Radical broadcasters exposed:
RADIOTHON
3CR – AT IT AGAIN!

EXCLUSIVE
Melbourne's radical radio station grubbies the airwaves with its ratbag pushing of marginal agendas:

- Workers' Rights
- Environment
- Civil Rights
- Multiculturalism
- Indigenous Rights

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PH: (03) 9419 8377
TARGET $200 000

OUTRAGE: Real people posing as journalists

855AM 3CR.ORG.AU
4–17 JUNE
Radiothon 2007
3CR 855AM
AT IT AGAIN!

COMMENT Libby Jamieson, Station Manager

March 12 this year was the anniversary of the Camp Sovereignty camp at Domain Park to protest against the Stolenwealth Games in 2006. Activists rekindled the sacred fire at King's Domain, showing that the flame of resistance against the oppression of Australia's Indigenous peoples hasn't been put out. Channel 9 headlined the event with the dismissive phrase, 'At It Again!'

Like the Camp Sovereignty activists, 3CR Community Radio Station is defiantly and proudly 'At It Again!' - carrying on into another year of being at the forefront of social justice campaigning and broadcasting alternative views.

With your crucial support during Radiothon 2007 we shall continue to broadcast during Howard's 11th year in power as Australia continues to be challenged by the aggressive and regressive policies of this right-wing federal government.

Just recently we've seen workplace rights further eroded with the so-called 'WorkChoices' legislation. Workers can no longer claim unfair dismissal - nearly a million workers can make no claim at all, and the rest of us are no longer protected if our employer says there were 'operational reasons' for sacking us. In addition, 1,000 workers every day are being pushed onto AWAs, most of which slash overtime and penalty rates, slow or halt wage increases and cut leave and break entitlements.

Under the new climate created by the 'war on terror', rights to the assumption of innocence, to freedom from torture and a fair trial have also been eroded. David Hicks pleaded guilty in order to 'free himself' from five years of torture and mistreatment at Guantanamo Bay. The convictions against Jack Thompson were quashed, yet he remains under a restrictive control order at the sole discretion of Phillip Ruddock.

For the last 17 months, 13 men have been held in Barwon Prison based on charges that amount to little more than thought crime. The men have had contact with family and lawyers severely curtailed and have been subjected to extended periods of solitary confinement, as well as being humiliated and injured by prison guards. Their friends and families are also subject to extreme levels of police surveillance.

3CR has always been at the forefront in covering stories like these. Long before the mainstream media even considers the ramifications of a story or campaign, 3CR is at the forefront of the debate, broadcasting from the unique perspective of our grassroots access offer and telling the story from inside an event.

Our diverse audience relies on us to bear witness to change and to be a forecaster of what's ahead. Listeners tell us they tune in to 855AM when there is a big issue brewing to hear the news as it is happening. Whether it is from a forest blockade, a picket line or a rally at the State Library 3CR broadcasters are at the source.

This year our fundraising target is $200,000 and we need this to stay on air (and webstreaming globally at www.3cr.org.au). It is remarkable that a radio station can broadcast over 200 programs by 400 broadcasters 24/7 on just $600 000 a year. It costs us less than $70 an hour to broadcast 3CR's unique, unmonopolised, uncommercial news and views. Last year Channel 9's 'Eddie Everywhere' earned eight times this amount. So you can appreciate the fact that it takes for 3CR to be on air.

It is only through your support that 3CR can exist.

If you've never donated money to Radiothon please do it now in 2007 and for those of you who donate regularly please consider donating more this year - an election year. Ju $70 buys one more hour of programming.

Thanks so much for your support of 3CR and I hope that you will join in being 'At It Again'!

Radiothon Target
$200 000


We are proud to acknowledge the Wurundjeri people as the traditional owners of this land.
THE reality of climate warming has finally hit the front page of mainstream media after a very long campaign by environment activists - those very people who the mainstream media marginalised as dreadlocked greenies, alarmist doomsdayists and errant scientists.

Everyday folk are now deeply concerned, recognising that the world’s environment is being degraded to a dangerous extent by excessive materialism and the historical practices of the industrialised world.

Even our current Prime Minister, who defied the challenge of global warming for years, has come to recognise that climate change is an issue that his government must address in some way in order to stay in power. In November last year he finally accepted global warming: “I accept that climate change is a challenge, I accept the broad theory about global warming. I am sceptical about a lot of the more gloomy predictions.”

Gloomy predictions may be inconvenient but that doesn’t mean they are extreme or unlikely to occur. As on so many other issues, 3CR’s environment programs have been at the vanguard of environment campaigning. Cam Walker, editor of Friends of the Earth’s Viewpoint, has been a frequent interviewee on 3CR’s environment programs. Here he questions whether the reality of mainstream Australian politicians on the issue of global warming will be likely to have the desired cooling effect we rapidly need.

