

ON AIR

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE HOSPITAL BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION



NOTTINGHAM HOSPITALS' RADIO CELEBRATE WITH 40@40 EVENT

Nottingham Hospital's Radio successfully completed their 40 hour live broadcast during the last weekend in July. The broadcast coincided with the 40th Anniversary of the Queen's Medical Centre where NHR is based, and was created to raise awareness of NHR within the hospital as well as kickstart a fundraiser to update the NHR studios.

Find Out More on Page 4

STATIONS CELEBRATE LOCAL RADIO DAY IN STYLE

Stoke Mandeville Hospital Radio & Hospital Radio Lynn both took part in Local Radio Day celebrations on Friday 26th June 2017.

SMHR broadcast a special programme live from Stoke Mandeville's Volunteer Cafe, whilst Hospital Radio Lynn teamed up with commercial station KL.FM 96.7. Find out more inside.

ON AIR



You've been busy this Summer

Ah, the British Summer. The weather still remains unpredictable and changeable, but what always remains the same is the amount of dedication you give to hospital radio broadcasting across the country.

You'll see in this edition of On Air, stories from individuals raising the profile of their stations, as well as individuals using the medium to help local charities.

We've also got a few guest contributions inside, all of whom share their personal views of hospital radio broadcasting, something I hope you'll enjoy reading.

As always, if you want to get in touch, use the details below. Likewise, you can submit articles direct via the HBA website, just [click here](#).

Best Wishes

Ian Pinnell
Editor, On Air

Email: onair@hbauk.com

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Front cover image:

Nottingham Hospitals' Radio team during their 40@40 Broadcast Weekend.

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For your information

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CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME FROM GRANT MCNAUGHTON

Welcome to our latest edition of On Air, a publication promoting hospital broadcasting across the UK. The Hospital Broadcasting Association represents numerous hospital radio organisations and provides advice, guidance and information to our member stations, individuals and promotes hospital broadcasting through education and promotion to stakeholders.

One of the many services that HBA offer is providing an advisory role on far stretching topics to our members. Our Specialist Advisors offer technical support and guidance as well as a conduit to key providers and organisational bodies. We are continually expanding our advisor services with one to one personal contact, electronic communication and group forums. In addition our help pages and FAQ will follow soon. More details can be found on our [HBA website](#).

I'm pleased to announce that HBA have developed [an interactive station map available on our website](#). This shows the location and HBA station information page to viewers and in particular prospective volunteers – this is a great facility to direct prospective volunteers to their local station/s.

On the subject of recruitment, as a national organisation, HBA offer many opportunities for those who'd like to volunteer on a national basis. Great for a CV and something that provides great satisfaction for those who have some spare time and value volunteering. Our recruitment page can be [accessed here](#) and is continually updated.

We will shortly be announcing the dates, location and venue of our Annual Conference and National Hospital Radio Awards for 2018.

We will, as always use our social media and website platforms to make our announcement, so keep your eyes peeled. And as always, we welcome support from stakeholders and businesses who are keen to associate with our prestigious annual event.

If you, your employer or organisation are interested in supporting our conference and awards then please make contact with HBA at conference@hbauk.com.

So sit back and enjoy this edition of On Air.

Grant



Contact Grant, the HBA's
Chairman via:

Email:
grant.mcnaughton@hbauk.com

Main HBA Telephone Number:
0300 121 0500
*Then select the team/person you'd like to
speak too from the options provided.*



Nottingham Hospitals' Radio successfully completed their 40 hour live broadcast during the last weekend in July. The broadcast coincided with the 40th Anniversary of the Queen's Medical Centre where NHR is based, and was created to raise awareness of NHR within the hospital as well as kickstart a fundraiser to update the NHR studios.

