



Kalamunda Community Radio (Inc.)

**ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2024-2025**

KCR 102.5 FM acknowledges its programs are broadcast from Whadjuck Country
with studios in Gooseberry Hill
The Members of KCR convey their respect to Elders past, present and emerging

© 2025 – Kalamunda Community Radio (Inc.) – KCR 102.5FM
Studios: 42 Ledger Road, Gooseberry Hill, WA 6076
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E-mail: kcradmin@kcr-fm.org.au
Website: <https://www.kcr-fm.org.au>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/6KCRFM/>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/kcr102.5fm/>
ABN: 82 420 569 327
KCR is a Registered Charity

Introduction

This Report (formerly known as the Chairperson's Report) covers the period from April 2024 to March 2025. During that time the new Studios have been a major benefit to the Station. As well as facilitating smooth transition from one Presenter to the next, the larger Studio has paid host to several live groups and is ideal for guest interviews.

The negotiations with the Australian Communications Media Authority (ACMA), and with the ABC about changing KCR's broadcast frequency from 102.5 FM to 88.9 FM have virtually ground to a halt with the ACMA still not yet releasing its Proposals for the Reorganisation of the FM Frequencies in the Perth Metropolitan area.

A very considerable amount of time has been taken up with a search to find a new transmission tower following the unexpected demolition of the existing tower behind the City of Kalamunda's Offices as it was considered unsafe. At the time of writing this issue has not been completely solved.

KCR became a registered charity, recognised by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). In the future, it is hoped that we will become a Taxable Gift Recipient by the Australian Taxation Office meaning that all donations over \$2 would be tax deductible.

Moving to 88.9 FM Broadcast Frequency

As discussed in the past two year's Annual Reports, the reorganisation by the ACMA of the FM broadcast spectrum in the Perth area to accommodate the ABC's transition from AM to FM broadcast will require KCR to change frequency from 102.5 FM to 88.9 FM. Several discussions took place during the past year between KCR, the ABC, and Broadcast Australia, (the ABC's Technical Consultants). KCR has received confirmation that the ABC will pay for the installation of an appropriate antenna for 88.9 FM. They may also provide some help with publicity about the change.

Despite the ACMA indicating in 2023 that their reorganisation Proposal would be published by March 2024 this did not happen. A second deadline of January 2025 has passed, and the current publication date of April 2025 also looks likely to be missed. Once the Proposal is actually published there will still be a one-to-two-month consultation period followed by six months to complete all legalities. It is therefore very unlikely any move of frequency by KCR will happen before 2026.

Since KCR needs to erect an entirely new transmission tower by mid-2025 (as explained later) it would be very convenient for KCR to move to 88.9 FM at that time. This is currently a vacant frequency. However, the ACMA is completely unwilling to allow any changes ahead of the final reorganisation.

In July 2024, the Chairperson took part in a virtual meeting with the Federal Department of Communications and other WA Community Radio Stations to provide input to the Community Broadcasting Sector Sustainability Review. This was subsequently published in early 2025.

A New Transmission Tower for KCR

A major, urgent and unexpected, issue arose with KCR's transmission tower. Located behind the City of Kalamunda's offices this tower has been used by KCR since 2015 when we moved from the Mead Street, Kalamunda premises. Whilst it had been known for more than 5 years that the

tower, and the old caravan park ablutions block used to house the transmitter, would eventually need to be replaced, this was considered to be a long-term project.

However, in mid-2024 KCR was informed by the City of Kalamunda that they had had the tower inspected and been informed that it was unsafe with remedial work costing \$25,000. Whilst KCR disputed this assessment, the City cordoned off the area and began arrangements to demolish the tower. Frantic efforts to find an alternative have consumed most of the Committee of Management's time since then. Compounding the problem was the discovery that the site the tower occupied was not in compliance with zoning regulations so erecting a new tower on the same site was not possible.



Every available tower in the Kalamunda area was examined. Because of the topography of the Hills many sites were unsuitable. Several that were including a tower owned by Western Power and one on a Water Corporation site were eventually ruled out for technical and zoning reasons. Erecting a new tower beside the Studios would not provide adequate signal strength in many suburbs within our Licence Area.