[Excerpt from a cartoon by Fiona Katauskas]

Is this the year for climate change?

There is no doubt that climate change has become a key mainstream concern for Australians, and this is reflected by the response of the mainstream parties.

EXCLUSIVE Cam Walker

For just a few examples of this poll-driven response witness the various recent changes in federal politics - the elevation of Peter Garrett to federal shadow minister for environment and climate change, the conversion of John Howard on the issue, and the seemingly endless air time the topic is (finally) getting from politicians and mainstream media.

Concern on the part of the public and lots of rhetoric on the part of politicians does not however guarantee good solutions. The main parties have, to date, largely focused on “business as usual” approaches to global warming, including carbon sequestration, which would deliver “clean” coal, emissions trading (often criticised as being the right to pollute), and a dangerous focus on nuclear power.

There has been very little discussion about binding targets for reducing emissions although, to its credit, the ALP has announced a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60% by 2050. Sadly science suggests that this may be too little too late. A growing number of people and businesses are becoming focussed on carbon offsets such as tree planting schemes to reduce the impact of our lifestyles. We need however a critical analysis of even this approach as it can give Continued Page 4

Who is Fair Dinkum On Climate Change?

Political parties serious about global warming would have a policy based on the following principles >

- National legislation to bring Australia’s greenhouse gas emissions down to a minimum of 80% compared with current emissions by 2050 (with ambitious targets for 2020 and 2030)
- A high mandatory renewable energy target to drive investment in renewable energy
- Shifting research support and subsidies from coal to renewable energy sources
- An energy policy based on energy efficiency (the cheapest, quickest and most job-rich option for achieving emissions reductions)
- A commitment to take global responsibility for our emissions (recognising the “carbon debt” including support for a climate refugee program) and commitment to an overseas aid budget of at least 0.7% of GNI with a strong focus on funding communities to adapt to climate change
- An investigation as to whether we need to introduce carbon quotes for people and industry (an annual allocation of carbon consistent with a “fair share” of the atmosphere)

[Redacted]

Further information, including the booklet ‘Empowering change, clean energy solutions to climate change’, can be found at www.fce.org.au
Climate for Change?

the illusion that things can continue as before with a clean conscience for those who can afford to offset. Perhaps the best measure raised to date is the idea of a carbon tax – but there are potential social justice considerations with this approach as low-income people could be unfairly affected by higher energy prices. Here in Victoria, a long and costly bushfire season and a decade-long drought gives a sense of what is in store for the future – hotter weather, sea level rise, storm surge damage along the shore of Port Phillip Bay and other low-lying areas, and less flow into our rivers, especially the Murray-Darling system. This is bringing impacts on all of us, from rising food and insurance prices, to direct impacts through damage from fires, extreme weather and other climate-related damage. It will be the poorest who suffer the most, especially from increased food and energy poverty. Globally it will be the same. In all corners of the developing (or Majority) world floods, droughts, crop failure and desertification will undermine attempts at achieving sustainable development and an end to hunger. In addition it is quite possible that millions of people will be displaced from their homes as climate refugees (the World Bank suggests up to 60 million people with a 1 metre sea level rise – quite possible by the end of this century). As an added irony, it is these people who have contributed very little to the problem. Much of the blame for climate change must come back to nations like Australia because of a history of industrial development based on old energy sources, among others. This is not to suggest that it will be easy or straightforward. It will require a re-thinking of almost everything we do – how we plan our cities and get about, and how we grow food. Some things, such as cheap air travel, will become less common in a carbon-constrained future.

Given the historical carbon debt of countries like Australia, we need to frame our approach on the principles of justice and internationalism. This means helping other nations 'leap frog' into clean technologies as well as reducing our emissions to a global fair share. It also means working collaboratively with other nations on the planet to achieve meaningful emission reductions and the Kyoto Protocol remains the main game in terms of achieving this. For the first time ever most key environmental organisations are focusing on climate change in preparing for the next federal election. Many other areas of society, from aid and welfare organisations, to insurers and trade unions are also getting active. If we are to heed the scientific warnings we will need serious commitments from all parties to greatly reduce emissions in a time frame of months, not decades. This will take concerted action from an educated community who can see through the smoke and mirrors of false solutions and who is committed to Australia reducing its emissions to a fair share of what the planet can actually support.

Much of the blame for climate change must come back to nations like Australia because of a history of industrial development based on old energy sources.

Cam Walker

From page 3 - Cam Walker

Is Nuclear Power An Answer?

