

# ON AIR



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Sunday 14th October 2007

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Guilfest 2007

**Issue No. 119**

**November/December 2007**

*Seasons Greetings to all our Readers*

**HBA**<sup>TM</sup>  
HOSPITAL BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION

# A First Class Return To Leeds

The 2008 Spring conference returns to the Queens Hotel in Leeds, the venue of the 2004 Spring Conference. The hotel has since been extensively refurbished, at a cost of over £10 million, reinstating many of the original Art Deco features that would have been present when the hotel was built in 1937. The rooms too have been extensively upgraded, with all rooms now of "executive" standard.

The conference will run from 28<sup>th</sup> March to 30<sup>th</sup> March and will feature the 2008 National Hospital Radio Awards ceremony on the Saturday night. There will also be a varied selection of seminars, a trade show and the traditional Friday Night Quiz. We are aiming to produce a selection of visits that is a little out of the ordinary, some of which have never been offered at conferences before.



Residential bookings are now open and will close on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2008. But don't wait until then. Last time we came to Leeds we had to turn people away because we ran out of rooms, so send us your booking form and secure your place today. Booking forms can be obtained from the HBA website [www.hbauk.com](http://www.hbauk.com) or from Marie Harper, e-mail [conferences@hbauk.com](mailto:conferences@hbauk.com) or telephone 0870 321 6017.





**The Official Journal of the  
Hospital Broadcasting Association**

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**FRONT COVER STORY:**

Award winning writer/  
comedian Sandi Toksvig  
visited Radio Lion's studios in  
Guildford in October.  
See full report on page 11.



hi everyone,

Welcome to the last issue of On Air for 2007. There's plenty to read in this issue thanks to all of you who sent in reports and pictures. Why not see your station in print; all you need to do is either email me the report as a Word document and send the pictures as either tifs or jpps or pop the photographs and report in the post at the address below, and I'll do the rest.

You will also find memories of the Newport Conference together with Diane Clarke's tongue in cheek report on the Go karting event.

If you need to pass your copy of On Air to another member of your station before you have read it from cover to cover, don't forget you can find the complete magazine on the HBA website.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all Seasons Greetings and I look forward to hearing from you on how your station celebrated the festive season.

Michelle

**DIARY DATES**

15th December 2007

Closing Date for entries for the  
National Hospital Radio Awards  
28th-30th March 2008

Leeds

**SPRING CONFERENCE 2008**

Blackpool

**SPRING CONFERENCE 2009**

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Address for On-Air: The Editor, On Air, 2 Falkland Close, Boreham, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 3DD

Tel: 0870 321 6011 Fax: 0870 321 6019 Email: [onair@hbauk.com](mailto:onair@hbauk.com)

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# Committee Report

## Annual General Meeting

Thank you to the 29 stations who sent representatives to the HBA AGM last Saturday and to the 14 stations who exercised their new right to attend by proxy.

The meeting approved a resolution 'to authorise the Executive Committee to work towards re-structuring the Association, with a separate Board of Trustees and re-formed Executive Committee, as soon as practicable', with 37 votes for and 1 vote against. The EC will now work towards having a new governing document ready for approval at next year's AGM.

By the closing date, there were only five nominations for election to the EC. The meeting appointed these five people (Julie Cox, Dave Lockyer, Phil Moon, June Snowden and myself). At an Executive Committee meeting held later that day, further appointments were made, in accordance with the Articles of Association, to address some of the vacancies created by the lack of nominations ahead of the AGM.

As a result, the Trustees of the Association are now:

- Chief Executive - Phil Moon (Radio DGH, Eastbourne)
- Deputy Chief Executive - Iain Lee (Scunthorpe HR)
- President - June Snowden (York HR)
- Treasurer - Julie Cox (Radio Witham, Grantham)
- Secretary - Nigel Dallard (Winchester HR)
- Regional Manager - Dave Lockyer (Valley Park Radio, Dartford) and two vacancies.

In addition, the Trustees appointed Sean Dunderdale (from Scunthorpe HR) as PR Manager but not as a Trustee, as Article 41 of HBA's governing document requires that each Trustee is a bona fide member of a different member station.

Further discussions regarding the Trustee vacancies are due to take place at the EC meeting on 17th November.



by Nigel Dallard, Secretary

## The Future of the Association

By the time you read this, the formal consultation period for 'The Future of the Association' paper will have ended. The number of responses received at the time of writing is very disappointing. I hope that I will receive some more responses in the remaining few days.

The Association is here to support and represent member stations. It is, therefore, important that you tell the EC what you feel about what the HBA is doing today and what you think we should be doing tomorrow.

We will certainly take on board the comments that we have received but we will also have to assume that the vast majority of stations are broadly happy with what the Association is doing and the direction in which the EC are heading.

Even though the formal consultation has finished, the EC is always interested in hearing your comments about what the HBA is doing – good or bad, just so long as they are constructive!

## The Future of Hospital Radio

During our Autumn conference in Newport, Bethan Wilkins-Jones and Tamsin Long of the Charity Commission came along to explain some of the Charity Law issues that Trustees of hospital radio stations need to consider when considering how to react to changes within the NHS.

Perhaps your hospital is closing, or at least shrinking considerably in size; perhaps it is merging with other hospitals that already have their own hospital radio station; perhaps a brand-new hospital is being built. In all these cases, as Trustees of a charity, you will need to carefully consider what options are open to you according to your constitution and Charity Law. Bethan and Tamsin ran through some of the options available to you and some of the things you need to consider.

The presentation is now available for download from our website – login, go to Support and then Support Downloads. You will also find our guidance regarding internet broadcasting in the same location.

I would like to thank Bethan and Tamsin for taking time out of their weekend to come and talk to us and for the time they took beforehand in preparing for the presentation. They even went so far as to take specific legal advice from a Commission lawyer.

If you have any specific questions arising from the presentation, please contact me. If I can't answer them, I can put you in touch with Bethan and Tamsin.

