

"THE RADIO WAVE"

Keeping Radio People in Touch"

6<sup>th</sup>. August 2006

Issue #51

Ian MacRae, Editor, [radiowave@allaboutradio.net](mailto:radiowave@allaboutradio.net)

-----  
By subscription only! Welcome to the fifty-first issue of

THE RADIO WAVE

You are receiving this because you requested a subscription.

Unsubscribe instructions are at the end of this newsletter.

-----  
A SELF-SERVING PLUG

-----  
Staff at the online radio station Boost Digital Radio have been kept busy answering emails from anxious independent music makers asking when the promised MP3 Music Store will be open for listeners to be able to buy their music.

Graeme Logan, CEO Boost Digital Group said: "We are sincerely sorry about the delay. Every time as we are about to launch the product we see something else that can be improved on. As we want to make this download service the best and user-friendliest on the internet we've kept sending our designers back to the drawing board."

"However, I'm pleased to say we are almost ready to green light the project and we'll be contacting all the independent musicians currently being played on Boost Digital Radio any day now to sign them up."

Boost Digital is also encouraging indie music makers who haven't submitted music yet to do so now to take advantage of the special launch commission rate of 25% that will be paid on all sales of albums or single tracks.

All genres of music are acceptable. Unsigned bands and artists can download information from the website about how to submit their music for airplay.

[www.boostdigitalradio.com](http://www.boostdigitalradio.com)

Graeme Logan added: "Right now we're especially also looking for quirky, off-the-wall music videos to put on our site. The more unusual the better. We can also play the audio version on the Boost Digital Radio stream"

"Meantime I promise you the MP3 Music Store

[www.boostdigitalmp3.com](http://www.boostdigitalmp3.com) will be in operation very soon."

Which will be good news to the programmers who can then get

some sleep.

---

IN THIS ISSUE

---

- WE HAVE MAIL
- A REAL ASININE RADIO STUNT
- PRO NAMES POLITICIAN AS CLIENT ON AIR: POLLIE SUES
- RADIO AD NAMES POLITICIANS WHO'VE USED MARIJUANA...AND BREATHED IN
- HENS EGGED ON BY RADIO
- NO ADS ON VATICAN RADIO
- US. BROADCASTERS FORCED TO CENSOR THE PRESIDENT
- PURE DIGITAL LAUNCH NEW ELAN SERIES DAB RADIO
- PHONEY PHONE CALLS GET RADIO STATION IN A BIT OF BOTHER
- IS CLEAR CHANNEL BOYCOTTING MADONNA?
- HELP!!!

---

WE HAVE MAIL

---

In the previous issue of The Radio Wave I reported that nine jobs had been axed at Sydney talk station 2UE including a young reporter who began work there five days earlier having been recruited from another Sydney station.

Hi Ian,

Just writing about the article regarding the redundancies at 2UE.

Quite frankly mate, it stinks!!! and is a reflection of all that's bad within an industry that is fickle at the best of times.

The thing that is haunting broadcasting (as well as the great majority of other industries) is the 2 B's... Balls and Budget. No Station manager (programme director, call them what you will) particularly here in the UK has the balls to give anyone a go and even less budget to facilitate them.

What the hell's going on???

Yours Disillusioned.

Paul Bryce.

COMMENT: Ah yes. Fickleness thy name is radio.

-----  
"G'day Ian - in my never ending quest to find good radio copy.. .here's a BEAUTY I just heard!

"We may have lost the World Cup, but you can still win at 'xyz' butchers with these special prices!"

Gawd ...

David Hague"

Hmm. It has got an air of desperation about it.

COMMENT: Personally I would have gone for broke and said:

"We may have lost the war in Iraq but....."

-----  
A REAL ASININE RADIO STUNT  
-----

Personal experience has taught me that people just love weird and wacky radio contests. You can always bank on listeners doing just about anything to win a prize and enjoy their fifteen minutes of fame.

But I've never heard of a competition that involves ass kissing.

Until now.

To win tickets for the sold-out Crosstown Classic between the White Sox and the Cubs in Chicago, listeners to Jonathon Brandmeier's morning show on WLUP-FM 97.9 (The Loop) were invited to participate in the Loop's "Crosstown Classic Ass Kissing Contest."