The nuclear industry is trying to re-invent itself as being 'greenhouse friendly'. However even leaving aside the problem of what to do with the waste (dangerous for thousands of years) and the impacts of the uranium industry on Indigenous communities, it simply won't be able to make a big reduction in global greenhouse gas emissions. Even if the world could double energy production from nuclear sources, greenhouse gas emissions would be reduced by around 5%. This would take at least 15 years to achieve and would cost billions of dollars.

Investing in energy efficiency would be far quicker, provide far deeper cuts and thousands of extra jobs, and leave no dangerous waste for future generations.

For more information

Special Report:
ENVIRONMENTAL RADIO SHOWS
ON 3CR 855AM

City Limits
Wednesdays 9 – 10AM

Earth Matters
Sundays 11 – 11.30AM
(Repeat Wed 6 – 6.30AM)

Food Fight
Thursdays 6 – 6.30PM

Out of the Blue
Sundays 11.30 – 12 AM

Radioactive Show
Saturdays at 10 – 10.30AM

www.3cr.org.au
Elderly Australians pushed through the roof!

The Spin

Housing Crisis

Jeff Fiedler

THE mainstream press has been running stories over the last few months about the difficulty of finding a place to rent in Victoria. All the stories about renting have been from the perspective of younger people. Jeff Fiedler broadcasts on housing for 3CR’s Raise the Roof program and works as a Tenancy Advice Worker for Housing for the Aged Action Group (HAAG).

Here he writes about the current housing crisis that is taking place in Victoria and how it is affecting older people....

The housing situation for people on low incomes has become much worse over the last 20 years. Public housing expenditure by successive Commonwealth Governments has been reduced every year since 1978, while the need for affordable and secure rental housing has significantly grown. There are currently 33,000 people on the waiting list for public housing in Victoria, and at least twice as many would access it if it were available. The truth is that many people do not even apply because they are told that the waiting time is "indefinite".

For many people aged in their 70s and 80s this means having to survive in private rental housing, paying on average, 49% of their income in rent.

The latest Rental Report published by the Office of Housing states that the Melbourne metropolitan region has less than 1% of affordable properties (where the tenant pays less than 30% of their income in rent).

Private rental housing is also unsuitable for older people because a landlord can evict a tenant with only 60 days notice, causing massive upheaval in a person's life, often with dire health consequences. In today's current tight rental market landlords are not even considering applications from older people as they are often applying alone, on pensions, and therefore unable to compete with younger working singles and couples. Also, because our state has no minimum housing standards for private rental accommodation, a landlord can rent out a draughty, damp hovel with no heating or insulation, which often causes detrimental health problems for the older tenant.

Older people who do finally get into public housing - usually through the priority list due to ill health or disability - say that their lives have changed dramatically for the better. This is because public housing is affordable, has long term security of tenure, is well designed and usually well located near services and shops.

Why not public housing?

If public housing is so good why don't governments increase funding for it? HAAG believes the primary reason is that governments don't believe safe, secure and affordable housing is a right for all citizens, and instead are much more interested in protecting housing's role as an investment vehicle for the wealthy.

Consider this: Government expenditure on public housing is currently about $900 million a year (and falling) while there is $17 billion available annually in tax breaks and subsidies, mainly for housing investors.

This reduction in public housing expenditure has provided the excuse for governments to throw their hands up and say it's all too hard. So their solution to all the problems is to invite the private sector to run the system!

This privatisation of public housing is being gradually introduced through the funding of Housing Association companies. These companies are desperately seeking the transfer of public housing assets across to their profit-making portfolios. We fear they intend to offer housing to 'nicer' people on higher incomes and raise rents, in effect destroying any sense of public accountability for how such companies are run.

On the other side public housing is being demolished so that wealthy investors gain access to scarce inner city land.

For example, on Rathdowne Street in Carlton the State Government is currently reducing the public housing on one site by 200 bedrooms while giving a developer enough land to build 500 private apartments. We will be keenly interested to know who the shareholders are of the winning bidder.

The same levels of funding are still there, however they are regretably often directed to complain.
SQUATTING?

Zero interest rates and zero rent!
You too can have your own little piece of Melbourne!

A 3CR broadcaster on The SUWA Show, and a member of the Melbourne Squatters Union, questions whether the housing reality in Victoria matches government rhetoric.

We are in a housing crisis! According to the City of Melbourne’s website, there are almost a thousand homeless people in the city alone; there are 35,000 people on Victoria’s Public Housing waiting list; people have extreme difficulty securing affordable rent; real estate agents allow informal rent auctions, pushing prices up for everyone; home owners have purchased houses at massive prices; enormous mortgage repayments and hence enormous rents have become the norm, while many of us can’t earn a living wage from low paid work or the dole.

