

ON AIR



*Issue 139
Autumn 2012*

HBA
Hospital Broadcasting Association

The Official Journal of the Hospital Broadcasting Association

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Autumn 2012

Issue 139

The Official Journal of the Hospital Broadcasting Association

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FRONT COVER STORY:

Olympic torch bearer Freya Shutteworth visited Radio Warneford's studios with her torch and spoke to the Monday night team about the fantastic experience of being part of the London 2012 relay; she then visited the Children's Ward where she met patients and their families and showed off the torch



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Hi Everyone.

Where has the summer gone? Obviously I blinked and missed it! Firstly, a request from Hereford Hospital Radio, who are celebrating their fortieth year of broadcasting in December and would like as many other HBA members involved as possible. They are running a 40 hour sponsored broadcast and would like stations to send in messages of support. Please do what you can to help. Contact them at ian@hhrstudio.co.uk

Secondly, have you bought any new studio equipment recently? Perhaps you would let other members know if it did what you wanted it to do, if you had any problems and also if you would recommend stations purchasing it.

Finally, in good time, in this issue you will find the National Hospital Radio Awards 2013 Entry Form and full details of the Awards. Get planning now, 14th December will be here sooner than you think.

Michelle

DIARY DATES

6th October, 2012

National Training Event

Stourport on Severn, Worcestershire

27th October, 2012

Scottish Regional Training Day

Livingston Mercure Hotel

2013 Conference, Blackpool

Hospital Broadcasting Week 2013

Saturday 23rd March to Sunday 31st March 2013

Our Ambassadors



Alan Dediccoat



Ken Bruce



Dr Chris Steele, MBE



Alex Lester

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Board Report

Regional Rep changes

At the recent Scottish Regional AGM, Brenda Massie was elected as Scottish Regional Rep succeeding Jim Simpson. Welcome aboard Brenda.

Unfortunately, for personal reasons, Tony Wilding and Luke Osborne have had to stand down as Midlands and Home Counties Regional Reps respectively.

If anyone from a station in the Midlands or Home Counties is interested in taking on the role, please contact Dave Lockyer (regions@hbauk.com, 0870 321 6005).

HBA Training Network

The 2012 national training event will take place in Stourport-on-Severn in Worcestershire on 6th October.

As usual, two parallel training sessions will be running. The first will, once again, be focussed on presentation and interview skills, led by Andy Carter, whose training was very well received last year in Leeds.

The second training session will be provided by representatives from P Squared and will focus on their popular Myriad playout and Autotrack scheduling systems.

The Scottish Region have also organised a training event to be held in Livingston on 27th October. It will focus on presentation and interview skills, led by Andy Carter.

Volunteers from any member station, anywhere in the UK, are welcome to attend this event.

More details about both these events are available from our website –

www.hbauk.com/training.

Future Strategy and Direction of the Association

Thanks to the 151 respondents to our membership survey on the HBA's future strategy and direction. The results are being analysed and considered by the



by Nigel Dallard, Secretary

Trustees. At our meeting on 15th September, we split the comments into six strategic areas and have formed working groups to consider and prepare reports on three of these areas ahead of our November meeting.

The remaining areas will be considered between November and January.

Liaison with Health Bodies

Ahead of the full analysis of the survey, the Trustees have created a committee specifically focussed on fostering a relationship with the various bodies which make up the health service across the UK. It is clear that this is one area where HBA has not spent enough effort; something that we are keen to address.

If you have any senior contacts in the NHS in any of the four nations, or in the government departments that oversee them, please contact Jim Simpson (chair@hbauk.com, 0870 321 6000).

Hospital Broadcasting Week

Another working group has been set up to focus on Hospital

Broadcasting Week. Next year, HBW will start with the Awards ceremony on Saturday 23rd March and finish on Easter Monday, 1st April. If you have any suggestions or would like to get involved with the planning of the week, please contact Jim Simpson (chair@hbauk.com, 0870 321 6000).

Bedside radios to be included in patient environment inspections

A new style of 'patient-led' inspections of the patient environment in English hospitals will be rolled-out from April, replacing the current self-assessments.

Following a proposal from HBA, for the first time, the provision of working bedside radio, television and telephone will be included in the assessment.

Hopefully, the fact that they are being scored on the availability of such facilities will encourage NHS Trusts to pay more attention to bedside entertainment systems.

Government Consultations

HBA has been busy recently responding to a number of consultations and submitting evidence to Parliamentary Committees. These include:

- Charity Commission consultations on the information it collects from and displays about charities and its Public Benefit requirements; and
- an HMRC consultation about the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS) that the government intends to introduce.

Following the HMRC consultation, the Small Charitable Donations Bill, which will allow HMRC to operate the GASDS, has been published and HBA has submitted evidence to the Committee, including the results of the survey I conducted of

Board Report

members' use of Gift Aid, highlighting HBA's concerns about small charities being blocked from making use of the GASDS.

HMRC are now consulting on the details of the implementation of the GASDS (even though the Bill has barely started going through Parliament) and HBA will likely be responding to that consultation in due course.

Lord Hodgson has also recently published his review of the Charities Act 2006 to which HBA submitted evidence.

The House of Commons Public Administration Select Committee subsequently announced that, following Lord Hodgson's report, it will inquire into the impact and implementation of the Act. Once again, HBA has submitted evidence to this Committee.

All HBA's responses to official consultations are available via the members-only section of the website. Government rules preclude us from publishing or circulating our evidence to Parliamentary Committees before the committee itself has published the evidence.

If you have a particular interest in government/parliamentary affairs, please contact Nigel Dallard (secretary@hbauk.com, 0870 321 6003).

Resignation of the Webmaster

Mark Venus, who took over as HBA's webmaster in 2005, has recently resigned due to other commitments, although he has agreed to care-take the website in the short term, whilst we seek his successor.

It's early days, but current thinking is to redevelop the site using an open-source content management system, customised to our specific needs.

If you have the necessary skills and time to devote to this important role, please contact Nigel Dallard (secretary@hbauk.com, 0870 321 6003).

In at the Deep End



One of the most important places I have ever been in is in the studio when I was being interviewed at the Hospital Radio Broadcasting Service in Glasgow one Sunday night after going round Beatson Ward collecting requests from the patients.

My father has to take me because I have no sight and need help going around the wards. I use my BrailleNote to collect requests and this is why I was interviewed, to let patients know how my BrailleNote works.

My friend Kimberly Quinn presents a show called The Open Line on a Sunday night and invited me to the show to talk about my BrailleNote. One of the things I will remember most is that I was not at all nervous, perhaps because I was with friends. I was very excited to be on live radio even though it was just hospital patients who could hear me. I talked about my BrailleNote and how it helped me collect requests and that I may not be able to keep it forever and the problems I could face if I cannot keep it. It made me feel proud to be in a studio as for quite a while I have been thinking about becoming a presenter.

Many presenters have influenced me, not just from Hospital Radio, although Kimberly has obviously been a very positive influence. I like presenters who

have personality and can be very funny, for example, Jill Daily from Insight Radio tells us what is going on with celebrities when she looks at Take a Break magazine. Once I went to Inside Radio to get some experience and everybody there was lovely and I learned a lot about how radio shows were operated and how equipment worked.

One presenter who has always attracted me to radio is Robin Galloway who used to work on the Breakfast Show. He would make prank calls to people, which I found amusing and I even tried this when I was at school but my friend had to do most of it as I could not control my laughter and felt silly putting on a strange voice. My sister was off school that day so we contacted her at home and said it was the truant officers. I also like that Robin Galloway spoke about stuff that had happened in his life that perhaps worried him but he could make funny comments about it. If I am ever to become a presenter, that is the kind of attitude I would like to have.

It felt so good to be in the studio talking to Kimberly on how I felt about issues such as leaving school. I guess another advantage to being a presenter is that when you are in the studio you can, for the most part, talk about whatever you wish. One blind presenter on Insight Radio said you should not hold yourself back if presenting is what you want to do although you may be frightened at times about going live, fears are things that have to be overcome.

Every Sunday night, after I have collected requests, I go back to the station to catalogue them into the computer and then they can be sent to Kimberly in the studio. Unfortunately I do not know much about the equipment in the studio yet but I am sure Kimberly would welcome me in any time to have a look. Everybody at hospital radio is very helpful and I think that helps make the place so special for me and the fact that I love my job so much.

Lauren Marsh

Obituary

Ena Montgomery

1929-2012



Ena Montgomery MBE, JP, a lady who devoted the majority of her life to hospital radio and broadcasting has finally decided that the time had come to join that remarkable hospital broadcasting station in heaven. We all know members of that notable station and now Ena is one!

Ena was singularly responsible as a former General Secretary of growing NAHBO/HBA into the significant charity it is today. Ena recruited station after station into the National Organisation – eventually in excess of over 340 radio stations.

Ena was unique – a Conference leader/matriarch and a valued friend to all – without Ena Conference would have been very dull. I am quite conscious that Ena, like a number of ‘old school’ individuals, hadn’t attended regularly. That being said it should never diminish the love, energy and enthusiasm that went before.

I was fortunate to have met Ena at the Jersey Hospital Radio Conference in 1978 – she was late arriving and she was annoyed! We remained firm friends; during my personal progress through hospital radio land to become HBA Chairman and then HBA’s National President, Ena was there advising, cajoling and ‘telling’. We talked regularly – our last conversation being just a few weeks ago – she wasn’t one who lost contact with valued friends.

