

ON-AIR

The Quarterly Hospital Radio Magazine



ARE YOU READY FOR WINDSOR?

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YOUR NEW LOOK

ON-AIR IS HERE.

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ARE YOU READY?

Don't forget to get your suit from the dry cleaners, polish those shoes and put your glad rags on for one of the biggest nights in the hospital radio calendar.

I'm of course, talking about the National Hospital Radio Awards that take place in Windsor in just a couple of weeks.

Coupled with what is set to be a good weekend of networking, learning and getting those all important freebies at the Tradeshow, there's something for everyone at this years Conference.

If you're heading down South, I look forward to seeing you. Please do come and find me if you have any feedback relating to **ON AIR** or if you want to discuss submitting a story.

This is your magazine after all, you devise the content, let's showcase your good work.

We've had a bit of a refresh for 2018, your feedback is always welcome, but we hope you enjoy the bolder, new look, **ON AIR**.

See you in Windsor!

Ian

For Your Information:

The Hospital Broadcasting Association(HBA) is the operating name of the National Association of Hospital Broadcast- ing Organisations, Registered in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee (No. 2750147) and a charity (No. 1015501). Registered office: Avebury House, St Peter Street, Winchester, SO23 8BN

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ARE YOU READY?

#hbauk2018 is just around the corner

The Hospital Broadcasting Association's Annual Conference and National Hospital Radio Awards weekend is just around the corner.

Held at the De Vere Beaumont Estate from the 23rd to the 25th March 2018, hundreds of hospital radio volunteers will descend on the De Vere Beaumont Estate in Windsor for a weekend of networking, learning and catching up.

The venue this year offers exceptional facilities for all those attending. Not only can you take advantage of free parking & wi-fi across the venue, but you will also be able to make good use of the gym and swimming pool, which will be open daily throughout the conference weekend, so get those swimming shorts and gym gear packed and ready to go!

With many seminars and workshops on offer, we've got something for everyone.

Peak FM presenter and former Bauer and Guardian Media Group programme controller Ricky Durkin will be on hand to host a presenters masterclass, whilst the HBA's specialist advisors will be on hand to offer advice and support in the first

Unconference Surgery.

With the new GDPR regulations coming in May, you'll be able to understand the new rules and regulations in our 'Are You Ready for GDPR' workshop.

Let's not forget the tradeshow, where you will be able to browse a selection of offerings from the broadcast trade.

You'll also have the opportunity to visit some HBA Member stations in the area. This year, you'll get an opportunity to visit Hospital Radio Hillingdon, Radio Wey, Hospital Radio Reading and Radio Frimley Park.

Coupled with all of that Friday Night Entertainment and your three course gala meal alongside the National Hospital Radio Awards on Saturday Night, it's set to be one of the best Conference weekends yet.

Delegates will receive a full programme of events prior to the weekend.

We look forward to seeing you in Windsor.

Visit www.hbauk.com/conference for more information





**VOLUNTEERS FROM
HELPING HANDS JOIN
HOSPITAL RADIO
PRESENTER CHRISTINE**

CELEBRATING WORLD SIGHT DAY

AT HOSPITAL RADIO BASINGSTOKE

World Sight Day is a special day of awareness that is celebrated around the world each year in order to focus on blindness and vision impairment.

The day was created by the World Health Organisation in collaboration with the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness and awareness is spread through a large number of different events.

Basingstoke group Helping hands for the Blind joined Christine Rowley live on Thursday 12 October 2017 to help spread the word and share some of their own experiences on this subject to those listening to Hospital Radio Basingstoke.

Helping hands for the blind is a local life-enhancing charity supporting children and adults who are blind or partially sighted throughout Basingstoke. David Chatten Smith Chairperson said "Sight loss can be a devastating and challenging reality for many people so helping hands for the blind are committed to promoting independence and opportunities for people with severe or partial sight impairments including their carer to access any support they may need".

Hospital Radio Basingstoke Presenter, Christine Rowley wanted to feel what it is like to have no sight, so using a blind fold imagined trying to run

a show. Christine said "I was at a complete loss, never mind not being able to see the equipment, even travelling to and making my way into the studio was a problem".

Since October 2017 Alex has joined Christine once a month as her special guest.