And yet housing is apparently “a human right”. Really? The Victorian State Government’s lack of action in upholding this so-called right renders this statement meaningless. The government’s approach to public housing is Public Private Partnerships (PPPs). As part of the arrangements for PPPs, private companies are provided with massive grants to redevelop existing public housing sites. These private companies inherit the responsibility for maintaining and managing public housing. This raises massive questions around the State’s duty of care and responsibilities towards people with disabilities, elderly people and other residents with specific housing needs. We are also seeing proof with the redevelopment of the Carlton housing estate that the PPP approach to public housing reduces overall public housing places.

The Melbourne Squatters Union is not just calling for more public housing, a reduction of the year-long public housing waiting list, or the removal of intense surveillance and control from housing estates. Trying to reform a system that is fundamentally flawed requires ignorance of the reality that housing issues are inherently class issues that need to be addressed through collective action, mutual aid and self-organisation.

State Economics in a Neoliberal State 101:
The trickle down effect is not real!

In a housing crisis, there is a political imperative to utilise disused property. Melbourne is full of disused houses and abandoned buildings and people are justified in finding their own accommodation and claiming it for a roof over their heads. The Melbourne Squatters Union can provide information and assistance about existing empty buildings that are currently not squatted as well as lend tools and organise transport. Electricians, plumbers and trades people who are willing to provide assistance are encouraged to contact the Melbourne Squatters Union.

The Melbourne Squatters Union can be heard on 3CR’s The SUWA Show the third Friday of every month, 5:30pm – 6:30pm.

Welfare Econ-omics in a Neoliberal State 101:
The trickle down effect is not real!

The writer wishes to remain anonymous as there is a police task force specifically set up to bust squats and squatters.

The SUWA Show Fridays
5:30PM – 6:30PM


For housing information and assistance, call and leave a message with the Melbourne Squatters Union phone: 0434 037 966 or call 3CR on 9419 8377 during the SUWA show. Meetings are held fortnightly at 4:30pm at Trades Hall Bar. If you would like to offer skills and assistance, come to a meeting or call.
Corrosion or Community?

Talkback Radio

TALKBACK Lightning Bolt

Talkback radio - a vital means of community engagement and a corrosive form of entertainment offering the ritual violence of an argument between the host and a caller?

A recent in-depth study by Queensland University academic Greame Turner confirmed what many left leaning people already know - that talkback radio in Australia is dominated by 'shock jocks' who are "hyper-opinionated, reactionary, masculinist, confrontational (and) anti-intellectual" with an agenda to provoke controversy in order to build an audience and commercial following for the programs.

Indeed Australia's most notorious talkback personalities do not so much receive talkback calls as use the airwaves to talk to their audience. Alan Jones dominates 56% of his airtime, John Laws 46% and Neil Mitchell 40%.

Like all 3CR programming, 3CR talkback differs from the mainstream in significant ways - we don't hide our partisan bias; we are openly left wing in content is dictated by callers; editorial control is only exerted to prevent defamation; callers phone in not just with their views but with news of activism - rallies, events and actions; all callers are given airtime regardless of their ability to articulate; and listeners are not rushed when they are on air.

Talkback shows such as Talkback With Attitude and Keep Left operate as radio chat rooms with many callers phoning in often, exchanging news and resources with presenters and each other. Callers comment on the uncritical nature between talkback participants and a feeling of community. 3CR welcomes new talkback callers and gives new programs priority to new callers. So join in the talkback fervour at 3CR and call the Talkback Line 9419 0155.

The Spin

TELL US: GO ON, CALL IN ON THE TALKBACK LINE 9419 0155

The clock's ticking: The 3CR clock hard at work.

Left After Breakfast

LONGEVITY

FOR 20 years the announcers of Left After Breakfast have been talking to Melbourne - and for much of that time explaining where the show got its name.

Once part of a chain of political programs across the week, the show is the last survivor of Left on Thursday, Left at Night and Left in the A.M. "What else could we be but Left After Breakfast?" explains co-presenter Susanna Duffy. "We give listeners more to digest than a bowl of cereal. For a start, the historical segment with Glen Davis serves up little publicised stories about working class people, the real history, heroics and outpouring of world events. The second course is the Bagman, garnished a little surely at times, but always a 'juicy way to start the day.'"

Glen Davis, resident 3CR Historian, has been presenting an immensely popular and integral part of the morning for 14 years and says there's plenty more hidden history to bring to the light of public perusal. Listeners appreciate his tales of our working class background, from forgotten Union women, to the Peasants Revolt, from every mine and mill, from Baradelline to Tobruk to the Easter Uprising, from the Great War Mutinies to Ned Kelly. It's not just the moving and inspiring stories of our unsung heroes and heroines that have defined this segment, but the excellent class analysis from our own resident 'Ourstorians'.

