

Yakety Yak

In this month's gossip column Where was Tom going with an overnight bag and does Margaret Know ?  
Who played to an audience of One ?  
and has R R worn out his rhythm stick.

Feedback( Sat 9/1 )

In the blue book our code of conduct warns us of foot "n" mouth when broadcasting but not any mention of talking to patients. Come with me now as the story unfolds of Foot " n " Mouth.

When you recognise someone that knows you on the wards you are always able to have a joke or remember better days. On Saturday I bumped into a former work colleague who was in ward three, complete with oxygen mask and gasping for breath. Having exchanged the pleasantries. I asked " Do you want a request on the radio tonight " no was the reply, I'm not feeling up to it at the moment, are you on the radio tonight then " ? he said.

" Yes I am , Kill or Cure if you listen to me tonight "

As the last words passed my lips the severity of the statement hit me, it's at moments like this you wish you had stayed in bed.

Luckily for me my friend said " well if that's the case, I will definitely give it a miss ".

As punishment for my foot "n" mouth I have self imposed a total ban on all Paul Mc Cartney records in my show and will listen to the theme from the Dambusters as often as I can: Vonne Smith permitting.

Loan Radio Batteries

It is only as time progresses that we find all the problems with different ideas or projects we undertake. A further item you need to take on board is the subject of batteries given to patients on the promise of payment the following night. It is not working out because of various reasons, the patients will end up with a free battery due to the following night not getting to the ward or the patient goes home or they don't cough up the money subsequently your night has used another of it's free quota.

Please Do not offer a battery to patients on the basis of payment at a later date. Credit is not an option we can afford.

It has been brought to my attention, that recently whilst on ward rounds some presenters are finding difficulty in approaching patients to pay for batteries. I have also been informed that you have provided batteries for patients by paying for them out of your own pocket. This is very commendable but it is not our wish that presenters should use their own funds. It solves the immediate problem of the patient without the working radio, but will create long term problems.

When actions taken by yourself add to the impression that we provide free batteries it increases the pressure on other presenters when asking patients to pay. The provision of free batteries to patients is limited, because of the financial implications for the station.

We would all like to offer a free battery service to the patients but it is just not financially viable. We need to educate the nursing staff, patients and their visitors that we are subsidising the sale of the batteries, and are not twisting their arm to buy the batteries.

If you feel uncomfortable in approaching a patient, with the prospect of asking for the money for a battery, or you feel embarrassed about the situation. Please talk to Gordon or pop along to see David and we will help you

improve your technique. In the meantime: please do not use your own funds to provide the loan radio, battery service.

We would be the first to admit it's not easy, but a little knowledge on technique can help.

P.J.

#### Donations

Jean on ward 10 donated £5 Wednesday 13/1

William ward 3 donated £4 Monday 18/1

#### Teamleader

Roger Hawkes has now taken on the role of Teamleader for Fridays, Roger has in the past held this role and I'm sure will use the experience gained previously.

( ED: Will he use his Rhythm stick or leave it to Ricky )

#### Harmony Club

On Tuesday 19/1 the barbershop harmony club visited the studio and recorded some selected songs and these will be broadcast at a later date as part of a special program.

( ED: Sadly no Paul Mc Cartney songs were used )

#### Supporters Group

On Monday 18/1 Big Dave posted out the diary of events for this year to the supporters group, within two days large amounts of bookings were received. The charity buzz which makes the most money, has already been half filled.

#### Fight For FM

The campaign for FM will be well under way by the time you read this. It is imperative that we reverse the decision of the radio authority as the implications for hospital radio's for the next decade doesn't bear thinking about.

If you come across any press coverage on this subject in your papers local or national please cut them out and leave them on my clip.

#### Mug Giveaways

The mugs to giveaway as prizes each night have arrived and each night with the (exception of Friday) should decide now how they intend to give them away. We are going to start this at Easter.

The new booklet which will be available at Easter will contain the change of broadcast times and your nights idea to giveaway the mugs. These should be advised to David by mid February.

Saturdays will be a mug for the Sexiest Pyjama's.

( ED: As modelled by Alan Leary Shirt Holder )