Loop listeners who qualified earlier in the week were summoned

to plant a kiss on a live donkey outside Wrigley Field.

The fan who kept their lips on the donkey the longest wins tickets to the game.

Had to feel sorry for the donkey.

-----  
PRO NAMES POLITICIAN AS CLIENT ON AIR: POLLIE SUES  
-----

In Sydney NOVA 969FM is getting sued by the New South Wales State Treasurer Michael Costa for defamation over comments by an anonymous woman, claiming to be a prostitute, on the Merrick and Rosso breakfast show.

The hosts did cut the call short but didn't use the delay button, basically because they weren't on delay. About half an hour later they apologized on the air for the remarks, which named COSTA and claimed he had "seen" the prostitute.

The case is proceeding in the New South Wales Superior Court.

Meantime, tongue firmly in cheek, Phil Dobbie on his abitoftheother website 'reported'..."Prostitutes are launching

a class action against Nova 96.9 for allegations that one of them was prepared to sleep with Michael Costa.

"We have standards too" they said."

-----  
RADIO AD NAMES POLITICIANS WHO HAVE USED MARIJUANA...

AND BREATHED IN  
-----

A new U.S. ad campaign from the Marijuana Policy Project names prominent public officials, including President Bush, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, former Vice President Al Gore, and Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas as having admitted to using marijuana.

The ad then asks, "Is it fair to arrest three quarters of a million people a year for doing what presidents and a Supreme Court justice have done?"

The spot hit the airwaves on 141 radio stations nationwide.  
-----

HENS EGGED ON BY RADIO  
-----

A chicken farmer has claimed that playing BBC Radio 2 to his flock has resulted in a "staggering" increase in egg production.

Bill Rhodes, of Wakes Colne, near Colchester, Essex, said his 5,500 free-range chickens had laid more than 5,000 eggs a day for 30 weeks in a row.

He said the egg-laying frenzy could be down to the radio station.

The 54-year-old farmer said: "They listen to the radio for 15 hours a day, which I think helps. They can get quite upset by the noise of a helicopter or low flying planes overhead, so the music helps to block that out."

"If a bird is unstressed then you get a better quality egg."

Mr Rhodes, who set up Freechooks Farm 10 years ago, said:

"It is a little bit of a mystery. They are laying far more eggs than I would expect.

"Other people play music to their flocks, but whether or not they play Radio 2 I don't know.

"But it is nice and mellow and it seems to make the birds happy. As soon as they arrived we put the music on as loud as possible as we unloaded them to help them settle in."

A spokeswoman for the British Egg Information Service said:

"I have heard of a number of farmers using this technique,  
but it seems this farmer has certainly mastered it."

Some of the songs the birds might be hearing...

It's Raining Hen - The Feather Girls

I Should Be So Clucky - Kylie Minogue

Layla - Eric Clapton

Hen Will I Be Famous - Bros

Poultry In Motion - Johnny Tillotson

The Chicken Song - Spitting Image

Egg-specially For You - Kylie and Jason

Roll Over Beethov-hen - Chuck Berry

With A Little Help >From My Hens - Joe Cocker-el

-----

NO ADS ON VATICAN RADIO

-----

The Vatican's large radio network has no intention of  
broadcasting adverts even though the media operation weighs  
heavily on Vatican accounts.

The Network chief Father Federico Lombardi said Vatican Radio,  
which employs 200 journalists and transmits in five continents,  
does not have the right sort of audience to broadcast  
advertising.

He was speaking during the presentation of Vatican accounts, which showed that Vatican Radio soaked up 23.5 million euros in 2005 and generated virtually no revenue.

"We won't bring in adverts," said Father Lombardi, who has just taken on the job of chief Vatican spokesman as well as that of head of Vatican radio and TV .

"The Radio has an audience which is unlikely to appeal to advertisers," he continued, noting that the network's audience - divided into 40 language groups in scores of countries - was too geographically and ethnically diverse.

"What sort of product could be advertised to an audience like that?" he asked rhetorically.

Do they still make Pope washing machines?

-----  
US. BROADCASTERS FORCED TO CENSOR THE PRESIDENT  
-----

The use of the s-word by President Bush during a supposedly private chat with British Prime Minister Tony Blair forced U.S. broadcasters to follow strict new indecency laws while their cable rivals had such worries.