Glen's long involvement with the show is just a little short of the 19 years that the obdurate Bagman has put into the program. (The identity of the Bagman is the worst kept secret in anybody's history). Those in the know have always been charmed and/or appalled by some of the revelations into Union affairs that the Bagman has thrown onto the airwaves. His lifelong involvement in industrial matters and his personal history from workplace rep to Union official have given him this unique insider status. The Bagman is not afraid to speak his mind. Susanna Duffy, with her distinctive, well smoked voice, completes this unholy triumvirate as presenter and panelist. A psychologist, author and passionate Trade Unionist who cut her teeth on the 1969 equal pay dispute, Susanna has been a 3CR stalwart since she went to the Public Meeting that formed the Community Radio Federation (3CR's official name) in 1973. Susanna has been broadcasting since 1982 and Left After Breakfast has been running for 20 years.

To many listeners, Left After Breakfast is known best for its talkback. When the talkback lines are open, callers set the agenda. It's the element of listener participation that keeps the show on the edge. Listeners who express and debate political opinions provide an immediacy and a high degree of emotionalism. It's easy to understand why there have been a few close calls.

Left After Breakfast has weathered the storms of religous fundamentalists, factional disputes in activist groups, Union election machinations, political party pressure, mass phone-ins from Pauline Hansonites, and assorted outraged conservatives.

The Bagman boasts of the number of personal insults and physical attacks he has received for his editorials. "We've copped the lot," he says "and we even survived Jeff Kennett." Like any other well-oiled production, there's plenty of work happening in the background. Listener contributions get to air via the Talkback Producer who has to quickly assess, and monitor, the likely occurrence of defamatory (or worse) comments, provide fast information on the callers' questions to the On-Air Team, and generally keep the ball bouncing along. It's not a job for the nervous, and Bill Deller puts in the hard yards.

Talkback radio has historically been an important political forum in Australia. Left After Breakfast keeps it going!
Talkback With Attitude

It's democracy in action. It's a marketplace of ideas. It's everyday people debating the important issues of the day. It's an ugly mob forming on the airwaves? Yes, it's talkback radio. And you can't have talkback radio without that rare breed - talkback callers.

And according to 3CR's Talkback With Attitude presenter, Joe Toscano, "They're recidivists. It's a disease. They need to be cured. They need to get a life." Turning to co-host Patricia Khor, he asks, "I mean, have you ever rung up, have you ever rung a radio station?"

Pat: "No I never have. But I now listen to see who they are so I can pick up the voices. 'Oh, that's not Diane, that's Anne, that's so-and-so.'"

Joe: "Ah you see, on our program you don't have to change your name to get on. Or your suburb."

Every Thursday morning 3CR provides talkback with a difference, opening up its airwaves from 9-10am to the voices of concerns of 3CR listeners.

"The whole purpose of talkback - our talkback - is different," says Joe. "What we wanted to happen from talkback when it was initially established was for people to ring up and talk about the projects that they were involved in. We're just not interested in opinions. You can get an opinion wherever you look. And opinions really at the end of the day mean nothing. I hate to say this. What we want is people to ring up to tell us they're doing something, and we will then talk to them about what they're doing and see if we can get other people involved in what they're doing."

Referring to 3CR's role as a voice of dissent, Joe says, "If you sow seeds of dissent, there's no point on the seeds falling on stony ground. You want them to fall into fertile ground. And our role I think on talkback is to encourage people."

"Talkback With Attitude" also differs from mainstream talkback radio in that the presenters don't editorialise or bait listeners into talking about a particular topic. "We allow the listeners to set the agenda. And that's the difference. Whether it's ridiculous or important, it doesn't matter. What matters is that they think it's important and they want other people to share what they have to say," says Joe. "And it's interesting that the end on most days, an issue which affects callers is debated."

"People were suggesting maybe we should have an agenda for what's happened for the week," adds Pat. "And so we tried it once or twice, and it didn't work. Because people still rang up with what they wanted to talk about. We don't set any agendas."

However, Pat also notes, "Sometimes Joe gives them homework."

"They've got the time to be ringing during working hours, so they've got the time," says Joe.

"We don't do things for people," Joe says. "We encourage them to take the next step and organise around what concerns them. Some people will never organise. They're just interested in listening to their own voices. Some people - I mean there are what we call the recidivist callers - are there to offer their opinion, they won't take it any further. But a lot of people who ring once or twice usually appreciate the advice on how to expand what they're doing or how to make it a little bit more effective.

The two hosts engage in light teasing, both on air and off. "They think you treat me badly," Pat tells Joe. "They say, 'How could you work with that chauvinist? I don't know, they've got several names for you.' But Pat enjoys the show and her role at 3CR. "I started on the front desk and just moved up through the ranks. I couldn't leave the place. You get addicted to 3CR."

