

# The Ethnic Broadcaster

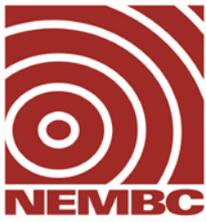
Winter 2009 Edition – Journal of the National Ethnic & Multicultural Broadcasters' Council



## Features

**Bushfires and Community Radio**  
**Federal Budget**  
**Pro. Jo Lo Bianco on Language**  
**2008 NEMBC Conference**  
**Radioactive Youth Forum**





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Welcome to the journal of the  
National Ethnic & Multicultural Broadcasters' Council,  
representing and resourcing ethnic community  
broadcasters across Australia.

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## President's Pen

In the last few months, we have been extremely busy and active in a number of areas particularly in making sure the government heard our voices for an increase in funding for ethnic and other community broadcasting, in the midst of many competing cries for help and ensuring our funding submission to the CBF was timely and well prepared. The Federal Government budget outcome was a disappointment. See the article on the next page.

### Project Co-ordination

On the 3 & 4 of April 2009, I represented the NEMBC at the inaugural meeting of the (community) Sector Project Consultative Committee (SPCC) in Sydney.

This committee has brought together in one body a most welcome development – the previously separate advisory committees for the special government funded projects of:

1. The Australian Music Radio Air Play Projects (AMRAP)
2. The CB Online Project and
3. The National Training Project (NTP)

All these projects are managed by the CBAA on behalf of the CBF.

The SPCC is made up of representatives from all peak bodies of community broadcasters such as NEMBC, AICA, CBAA, and RPH.

The role of this committee is to consider and make recommendations to the CBAA Board on strategic and operational planning and budgeting matters.

These projects are funded from the Federal Government through the CBF and they are up for review every 2-3 years. In total these projects received about \$1 million annually, an amount extremely short of what is needed. So, meeting the needs of all the projects is a hard road of negotiation and decision.

The April meeting endorsed in the main, the strategic and operational proposals and agreed to totally review the NTP in October, now that the government has agreed to fund it for three years.

Some other issues raised in discussion and some recommendations of particular interest to the NEMBC are:

- (a) That as a matter of principle the management of such projects should not automatically be given to the CBAA. The opportunity should be provided to other sector organisations (NEMBC, AICA, RPH) to share in the development of policies and the delivery of services that these projects create, thus strengthening their own capacities and contributing from their own expertise and wide community links.
- (b) That diversity should not be compromised for the purpose "of mainstream efficiencies".
- (c) That ethnic and multicultural broadcasters derive little benefit from AMRAP and CBOonline, given the huge diversity in language broadcasts, and complex programming schedules.

- (d) The funds for training should preferably go to the stations to use in accordance with their own approved training needs, covering all levels of training from elementary to top accredited.
- (e) AMRAP was asked to discuss with the NEMBC and AICA how to deliver better outcomes for ethnic and indigenous broadcasters.
- (f) The NTP management was asked to explore the training needs of broadcasters in languages other than English.

The meeting also clarified the policy that NTP funding under the present scheme does not exclude training below accredited levels, that is, stations cannot apply for funds to run station approved courses as well.

More information on how to access these projects go to the CBAA and NEMBC websites.

### The 2009 Conference

The 2009 NEMBC National Conference will be held in Melbourne in late November, following Victorian Government financial and other support and co-sponsorship of the conference by 3ZZZ.

Unfortunately the Tasmanian government could not provide support on this occasion for the conference to be held in Launceston, which was the NEMBC's first preference, despite the valiant effort of executive committee member Luigi Romanelli and the local community radio station City Park Radio.

### The Next NEMBC Executive Meeting

The Executive Committee meetings are usually held in Melbourne and occasionally in other cities. We are pleased that the July 4-5 NEMBC executive committee meeting will be held in Adelaide. This provides an opportunity for Adelaide ethnic broadcasters and others to meet with executive members at a special Saturday evening function at 5EBI.

The budget is a major item, and the executive committee will also deal with preparations for the Conference and AGM, reports on the constitutional amendments, review of the CBF funding guidelines, the Radioactive Youth Forum, etc.

May I take this opportunity to thank Nancy Falcone, the Administration Officer who has left us, for her dedicated work and wish her all the best in her retirement.

  
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NEMBC



# The Federal Budget Failed Ethnic Community Broadcasting

The government presented this year's federal budget and ethnic and multicultural community broadcasting has been left out in the cold, after a seven month lobby campaign by the NEMBC and the community broadcasting sector organisations.

The NEMBC is pleased that its lobbying effort has been able to maintain the present level of funding with a small increase. However the additional 2.3 million that the NEMBC was requesting has not been delivered.

The funding for ethnic community broadcasting has remained static for the last 12 years, apart from partial indexation.

Ethnic and other community broadcasters have every right to be disappointed. The claim for an increase was modest, affordable and best value for money in these difficult times.

With the long recession ahead of us, community radio has not been recognised for its input into building economic pathways, engaging thousands of volunteers and developing transferable skills to the local community as well as increasing social cohesion. Ethnic and multicultural broadcasters link both new migrants and established communities with each other, their cultures, and the nation as well as providing information about government services and events.

The funding for the National Training Project (\$2.5 m) for the next four years is, of course, welcome. However for ethnic broadcasters to derive any meaningful benefit from the NTP it needs to be directed to cater for grass roots broadcasters and provide a much more culturally sensitive training approach.

A significant amount has been given to ABC (\$130 million) and SBS (\$20 Million) but the additional money requested for ethnic community radio (\$2.4 million)-broadcasting in 100 languages over 105 community radio stations across Australia - is miniscule in comparison yet it has been ignored.

The commitment to digital radio has been maintained but at a level still to be clarified. However most community radio stations believe content and infrastructure funding has much greater need right now.

Important assistance to community television and its change over to digital has been declined. See more details in the news in brief section in this journal for information about community television in the digital era.

## The Lobby Campaign

Lobbying over the seven months was difficult and the community radio sector received very little attention as the economic downturn went into a recession. The government was heavily involved in developing its first 42 billion dollar stimulus package at the time we wanted to talk to them about community broadcasting. The Victorian bushfires also happened and all attention turned to assisting those communities affected by the tragedy. As the recession worsened the government's focus was on organisations and projects that could deliver jobs and boost the economy.

The NEMBC played a major role in developing the new policy proposal called 'Value Our Voices' and other lobby material. Copies can be found on our website. There was a series of meetings in the beginning of the year with different Ministries in Canberra during parliamentary sittings. These included meetings with the Minister for Communications, Ministry for Immigration, Assistant to the Treasurer's office, Department of Finance and Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs and Settlement Services. The funding strategy group also met with the Prime Minister's Office.

By April 2009 it was clear that the recession was going to have an effect on the 2009/2010 budget. When it did come out there was a 60 billion dollar deficit. Ethnic and multicultural community broadcasting were part of the fall-out.

The NEMBC issued a press release soon after the budget was announced to express its disappointment.

## The Next Lobby Campaign - 2010

Next year there will need to be a campaign similar to the 2007 campaign where broadcasters were asked to participate and lobby their local politicians.

The NEMBC will continue to work with the funding strategy group and with its sister organisations so that there is a single voice speaking as one for community broadcasting.

Ethnic and multicultural community broadcasting will have to continue to emphasise that we are an essential link to building a strong community during economic hardships and a period of increased migration.



Lobbying in Canberra  
George Zangalis and  
Russell Anderson, NEMBC

Patrick Malone, AICA  
Michele Bawden, CBAA

# Bush Fires and Community Radio

The recent bushfires in Victoria were no ordinary fires. Winds travelled at 110 kms an hour and embers blew 20 kilometres in front of the fire. Fireballs of 'atomic force', was the report from the Royal Commission into the bushfires. The intensity of the blaze reached 100,000 kilowatts per square metre. Fire fighters are able to control a fire intensity of 4,000 watts per square metre. The Black Saturday fires have been described as Firestorms and will set a new trend in how to defend against future fires.

Why so many lives were lost will be the main question investigated in a Royal Commission established by the Victorian government. The break down in communications and why so many people were caught off guard will also be addressed. During the crisis telephone and mobile phones were overloaded, two-way radio systems jammed, power lines went down to cut off communications and receiving reliable information was often too late.

"Evidence to be placed before the Royal Commission will indicate that the system of communication of warnings did not cope on 7th February 2009 and that warnings fell behind the advancing fires" said Mr Rush QC at a preliminary hearing at the Victorian County Court.

The Black Saturday fires claimed 173 lives, devastating 78 communities and destroying 2,029 homes. Two major fires, close to Melbourne, were in Murrindindi and Kilmore Shires and this area received a lot of media coverage. The other fires of similar intensity were in Bunyip State Park and in the Churchill and Delburn area, near Morewell. There were a series of other significant fires scattered throughout Victoria and one near Beechworth, near the NSW Victoria border. One small fire, in comparison to the larger ones, managed to burn 60 houses in Bendigo.

Community radio stations played a valuable role in providing information to their local community. At least seven community radio stations were in the thick of the smoke, ash or embers.

## 3UGFM Community Radio in Alexandra

Community radio station UGFM is north of the two major fires and was in the centre of emergency efforts in one of the largest affected areas. In the Murrindindi area over 1,100 homes were destroyed and 130 people lost their lives in this tragedy.

The fire was headed their way on Saturday, smoke filled the sky and embers were dropping in the town of Alexandra where UGFM broadcasts. The wind changed and in the evening the fires also changed direction but they came as close as 10 kilometres. Alexandra became a fire control centre and many emergency warnings were given from this point.

UGFM was broadcasting emergency warning and keeping its listeners up to date as the fire developed. UGFM had established a good relation with the emergency management committee and they received a lot of information from local people that they knew and trusted, information from people that were close to the fires. They were able to alert residents in advance of the fire front. UGFM provided the first communication to

the town of Marysville at 5pm, this was followed by an ABC report half an hour later. The fire front hit Marysville at around 7pm and UGFM's reports alerted residents for a fire plan and the evacuation. UGFM at times gave reports that contradicted the official view but their information was correct. An ABC Four Corners website report gives a chronology of how UGFM assisted: [www.abc.net.au/4corners/special\\_ed/20090427/fires2/chronology.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/special_ed/20090427/fires2/chronology.htm)

People said that UGFM saved lives. They received many phone calls afterwards saying that people heard their reports and were able to leave their house and get out to safety on time. Many presenters worked very long shifts, day and night during the emergency period. They continued to broadcast as the emergency relief period persisted.

UGFM has four transmitters to repeat their signal around the hills of Flowerdale and Kinglake. They lost 2 of the transmitters during the fires, however the primary and secondary transmitters at Alexandra and Yea still provided reasonable coverage. Access was gained 6 days later with bulldozers, temporary antennas fitted and powered by generators for 4 weeks to re establish those two services.

## Plenty Valley Radio - 3PVR FM 88.6 in Mill Park

Community radio PVR is based in Mill Park in a suburban setting on the outskirts of Melbourne. Mill Park is slightly further away from the fires and while there was no smoke or embers falling in their area they broadcast into the Murrindindi Shire, where the fires raged.

As the bushfires developed on Black Saturday PVR fm started to receive reports on the fires. They received up-dates from the Country Fire Authority (CFA), went into bushfire mode in the afternoon and started broadcasting the warnings as they arrived. By the evening the severity of the fire was realised and further steps were taken at the station. Normal programming was halted. Four experienced broadcasters and presenters were called and they volunteered their time at the station. They developed a schedule and worked through the night until 2am next morning. They chased material and actively sought out reliable sources to keep people informed during the night.

In any emergency reporting accurate information is essential to prevent speculation or alarm. In the case of these fires communication was difficult and misinformation could send people in the wrong direction. Program manager Roly Simms said he was proud of the work they did in tough circumstances. "The volunteers did the best they could with what they had. They handled the situation very professionally and reliable information was broadcast".

On Sunday PVR found themselves getting information and found themselves more in-the-loop of local emergency warnings. Spot fires were still a problem and the emergency levels remained high as fires continued to burn.

Normal broadcasting returned to PVR on Sunday. All presenters

# Bush Fires and Community Radio

were briefed and they collected the latest emergency updates. PVR has 11 ethnic programs that broadcast in the evening during the week days. The presenters of these programs relayed the information on the bushfires in their language to the local community.

## Gippsland FM - 3GCR FM - 104.7 in Morwell

Two different fires fronts were either side of the township of Morwell, and fires came as close as 10 kilometres. Cars and houses became covered in falling ash. On Sunday a nearby township of Churchill was evacuated. The fires covered a large area and 247 homes were damaged or destroyed in the Churchill – Jeeralang fire and 13 lives lost. In the Delburn fire, 30 houses were damaged or destroyed.