With the tower very close to being demolished, and with an Emergency Grant from the Community Broadcasting Federation of \$22,000, we were able to stay on air using a 30-metre boom lift as shown in this photo.

Funding and permission to occupy the site runs out in June 2025 and KCR hopes to have received permission, and a second emergency grant, to erect our antenna on top of a lighting tower at Kostera Oval by then. It is by no means certain that this will be completed by the deadline, and we may need to cease FM broadcasts for some time, although streaming will continue.

KCR's Presence in the Digital World

The KCR website continues to be updated regularly by our Webmaster, Kerry Gubb, and our presence on Facebook is growing steadily thanks to the continuous updating by Justin Stevens. KCR's posts reach over 40,000 users each year, with a 24% annual increase in net followers to 520. There is a roughly equal distribution between men and women, with the 65+ age group predominately women and the 45-54 age group predominately men. The KCR Instagram account was re-launched in 2024.



Many listeners now use our streaming service which is available not only from our website but also by using the new CBAA Community Plus phone and tablet app, and other international streaming apps.

A new Podcasting facility was added to the KCR website with the support of Dr Colin Hughes (pictured). Users now have access to many interviews covering topical issues. In addition, there is access to one of our Presenters, Mark Phillips', *Black Swan*, *White Noise*, music programs.

Membership and Volunteers

KCR continues to struggle to recruit new members and several of our previous members have not renewed their membership. We currently have 27 Presenters and seven other volunteers from a total membership of 57. So much time has been taken up with both finding a new tower and the preparation for the change in frequency that we have not been able to have a membership drive. Before we next need to renew our ACMA licence in 2027 we will need to increase our membership to comply with their request at the previous licence renewal.

At a conservative estimate, our Presenters and other volunteers contributed at least 10,000 hours to the Station during the past year. Using recognised figures, this represents well over \$350,000 worth of labour.

Programming

Presenters have settled into the new Studios with only a few minor problems. Everybody is delighted with the improvement over the old, extremely cramped, single Studio.

Our programs still cover a full range of music genres. In addition, there are programs with live interviews of relevance to our broadcast area. KCR Presenters broadcast live programs from 9.00 am to 10.00 pm on weekdays, and on three mornings there is a live Sunrise program from 7.00 am to 9.00 am, On Saturdays it's 7.00 am to 6.00 pm, and Sundays 6.00 am to 9.00 pm. Live broadcasts are considerably more than half our broadcast output which few community radio stations of our size around Australia achieve.

The modern computer system installed at the Studios enables Presenters who are not able to be live in the Studios to prerecord their programs live at home and load them to our server for broadcast at the appropriate time.

We have been able access a number of recorded programs from other stations both in Australia and overseas. In particular, from eTown, a non-profit multimedia and event production broadcast organization based in Boulder, Colorado, and a one-hour classical music program broadcast on a Sunday evening, along with a Sixties music program broadcast on weekdays from 6.00 am to 7.00 am, both provided to us courtesy of Radio Northern Beaches in NSW.

Community Service Announcements (CSAs) covering a wide range of community matters were produced as items to be read by Presenters and as audio files. More than 90 CSAs for reading were prepared for the period of review with approximately 20 audio files produced in-house or supplied by the relevant organisation. Audio CSAs were broadcast regularly to publicise amongst others, the Hash House Harriers, Mundaring Folk Club, Perth Hills Live Music Association, Kalamunda Morris Dancing, Kalamunda Historical Society, Parkrun, Blind Sports WA and Bowel Cancer. Of particular note was the \$8,000 raised for Guide Dogs by Dave Hodson, the presenter of the Friday evening show, Hodson Sods, by abseiling down Central Park (a Perth CBD office building) for a second time, the most raised by any participant.

Outside Broadcasts and Other Interactions with the Community

As in past years, KCR has interacted throughout the year with the local community by means of Outside Broadcasts (OBs) and direct promotion of the Station. KCR's new Studios make the switch over to and from outside venues much easier.