I would suggest that Ena’s legacy to all (in this Olympic Year) is to carry the hospital radio torch high. The baton of the relay has been passed on to all who will carry it – to take hospital broadcasting forward to its highest level.

I know that many of you reading these few words will never have met or talked to Ena. Rest assured Ena represented each and every one of you at the very highest level even before some had even entered a hospital radio station. It’s now your turn to represent Ena.

Alan Grimadell
HBA’s first National President

Pictured: Dr Chris Steele presents Ena with her John Whitney Award

Steph Into the Unknown

Steph's First HBA Northampton Encounter!



I thoroughly enjoyed my very first experience of the HBA and valued every minute of the entire weekend. All of the members of the HBA committee congratulated me on my successful application and were very welcoming, helpful and gave me an insight and overview of the weekend from the start.

This was the first time that I have met other volunteers from other radio stations and I really enjoyed sharing stories and experiences of how our hospital radio paths started. It was fun to

hear how unique each person's story was and how they were connected to their station and how passionate they are about the work that they do!

This was a major eye opener for me as I was able to ask them about techniques, ideas or tips that I could use to enhance my broadcasting.

Many people that I had met became an inspiration as it was so amazing to hear how much time and hard work people contribute towards their station in all kinds of different circumstances and how they were still able to manage their role successfully and whole heartedly.

Attending the seminars such as 'Really' helped me to gain a better understanding of the statistics, different types of genres of music and listeners feedback of radio stations in general and I know that I will bear in mind these factors whilst playing requests or actually going to collect the requests from patients, for example 'if a gentleman in his late fifties requests a rock tune . Is he going to prefer some classic rock such as Bon Jovi or Meatloaf or some alternative indie rock such as Elbow or Keane.

I was also really intrigued to see what types of music appealed to

individuals in different life stages too.

The HBA Awards was a major eye opener for me; I never knew that there were so many hospital radio stations in the UK nor did I realize how many people were involved or how many people actually knew about hospital broadcasting.

It was a close competition within the Awards alone as each radio station is so unique and beams with strength, love and hard work from each volunteer.

The overall experience has enhanced my motivation in many ways. I have much more to consider whilst broadcasting to the patients to ensure that they are getting the best out of each show, their emotional and social needs are being met and how we can approach others better to help us to improve and allow Radio Hillingdon to be a station that our patients and listeners can always enjoy and be part of.

Thank you so much for this opportunity! I really enjoyed my first HBA experience. I will very much be saving up now so I am able to attend the next conference in Blackpool next year!

Looking forward to seeing you all then!

Yours sincerely,

Stephanie Robotham

Olympic Fever Comes Early To Radio Warneford



Radio Warneford's Adrian Newell as Zeus compere for the day

Radio Warneford, the hospital broadcasting service based at Warwick Hospital in the heart of Warwickshire, has been bringing the Olympic spirit to patients a few weeks ahead of London 2012!

On Sunday 17th June, the station took part in the Village Fête at Snitterfield, just outside Warwick, providing commentary and music for the day. Not surprisingly, the theme for the fête this year was the Olympic Games with lots of fun events for villagers to take part in. Radio Warneford's Adrian Newell, dressed for the occasion as Zeus, compered for the day while Ben Mitchell interviewed Camilla Hadland, the under 19 Junior World Rowing gold medallist. Camilla was also on hand to start some of the races.

The Olympic Torch Relay came to Stratford upon Avon, Warwick, Royal Leamington Spa and Kenilworth on Sunday 1st July, day 44 of its 70-day journey around the UK and Ireland. Radio Warneford's presenters went out and about in all four towns to soak up some of the tremendous atmosphere and to talk to some of those who had come out in their thousands to line the route. The highlights of the day were edited into a programme that was broadcast to patients at Warwick Hospital later that same evening.

The following day, Olympic torchbearer Freya Shuttleworth visited Radio Warneford's studios with her torch. After talking to our Monday night team about the fantastic experience of being part of the London 2012 Relay, we took her to the Childrens' ward, MacGregor, where she met some of the patients and their families and showed off the torch.

Andy Dowell, Communications Manager & Trustee, Radio Warneford

Conference and Beyond ...

HBA Conference Review Sam Jenkins Hospital Radio Chelmsford



This year I was lucky enough to be awarded a bursary to attend the HBA Conference in Northampton and thought I

would share my experience of it and the subsequent events that have happened over the past few months.

To start with, don't be afraid to apply for a bursary, everybody's circumstances are different and at the moment not all of us have the finances to be able to go to events outside of our normal lives.

The bursary is not only there to support you to cover the costs to attend but to allow you to experience and learn from the Conference and develop your skills in a variety of areas. Hopefully the result of which will enable you to take this learning, apply it at your own station and in some way improve the patient experience, which in my view, should be at the heart of every Hospital Radio station.

I have been a part of HRC for 20 years and never attended a conference before, so wasn't quite sure what to expect. However, after speaking to colleagues and friends, reading some information on line, I felt quite excited about going and trust me, the thought of a weekend in a hotel room and not having to share it with my teenagers (much that I love them) was bliss!

I travelled up with a colleague after work, so sadly missed the quiz night. However I did chat to a few fellow delegates who had taken part and they certainly had a good time and the hotel bar certainly provided opportunity for a bit of networking, even if over a lemonade.

The Conference does start bright and breezy but after a yummy breakfast, you are ready to

start the day. One tip I would suggest is to look at the seminars that are on carefully, for me there were too many that I wanted to go to and you just don't get time to attend them all. If you are going up with some colleagues, see if you can split the seminars and then share the information afterwards, best of both worlds.

I have to admit I got lost in one seminar, it was a bit too technical for me but I was lucky enough to be sitting next to someone who gave me a few tips when he saw the blank look of confusion on my face. The lesson here is that there is something for everyone – if you want technical it is there, or if you want tips on how to present or how to improve patient engagement it was there as well.

I look forward to seeing the topics at next year's Conference. The Trade Show was slightly smaller than I thought but this does allow you the time to chat to different exhibitors and provides the opportunity to look at new equipment that can offer exciting ways to interact with patients, as well as ideas for you to use to fundraise and raise the profile of your station.

As well as the seminars, there is also lots of opportunity and time to chat to colleagues from different stations, share best practice, learn from their experiences and, of course, they learn from yours as well. It was clear that many delegates returned to the Conference several years in a row and the term delegates had been replaced to friendships for many, which was lovely to see and become a part of.

After a busy day and lots of cakes, coffee, lunch and networking, you do get a chance to have a quick look round the area you are staying in and then get ready for the gala dinner: ladies a chance to get all glammed up and I guess for the boys as well.

The gala dinner was a highlight for me, getting to listen to the quality of award entries and getting ideas about different

aspects of broadcasting was valuable. However, for me one of the most memorable and special moments was seeing Adam Ravenscroft, one of our longest serving member of HRC (and my great friend) winning the Gold award for Best Male presenter. To me, everyone that entered into the awards was a winner as it demonstrated their commitment to providing a show, a piece of music, some entertainment or light relief to a person who was ill in hospital. What more could you ask for.

It was amazing to see how technology changes with us as well and how we were able to share almost live step by step commentary of the Awards as it was happening via blogs, twitter feeds, facebook status changes, so colleagues and patients were able to keep up to date with the event and feel part of it. Once the main award ceremony had taken place, I noticed several winners doing live phone in's to their stations – fantastic!

The feel for the night was special and again it gave everyone the chance to mix and chat to fellow delegates and hit the dance floor– I noticed that June was up showing everyone her dance moves. The night was as long or as short as you wanted, for those who prefer a quiet night there was opportunity to sit and chat away from the music and for others, a competition to see who could stay up the latest in the hotel lobby. I think I gave up at 4.30 and left others to it.

The Conference continues on the Sunday even with a few tired and bleary eyes; I took part in a ramble, giving many of us the chance to get some fresh air, learn about the local area and again chat to fellow delegates.

After a walk, you were ready for lunch and the official close of the Conference, as well as a raffle just for fun.

The committee gave an overview of the event, shared some learning points and gave an

Conference and Beyond ...

insight to future events, so when we left we all felt we had an idea where HBA and our own stations maybe moving towards over the next year, which was useful to take back to our own stations and use for planning.

Overall, I had a great time and learnt lots, which over the last four months has seen me make lots of changes both personally and also for my station. It has encouraged me to take on a new role and I am now on our committee as Membership Development Officer. My role is to not only look after new members but also try and develop our current ones and even our long serving members who sometimes get forgotten.

A great start to this was by encouraging members to use the HBA training sessions to develop their skills and this week I sent off 15 booking forms for the seminars in October, which is an area we have had little up take on in the past.

I have also been encouraging members to take a more active role in thinking about the next Awards and already there is quite a buzz about aspects of shows that we could use in entries; this year we only entered two categories, next we are hoping to have entries into a majority.

I hope this will inspire our Members to realise the amount of variety and talent they have and hopefully this will motivate them to want to provide the utmost best in shows resulting in an overall improvement to the patient experience.

As a committee, we have taken other ideas from the Conference, one being to run a patient survey to ensure we are playing the right music, providing the right amount of variety/entertainment and at the right time.

We have engaged with the membership asking for their ideas for questions as potentially we

may need to introduce big changes and I feel it important to keep our membership involved and engaged with this so that they can see why it is being done and also so they understand what, as a committee, we are going to do with the results. We are due to start this by the end of July and then review all of the responses and our programming and hopefully make any changes that are needed to enhance the patients listening enjoyment.