Two young boys doing a youth program on Saturday evening began to receive calls from distressed residents. Not many people knew the fires had destroyed all local transmitters, on Mount Tassie. People were effectively cut-off from any local news and information as they searched for television stations or radio frequencies. 3GCR's transmitters, however, had survived because they were located on a different hilltop and the two boys were broadcasting their program.

It wasn't long before the local ABC radio contacted the two boys at 3GCR. Maree Orr, a board member and administration officer, got the news from the boys and had to do some quick thinking. Maree set up the live-to-air studio as though it was a live phone interview and was able to transmit the local ABC through the 3GCR transmitter. The phone connection however would drop out every few hours. Maree spent the night and early hours of the morning going into the station to reconnect the phone line.

3GCR realised the severity of the situation and allowed the ABC to broadcast for 48 hours. The local ABC was able to receive local CFA emergency information and had calls from local people and warned of fire fronts, smoke and wind changes.

3GCR returned to normal programming by Tuesday and the station's volunteers banded together and were able to receive information from the emergency services and put together packages of information for the ongoing emergency relief. The local ethnic presenters broadcast information in their languages during their evening programs.

During the week 3GCR received many phone calls with some of them being live-to-air interviews. The station became an important channel for people to share their stories. While many of the phone calls didn't go to air, the volunteers staffing the office spoke to people about their experiences and traumas effectively acting as a counselling centre.

One couple with a child and a dog that were trapped in the fires gave their thanks to 3GCR. Their phone lines were down, their mobile wasn't working and the electricity was cut due to the fires. With smoke filling the air around them they were trying to decide whether to stay or go. They tuned into 3GCR and got information that it wasn't safe to leave. They believed that decision saved their lives.

For more information from other stations, Yarra Valley FM and 3KLFM, see Around the Stations on the following pages.

## Assistance From Community Radios

Other community radio stations assisted with the relief effort. The stations that we know gave their assistance were;

- 4EB in Brisbane organised an appeal and they administered the funds receiving \$50,000 within a month and gave half the appeal to the bushfires in Victoria and the other half to the floods in Northern Queensland. The Red Cross was so appreciative they told 4EB that none of their money would be used in administration but all the money would go directly to victims of the disasters.
- 3ZZZ in Melbourne assisted with fundraising by running community announcements to promote the emergency appeal of the Red Cross.
- 3RRR-FM did emergency relief packages. A radio program called 'Transference' sent out a single call for toiletries – from clean sheets to baby wipes. There was a huge response so a community announcement was made and ran for a day. The performance area at 3RRR began to fill up. People donated their time and vehicles and most of the drop off areas in the Murrindindi Shire received toiletry packages from 3RRR.
- 3CR ran community announcements and pointed people towards websites where people could volunteer their services. Programmers picked up stories about the fires and focused on other issues not being covered by the mainstream media including the loss of animals and wildlife. 3CR continues to broadcast on the issues.

## Lessons Learnt

All of the community radio stations have felt the trauma of the disaster, both inside their stations and within their own community. Peter Weeks, from UGFM is still dealing with the shock and is concerned that while the fires are out, forty percent of the shire has been destroyed. As well as homes and people's lives the local economy has suffered and will need to be rebuilt. Dealing with the trauma is an ongoing part of the tragedy. There is also the issue of future disasters and how to deal with them.

A major lesson learnt from the fires is that community radio can play a vital role during any emergency. Community radio has the distinct advantage of having local knowledge, understanding the local geography and the people that live in the community. Community radio stations are themselves members of the community and accordingly there is a willingness and reliance to assist. There's an army of volunteers at a community radio station which includes trained staff and many with people with diverse professional backgrounds.

Community radio stations are presently involved in providing information that will feed into submissions to the Royal Commission and hopefully improve communications in any future

# Bush Fires and Community Radio

emergencies.

As many know, the town of Marysville was destroyed and residents are very slowly trying to rebuild. 3UGFM has answered the call from local residents of Marysville and is assisting to set up a radio studio and train local residents for on-air broadcasting. The studio will open on the 17th of May as part of a communications services hub established in the town centre.

The Southern Community Media Association (SCMA) has been working on a memorandum of understanding for some time and Ray Hazen (CEO) plans to “meet with Federal and State MPs along with Emergency Services Victoria and Bruce Esplin Emergency Services Commissioner to develop a protocol and a training and education system for community Broadcasters.”

Once the main disaster has occurred, community radio stations play a vital role in the emergency relief period. There was an estimated 7,500 people left homeless from the fires and community radio continues to bring those people information. There is also the ongoing role in the long term rebuilding of peoples lives and strengthening the community. The assistance given by a community radio (3UGFM) in establishing a radio studio in Marysville is a great example of this involvement.

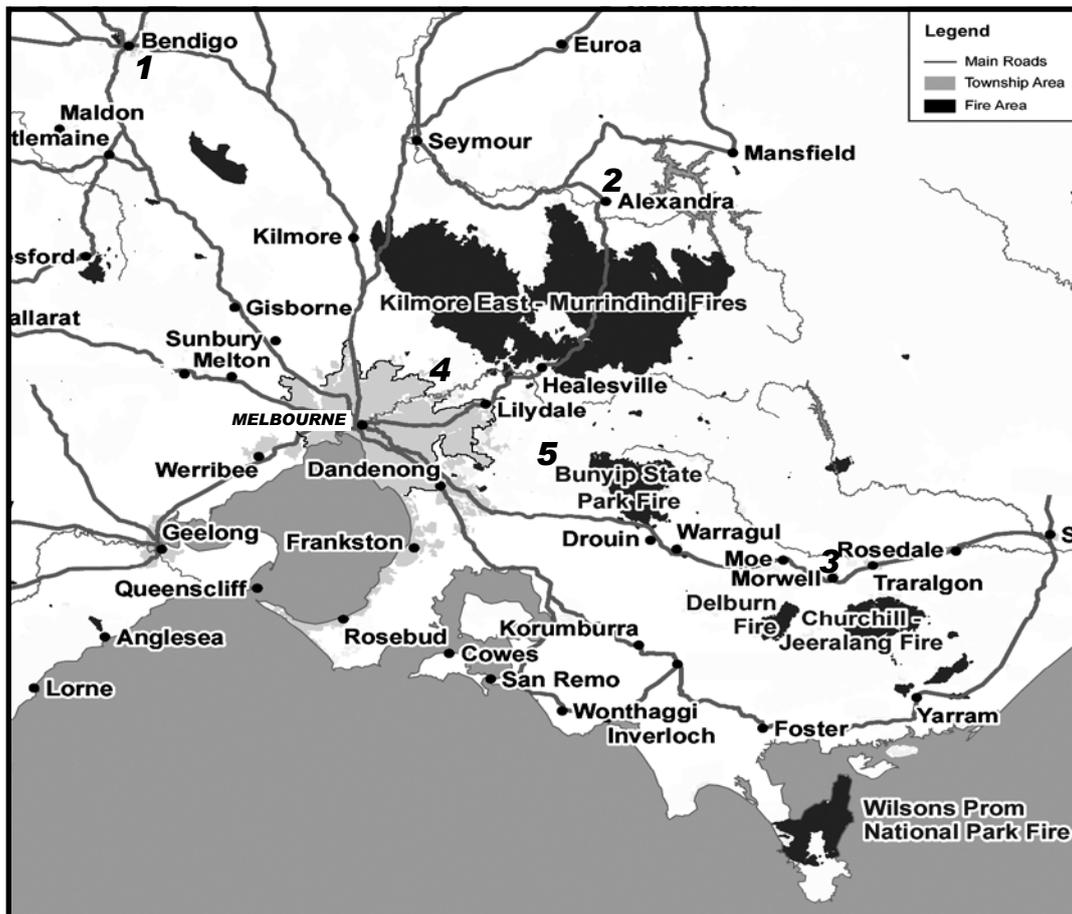
The NEMBC made a submission to the 2009 Bushfires Royal

Commission and recommended that legislation be developed to include community radio stations as part of emergency warning systems, to ensure they are supported to deliver information during a crisis and during the emergency relief and ongoing re-development stages.

Increasingly, rural areas are becoming more multicultural and many community radio stations have ethnic broadcasters. These broadcasters can play a vital role in broadcasting information in their language, particularly to assist in a recovery stage and to help people deal with trauma.

The NEMBC will keep you updated on the events of the emergency relief, the Royal Commission results and how community radio and the relationship with emergency services develops. If anyone has anything they would like to add or contribute to this discussion please send articles for our next edition.

by Russell Anderson  
written from interviews with the stations



The dark areas are the fires and shows the size compared to Melbourne.

The numbers on the map are: 1 is KLM in Bendigo number- 2 is UGFM in Alexandra - 3 is GCR in Morwell - 4 is PVR in Mill Park and 5 is Yarra Valley.



# 2008 NEMBC CONFERENCE

## Reflections

The 2008 NEMBC Conference, titled *Shaping Languages*, was a successful event with over 100 people attending. The highlights were the morning plenary which inspired people to recognise the importance of languages in our society. There were numerous workshops held on Saturday that gave participants options for learning and involvement. Strategic Planning workshops at the end of the day provided the opportunity for participants to have a real input into planning of the NEMBC. On Saturday night the Gala Dinner provided an emotional awards night and a feast of musical entertainment.

### Opening Ceremony

There were some passionate and committed speeches during the opening ceremony from government representatives. Mr. Stephan Kerkyashairan – The Chair of the Community Relations Commission NSW was the NSW host sponsor and showed ongoing commitment to multiculturalism. The Hon. Laurie Ferguson MP – Parliamentary Secretary for Multiculturalism spoke about the importance of fostering cultures and languages to assist migrant and refugee communities and acknowledged their great contribution to Australian society.

Mr. Barry Robert O'Farrell, MP - Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for Western Sydney and the Hon. Virginia Judge, MP - Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts, on behalf of the Office of Premier of NSW spoke eloquently about the need for diversity and their involvement and commitment to multiculturalism.

### The Main Plenary

All the speakers in the plenary presented on the theme for the conference 'Shaping Languages'.

The keynote speaker was Prof. Joseph Lo Bianco, University of Melbourne. He has kindly submitted an abstract from his speech on the next page. His full audio speech can be downloaded from the NEMBC website.

The Plenary Panel Members were:

Thanks to the Conference sponsors:



**COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION**  
*For a multicultural NSW*

Mr Stepan Kerkyasharian (CRC), Paul Herbert- National Manager Federation of Aboriginal & Torres Straight Islander Languages (FATSIL) and Milijana Vojnovic NEMBC Youth Committee Representative from Western Australia

### The Workshops

The afternoon workshops dealt with technical issues such as interview techniques and how to utilize new media technologies. Participants at the conference had the opportunity to speak directly to the Community Broadcasting Foundation about the ethnic grants process. Issues relating to the National Training Project were also discussed with participants in other workshops.

### Strategic Planning for the NEMBC

The NEMBC strategic plan was presented at the conference and participants broke into workshops to discuss the six main headings of: networking; growth and development through policy and advocacy; leadership in new technologies; improving membership services; improving the NEMBC through strengthening governance and the secretariat. The results of these workshops can be viewed or downloaded from our website [www.nembc.org.au](http://www.nembc.org.au). The results of these workshops will be fed into the work of the NEMBC and assist in any future planning. This was a unique opportunity for participants and delegates to be involved in the planning processes of the NEMBC.

### Special Thanks

Thanks to the Conference sponsors and for 2000FM for assisting with the conference as the host station and all our speakers.

Nicola Joseph especially for giving up her Sunday morning for the youth in the NEMBC, Agents of Change for their RAP at the gala dinner and Danny Chifley for being the MC for the night. This year the NEMBC was assisted by Kentera Creative special events organiser.

by Russell Anderson



**AUSTRALIAN  
DEFAMATION  
LAWYERS**



## Broadcasting, intergenerational bilingualism and the Red Book.

Some years ago alarm bells began ringing about the state of the world's languages. While specialist linguists had been debating the loss of languages for decades, and people working closely with indigenous communities and immigrant groups had long been alert to the fragile, unstable and fading nature of bilingualism, it really wasn't until the early 1990s when the issue of 'loss of languages' became known to a wider public.

The catalyst for this change was the Red Book of 1994. The term Red Book had a suitably demanding tone about it, and the link that it made between the preservation of human languages and the conservation of natural eco-systems attracted a sudden burst of media attention across the world. Through print, electronic and broadcast media the issue of the world's dying and threatened languages became worldwide knowledge. It was represented as an urgent public responsibility to conserve human cultural diversity in the face of relentless economic globalisation and the homogenisation of culture and communication systems.

At meetings convened by UNESCO in Paris in the early 1990s specialists had stumbled on this way to discuss language diversity with the wider public and reporters became better informed about the problem. Linking globalisation and technology to the question of multi-lingualism attracted the direct interest of the media about the language health of the world. The formula that was used had three basic points: (i) there are some 7000 languages in the world today; (ii) a vast number of these languages are endangered (estimates vary wildly, from a low of about 50% to a high of 90%) and (iii) there will be massive language extinction within a short period (estimates quoted are usually "2-4 generations" and "by the end of this century"). In fact, both the figures and the time frames are speculative, but widespread erosion of human linguistic diversity is real.