The following OBs took place between March 2024 and April 2025:

- City of Kalamunda “Connecting Communities” event at Hartfield Park on 11 April 2024
- Kalamunda Show 2024 on 13 April 2024
- Ascot Classic Car Show on 8 September 2024
- Reopening and Pipeline Workers Reunion at the National Trust of WA No. 1 Pump Station at Mundaring Weir on 19 October 2024
- Kostera Tyres 100th Anniversary Celebration at the Kalamunda History Village on 6 April 2025
- Kalamunda Show 2025 on 12 April 2025
- Dovidia “Ageing in Kalamunda Expo” on 15 April 2025

The following events were recorded live for re-broadcast at a later date:

- “Hillstock” at the Kalamunda Club on 11 May 2024
- Kalamunda Carols in the Park on 8 December 2024

Dave Hodson, the Presenter of the Friday evening show *Hodson’s Sods*, gave an illustrated presentation on the History of KCR FM to several Men’s Sheds and Rotary Clubs. This talk can be given to other interested organisations.

Sponsorship and Grants

As with all small community radio stations, sponsorship continues to form an important part of KCR’s income. A list of those who have supported us during the year is given at the end of this report and we thank them for their continued support. In addition, we are very grateful to Mitsubishi and Crane Air Conditioning for the supply and installation of an air conditioner in the smaller Studio.

KCR is always looking for new sponsors and we encourage all members of KCR to help us to find more support in this area.

KCR is very grateful to the Community Broadcasting Foundation for their Quick Response Grant to keep the Station on air when the tower was demolished.

We received a \$1,000 grant from the City of Kalamunda to install security cameras

Technical

Our solar panel/storage battery system has enabled us to operate essentially “off-grid” so that we can continue to broadcast during a power failure. Automatic switching to the 4G mobile network in the event of NBN failure also takes place. Both of these have proved very useful on several occasions during the year. Also, our electricity bills are considerably reduced.

Work to convert the old studio into a Training and Production Studio is well advanced but is temporarily on hold awaiting the outcome on a replacement tower.

We are very grateful to TADWA (Technology for Aging and Disability) who donated to us six virtually new computers to enable us to upgrade from Windows 10 to Windows 11 before the former is no longer supported with security upgrades. Our new charity status has enabled us to register with Microsoft to receive ten free licences for Office 365.

2024-2025 Committee of Management (1 April 2024 to 30 April 2025)*

Chairperson	Roger Jennings
Vice-Chairperson	Harry Nijsen
Secretary	Julie Evans
Treasurer	Graham Nicol
Grants and CSAs	Peter Baillie
Sales	Terry Duke
Production	Justin Stevens
Webmaster	Kerry Gubb

*Alli Russo resigned during the year

I would like to thank all those who have been members of the Committee during the past year for the dedicated work they have put into keeping the Station running and for helping KCR to continue to be an important contributor to the lives of the residents in our Licence Area Plan – The Cities of Kalamunda, Belmont, Bayswater, the Town of Bassendean, and Midland in the City of Swan.

I also thank all the Presenters, Volunteers, and others for their valuable contributions.

Even if KCR is taken off air for a short time and the frequency change to 88.9 FM eventually takes place, I'm confident that the Station will survive the changes and emerge stronger.

Roger Jennings (Chairperson, KCR Committee of Management) – April 2025

KCR wishes to acknowledge the support it has received

from the following organisations:



**Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries**



**KALAMUNDA
AND DISTRICTS
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



Community Broadcasting Foundation



Interviews and Reviews in 2024/25

The majority of these took place on the *Noonday Carousel* Monday midday program presented by Julie Evans. The range of items covered was extensive and varied.

Local Issues discussed including:



Weekly Story Telling
with Irene Rowe



Midland Men's Shed
Julie Evans (KCR) Interviews Andy
Klita (left) and Kevin Buckland

State Election Candidates

The Mayor of Kalamunda

Kostera Centenary

Introduction to FOGO (Food Organics and Garden Organics) recycling

The Kalamunda Zig-Zag

Environmental Issues

Interview by Dave Hodson with D McInnes the oldest surviving Dunkirk veteran
now living in Lesmurdie

Twenty-six Movie and Theatre Reviews were broadcast



Julie Evans (KCR)
Ross Giannone
(Director Prize-
Winning Film
Gino and Juliet)
Ada Guglielmino
(Radio Fremantle)

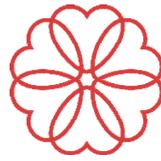


Suzanne Worner
General Manager
of Revelation Perth
International Film
Festival being
interviewed on
KCR

Over the past year, Mark Phillips interviewed over 50 national and international artists during his program *The Mixtape* covering multiple genres with a mix of male, female artists. Many First Nations artists were interviewed. During his new program *Black Swan/White Noise*, 15 local Perth acts performed in the KCR Studios and others were pre-recorded at outside venues. This included 17 artists at the iconic Nannup Festival, with 7 of them playing live acoustic sessions especially for KCR.

