

# Radio Heatherwood

## Presenters Newsletter Issue 75 Winter 1998

In this edition of the news letter we ask the question what no feedback stories ?, a fall in battery sales expected for the year and Grand Draw 98.

### "Oh Look: aNew Presenter ?"

Over Christmas and the new year adverts were run in the Bracknell news extra advertising for staff. Some new people have been taken on but as usual Dave has been plagued with the time wasters.

### Feedback Fridays

Don in ward 4 12/12 says were better than Radio 2. The fact that Don won the mug that night is purely coincidental.

Ian and I have decided that a 50% pay rise will be acceptable.

*Ed Have a pay rise on me after all 50% of nothing is ?*

### Feedback

Chas Hughes a patient on ward one during mid December enjoyed the service so much he instructed his wife to buy some batteries for other patients to use. Mrs Hughes purchased 6 batteries from Boots and left them at the studio. Shame she didn't contact us first because Boots charged her £16 for the six.

### Yellow Peril

The new leaflets which give our broadcast times and where patients can donate their money to should be left in each and every locker on the hospital as you go round. A loan radio in a locker should be accompanied by the blue and yellow leaflets.

### Feedback

On Saturday 3/1 our first service to the wards after the Christmas break produced comments from patients of " no I had a request yesterday " and " I love your radio service the programs are excellent " Strange that. Has there been another station on-air ? called Radio Heatherwood.

### Grand Draw 98

I hope all of you read my notice on the board about prizes for this years draw. We have secured 9 prizes watch the notice board for an update. Don't forget any additional prizes will be most welcome.

### Engineering Corner

The second studio receives it's mini-disc 3/1 and now we can hopefully get everyone up to speed with their use. If you are experiencing difficulties and you fancy some extra tuition, contact me and I will arrange.

### When things go Wrong !

No matter what it may be if you are unsure about something which may not be working properly or you need re-assurance I am only a phone call away or if it doesn't seem urgent leave a note for me.

It's better I know as soon as possible than to find out when it's too late.

*PJ*

### A Strange Tap(ping)

On Thursday 8th January Barry had the mis-fortune to discover a strange tapping sound in studio 1. Our secret is out, some years ago we installed a good humour safety device in the studio.

When bad humour is broadcast the device turns on and the presenter is greeted with water on the brain. Sadly the device broke when Roger started and it hasn't worked since.

A strange phenomena must have occurred on the night and triggered the device into action; Barry was very lucky he could have been in for a soaking!!!!.

*(ED: as agent Mulder would say the truth is out there ? )*

### New Posters

A new set of posters which sing the praises of the station are now available and are laminated to protect them and to also ensure their not destroyed by the ward staff.

### Funny Old World

It's funny people can notice our fire extinguisher has passed it's sell by date by looking very closely at it but can't notice the strange smell from coming from the rubbish bin.

It's funny people can find the air freshener and move it's position but can't find the smell.

It's funny people can find the wrong record in the wrong sleeve but can't find the correct sleeve.

It's funny people can find a loan radio in their locker but can't find out that it needs a new battery.

It's funny presenters think there's a radio shortage on ward 7

*ED: It's a funny or is that strange old world we live in.*

### Donation ( Post-bag )

A £5 donation was received 17/1 from a D Branch no note or explanation but a nice surprise.

### Grand Draw 1998

Don't forget to pass copies of your holiday dates to Roger & Ada and also mark on the staff calendar the nights you will be away.

### Arrivals

The station welcomes Scott Jolly to Fridays 23/1. Jim Adam to Thursdays 5/2 and Paul Brannan to Saturdays 31/1. We wish them well.

### Donation ( Post-bag )

Mrs Butters writes 19/1 Dear DJ's I enclose a cheque for £10 in thanks for the enjoyment I got from your programmes. We always heard our requests and the music was always cheering. The mug I won is beside me now, reminding me that I am allowed to be lazy and waited on for a few days.

### Loan Radio Faults

Just a reminder to everyone if you do pull off radios off the ward and they are faulty Please please write them up and put them in the tin under the library.

### Foreign Interference

Our old friend foreign interference is back and some recent strange weather has prompted complaint's about foreign stations cutting in. Don't forget poor battery life doesn't help the situation.

### Feedback

I've said this many times before but it's worth repeating sharing your experiences with your fellow presenters through a few chosen words in the newsletter is the best way to encourage team support. The newsletter will only survive if you participate How about it Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays: It's your Newsletter !.

### More Arrivals

Brian Soundy to Saturdays 14/2  
Belinda Rolfe to Wednesdays 11/2

### Loan Radio Donation ( Post-bag )

On Saturday 31st January we opened the following letter:-

Dear Radio Heatherwood

# Radio Heatherwood

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I was in ward 10 from 17.12. till 22.12.97 and found one of your radio's in the locker. There were two Gladys's together I was Gladys 2 Glad 1 had her favourite request of Frank Sinatra's My Way I was lucky enough to have 4 played. When you came up with Eddie Calverts oh mein papa, I was flabbergasted My dad died in 1966 it was our favourite then and it was great to hear it again.