So there we have it, from a first time Conference delegate to now a committee member. What else can I say.....

If you would like to chat to me about the Conference, ask any questions please feel free, my contact details are mdo@hrc.org.uk and hopefully I look forward to seeing you in Blackpool next year.

Big smiles
Sam

AEQ

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HBA National Training Day 2012

The venue is The Menzies Stourport Manor Hotel, Hartlbury Road,
Stourport on Severn, DY13 9JA on Saturday 6th October 2012.
(The venue is just 11 miles from J6 of the M5 near Kidderminster)

Training Track 1 - Presentation & Interview Skills

This will enhance presenters' on-air skills, including general radio presentation, news delivery and interview techniques.

Training Track 2 - Myriad

This course will enhance the Myriad User's knowledge of Myriad and Autotrack, thus enabling the user to make more effective use of the playout and automation system

The whole day's training, including lunch will be provided for only £15 per delegate.

Format of the Day

10:00 Registration / refreshments
10:30 Welcome / Introduction
11:00 Training session 1
12:30 Lunch
13:15 Training session 2
15:15 Refreshments
15:45 Training session 3
17:15 Finish

The two training tracks will run in parallel. Delegates must select which track they wish to attend at time of booking.



HBA Training Network National Training Day, Saturday 6th October 2012.

To secure your place, please complete and return this form to Paul Sysum, 19 Holland Close, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 3TR no later than Friday 21st September 2012, together with a cheque for £15 per delegate payable to "HBA". Please ensure that you indicate the selected training track for each delegate and advise us of any special needs they may have.

Station Name:

<u>Delegate name (Please Print)</u>	<u>E-mail address</u>	<u>Training Track</u>
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1.	1: <input type="checkbox"/> 2: <input type="checkbox"/>
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2.	1: <input type="checkbox"/> 2: <input type="checkbox"/>
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3.	1: <input type="checkbox"/> 2: <input type="checkbox"/>
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5.	1: <input type="checkbox"/> 2: <input type="checkbox"/>
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Special needs:

To avoid disappointment, please book early, as places for each training session are limited.

Programme planning, Preparation, Content and Interviewing Skills

Scotland Region: Training Event

The intention of Scotland Region Training Event is to focus on the above topics in a workshop environment and in particular to address the following;

- ❖ *How do you produce or prepare your show?*
- ❖ *What sources can be used?*
- ❖ *How do you best structure what you put together around the usual station features?*
- ❖ *How do you prepare for an interview?*
- ❖ *How do you get the most out of your guest?*

The day will be hosted by Andy Carter, Andy began his career in 1990 as a broadcast journalist and continued to work in radio until 2007 at stations such as Virgin, as news editor, and at Isle of Wight Radio, as Managing Editor. In 2008, he joined Leeds City Council and in 2009 became the Head of Communications.

Andy has delivered numerous presentation sessions for HBA.



Share your experiences, get answers to your questions and take away a few new ideas from this excellent and interactive workshop. There will be audio examples and some practical exercises for everyone to take part in.

Saturday 27 October 2012

Mercure Hotel, Livingston, West Lothian

Only £10 per delegate including lunch

Starts with welcome refreshments at 10.00 am

To secure your place on this event, complete and return the booking form together with your payment no later than Friday 28th September 2012. Booking forms are available on the HBA website – www.hbauk.com.

Alternatively contact Scotland@hbauk.com

Cabinet Secretary Visits Southern Sound

On Wednesday 22nd August, the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Health in Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon MSP, visited the studios of Southern Sound Hospital Radio in Glasgow.

The purpose of the visit was to officially re-launch the station after an enforced absence from the airwaves for nearly a year due to technical problems in the hospital. Although the station had been on air again since the beginning of July, it was felt that an official re-launch was required.

After being welcomed by Chairman, Frank Murphy, Ms Sturgeon made a short speech about the radio service and commented that she had been in the studios before, taking part in programmes. Even revealing a fondness for George Michael and Andrew Ridgley's 'Wham' back in the 80s. She then cut the ribbon to officially open the refurbished studio 3, which is now a production suite, having been painstakingly rebuilt by members Alan Hall, Graham Clark and Alistair Biggar.

After re-launching the station, members and guests tucked into a welcoming buffet. Also present at the event were Alex McIntyre, Director of Facilities NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde; Andy Bell, Facilities Manager; Bryan Bannerman, Voluntary Services Manager and Bailie Iris Gibson, local councillor.

Ms Sturgeon then proceeded to take part in a live interview on air with presenter Graham Clark during his Wednesday evening show. Together they discussed what her typical day entails, her hobbies and musical tastes.

For once politics wasn't mentioned. She also said that she was a big supporter of Southern Sound and hospital radio in general and feels it still has an important role to play in patient care and recovery.

Southern Sound, which was opened in 1995 by Ally McCoist, MBE, broadcasts to the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow. Major



Nicola Sturgeon, MSP, with our presenter Graham Clark



Nicola in our new studio 3 with member Alan Hall

building work is being undertaken in building a new hospital on site, which when completed in 2015, will be the biggest acute general hospital in Europe.

It has been during this construction work that Southern Sound was forced off air due to a combination of cables being accidentally cut and broadcast equipment within the hospital not working.

Ms Sturgeon, as the local MSP and Health Secretary, got involved to help the station back on air again. Her assistance in this matter was greatly appreciated.

Southern Sound aim to continue broadcasting programmes when the new Southern General Hospital opens in 2015 and have already had a meeting with the NHS regarding how we intend to do this.

The General Committee of Southern Sound have now instigated a new five year plan to prepare the service for when the new hospital opens. Southern Sound Hospital Radio will hopefully broadcast to the Southern General for many more years to come.



Frank Murphy, Chairman with Bryan Bannerman, Voluntary Services Manager and Andy Bell, Facilities Manager

Three Into Two ...

Are you sitting comfortably? Then, let us begin a long story, covering more than ten years, which culminates in a couple of London Hospitals getting a radio service for the first time ever, in the last two years.

In the late 1990s, St Andrews Hospital in Bow, East London, was earmarked for closure and with it would go St Andrews Airwaves, run by an experienced team, many of whom had been involved in Hospital Radio since the 1960s-1980s. The closure was gradual and slow, until there were just a couple of geriatric wards left but the team were determined to provide a service right up until the last patient left.

In the meantime, the committee looked around for a new home, the biggest issue was not in finding a Hospital wanting a service but one who could give us a room. It was a slow and painful process and as it went on, whilst the committee stayed together, other volunteers naturally drifted away.

Around the Millennium, the plan was hatched that we would explore amalgamating with another station and two of the team helped out Radio Moorfields, with a view that the stations could possibly merge.

But Moorfields Eye Hospital became day patient only and the Trust made the decision that a radio station was no longer needed.

This happened just before St Andrews finally closed in about 2003 and whilst the Trust at each site gave us some time to clear our studios, we found ourselves homeless, with three studios of equipment, thousands of records and CDs and all the gubbins that we know make a hospital radio station, or two!

Fortunately, just in the nick of time, we were offered a room at London Chest Hospital (LCH) in Bethnal Green. This is a relatively small, specialist Cardiac Hospital, well over 150 years old, with around 100 plus patients and had never had a radio service – which meant no wiring, not even bed side radio units but the Trust were fantastically supportive of us setting up.

So we had a ton of 'stuff', some of which got squeezed into that room, some in a self storage warehouse and we had a big dilemma.

Three stations into two does go? A new hospital radio station opening in London



**Barts and
London
Chest
Hospital
Radio**

We could set up a studio but how to broadcast to the patients? Wiring the hospital would cost a fortune and we expected the Trust wouldn't be all that keen.

Being in the London area, we couldn't get a licence to broadcast on LPAM, so decided to go ahead with LPFM instead. It was our only option but probably means we have the highest cost per listener radio station in the country, if not the world!

A transmitter and aerial were installed and we ordered a thousand cardboard fixed frequency portable radios. All that at quite a cost, each radio costing over £3, handed to each patient free, who'd stay with us an average of a few days, infection control and dead batteries making re-use a challenge we've yet to overcome. We've given away 1,700 radios so far and not recycled any.

Oh, and I didn't mention that the hospital is due for closure by 2014! This being part of major rebuilding project in the Barts Health Trust, which incorporates LCH, Barts and Royal London Hospitals. A limited lifespan giving us another challenge some day but for now, theres a radio station to build ...

It took a few years but London Chest Hospital Radio was on air, 1st April 2010, the same day we had a collection at the local tube station, raising enough for 100 radios! (we measure fundraising in radios!).

Since then, we've been growing our team and have built up a fantastic reputation within the hospital. We all remembered why

we got into HR in the first place, the patients and staff absolutely love what we do.

In 2011, our Trust asked us if we could expand to cover their large neighbouring hospital, St Barts, which hadn't had a radio service before either. This would also give us a long term home when LCH closes. But we're talking a hospital ten times the size, for a team then of only seven volunteers and no promise of a room even now.

This year, we've been fortunate to have some experienced volunteers join us from Paddington HR, which closed over 12 months ago and have gradually grown our team to about 18 now.

In September 2012, we were connected up to the hospital intranet, so our output from LCH, along with programmes from our good friends and neighbours, Whitechapel AM, could be sent into the new Patient Entertainment System covering both Barts and the Royal London hospitals, meaning our patients get not one but two stations to listen to. And this at a time when many London hospital patients have lost their radio service altogether.

