

Radio Heatherwood

Presenters Newsletter Issue 73 Autumn 1997

Welcome to a change to our normal publication. This has been brought about by the lack of memory on my PC which means at present we are unable to produce our normal booklet.

It's been a long time since the last one but we felt it was important to bring you the news of some ongoing events in the background. In addition some old favourites are contained as well.

Ward 12 EMI Unit

I am at present engaged in discussions with the hospital on how we can improve the listening facilities for the patients on ward 12 EMI unit, as well as other wards in this block. It's not going to be a quick fix for them: as soon as I have more news on what's going to happen, we will let you know.

General Ward Upgrades

Recently the patients from ward 3 were moved to ward 6 and ward 3 was given a facelift. It is apparent that the hospital intends to refurbish all of the old wards in the same manner.

I have since found out that ward 3 has had all of the bedhead radio panels changed and headsets provided. I tried a couple of them 11/10 and they seem to be working, however once the plastic headsets have been broken we will be back to where we were. The bedheads also don't line up with the amount of beds which are in the wards. We should still be ensuring loan radios are in all the lockers.

Arrivals

The station welcomed Sarah Bishton 24/9 to Wednesdays. We wish her well and hopes she can remain for a long time.

Thank you

A letter of thanks has been received by Roger for his contribution to the Rotary club of Crowthorne fund raising evening. (Roger did the jokes and disco). A large donation may be forthcoming.

Nice one Roge.

(Ed: a large donation forthcoming for us, not to send Roger back or at least give him a new joke book.).

Mini-Disc Players/Recorders

On the notice-board you will see a reference to the station purchasing mini-disc players/recorders for the studio's.

The price of these has fallen dramatically over the last year and the idea is gaining support from the public and media groups.

I am pleased to say due to some surprise donations we have purchased a Mini-disc machine and I am currently reviewing it's operations and compiling a user guide for presenters.

These machines will eventually appear and replace the third CD players and will be used to provide jingles and recorded programs of 1hr long which can be transmitted along the lines of the Music to Music programs.

They will also be used to record vinyl records which cannot be replaced where copies of the record need to be protected. I am leaving an information leaflet produced by SONY in the studio.

Please at your leisure familiarise yourselves with the concept of these machines. **but don't remove the booklet.**

Watch this space for more news.

Loan Radio Sponsor (210)

On Friday 9/5 Dave Bristow from Friday's took a donation for a new loan radio from a visitor to ward 10.

Tracey Fisher who was a former patient was visiting her mother and was reminded of the loan radio service and pulled out her cheque book.

Telephone Number Change

Please note the telephone number has changed for the studio and as from December the new number will be 01344-625818

You can use the new number now !!!.

Donation(Post-Bag) 31/5/97

The following letter was recently received along with a cheque for £5 from Amelia Harrison former patient:-

Dear League of friends I have recently been a patient in Heatherwood (ward 4) and spent happy hours listening to the hospital radio. I had a few requests played and even won a mug.

I send this donation with grateful thanks. Keep up the excellent work.

Well done team.

Loan Radio Sponsor (211)

On Monday 2nd June Lee collected £10 from Peter Holt on Ward 1 for a loan radio.

When I saw the donation on the Saturday you could have knocked me down with a feather.

The previous Saturday after introducing myself to him in the side room on ward 1 he was a pain in the neck to deal with having found a radio for him and explained the service he said why hasn't anybody been round over the last week to collect requests. He made a request to me and as we left the ward Keith & I thought there's no pleasing some people.

Ps the name on the sponsors plaque is likely to be " Pain in the Arse ".

Joking aside it still shows you can always be surprised on this job!!!.

PJ Sats

Donation (Post-Bag)

On Saturday June 14th the following letter and donation was received from the post-bag

Dear Keith & mates enclosed cheque for £20 a small thank you for the pleasure I had while a patient in ward 8 and I look forward to choosing a record in the evening.

My friendly neighbour put £10 towards my £10 so keep up the good work.

Marian Gibson & Jill King.

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Feed-Back (Post-Bag)

On Saturday 14th June a letter arrived from patient on ward 12 petitioning the radio to do something to get the bedhead radio re-instated .

A copy of the letter was given to the hospital and a suggestion sent to the letter writer to send her letter direct to the hospital management.

