternoon on WOW FM 100.7 from 2 pm – 4 pm.



## Tribute to Hans Degenhart 1930-2014

Hans' passing is a great loss to 5EBI and Adelaide. For many years he and his wife Brenda were the heart and soul of 5EBI 103FM.

He was there at the very beginning of 5EBI, the first ethnic fulltime

station in Australia. And ever after he was very much present in advancing ethnic community broadcasting throughout Australia.

Losing Hans leaves all of us bereft, whatever our role in community broadcasting and whether we knew Hans personally or not. But there is also the consolation that we can wholeheartedly celebrate Hans as a great person, as a visionary and enthusiastic professional.

He tirelessly served the NEMBC as a member of the executive over many years. He helped to make things happen. His fellow executives may have had at times different philosophies on some social issues – but he and they always saw eye to eye in standing up for the best in ethnic broadcasting and multiculturalism.

His contribution to policy and campaigning was always polite, thoughtful and positive. He was deeply convinced about the importance of every ethnic broadcaster being heard and involved in decision-making.

Words cannot adequately fathom Hans' contribution to ethnic community broadcasting: it was immense. He was not only a hard worker but also a great family man – husband, dad and granddad. And a good friend.

He leaves a legacy which we'll hold dear in current and future efforts. He was one of the real warriors of his generation.

Vale Hans!

Dank je wel. Je lange tijd op het dek is nu voorbij, maar je left voort in onze harten.

**Dr Heinrich Stefanik OAM**  
Chair, Ethnic Grants Advisory Committee





## Ethnic grants news

The Ethnic Grants Advisory Committee and the NEMBC will be working together in the next few months to produce some resource materials that may assist ethnic broadcasters to better serve their communities and ensure their funded radio programs stay within the CBF guidelines. A multi-media approach should create some tips that will excite programmers and their audiences!

Also, the list of new and emerging communities that the CBF uses in calculating ethnic program grants is being updated to be in line with government and social priorities and the most recent national census data. This could see acknowledgement of some new migrant communities as eligible for the higher subsidy for program grants but could also recognise that programs for some communities are now considered as established enough to better support themselves.

## Other CBF news

### UPDATE ON CBF STRUCTURE & GOVERNANCE REVIEW

The CBF Board met on 6 December to continue its review of the CBF's Structure and Governance.

The task is complex and continuing. We are carefully and thoroughly considering the independent review report by Nous Group, and the broad range of responses to its recommendations received from the sector.

Thank you for all of your input so far. Broad consultation has been an important and very informative process for the CBF allowing us to better understand your views and the aspects of our structure and governance that are important to you.

We are taking the time necessary to think through the implications of both change and the retention of existing structures and processes in detail. Our goal is to ensure that the CBF structure and grant programs are best placed to serve the existing and emerging needs of the sector.

The Foundation is mindful that change to the CBF should be for the sector's benefit. We want to minimise the administrative burden that our current structure places on some stations and grantee organisations. We want to make the most effective use of the funding that we have. Importantly, we want to make sure that the CBF is in a position to be responsive to the changing needs of the sector, and to support your work and the positive impact it has on your community.

The CBF Board has set a two-day meeting in February to continue its deliberations and will provide further advice on progress with the CBF Review in due course.

## AN UPDATE ON TV GRANTS

Due to a change in Government policy there will only be a limited level of funding available for TV Content grants in 2014/15 and it will support the production of Indigenous community television content. The \$75,000 (plus any additional funds from returned Indigenous community television grants) funding pool represents the amount agreed upon by the Department of Communications and CBF for this grant program, given that other community television content funds will be re-purposed to support metropolitan community television broadcasters' transition to online delivery. A total of \$450,000 will be provided over the 2014/15 and 2015/16 financial years to assist with online transition.

Indigenous TV Content grants will close in April and be allocated at the CBF Board's May meeting.

## APPLY NOW: TRAINING GRANTS

Is your station planning any training for 2015? The next round of Training Delivery grants closes 1 April 2015. Training Delivery grants can support skills development of broadcasters, staff and volunteers at community radio and television stations in broadcasting & media skills, management & leadership skills, and technician and trainer training. Visit the CBF website for more information. Training Delivery grants close 1 April 2015.

### Current CBF Grant Opportunities

Grant Category	Due Date
Transmission Support grants	20 March 2015
General – Station grants	30 March 2015
Training Delivery grants	1 April 2015
CBOnline grants	17 April 2015
Content Development grants close	29 June 2015
Sustainability & Development - Promote Your Station	29 June 2015
Ethnic Grants	10 July 2015

For more information on CBF grant opportunities visit the CBF website or call us on (03) 8341 5900.