The 40at40 event began on Friday 28th July at 8pm. NHR Chairman Rajiv Hasan said "This was a special event in so many ways. As well as raising funds, awareness and showcasing its own creative talents, NHR was delighted to engage with a wide variety of people connected to different areas of the hospital community. This included staff from all levels, patients past and present, as well as former hospital radio members. There were also guest interviews with some well-known NHR alumni who have gone on to grace the world of professional broadcasting"



NHR volunteers also had a stand inside the main entrance of the QMC to allow patients, staff, and visitors learn more about hospital radio from the NHR team. The team also took dedications and requests for loved ones to be played out on air during the weekend's shows. Prior to the event the studio entrance had a bit of a spruce up with a reminder of the last 40 years of NHR via a photo wall put up in the entrance to the studios.

Programme Controller Harrison Tatem-Wyatt "I couldn't be happier with how our 40 at 40 event went. We collected some incredible stories and it was a real honour and a privilege to be able to share these with patients and staff alike. The thing I am proudest of, however is that every single member of NHR contributed in some way. From manning the stand to handing out leaflets, creating content or broadcasting on air. It really brought us together as a station and a group and has left us feeling reinvigorated and ready to see what the next 40 years bring! "

At the time of writing NHR have made over £600 towards new studio equipment - and the donation page is open until the end of the month for anyone who wishes to donate after the event.

SMHR CELEBRATES LOCAL RADIO DAY

Stoke Mandeville Hospital Radio took part in a monumental event this year as part of the Local Radio Day, the second annual event on 26th May. The station decided to take the team out from the comfortable studio and into The Royal Voluntary Services Cafe, where a mobile studio was set up and a live broadcast took place from 8 AM. Over 10 members took part and the outside broadcast studio allowed patient and staff at Stoke Mandeville Hospital to get fully involved with the station.



The broadcast was very well received, with patients getting involved and chatting about their experiences at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, including how going about securing a place in the world famous spinal centre could help with there rehabilitation.

We also had visit from members of staff who came and made some song requests and took part in the show to be a presenter. The Royal Voluntary Services Cafe also got really involved (and supported us with some get sample food and drinks - thanks so much!) as we found out about the staff and volunteers who run the cafe.

Members of the station came along to present different parts of the broadcast and to support the stations OB. Steve presented the facts of life throughout the show, Bronwynn came and hosted a specials 80s hour, with Mary's highlight being her lunch time link ups.

The main anchor and coordinator for the day, Mark Goodman, who spearheaded the broadcast said "It was such a fantastic day being able to show what we do, and to chat to staff, visitors and patients was a very privilege. It's so easy to forget who we are broadcasting too when you (and possibly a co host or two) are just in a little box"

The HBA's On Air Editor, Ian Pinnell, also attended the broadcast, commenting: "It was great to meet the team and see how much dedication they give to not only the station, but the hospital they serve, which in turn was supported and respected highly by patients and staff alike."

Program Controller, Mike Oxlade said: "We enjoyed taking part in Local Radio Day, it was a great time to show off Stoke Mandeville Hospital Radio to the local community, and hopefully being out and about will encourage more people to listen to what we do".

The Hospital radio station has been a part of Stoke Mandeville Hospital for 39 years. It is great to take SMHR out on the road for the very first time in a while. With the big 40 coming up next year we have already got some plans for how we might celebrate this milestone.



It's time

Visit broadcastradio.com/mv5



HOSPITAL RADIO LYNN TEAM UP WITH KL.FM 96.7



As part of Local Radio Day, Hospital Radio Lynn joined forces with local commercial radio station KL.FM 96.7 for a special night of requests and dedications on 26th May 2017.

11 of the station's volunteers visited the KL.FM studios for one night only to broadcast the nightly Requests and Dedications Show live, not only to the patients of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital but to all of the KL.FM listeners in West Norfolk, Wisbech and Fakenham.

With the support of the wonderful staff at KL.FM as well as the hard work and dedication of their own volunteers back at the hospital, they were able to showcase the wonderful work that hospital radio stations do, as well as promote a hopefully long and fruitful relationship with KL.FM.

Secretary for Hospital Radio Lynn, Carrie Ingram-Gettins was one of the members on the KL.FM mic on Friday night. When asked about the experience she said 'it was an excellent opportunity for us to work alongside an established station like KL.FM and we are really grateful for that. It was a great night and we really enjoyed it, and feedback from the patients and listeners was very positive, and we have two new potential members out of it! I hope it is the first of many such collaborations.'