## National Hospital Radio Awards and Spring Conference 2008

Don't forget that the closing date for the 2008 National Hospital Radio Awards is 15th December. You can find full details are on the website.

The Awards ceremony will take place at the Queen's Hotel in Leeds, during our Spring Conference.

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Tel: 0870 321 6011 Email: [onair@hbauk.com](mailto:onair@hbauk.com)

**COPY DATE NEXT ISSUE 16th December, 2007**

# Newport Conference and AGM





# Hilton Hotel, Newport 19th-21st October 2007



## Go Karting?

### 'UNTO THE BREACH DEAR FRIENDS'

she cried, waving her wooden leg.

It was dark and I was tired and getting more apprehensive by the minute. I wasn't alone, there must have been about thirty of us, mostly men and they were trying hard to cover up their nervousness with the usual male method of joshing one another.

Some had had this experience before and had somehow got themselves in the firing line again. These, who had survived a previous onslaught tried hard to strut bravely rather than shuffle like the rest of us. I suppose they wanted to show that it was possible to come through relatively unscathed although who knows what scars lay hidden beneath the Autumn coats and scarves.

Ahead of us was a stark and menacing building, carelessly lit by garish neon signs. The words meant nothing to me. We tramped through a narrow door to be confronted by what seemed to be a shabby reception area ablaze with lights, obviously calculated to blind and confuse us after the long journey and the trudge through the darkened streets of this foreign place.

A blonde, hard faced woman was ordering us to do something in a voice with such a heavy foreign accent few of us could understand a single word. Then a tallish man stepped forward from our ranks to the plain wooden desk behind which she stood and picked up a cheap pen. Glancing round at the rest of us, standing there like rabbits in headlights, he explained that we all had to identify ourselves and absolve the authorities of all liability should we succumb to the fate that lay behind the thick wooden doors from behind which came the unearthly growl of man-eating animals baying for our blood. Oh, there was a blast of loud music alright but it only added to the terrifying cacophony of sound.

Solemnly and silently apart from an occasional whisper we queued and signed our lives away.

How had I ever sunk so low as to get herded together with such a motley crew. Had I committed some appalling crime which now I could not remember? Only a few of these faces



The winning team

were even vaguely familiar, perhaps they had been rounded up from the same village as me. I could not be sure.

Next we were ordered up crude metal stairs, really no more than a fire escape. By now I wasn't apprehensive any more, I was terrified and wished as a last gesture of civilisation that I had managed to stuff a clean pair of knickers into my pocket. But I hadn't, so the choice was to clench or disgrace myself. Even if I was about to die the thought of being found wearing anything but clean knickers added to the horror, but I clenched, Oh Lord yes, I clenched.

At the top of the stairs and through a heavy door which shut with a decided wallop behind the last of us, of whom I was very nearly the one. It was not that I wanted to be the hindmost but neither did anyone else, people were actually pushing to get through that door driven by pride and a last gasp of bravado.

It was dark in there and yet, as our eyes became accustomed to the gloom we became aware just how cavernous it was. The deafening roar of hungry animals boomed echoing off the high walls and ceiling and the sickening stench of them raked our throats. Some coughed. My nose and eyes watered.

Then the atmosphere began to change, some almost seemed eager to get into the fray, to face the challenge and dice with death and chance the heroism of survival. I was not one. But my name was called, mercifully not for

the first bunch of victims but it meant I was going to be forced to stand and watch their fate before my own. As I shuffled forward I was astonished to see that one of our own, an authoritative woman was now in charge. Her face gave nothing away but obviously she was not going to





brook any dissent or suggested change of order. She did not smile.

All too soon it was our turn. About ten of us, dressed identically in overalls, balaclavas, pimply rubber gloves and crash helmets was all we had to protect us as we were sent into the fray. The roaring had partially subsided and I prayed that with any luck the beasts were satiated by their first taste of blood. We were separated and forced into individual machines that rendered some of us, and me in particular, hopelessly undignified.

My last moment had come and I could not see a familiar face. Now I was really frightened. The small machines stood impatiently in a queue. Burly men hovered nearby until, on the order of the leader, they sprang at us and my fear became filtered by the realisation that the awful growling was not by fearsome animals but by these dreadful machines. The man pushed his face at me and shouted something unintelligible through my visor.

It was up to me now. I had to escape. No one was going to help me. I hadn't understood quite what I was expected to do but the primeval instinct for survival gripped me. I slammed my foot down on a piece of metal on the floor of machine because it reminded me of an accelerator and because the machine in front of me had shot away indecently fast. And so did I.

Immediately there was danger, I wrenched the small steering wheel to the right on a sharp bend and felt the sinews in my shoulders crack. I couldn't go on. But ahead of me was another bend and I was conscious of other cars rushing up behind me. Because indeed, cars were what they were. Nothing you'd see on the M25 of course but cars of a sort nevertheless.

This was my escape vehicle, I daren't be last in case the doors were slammed shut before I had got through. Up and down and round I went and to my horror realised I had gone blind, a thick fog enveloped all before me. On a relatively straight stretch I threw up my visor and miraculously my sight was restored. Now every muscle in my body was screaming at me to stop but I had to go on, driven by desperation and an overwhelming desire not to be last. These were not my friends, these fiends who shrieked past me, squealing round corners and racing away into the gloom.



## WINNERS AND LOSERS

Left: Iain Lee receives his prize for the fastest lap while on the right Dave Lockyer is awarded the trophy for the slowest lap. Just hope you don't get involved in any high speed car chases!

Gradually reality dawned. I wasn't heading for the exit and freedom in the cool night air. I was going round in circles. I was a rat in a trap. A hamster in an ever revolving drum. And a grimace forced its way into my face as I recalled what was said to happen if one went round in ever decreasing circles, something to do with ending in a loud bang.

One of the gaulers was flagging me down. I had failed. I was finished. I was about to be shot. I ran out of steam in the same place I had started. They were smiling now as they helped me to stand and scramble away, well they would wouldn't they? Another lamb to the slaughter.