"People think it's a very easy show," says Joe. "It is an exceptionally hard show. Because it's live. We've got a twelve second delay but it's live. You've got to be attentive all the time. Because you've got to make sure they're not going to say something which is going to put the future of the station in doubt."

In seven years of Talkback With Attitude, Joe remembers only three instances when the 'dump' button was used. "So we push it to the limit. We do allow people room to move but what we will do is we'll butt in and redirect people if we think they're moving in a direction which could be libelous."

Current producer Robert Missen, who takes the calls and puts them through to the studio, says, "Most callers are very friendly and they stick to what they're going to say. They're mostly regular callers so they're pretty easy to deal with. Most of them don't take things too far. They know where the limits are, but sometimes, like Joe said, they like to test it out."

So, what's the final verdict on 3CR's talkback callers? "They're people who a committed. They would be the 0.5% of the population that's actually interested in what's going on around them, and not consumed by the problems everyday existence. To look beyond that. And to them they are exceptional valuable people because they are constant thinking about what happening around the and in some cases try to do something about it. We may get annoyed, but they're not pests, new pests."

Talkback With Attitude
Thursdays 9-10am

SPIN POLL Top 10 reasons for choosing 3CR.
1. Entertainment news
2. Big Brother recap
3. Forced banter
4. Cash for comment
5. Xtreme promotions
6. No more than 2 ads in a row
7. Hits from the 50s, 60s & 70s
8. Token female announcers
9. Broadcasters who laugh at their own jokes
10. Outstanding racist broadcasters who articulate what Australians think

VOX POP What do you wear to a rally?

GAB, Carlton
"I always wear sensible shoes and a cheeky grin."

MOHAMMED, Cronulla
"Normally I just wear normal clothes. My beard is always on."

BARBARA, Abbotsford
"I wear my brain and my heart."

KUTCH, Preston
"I wear the colours - red, black and yellow."

Source: Spinal Australia Ltd.
Solidarity Breakfast

BROADCAST each Saturday morning from 7.30 to 9AM, *Solidarity Breakfast* is presented by a team of eight. In November 2006, veteran broadcasters Denis Evans, Peter Goodyear, Anthony Main and Jisselle Hanna were joined by new recruits Lisa Farrance, Carlene Wilson, Michelle Reeves and Katherine Neil.

The collective experience of the four new presenters includes union activism in the secondary and tertiary education sectors; TI student affairs; and in campaigns for international solidarity. Two presenters also have a background in youth radio.

*Solidarity Breakfast* continues a tradition of covering industrial disputes, as well as debating current issues in the union movement. It has a bias in favour of the rank and file, but also works with trade union officials to promote support for union campaigns and around disputes, occupational health and safety standards and the so-called WorkChoices' legislation.

The show combines interviews with commentary on current, industrial affairs and a half hour segment of talkback, *Solidarity Breakfast* also has time for a welcome ten minutes of much needed satire, with The Week That Was by 3CR talent Kevin Healy.

Talkback highlights have included the assessment of the 30 November 2006 Industrial Rights Rally at the MCG. Overwhelmingly listeners felt that the Victorian Trades Hall Council could have improved Council, was interviewed in support of 50 workers locked out of their jobs for simply wanting a continuation of their current union-negotiated conditions. Elliott Engineering, having recently taken over from Skilled Engineering, proceeded to break up the company, separating off a $14 million fund of workers accrued entitlements from a new labour hire section, which then employed the workforce. By thus abusing WorkChoices and Corporations Law the company has effectively stolen the $14 million in entitlements from the workforce. At the time of print, the workforce is still locked out and requires solidarity and financial support. Call John Parker on 0419 747 756 for assistance.

Dave Kerin of Union Solidarity spoke to *Solidarity Breakfast* about the Port Campbell dispute. Armed with John Howard's new anti-worker legislation, Woodside - a multinational company that reported over a million dollars in profits last year, has sacked union members and OH&S reps. Work has been given to non-union companies, which has resulted in terrible working conditions and intensification of work. He finished though with a very inspiring message about the continuing struggles of the working class around the globe.

Finally, Ray Jackson of the Indigenous Social Justice Association introduced a fiery discussion on the continuing campaign for a fair trial in the Civil Courts, over the tragic death and suspected murder of TJ Hickey in Redfern in 2004.