[www.cbf.com.au](http://www.cbf.com.au)

Like the CBF on Facebook [www.facebook.com/CommunityBroadcastingFoundation](http://www.facebook.com/CommunityBroadcastingFoundation) and follow the CBF on Twitter [twitter.com/cbfgrants](https://twitter.com/cbfgrants)



# Hate He Said

## January 26: a day of dispossession and mourning

Steven Oliver is a Brisbane-based poet, playwright and actor, and a descendant of the Kukuyalanji, Waanyi, Woppaburra, Bundjalung, Gangalidda and Biripi peoples. His musical *Black Queen Black King* has shown at the Queensland Theatre Company, and he has recently finished working on the ABC TV comedy sketch show *Black Comedy* as a writer, actor and producer. His poetry has been published in literary journal *Ora Nui* and the digital publication *Writing Black*, and broadcast on radio. He also works in community radio as the Communications Officer for Brisbane Indigenous Media Association, which operates 98.9 FM.

Steven's poem 'Hate He Said' is reproduced with permission here as a reflection on the continued celebration of Australia Day on 26 January, when the day marks the advent of violent dispossession for Aboriginal peoples.

A podcast of the author reciting the poem is available on the 98.9 FM website at <http://www.989fm.com.au/podcasts/hate-he-said-by-steven-oliver/>

## Hate He Said

Hate, he said was in my heart  
Hate, he said tore us apart  
Hate, he said to let it go  
Hate, he said but he did not know  
That what I had inside of me  
Was a sadness born of empathy  
That because I did not celebrate  
It did not mean I was full of hate  
I asked him to just try and see  
Through my eyes the tragedy  
Of dispossession, of pain, of hurt  
Of the red of blood that stained this earth  
I mourn for all the lives that were lost  
I mourn for what this country cost  
I mourn for how we came to be  
For the end does not justify the means  
It's in the past he said, move on  
Why mourn for something so long gone?  
I looked at him and came to say,  
Do you think we should forget about ANZAC day?  
It's not the same was his retort  
I said wait a minute, give it some thought  
People died while fighting for their land  
Defending it from a foreign hand  
Make no mistake there was a war  
That had been fought on these very shores



Aboriginal Australians protested 150 years of callous treatment and seizure of land on 26 January 1938. A Day of Mourning was called and organised by the Australian Aborigines League (AAL), led by William Cooper in Victoria, and the New South Wales group Aborigines Progressive Association (APA), led by Jack Patten in NSW. These photos show the Sydney protest and conference. Source: <http://www.kooriweb.org/>

A war that didn't always discriminate  
Where the elderly or infants could meet the same fate  
As those who fought to protect them so  
And that's why we should never let go  
Never forget what price was paid  
For us to live as we do today  
He looked at me quite seriously  
Said he celebrates because we're free  
He celebrates our democracy  
And everything great in this country  
I said, that's fine, I get that, it's clear  
Just please don't forget how we got here  
Just take a moment to think it through  
What price was paid for me and you  
To live in this country as we do  
Don't take for granted the sacrifice  
Both of land and of life  
We need to remember those who died  
Not let their legacy be swept aside  
You got an apology, he said  
It talked about loss and mentioned the dead  
What more do you want? He asked of me,  
And so I replied in the hope he would see  
We have a day for Australia, the Queen  
For New Years and Christmas and all those between  
Like Labour and Easter, the ANZAC Parade  
And just what the hell is Boxing Day?

There's even a day that we have for the Shows  
But nothing that speaks of my people's woes  
A national day to acknowledge the cause  
To acknowledge all that has happened before  
And I don't mean NAIDOC I mean something more  
Where the whole nation stops, like it does for a horse!  
A day, is that too much to ask?  
To remind us, don't ignore the past  
He processed my words and looked at the ground  
We both sat in silence, then there was a sound  
A sound that seemed like heaven to me  
A sound of two words that said, I agree!  
We talked some more as the day came to end  
And despite our differences I'd made a new friend  
He understood as the day came to night  
That I needed some things in this country made right  
And because I did not celebrate  
It did not mean I was full of hate.

© Steven Oliver 24 January 2012



Invasion Day protests in Melbourne, 26 January 2015. Photos by Anarchist Affinity (left) and Melissa Davey (right).