Shakily I followed the other doomed anonymous figures. We were ordered to undress. Everyone took off their overalls, etc. I misunderstood and took off everything. Hair flattened and face streaked with sweaty mascara I was just glad to be alive.

The woman behind the desk looked far less like my old headmistress now, she seemed almost kindly. And then I realised that people were actually laughing and talking, joking and joshing. Was this the final hysterical outburst of the condemned men?

The doors swung open and we tumbled out into the same deserted street. This test of 'derring do' had been passed. We were free. I fell into the all-embracing arms of the minibus and was driven safely home.

I shall never know how I got embroiled in such a foolhardy mission. I didn't know what it proved except that I should have known better.

Except, except, except, I found myself unable to stop smiling and was filled with an infinite sense of personal triumph.

Diane Clarke





## Good Neighbour Award



Weston General Hospital's Sunshine Hospital Radio has won first prize in this year's North Somerset Good Neighbour Awards. The radio station received £200 from North Somerset Council Chairman, Cllr David Shopland. The awards are sponsored by take-away company Miss Millie's Fried Chicken and organised in conjunction with North Somerset Council and were judged by a panel of Councillors and officers from the Council. The Awards were created to recognise achievement by groups working in the local community within North Somerset. The awards incorporate the Brightest School in North Somerset competition, operated in the county by Miss Millies for many years.

Sunshine Hospital Radio's PR officer Marcus Tripp said, 'We are delighted to have won this award and the funds will go towards helping us to introduce a CD collection and storage facilities to replace the rather well used and tired records we use for responding to patient requests. A new CD collection will give us a better quality and selection of music and will free up much-needed space in our studio'.

Ann Walker, managing director of Miss Millie's Fried Chicken, said, 'There was an excellent range of entries for this year's awards and the judges had a tough job. However, they were unanimous in recognising the very worthwhile work of Sunshine Hospital Radio'.

The Newport Conference Sunday morning trip  
Just before our splendid tour of Cardiff complete with driver (with tie) and guide (with red top) at the front. Thanks to Don Bannister for the photograph



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# What I've Learnt

Matthew Hulbert

Vice Chairman of Castle Mead Radio

## Have a Love for Music



If there's one thing I've learned in my ten years in hospital radio (which I've very recently celebrated ... 'Happy Birthday To Me!') it's that a love for music is essential.

At least if you're a music presenter (I accept that if, like me, news is your thing then a large knowledge of the latest tunes might not be top of your priority).

Doing hospital radio has let me listen to a variety of different music; from pop, to classical, to (light) rock, etc.

This has been a great education.

I know all of us involved in this great pastime will know someone (at least one but often many more people) who have almost an encyclopaedic knowledge of music, from the Beatles to Beyonce and beyond.

In the case of Castle Mead Radio in Hinckley, Leicestershire, where I'm the Vice Chairman, the names of such people are Mike Leavy and Ian Smith.

I tug at their respective forelocks, sip from their cup of knowledge and bask in the reflective glow.

Now, I have a confession to make.

I'm a huge fan of cheesy pop from Kylie and Jason, to Steps to Justin Timberlake (not that he'd probably like to be included in that grouping).

And, I'm proud of it.

After all, these are the people who sell (or in the past have sold) huge numbers of records and appeal to wide demographics.

But, in recent years, my tastes have become more eclectic and now the likes of Coldplay, Keane, James Morrison, James Blunt and others are prominent on my MP3 player.

I hope to continue learning and listening and enjoying and, I hope, passing that love of music onto our wonderful listeners.

# OBITUARY

## Paddy Rea



On a warmly lit and brightly coloured Autumn day, Paddy's hearse arrived silently at the Downs Crematorium in Brighton where he was carried reverentially up the few steps and into the chapel, his coffin covered in a plain blue cloth emblazoned at one corner with the Sussex Police Insignia.

His death had been sudden and totally unexpected. And it is impossible to say just how many people wished to pay respect to and mourn this remarkably likeable man but an estimate of four hundred would not be far off the mark. There were so many of us that even when the chapel was packed full the crowd standing outside hardly seemed to have diminished.

Paddy had been a professional footballer, a policeman and one of four men who created the radio station Uckfield f.m. Paddy had joined the Police Service as long ago as 1964. He gave 31 years of unbroken service as a police officer and then rejoined the Force as a member of police staff in 1995. Given his passion and talent for community radio, first with hospital radio in Haywards Heath and later as a stalwart of Uckfield f.m., he was a natural choice when an opportunity came to join the police team at H.Q. as a press officer.

Paddy received a Royal Humane Society award in 1969 for a rescue at sea.

A close police colleague said, 'I hope that those near and dear to Paddy may feel some comfort by knowing that he was so well liked as a human being, so well respected as a professional and so well admired as a friend'.

This much loved, affable, energetic and gently humorous man has left a huge gap at Uckfield f.m. Everyone involved with the station offers their heartfelt condolences to his widow Sharon and children Kelly, Natalie, Martyn and Kirsten.

Diane Clarke

# RADIO CHERWELL

**Hospital Radio in Oxford  
Celebrating 40 years  
1967 - 2007**

What do BBC Radio 1 and Oxford's Hospital Radio Station Radio Cherwell have in common? They both commenced broadcasting forty years ago in September.

To celebrate its 40th anniversary, Radio Cherwell held an open day on Sunday 30th September 2007, inviting old members, new members and the general public to come along for a studio tour and find out a little bit more on what Radio Cherwell is all about.

Special guests also attended the Open Day; these included Paul Sysum, previous Chief Executive of the HBA and Emma Sysum; Steve Martin, Programme Controller of Radio Broadland and the first Radio Cherwell chairman, John Simpson.

The day consisted of special shows organised by membership secretary Kevin Crouch, which included interviews with old members and special guests, studio tours for everyone, as well as a buffet running all day, which was organised by Fundraising Officer Ted Bown.