The Red Book called on world leaders to take drastic action to protect minority language communities but, unfortunately, the issue has been more successful at the rhetorical and symbolic level than at the practical level. Despite capturing public attention the three-point formula is regularly recycled in debate and discussion today but little practical action has resulted. In some ways though the situation is less drastic than the Red Book suggests, and globalisation and modern communications technologies, which are often seen as the enemies of language diversity are much more neutral and even positive than first appeared.

We have to recognise that the language picture of the world is immensely complex and while many languages are endangered and dying, there are also new forms of speech coming into existence through the contact that globalisation makes possible. And while some powerful and dominant languages, especially English, are spreading around the world these sometimes contribute to multilingualism rather than eroding it.

## Naming Languages and Dialects

Even counting the total number of languages is complex when it might seem that this should be straightforward. Many people, including professional linguists, rely on the authority of Ethnologue, the most widely cited reference on the world's languages, <http://www.ethnologue.com/> and from this source we learn that 6,912 languages are spoken in the world today. Ethnologue is produced by SIL International, formerly the Summer Institute of Linguistics. SIL International describes itself as a "faith-based organization that studies, documents, and assists in developing the world's lesser-known languages." It has a vast international network of workers specialised in linguistics, translation and related academic disciplines.

If we take a close look at the Ethnologue lists we see that this issue of the number of languages is much more complicated than it first appears. For example, languages have two kinds of names, primary names and alternative names. The 6,912 languages have 7,299 "primary names" and an incredible 39,491 alternative and dialect names. The names given to a language by a professional linguist vary hugely from the names given to languages by their speakers. In fact there are more than 5 times as many 'insider' names as 'outsider' names. This points to the issue of identity suggesting that for most languages some speakers name their language and therefore think about it differently from other speakers of the same language. To an outsider it might seem like the differences between two varieties of a language are quite small but such differences to insiders can be very significant, sometimes indicating that the two varieties are completely different languages altogether.

Professionals apply technical criteria to distinguish varieties of languages such as the degree of grammatical difference, or the level of mutual intelligibility between two varieties, or the degree of elaboration of one variety into print and the extent to which it is standardised in its spelling and writing conventions. These criteria can seem very clear to outsiders but the speakers' subjective sense of what is a different language is much more extensive so that varieties that to a linguist seem more or less the same, mere dialects of the same language, can represent very different languages to their speakers.

The picture becomes even more complicated when we think that more than 70% of all languages, whether we define them by insider criteria or outsider criteria, are spoken by only a few thousand people each. In addition there are only 190 countries in the world and many of countries use the same language: some 87 countries list English as official, co-official or national, 25 countries list Spanish in one of these ways and around 35 list a version of Arabic in one of these ways. This means that only three languages account for something like official status in most of the countries of the world.



# Prof. Joseph Lo Bianco on Languages

The clear implication is that the vast majority of the world's languages do not have any official or national status and therefore lack direct and public support of a state. Some of these marginalised languages might still squeeze into the education system or into broadcast media due to various policies of multiculturalism or toleration, their speakers will probably have to rely on an official language for a considerable part of their lives and activities.

Into this picture we need to add English. In today's world English plays a unique and extended role. The British linguist David Graddol (2006) has calculated recently that 2 billion people – 1/3 of the human race – will know or be learning English by 2010-2015 and that this could reach up to half the population of the world in some period beyond that.

## Globalisation and Language Use

English is an integral part of economic globalisation, the 'widening, deepening and speeding up of world wide interconnectedness', according to Held, McGrew, Goldblatt and Perraton (1999). Globalisation produces and is sustained by population mobility, and information/communication technologies that provide instantaneous links across great distances.

By linking distant parts of the world together and enabling separated families, communities and individuals to connect result in some kinds of bilingualism that in the past would have been temporary and endangered have in fact become strong, additive and materially rewarded. The kinds of bilingualism that have become strong and attractive tend to be those that involve the addition of instrumentally useful languages, especially but not only English. However, these technologies are potentially available to ordinary language users meaning that ethnic minority groups can link across vast geographic spaces and national boundaries to help keep alive language networks that prior to these technologies were much more vulnerable. In recent decades trans-national capitalism is accompanied by the growth of extra national identities and these identities are sustained often by distinctive language varieties.

Indigenous populations are typically isolated communities or communities whose social, economic and political power is marginal. They are linguistically under stress and face continual language extinction pressure. Immigrants are more typically urban communities but they too are under assimilative language shift pressure. Individuals from mainstream communities who become bilingual are typically professionals, enthusiasts, oddballs, or elites extending cultural capital by adding a prestige cultural asset. In this case while the bilingualism is certainly additive it is typically a personal attribute.

## Language Demography in Australia.

In Australia we have one of the more complex linguistic demographies in the world, in which we can classify language diversity under three broad groupings: the indigenous category, counting originally some 250 distinct languages, representing

an original dialect continuum of 600 or more, and today highly differentiated according to contact varieties, pigeons, creoles and vast erosion of vitality. The settler group involves the transplantation of southern forms of British English to the Australian landscape and setting, the interaction of these with Irish and other varieties, and the emergence of relatively homogenous kinds of national English across the country. The demography of immigration has greatly diversified the Australian linguistic landscape, introducing more than 160 languages, each of course then subject to modification to reflect new landscapes, new communicative ecologies and new statuses.

As far as immigrant languages are concerned the separation between place of origin and the host society creates significant issues for the teaching, public use and maintenance of immigrant languages. Community languages evolve different institutions, local norms and local identities which make them diverge from the language in its source country setting. Community languages are usually supported by community controlled schools, broadcast and print media, clubs and societies, religious and cultural centres.

In effect a community language is one which is materially present in a setting through its presence in a range of institutions that teach, reinforce or transmit the language, and which use the language in natural ways to transmit local information, support local media in various modes, and perform community activities of recreational, economic, civic and religious life. These settings and functions for a language supply it with concrete functional activities for which it is used either exclusively, or in concert with English.

In this way a community language is one, which is associated with a diaspora culture, i.e. local experiences and expressive norms arise in local settings in which the community language is the exclusive or main linguistic code. A key consequence of such local presence of a language is that, unlike a foreign language in mainstream schools, community languages offer new learners both in-school and out-of-school contact. Local use however leads to local norms as the separation from the original speaker community produces distinctive meanings, messages and ways to speak the language that make it 'local'.

For immigrant community languages homeland institutions sometimes repudiate or repress these norms, or are condescending towards them, or embarrassed by them, or regard them as comical, quaint or antiquated. The extent to which an immigrant community rejects or internalises these negative images of its local speech form coming from the 'homeland' is indicative of the local vitality of the diaspora forms. Ultimately this would result in major divergence, but this usually doesn't happen in immigrant situations because alongside the new norms there is also language shift towards the dominant local language.

Local norms reflect local bilingual realities and bring the new context into the language reflecting the communicative reality



# Prof. Joseph Lo Bianco on Languages

and identity of immigrant users. Inevitably a complex relationship, sometimes tension, arises with the 'standard' but strictly foreign, form as local ways to use the language (accent, word and script-blends, code switching) can be interpreted as uneducated, or as kind of disrespectful rejection of the homeland and its identity.

These differences of local norms and institutions rise to a new level with local identities or discourses. This refers to how speakers talk about, behave towards and understand being a speaker of a minority language, essentially how they represent this reality in their description to others, outsiders and insiders.

If the community adopts a subservient cultural cringe towards the homeland it will either emulate its language norms, or go for full language shift towards the main new language of host society. English in Australia is far more powerful than any immigrant minority language and so the pressures to identify with it are strong. For the majority of immigrant children this results in language shift and monolingualism in English, or only passive knowledge of the original community language. In these ways community languages are very different from foreign languages, because they live and sometimes struggle in a nether world, beneath both the dominant local and the dominant foreign languages. The main way that this domination happens is through literacy. While most people can acquire reasonable levels of spoken language without high levels of schooling, this isn't possible for literacy.

## New technologies developing languages

It seems that modern technologies and globalisation are likely to lend a hand to maintaining and developing languages. One such development that is very promising is ViVo. This refers to voice in-voice out, i.e. speech-based methods for storing, retrieving and communicating information which are accessed not through print but through listening and speaking. Written language/and printed texts are technologies that arose late in the evolution of human civilisation with ViVo suggests they may possibly play a minor role in the future.

Broadcast technologies rely on the much more widespread oral mode of communication and seem to recreate oral culture. If this technology develops extensively it is likely that spoken language will be used to activate most communications

networks, keyboards and reading on screen will become much less important and speech based methods of storing and communicating information will become much more important.

For immigrant communities, but also for indigenous populations, it will be possible to bridge the gaps of distance and separation without the need for high levels of literacy. There are already many examples of this, I have seen Eritrean communities in Melbourne link with Eritrean speakers in Buenos Aires and Bologna easily and naturally despite not having keyboards that suited their language and lacking high levels of romanised literacy.

The Red Book alarm was based on the assumption that globalisation and technologies would make weaker languages appear inferior to their users and would promote language shift and death. While this is true in many cases, the same technologies can actually support minority communities and seem to promote bilingualism and language maintenance. Multilingual broadcasting is part of the same network of speech based technologies that allow voice and ear connections across great distances and therefore play a central role in keeping language diversity alive and vital.

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Education at the University of Melbourne.



## Multicultural Youth Broadcasters 'Radioactive' Forum 2009- Perth 4th –5th April

From the 4th and 5th of April around 60 of Australia's brightest young broadcasters and future broadcasters gathered in Perth for the Radioactive Multicultural Youth Broadcasters' Forum 2009. The Forum was held at Edith Cowan University and was hosted by the NEMBC and World Radio 6EBA. The NEMBC youth committee conceived of a national multicultural youth broadcasters forum in 2006 and in April 2007 the first ever Radioactive Multicultural Youth Broadcasters' forum became a reality. Continuing on with the momentum gathered at the inaugural Radioactive forum the NEMBC was pleased to be able to host the second Radioactive forum in Perth during National Youth Week 2009.

The Radioactive forum once again proved to be a most valuable experience for young broadcasters around the

important national networks. Their passion for making radio and advancing the needs of Australian communities was most evident as was their appreciation for the incredible learning experience, which the Radioactive forum presented to them. The delegates and NEMBC youth committee played an active role in all the aspects of the forum and they contributed greatly to making it a big success!

Before we got started on the Saturday morning, radioactive delegates received a traditional Samoan blessing sung angelically by Canberra's I CMS broadcaster, Victoria Letelemaaana. Forum highlights included inspiring and enthusiastic keynote

**“It is a rare opportunity for youth from around Australia to come together and learn through a two-day forum dedicated entirely to addressing the needs of youth and media. “**

presentations from journalist Saeed Saeed and SBS broadcaster, Peggy Giakoumelos. We were shown we could benefit greatly from drawing on our rich cultural and linguistic experiences as well as effectively using our connections to our communities to produce excellent journalism. Described by one of the delegates as a 'powerhouse of ideas' Saeed showed that you just need passion, a little boldness, draw on what you know best, and to just get out there and write or in the case of radio speak and you will get heard! As 5Ebi delegate, Rubina Carlson, noted ;

“Both Saeed Saeed and Peggy Giakoumelos emphasised the importance of our cultural heritage; how it contributes to



Saeed Saeed

country. Radioactive had representation from every state and territory and included broadcasters from a vast array of diverse cultural backgrounds with varying experiences of migration and community radio. As one broadcaster from Tasmania noted, 'the forum was such a wonderful opportunity that has to be repeated, it helped me in so many ways through the experiences of the presentations and the people I have met...It inspired me again to wake up from my slumber and take the destiny of my community at hand.'

It is indeed a rare opportunity for youth from around Australia to come together, meet, celebrate and learn through a two-day forum dedicated entirely to addressing the needs of youth. Being a youth lead event, the forum illustrated the enormous value youth contribute to multicultural community broadcasting and displayed their capacity for leadership in their stations, states and territories.

Over two fun-filled days these enthusiastic young leaders heard from industry professionals, learned practical broadcasting skills, explored what it means to be a media maker and established



Theresa Walley, Nyoongar Elder doing the welcome to country .

our perspectives and values, and in turn, how it affects our programming content and style. Each of them spoke of their personal experiences gained in the community broadcasting sphere, and then how these skills translated to the professional sphere. On a more personal note, I was completely captivated. After their presentations I really felt motivated to play a strong



part throughout the discussions, workshops and social activities during the forum.”

Radioactive participants were also treated to a warm and engaging presentation by Indigenous elder, Theresa Walley who welcomed us to Nyoongar country. Theresa told us of her experience as an aboriginal woman growing up in Australia. Stolen as a child and brought up in an institution, Theresa displayed great resilience and connection to her culture and heritage. Theresa was an inspiration to us all, showing we are capable of more than we think, and encouraged us to address the cultural imbalance in the media.