What next? Peter Goodyear, Lisa Farrance and Denis Evans
Fire First

■ FIRE FIRST ignited on the 3CR airwaves in April 2004 as a unique program for 3CR, being an Indigenous and non-Indigenous collaboration looking at colonialism and activism towards justice. Since then it has served to fill a void in the mainstream media of an Aboriginal activist point of view, as well as serving to broadcast a developing conversation between co-presenter, guests and talkback callers from both a black and white perspective. Robbie Thorpe, a well-known Omai/Mara campaigner, initiated the program with Clare Land, after appearing on 3CR’s Tuesday Breakfast program, which Clare co-presented at the time. Robbie also asked his long-time non-Indigenous comrade Fantom to join in co-presenting the new program. Julia Trybe joined the Fire First crew in 2006.

Throughout 2005 and 2006 Fire First supported and fed into the Black GST- the campaign to end Genocide, recognise Sovereignty and make Treaty, in which Robbie, Clare and Fantom were all involved. For Fantom, “The whole country is based on the premeditated and ongoing genocide of Indigenous people by the Australian government.” For the British Crown to gain access to land without a treaty they needed to take the view that the land was Terra Nullius and Indigenous people were subhuman. Indeed the Australian lingo of high school students recently interviewed about Indigenous people, many reportedly wondering which country Aborigines came from. In this context, how are the majority of Australians to understand the struggle for Indigenous rights?

In 2006, as the Black GST’s action around the Stolenwealth Games grew into a major occupation of King’s Domain in central Melbourne, Fire First presented several live broadcasts, and a daily update from Camp Sovereignty. The Stolenwealth Games offered the ideal opportunity for the oppression of Indigenous people in Australia to be revealed to the wider world. Indigenous activists and supporters camped in the Domain Gardens and brought the Sacred Fire from Lake Eyre and the Aboriginal Embassy in for the duration of the Games and beyond. They wanted to educate the public around the issues of the Black GST.

The Fire and the Camp were a major challenge to the Victorian government, begging the question of whether Aboriginal ceremonies are legal or not under our legal system, and representing an independent Indigenous presence on Indigenous terms. These bold acts drew the ire of the authorities, revealing that colonialism is a current, active and violent force.

Camp Sovereignty elicited a lot of attention from the international press - much more interest than from the Australian press. Robbie was the spokesperson for the Camp. The Sacred Fire burned for 60 days until the Victorian Government and the Melbourne City Council forcibly extinguished it. An anniversary BBQ at King’s Domain on March 12 this year saw the fire rekindled, showing that the flame of resistance hasn’t been put out.

The camp activists are currently in dialogue with the City of Melbourne about creating a permanent cultural centre for the sacred site of King’s Domain. Under the Victorian Human Rights Charter, Aboriginal people have rights to practice their religion so there is now a question as to whether the police, who acted to extinguish the ceremonial fire, acted illegally.

For Fantom, Indigenous oppression is “the most fundamental issue facing not just Australia but the world. For over 200 years Australia has been an international precedent for what nations can get away with in terms of invading other people’s land”. Unlike the invasion of South America, Australia was invaded when international law had established rules of colonisation and rules of law - rules that were flouted in the case of Australia. Fantom also believes that because the Australian population is comprised of people from nearly every nation on earth, it is deeply symbolic that we are all legitimising a genocidal, illegal regime as Australian citizens if we are not actively campaigning against it.

Fire First
Wednesday
11AM - 12noon

Listen Up!
NAIDOC WEEK PRISON BROADCASTS 8 - 15 July
Once again 3CR Indigenous broadcasters will be holding music workshops with Indigenous people presently incarcerated in three Victorian prisons. These workshops will culminate in live broadcasts from the prisons during NAIDOC Week.

A CD of the broadcast highlights will be released late in 2007. Stay tuned to 855AM and to www.3cr.org.au for more details closer to NAIDOC Week.
If you would like a free copy of the 2006 Beyond the Bars CD contact: specialprojects@3cr.org.au
 keep left

As the name implies, Keep Left is committed to politics from a Marxist/communist socialist point of view. Going to air in May 1992 as a fortnightly, half-hour program Keep Left evolved into a one hour, weekly show of which the most popular segment is the half an hour of talkback.

The current presenters are Chris Gaffney, Sigrid Borke and Bill Deller. Chris is the Secretary of the Victorian Labor College that sponsors Keep Left. All three have many years of political experience, union activism, study and activism from a Marxist and Trotskyist background. Some of the other early contributors involved in the show were Ken Howard, Wayne Wright and Gaylene Soward.

People from far ranging backgrounds and nationalities ring up on the very lively talkback at times with callers agitated over many issues such as the Iraq war, the MIA Light and the recent Israeli invasion into Lebanon. Local issues such as the impact on Australian workers of the Howard Government’s policies also generate much discussion and anger.

Bizarre conspiracy theories abounded after the 9/11 events in the USA. One caller felt convinced he was being watched by his neighbour, who he was sure was either ASIO or the CIA, and could we do something about it?