But it wasn't just the Open Day which helped Radio Cherwell celebrate its 40th anniversary because they also had a three part series on BBC Radio Oxford highlighting the history of hospital radio in Oxford, as well as the history of hospital radio in the UK.

The show, which ran for three weeks from 9 until 10pm on Sunday nights, aimed to showcase the years Radio Cherwell has been broadcasting, in the form of archive clips and interview with current and past members.

The first show highlighted the early days of Radio Cherwell and hospital radio in the UK while the second show featured Radio Cherwell's time in the eighties. The final show gave an insight into what the station has planned for the future, as well as what it is currently doing now.

In all of the shows, listeners to BBC Radio Oxford were given the opportunity to get in contact and air their views on hospital radio.

The shows also included interviews with Steve Martin, Programme



Controller of Radio Broadland, Steve Orchard of Group Operations Director for GCAP Media Plc, Geoff Hedge from Newsquest Oxfordshire and BBC Radio Oxford and South Today's sports reporter Jerome Sale.

The show was presented by current Radio Cherwell member and BBC Radio Oxford presenter Mark Watson and the current Radio Cherwell Chairman, Neil Stockton and was produced by the membership of Radio Cherwell, who dug deep to find archive clips, perform interviews with past members. They then sent them to Neil and Mark for editing and inclusion in the programme.

It was the enthusiasm of the Radio

Cherwell membership as well as Neil Stockton and Mark Watson, that made the series on BBC Radio Oxford such a huge success and it was an excellent way to celebrate forty years of Radio Cherwell being on the airwaves.

Members who attended the shows at BBC Radio Oxford were also treated to a 'mini tour' of the studios, including the radio studio in which the show was broadcast in and BBC Oxford's South Today studios.

Radio Cherwell certainly celebrated its 40th anniversary in style and it's with the dedication of its current membership, past members, Chairman and special guests, who made it an anniversary to remember!



## *A Roaring Success for the Literary Lions*

There was much excitement at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford during October as Radio Lion hosted its first mini literary festival. The event coincided with Radio Lion's launch of its extended broadcasting service to 24/7 so there was plenty to celebrate!

The weekend kicked off with a visit to the Radio Lion studios from award winning writer/comedian/broadcaster Sandi Toksvig. Radio Lion's Andrew Jupp interviewed Sandi whilst Radio Lion's Celia Ebdon kept local press at bay.

Sandi paid tribute to the work carried out by the Radio Lion team describing their role in the hospital as 'absolutely critical'.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sunday saw the hospital's first live literary broadcast from the foyer, organised by Mike Webb and produced by Programme Controller Gareth Wakefield. The Radio Lion team turned out in force. Wards were visited to invite patients and visitors to listen via headsets or join in the activities in the foyer, guests were welcomed by Mandy Worrall, including the Mayor of Guildford, the Dean of Guildford Cathedral, MP Anne Milton, and theatre critic and BBC broadcaster Jeff Thomson.

Dan Holt ensured the technical smooth running of a live broadcast while Radio Lion broadcasters presented an exciting variety of group discussions on topics ranging from celebrity cook books to poetry, with readings and live music between each feature.

Sarah Sysum and Angie Boxall acted as anchor presenters as discussions flowed between presenters and guests who were situated in the foyer 'café style', seated at various tables and on the Radio Lion sofa.

Radio Lion owe a huge debt of thanks to Café Ritazza who rearranged their café area to accommodate the event and donated all sales of drinks to Radio Lion throughout the event.

Meanwhile, other Radio Lion volunteers were busy raising vital funds by collecting loose change in buckets and Celia took charge of the Radio Lion book stall.

Chairman Shelagh Godwin said, 'The literary event was a tremendous team effort, much appreciated by patients and a real example of how Radio Lion plays a key role in bringing a flavour of the outside of the community into the hospital.'

Programme Controller, Gareth added, 'we scheduled the event to run in tandem with the October Guildford Book Festival so it really was very topical. It was such a hit that I hope it will become a permanent feature in our newly extended programming schedule.'

'As ever, it was only made possible by the enthusiastic dedication of the Radio Lion team so my thanks to them for making it such a resounding success'.

Further details and pictures of the event, as well as a chance to listen to the interview with Sandi Toksvig, can be found at [www.radiolion.org](http://www.radiolion.org).

Sharon Bennett  
Hospital Radio Lion



# Wanderings from Wycombe

Wycombe Hospital Radio is now forty years old and since the introduction of the Patientline system in 1992 we have generally had a good relationship with their management team helped by their engineer who joined the radio station. When our local football team had a run of success in the Carling Cup last season, with commentary by our sports team from the games with Charlton in the quarter final at The Valley and with Chelsea in the semi-final at Stamford Bridge, I found we were top of the list beating Radio Five Live who also provided commentary in the process! Subsequently we opened a 24/7 service in July and the monthly figures since show an increasing awareness of our service as we climbed from 9th place in July to 5th place in September just behind ITV 1, BBC 1, Channel 4 and BBC 2. Our initial reaction was one of success bearing in mind we have no ward visitors nor request programmes unless listeners call us and only two regular, occasionally three evening programmes a week. We have little publicity in the hospital except on the ground floor of the main entrance so it seems our audience is showing their appreciation by using the fingers on their channel select buttons. But if there are four or so empty beds, about 1% of our potential audience, were tuned to us for every hour of every day of the month, we would meet our total monthly hours which Patientline have recorded without anyone actually listening, so we must not get too excited.

We have an 'as live' daily breakfast show for three hours from 7am, a live lunchtime show for two hours, five days a week and a sports show for three hours on Saturdays otherwise our audience appears to like the Myriad selection! The problem is that like most stations we are always looking for new members and more help to enhance our sports programmes.

We're not planning to introduce request programmes at present but will look at the possibility of some evening shows as our

membership increases. Looking at the figures for TV viewing, these appear to show that patients watch TV in the evening and listen to us during the day. The combined TV viewing accounts for some 35,000 hours a month! Overnights are good when, to ensure darkness in the wards, the TV is turned off by Patientline and we have a strong listenership.