The Radioactive forum celebrated the potential behind multicultural community broadcasting and put the participants directly into that picture. The forum covered a number of areas relating to broadcasting, including digital technology, training information, community development and intergeneration communication workshops as well as the opportunity to provide recommendations for improved youth policy.

Skills-based workshops on the Saturday provided practical broadcasting skills training, including Saeed Saeed’s intro to journalism, digital editing with Milijana Vojnovic and voice training with nationally renowned voice consultant, Julia Moody. The delegates also previewed and provided feedback on the Radioactive youth radio website which will be hosted by the NEMBC. This innovative website will host streamed ethnic and multicultural youth radio programs and podcasts from around the country in a number of languages. This website is intended to be an information hub as well and an interactive space to link dispersed communities of CALD youth and provide more opportunity for youth to broadcast their content.



Left to right: Karim Degal, Raihanaty Abdul-Jalil, Victoria Letelemaana, Gemo Virobo and Jagdeep Shergill.

Sunday focused on the role broadcasters have in representing communities, and included enjoyable and thought provoking workshops lead by comedian and refugee settlement worker Mujahid Ahmed and Radio Adelaide’s Joseph Tungaraza. Joseph

and Mujahid’s presentation encouraged us to critically examine the relevance of our programs to our communities. Stated simply as, Are we relevant? This question was explored through small discussion groups and provided some important basis from which to work. A full evaluation of this workshop will be included in the next Ethnic Broadcaster discussing how we can improve the access and engagement in ethnic radio by multicultural communities.

Jude Sorenson and 6EBA’s former training manger, Dani Simpson looked at issues around the generation gaps in community broadcasting. The workshop prompted us to challenge assumptions we may have regarding different generations as well looking at how generations can better work together to improve our programs and experiences in ethnic broadcasting.

The training session included a special and interactive



The group picture taken on Sunday

presentation from Jay Chase, who participated in the NEMBC’s pilot training project Agents of Change. Jay has proven that young people can be energetic and passionate qualified radio trainers who use initiative and dedication to involve more youth from diverse cultural backgrounds in community broadcasting.

The NEMBC would like to thank all those who participated as well as the Community Broadcasting Foundation and the Department of Communities WA for their support.

The forum was an impressive weekend with strong networks forged and new skills developed which participants can take back to their respective stations. This forum illustrated that ethnic community broadcasting is in very good hands. Given the support and opportunity to lead, youth participation in ethnic and multicultural community broadcasting can flourish. There is no doubt that the enthusiasm is there it is just a matter of looking at innovative ways of engaging youth and our communities to deliver outstanding broadcasting and develop this important community service.

by Rachael Bongiorno  
Youth and Women’s Officer

# No Money in Budget for Community Television

## Get Ready for digital Get ready for nothing

Today's budget announcement leaves Community Television out in the cold and facing an uncertain future as Australia moves rapidly towards digital television.

"It's a real kick in the teeth says Greg Dee General Manager of Channel 31." Senator Conroy has constantly assured the sector that we would not be left behind. Then when the time has come to put their money where their mouth is, this government has given us nothing".

The budget announces \$140 million to assist viewers in converting to digital, but fails to ensure that all television broadcasters are converted to digital by omitting community television yet again. The ABC is set to receive \$136 million to fund its third digital channel, whilst not a cent can be found to give C31 a single digital channel.

Channel 31 provides an incomparable service to large and diverse sections of the community:

- C31 provides a communication platform to marginalised and under-represented sections of the community largely ignored by the mainstream media – including migrant and refugee communities, youth and indigenous peoples.
- C31 has extensive multilingual programming which provides a vital service to their communities.
- C31 airs over 95 locally produced shows each week making it by far the largest broadcaster of local content in Australia.
- C31 serves as a training ground for the entire television sector, and has produced some of the most well known faces on Australia TV including Rove and Hamish and Andy, in addition to hundreds of people working behind the scenes.
- C31 provides a marketing platform which enables local business to use the power of television to target a local audience.

## All of this at no cost to the tax-payer

With the increased uptake of digital set top boxes, the 11th hour approaches for community television.

'There is currently unused spectrum that could easily be allocated to C31' continues Greg Dee 'and the costs associated with upgrading our facilities to broadcast in digital are, relatively speaking, miniscule.' They are advocating for the immediate allocation of spectrum

If you would like to support community television then write to your local politician about this matter. For more information or how you could support contact C31 on 03 9660 3131 or email: [digital.now@c31.org.au](mailto:digital.now@c31.org.au)

# Better Human Rights

## United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

On Friday 3 April, the Australian government declared its support for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. Australians have worked for many years alongside Indigenous peoples from across the globe to develop and promote the Declaration.

Importantly this signals the gradual recommitment of Australia to international human rights law and multilateralism which is important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and also important for all minorities and those struggling for better rights and recognition.

The Declaration, a product of more than 20 years of research and discussion at the United Nations, is a non-binding document setting out basic standards for the recognition and protection of Indigenous peoples' rights internationally. The Declaration provides a framework for countries with different histories and circumstances to help reduce levels of disadvantage and discrimination experienced by many of the world's 370 million Indigenous people.

When the United Nations General Assembly voted to adopt the Declaration in 2007, 143 countries voted in favour and 4 against. Another 11 nations were either absent or abstained from the vote. Australia was one of the countries who voted against the Declaration, along with New Zealand, the United States and Canada, so the recent decision to support the declaration is a positive step towards recognising and protecting the rights of Indigenous Australians.

In Geneva, representatives of the three United Nations Mechanisms with specific mandates regarding the rights of Indigenous peoples welcomed the news that Australia joined the ranks of States endorsing the Declaration. The Declaration, however will only be meaningful if the Australian Government takes its aim to close the gap seriously, according to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Tom Calma.

Megan Davis, a Murri lawyer who specialises in Indigenous constitutional issues and international human rights law, believes that the endorsement is a significant decision and a step forward for Australia because together with its commitment to closing the gap and the Apology, it reveals Indigenous issues as a very clear priority of the government.

# Media Convergence and Information Rights

In the 1960s and 70s groups of people around Australia campaigned for access to the radio spectrum. The establishment of community radio was not just about making media; it was a rights campaign that introduced an alternative vision of how the media should be used and controlled. The groups had little in common with each other and their business models were sketchy. However, they managed to convince the government that community radio would benefit society and enhance media diversity.

The internet has brought with it a new set of rights issues. Whilst the corporate media now encourage participation, social networking is not the same as community media. Mostly, it is content that commercial media companies can hook ads onto, or

a means to drill into our lifestyle choices and consumption habits for the purposes of market research. Some companies are restricting the way that we access the internet, what sites we can visit and our ability to create viable alternatives. The Australian government is currently trialling internet censorship technology that will make the 'freedom' of the internet a thing of the past.

Just like the early days of community radio, there are many grassroots media organisations that are working to achieve democratic and ethical alternatives. Such groups are campaigning for access to the internet, developing open technologies and providing training. They are essentially 'community media' organisations – the online counterparts to community radio and television broadcasters.

Late last year, Open Spectrum Australia (a kind of 'think tank' for community media) decided to bring together community media groups from both platforms to discuss the issue of media convergence. In order to provide a focus for the day, we came up with an information rights 'campaign' of our own and asked for feedback.

We proposed a labelling system for community-based media. The idea was to develop a label that would be used by online, broadcast and print media groups, assisting audiences and producers to differentiate a community media outlet from public service or private media. Why a label? We wanted to create a campaign tool that would increase the visibility of community media, raise public awareness around information rights and provide an easy navigation system for audiences in the new media environment. We hoped it would unite broadcast and online community media and encourage groups to utilise each others' talents, skills and technologies.

Around 70 people attended the day, including representatives from NEMBC, ACMA, Melbourne's community radio sector (PBS, RRR, SYN, 3CR), C3I, Indigenous community television (ICTV), GetUp, Engage Media, apc.au, the Creative Commons Clinic, as well as experts from the ABC and the academic community. The proposal

sparked an interesting debate about the future of community-based media, the convergent media landscape and the status of information rights.

## What We Proposed

A label, like a brand, is a clear and recognisable image with a meaning attached to it. In this case, the label would be a signifier of community media organisations. There would need to be minimum criteria that apply to all who used the label (for instance, groups would need to be community owned and not-for-profit). Audiences and producers would look for, or search, the label in order to identify 'friendly' sites and stations – in the same way that we might

look out for the organic food label when shopping for groceries. Essentially, we saw the label as an enabler of ethical choice in the complex media environment.

Organisations would choose to use the label, rather than being 'licensed' to do so. The label could work either at the national or international level.

Information rights, not 'trustworthy' media

As it turned out, our idea for a labelling scheme was not entirely new. Others have proposed labels for 'trustworthy' established news media, that tell us whether or not a website is spreading misinformation. Tim Berners Lee, one of the founders of the World Wide Web, believes that we need a ratings system and has been promoting it through his new foundation. The problem with such ratings schemes is that they assume the traditional mainstream media

behave according to straightforward, unquestionable, ethical principles (which is simply not the case). Moreover, a ratings system for 'trustworthy' news sites is likely to marginalise community media rather than strengthen it. Community media promotes access and independence over traditional reporting conventions.

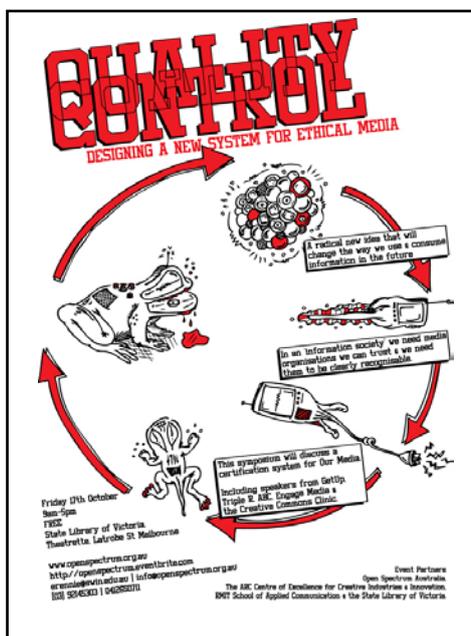
The Open Spectrum proposal is not about 'truth' but about the principles of access, community governance, representing minority voices and open technologies. It was proposed as a means to assist audiences to make their own judgements and to differentiate between commercial, government and community media sites. The label was not intended to privilege some forms of content over others or to mark-out 'trustworthy' or 'objective' media content.

## The outcomes

It became clear at the symposium that such a label would apply to distribution sites (community media outlets, whether they be websites, radio and television stations, or print publications) rather than content (as in the audio, video or text media). Content should be free to move across different media outlets. We didn't want to create something that restricted the flow of information or creative works.

The symposium also revealed some significant tensions between

continued on page 25





# NEMBC Conference 2008

The proof is in the pictures



Tongan dancers - Penelope Haukau 2000FM and Tangi Steen 5EBI



Luchi Santor and Joe De Luca MBCNT



Milijana Vojnovic 6EBI, Adam Quale 3ZZZ, and Wesa Chau 3ZZZ



Rachael Bongiorno and Jean Luc Ngnoy 2VOX



Kym Grrren & Cristina Cristina Descalzi 5EBI and Heinrich Stefanik 1CMS



Marianne Pieterse 1CMS and Con Novitski 2YAS



Barbara Baxter and John Martin CBF



Having a good dance, which turns into a conga line.....





Having a good time Nancy Falcone, Cristina Descalzi, Luchi Santor & Milton Namokoyi



Gilmore Johnston AICA and Uate Qasi 2MIA



Jean Luc Ngoy, Abraham Alier Radio Adelaide, Kevin Kadirgamar MBCNT, Wesa Chau, Milton Namokoyi Radio SkidRow, Peter Chiodo 2000FM, and a 2000fm Volunteer



Jane Brock from Immigrant Women's Speak Out leading the Women's Workshop



Peter Lockett RPH



Mr and Mrs Huakau 2000FM



Claire Slattery, Rachael Bongiorno and Gemo Virobo ICMS





# NEMBC New Office

## NEMBC Office moves to new premises to Kindness House

Philip and Trix Wollen, owners of Kindness House, are private humanitarians who provide funds and guidance to hundreds of projects around the world. Their mission statement reads "to promote kindness towards all other living beings and enshrine it as a recognisable trait in the Australian character and culture".

In 2005 Philip received the Order of Australia in the Queens Birthday Honours, and was Victoria's Australian of the Year in 2007.

The projects help children, animals, refugees and the environment with schools, orphanages, shelters, sanctuaries, clinics, ambulances, and bio gas plants.