Now in the new year, they both want to join HRB and do their own show with a local musician driving the desk.

The interview is also nominated in the National Hospital Radio Awards in the "Best Speech Package" category.

Christine continued "I have volunteered with these guys for some time, it is a privilege to work with them on HRB and I am so pleased that this may go even further with them having their own show. Radio is really important to blind people and it certainly makes it all worth while to make a special link into the community as well."

You can find out more information by visiting the Hospital Radio Basingstoke website, www.hrbasingstoke.co.uk.



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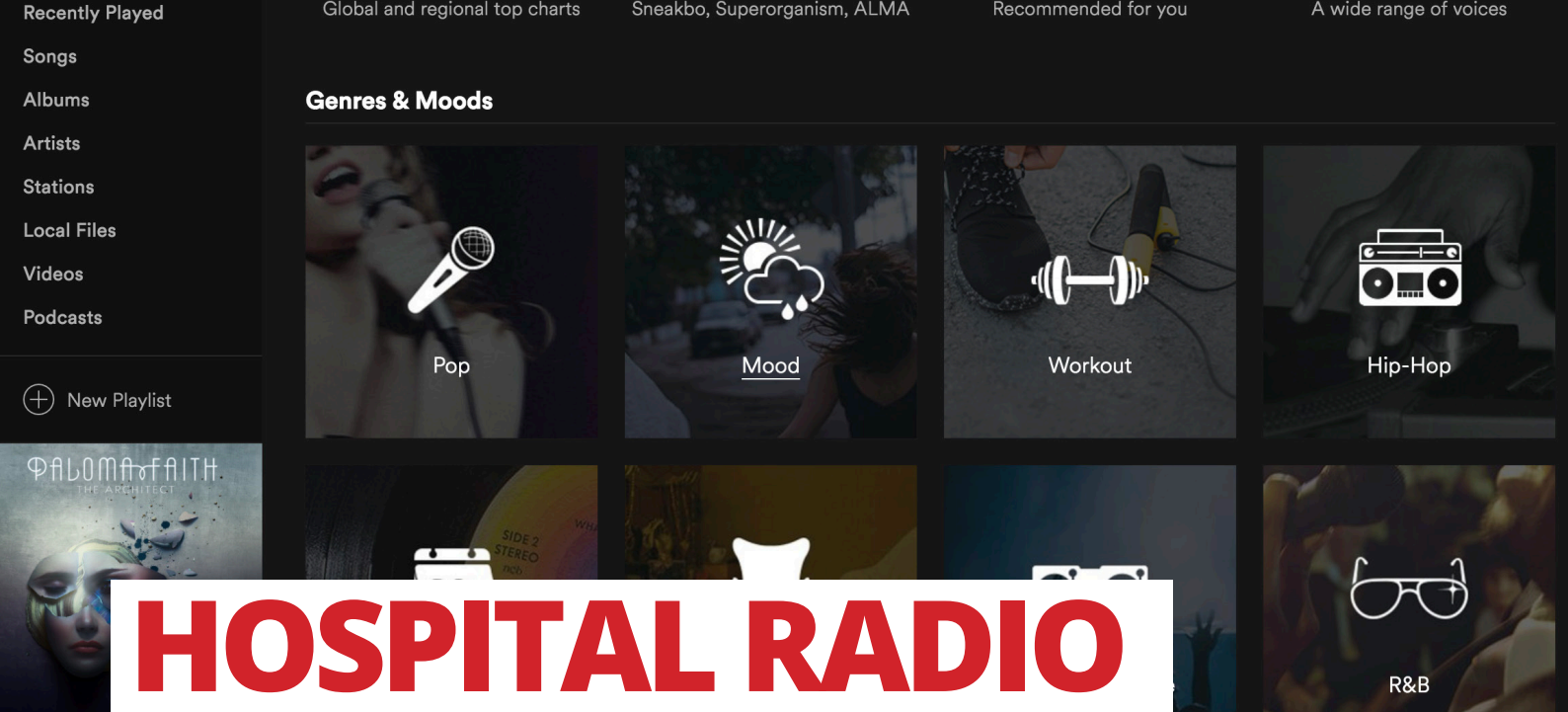
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“
I could listen to it on Spotify but it makes a massive difference when it's being played for you. Thank you.”