Anyway that's our story; we are, as you can guess, very happy at the moment but we don't stand still as we are planning to bring our sister hospital eight miles away at Amersham on line shortly and extend our output to other areas of the Wycombe Hospital where as yet we cannot be heard. The Amersham studio should come on line sometime this year with local people providing an opt-out service to the 20 or so beds in that hospital. Wycombe remains our current base but the future is insecure as we are told that the current building we are in needs to be replaced sometime soon!

Our local football team, Wycombe Wanderers, are in Division 2 and we have established good relations with the team as they allow us to broadcast a full commentary of every home game using our ISDN link. They share the ground with the Wasps rugby team but because of their success there is limited space for all the media who wish to cover their matches, so we don't have a press pass but we keep trying. We provide pre-match music in the car park and food and drink area now and then and are sometimes paid but otherwise we raise funds by playing record requests to supporters as they sip their Magners or Guinness!

Like Southampton we can hopefully soon to offer a commentary on home games to any other radio station who's team maybe playing away. We are planning to install broadband very soon and we maybe able to offer a feed. Alternatively you could use the second port of the ISDN.

Chris Phillips , Chairman WHBA



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# Caffyns Sponsor Hospital Radio

Caffyns Vauxhall and Chevrolet in Tunbridge Wells have become the latest local business to support the work of Hospital Radio Tunbridge Wells. Caffyns have become the station's music sponsor, by providing funds to enable the charity station to buy two new songs each week, one of which is featured on their programmes as the Single of the Week and to enable the team to play more patient requests.

Station Manager, Diane Clarke said, 'We are very pleased Caffyns have agreed to support us, whilst many patient requests are still for old classics by people such as Jim Reeves, Frank Sinatra and the Beatles, we are getting an increasing number of requests for more modern artists, such as Enrique Inglesias, Take That and Mika, so it's important that we have the funds available to buy new songs each week and keep our record library up to date'.

The station serves the patients in the Kent & Sussex and Tonbridge Cottage Hospitals. The programmes can also be heard online via the station's website at [www.hrtw.org.uk](http://www.hrtw.org.uk) for those people recovering at home or for friends and relatives to listen and enjoy the requests they have made for loved ones in the hospitals.

The station, which has been running since 1961, has a large record and CD library with over 68,000 titles in it, to try and fulfill all the requests it receives.

During a presentation at the radio



station to confirm the sponsorship, Chris Loveys, General Sales Manager of Caffyns Vauxhall and Chevrolet in Tunbridge Wells said it gave the company great pleasure to help a local good cause such as Hospital Radio and they looked forward to a long and mutually successful working relationship between Caffyns Vauxhall and Chevrolet and Hospital Radio'.

The support of Caffyns will be acknowledged when the station plays The Single Of The Week throughout its programmes. Tony Finn, Projects Officer,

said it is encouraging local businesses are willing to support HRTW.

HRTW are always in need of additional members, so if anyone interested, please contact the station on 01892 528528 or via the website [www.hrtw.org.uk](http://www.hrtw.org.uk).

People are needed for request collecting, presenting shows, fundraising and many other tasks.

Pictured: Hospital Radio Tunbridge Wells Station Manager Diane Clarke with Chris Loveys General Sales Manager of Caffyns Tunbridge Wells.

## Cricket Week Coverage in Tunbridge Wells



In June, Hospital Radio Tunbridge Wells covered the town's Cricket Week Festival as Kent's County Cricket team took part in matches against Yorkshire, Hampshire and Gloucestershire at the Nevill Ground. For the second year the station was given permission to send a team along to the three matches to provide ball-by-ball commentary. In addition to providing the service to the hospitals, the commentaries were made available to listeners online via their website.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council supported the team by sponsoring the online coverage and donated £200 to cover the costs involved. This year, the team led by Chris Woodward was given a prime spot in the main pavilion to do the commentaries. Chris was joined by Tim Godsalve and Chris Reed at the ground, whilst at the studio Tim Addicott, Will Dunn and Chris Manser monitored the feed and kept listeners up to date with other cricket scores and information during the

breaks in play throughout the matches.

Over the course of the week, 418 listeners tuned into the online broadcast, which aggregated a figure of 25 days worth of output streamed in just eight days. The peak days were the first and last days with a simultaneous listener peak of 27 on the last day. This was an especially good result as BBC Radio Kent were also broadcasting this match online.

Listeners tuned in from around the world from countries you would never expect had an interest in cricket including Sweden, Switzerland, Israel, USA and Russia. The cricketing nations were also represented in the shape of Australia, India and, of course, England.

The station is continuing to broadcast its normal programmes online but these are limited to the UK only; it is proving to be a valuable addition to the station's activities, with increased awareness, more potential new members and the ability to continue entertaining patients when they leave hospital and go home to recuperate.

## TURNING THE TABLES



Radio Clatterbridge has turned the tables on one of its founder members. Don Farmer was one of the original boys to bring music into Clatterbridge Hospital, Wirral, in the early 1950s.

Now Don is a patient in the hospital but Linda Bonner, a ward visitor at the station, sparked a few memories when she showed him a scrapbook of the Port Sunlight Boys' Club. Don and the other boys would visit patients asking them which tunes they would like to hear.

He says the club had no music of its own, so the boys would take the requests and then go home to see who had what. They would then return, clutching a handful of vinyl discs and a portable record player and play the patients their requests at their bedside!

The service eventually became Radio Clatterbridge and 56 years later, it is still going strong. Playing patients' requests remains a priority – albeit now by more conventional methods!

Don was the nearest member of the club to live by the hospital, so would inevitably get to play a lot of his own records. His favourite, incidentally, was Al Jolson's 'Climb Up On My Knee Sonny Boy'. It would be interesting to find out what Robbie Williams, currently Radio Clatterbridge's most requested singer, would think of that.