One of their more unusual innovations is Kindness House, in Fitzroy. The Kindness "campus" is an incubator for growing NGOs, providing them with free or heavily subsidised serviced offices. The strategy is to nurture effective NGOs so they can be a self sustaining force for good in the community.

Kindness House is a high profile building located in the bustling retail precinct of Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. 10,000 cars pass the front door every day including countless pedestrians and trams. It is within easy walking distance of Parliament House, Melbourne University, and the CBD. It has a restaurant, bank, boutiques, and shops in the building. It is very central, has all the modern conveniences, boardrooms, training rooms, intercoms, security patrols, air-conditioning and high speed internet cabling.

Philip was a Vice President of Citibank in a previous life and he believes that NGOs should have access to the same facilities enjoyed by large corporations in the private sector. He also believes that Australian citizens have a duty to support small NGOs. It is unrealistic to leave this solely to governments.

Kindness House is home to Greenpeace, the Wilderness Society, Sea Shepherd, Wildlife Victoria, Social Firms Australia, Zero Emissions Network, Artists for Kids Culture, Lawyers for Animals, Australian Wildlife Protection Council, Australia West Papua Association, Vegetarian Network Victoria and Rescued with Love. (Past guests included The Brotherhood of Saint Laurence, the Torch Project and Triathlon Victoria).

Philip and Trix have seen the horrendous cruelty inflicted on innocent animals in slaughterhouses, animal factories and laboratories. The UN's FAO report "Livestock's Long Shadow" roundly condemns the meat industry where livestock now releases more deadly greenhouse gas than all cars, trucks, trains, buses, trams, and aeroplanes combined. At the same time, the meat industry is destroying our forests, rivers and oceans, and our own health. Consequently, animals are not allowed to be consumed in Kindness House.

The atmosphere in Kindness House is charged with energy of hundreds of highly educated and committed young people doing extraordinary things for the community. It is commonplace to see the building full of volunteers and staff late at night and on weekends. Small wonder that one international visitor remarked "the people at Kindness House have a lot in common, particularly the ability to punch above their weight".

## NEMBC Office Move

After months of searching and looking at all sorts of empty offices around Fitzroy and Collingwood, the NEMBC recently moved into our new and larger premises.

Our old office was too cold in winter and too hot in summer and getting too small for our growing organisation. We loved being in a building with like minded organisations like the CBF and 3ZZZ and we miss those folks. However we have new neighbours and are located on the bustling Brunswick Street.

Moving office gave us an opportunity to go through all the stuff that was collecting dust in the back room and do some culling. While searching though I found a Marantz tape recorder that was the recording equipment king in its day. Young Rachael who had never seen one before asked what it was. Russell and I had a laugh realising she would have come into the broadcasting game long after most of us stopped using them.

Lots of old photos with long time committee members looking a lot younger and historic pamphlets, papers and recordings were also found. Along with a still working ghetto blaster to play the cassette tapes on! All the unwanted or outdated papers lightened our load and all wanted files and papers were finally archived in properly labeled boxes. So moving served two purposes.

The new office space is four times the size of our old office and there are now six desks as operational work stations. NEMBC presently has four staff, so two of those desks are ready for volunteers, interns or new NEMBC staff. The last occupants of this space had over 30 desks. There is a real potential to grow and develop the NEMBC.

The NEMBC fitted out the office space with internet cabling so that each work station has high speed internet access. This serves well for the introduction of the new NEMBC website and particularly for uploading or downloading podcasts and streaming.

Having a lot more space has been the main bonus and a state of the art cooling and heating system makes the work place far more comfortable.



Nancy's packed boxes



Russell and Rachael hard at work



The Office opening party: Heinrich, Trix and Phil, Russell and George Saloum President of 3ZZZ

by Nancy Falcone  
Admin Officer

The new office address is:  
Suite 1, 288 Brunswick Street  
Fitzroy, Melbourne 3065

# Women's Award

## Muslim Community Radio, 2MFM's presenter Faten El Dana, takes the inaugural NEMBC Women's Broadcasting awards.

This year the NEMBC wanted to formally recognise the talents of women broadcasters with the inaugural NEMBC Multicultural/Ethnic Women's Program of the Year.

Faten El Dana, the producer and presenter of the morning program on Muslim Radio 2MFM in Sydney was the recipient of the 1st NEMBC women's program of the year award. Faten's AM Bilingual program presented in both Arabic and English is a variety program, which encompasses segments of news, views and interviews. It



Pipe Nasome NEMBC NSW Women's Rep and Faten El Dana

discusses current health, social, educational and political topics. Because it also focuses on women related issues, women listeners have regarded it as their main source of information and their platform to communicate with other women of their community.

Faten has had a successful career as a radio broadcaster since 1995 and is also the President of the Muslim Women's Welfare of Australia (MWWA). Having worked as a midwife Faten continues to broadcast women's health issues, which she sees as serving the most vulnerable section of her community, women. Her award winning entry included a feature on public health to assist in the promotion of the Early Intervention Info line telephone service, which is aimed at helping families who have a child with a delay in development or a disability to access services. This was part of a broader campaign undertaken by Pathways Early Intervention Service in Marrickville involving 40 radio stations and 20 different languages.

The need for early intervention for a child with a disability really touched Faten's heart. She realised this information was needed by her listeners and their families and looked for ways to highlight the human side of the issue. She interviewed parents about their experiences, and gave people a hook upon which to continue talking about something that can be a very difficult topic for a lot of people.

As a result, her listeners now understand that if their child has a problem, they can do something about it, and early intervention is vital. Four months after the launch of the infoline, Kate McNamara, the Project Officer at Pathways Early Childhood Intervention Service NSW informed Faten that a sizable number of those who contacted the Infoline from a range of areas in Sydney identified the 2MFM Muslim radio as an information source. This is just one example where Faten found providing the listeners with the community service of radio broadcasting to be very rewarding.

In addition, Faten finds as a woman broadcaster, she can relate better to many women listeners, on and off the air through discussing topics that are of interest to women such as family,

and women's health and wellbeing programs. Some women get the courage to even call her off air to discuss their own personal problems. Faten has found that being a woman broadcaster becomes in the minds of her listeners, a leader, a representative, a teacher and in some occasions a confidant all in one. Faten asserts that as a large number of women stay at home to look after their children, the radio broadcasters become their close friends, because they can choose to listen to their favourite programs willingly and eagerly in order to learn and keep in touch with the wider community.

Enhancing the knowledge of women and their access to relevant information most certainly empowers them and strengthens their ability to actively participate in the society they live in.

Muslim Community Radio, 2MFM works hard to connect its community with service providers. This broadcast service is enhanced by the bi-lingual nature of the radio station. This bi-lingual service keeps all 2MFM listeners from English and Non-English speaking background in touch with each other's communities, and educates them about each other's cultures. It is this dialogue and knowledge, which promotes acceptance and harmony.

Faten's interest continues to reach newly arrived migrant women. She seeks to engage these women through her programming and consequently enhance their integration in the wider community.

Faten acknowledges that there are many women who arrive in Australia from other places where they don't speak English. They look to programs like the ones presented on Muslim Radio 2MFM to find out about services available in their community for them and for their children. Faten believes that Community Radio is one of the best

methods particularly for women from non-English speaking backgrounds who while at home caring for their family to stay in touch with the outside world, hear about relevant information



Hon. Helen Westwood, MLC, Faten El Dana and Kate McNamara.

and topical issues. For Faten, it is this sharing of information and imparting knowledge to women from all backgrounds, which is vital and satisfying. Most of the women who are recent arrivals here are women who come from very different parts of the world and are facing difficult issues during their settlement in Australia. To be able to turn on the radio to hear a voice in a language they understand and to hear other women's experiences is very comforting and crucial to them. Faten maintains that Community Radio really adds to the quality of those women's lives and she is sure it helps them in becoming active members of the local community.

by Faten El Dana and Rachael Bongiorno - photos by George Voulgaropoulos



# Youth Broadcasters

## Young Adult Migrants on air with SYN

Last year SYN worked with NMIT's Young Adult Migrant Education Centre (YAMEC) to train and broadcast their students and engage them with community media. All the students had ESL backgrounds and were new arrivals to Australia. The project was a fantastic success, and enriched both partners' skills and knowledge of issues facing young recent arrivals to Australia.

YAMEC students from the Preston and Epping Campuses of NMIT were trained in presenting, studio panel tech and program planning, and they presented a weekly radio program on SYN. They were guided on the way by a SYN trainer, who worked with them in-studio each week.

The program gave them an opportunity to develop their oral language skills, planning skills and team-building skills whilst participating in a genuine or actual community event.

The weekly program on SYN required participants to prepare and execute an hour long show, which developed both their English literacy skills and their confidence in communicating effectively in their second language. They also learned the basics of radio production and presenting, such as how to use the microphone and how to interact when on-air. This became a strong bonding

experience for the participants, who could share with each other the joys and challenges of creating a radio program.

As part of the project, tours of 3ZZZ (ethnic radio) and 3CR were taken by the Youth Coordinator of the National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasting Council (NEMBC), Rachael Bongiorno. The project's participants now have a clear understanding of future pathways in creating radio for their community.

By broadcasting to our primarily youth audience, participants in the project gained a voice within the wider community and were able to express their opinions and experience from the perspective of their relevant migrant background.

The fact that these students come from new and emerging communities in Melbourne allows for their particular needs and issues to have a public forum. The project increased individual awareness within these communities about the value of community participation and about the many opportunities that exist for volunteers in Melbourne.

Projects like these increase the public profile of people from non-English speaking backgrounds in a positive and enlightening way. This helps break down cultural barriers and ignorance and promotes the value of diversity within workplaces and social groups.

by Georgia Webster

## The NEMBC would like to congratulate the winners of the 2008 YOUTH AWARDS

This year the NEMBC received a record number of entries from young broadcasters around the country. We were pleased to receive entries of such high calibre and it, once again, reinforced that multicultural youth broadcasting is going strong. We were also pleased with the turnout of young broadcasters at the conference and enjoyed the talent of the Agents of Change pilot training program participants who provided exhilarating entertainment at the conference dinner complete with hip hop and break dancing performances. The NEMBC would like to thank all those entered the youth broadcasting awards and would like acknowledge the winners. Let's hope that we see even more young talented broadcasters at this year's NEMBC conference!

The winner of the Multicultural and Ethnic Youth Broadcaster of the Year was German broadcaster, Lisa Lang. Lisa has been involved in radio broadcasting for a number of years, presenting and producing content for SBS Radio, 3ZZZ Community Radio and SYN.

Lisa won her award based on her feature for SYN, Melbourne's youth station. The feature piece discussed the issues surrounding the potential closure of a community legal centre, which serves a number of migrant and refugee communities. Lisa continues to produce features for SYN's radio in English focusing on multicultural issues as well as producing German programs at 3ZZZ and SBS Radio. Lisa has produced innovative content for a wide range of audiences including children, youth and older generations. She also

has a keen interest in Creative Commons and the great cosmos of the world wide web. Lisa seeks to work with Creative Commons which she sees as a great opportunity for emerging artists to publish their work legally in the internet while allowing users to download, share, change and broadcast legally the files (mainly music).

Lisa has found being involved in multilingual radio to be most interesting! She has learnt so much about other cultures (and can say hello and goodbye in 8 different languages so far! :o)), and has learnt about their background and history. Lisa believes working in a multicultural set up broadens your mind and she has a great appreciation of this environment. Although it can be challenging sometimes (talking in her broad accent trying to communicate with someone else who has a strong accent too :o)). However, Lisa maintains these multilingual environments such as community radio are evidence that different cultures, languages and communities can work well together in same environment (as long the communication works well).

The NEMBC would also like to congratulate Milijana Vojnovic from World Radio 6BEA in Perth received highly commended for this category.

4EB's multicultural youth program Oxygen received the 2009 award for Multicultural and Ethnic Youth Program of the Year. Highly commended in this category included Asian Pop Kick off and Western English Language School, from SYN. For details on these programs please refer to the article Oxygen takes the Gong!

by Rachael Bongiorno



## Radio 4EB FM's OxyGen Takes the Gong!

Let me first take us back to the beginning. It was around the year 2003, a time when youth broadcasters were beginning to receive national recognition for their valuable contribution to ethnic community radio. Prior to that, most youth broadcasters were hidden, often sidelined and unable to get on shows... or at least not before midnight. In my honest opinion, I don't think this is due to any purposeful hostility from the older broadcasters who lay the foundation for us in their earlier struggles, but the fact that we were the "unknown" and so there existed a mentality of "why fix something that isn't broken". Many of the shows were already established with a good following of loyal listeners and any injection of new blood or changes to "the usual way" could be risky business.

Nevertheless, someone must have thought "hmm, if we don't nurture the youth now, who is going to continue the legacy of ethnic community radio in ten, twenty, or perhaps thirty year's time?". Hence, the NEMBC embraced that thought by encouraging and advocating for the support of youth broadcasters with their policy direction and funding incentives.