If anyone who is reading this who is facing a station closure, or already closed, in the London area, we will happily take experienced volunteers onto our team and donations of equipment welcome.

We are really pleased to have been able to show that Hospital Radio can thrive and even grow these days.

I want to acknowledge the dedicated and determined core team behind what has been achieved over ten years and most of these are still in the team leading us forward. Some names may be familiar to anyone who has been in the hospital radio world for a while ... Martyn Grant, Deryck Jones, Andrew Stokes, Nathan Potton, Bob Frooms and myself

And finally, our sympathies to those facing closure or difficult times, don't give up but you may need a large amount of patience and perseverance.

There is still very much a place for hospital radio in the 21st century.

**Ian Chambers
Secretary
Barts & London Chest
Hospital Radio**

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MORE THAN JUST ENGINEERS

RemoteMix 4 - OB Mixer / Hybrid

RemoteMix-4 is much more than just a field mixer; it is a full-blown communications interface. You can connect

upto 4 mics with switchable phantom power - two inputs are also mic/line switchable - and 4 headphones all with

individual level controls. For universal connectivity, RemoteMix-4 incorporates a PSTN hybrid with keypad for dialling, a PBX curly-cord handset interface, a cabled

mobile phone connection plus Bluetooth connectivity making it perfect for OB use. It is also ideal as a front-end mixer for your POTS, ISDN or IP Audio Codec.

Connections Matter

RemoteMix 4 - News / Sport / OB Mixer

Connects to:

- PSTN Line
- Telephone Handset
- Mobile Phone
(incl Bluetooth)



4x Mic ins 4x Headphone outs 4-Wire 4-Channel Mixer

Another thought - If you connect via Bluetooth to your computer, you get 4-way live mixing!

RemoteMix-4 is designed for live OBs, using 2x 9V batteries which can be changed whilst still "live". It also comes with a mains power supply. The Bass Boost adds some low end before sending the signal down the phone line and a soft limiter prevents over-driving the phone interfaces while the mixer XLR output is pre-limited. The various elements are all designed to work together and save setup time in the field.

If you would like to get your hands on a RemoteMix-4, call **Vortex 020-8579 2743**.


VORTEX
COMMUNICATIONS LTD

If you would like to get connected
Tel: 020-8579 2743 or E-mail: info@vtx.co.uk
Vortex Communications 75 The Grove, Ealing, London, W5 5LL www.vtx.co.uk

Regional Training Day

Queen Mary's College in Basingstoke was the venue for the fourth South Region Training Day organised by HBA South Rep Neil Ogden.

Following previous successful events in Winchester, Reading and at the same venue in Basingstoke, presentation, programme prep and interview skills were the subjects covered this time by Andy Brown, who assists with training at Radio Wey.

The event attracted delegates from stations around the region and beyond – the furthest came all the way from Abergavenny, Wales.

The morning and first part of the afternoon concentrated on presentation skills and programme prep with ideas on what should and probably shouldn't be done on air and examples of moments that could have been done differently or improved.

Later, it was all about interviewing with a practical exercise to help improve.

There was a chance to chat at refreshments and lunch breaks and it was one of those seemingly rare summer days when the sun shone and the rain stayed away!



Rugby Celebrate 40 Years



A radio station set up by a group of teenagers is celebrating 40 years of broadcasting at Rugby's

Hospital of St Cross.

Rugby Hospital Radio was founded by Fareham Youth Club in 1972 and led by youth worker David Barret and his brother Paul.

During the early part of the 1980s, they amicably parted company with the club to become an organisation in its own right.

Chairman Richard Green, said: 'We are so proud to be celebrating our 40th year of providing a crucial service to the patients. The radio provides company for people who may not have any visitors.'

Initially programmes were broadcast four days a week, now there's a full 24-hour schedule every day of the year, which includes a daily patients' request programme.

Chris Wade, assisted by his beloved guide dog Munro, takes requests from patients before presenting his own show. He has been working at the station for 12 years.

Chris said, 'It takes me twice as long to get round because everyone likes to fuss Munro! I know how therapeutic it is for people so it's great to be part of it.'

Helping Rugby's Hospital of St Cross is one of the top priorities for Rugby Mayor, Cllr Kathryn Lawrence. She said: 'I chose the Friends of St Cross as I've been going there since I was a child.'

'At that time all they had was a tea trolley so I know first hand how important something like hospital radio is.'

Manchester's National Football Museum

July 5th was Press Day at the National Football Museum in the heart of Manchester. The museum is housed in the fantastic Urbis building and Northern Air Radio was lucky enough to be invited so my colleague John Bailey and I enjoyed what turned out to be a very interesting two hours.

John Barnes, former Liverpool and England footballer, was on hand to talk to the media.

We spoke to Sir Richard Leese, leader of Manchester City Council, who has been instrumental in bringing the Museum to Manchester and has attracted huge financial support for the venture. Sir Richard feels the Museum is a huge asset to the city and even if you are not a football fan, there is something of interest for everyone and it's free!

Kevin Moore, Director of the Museum, told us about the transition from Preston to Manchester and discussed his vision for the future of the Museum. With the huge collection it now holds, there are exhibits from the 1800s to the present day.

The exhibition will change from time to time and the Museum are always on the look out for memorabilia and items of interest.

We watched Rachel Brown and Jill Scott from the Ladies England Football Team, who are also part of Team G B. They entertained us with lots of fancy footwork.

Another interesting exhibit is Stuart Roy Clark's photography to capture on film many grounds that no longer exist and his pictures make nostalgic viewing.

We took the opportunity to speak to a couple of local children who were visiting the Museum with their school. Reme, who was sporting a Barcelona shirt and Marlene, had plenty to say about their visit into our microphone. We met up with them later and asked what they enjoyed most. Remi enjoyed the Manchester United exhibit but Marlene said her best bit was talking to the radio!

The Museum has many hands-on exhibits and John and I ended our tour by trying to kick the ball at targets on the wall. Enough said about that! Wayne Rooney is safe this season!

Joe Sambrook



Kevin Moore and Joe Sambrook at the National Football Museum



John Bailey points out Huddersfield town's football ground at Leeds Road, which was their home since they started in 1908



John Barnes



Rachel Brown

National Hospital Radio Awards 2013

Entries are invited for the National Hospital Radio Awards 2013.

Unless otherwise stated there will be trophies for Gold, Silver and Bronze for each category. Certificates of Nomination will be issued when the shortlist is announced for those appearing on it.

If you have not entered before why not try this year – don't forget when preparing your entry to showcase how your broadcasts are particularly relevant to a Hospital Radio audience.

You can enter by two methods:

Online – please email awards@hbauk.com for a link to an online folder where you can submit your files. Entry by this method should be in mp3 format. You will be sent an entry form that you can edit with your link. This entry form should be uploaded to the online folder along with your entries. Please also upload an image of your station logo for use at the awards ceremony if you are a winner.

By post – One CD either audio or data. It is not necessary to use special delivery/recorded delivery to send your entry in. If you want to prove that you sent it just get a certificate of posting. If it does not arrive I will let you resubmit. If you send it signed for, I have to make daily trips to the sorting office!

Please enclose a good quality image of your logo that can be scanned and used at the ceremony should you be a winner.

Entries will be acknowledged by e-mail – if you have not received a confirmation then assume it has not arrived.

All material should have been broadcast on your station between the dates of 1st December 2011 and 30th November 2012.

You are now permitted to submit up to 250 words to explain the context of your entry. This is not compulsory but has been added due to popular request and may help the judges better understand your entry. Please do it in a separate document for each category and not on the entry form. For online entries please upload the document to the online

folder with the same title as your audio entry.

It is time now to start work on your entries. When you are happy with them please send them in to arrive by the closing dates of Friday December 14th 2012 for postal entries and Friday December 21st 2012 for online entries.

Details of the categories can be found below but for now I wish everyone the best of luck and look forward to seeing you in March. If you have any unanswered questions then you can e-mail me at awards@hbauk.com

Iain Lee

Station of the Year

You are required to submit a maximum 15 minute stand-alone documentary style recording featuring extracts from your station output. The entry should give the judges an insight into your station, the hospitals you broadcast to, style of presentation and programme content. Also include material from any special programmes or events covered during the year. Only one entry per station allowed.

Presenter of the Year (Male/Female)

You are required to submit a five minute entry showing the judges the diversity of your presentation and your awareness of the listeners. Include as many different on-air clips as possible, not all from the same programme. Multiple entries may be made from a station. The trophy will bear the name of the presenter.

Best Programme with Multiple Presenters

This is a new category that we have been asked to include. Many Hospital Radio stations have programmes presented by a group of people and often include many of the ingredients that make Hospital Radio unique such as requests and patient interaction. It is also a difficult format to get right to ensure the listener feels included rather than on the outside. Your submission should show how it seeks to be relevant to the Hospital patient.

The entry should be five minutes

and the clips can come from more than one edition of the same programme. The trophy will bear the name of the station but the name of the programme (which should be included on the entry form) will be published on the short list and will appear on the certificate.

Special Event

This award recognises a one off programme broadcast by the station. A 15 minute compilation of the programme is invited, please do not play music tracks in full. It must be a one-off event and not part of the station's normal day to day output. e.g. an outside broadcast or a hospital event. Only one entry per station allowed.

The trophy will bear the name of the station but the name of the event will be published on the short/ winners lists and will appear on the certificate if submitted.