If you ever visit the wards collecting requests, you'll probably see most patients now have a laptop, mobile phone or tablet. And if the patient doesn't have one, chances are their visitors will bring one along with them during visiting hours.

Radio Cherwell's Record Requests programme still proves to be as popular with patients, even when they can actively listen to their own choice of music via streaming services such as iTunes and Spotify.

The team at Radio Cherwell were thrilled to receive a tweet from Rachel, a listener on the wards, who said "Waiting to hear if @radiocherwell will honour my request for Berlioz Te Deum tonight. I bet they've never had that one before #hospitalradio"

The station were of course, more than happy to oblige, and played the request during Tuesday's edition of Record Requests.

We informed Rachel via Twitter we were playing her request and her reply simply emphasises all of what hospital radio is about.

The station recently held a joint meeting with Radio Horton, based in Banbury, to discuss the future of Hospital Radio in Oxfordshire and to see how the two stations, which both serve Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, could work together on ensuring both stations still have a presence within the hospitals.

Radio Cherwell's Record Request programme can be heard Monday to Saturday from 9pm until 10pm, Sunday afternoons from 3pm until 4pm, with the programmes repeated daily from 9am.



JULIE COX PICTURED
WITH HBA CHAIRMAN
GRANT MCNAUGHTON IN
BOLTON

TAKE 5 WITH JULIE COX

Conference and Awards Manager

We caught up with Julie, the Conference & Awards Manager to find out a little bit more about the job she does...

1.

What does your role entail?

My role requires me to manage a team of volunteers to deliver a National Conference and the National Hospital Radio Awards to an agreed budget. It is all about team working, allocating specific roles to team members and then co-ordinating and monitoring progress to ensure deadlines are met. Once the contract has been signed I have a key role to liaise with the Hotel which is essential to ensure everything comes together and our delegates get a great conference weekend.

2.

What's the best thing about your role?

I really enjoy working as part of a team and I have a great team who work with me to deliver the Conference. It is great to see everything come together over the weekend and to say goodbye to happy delegates on a Sunday. A lot of hard work is undertaken from the signing of the contract with the hotel to the Conference weekend. There is a sense of achievement, we catch our breath briefly, and start on the next year.

3.

What makes a good Conference location?

We aim to take the conference around the country to ensure they are accessible for as many delegates as possible. We need to ensure that there is a room suitable to host the Gala Dinner, Awards Ceremony and good conference facilities for seminars/training events. We also look at the travel network and ensure there are good road links and public transport options available. Finally, we need the delegate fee to offer good value for money as the majority of our delegates self fund their weekend. However, the HBA does offer conference bursaries to support conference and travel costs. This year we are supporting 6 HBA station members to attend the conference weekend for the first time.



JULIE PICTURED WITH
IAIN LEE IN BOLTON

TAKE 5 WITH JULIE COX

Conference and Awards Manager

4.

If you had to choose one celebrity to join your table at the Gala Dinner, who would it be and why?

This is a difficult one there are so many to choose from. From a Hospital Radio Background I would probably invite Philip Schofield who was a presenter at Hospital Radio Plymouth before embarking on a full and varied, radio, musical theatre and TV presenter career. I went to see him in the lead role of Joseph and his Technicolour Dream Coat in London, one of my favourite musicals. From my love of F1 and motor sport, I would invite Martin Brundle. Although he never became World Champion in F1, everything he achieved was due to his own abilities and motivation to win. He has since moved on to become a well respected F1 presenter for Sky Sport F1.

5.

What are the future plans for the Annual Conference and National Hospital Radio Awards over the coming years?

We have already started looking at potential venues and we hope to be located in the north of the country following this year in Windsor. Each year we aim to make improvements to enhance the weekend and make it more accessible to increase attendance. We value feedback from our delegates and are always looking to make improvements.



You can contact Julie by calling 0300 121 0513 or via the HBA website, [click here](#).

Latest From Vortex

NEWS FROM VORTEX - Comrex ACCESS-NX takes hold - as do CallMe Low-Cost Outside Broadcast Codecs - plus SPECIAL OFFERS . . .