I was 23 and full of energy, having been broadcasting at Radio 4EB FM's Cantonese Youth Program, "Durian Club" for about four years and recently became one of the two youth reps for the station, together with Sinead Lee who was also the Queensland youth representative for the NEMBC. We decided it was time to take action. The establishment of a youth forum with a cool guy called Moroni Pugh and a lovely lady called Irene Tavutavu was the precursor to the soon-to-be-born OxyGen show. The youth forum allowed young broadcasters of the station to come together, share resources, ideas and passion. It wasn't long before the concept of a multicultural youth show was put into action.

It was envisaged that this multicultural show would be spoken mainly in English, allowing young people from different cultures to share their experiences and cultural knowledge. The music played would be a selection of genres and languages that are popular and current in their country of origin. The program would also give young broadcasters the opportunity to gain access to air time and obtain some practical on-air experience that they may not otherwise get from their own language groups.

After enlisting support from the Radio 4EB FM board of directors and the station manager, Peter Rohweder, I volunteered to address the convenors representing the fifty plus language and cultural groups at the station about our plans to start a multicultural youth program. Fortunately, there was plenty of support for the youth initiative but no doubt there were also sporadic and stereotypic accusation of young people not being able to take broadcasting seriously, talking rubbish on-air as well as the opposition to using English on the show. Whilst I was very nervous inside, I remained composed and answered their queries in the most diplomatic manner I know how.

I went on to explain that ethnic broadcasting will need to

accommodate the changing landscape of Australia and to reflect the experiences of second or third generations of young people, using some of the established ethnic communities as an example. It might be true that many of them can't speak Italian or Greek the "traditional way" but the world is changing where young people in Italy or Greece today probably do not speak in the same way as the migrants that came to Australia 40 or 50 years ago either. The aim of ethnic broadcasting is to preserve the cultural heritage of the many diverse cultures which contribute to the multicultural Australia of today. A multicultural youth program does exactly that by providing an opportunity for young people to take part in ethnic broadcasting, to engage with their community and to strengthen their own cultural roots.

I added that when I started ethnic broadcasting in Chinese, I was lucky to be able to broadcast on a Cantonese youth show straight away. I revealed that I would not have trekked into community ethnic radio if there wasn't such a show. Subsequently I became a lot more involved in my community, my Chinese language skills improved and I learnt a lot more about the Chinese culture. Unfortunately, not every language group has a youth program thus there is no way for young people to get involved, even just to work in the background away from the microphone. A multicultural youth program provides that path. This was what OxyGen aims to achieve and it is still going strong today.

OxyGen, essentially meaning the harmonious existence of the older, X and Y generation on the air waves, has been broadcasting for over six years now. Over fifty different broadcasters from around the world were once a part of the show. Some of us were even involved in the making of the short documentary, "A Breath of Fresh Air", which used OxyGen to promote ethnic and multicultural youth radio in Australia. Although I no longer broadcast on the program, I was honoured to have received the NEMBC's annual Multicultural/Ethnic Youth Program of the Year Award, at 2008's conference in Sydney, on behalf of the current crew. When I caught up with them, they were ecstatic to be given the recognition and encouragement, planning to use the \$100 dollar reward voucher to purchase more music for their show.

My best wishes go to Liliana, the current co-ordinator of OxyGen, and the rest of the crew. I know that OxyGen is in good hands and will continue to be a significant stepping stone for our future broadcasters.

*By Adam Lo  
NEMBC Youth Committee Convenor*

# Around The Stations



Jaike, Arek and Luis



Arek and Heinrich

## A Day Out With - CMS 91.1 FM

Every year, the National Multicultural Festival is a big ten-day community event in Canberra. The activities reflect the vibrant cultural diversity of the nation's capital. They vary from folk dancing, live ethnic music performances, and multi-media exhibitions by artists from many ethnic origins, to a food and dance spectacular in the centre of Canberra. CMS 91.1 FM has participated in this event ever since we obtained our full-time license. After all, we have to live up to our name: Canberra Multicultural Service Community Radio.

On Saturday, 9 February 2008, CMS 91.1 FM broadcast from its stand at the fair. That day the fair attracted more than 30,000 people, many of them visitors to Canberra. Thirty CMS broadcasters, representing 24 different ethnic communities, did their bit for the station and their communities.

Early in the morning we set up our equipment: one control board, two microphones, four speakers, amplifiers, and a transmitter that relayed directly to the station. We also had colourful banners to help attract attention to our stand, which was parked right in the centre of the event.

Many festival goers often stopped by to have a look at our equipment, to listen to our music and to ask questions about the station's broadcasts. They were interested to discover we had a program in their language and we handed out lots of program schedules, gaining quite a number of new listeners.

Our broadcasts from the fair started at 10.30am. Throughout the day Werner, Gaby, Arek, Sylvia, Heinrich and Marianne helped out.

The format of each half-hour program was different from the usual. Presenters introduced themselves and invited people to get to know the station. To fit in with the mood of the day they played lively music from their communities.

The atmosphere was great, and we were surrounded continuously by a milling crowd, and by delicious smells of the various ethnic foods from the stalls around us. Many broadcasters saw friends stopping by, who sometimes requested particular songs. The last broadcaster, Luis from the Chilean program, was scheduled from 10:00pm to 10:30pm. He played some very lively Latin music and many passers-by started to dance. The number of dancers grew steadily and a party atmosphere developed spontaneously.

The dancing continued until after 11.30pm. Then it was time to pack up, and with many hands helping, all equipment was safely packed into the van before midnight. CMS 91.1 FM then returned to its normal scheduling, and we all went home. It had been a very long day, but we had fun and plan to be there again next year.

<sup>1</sup> Broadcaster of Dutch program at ICMS 91.1 FM.

By Marianne Pietersen<sup>1</sup>



Deoki

## 3SER

Hello to all from Melbourne

I am Deoki, my name means God's, well in this sense you do agree with me that my mum chose a good name for me. I am Fijian-Indian. I came to Melbourne in 1989 with my only son hoping for a better future for him. I am proud to be here.

I joined broadcasting team a few years ago when my friend Ben insisted that I join her, as she believed I have talent. My thanks goes to Ben. Later on, I started my own show. Now I have great support and many listeners to look forward to my next program. It is very rewarding indeed to realise that we do create a sense of belonging, we form a relationship, and we do help others to feel less isolated.

I do plan programs to reach out. I come to the show with a mind full of thoughts to deliver and I go back home with a heart filled with feeling of satisfaction. I cannot have a nicer reward.

It was a privilege for me to advertise "Wedding Sari Showdown" series episode 2 for SBS in the shows and we look forward to such educational items in the future by being able to understand the changing time and accept the good out of it.

Things are going good at our station 97.7FM 3SER Casey Radio. Where all cultures are respected and value is given to all other languages.

It is a pleasure to be serving our community and to be part of Ethnic Broadcasting; we all come together and share.

P.S. You can listen to Deoki on Wednesdays at 3-5pm at 97.7FM 3SER Casey Radio.

By Deoki Wilcek

## CB Online

For the 4th year running, the Toot

Your Own Horn competition is

looking for community broadcasters

with stories to tell. Send CBOnline feature articles, ideally supported by audio, photos or video, about links between your station & its community, your local music scene, awards or grants won, innovative program ideas, podcasting & website initiatives or unusual fundraising activities. Win prizes for you and your station including cash and audio equipment, AT804 Omni Directional Interview Microphone (RRP \$175) or ATH-910 Pro Headphones (RRP \$215). In 2009, there will be a prize for the best photo submitted. This is your chance to win a Nikon S8 Coolpix camera! Entry forms can be downloaded at <http://www.cbonline.org.au/index.cfm?pagelD=12,37,3,1648>



Any questions? Contact [info@cbonline.org.au](mailto:info@cbonline.org.au) or call 02 9318 9603

## 4EB – Ethnic Radio Reaches Out

Ethnic Community radio provides listeners with a diverse range of culturally specific information, news, views and most importantly, companionship. This last element is greatly underestimated when it comes to appreciating the services offered by an ethnic radio station. You can take any city, Brisbane is no exception, it is crowded with people but many of them are in isolation and many extremely lonely. This loneliness is increased by cultural, economic and language differences and it is here that 4EBFM shines. Generally it offers a complete and free entertainment package wrapped in the language and customs of the listener's country of origin, full of nostalgia and fond memories. Most importantly an ethnic radio program unites an otherwise fragmented society, to come together and share their great Australian experience. Just as you defragment a computer to make it run better, so you can defrag society, partly to assimilate but also to assist the process of coming together and living in harmony.

Under Australian broadcasting regulations, the ABC has a statutory obligation to provide services to all Australians but it doesn't and never has. ABC radio and television do an excellent job under very difficult financial circumstances and I can say this as a former ABC announcer and newsreader. However they

find it impossible to provide a service outside of the English language and cannot even begin to address the multitude of needs of such a diverse multicultural society. Without ethnic community stations a large part of the Australian community would be



Hussein Ali Ahmed

isolated and disadvantaged. So important is this voluntary role in creating society's harmonious cohesion, that you would think it might receive much more government financial support and recognition. Where are the community service awards for ethnic broadcasters, where are the medals and plaudits? In essence, ethnic community radio survives on a few 'dog bones' tossed to it by way of a CBF annual grant and the tremendous and enthusiastic support of ethnic communities, even though many are struggling financially themselves. Don't get me wrong, the 'dog bones' are essential for the station's continued performance but the majority of funds come from membership, annual Radiothons and other various but necessary fund raising activities that divert us from our main task, broadcasting. Broadcasters donate enormous amounts of their energy, time and own money and in my eyes are unsung heroes.

The role of the station is hampered by many numerous restrictions imposed upon it, such as a complete ban on commercial advertising and a limit to five minutes per hour for all sponsorship. During difficult financial times, such as those we are currently experiencing, fundraising to meet the increasingly enormous costs of running a station, can be seriously affected. It has been a problem spread over many years, even in the good times.

On Nov 13th 1923, radio burst onto the scene shattering silent airwaves when a commercial station 2SB in Sydney began broadcasting. A commercial imperative ensured its success but it wasn't until 6 years later, albeit a bit slow, that the government granted a three year contract to the Australian Broadcasting Company, destined to be the ABC of today. They were broadcasting on a national basis and in 1930

FARB (Federation of Australian Radio Broadcasters) was formed.

Our local ethnic radio story doesn't start until a group of interested Brisbane residents, including Atlantis Projects and Financial Solutions principal Michael Batounas, got together to discuss the possibilities of setting up a radio station. Michael, now a J.P. was recently interviewed by Peter Kotis on Friday's Greek program and he tells a story of the difficulties of those times, even having to endure accusations of being communists (shades of America's McCarthyism) and leaping the many hurdles put in their path, not the least being financial. The first test signals of the Ethnic Broadcasting Association of Queensland were heard in 1977 emanating from the top floor of Ridge Motel, Spring Hill. Earlier tests had been carried out to prove the signal's viability.

So the anomaly between not providing a service for all Australians at the expense of non Anglo Saxon cultures, remained from 1923 to 1977 representing 54 years of immigration and some of the most difficult times in the country's history, including world depression and war. How multiculturalism flourished so well in spite of the absence of radio, says something about the determination, courage and endurance of those early migrants who knew only too well the pain of loneliness



Eldin Musa

and disconnection from their 'culture familier.' Sadly even the few remaining icons of cultural settlement are to be erased. Yungaba, the stately hostel home of many a migrant who came to these shores and who went on to grow their businesses to contribute enormously to the

country's wealth, is to be turned into apartments. It sits behind the studios of 4EBFM and many feel it would better serve ethnic communities as a migrant museum and keep its role as a hub, a place of learning, providing a meeting place for old and new Australians and the younger generations who follow in the footsteps of their parents. Long before the days of radio Yungaba opened in 1887 and has provided an excellent immigration service for over 100 years. So important was this role that Yungaba was listed as "protected" on Queensland's register in 1988 and is the last surviving purpose built immigration center in Australia.

You'd think we would have learned our hard lessons but still migrants are coming here with limited English language and there is no government incentive or support to help develop the essential skills required to use existing ethnic radio communication networks. Refugees from Somalia, Sudan and Ethiopia have fallen into the same isolation trap of 50 years ago. As before, it is the hard work, dedication and community fund raising by organisations like EBAQ Ltd that provides these new Australians with the necessary training at an ethnic radio station. By opening the doors to these people and putting in the extra effort they can be empowered by accessing free training and radio 4EBFM's airwaves, reaching out in their own language to

continued next page

the many isolated people of their community in the South East corner of Queensland. The strange anomaly is that the same government, that made **Ethnic Radio Reaches Out**, appears indifferent to the important communication aspect of cultural

from previous page

settlement, is the ultimate benefactor of the cooperation and development that springs from including and involving them in Australian society; how communication is companionship and how this helps to become contributors and 'defragments' society.