Departures

On 30th June Dave Smith received a letter of farewell from Rebecca Loader.

Rebecca who joined in 1992 has played an active part in the development of the radio, in her five years with us. A new life of married bliss and changes to her circumstances means Rebecca can no longer continue to support the service.

We wish her well for the future.

Grand Draw

On Saturday 12th July the venue Waitrose Sunningdale produces a ticket sales of £156.20 a splendid response. The weather was kind to us, as well as the patrons of Waitrose.

Donation Post-bag

18/7 Doreen Hodge an ex patient has sent a donation of £10 for the radio.

Battery Sales Increase

The month end total for June realized a total of 60 the highest figure ever achieved in a single month since sales started.

Well done team.

Footnote:- It is important that you log which ward you sold the battery to. We can evaluate the loan radio allocation based on the usage of batteries on that ward. If you don't mark the ward down we have to list them as others and this doesn't help.

The new request slips which will come on stream soon allow you to mark if the patient purchased a battery or not.

Yakkety Yak

Why does "A" always do her ticket selling with " B " ?

Donation (Post-bag)

On Saturday 2/8 a thank you card was received from Jean & Bernard Coff both recently had stays in ward 3 they send thanks to Heatherwood particularly ward 3 for the care and attention during their separate stays.

Carry on with the good work and don't forget "Green sleeves by Robin Hood ".

Hospital Changes

As part of the long term on going changes to the hospital our Ground floor location in the Maternity unit is likely to be surrounded with the Minor injuries unit outside our door.

Donation (Post-bag)

The rotary club of Crowthorne held a fund raising evening at the Downshire golf club earlier in the year and radio Heatherwood has become a beneficiary from the fund raising to the tune of £500. This has been secured by the hard work of Roger, Sylvia Dungate and her husband Terry who helped organise the event.

Feedback (Thursdays)

We came across two cheerful ladies who wanted requests we couldn't split them up, as we had not given a mug away for a number of weeks we thought why not let them both win.

Result = Two lucky winners on ward 3.

Amanda

Bracknell bandstand

The financial results for Bracknell Bandstand showed ticket sales of £43.50 records and bric a brac realized a total of £112.41.

A big thank you to David B, Jim, Mark, Lance, and Keith for your help on Bandstand day.

Loan Radio Sponsor 212-218

On the 8th August one of the founding members of the league of friends May Ettridge died after a stroke which left her in a coma.

May had been with the league right up to February this year in the early days she arranged many fund-raising events which provided the chapel on the hospital. She also worked as a volunteer in the out-patients dept for 27 years.

The league has decided to put out 6 radios in her name. They will be allocated to ward 8.

Post-Bag Donation

On Saturday 23rd August the following letter was received from Alan Holder:-

Grand Draw Time ! I hope it's going well after my embarrassment last year. Can you donate £25 of tickets to whichever ward you would like.

On a sadder note, my mum passed away in July, she'd been unwell since a bout of flu at Christmas. Mum was yet another person that was helped by Radio Heatherwood. After my Dad died mum lost interest in playing her tapes, so to encourage her, I taped a few programmes when I was working with Tony Gardener and Graham Hyman. Much to our surprise it did the trick and she really enjoyed them.

Will you please accept my £50 donation in memory of my mum. She loved music and the type of requests that she heard on Radio Heatherwood. If you are agreeable could you arrange for Roger to play the following 3 records for Elsie Holder.

Jealousy Tango, Fascination Waltz and I just called to say I love You(3360)

If you think it would help, feel free to use this letter in your next news sheet as I hope that it will encourage all your presenters in the work they do

Kind regards Alan.

£75 donation received.

Ps. five loan radios have been issued in memory of Alan's Mum plus Alan makes a welcome return to the station.

(Ed Alan Holder a true friend to the radio , a smashing presenter and a man who has a heart of gold)

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Feedback

(Ascot High Street)

Panic set in for Ian and Roger today when they thought the only tickets available were the ones on the table. Sales were good, so a quick dash to the studio by Roger prevented a disaster. Shame they never looked in the bag under the table first: there was plenty in there to be sold.

Record Donations

September:- Record donations have been received from Kevin Hansford, of Bedford, and a Mr Bewley of Harmanswater.