KCR supported the local Perth music scene, by hosting the very first *Black Swan/White Noise* at the well-attended live club night held at 459 Bar Rosemount Hotel, with ticket sales supporting the bands, Electric State, Moth Street Artists and Beth Chia. More events are planned for the coming year.

KCR's Sponsors During 2024 and 2025



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**Detailed Profit
and Loss Statement****Kalamunda Community Radio Inc
Trading As KCR 102.5FM
ABN 82 420 569 327****Year ended
31 December 2024**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Income		
Grant funds	23,791	1,000
Sponsorship Income	13,151	15,846
Membership Subscriptions (2023 includes access fees)	4,800	9,059
Fundraising Income		-
Donations	1,240	9,411
Access Fees		
Interest Received		
Sundry Income	625	335
Hillstock Music	4,354	
Net GST recouped	411	1,057
Total Income	48,371	36,708
Expenses		
Accounting		-
Bank Charges		-
Commission - sponsor messages	3,974	3,548
Depreciation		
Electricity		-
Fundraising expenditure		-
Small equipment purchases	2,900	-
Computer, phone & Internet	2,830	1,956
Hire Plant & Equipment	25,813	-
Insurance	2,098	3,736
Licence Fees	4,065	5,791
Office repairs & maintenance		-
Other operating expenses		6,697
Postage & Stationery/ telephones	2,421	1,301
Repairs & Maintenance		-
Production - sponsor messages, Airnews	3,475	
Sundry Expenses		797
Survey expenses		
Hillstock Music	3,363	
Total Expenses	50,939	23,826
Net surplus/(deficit) from activities	(2,568)	12,882
Asset revaluation	2,000	
Surplus after valuation	(568)	12,882

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash assets	2	29,575	12,220
Sundry Debtors		-	
Current tax assets	3	400	322
Total Current Assets		29,975	12,542
Non-current Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment at cost and valuation	4	156,610	154,610
Total Non-current assets		156,610	154,610
Total Assets		186,585	167,152
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Other (Boom hire - 6 months to June 2025)		20,000	-
Current Tax Liabilities			-
Total Current Liabilities		20,000	0
Total Liabilities		20,000	0
Net Assets		166,585	167,152
Owners' Equity			
Opening Balance		167,152	75,018
Valuation reserve adjustment		2,000	79,252
Net surplus/(deficit) from activities		(2,568)	12,882
Owners' Equity		166,585	167,152

	2024	2023
Note 2: Cash assets		
Bank accounts:		
Bendigo Club Cheque a/c 7147	8,630	11,743
Bendigo CSB Grant a/c 9988	20,583	117
Bendigo Building Fund a/c 6162	363	360
	29,575	12,220
Note 3: Tax assets/(Liability)		
BAS	400	322
	400	322
Note 4: Property, Plant & Equipment		
Studio & broadcast equipment		
- at valuation 31 December 2023	77,480	77,480
- at cost	15,860	15,860
- less accumulated depreciation		
	93,340	93,340
Office equipment		
- at valuation 31 December 2023	12,000	12,000
- at cost	2,000	
- less accumulated depreciation		
	14,000	12,000
Computer equipment		
- at valuation 31 December 2023	7,818	7,818
- at cost	6,697	6,697
- less accumulated depreciation		
	14,515	14,515
Transmission equipment		
- at valuation 31 December 2023	34,755	34,755
- at cost		
- less accumulated depreciation		
	34,755	34,755
Total Plant & Equipment*	156,610	154,610

* see appended list of equipment dated 21/12/23

Note 5: Other Liabilities

Current (balance boom hire to June 2025)	20,000	-
Loan from COM members		-