How do you put a value on companionship? Well of course you can't, it's like all things we value most, like Yungaba, it's priceless. In spite of the best intentions companionship is not something we can spread around liberally without the means. Radio enters the front door of every home willing to allow it in. Radio speaks in soft friendly tones, talks about familiar things and plays lovely old songs from home that remind us of happier times and puts us back in touch with family, friends and the broader community. It makes the migrant feel included and also conveys important local and federal government information, advising how best to avail ourselves of society's services. Being a companion is being a friend and we could all do with a lot more of those.

By Robert Taylor QSM

## Orange Community Radio receives an ethnic grant from the Community Broadcasting Foundation

FM107.5 has been successful in receiving an ethnic grant to assist with the production of multicultural programs in German, Spanish and Filipino languages.

Orange Community radio is a non-profit organisation run entirely by volunteers. The programs broadcast from FM107.5 and covers all genres of music with presenters from 15-80 years. "We focus on promoting local artists and broadcasting programs which contribute to media diversity in Australia. Our ethnic programs connect people to their ancestry, language and culture." Dorothy Arnold, President said.

Ilse Kittler has been in Australia for about 56 years now and has been living in Orange with her husband, George, for nine years. Ilse has been connecting with the German community through FM107.5 for four years. Ilse seeks information from "Die Woche" ("The Weekly") to include in "The German Program"

on Saturdays between 4.00 pm and 5.00 pm. "There's also German stories, poems, German folk and pop songs and waltzes" said Ilse. "Listeners from Orange,

Forbes, Parkes, Cowra, Wellington and Bathurst love 'The German Program' and

friends in Sydney, America and Germany also hear the program from CD recordings" added Ilse.

Tony Huelmo has fun broadcasting "The Spanish Program" each Saturday between 7.00 pm and 8.00 pm. Tony said "My program's called 'Diversity' because it includes lots of variety in Spanish news and the vibrant music from the Spanish world with the flavour of the dynamic Spanish ancient culture".

Tony and Eddie Huelmo have been in Australia for 25 years and have lived in Blayney for the last 11 years and love volunteering as presenters at Orange community radio.



Tony Huelmo (Spanish), Ilse Kittler (German), Eddie Huelmo (Filipino).

Eddie Huelmo and Remy Chiswell broadcast "The Filipino Program" with FM107.5 every Tuesday from 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm. Eddie said: "The Filipino community hears news, Filipino music, and details about local services and events which we broadcast during 'The Filipino Program'. We have listeners calling in from all around the Central West who never miss 'The Filipino Program' on Tuesday nights."

Abdul Salih broadcasts "The Arabic Program" on Sundays at 9.45 am as well. Abdul was a Mechanical Engineer on pipeline construction projects in Iraq prior to his retirement. Abdul has recently returned from holidaying in Iraq and fills his "Arabic Program" with music from different countries in the Arab world and includes news and music from Iraq, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and other Arabic countries. Abdul said "I want to introduce Arabic music to the wider Australian public so I orientate 'The Arabic Program' towards English-speaking listeners".

Orange Community Broadcasters is proud to offer such diversity to our listeners and we have recently added to our ethnic broadcasts with Angela Yang presenting "The Chinese Program" on Sunday mornings at 11.00 am.

## 979fm Werribee – ITALMUSIC 2008

"Musica al Dente" as the slogan goes, commenced in Melbourne in September 1983, on the FM band 102.7 (3RRR). At the time SBS was transmitting on the AM band making ITALMUSIC '83 the first Italian radio programme on the FM band.

The program, the brainchild of producer Duane Zigliotto, pioneered the italglish language on radio, blending Italian and English words, so common in use by the Italian communities abroad e.g. Australia, Canada and the USA.

The early program were presented by national Italo-Australian TV and recording star Rita Bennett. The program consisted of a blend of music, news and requests. It gained great popularity on the 11 pm till 2am Saturday night spot.

Later the program moved to 3ZZZ and continued its success making it the most popular Italian program on Melbourne radio. The program was presented by Duane Zigliotto under the pseudonym of D.D.Z. the Captain. Other contributors to the program were co-presenters John Ferragu, Tina Robassa and Giovanni Mico from La Contadina restaurant.

The Captain also introduced the Italian Top 20 from the charts of Sorrisi e Canzoni TV, weekly live interviews with guests like Antonello Venditti and Eros Ramazzotti along with give-aways and listeners "open line."



# Around The Stations

Another popular feature was the Ethnic spot where non Italians sang in Italian, the likes of Cliff Richard, David Bowie, Barry Manilow and Steve Wonder.

In 1987 the captain was at the San Remo song festival when he announced live and first that the "Reuccio della canzone Italiana" Claudio Villa died during the festival in a clinic in Rome. Each year Italmusic continued to interview live the Italian participants to the Eurovision Song Contest, until 1997 when Italy decided to pull out of the contest.

Italmusic'09 currently being presented by the Captain every Wednesday night at 10pm on 88.9 fm, is still extremely popular especially with new generations of Italo-Australian that enjoy the current electronic top 20 charts, live overseas interviews and live interaction with the listeners. Italmusic after 25 years of "Musica Al Dente" is still riding high in popularity regardless of the competition from SBS FM and Radio Italia AM and has seen the demise of 3AK. (a very short renaissance).

So join the Captain every Wednesday night at 10pm on 88.9fm ITALMUSIC 09. Phone in on the hot line 9919 8089 or e-mail auprin@bigpond.net.au and request your song.

## Radio Adelaide says....

### Xin Nian Kuai Le! (Happy New Year)

Radio Adelaide joined Adelaide's Asian communities to help celebrate the 15 days of lunar New Year (January 26 – February 10).

The Summer Breakfast program took advantage of New Year's day also being Australia Day to explore cross cultural adaptations as well as continued traditions by Chinese Australians.

On day six an outside broadcast team sponsored by Chinatown Adelaide of South Australia Inc headed down to Chinatown along with 10,000 other people for the Chinatown Lunar New Year Street Party. With a live to air broadcast from 12.30 - 3.30pm, presenters Joe Tungaraza and Nikki Marcel defied the 38 degree temperatures to stay cool throughout the 14 interviews with people ranging from the Lord Mayor and Lieutenant Governor through to community leaders and stall holders.

Amidst the firecrackers and lion dancers, crowds were entertained by a full day of cultural performances from members of Adelaide's Chinese, Malay, Singaporean, Filipino, Taiwanese, Indian, Japanese, and Indonesian communities.

With each day of the celebration having a special meaning and traditions to follow, Radio Adelaide listeners now know a lot more about the culture and what the Year of the Ox has in store for us.

## Radio Adelaide wins Inaugural Governor's Multicultural Award

A new set of awards to 'honour outstanding contributions to promoting social harmony and inclusivity and the positive influence



At the outside broadcast – "We all took turns to hug the fan" of cultural diversity in the community. Joe Tungaraza (presenter) Governor of South Australia, his Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AO, CSC, Bold (panel).

Three individuals and three organisations were recognised in the inaugural awards, presented on November 20, 2008 and Radio Adelaide is proud to be the recipient of the Governor's Multicultural Award for Media.

The judges were impressed by Radio Adelaide's 'forward thinking approach, vibrancy, freshness and energy... Many mainstream radio stations could learn a lot from Radio Adelaide'.

"While many media outlets run special features or present articles, they rarely transform their policies and daily practices like Radio Adelaide has worked to do", says Station Manager Deborah Welch. "Some run feature stories on issues of cultural diversity on odd occasions, whilst still providing stereotypes and negative portrayals on a regular basis."

"It takes a 'whole of station' approach to effect change, which is about making cultural learning and engagement something for all members of the station community, no matter what age or background."

Radio Adelaide was a double winner with presenter Joe Tungaraza also being a Media Award finalist for his longstanding work with Radio Adelaide's Neo Voices multicultural youth program and Afro World.



Nikki Marcel Program Manager Talks receiving the award from the Governor of SA, his Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce.



# Around The Stations On the Victorian Fires

## Yarra Valley FM 99.1

Yarra Valley radio is situated in the Yarra Ranges south of the main fires of Murrindindi and also to the west of the Bunyip National Parks fires.

Yarra Valley FM started to hear information about the fires on Saturday afternoon when residents rang in to see if the station had any information. Apparently they were ringing because they couldn't get through to emergency services because of congested lines. They were asking what the station thought, 'if they should stay or go'. Surprisingly there were calls coming from far away at the edge of the broadcasting footprint, to the Dandenongs.

Normally on the Saturday afternoon the youth program is on and only a young person would be at the station. Luckily the station had a group of experienced broadcasters doing production work at the studio when the phone calls came in. They quickly ceased to do their production work and started gathering reports about the fires. Another fortunate event occurred when the emergency incident centre was established a few doors down from the radio station. Broadcasters could walk down to receive up-to-date information and could hold interviews with the Country Fire Authority or the Department of Sustainability and Environment.

Because of the hills many people in Yarra Valley couldn't pick up the ABC so Yarra Valley FM was the only source of information to some members of the community.

At night it was difficult to maintain a flow of regular information so with agreement from the ABC Yarra Valley re-broadcast ABC radio 774 from midnight to 6am. They were able to do this because 774 streams on the internet and Yarra Valley used a computer and streaming to rebroadcast.

As the days went by, the process for gathering information improved. Originally information would come in by fax and this meant in the night someone had to be sitting next to the fax machine. Peter Cornish, the Chairman, set up an sms delivery system by registering with all of the emergency centres and then through an email account he set up with bigpond, he was able to forward all the emails to his mobile phone by sms. Thus he got information day and night from where ever he was. He could also send these sms' onto people quickly if necessary.

The question about broadcasting reliable factual information was an issue and always a 'tricky situation'. At one stage the radio received a reliable report stating that the Healesville Hospital was being evacuated. It was however found to be untrue when checked by a broadcaster. Information did come in about bushfires from reliable sources but Yarra Valley would always re-check the information before broadcasting. If it was unofficial information it was always stated that it was not the 'official position'.

Many listeners called to thank the station for their broadcasts. One caller spoke of how they got out of Marysville and for most of the time they were guided by the broadcasting of Yarra Valley's radio.

They would stop at a town and listen to the broadcasts before they would move on to the next town. They believe this made it possible to find a safe passage out.

Yarra Valley have assisted in the ongoing relief efforts. The Country Women's Association was able to do a large local collection assisted by the coverage of Yarra Valley.

It is hard to estimate exactly how many people community radio stations assist. However the system overload of Yarra Valley's internet radio service provides some indication of the necessity of this service for the community. Yarra Valley radio streams on the internet and during the fires their internet site crashed from a saturation of hits. They estimated there were 10 times more the amount than usual to make it crash. It could be possible they were receiving at least 10 times more listeners during the fires.

## 3 KLFM

As well as the major outbreaks in the Marysville and Kinglake regions during Black Saturday there were fires East of Bendigo at Redesdale and other smaller fires west of Ballarat in the Colac and Skipton areas.

When bushfires invade rural towns local knowledge is a major factor in providing details, understanding street layout, urban topography and the extent that suburbia has encroached on the native bush. This detail is essential for fire alert and evacuation systems to be effective. The ABC, as the national emergency broadcaster, provided a state wide coverage but was unable to provide this in-depth local (area specific) detail.

The local community station (KLFM) has live announcers that can be on-air in excess of 18 hours a day and for 7 days a week, most regional and rural community stations operate this way. When the announcer at KLFM was notified by a listener of the fire at Maiden Gully (that went on to destroy at least 60 homes) an attempt was made to obtain information from the CFA fire control centre. Mike Tobin, President of the Community Broadcasters Association of Victoria said, "They were told by the media person that they (the CFA) did not bother with small community stations, meanwhile the ABC was in an information overload and at the commercial station the information was filling the in-tray of an unstaffed fax machine. The local commercial station was on syndicated networking with unstaffed local studios."

It took the management of KLFM about one and a half hours of negotiation, with personal contacts within the Department of Sustainability and the Environment (DSE), before it was able to have the D.S.E. and C.F.A. media releases forwarded to the station.

Most towns in rural Victoria have advisory signs as one enters the built-up area to suggest that information services are broadcast on 88.0 MHz, however very few towns actually provide this service.

Most country towns have coverage from one or more community radio stations. Local councils could display on small signs on rural

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roads and when entering townships the community radio stations call-signs as an emergency frequency. This would be a very small cost and would provide additional security for both locals and visitors. The cost benefit could be people's lives.

Mike Tobin - President  
Community Broadcasters Association of Victoria  
Vice President  
Community radio station KLFM Bendigo

by Russell Anderson  
compiled from interviews with the stations

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## Continued from page 13 Media Convergence and Information Rights

online and broadcast community media. The online groups were concerned that the labelling scheme would inflict a licensing model on a sphere which is otherwise creatively amorphous and open. They suggested that the labelling scheme would be interpreted as a means for 'old media' to protect their interests in a new media environment. Engage Media (Anna Helme) and Creative Commons (Elliott Bledsoe) suggested that for such a label to work, it would need to be via a peer-review system. All organisations using the label could add themselves to an online register and peers would informally monitor who was using the label to ensure against misuse.