Cable networks are free to air the quote in its entirety, (and it burned up the internet)but broadcast networks risked fines and even their licenses by airing it without bleeping the word.

The candid remark to Blair by Bush was picked up by an open microphone during the closing lunch at the Group of Eight summit in Russia. In the remarks, he expressed his frustration with the United Nations, attacks on Israel by Hezbollah and its backers in Syria.

Bush told Blair (as he chewed on a buttered roll), 'See, the irony is that what they need to do is get Syria to get Hezbollah to stop doing this shit, and it's over.'

Video clips of the remark were available on the Internet soon after that, but broadcast industry executives and attorneys said in an interview that airing the remark would put them at risk of Federal Communications Commission sanctions.

As one executive quipped: 'I guess the FCC has performed a new feat by forcing broadcasters to censor the leader of the free world.'

-----  
PURE DIGITAL LAUNCH NEW ELAN SERIES DAB RADIO  
-----

Pure Digital has brought out another model in their Elan range, the RV40.

The portable radio's main feature is that it runs Pure's ReVu technology, so that listeners can pause and rewind live radio for up to 30 minutes.

As expected of DAB radios these days, the device includes textSCAN to pause and control scrolling of DAB texts; it also stores Intellitext messages so listeners can view news headlines, sports results, favourite track listings, and more.

On the go, the optional ChargePAK gives up to 15 hours of portable playing time; the RV40 can also be operated from the mains power.

Other features include 20 DAB or FM presets and a clock with a timer.

The Elan RV40 is available in the UK from September for around £89.99 including VAT.  
-----

PHONEY PHONE CALLS GET RADIO STATION IN A BIT OF BOTHER

-----  
Sydney's 2DayFM breakfast show with Kyle and Jackie O show admitted to using two bogus callers on air with a station spokesman confessing an entire half-hour of the show was a total fabrication.

The network admitted a producer "used two of his friends" to pose as real callers - one as a woman called Cindy and the other as her brother.

Cindy supposedly called up to get advice on whether she should tell her brother his wife was unhappy and planned to leave him.

Miraculously Kyle and Jackie O were then able to convince Cindy to get her brother's phone number and, during several breaks in a very drawn-out segment, they got bogus caller No.2 on the line for a dramatic radio showdown.

Since then more claims of fake calls were brought to light by the Sydney Daily Telegraph.

The paper highlighted three separate occasions where fake callers may have been used.

Regular listeners to the show have often wondered about the legitimacy of some of the callers to the show.

The trouble is now that every call to the show will come under scrutiny.

Download their podcast with Paris Hilton and you'll be forgiven for wondering if every single call to the superstar was authentic.

A station spokeswoman said Kyle and Jackie O were not aware of their producer's scam.

Sure.

-----  
IS CLEAR CHANNEL BOYCOTTING MADONNA?  
-----

Songs from Madonna's latest album, "Confessions on a Dance Floor," have been hits around the world, but haven't done so well in the U.S.

Some fans reckon that radio stations owned by Clear Channel, which is a company with strong ties to the Republican party, are refusing to play her music because of her comments

blasting George Bush and the war in Iraq.

Madonna has been an outspoken critic of the war and during her current "Confessions" concert tour, makes obscene comments about President Bush.

Clear Channel stations were said to be key in keeping the Dixie Chicks' music off the air after one of them made highly publicized comments about being "embarrassed" to be from the same state as George Bush.

Nearly 5,000 Madonna fans have signed a petition sent to Clear Channel head Mark P. Mays, accusing the company of keeping the singer off the radio airwaves. The petition states: "The evidence that there is a boycott from American Radio is too obvious for words ... Madonna rules the planet, EXCEPT for the USA."

A number of petition signers report that when they request Madonna's music, they're told by Clear Channel-owned stations she's too old or not popular enough.

-----

HELP!!!

-----

We need more subscribers to this list!

Would you help me to double the subscriber number by next month?

Forward this newsletter to your three favourite radio colleagues and suggest they subscribe.

Well, it IS free! And they can unsubscribe at any time.

All they have to do is send a blank email to:

[radiowave@allaboutradio.net](mailto:radiowave@allaboutradio.net)

Thank you.

-----

Copyright 2006 Ian MacRae

=====