The enclosed (£10) is a thank you towards another radio or what ever, if you've got to be in hospital- you can't beat Heatherwood and your radio service is the icing on the cake.

Thanks to you all.

Sincerely Mrs Gladys Halfacre.

*Ed: well done team.*

### EMI Unit ( A new Service ) ?

On the notice board you will have noticed our proposals to improve the service available to the EMI unit.

Despite my already valuable time being used to this project getting off the ground it seems the management of the EMI unit do not feel the same. Despite a visit to them plus a letter to them at the beginning of December they have ignored our offer of help or support.

We have stopped all ward visits to ward 12 and the only way forward for them now is for them to contact us.

My experience of dealing with the hospital over the years has always produced a stone wall effect from certain dept's this we have never been able to change and it's rather sad that through the actions of certain staff we are unable to improve the service available to the patients who would certainly benefit from our support.

It has always been my role to ensure outside groups are aware of our activities and when necessary ask them for financial support. At the present I feel really embarrassed about the whole project especially as two outside groups already know about the project and would have been prepared to offer their support.

We are now in a state of limbo over this as we will now have to continue to raise funds to replace the bedhead amps in our studio but we will not be able to advertise the EMI part of the project.

We will not be able to move forward on the link to ward 10 until such time as the EMI unit approach us. We couldn't ask the hospital to stump up the man power for a new link to ward 10 when the benefit is only for one ward.

Our ongoing target will be to raise £3200 to cover the cost of the new amps etc.

We'll keep you posted.

#### **Stop Press 17/3/98**

*A final push by the hospital rep to contact the ward for some support will be made in an effort to rescue the EMI part of the project.*

### Recruitment 1997

In 1997 staff joining were 2, staff leaving was 6 Applications sent not returned was 11 Applications returned 3. This years staff recruitment is well under way and new trainee's have already been accepted.

### Cleanliness it's your Responsibility !

It seems we are falling into some bad habits regarding the cleanliness of the studios. A reminder here to everyone the bins don't empty themselves and the mess you make on the floor has to be cleaned up by someone and this should be you not left for someone else.

Team leaders should be ensuring that studios are clean and tidy. A hover is provided should you need to clean up any mess

How about seeing if it works on your night ?

### Departures

Paul Brannan from Saturdays joined on 31/1/98 left on 7/2/98 he will not be missed because if you blinked you missed his commitment.

### Valentine Man

On Friday 13th February a well known Chelsea supporter along with his hot date (Ada) were involved in a fund-raising Disco held at the Royal Ascot Cricket Club. We are now £110 better off thanks to their splendid efforts.

### Play lists

A reminder to all presenters of the guidelines on filing out the playlist we are going through a spell of not writing out our play lists correctly. All jingles played should be recorded in the space provided. If you did a verbal promotion of the station this should also be recorded. It may not seem important to you but we can get an overall view of what's being played.

The four promotion slots allocated for an hour show also contribute to our format for broadcasts and we would like to know that this format is being observed.

Extra items during your show can be added in the comments column.

### Donation

Whilst carrying out my usual duties on Saturday 7/2 checking loan radio's on the wards a lady on ward 5 Jo was insistent she gave me a donation of a pound for the radio: having noticed that she had already given £2 the night before I tried my best to persuade her to save her money for the batteries she may need. Result £1 donation plus a battery sold as well.

No doubt Fridays know why she gave £2 the night before.

### Donation

On Saturday 14/2/98 Bert on ward 5 who has been with us for some time donated £1 and says from a grateful patient on ward 5 just a small token of thanks enclosed He was very grateful to us for all his records he was able to listen to.

### Opps Manual I Need to Borrow It ?

If you wish to take the opps manual home to read, you can do so provided you leave a note against your name in the studio log( comments column ) stating which one you have borrowed i.e. 001,002,003. This means we then know who has got a copy should something happen and you decide to leave. In the past copies loaned out were not returned and these do cost money.

Marking it's return to the studio in the log in the same manner, will ensure you not being hounded for it's return.

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### Friday 13th

That fateful date cast it's spell on David Bristol and Co when Scott lost his mobile phone and for the first time ever they forgot to throw the key on the transmitter at the end of the evening and the sound of silence was inflicted on the patients from Friday night until 8.30 the following morning when we discovered the mistake.

### Unsavoury Characters ?

The latest round of staff recruitment has produced some enquiries from individuals who are what you might say tuppence short of a shilling in the brain department and this has caused unnecessary problems for David.

We are intending to change the way we are contacted in future we will be recommending that enquiries to the studio over the phone requesting any of the management's phone no's should not be given out but take the callers name and address and we will contact them. All personal telephone no's not to be divulged to callers.

A revision to the opps manual and an aide memoir will be produced shortly.

### Waitrose Sunningdale

Have just received confirmation this years ticket selling at Waitrose will be on Saturday 15th August.

### Engineering Corner

#### Mini-Disc News

The price of the units and availability of new players is increasing, if you want the same recorders as those contained in the studio don't buy them from Dixons/Curry's go to Oxford Road Reading and buy them from Richer Hi-fi you'll save yourself £'s. Discs are also cheaper at Richers or you can purchase 5 blank discs and a box from MVC music stores with a members card for £17.99. Dixons are selling pre-recorded Mini-discs but it is only a limited catalogue at the moment.