Best Speech Package

The entry should be a maximum of five minutes taken from a single programme or interview that has been broadcast on the station. All music should be edited out of the entry. The material must have originated from station presenters and not from any other source. Only one entry per station allowed. The trophy will bear the name of the station but the name of the programme or interview will be published on the short/winners lists and will appear on the certificate if submitted.

Best Specialist Music Programme

The entry will be five minutes and should show the judges the presenter's knowledge of the music in question and should also include any content applicable to the programme. Eg an event guide/what's on feature relating to the show. Programmes could include Jazz, Classical, Country etc. Only one entry per station allowed.

The trophy will bear the name of the station but the name of the programme will be published on the short/winners lists and will appear on the certificate if submitted.

National Hospital Radio Awards 2013

Station Promotion

An entry of up to 60 seconds is required and should be a station promotion or programme trailer that has been produced 'in-house'. The judges will be looking for how well the message is conveyed and whether they feel it will attract the ear of the listener. To be clear this must be a promotion rather than a 'jingle' and must not have been produced by a third party. Only one entry per station allowed. The trophy will bear the name of the station.

Best Newcomer

The award is open to anyone who joined a hospital radio station for the first time during the two years prior to the closing date. It should take the form of a five minute compilation. The judges are looking to hear what you have achieved on air in the short time you have been broadcasting. An individual may

only enter this award once. Multiple entries may be made from a station. The trophy will bear the name of the presenter.

Fundraiser of the Year

Hospital Radio relies on fundraising to keep stations on the air throughout the country. This award seeks to showcase someone that has made a significant achievement in fundraising during the last 12 months. The judges aren't looking for the highest amount raised, more how an individual has gone that extra mile to help raise funds for the station.

This award is open to all members within hospital radio and requires a written submission of no more than 300 words on the station's official letter heading, explaining why the award is justified of actions taken within the eligible dates. The trophy will bear

the name of the individual.

NB There is only one award in this category.

The John Whitney Award

Open to anyone working in hospital radio. Entries should be written (no more than 500 words) and be on the stations official letter heading.

The award will be made to the person who has made an outstanding contribution to Hospital Radio over a period of years. The winner may be drawn from broadcasting but might equally be found from a technical or administrative background. They may have worked for a single station or a series of stations. The nomination should explain why the candidate has made a real and long lasting impact. The trophy will bear the name of the individual.

NB There is only one award in this category.



CONFERENCE NEWS 2013

IT'S BACK TO BLACKPOOL FOR 2013

Enjoy all the fun of the seaside at next year's HBA's Annual Conference as we return to Blackpool for a weekend of sun, sea and scintillating discussion!

Running from Friday March 22nd to Sunday March 24th, we're again returning to the Hilton Hotel, right on the seafront.



HELP MAKE THE WEEKEND A TOWERING SUCCESS

The HBA Annual Conference would be nothing without YOU – our delegates. It's a chance to network, make new friends, catch up with old acquaintances and share tips and advice that could help make your service even better.

The Conference Team is busy right now, working on seminar ideas with fundraising, volunteering and social networking among the suggestions currently being looked at – more information will follow in our next Conference News and in On Air magazine.

The Weekend is also a great chance to mark the start of Hospital Broadcasting Week, running from March 24th through to Sunday April 1st.



National Hospital Radio Awards 2013

Entry Form

Station Name	
Station Address	
Address for delivery of trophy if not present at ceremony	
E-mail Address for correspondence	
Contact Telephone no.	
Contact Name and position	
Signature	

If entering on CD, please indicate the track number in the table below for any categories you are entering; Please put all categories on 1 disc – don't send multiple discs.

If entering by MP3 please use filename format:

Stationname_Category_Entrantsname.mp3

Where the category is not for a personal category, omit the entrant's name from the filename.

Please send a copy of your station logo for use at the awards ceremony should you be a winner.

Please use the comments section to provide the name in an individual category or a programme or event name. For non audio categories, please list it in the table but insert N/A for track number.

Track No. / Filename	Category	Comments

HBA – supporting Hospital Broadcasting in the UK

For more information see www.hbauk.com, email info@hbauk.com or call 0870 321 6019

Track No.	Category	Comments

For postal entries please send your entry to:

**National Hospital Radio Awards
P O Box 341
Messingham
Scunthorpe
DN15 5EG**

If entering online please e-mail awards@hbauk.com for a link to an online folder, username and password. In this case the entry form should be uploaded to the folder and a signature is not required.

The closing date is Friday 14th December 2012 for postal entries and Friday 21st December for online entries. Entries should be submitted to arrive before these dates.

Live from Wembley, AGAIN!

Being based in Liverpool, Radio Broadgreen had an exceedingly busy 2011-2012 football season to cover. Along with the Hospital Radios' Football Network commentary team, every home game for both Everton FC and Liverpool FC was covered culminating in not one but two big games at Wembley. Producer Paul Watters said 'Our regular Saturday sports show broadcasts from 2 til 6. It's very trying at times getting the pre-match interviews and the IRN reports in before the HRFN football commentary starts.'

'After the four hours you are mentally drained but we have a great sports team here at Radio Broadgreen that all muck in to get it sounding as professional as any commercial radio station. It's all about the final product to the patients – and pride.'

HRFN, which broadcasts all Liverpool and Everton home games to hospital radio stations on Merseyside and North Wales, [see www.hrfn.co.uk], broadcasted commentary from last season's FA Cup Semi Final between Liverpool and Everton, along with the FA Cup Final between Liverpool and Chelsea live from Wembley.

Skype was used to successfully link the broadcasts back to Radio Broadgreen who in turn produced a five hour special sports show which was also available for networking. Commentators Steve Lord and Ian Kettle did both commentaries for HRFN. Steve commented, 'Using Skype was easy to use, thanks to the technical support from Paul Watters at Radio Broadgreen and as a consequence, we didn't have to pay for the costs of installing a phone line or ISDN. We asked the FA to provide us with a hard wire connection to their Broadband, which is available free of charge to all radio and press individually in the two media areas at Wembley'.

HRFN via Radio Broadgreen have the facilities to relay commentary to any visiting team's hospital radio service.

If you would like your station to be relayed commentary from either Anfield or Goodison Park, please contact **Steve Lord** (steve.lord2@btinternet.com) or **Paul Watters** (ctyradioservices@hotmail.com) for more details.



Steve Lord at Wembley



Radio Broadgreen's Sports Team



Ian Kettle and Steve Lord at Wembley 2012

John Myers to Leave Radio Academy



Radio Academy Chief Executive, John Myers, left his role at the end of June, to focus on a 'personal project' within the media industry.

He has been doing the job, which includes overseeing the Sony Radio Academy Awards and Radio Festival, since April 2011. It's understood Myers will be announcing further details of his upcoming project in the next few weeks.

John took over from Trevor Dann, who left the organisation in November 2010, to focus on independent production commissions including Radio 2's Sounds of the 20th Century.

Alongside his work at the Radio Academy, Myers has also recently carried out a review of BBC Local Radio for the BBC Trust which was published earlier this year.

Before joining the Academy, he conducted a similar review of the BBC's network music radio stations.

Under John's tenure, the Radio Academy produced its first 'sold out' Radio Festival and brought management of the Sony Awards in-house for the first time in the event's 30-year history.

He has also regularly presented the Academy's RadioTalk podcast and launched a scheme to recognise young talent in the industry through the '30 under 30' list.

John Myers said, 'I promised The Radio Academy that I would serve a year and, in reality, I have undertaken slightly longer than that. It's been a hugely successful year and I am pleased to have played a part in securing its future and ensuring the two key focus points

are well-managed. Furthermore, I wanted to give something back to the industry I love and having done that, it's time to move on to something else.'

Ashley Tabor, Chair of The Radio Academy, said: 'John leaves The Radio Academy in terrific shape and he has achieved significant success in a very short space of time. The Academy took ownership of the Sony Radio Academy Awards, which was a huge task that John delivered brilliantly and, similarly, the annual Radio Festival was the best yet. He leaves the Academy in a very secure position and we're grateful to him for his leadership and hard work promoting The Radio Academy across both the BBC and the independent sector.'

Myers was formerly the CEO of GMG Radio, which he ran between 2000 and 2009. He also currently presents weekend shows for Spanish station Spectrum FM and hospital station Radio Tyneside, which John is the Chairman of. He appears on air as 'John Morgan' – the name he used while presenting at stations including Century Radio and Real Radio in the 90s and 00s.

Greatest Hits of ... Series



A new series of shows has hit the HBA airways. The free series, entitled 'The Greatest Hits Of...' plays the Greatest UK chart hits of a particular artist or band and is available exclusively to all HBA stations by emailing phil.osborne@radiostitch.com with 'Greatest Hits Of Series' in the subject field. All shows are presented by Phil Osborne from Radio Stitch with his unique mellow Irish accent and easy listening style.

The shows are in a vanilla format without station signatures, so can be easily used by other stations.

The series has featured Abba, Bee

Gees, Carpenters, Elton John, Engelbert Humperdinck, Kylie Minogue and Madonna.

Initially the listener is invited to guess the featured artist or band from a set of clues before the top 10 countdown begins which includes a short bio. Also in the show are the Outsider Tracks which feature songs that did not make it into the chart but are well worth a listen, some of which played a pivotal role in the artist or bands success.

A new show is released every Monday and we do take requests!