Of course, everyone would like to be able to afford the Industry-standard Comrex ACCESS - and indeed, many Hospital Stations have been fortunate enough to raise sufficient funds through their Leagues of Friends, gifts, sponsorship, grants and so-on, to invest in this technology.

The ACCESS-NX has been completely re-designed and engineered and truly is the next generation of the industry-standard ACCESS. It provides 2x Mic/Line Inputs as standard plus tape and there is an add-on mixer to provide a total of six channels. It still includes all the clever forward error correction and error masking which, with its CrossLock multi-streaming capabilities, gives rock-steady audio even over poor connections. With much-increased processing power and capacitive touch-screen, the NX provides enhanced performance and operational capability.



With OPUS codecs now included in all ACCESS and now BricLink-II (which is a cut-down version of the ACCESS-R Rackmount), a lower-cost back-end solution is now available, with NX as the remote codec and BricLink-II at the studio. SORTED

So what is CallMe ? Our CallMe Click-and-Connect cloud-based codec was originally developed as a low-cost add-on for the industry-standard range of Comrex codecs, as way to put guest contributors on-air without the need to download special software. Stations soon realised that it was also a useful tool for reporters who by clicking on a web link using a browser on a smartphone, desktop, laptop or tablet, have live 2-way 15kHz audio back to the studio. It is already in daily use including a major commitment by the BBC and Inrix Traffic News.

It became clear however, that some Community and smaller stations simply cannot afford to have a full-featured Comrex hardware codec at their station and we therefore decided to develop CallMe-TS (Studio Version) as a low-cost back-end for CallMe Click-and-Connect. It has no buttons but a simple web interface to set it all up.

The next step came after requests to use two hardware CallMe-Ts as an OB kit - in particular for using the huge installed base of Glensound ISDN mixers over IP. Users needed some form of dialling rather than having to use the browser interface so CallMe-TR (Remote Version) was born – now with four buttons on the front panel for quick preset dialling – and USB connectivity. Both versions have balanced Stereo Audio In-and-Out and provide live two-way Broadcast Audio up to 20kHz using Opus, G.711, G.722 codecs plus PCM.

And now for the good bit . . . we want to get you guys on-the-air “Live”- and will have some Special Offer packages available at the HBA Conference. So see you there . . .

CallMe
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- ▼Cloud-based Audio Codec
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- ▼Widely Compatible
- ▼15kHz Stereo Audio



FOR GUESTS
FOR REPORTERS
FOR EVERYONE



CallMe-T

CallMe-TS Studio
Low cost hardware back-end for
CallMe Click-and-Connect



CallMe-TR - Remote
Low cost IP Audio Remote
Codec for ISDN Mixers



VORTEX
Communications Ltd



2014 TRADESHOW AT THE
HBA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

GRAB GOODIES AT OUR TRADESHOW

JUST SOME OF THE EXHIBITORS AT THIS YEARS TRADESHOW



Radio News Hub provides news bulletins to radio stations at home and abroad. We offer various packages at an affordable price which can be paid monthly. These include weather updates along with business, sport, showbiz and world news bulletins.



Since 1976, HHB has been dedicated to delivering the latest and most innovative pro audio equipment solutions to the world's top broadcasters, recording studios, post facilities and systems integrators. This legacy is backed by an extensive list of customers who have enjoyed HHB's high levels of specialist advice and technical support including the BBC, Sky, CNN, Abbey Road, Molinare Post and many more.



The AudioSweets Sweet Shop is the ultimate imaging pick and mix tool kit - a continuously updated library of beds, promo/sweeper shells, sound design, utilities, breaks, artist drops & song drops. Plus a sweet load of programming elements...



Radioshed Productions was formed in March of 2017 by former Station Manager at Jubilee Hospital Radio, Fred Setters.

Fred decided that it was time to start his own creative project and create programmes to support Community, Hospital and Internet Radio stations. Such organisations are often staffed by volunteers who may need to work during the daytime, so syndicated radio programmes provide a valuable resource at times when the station is running on auto.



SONIFEX



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Going Wild With Wildlife is an independent and unique wildlife radio show presented by Stuart 'The Wildman' Mabbutt.