Hospital Radio Lynn wish to thank the staff at KL.FM for this wonderful and exciting opportunity.



HOSPITAL RADIO LYNN
BROADCASTING FOR OVER 40 YEARS

[The station has also launched a new look website.](#)

David Llewellyn, Hospital Radio Lynn Chairman said "I am delighted to see our great new website going live. It showcases all that we do, let's friends and relatives send requests to patients and will provide a useful source of information to our volunteers. Special thanks to our Studio Manager, Wayne Fysh for the design and Rob Mason at King's Lynn Website Design for technical support."



HOSPITAL RADIO IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Angela McCully-Jackson from Hospital Radio Leighton writes for *OnAir*.

Not everyone engages in today's modern technology phenomenon where entertainment, news, family and social interactions are accessed in an instant. Society assumes that the majority of us have the means and capability to use modern communication devices (mobiles, laptops etc). However, as a ward walker for hospital radio, I know that there remains a large majority of patients who do not have this facility available to them. Many come from a generation who neither understand nor like or can afford modern devices. Those who do have mobile technology gadgets may not find them particularly easy to use in hospital. Mobile phone usage may be prohibited; the phone/data signals poor to non-existent; keeping phones charged a nightmare; Wi-Fi access unavailable or at a cost, so a longer than expected stay may prove expensive. Consequently those excluded from the mobile technology world, rely on whatever form of entertainment a hospital complex provides. That is why hospital radio still has a role to play in the 21st century. It can provide local news, cover local sports in more detail, convey personal messages and play a much wider more varied selection of music than national/commercial radio stations.

As a ward walker taking patient requests, I've found myself in a mix of roles over the years. At times I've been a patient's only visitor, other times I've felt more like a councillor, social worker, priest, confidante and friend. The music presenter part comes last of all. Through hospital radio a patient has a friend at the bedside, the lonely find companionship, those feeling frazzled by the demands of their illness find a reassuring calming presence and friendly voice on the radio. Having spoken to the patients before I go on air, I'm sure they feel a sense of community and belonging when they listen to me, and have a palpable sense that someone somewhere still does care about them. Speaking for myself, I know that money cannot buy the feelings I've experienced over the years serving the patients of Leighton Hospital. It remains an absolute privilege and pleasure helping those who are unwell, feel a little better and more comforted.

Modern technology offers connection and interaction with the world, yet maintains a clinical remoteness as well. Perhaps that's why many users of social media still claim to experience feelings of great loneliness. By comparison, hospital radio offers an incredibly personal interaction with patients both face to face and over the airwaves. This is a priceless attribute that should be protected and nourished. **Long May Hospital Radio Reign.**

LEWIS OLD COMPLETES ABSEIL FOR MCMILLIAN

One of the most youthful presenters on Hospital Radio Ipswich has completed a charity abseil from the top of The Ipswich Hospital Maternity Block.

Lewis Old completed the decent in a little over three minutes to the cheering of his twenty or so supporters who were safely waiting on the ground to congratulate him. Raising £505 for the McMillan appeal for Somersham Ward at the hospital.

The intrepid Lewis managed to wave to hospital staff as he passed their windows. After landing safely and being interviewed by BBC Radio Suffolk, he said "The scariest part for me was negotiating a wooden board that wobbled somewhat right at the start. You needed to get over the board before you could face the wall and get your feet against the masonry. Having done this you then were advised to regain composure by breathing deeply for a minute or two, before the decent proper."

Lewis presents the Sunday request show at 8pm every week on hri.org.uk.



BASINGSTOKE PUSHES BEDS AGAIN



Hospital Radio Basingstoke was out and about to cover a major hospital fundraising event in June as the North Hampshire Medical Fund, a charity that raises money to buy equipment for the 3 hospitals that are part of the Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust staged its second annual bed push.

The event saw teams of 5 push their bed around a course in the grounds of the Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital, trying to do it in the fastest time. There were prizes for being the fastest and for the best dressed bed. HRB presenters Mel Montagnon and Paul Le Feuvre described the action in a live show.