## NORTH MIDDLESEX CELEBRITY XI v BUNBURY CC

On a day dedicated to 'Building for Babies', stars from sport and screen were promised for a celebrity cricket match at North Middlesex's cricket ground and that was what was delivered. Among the celebrities to turn out were Arsenal legends, Alan Smith and Lee Dixon; former football manager, Joe Kinnear; former England cricket stars, Mark Saggers and Sid Lawrence; Talk Sport presenter, Andy

Jacobs; Rudolph Walker (Patrick from EastEnders) and Harry Judd, McFly's drummer. Lloyd Honeghan made an appearance but couldn't play because of a bad back. Cliff Parisi (Minty in EastEnders) turned up but was content to sign autographs and socialise in the bar.

There was a footballing skills session with plenty of local kids benefiting from the tuition, a junior cricket match with proud dad, Yorkshire cricket captain and Strictly Come Dancing champion Darren Gough, looking on as his lad participated. A martial arts display included breaking breeze blocks and wood with bare hands and a weapons and bare hands sparring demonstration.

A great family day out. The Pavilion hosted the event and served food and drink well past the final over. A sporting memorabilia auction raised plenty of cash with an Ian Wright signed shirt going for £250.

The sun shone and throughout the day London Network Radio provided the PA. Not even a mini sand storm dented the dedication of LNR's members. The team gathered sound bites from the participants of main cricket match, which will be broadcast to the hospital in the future.

## HARROGATE HR CELEBRATES 30 YEARS



Harrogate Hospital Radio has celebrated a significant milestone – 30 years of broadcasting. The charity, based in the town's district hospital, first went on air on October 22, 1977, with one turntable, one microphone and one reel to-reel tape recorder.

Now, with a membership of nearly 50 ranging in age from 16 to 80, HHR has two dedicated studios, state-of-the-art equipment and is looking to expand into a third room for its library collection and computers.

To mark the occasion, HHR enjoyed a reception in the hospital for members, dignitaries, sponsors and those who have helped it thrive over the past three decades.

Harrogate Hospital Radio chairman Bill Caw said. 'Harrogate Hospital Radio is a resounding success story. In

terms of equipment and studio facilities we have come an awfully long way. What hasn't changed is our policy of putting out request shows for patients and their families.

'The last few months we have been the most listened to radio station in the hospital, so our listeners obviously like what they are hearing.

'I'm extremely proud to be the chairman of this wonderful organisation and all it stands for. And thanks to the support it receives, both financially and in-kind, I know it will continue to go from strength to strength.'

Pictured: Former HHR Chairmen Vince Willis and Pat Tootall cut the 30th anniversary cake. © Adrian Murray.

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY FOR KINGSTON

Kingston HR held their 50th anniversary Dinner Dance on September 29th at the Hawker Centre in Kingston. Guests of honour were June Snowden and the deputy Mayor of Kingston, Councillor Bart Ricketts. HBA 30year Awards were presented to Alan Baccolini and Steve Jones and a 25 year Award to Keith Chevalier.



Pictured: 1. KHR members enjoy the celebrations; 2. The KHR committee; 3. Keith Chevalier receives his 25 year award from June Snowden



## Conference Bursary

The HBA Conference Bursary was introduced in 1994 in memory of Brian Snowden, acknowledging his commitment to the Association and hospital radio. The bursary is now also dedicated to Ken Fulstow, George and Myra Burton, and Helen Hamilton, recognising their contributions to the Association.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?** – Applicants should be active volunteers within a Full Member of the HBA. The successful applicant usually has not previously attended a conference. We are unable to award bursaries to young persons under the age of 18 unless we receive written parental consent and an adult from the applicant's station is willing to accept responsibility for their welfare whilst attending conference.

**THE PURPOSE** – The bursary provides successful applicants with an opportunity to meet fellow hospital broadcasters, and to find out about the work of other stations and the HBA. HBA conferences provide a training opportunity through seminars and workshops, and enable delegates to network with fellow hospital broadcasters, providing insight into the wider aspects of hospital broadcasting and the national association.

Successful applicants are required to write a report on the conference for their station's management committee, with a copy provided to the HBA Treasurer within one month of the conference. The report should explain what the recipient learnt at conference, detail the best and least good things about the weekend, and suggest ideas that the station's management committee should consider implementing.

**WHAT DOES IT COVER?** – The bursary pays up to the residential costs for individual applicants to attend the full weekend conference. Applications for payment of travel costs will also be considered.

**HOW DO I APPLY?** – Applicants should complete Section 1 the attached form, and then obtain the endorsement of the Chairman (or another officer) of their station in Section 2. The completed form should be sent to Julie Cox, HBA Treasurer, 37 Alford Street, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 8BX, to be received at least twelve weeks before the conference to which the application refers.

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?** – Applications are judged on merit by the HBA's Conference Bursary Subcommittee, which consists of June Snowden, Julie Cox and Nigel Dallard. The full terms of reference of the subcommittee can be found on the members-only section of the HBA website, or are available on request. Applicants will be informed of the success or otherwise of their application at least 8 weeks before the conference. Successful applicants will be required to pay an amount equivalent to the deposit payable for the conference, such amount being repaid on the submission to the HBA Treasurer of a copy of their report on the conference.

**ARE APPLICANTS' NAMES PUBLISHED?** – HBA would prefer to be able to publicise the names of those in receipt of the bursary. We do, however, understand that applicants may be sensitive about this information being released. You can, therefore, request that your name remain confidential by ticking the appropriate box on the application form. We will, however, be obliged to release your name to the Charity Commission if they ask for it after reviewing our Annual Report and Accounts, even if you ask for it to remain confidential.

**PLEASE NOTE** – The decision of the Conference Bursary Subcommittee is final and no correspondence will be entered into. If it is deemed that all the applicants are inappropriate, the award may not be given. The attendance, as paying delegates, of other volunteers from the same HBA member will not affect an application, except that we are unable to make awards to young persons under the age of 18 who are attending conference unaccompanied by an adult.