To date, we have 10 HBA stations who have subscribed to the series. So, why not join Phil Osborne by emailing phil.osborne@radiostitch.com or visit our website www.radiostitch.com and click on his email link there to receive the series.

Long Service Certificates

The HBA welcome applications from stations for the issue of Long Service Certificates for their members.

President June will be delighted to issue them and if possible come to the station to present them. If she cannot, then possibly one of the HBA Board would try to come in her place. Alternatively they can be forwarded to you by post at an address quoted.

Applications should preferably be as an email attachment or alternatively by post on station headed notepaper and signed by one of the current station committee.

Certificates are available for 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55 years' service

Please advise June of the address to which certificates should be sent and she will deal with them as quickly as she can.

Please do remember we are all volunteers and therefore it may take a few days to get them to you. If the delay is likely to be more than two weeks she will do her best to advise you how long any delay might be and when the certificates will be sent.

If sending by post please send to:

**June Snowden
HBA President,
PO Box 76,
Ely
Cambs CB6 3ET**

Childline Schools Service

Tracey Hulston from the NSPCC is looking for volunteers from all over the UK to help them deliver their new ChildLine Schools Service and has asked if we could promote this on hospital radio.

She has prepared the following script.

If your station wants more information, please contact Tracey direct on 0121 783 5154, tracey.hulston@nspcc.org.uk ...

ChildLine is launching a brand new service for primary school age children in the West Midlands and needs volunteers in Birmingham, Solihull and Coventry to deliver assemblies and workshops in local primary schools.

The ChildLine Schools Service will 'sensitively' help 9-11 year olds to recognise the signs of abuse and bullying and how to get help if they need it.

Volunteers must be over 16 and full training and support will be provided.

To find out more visit www.nspcc.org.uk/schoolsservice and You Tube and type in 'ChildLine Schools Service'.

If your station has facebook and twitter, can we ask you to post the following for us:

Facebook

ChildLine is launching a brand new service for primary age children in the West Midlands and needs volunteers in Birmingham, Solihull and Coventry to deliver assemblies and workshops in local primary schools. The ChildLine Schools Service will 'sensitively' help children who are 9 -11 year olds to recognise the signs of abuse and bullying and how to get help if they need it. Volunteers must be over 16 and full training and support will be provided.

To find out more visit www.nspcc.org.uk/schoolsservice.

Twitter

@NSPCC is launching a new Schools Service & needs volunteers in the West Midlands to deliver it in primary schools:
<http://bit.ly/soaHEX>

Memoirs of a Radio Pirate

He Sounds Much Taller – Memoirs Of A Radio Pirate

By Dave Cash

On September 1st, Dave Cash's new book, *He Sounds Much Taller – Memoirs Of A Radio Pirate*, is published for download on Amazon.

This is the real account of what happened on those offshore Radio Pirate stations of the 1960s. The sex, drugs and rock and roll, the political reaction, the dodgy deals, all from a person who lived the dream.

Dave says, 'Since the Boat That Rocked (Pirate Radio in the USA) many people have commented about how close the film was to reality. I interviewed writer and director, Richard Curtis, at the time the film was released and he summed it up far better than I could. He said that he was one of the kids who took his transistor radio to bed and listened to us under the covers. He said the film is how he wanted us to be.'

'He also said that he was a comedy writer and he felt sure that Tarrantino would do a better job of the real story. I don't think it was quite Pulp Fiction but it had its moments.'

'It was also a joy writing this book for 21st century media. No editors, sub-editors, management or promotion departments. Just get on and write it and upload it to Amazon. Heaven!!'

Dave is available for interview via Rob Jones:

RobJonesStudio@btinternet.com and Sara Davies-Cash:

SaraDavies17@msn.com

Visit Dave's website:

www.DaveCashWebsite.com

Listen to him now

www.bbc.co.uk/kent

At last, the real story is told. And about time too ...

Moray Staff are a Knockout

Staff from Moray Hospitals had great fun on 30 June at Linzee Gordon Park in Buckie, when they took part in an It's a Knockout Challenge.

Seafeld Hospital's Muirton Ward, Ward 4 from Dr Gray's Hospital and Turner Memorial Hospital teams locked horns as the 'Muirton's Maidens', 'Shrinks in the Wash' and 'Turner's Totties'.

While spectators enjoyed the dry weather, the teams got thoroughly soaked as water and foam were thrown about generously, during the ten challenge event. Muirton Ward

came third, Turner fifth and Ward 4 sixth

Team and individual challenges included climbing over bouncy castles, a wheelbarrow race, carrying water through inflatables, and it culminated in teams sliding down into a pool of water. Turners Totties wore shower caps as part of their team uniform, in anticipation.

Muirton Maidens' Senior Charge Nurse, Bruce Donald, at 6ft 5 and attired in a dress and blonde wig, was an impressive sight.

More than £4,000 was raised for Buckie RNLI and each team member aimed to raise at least £100 each, so a massive amount was contributed by the staff.

Gold!

Aberdeen's Golden Games has been hailed a great success after more than 250 people took part in the free two-day festival of activities and sport for over 65s in the city.

The games were a key part of NHS Grampian's and the city council's commitment to reshaping care for older people and promoted active ageing. The games' oldest participant was 101.

Events included tennis, angling, golf, aqua aerobics, fitness classes, as well as a Nursing Home Pentathlon, where teams from care homes enjoyed a series of challenges, including a bean bag toss, a bean bag balance and a penalty shootout.

The Golden Games were funded by the Change Fund for older people's services, jointly managed by NHS Grampian and the City Council and The Change Fund aims to enable health, social care, housing, Independent and Third sector partners to implement local plans for making better use of their combined resources to improve outcomes for older people.

Apologies

Sincere apologies time: Southampton HBA is celebrating 60 years of service and not 50 years, as stated from information supplied and on page 11 of the last issue, the photograph of Noel Antliff is actually a photograph of Andy Brown, Chairman of Radio Wey. **Sorry!**

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30th October, 2012

Technical Information and Software

I am a former hospital radio volunteer, who volunteered at a hospital radio in the North East of Scotland for eight years. During this time I spent several years on their committee in various roles and helped to look after the organisations technical set-up.

I have recently launched a web site that includes software I've developed and technical documentation, which I am making available to registered charities to use free of charge.

My software includes a 'timing clock' allowing presenters to easily time items for their shows and over the next few months, I plan on making more software available, including software to easily list MP3 files, write playlists and the flagship Library Player audio player software.

Technical documentation include a short guide to using Audacity, a training outline hospital radios can use to provide Audacity training to their volunteers, a guide to converting CD tracks to MP3 files and other technical information.

I am continuing to update the web site and put new stuff online and I also intend to make some general volunteering and presenting resources available in the future.

I would like to emphasise again that these resources are available to use free of charge to registered charities, which include hospital radios.

I also welcome any comments or suggestions, my e-mail address is simon@libraryplayer.co.uk

My web site can be found at www.libraryplayer.co.uk

Simon Pittman

Earthquake Risk Threatens Hospital FM

While the NHS austerity might lead some stations to worry about their hospital radio futures, spare a thought for a hospital radio station on the other side of the world that was told they had no choice as the studio building could collapse!

Timaru on New Zealand's South Island is home to Hospital FM. The station was forced off-air recently when a survey of buildings revealed that the dormitory they broadcast from was at a grave risk to collapse if there was an earthquake. The station has since moved to new

premises for its 14 volunteer staff.

In its 23 years, Hospital FM in Timaru has had as many challenges as some of our own stations have had at a more leisurely pace. The station was originally an in-house service broadcasting to headsets at bedside alongside a local commercial radio station and the national radio service. Egg boxes lined the studio walls to offer soundproofing and the stations founder Ron Heney found himself building the studio control desks to save money.

The bedside service was removed a number of years later during the hospitals re-development. Patients began to go into hospital with their own radios and Hospital FM was soon broadcasting on low-power FM transmitters and increasing its reach to the community throughout Timaru City. The studio moved into the dormitory within a Nurse's Home on the hospital site but the egg boxes still featured prominently.

Like some of our own stations within the HBA, Hospital FM has slowly become a community radio station. In June of this year it was told it would soon have to leave the Nurse's Home and it found a new studio in the community it broadcasts to.

The station plays music from the 1930s to the 1990s with a strong emphasis on country music which is popular in Timaru City and Hospital FM meets with its listeners at monthly get-togethers in the city. The station broadcasts live during weekday evenings and all day at the weekends; with an overnight service provided by a recently installed computer playout system.

Hospital FM receives no funding from its local Health Board and relies on donations from its community and listeners.

Patients Turn Up Radio to Drown Out GP Consultations

It's the medical practice that brings a whole new meaning to the idea of hospital radio. A medical centre has come under fire after patients said they had been forced to turn up the radio to avoid overhearing delicate consultations with GPs.

They have called for a solution to the problems at the tiny Ratho Health Centre, described as being more like a flat than a doctors

surgery. But a proposed solution to the capacity and size issue – the creation of a 'satellite surgery' in a community building at Ratho Station – has been widely criticised by residents. Less than one per cent backed the idea in a survey and NHS Lothian has been urged to rethink its proposal.

Obituary Paul Jordan



Paul Jordan, 47, a dedicated and enthusiastic member of Hospital Radio Maidstone, passed peacefully away at The Heart of Kent Hospice on 6th June 2012, after a very brief battle with cancer.

Paul was a kind, considerate and caring member of the team at Hospital Radio Maidstone. From when he started in the early part of 2006, Paul's knowledge of music and enthusiasm at fund raising events to his untimely passing earned the respect he deserved.