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48 HOUR BIG BROADCAST MARATHON SUCCESS



“Pushing the boundaries of what can be achieved by Hospital Radio stations” was how Richard Smith described the latest BIG Broadcast over the May Day Bank Holiday weekend.

37 stations in the UK and Ireland carried the 48-hour marathon programme, broadcast live from Richard’s home studio in Lancashire along with his team of Oliver Stables, Jonathan Sawyer, Ruth Stapleton and Matthew Rolland.

During that 48 hours, listeners were treated to the usual mix of music and entertainment from Richard and his team but also ‘live’ shows using Cleanfeed.net technology coming in from Phil, Jackie & Steve at Northern Air in Manchester, Tom and Ken from St Itas Hospital Radio in Dublin, Neil and Mel from Hospital Radio Basingstoke and Dan and Bob from Sunshine Radio on the Isle of Wight too!

There were also live performances from the ‘red carpet’ in Richard’s lounge by The Pendle Jazzmen, Gavin Young (as Michael Bublé) and BIG Broadcast favourite Miss Kiki DeVille which added a special variety to the weekend.

The overnight schedule was also extremely well supported by the Hospital Radio Community with programmes such as, The Pirate Radio Show – Dave Peacock (Radio Hospitals Blackburn), The Country Collection – Stewart Kennedy (Wave Radio), A Chain of Oldies – Alan Green (Radio Hillingdon), The Vintage Years – Jim Simpson (Radio Grapevine), The Best of British Classical Music – Peter Grogan (Auckland Hospital Radio), Black or White – Ian Gornall (Preston Hospital Radio), Going Wild With Wildlife – Stuart Mabbutt (Radio Cherwell) and Time After Time with Ken Anton (Bridge FM) gracing the airwaves.

Almost 80 requests were played out for listeners to many of those 37 stations over the weekend, very nearly 150 phone calls were taken as well as hundreds of e-mails, facebook and twitter messages too, so the team were kept very busy.

Excellent media coverage was also achieved with the help of HBA’s Andy Carter as well as many local news outlets running the story about the event in various parts of the country, Richard was interviewed, ‘mid-show’ by Radio Lancashire’s John Barnes on Bank Holiday Monday morning.

This story continues on the next page >>

48 HOUR BIG BROADCAST MARATHON SUCCESS

Our celebrity contributions came from the Lovely Debbie McGee, Andi Peters, Martin Clunes, Ruth Langsford, Sophie Ellis-Bextor, Phil Tufnell, Julia Bradbury and Jonathan Agnew as well as numerous 'get well soon' messages from a host of other stars.

Our national game of ward Bingo played at 7 of the stations taking the show, was won by a listener at Preston Hospital and he was rewarded with a 24-Hour Hospedia voucher.

Listeners also took part in The A to Z of Pop's Trivia Challenge where prizes on offer were £10 gift cards from Tesco and Sainsbury's stores.

So, a full weekend of entertainment, 'Saturday Night At The Movies' from the red carpet, the live performances and the antics of the team in the studio were all caught on our webcams and relayed via thebigbroadcast.co.uk website, and the stream, which ran uninterrupted for more than 56 hours in the end, was very kindly supplied to the team by Craig Robinson and his team at Auckland Hospital Radio.

At the end of the show, newsreader Jonathan Sawyer announced that The BIG Broadcast team would return on New Year's Eve 2017 for 24 hours of fun and frolics to see in 2018 in their own inimitable fashion. If you would like to get involved, head over to www.thebigbroadcast.co.uk website for more details and to see highlights from the live performances over the weekend, or contact Richard on studio@thebigbroadcast.co.uk, or follow the team on social media @bigbroadcastuk.



@gavinyoungsings

Great to be part of the live big broadcast today thanks for your help guys
THE BIG BROADCAST #BB2017



Steve Wilson (Conquest Hospital Radio)

@swils75

@bigbroadcastuk Can't you carry on for another 24 hours? This is addictive radio!