### Long Service Award

By the time you read this Amanda Chivers a wee slip of a girl will have completed five years service on Radio Heatherwood. Amanda has been a valued member of the radio station and I'm sure you will all wish her the best and thank her for continuing commitment. A presentation will be arranged at a convenient moment in her busy schedule.

*( Ed; lots of male patients have had their temperatures rise on many occasions when Amanda made an appearance ).*

Ps so has Barry's risen ( Temperature that is ).

### Feed back ( Post-bag )

A note from Bert on ward 5 passed to us Saturday 21/2 reads To radio Heatherwood you are all doing a marvellous job I know you are all volunteers and it is so good of you all to put on such lovely records I listen from 7.30 till 10pm and enjoy them all. also the ones you play Saturday mornings. I bought one of your lovely mugs and also subscribed a pound donation to your fund. Yours from a grateful patient on ward 5 Bert Whitfield.

### Un-welcome visitors

#### Operations Manual Section 7 7:2

If a caller arrives at the studios unannounced. ***Do not automatically give them a guided tour.***

A little reminder to everyone we don't do this sort of thing without an appointment. Recently Bruce on Wednesdays has just had two people arrive claiming to be from another station can we have a look around. We have no way of knowing if they are genuine ? On this occasion Bruce was on the ball and asked them to leave.

Don't be fooled by strangers they could be casing the premises ?.

#### No Tours Allowed Without Prior Arrangement

### Picture This

We are going to leave the camera out on the side for all presenters to tart themselves up and record the results for pictures to be entered for the radio History file 1998. it is especially important new presenters are captured on film so please all staff practice saying cheese and use the camera.



And Finally brightening up a Saturday morning recently a member of the Tuesday team popped into the studios to bring some marvellous CD's which had been donated.

We don't have a picture of his wife Carol but we have the next best thing pilot of the airwaves Big Al.

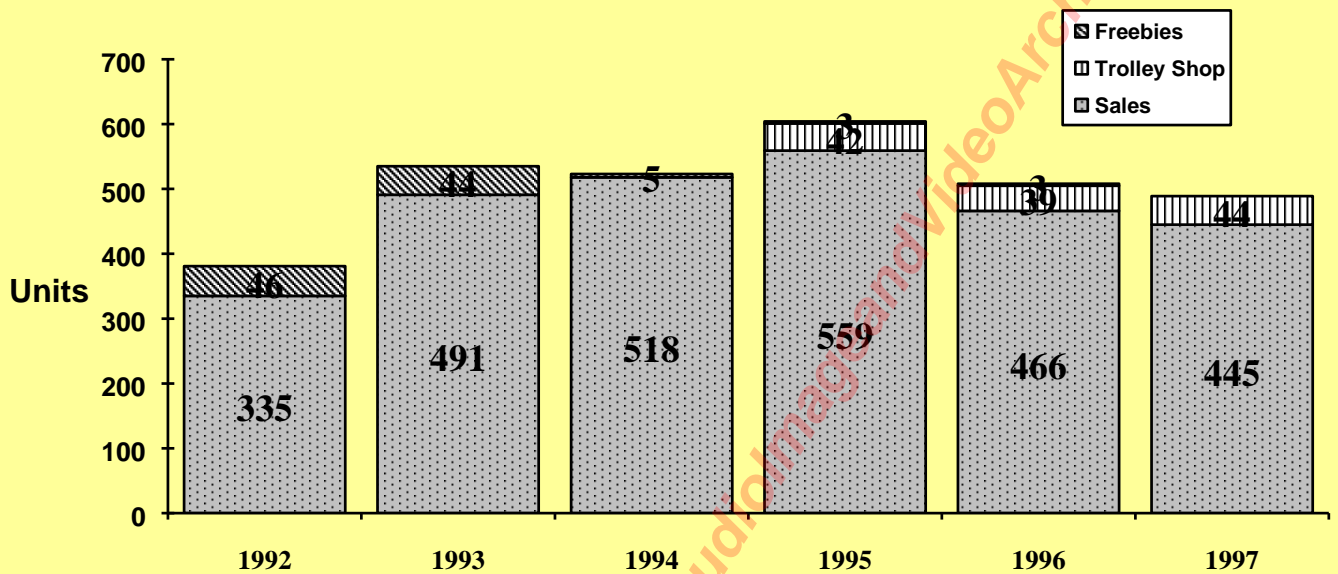
*( Ed: how about some pictures Al for me scrapbook !!).*



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**Loan Radio Battery Sales By Year**  
**1st April 1993 till 31st March 1998**  
**Recorded Total Sales Sales 2939 + 101 Freebies**



*The end of March figures have yet to be added, but will we beat last years sales figures. One thing is for sure Tuesdays are streets ahead in the nightly sales league and they have leapt ahead !!!*



**Loan Radio Battery Sales By Night**  
**1st April 1997 till 31st March 1998**  
**Sales 489 + 0 Freebie**