All members passed and present adored Paul for his straight talking and life sharing experiences which made Paul in one in a zillion.

Paul, attended most, if not all, of the fund raising events and was the voice of many a P.A. and disco the station would host.

Whilst on the committee, he held the post of request collection co-ordinator, a job he felt right at home with, talking to the patients and the services request collectors.

A member for six years, his dedication, respect and thoughtfulness to the service shone through and was a great example for new up and coming members.

His ability to broadcast, fund raise and time on the committee will never be forgotten. Thank you Paul!

Phil Still
Chairman
Hospital Radio Maidstone

Obituary Judi Gentle



On Saturday, 25th August 2012, Hospital Radio Bedford (HRB) lost one of its most popular presenters to cancer. Judi, who joined HRB in March 1986, was truly a lady with a wicked sense of humour, a professional approach to broadcasting and a great inspiration to members.

She embraced many aspects of radio in particular contact with the patients when collecting requests for the Monday night programme. She entertained the listeners with her love of film and stage musicals in a weekly programme called 'Showstoppers'.

Her involvement covered participating in outside broadcasts, fundraising, RSLs and many other external activities to entertain the patients.

She had a second home in Spain which enabled her to broadcast 'live' by telephone to the studio in a regular programme called 'Postcard from Spain'. Some programmes were recorded in her kitchen complete with the building lift clunking in the background and sent to HRB for music inserts to complete the programme.

One of her major projects over the years was to present 'Walkabout Bedford' with the help of HRB Librarian John Dixon, who is also a Bedford Town Guide. This included programmes about the history of the BBC in Bedford during the Second World War, the rise and fall of Bedford Castle, famous faces, statues and busts around the town

and the embankment.

Other programmes covered nationally-known names like John Bunyan, Samuel Whitbread II and Sir William Harpur, who made significant contributions to Bedford in the past.

Her presence will be sadly missed by all.

New Patient Information System

A team from the Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust have designed a revolutionary Patient Information System which aims to improve patient safety and the patient experience.

The boards, which will be located above every patient's bed, are magnetic systems which use large coloured symbols to clearly show the needs and requirements of each patient. The information system displays visual prompts with regards to all aspects of patient safety, including falls risks, nutritional requirements, communication issues and medication alerts. The boards also include infection prevention and control information.

Dieticians, therapists, specialist nurses and safeguarding leads were consulted to ensure the system properly met the needs of each of their specialist areas.

The system is clear and simple to use and allows staff of any discipline or role to understand and recognise the individual needs of every patient. Patients and their visitors are able to view and contribute to the information, while it also informs them that staff recognise any risks they may face or any special requirements they have.

The boards have been purchased thanks to donations by the League of Friends at both Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells Hospitals.

The Banana Bunch by Dawn Carroll

Illustrated by Linden Hare

Dawn Carroll, a doctor by training until illness forced her to give it up, has self published a book on behalf of an adult family friend who was ill in hospital.

These stories cheered the family friend up and made her laugh

during her stay.

The Banana Bunch has something for everyone: Young or old, laugh at the mishaps and adventures of the monkeys.

The Banana Bunch can be shared with children, as a bedtime story every night for a month.

Linden Hare's fabulous watercolours of the cheerful monkeys are a delight for all ages.

The Banana Bunch monkeys came to life a few years ago when a single story was written, in the hope of bringing a smile to face of an adult, family friend, ill in hospital.

The first story was such a success that, over time, twenty-eight more stories were written – every story an independent episode but all linked to the stories written previously.

Two families of good-natured but somewhat accident-prone monkeys try (and generally fail) to deliver bananas to their human friend, who loathes hospital food.

All very light-hearted but even adults need a giggle from time to time.

The Banana Bunch book is based on those early stories and is being published on the basis that 100% of profits from sale of the book will be donated to charity.

Profits from sale of the first edition will be shared equally between:

- Ty Hafan – the children's and young person's hospice in Wales
- Winston's Wish – the charity for bereaved children

'These heart-warming stories about the mischievous adventures of a family of monkeys and their covert endeavours are enhanced by delightful illustrations by Linden Hare, which both my three young children and I thoroughly enjoyed ... have left me feeling truly inspired.'

Stephen Terry, The Hardwick
Published: 6th September 2012.

For a review copy or to arrange contact with the author in Bath, please contact Amolibros on 01823 401527 or e-mail: amolibros@aol.com

ISBN 978-0-9567447-0-8 £8.99,

Hospital Radio stations can record and broadcast up to six individual stories from the book, royalty free, as part of the promotion,

Darran Huish

Alan at Alton



Presenter Dave Warren interviews Alan Titchmarsh at the Alton Show

The Alton Show is Hampshire's biggest agricultural show and takes place annually at the Alton Showground and about 8000 people go to sample the arena events and sideshows.

Hospital Radio Basingstoke is involved, providing the volunteers (in return for a donation) on the pedestrian entrance to take money and hand out tickets. The day starts early at 8.30 although the majority of people who come via the pedestrian entrance arrive on the park and ride bus from Alton.

One special guest each year is TV gardener Alan Titchmarsh who lives locally and comes to judge one of the categories. HRB's Saturday lunchtime presenter Dave Warren managed to grab a chat with him which formed part of a special hour long show which was heard on HRB a few weeks later.

Basingstoke Celebrate

Founding member of Hospital Radio Basingstoke was among the guests at a special event to celebrate its 40th year in broadcasting. Mike Brooker-Burkitt, known as Chairman Mike,



Chairman Mike with present members

founded the radio station in 1972 and put together the first shows in his bedroom before playing them to the hospital's patients.

We broadcast a special two-hour show featuring interviews with former presenters.

Mr Brooker-Burkitt, explained how he was approached by the hospital about having a radio station and worked on it by himself for the first two years.

He said, 'I'm very impressed with it now. I think it is something very befitting of the hospital and the town and it's something the town should be proud of.'

Chairman Marilyn Price said 'It's nice to meet past presenters and great for them to meet each other.'

The station is holding a series of 40-related events to celebrate the birthday, including volunteers donating 40 pints of blood and the station working with Age Concern to help 40 people access services.

Jubilee Celebrations



June 3rd proved an eventful day at BHR1287's studios.

Celebrations were in place for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee all over the hospital.

First a visit around the wards, where we found lots of patients only too willing to share their Coronation memories with us of the 2nd June 1953. We chatted to patients Edward, Nora and Christopher, also Sister Anna who had her photo taken with us in our jubilee outfits.

Then off to the restaurant where we met a team of the Thames Ambulance Crew who allowed us to take their photo and chatted on a well earned break, having to work this weekend. Security staff were also in celebration mood, as a member of security posed with us for another photo shoot.

Then it was off to the studios to prepare for our programme where we presented 60 tracks along with

60 facts about the Queen, some proving very interesting. Our youngest presenter Joe was on a big learning curve, not only on the music front.

After an enjoyable but exhausting five and a half hours we finally finished with the national anthem 'God Save The Queen' where the boys just stood up and saluted her Majesty for sixty great years of service.

Jacqui James
Basildon Hospital Radio

Less is More!



Two members of Harrogate HR will broadcast their weekly show not from the comfort of a studio chair but from a treadmill in a local fitness club. For Scott Wall and Shaun Gill – who are aiming to raise £3500 for the station by shedding 35lbs each – will be hoping to speed walk 35km for the duration of their three hour Musical Memories show on 11 August.

Scott (left) and Shaun are supervised by Nuffield Health & Fitness club manager Tom Greaves

To help the pair with their quest, members of staff at Nuffield Health and Fitness have devised individual fitness regimes for the pair to follow.

In addition, anyone coming to support the presenters on the day, and donating £5 or more, will be given a free day pass to the club.

If you are unable to join Shaun and Scott on the day, the pair have a Just Giving page for donations, which is found at www.justgiving.com/dietingdjs Donations can also be made by texting "DIET99" and either £2, £3, £5 or £10 to 70070.

The pair's efforts can also be tracked on Twitter (@dietingdjs) and Facebook at Dieting DJs.

Notes from Northwick Park

Volunteers scoop awards and money for charity

Two volunteers have been recognised by the Jack Petchey Foundation for brightening the airwaves for hospital patients.

Chris Hatmann and Steve Pinchen, volunteers at Radio Northwick Park, both won Jack Petchey awards and £700 for the charity which runs the station.

Jack Petchey Foundation honours people who take part in projects which benefit young people. Chris won an award for outstanding achievement, while Steve won the leader's award.

Radio Northwick Park has more than 120 volunteers involved in broadcasting to the wards of Northwick Park and Central Middlesex hospitals and online.

Volunteer co-ordinator Jade Wight said, 'Chris and Steve are enthusiastic, dedicated and knowledgeable. Steve is always trying to find ways in which he can train and motivate his volunteers to become the best they can be. Chris is always looking for ways to raise money for the charity while setting challenges for himself.'

'He recently took part in an organised run and later this year he will be taking on Mount Snowdon with a team of other volunteers from the radio station. He is everything we look for in a volunteer and more.'

Volunteer cycles for charity

Charles Biggie, a volunteer at Radio Northwick Park, cycled from London to John O'Groats raising money for charity in June.

So far Charles has managed to raise £347 and more is still to come, with all money raised going to the running of the radio station.

The 650 mile ride took eight days to complete but he was not alone on the trip, completing the journey with 24 other cyclists.