The Big Broadcast Team with singer, Kiki DeVille (Centre)



HOSPITAL RADIO STAFFORD BACK ON AIR IN STOKE

Royal Stoke University Hospital receives Hospital Radio service after 14 year break.

Hospital Radio is now live at Royal Stoke University Hospital after an absence of 14 years, and is the latest addition to Hospital Radio Stafford's (HRS) portfolio of broadcasting locations.

The station is based at County Hospital in Stafford and broadcasts there as well as Katharine House Hospice in Stafford and Cannock Chase Hospital. It's a fantastic step forward for the service, and now the patients and visitors of Stoke can enjoy the varied and exciting programme of shows on offer, free of charge. Thank you to University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust for enabling this to happen.

Listeners can tune in to HRS via the WiFi Intranet using internet enabled devices such as mobile phones, tablets and laptops. Instructions on how to listen will be made available shortly.

Hospitals in Stoke were originally served by North Staffordshire Hospital Broadcast Association, which was one of the first organisations in the country to broadcast to patients, originally broadcasting in 1954 and providing football commentary from Stoke City's Victoria Ground. In the nineties the radio station was known as FORward Radio and closed in 2003 having lost their studios with the closure of the City General, having been in existence for nearly 50 years.

Hospital Radio Stafford was formed in November 1971 first broadcasting to St. George's Hospital in Stafford and has grown and continuously served the main hospitals of Stafford and Cannock. It is entirely run by volunteers and is always looking for request collectors, engineers, fundraisers and presenters.



NEW: Station Map

It's now even easier to find a HBA Member Station near you. Use the new map function on our website to see where our member stations are across the UK & to find out more.

Click the title above to start your search..



MATHEW'S MESSAGE

Celebrating Twenty Years on the airwaves! Mathew Hulbert writes for *OnAir*.

I could never have thought, twenty years ago this month (August) when I-as a shy seventeen year old-first walked into the studios of Castle Mead Radio, at Hinckley and District Hospital on Mount Road in Hinckley, Leicestershire, to be interviewed about becoming a member, that I'd still be involved two decades later.

But, now as a 37-year old, I'm proud to still be a regular on-air voice on the station which is known far and wide as 'Britain's Smallest Hospital Radio Station.' It serves the small cottage hospital on Mount Road and the larger Hinckley and Bosworth Community Hospital on Ashby Road in the town.

It can also be heard in a number of other local health facilities in the area. But, when first set up, it broadcast only to the small number of wards in the cottage hospital on Mount Road. It can also be heard online and via the tuneIn radio app.

Founded in 1990 by a number of local enthusiasts, including our long-serving Station Manager Paul Gardner, when I joined seven years later it had already made its name in the town and wider borough, as doing a fantastic job of providing music, local news and information to those being treated in the hospital and those working there.

During my twenty years as a member of and on-air personality on Castle Mead Radio I've undertaken a number of on-air and off air roles and responsibilities, including presenter, co-presenter, co-creator of the station's first dedicated future news programme (of which more in a future edition of 'On Air'), newsletter editor, committee member, trustee, Vice Chair and Acting Chair.

As you might imagine, all this experience, especially during my late teens and twenties, gave me more confidence and enabled me to learn and use skills I'd not hitherto been aware of or had.

This stood me in good stead for my later professional life as, in turn, a professional Broadcast Journalist, elected principal authority Councillor, and someone heavily involved in the charitable sector.

I was also, for an extended period during those early years, a contributor to the original 'On Air' magazine, edited by Michelle Newstead.

I'm delighted, under the editorship of Ian Pinnell, to return as a columnist for this fine publication and I look forward to a long and constructive conversation with you, our readers and fellow hospital and community radio volunteers across the nation.

Though twenty years is, undoubtedly, a long time, I know that I'm a mere spring chicken compared to some of the great hospital radio stalwarts who've been involved in the cause for fifty years and, indeed, even longer.

MATHEW'S MESSAGE

My current role at Castle Mead Radio sees me present a weekly hour-long, live, newspaper review.