**If you require further information or have any queries about the bursary, please contact the HBA Treasurer by telephone on 0870 321 6004, or by e-mail at [finance@hbauk.com](mailto:finance@hbauk.com).**

**HBA - supporting Hospital Broadcasting in the UK**

**For more information see [www.hbauk.com](http://www.hbauk.com), e-mail [info@hbauk.com](mailto:info@hbauk.com), or call 0870 321 6017.**

HBA is the trading name of the National Association of Hospital Broadcasting Organisations.  
Registered in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee (No. 2750147) and a charity (No. 1015501).  
Registered Office: Mariners House, 24 Nelsons Gardens, Hedge End, Southampton, SO30 2NE







## HBA Grants

The HBA Grants programme was introduced in 2006 following the Executive Committee's suggestion to PPL that a proportion of their donations to the Association in 2004 and 2005 be allocated for grants to member stations.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?** – Applications are restricted to Full Members of the HBA.

**THE PURPOSE** – The grants are intended to enable hospital broadcasting organisations to purchase equipment or other materials required by them which they are unable to afford to purchase from their own funds.

**HOW DO I APPLY?** – Applicants should identify the equipment or other materials that meet(s) their needs and should obtain a quotation (ideally more than one) for the supply. They should then complete the application form and send it, together with copies of the quotation(s), their constitution (or other governing document) and their latest annual report & accounts, to Dave Nicholson, HBA Vice President, East Cottage, Milbourne Hall, Milbourne, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE20 0EB.

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?** – Applications will be acknowledged on receipt. The subcommittee will meet bi-monthly to consider applications. As soon as possible after consideration, applicants will be informed as to the success or otherwise of their application. Successful applicants should expect to receive a cheque within 28 days of their application being granted. Copies of invoices confirming purchase of the equipment/materials should be forwarded to HBA within 6 months of the grant cheque being issued. Failure to provide such evidence of purchase may result in full repayment of the grant being requested.

Applications are judged on merit by the HBA's Grants Subcommittee, which consists of Dave Nicholson, John Harper, Dave Lockyer and a representative from PPL. If a conflict of interest arises between a member of the subcommittee and an application, the conflicted member will withdraw from discussions surrounding the particular application and, if necessary, further temporary members will be co-opted to the subcommittee. The full terms of reference of the subcommittee can be found on the members-only section of the HBA website, or are available on request.

**ARE DETAILS OF SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS PUBLISHED?** – HBA would like to maximise the publicity obtained, both local to the recipient of the grant and nationally, and would expect successful applicants to work closely with the HBA's Public Relations Manager to achieve this.

HBA would anticipate providing details of all grants made in its Annual Report and Accounts.

**PLEASE NOTE** – The decision of the Grants Subcommittee is final and no correspondence will be entered into. The subcommittee may, at its sole discretion, provide unsuccessful applicants with an indication as to why their application failed - for instance, applicants can expect to be informed if they failed to provide all necessary supporting paperwork, or their application was deemed ineligible in other ways. However, applicants should understand that the funds available are limited and not all applications that meet all the required criteria are likely to be funded.

**If you require further information or have any queries about the bursary, please contact Dave Nicholson by telephone on 0870 321 6016, or by e-mail at [vicepresident@hbauk.com](mailto:vicepresident@hbauk.com).**

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**For more information see [www.hbauk.com](http://www.hbauk.com), e-mail [info@hbauk.com](mailto:info@hbauk.com), or call 0870 321 6017.**

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## HBA Grant Application Form

To be completed by a member of the governing body of an HBA Full Member, with the full knowledge and approval of the governing body.

Name: .....

Position: .....

Hospital Broadcasting Organisation: .....

HBA Membership Number: .....

Address: .....

.....

E-mail: ..... Telephone: .....

On behalf of the above-named hospital broadcasting organisation, I would like to apply for an HBA Grant to cover the purchase of: .....

.....

The justification for this application is: .....

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(explain why your station needs the equipment/materials and how its purchase would benefit the station and/or its listeners in 200 words or less)

I have attached the following documentation in support of my application:














- ☐ Details of the equipment/materials to be purchased
- ☐ Quotation(s) for supply of the equipment/materials
- ☐ Copy of our station's constitution (or other governing document)
- ☐ Copy of our station's latest Annual Report and Accounts

I understand that any grant awarded is restricted to be applied for the purchase of the above-mentioned equipment/materials. I agree to supply HBA with proof of purchase within 6 months of a successful application, and I agree, on behalf of the above-named organisation, to reimburse HBA the full amount granted if the equipment/materials have not been purchased within this period.

Signed: .....



# Regional Reps details

REGION	REP	ADDRESS	PHONE	E-MAIL
<b>Regional Manager</b>	 Dave Lockyer	54 School Lane Higham Rochester Kent ME3 7JF	0870 321 6005	regions@hbauk.com
<b>Anglia</b>	 Julie Cox	37 Alford Street Grantham NG31 8BX	0870 765 9601	anglia@hbauk.com
<b>Home</b>	 Donald McFarlane	99 Hughenden Road High Wycombe Bucks HP13 5HT	0870 765 9602	homecounties@hbauk.com
<b>London</b>	 Ben Hart		0870 765 9603	london@hbauk.com
<b>Midlands</b>	 David Tysoe	51 Woodway Erdington Birmingham B24 0AH	0870 765 9604	midlands@hbauk.com
<b>North</b>			0870 765 9605	north@hbauk.com
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	 Davey Downes	19 Collingbridge Drive Glengormley Newtonabbey BT36 7SX	0870 765 9606	nireland@hbauk.com
<b>North West</b>	 David McGealy	40 Saffron Drive Moorside Oldham OL4 2PU	0870 765 9607	northwest@hbauk.com
<b>Scotland</b>			0870 765 9608	scotland@hbauk.com
<b>South</b>	 Neil Ogden	63 Franklin Avenue Tadley Hampshire RG26 4EZ	0870 765 9609	south@hbauk.com
<b>South East</b>	 Dave Abrey	14 Park Drive Ingatestone Essex CM4 9DT	0870 765 9611	southeast@hbauk.com
<b>Wales &amp; West</b>	 Steve Allen	12 Heol Poyston Caerau Cardiff CF5 5LKX	0870 765 9613	waleswest@hbauk.com
<b>Yorkshire</b>	 Iain Lee	37 The Meadows Messingham Scunthorpe DN17 3UD	0870 765 9614	yorkshire@hbauk.com