The 55-year-old said, 'I'm very pleased with the cycle. The first day we had a really heavy storm and in Scotland we had a whole



day of drizzle but overall we were pretty lucky with the weather.

'About two hours from the end I felt I hit a wall but being so close to the finish I found some extra power and kept going.'

'The journey was a perfect example of teamwork and dedication. Everyone kept each other going and there was a real team spirit.'

Northwick Park hold own Olympics

Volunteers at RNP have raised more than £4,500 in an Olympic-themed fundraiser which included a 2,012-minute broadcast.

The team smashed their fundraising record with a weekend of events dubbed The Radio Northwick Park Games.

Between them, the six volunteers completed a 50-mile bike ride, a half marathon and a 1km swim at midnight while the show was on air for a mammoth 33-and-a-half hours.

After a good sleep, volunteer Sarika Unadkat said, 'Doing the 2,012-minute long show was exhausting but also a lot of fun. I don't think I've laughed so much in the space of two days before.'

'There were a few points where I was really tired but the team and the volunteers who came to help really spurred us on.'

'Having been a volunteer for four years, I'm so glad we managed to raise a lot for the station. Although I have given a lot of time to the charity, I feel as though the charity has also given me confidence and I've met some amazing friends – so this was my way of giving back.'

Chairman Matt Blank said, 'I'm overwhelmed with the success this weekend has been and what it's meant for Radio Northwick Park. I want to thank all those who participated, helped out and of course the hundreds of people who donated.'

Batting for victory

Radio Northwick Park is trying to raise hundreds of pounds by auctioning a bat signed by the England cricket team.

Volunteers are auctioning the bat, signed by the 13-man squad for this summer's Test series against the West Indies, on eBay as they prepare for their biggest fundraising weekend of the year.

Fundraising officer Dan Cottrell said he was thrilled to be auctioning the England bat, with the current highest bid being £51.



View from the Basement

Our columnist, Brett Ellis, gets in the Olympic spirit



I once planned an HR sporting special at Guys Hospital, in order to get into the 'Olympic spirit'. It was a resounding failure if truth be known. It consisted of shot putting balls of paper into a waste paper basket on the other side of the studio, paper aeroplane 'javelins' and 'pole vaulting' over my Polish mate Pavel. It all came to an abrupt end when I attempted to weightlift my co-presenter Paul whilst he sat in a reclining office chair above my head. One broken turntable and a slipped disc later our Olympics were over. Luckily for Paul, medical attention was on hand.

As I write this I am coming down after the superb 100 metres final, despite being something of an Olympic cynic, I have concluded that, thus far, each medal won has cost us £800M per medal. Not the most cost efficient sporting success story ever (considering the Daily Mail value the materials in each medal at around £3 for a silver and £2.40 for a bronze).

I am enjoying the 'Carry on' moments most of all. From the opening ceremony gatecrasher (a student from India who led the teams procession into the Olympic stadium) to straight laced presenters discussing 'big tariff dives', 'the pike' and the 'spatchcock'. It's like 50 shades of Grey: The sporting years.

More serious concerns at present include the 16-year old Chinese swimmer who smashed the world record, improved her personal best by ten seconds and even beat the fastest man in winning her gold. A number of Olympians are coming out and saying that her win is dubious at best although dubious is a drug I have not heard of to date.

More athletes than spectators attended the 1900 games which, if Coe and the gang don't pull their finger out, could be a feat repeated in 2012. The on-going concerns regarding ticket allocations are justified. Having tried numerous times to buy some £20 tickets to any event, the reality is that the only tickets left cost at least £110 to see men's beach volleyball. If I want to see men in tight Speedos diving about on sand after a ball then I would choose to view such activity in Mykonos, not Stratford.

I did not manage to get any tickets to the Olympics,

much as I would have liked to go. Not to see minor sports that I have no interest in but like 99% of the spectators, if they are honest, so that they can say 'I was there'. If all other avenues fail, I may be in with a shout of getting some women's beach volleyball tickets but knowing my luck it will be Iran v Saudi Arabia in the final.

The reality is that 'all the others' managed to get tickets. I spent many hours on the 2012 website with no luck. The phone helpline was anything but. I was informed on three separate occasions that tickets were available but as the operative processed my order, they had gone. I wish now I had gone to see the Olympic torch in Cornwall.

The problem with events such as the Olympics and institutions like hospital radio is that everyone is on the bandwagon. Overweight fair weather sports fans come out of the closet and for the two week duration the five rings are the only thing that matters. HR during these events, along with every radio and TV station in the world, needs to find something unique and leftfield with which to engage listeners. It is a task that is nigh on impossible.

As your egotistic saviour, I have, of course, devised a hospital radio strategy or two with which to win radio gold. If there happens to be a tube strike (which is a distinct possibility as the drivers are demanding a £62,000 Olympic bonus per hour 'worked') then why not start up an HR 'Crowlympic Bobsleighing competition'. This involves slaying Bob Crow for sport by whatever means necessary. I'd happily jump the barrier and pay £110 to see that.

Another idea is to get a webcam feed and have an in studio 'Ancient Greek Olympics'. Now, and this is fact, the original Olympics were competed for (by men only) in the nude. In fact the word 'Gymnasium' comes from the Greek word 'Gymnos' which means 'naked'. As long as you don't invite the Chinese woman weightlifter Zhou Lulu in the studio in the buff you should be OK in the public decency stakes. To be fair though Ms Lulu has an extremely impressive clean and jerk and a snatch to die for. That is one Lulu who would really make you want to shout.

Another favourite Olympic activity of mine is spotting the Colemanballs. Maybe you could slip a few into your shows and see if the complaints come in (for sporting purposes only of course). My favourites include: The gymnast, Paul Hamm, who is quoted as saying, 'I owe a lot to my parents, especially my mother and father'. And a boxing analyst who stated: 'Sure, there have been injuries and even some deaths in boxing but none of them really that serious'.

To cap your Olympic show off you can include the tried and tested Top 10 Olympic songs. From 'Simply the Best' to 'Bicycle', 'Winner takes it all', 'Gold' and 'We are the Champions' all are sure-fire HR winners. In fact, one school of thought is that the success of the rowing team this year is solely due to our rowers practising the dance to the Gap Bands 'Oops inside your head' on the dance floor during their formative years. Whatever the top 10, you can be sure the vast majority will be cheesy but will leave your listeners feeling perky and in fighting spirit. And that, I believe, is the purpose of volunteering and will secure you Hospital Radio 'Gold'.

(Any feedback/comments or complaints! gratefully received: e/m: brettellis99@yahoo.co.uk)

I Am A Survivor – Dawn's Story

Four years on and Dawn Green, who is a rare cancer (Pseudomyxoma Peritonei) survivor talks live on Hospital Radio Basingstoke, to Christine Rowley.

One in a million people are diagnosed with this extremely rare cancer and in 2008, Dawn unfortunately was one of them and as a survivor is still continuing to raise awareness and tell her story.

A live link up with Dawn from her home in Northampton was broadcast recently on Hospital Radio Basingstoke to patients, staff, friends and family during the 6pm Music on Demand show. Her inspirational interview was also broadcast UK wide on the new HRB internet connection (www.hrbasingstoke.co.uk).

This very brave lady has fought for her life against Pseudomyxoma Peritonei for the last four years and continues to be a patient at Basingstoke Hospital, one of only two specialist centres in the country who treat this type of cancer.

Dawn told Christine how four years ago she was led to believe by her then local hospital in Nottingham that she had terminal ovarian cancer and gave her just three months to live, when in fact she had Pseudomyxoma Peritonei cancer.

She said, 'This cancer of the appendix can often be confused with ovarian cancer which can mean patients are diagnosed wrongly and misled'.

As a survivor, not giving up after getting over the initial shock of this life threatening news, Dawn went on the internet herself. She found out more about her condition and found only two hospitals in the country could offer treatment, Basingstoke being one of these specialist centres, so transferred there.

During the show, she explained to Christine that if she hadn't done her own research on the internet and found Basingstoke Hospital, who offer the Sugar Baker Technique Treatment (named after



its American pioneer), she wouldn't be here today.

Dawn continues to tell her story when after a recent relapse she returned to Basingstoke Hospital to undergo a further six hour operation and heated chemotherapy treatment. This is when Christine from HRB met her, unbelievably in the hospital hairdressers.

Dawn was in her last phase of treatment at Basingstoke when she spoke to Christine. She was due to go home that day but said she was really grateful to the two lovely girls in the salon who did her hair, gave her bit of pampering and treated her like royalty.

Dawn said she wanted to look good for Jay, her partner, who had been staying with her in Basingstoke during her treatment and for her return home to see her lovely daughters Kirsten and Megan.

During the interview, Christine asked Dawn if she had any words that could help those listening who may be or may know a friend or relative suffering from a similar condition and what would she say to them.

Dawn said, 'Never give up hope,

never stop thinking you can do it. She added there are some very inspirational people out there and quoted Audrey Hepburn, who also had this rare cancer but lost her fight several years ago saying nothing is impossible, the word impossible is I.

For many reasons, Dawn felt she wanted to keep raising awareness and help those who need help through advice, guidance or just knowing someone is there to talk to and set up a charity.

Her story and further information can found on; www.pseudomyxomasurvivor.co.uk or you can pop down to the Macmillan information point at Basingstoke Hospital.

On the show I played out with Dawn's song choice – Destiny's Child – Survivor.

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