As someone who loves news and current affairs, this kind of program is obviously a joy to be able to present.

To still be involved in hospital radio two decades on is an honour and one I never take lightly or for granted.

All of us who are involved in hospital and community radio do so because we love radio, of course, but also because we're committed to public service and to providing our listeners, whether a small number or a large number, with the best service we can.

I look forward in future columns to sharing with you more of my experiences and the things I've learnt during my time in hospital radio over the past 20 years and it would be fantastic to hear from you about what you've learnt, discovered and enjoyed most during your time serving this wonderful cause.

You can follow me on Twitter via [@HulbertMathew](https://twitter.com/HulbertMathew) and [email me here](#).



RADIO HARROW'S 12HR LOCAL RADIO DAY

After participating in the inaugural event in 2016, on Friday 26th May Radio Harrow once again joined in the celebrations for Local Radio Day 2017.

This year we took our participation in the national event one step further as we pitched up an outdoor studio in the middle of Harrow Town Centre for a 12-hour extravaganza of live outside broadcasting. We kicked off the day's special programming at 7am with the RH Breakfast Show running to Freedom Friday at 7pm.

The entire event was broadcast, not just on Radio Harrow, but also throughout the Town Centre, in the view of shoppers, and the working community of Harrow. During the day, the Radio Harrow team were joined by a variety of guests from the newly appointed Mayor of Harrow Cllr Margaret Davine, to community groups promoting health and wellbeing in the borough. With live music from local groups, a plethora of interviews, and even ample sunshine, we had a fantastic day celebrating Local Radio Day with the community.

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There is plenty more that the update brings, the Switchboard traversal server has also had some tweaks and that includes the ability to place your individual codecs into groups for ease of use. Network locations assigned to your network connections are now stored and configurable at any time for quick connections when at different locations. No more need to set up your WiFi credentials every time you connect and no need to stop a transmission when one of your 4G modems loses signal.

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VOLUNTEER FOR THE HOSPITAL BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION

The HBA are currently seeking volunteers to undertake various roles at the organisation.

You will be joining a team of dedicated volunteers who give up their time to make a difference to hospital radio on a national level, who have the drive and determination to make sure the ethos of hospital radio is spread far and wide.

We are currently recruiting for:

[Stakeholder Relationship Executive Posts](#)

There are also roles available within the Stakeholder Relationship Team. [Please contact Darran Huish for more information.](#)

[Executive Administrator](#)

We are looking for an Executive Administrator to support, prepare and publish to the Executive Directors all relevant information in order to facilitate the execution of their duties. The role reports to the Corporate Services Executive.

[Fundraising Manager](#)

This role will require the Fundraising Officer post holder to lead on the strategic development of key areas of fundraising. The initial primary objective is to develop a fundraising stream for the HBA. To achieve this aim the role holder ideally will recruit and develop a team consisting of a Trust and Grants Fundraiser and a Fundraising Events officer. This role reports to the Corporate Services Executive lead.

To apply, click on the relevant job titles above and fill out an application form. Or to find out more about each role, please email corporate.services@hbauk.com or call 0300 121 1112.

Equally, please share this page with friends or others you feel who may be interested in volunteering on a national level. You can make a real difference nationally, as well as gain new experiences.

Thank you.

ON AIR

GOT A STORY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE?

HBA

HOSPITAL BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION

Share your station news with us for inclusion in the next edition of On Air. If your station has done something great, then we want to hear from you. Remember to send photos along with your stories too.

Email: onair@hbauk.com

Telephone: 0300 121 0522

Twitter: @hbaukonair

All articles, press releases and stories sent to On Air will be considered for inclusion in the magazine, however at the editors discretion, some may be omitted from being included in the magazine and placed on other Hospital Broadcasting Association promotional outlets, including the HBA website, social media and/or members newsletter where applicable. Press releases may be shortened to fit in with the magazine.

FOR MORE ABOUT THE HBA, INCLUDING
INFORMATION ON MEMBER STATIONS, EVENTS, AND
THE LATEST NEWS, VISIT WWW.HBAUK.COM