Donation

At the end of August a nice little surprise landed on my doormat with the donation of £500 from the Ascot Fire Brigade Trust.

If you look back over the radio history files you will see that they have been a consistent supporter of the radio service over the years.

I was suitable gob smacked with this latest donation.

Yakkety Yak

Who likes German Sausage on their holidays?.

Diary of a Winner Grand Draw 1997

When the ticket selling finishes and the last pint has been drunk the draw continues over the following week in the shape of PJ trying to decipher the writing on the tickets and contact all the winners and get rid of the prizes. In addition produce all the results, that go to the press and letters of thank you which need to be sent.

Those people lucky enough to win always appear shocked that they have won.

1st Prize. Joanna Sewell
Winners sister told Joanna spent 2 weeks in the hospital.

2nd Prize. Mrs Bell who had a stay in the hospital was away Grand Draw Weekend and had no idea she had one until the following Tuesday.

3rd Prize A friend of a member of the RHSG we don't know who ?

4th Prize Mr Ripley who lives in lancing and cannot remember buying the tickets.

5th Prize Bill from Boehringer Barry pleased that at least one winner was from all the tickets he sold.

6th Prize Mr Swindlehurst of Wokingham couldn't believe his luck and was gobsmacked.

7th Prize It's nice to know the ice skating tickets always end up with the 80 year old ladies.

8th Prize Mrs Wise " Oh what have I won this For "

9th Prize David Bristow is off to McDonalds.

10th Prize David Matthews a work colleague of Ian Haskell says I've never had a sauna !.

11th Prize Stewart in the ex servicemen's club on the night is that it ! the look on his face said it all

12th Prize Dave Bristow knows a Winklemann who is off to Sainsbury's for his shopping.

13th Prize Mrs Junak a junior ticket to the lookout centre " What ".

14th Prize Mrs Metters had lots of stays in Heatherwood over the last couple of years got the the mug now got the mcdonalds vouchers.

15th Prize Mr Paver from Botley in Oxfordshire how the hell did I win this prize and where did I buy the tickets..

16th Prize Mrs Hardings son answered the phone and two books from Readers Digest "boring".

And so another draw ends here's to the next one.

By the way it all starts for yours truly in January !.

Saturday Morning Radio

A refreshing change to Saturdays took place today 4/10 when programmes moved to the mornings and we were greeted with absolute surprise by patients and staff as we went round to collect requests.

It made a change to see patients wide awake and not dozing but excited to see us despite the fact we had to talk from behind curtains as most people seemed to be doing their ablutions.

We await with interest the response to our service as the word gets round that we broadcast in the mornings.

£££ Donations

As we return to normal services after the Grand Draw, it is still important funds continue to arrive at the station.

Donation Jingles etc. should be aired at least once an hour in your programs.

Overdrive !

At the moment David and I are very busy having to complete tasks which demand a lot of time on our computers. Extra jobs which have cropped up mean other jobs may be sidelined to accommodate more pressing chores. Next year is the 40th Anniversary of the League of Friends as well the 10th Anniversary of the Medium wave service, these all add extras for us to do.

If it seems nothing is happening this could not be further from the truth as we both feel there is not enough hours in the week at the moment to carry out all the tasks required.

Loan Radios Ward 8

By the time you read this story the loan radios which have been sponsored over the last few months would have been added to ward 8 raising the total to 36 for this ward.

What Next ?

I think we can all give ourselves a pat on the back for the way in which we have been able to maintain the services and get through another years fund-raising. What we mustn't do is become complacent about the service we must strive to take on new ideas and new goals otherwise the station will stagnate and we will fall into the bad habits and policies of our predecessors.

The station is being driven along by many different influences but it does demand a team effort by all it's presenters: it's your input which is required not just the chosen few.

Ask yourself what else can I do which might help improve our station ?.

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Operations Manual

A new look opps manual complete with a new Training matrix are due to be released shortly.