Recorded on location all around the country or from our barn studio at Clue Hill Farm on the Oxfordshire/Buckinghamshire border.

The 30 minute generic shows explores nature, upclose and personal, touching on our emotional, psychological and philosophical connections with the natural world. Including music chosen by guests that reflect nature/environment/countryside in some way.



Devaweb

Chris Stevens runs audio production companies Devaweb and Ignite Jingles, following 15 years in production booths in the UK and the USA. Devaweb has produced audio for over 50% of the UK's hospital radio stations, and he's a proud supporter of hospital radio. Chris is also the Programme Director of Chris Country, which is now on DAB in 6 parts of the UK. He's a fan of hoodies, cider, VW camper vans and basset hounds.



Broadcast Radio (formerly P Squared) are pleased to once again attend the HBA conference. This year will be our 21st consecutive year at the event and to celebrate we have a lot planned. First and foremost we will be showing the full release version of Myriad 5 Payout for the first time anywhere. It has been great to share previews over the past couple of years but now we are ready to let you play with the final version and answer all your questions about upgrading your station.

We have also recently announced that we now supply and support the entire AEQ range of broadcast equipment in the UK. We will be bring along a wide range of equipment for you to take a look at including digital mixers, multi-line phone systems, codecs, outside broadcast units and more.

We'll also be on hand throughout the weekend to answer any questions. Plus, we will be running a short masterclass on Myriad 4 Payout and AutoTrack, for anyone looking to get a little more from their system.



Audessence Ltd manufactures a range of professional broadcast radio equipment including our world-renowned ALPS & PodBlaster audio levellers, FM and AM broadcast audio processors, RDS encoders, and FM transmission accessories.

We are the UK's leading independent authority on small-scale DAB technology and the only independent operator of a multi-site DAB single frequency network in the UK (the 'Trial London' small-scale DAB multiplex, which hosts such stations as Resonance FM, Solar Radio, Rinse FM, Rainbow Radio, and Repräsent, amongst others).



Smile! produces publicity magazines for over 45 hospital radio stations across the UK. Our first hospital radio station was HRC (Chelmsford). Our service is free of charge as well as generating a healthy donation for our customers. "I am very proud of the fact that Smile! has given over £300,000 to hospital radio and this figure is set to grow substantially into the future." - Smile's MD, Tim Lloyd.



Vortex Communications has been supplying cost-effective broadcast solutions since 1987 and is the leader in Audio and Video Codecs for News, Sport and Outside Broadcast. ACCESS-NX is the latest member of the industry-standard ACCESS family which incorporates the same low-bitrate audio, clever forward error correction and error masking, plus CrossLock and dual-streaming for rock-steady reliability.



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Best Specialist Music Programme
Best Programme With Multiple Presenters
Station Of The year

Sponsored by PPL



Male Presenter Of The Year
Female Presenter Of The Year

Sponsored by PRS for Music



Best Newcomer
Recognising Innovation

Sponsored by Broadcast Radio



Station Promotion

Sponsored by Smile!

And...

Best Speech Package
Special Event
The John Witney Award

**See the full list of nominations on our website,
www.hbaurk.com/awards.**

GOOD LUCK TO ALL NOMINEES



KIM LELIEVRE ON CONFERENCE

THOUGHTS FROM A HOSPITAL RADIO VOLUNTEER

I think the annual conference and awards are a fantastic way to feel part of what we do as a Volunteers for Hospital Radio. It is very rewarding and great fun to get involved with.

Even if you're not nominated and are coming along to support a fellow colleague, it's a truly fantastic way to meet others who share the same passion, who's wish is to put the patients first, and deliver them support through their stay in hospital.

It really makes you feel part of a huge part of this wonderful organisation. I personally have not attended the teaching seminars, but again it is a great way to learn, and bring everyone together to enjoy the experience.

If this year is your first year, it won't be your last, it's a great weekend, filled with pride to be doing something for others. Take your best dresses or suits and enjoy the food, entertainment, and get to meet so many like-minded people all in one place! One jam-packed weekend all about doing what we already love doing.

Send Your Stories to **ON AIR**

To have your story published in future editions of our On Air magazine you can:

email: onair@hbauk.com

tel: 0300 121 0522

[Submit them via our online form - Click Here.](#)