Representatives from both groups also asserted that organisations already have their own brands and networks to define themselves as community media. Applying a uniform label might mask the character of individual stations/organisations. However, the symposium also uncovered a set of shared values, including: media diversity, participation, access, independence, a local perspective and the importance of not-for-profit organisations. Everyone agreed that there were benefits to promoting community media values and developing a public education movement on information rights.

The Open Spectrum symposium raised more questions than it answered. Some were of a practical nature, involving how the label might work: What type of review/moderation system is appropriate? How do we ensure that the label retains integrity, without infringing on the diversity of the community media sphere? What technical tools (such as a database) are required? Should it be a tiered system, allowing organisations to select different versions of the label so that it adequately represents their particular make-up? We need to do a lot more work before such a system could be put to use.

We also identified other important issues: First, it is not clear that there is any public awareness about why community media institutions exist and how they protect our information rights. The community media sector, in Australia at least, does not behave like a 'movement'. Although radio, television, print and online groups may share similar aspirations and philosophies, the sectors do not work together to carry out joint education or advocacy on information rights issues. For a sector that spends much time and energy keeping communities in touch with issues that directly affect them, it is strange that so little attention is focused on how we use and encounter the media.

Whether or not we end up with a label for community media, these are important issues that the community media sector must now face up to. Open Spectrum Australia intends to keep the debate going.

Visit: [www.openspectrum.org.au](http://www.openspectrum.org.au)

by Ellie Rennie - the Chair of Open Spectrum Australia. She is author of *Community Media: A Global Introduction* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2006) and the forthcoming *Life of SYN: A Story of the Digital Generation*. Ellie works as a Research Fellow at Swinburne University's Institute for Social Research.

## Administration Officer Leaving the NEMBC

After working one year at the NEMBC, Nancy our administration officer has decided not to stay another winter in Melbourne and is returning to Byron Bay NSW to do her "Granny duties". She can now retire and potter around with the grandkids that she misses so much.

Nancy said she has "enjoyed working at the NEMBC with all of the people involved in the association. She found working in a multicultural organisation very rewarding and interesting and believes that her knowledge of multilingual broadcasters has greatly increased."

Nancy says she will continue to encourage those who have English as a second language and are affiliated with community broadcasting. She intends to get involved with her local radio station BAY FM in Byron NSW again and will talk to the existing ethnic broadcasters about joining the NEMBC.

The NEMBC wishes Nancy all the best with her ongoing adventures in Byron Bay and may she have a well deserved rest.

by Russell Anderson  
Executive Officer



## NEMBC Membership

### *Become a member .....*

#### ***...who we are and what we do?***

The National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters' Council (NEMBC) is a not-for-profit, national peak organisation representing and supporting ethnic community broadcasters. The NEMBC develops policy, strongly advocates for multiculturalism and multilingualism and lobbies the federal government for the funding of ethnic programming, training support for emerging and refugee communities and youth broadcasting.

The NEMBC works relentlessly to ensure that your voices are heard by securing more funding for your programs and keeping your programs on air. Currently around 125 stations broadcast in over 100 languages throughout Australia, with this figure growing rapidly as new and emerging communities develop.

#### ***...why?***

The NEMBC is the only organisation that represents ethnic community broadcasters and programming in Australia. No other body will perform that task. In a sector where there is increasing pressure for limited funding, the NEMBC provides a strong voice to government and various funding, training and advocacy committees. Without that voice, ethnic community broadcasting would be thrown in with other branches of community media all competing for a share of what is already a minimal budget. If the NEMBC were not there to advocate for you a likely casualty would be the \$35 per hour ethnic program grant. Membership of the NEMBC also entitles you to make valuable contributions to the direction of ethnic community broadcasting and participate in its services.

#### ***...how it works?***

NEMBC membership is open to a community program which is regularly broadcast in a language other than English, and/or an ethnic broadcaster with a multicultural program. An organisation that represents more than one language group at a station can also join on behalf of each and every language group. NEMBC membership is \$25 per year which can also be paid out of the Ethnic Grants provided by the Community Broadcasting Foundation (CBF). As a member of the NEMBC you have a say in the policies and services provided by the NEMBC, and can access advice about training, information about broadcast policy, receive NEMBC's quarterly journal *The Ethnic Broadcaster* and get a discount on the registration cost to the NEMBC annual conference, as well as voting every year at the AGM.

#### ***...unity***

It's extremely important that ethnic broadcasters demonstrate their support for ethnic programming by supporting the NEMBC. Membership is not just about the money, member numbers are important and unity is paramount to bring about the necessary changes that will ultimately allow the ethnic broadcasting sector to evolve, flourish and grow.

#### ***Together we are stronger***



# Membership Application/Renewal 2009

Please complete the form below and post to: NEMBC P.O. Box 1144 Collingwood VIC 3066. Please attach your cheque or money order for \$25 (includes GST). Please note that all memberships expire on December 31 of each year.

The National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters' Council is the peak body for ethnic community broadcasters. Please note NEMBC members are programs not individuals. The NEMBC develops policy, advocates on behalf of broadcasters, organises the annual national conference, provides networking opportunities and various resources to broadcasters and promotes culturally appropriate training practices.

I wish to make this membership application to the Secretary of the National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters' Council and support the aims and objectives of the NEMBC.

(Please sign) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR PROGRAM Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Community group: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Language: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Type:  Single Language  Multicultural

Station (call sign): \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR GROUP: (Please provide contact details of your members, not the station)

Main Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Details of all people broadcasting on your program: (attach another sheet if needed)

The Role in this question could be Researcher (R), Production (Pro), Reporter (Rep) Journalist (J), Presenter (P) or Panel Operator (PO).

First Name	Surname	M/F	Role	Email

MORE INFORMATION: (Please take your time to answer these important questions.)

When is your program broadcast (e.g. Monday 2-4pm)

How often:  Daily  Weekly  Monthly  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your target audience: Please tick a box or write below  
(e.g. Young Tongans / Newly arrived Somalis / Elderly Italian women);

Youth (under 30)  Women  New & Emerging  Senior  Students  Work force

Other (Please write): \_\_\_\_\_

What type of program do you broadcast (please tick the boxes that explain your program).

News  Current Affairs  Information  Entertainment  Music  Talk Back

If you have any questions regarding membership renewal please don't hesitate to contact the Membership Organiser on tel: 03 9486 9549 or email: [members@nembc.org.au](mailto:members@nembc.org.au)

Your Privacy – The National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters' Council (NEMBC) respects your right to privacy protection. Any personal information supplied is used to assist us in providing Members with services and resources, and in meeting our responsibilities as the peak body representing ethnic and multicultural broadcasters across Australia. To this end, information may be shared with other sector bodies. You have the right to access your personal information held by the NEMBC at any time. For more information please see our Privacy Policy at [www.nembc.org.au/privacy.html](http://www.nembc.org.au/privacy.html) or contact the NEMBC Executive Officer on (03) 9486 9549 or by email [admin@nembc.org.au](mailto:admin@nembc.org.au).

## CBF PRESENCE AT NEMBC CONFERENCE

CBF staff, Board members and members of the CBF's Ethnic Grants Advisory Committee (EGAC) enjoyed meeting ethnic broadcasters at the NEMBC conference in Sydney in November 2008.

"It is always great to hear from you, the broadcasters and station workers, and to get to know your views about the CBF and our role in supporting ethnic broadcasting," says Heinrich Stefanik, CBF Board member and EGAC Chair. An outcome of the 'CBF Grants Secrets Revealed' workshop was that participants decided to put a motion to the conference delegates that the NEMBC form a committee to provide feedback on CBF ethnic grant guidelines and grant processes.

## MULTICULTURAL YOUTH PROGRAMS

Multicultural youth programs can now be funded for up to 3 hours weekly per station. This is a great incentive to get more young people involved in producing programs at your station. Multicultural youth programs are programs produced by a group of young people under the age of 30 for a multicultural youth audience. 90% of the program can be in English so these programs can be a great introduction for young people in your community to start doing some ethnic broadcasting.

## DID YOU KNOW?

As part of the grant conditions for an ethnic program grant, the station must consult with ethnic broadcasters about the grant. Where there are 3 or more ethnic broadcasting groups at an access station, the ethnic broadcasters must select one of their members to act as Ethnic Broadcasters Representative. The Ethnic Grants Advisory Committee is working to clarify the requirement of an Ethnic Broadcasters Representative as it relates to full-time ethnic stations. The role of the Representative is to liaise with station management, the NEMBC and the CBF on grant matters, and to sign CBF ethnic grant applications and minutes of consultation meetings (along with a station management representative). It is expected that the Ethnic Broadcasters' Representative will consult with the station's program groups about grant issues in order to adequately represent their interests.

## OTHER CBF NEWS

### AMRAP GRANTS NOW OPEN!

The next round of AMRAP grants closes in September 2009. AMRAP grants will help to promote and develop contemporary Australian music and musicians through airplay on community radio. If your station is keen to profile, interview, record or broadcast Australian musicians in-studio or at outside broadcasts, festivals, concerts or gigs, check the CBF website ([www.cbf.com.au](http://www.cbf.com.au)) to find out more.

### CURRENT CBF GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Grant Category	Due Date
RPH Grants	9 July 09
Transmission Grants	11 September 09
Ethnic Grants	11 September 09
Indigenous Grants	28 September 09
<b>Amrap Grants</b>	<b>TBC (Sept 09)</b>
Online Development Grants	TBC (Sept 09)
Satellite Grants	Anytime

For more information on CBF grants see the CBF website or speak to:

- Barbara Baxter – Ethnic & Transmission Support Grants
- Heath Rickard – Indigenous, Satellite reception equipment, DDN & Online Development Grants
- Bek Pasqualini – Amrap grants & the Digital Radio Broadcasting Implementation Project
- Jo Curtin – General, RPH & Training Grants
- Craig Twitt – Indigenous Remote Radio Replacement Project

## Contact the CBF

Phone: 03 9419 8055  
Fax: 03 9419 8352  
Post: PO Box 1354 Collingwood VIC 3066  
Email: [info@cbf.com.au](mailto:info@cbf.com.au)  
Web: <http://www.cbf.com.au>

## 3ZZZ DELIVERS CERTIFICATE III in BROADCASTING

By Dominique Haslam, 3ZZZ Station Manager

With the assistance of Broadcast Training grants in 2007/08 a group of trainees from Melbourne's full-time ethnic station 3ZZZ undertook twelve units of accredited broadcast training to complete a Certificate III in Broadcasting. The trainees were from a diverse range of ethnic backgrounds including Chinese, Irish, Ghanaian, Malaysian, Oromo and Mauritian.

The training markedly improved their confidence as broadcasters and has improved and enhanced their skills in interviewing techniques, recording and editing and their ability to plan and prepare engaging programs for their communities. All trainees reported that the training resulted in improvements to their language programs.

"The training has enabled the broadcasters to contribute more effectively to their programming teams and assist other broadcasters with technical matters. We intend to apply for more Broadcast Training grants because the benefits are enormous to our ethnic broadcasters - the training enables broadcasters to enhance and expand their skills and knowledge which in turn, strengthens and improves the overall program quality of 3ZZZ."





# The Tony Manicaros Award

## Applications are now open for the 2009 Tony Manicaros Award!

This year there are two awards, and you can receive up to **\$1,500**  
for one-off funding for your project.

Entry is open to: **Stations, Programming groups and Individuals**  
**Applications close 5pm -10 NOVEMBER 2009**

### AWARD GUIDELINES

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

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

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

### CONDITIONS OF THE AWARD

Funding of up to \$1,500 will be made to the winners of the award.

Projects must be completed within six months.

An individual applying for training must demonstrate they are of low income.

The NEMBC is to be given permission to use the project for non-commercial purposes

A successful applicant cannot reapply in the following year. The award is a one-off grant.

### INFORMATION ABOUT THE AWARD

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

The winner of the award will be announced annually at the NEMBC conference.

The decision of the Tony Manicaros Award Trustees is final.

As an equal opportunity organisation we welcome applications from young people, women and emerging communities.

## Complete an application form and return it to the NEMBC by 10 November

You can also download more information and a copy of the application from the NEMBC website:  
[www.nembc.org.au](http://www.nembc.org.au) Or Contact the NEMBC at [admin@nembc.org.au](mailto:admin@nembc.org.au) or Tel 03 9486 9549.

**Applications close 5pm 10 NOVEMBER 2009**



Photos from the recent Radioactive Forum in Perth

The Opening



The ice-breaker

Some of the Plenary Sessions



Some of the speakers



The workshops and discussion



The Strategic Planning



Saturday night