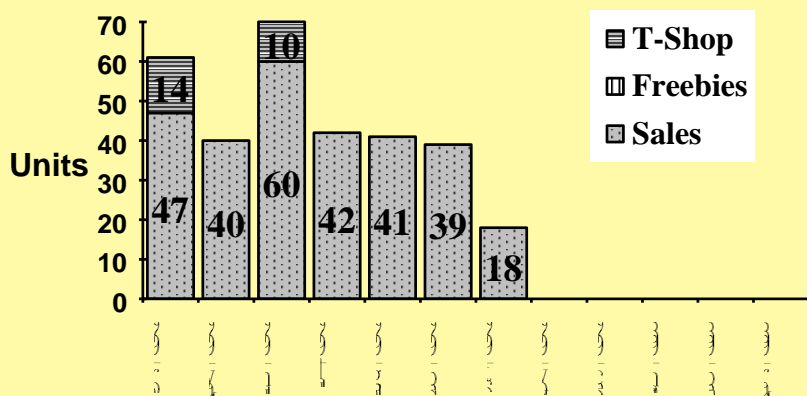
And in the End

The newsletter is your chance to share your experiences How about Some Feedback Stories ?

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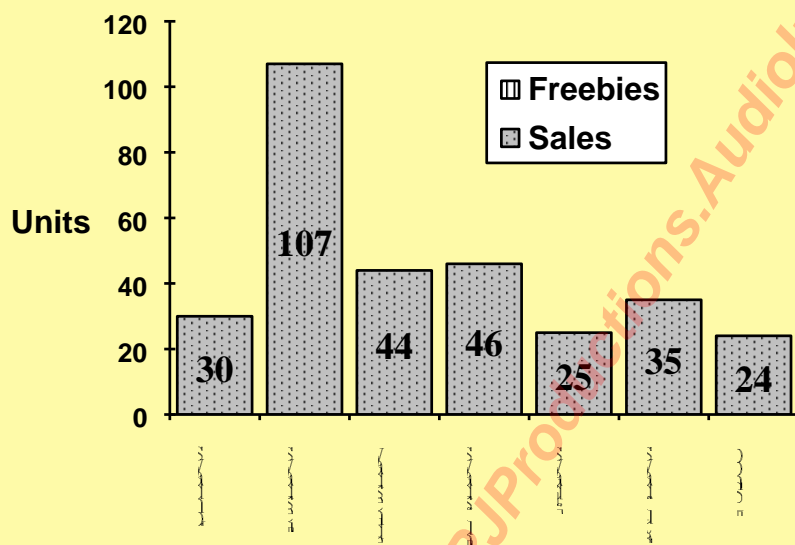
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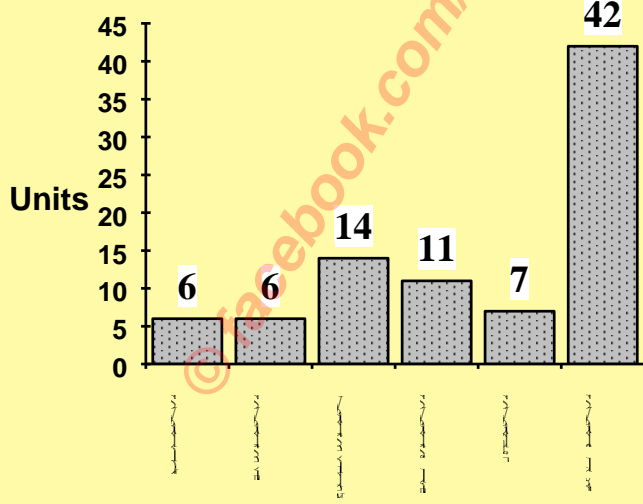
Loan Radio Battery Sales By Month
1st April 1997 to 31st March 1998
1997/8 Recorded Total Sales

311 + 0 Freebies
June shows the highest battery sales ever
in one month.



Loan Radio Battery Sales By Night
1st April 1997 till 31st March 1998
Sales 311 + 0 Freebie

The loss of Mondays transmissions has
dramatically increased the amount of sales
for Tuesdays.



Loan Radio Faulty Units Removed from Wards By Night 1st April 1997 till 31st March 1998
86 units Removed

Loan Radio Faults

The graph speaks for itself, nights need to ensure they are carrying out the correct procedure over faulty units. They need to make sure hiding places in offices are being checked for radios.

Radios on wrong wards should also be re-located to the correct ward.
As at 4 April, 2020