# Who to Contact on the Executive Committee



**Chief Executive Phil Moon**  
82 Greenleaf Gardens, Polegate,  
E Sussex BN26 6PH  
Tel: **0870 321 6000**  
e-mail: [chief@hbauk.com](mailto:chief@hbauk.com)  
Main contact with statutory bodies.  
Ambassadors



**Deputy Chief Executive Iain Lee**  
37 The Meadows, Messingham  
Scunthorpe DN17 3UD  
Tel: **0870 321 6014**  
e-mail: [deputychief@hbauk.com](mailto:deputychief@hbauk.com)  
Sub committee chairman.  
Special projects



**Treasurer Julie Cox**  
37 Alford Street, Grantham,  
Lincolnshire NG31 8BX  
Tel: **0870 321 6004**  
e-mail: [finance@hbauk.com](mailto:finance@hbauk.com)  
Financial matters (other than  
subscriptions)



**General Secretary Nigel Dallard**  
54 St. Annes Close, Badger Farm,  
Winchester, Hampshire SO22 4LQ  
Tel: **0870 321 6003**  
e-mail: [secretary@hbauk.com](mailto:secretary@hbauk.com)  
General correspondence, Company  
Secretary, annual review



**President June Snowden**  
P.O. Box 76, Ely, CB6 3WH  
Tel: **0870 321 6009**  
e-mail: [president@hbauk.com](mailto:president@hbauk.com)  
Station visits, represent HBA  
publicly, print and present long  
service certificates



**Regional Manager Dave Lockyer**  
54 School Lane, Hingham, Rochester,  
Kent ME3 7JF  
Tel: **0870 321 6005**  
e-mail: [regions@hbauk.com](mailto:regions@hbauk.com)  
Regional meetings, contacts, setting  
up a region etc.



**Acting Public Relations Manager Sean Dunderdale**  
183 Carlton Boulevard, Lincoln,  
Lincolnshire LN2 4WJ  
Tel: **0870 321 6008**  
e-mail: [publicrelations@hbauk.com](mailto:publicrelations@hbauk.com)  
Press and public relations,  
charity profile



**Programming Adviser Paul Easton**  
PO Box 729m Surbiton, Surrey KT58XF  
Tel: **0870 321 6002**  
e-mail: [programming@hbauk.com](mailto:programming@hbauk.com)  
Advice on programme content



**Technical Adviser Geoff Fairbairn**  
201 Hillbury Road, Warlingham CR6 9TJ  
Tel: **0870 321 6012**  
e-mail: [technical@hbauk.com](mailto:technical@hbauk.com)  
Technical matters



**Editor Michelle Newstead**  
2 Falkland Close, Boreham, Chelmsford,  
Essex CM3 3DD  
Tel: **0870 321 6011**  
e-mail: [onair@hbauk.com](mailto:onair@hbauk.com)  
On Air magazine



**Sales & Advertising Executive Mike Skinner**  
6 Batchelor Way, Uckfield, East Sussex  
TN22 2DD  
Tel: **0870 321 6026**  
e-mail: [advertising@hbauk.com](mailto:advertising@hbauk.com)  
All Corporate sales for HBA



**Webmaster Mark Venus**  
95 Barns Road, Ferndown, Dorset  
BH22 8XQR  
Tel: **0870 321 6018**  
e-mail: [webmaster@hbauk.com](mailto:webmaster@hbauk.com)  
Maintenance of HBA website



**Conference Bookings Marie Harper**  
50 Neale Street, Sunderland,  
Tyne & Wear SR6 9EZ  
Tel: **0870 321 6017**  
e-mail: [conferences@hbauk.com](mailto:conferences@hbauk.com)

## Membership Enquiries

Tel: **0870 321 6003**  
e-mail: [membership@hbauk.com](mailto:membership@hbauk.com)

## General Enquiries

Tel: **0870 321 6019**  
e-mail: [info@hbauk.com](mailto:info@hbauk.com)





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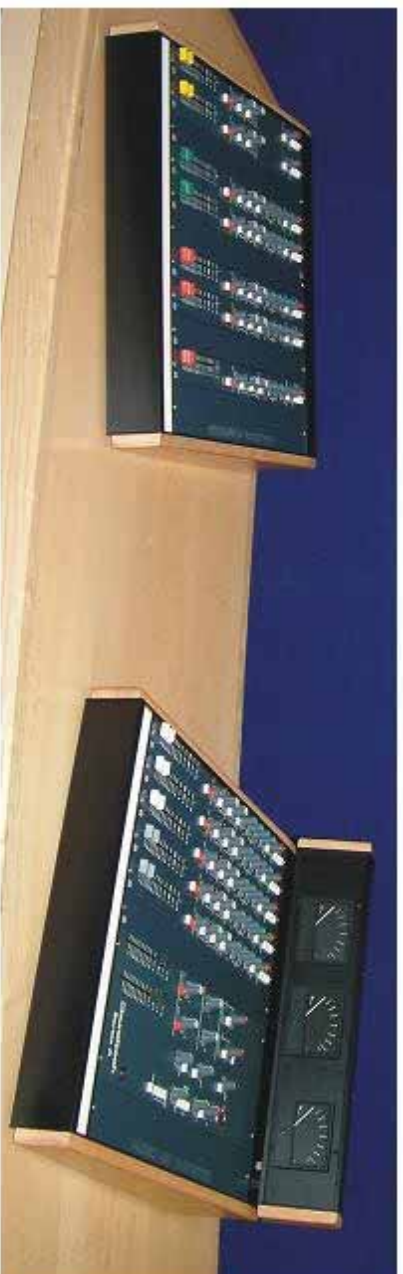
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