Another listener, in a well reasoned and quite succinct last analysis, told us that we were ‘bloody commie scumbags’ and then hung up. There are those who will not stop talking and those who hang up if they disagree with you, and some callers who attribute powers to us that we’re often blamed for all the faults on the ‘left’ or other events where workers have been betrayed. Mostly however the listeners help keep the program in touch with the real world of the working class.

Sometimes our criticism of Australian Labor Party policies can lead to misunderstandings when we attempt to point out they are as much of a part of capitalism as are the Liberal Party and that Labor Party policies in general will not advance the interests of the working class. While we fervently hope the Howard Government is defeated, we don’t like peddling illusions.

On the whole, there is a lot of concern about events in Australia and the world with serious discussion and analysis from callers. We have had listeners call who call us ‘scholars’ and are full of praise as well as a regular contributor who greets us with “Good morning to the Musketloaders”. There is also Paul from Footscray whose simple observations on the excesses of the capitalists are usually spot on and to the point, and of course Mimi with her first hand reports from Iraq.

All three presenters are firmly on the side of the working class at home and internationally, and as such we begin from what benefits workers. Bill Deller is a former terror of the Kennett Government who has earned his place in Hunning Meibile Sigrid has been active in the movement supporting refugees against the mistreatment and demonisation promoted by the Federal Government.

Keep Left has always promoted the college magazine ‘Labor Review’ which Chris edits. It is now in Volume 44 and contains excellent articles on religion, Australian and world politics, with past contributions from writers like Robert Fisk.

John Pilger and other well known political observers. As Chris often lets listeners know, all they have to do is ‘ring up for a copy and send two 50 cent stamps and he will post it to you’.

With over 100 years of collective political experience behind them the Keep Left presenters aim to passionately promote discussion on international and local issues and explore how economic and climate change impacts on all of us. Without making it all too serious, the presenters welcome discussion on any topic at all whether we agree with it or not.

Keep Left
Fridays 10-11AM

Pet and Animal Welfare Show (PAWS)

THE Pet and Animal Welfare Show (PAWS) has been going for over five years. It covers all topics related to animals as well as takes talkback calls from listeners regarding their own pets and other animal welfare issues.

Kelly Charlton and Carole Goldsmith are the co-hosts and producers of the show. Kelly has been on the program for three years and Carole joined last February. Both have backgrounds in corporate communications. Carole is a freelance journalist who lectures on communicating the joys of “Japan on a budget” and journalism as well as writing Australian and international business articles. Kelly works in internal communications, trains people in website editing and loves radio – from creating the program to being on air.

Interestingly, neither currently own a pet. Carole, after losing her beloved dog, is considering getting a new one and Kelly is planning on adopting a cat from the Lort Smith Animal Hospital (you can find out how to do this on the fortnightly segments the show has with a representative from the hospital). Both became involved in PAWS due to a love of animals and an interest in radio.

PAWS covers a large range of issues in relation to pet and animal welfare and the format includes interviews, the reading out of relevant articles and a weekly talkback segment with veterinarian Dr. Fiona Anderson. Dr. Fiona Anderson appears on the program every week and takes talkback calls from 10 to 11am, providing free general veterinary advice to anyone who calls. Kelly has a very broad experience with animals, however even she has been stumped by some of the more peculiar questions. This includes a listener who asked what kind of environment pet snakes need, a dog that needs to be kept cool and free pet advice is a wonderful community service for those who may not be able to attend to or to get help themselves.

The program has a large focus on interviews with welfare activists. PAWS has ongoing relationships with a range of animal welfare groups including Lort Smith Animal Hospital, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), Humane Society International (HSI) and Animals Australia. These groups regularly participate in interviews on the show and the topics can cover the Canadian seal hunt, whaling, unsanctioned and dumped pets, protecting animals involved in domestic violence situations, the live sheep export trade and the endangered African painted dogs.

PAWS does not just talk to people who are directly involved in animal welfare. One of the biggest issues facing animals is habitat destruction so the program spends quite a lot of time discussing these issues.

Recent examples of interviews include speaking with Joan Thomas from the Tenkile Conservation Alliance about the community involvement required in saving Papua New Guinea’s tree kangaroo, as well as discussing the destruction of the Indonesian and Malaysian rainforests and its impacts on the orangutan population. Closer to home, PAWS has interviewed local urban planner regarding the ever increasing urban sprawl and its long term impact on local wildlife.

PAWS has even spoken with an animal communicator and a pet psychic – the program really does cover a wide variety of topics! It is well known that companion animals greatly increase people’s happiness. The increasing importance that pet owners are now putting into their pet’s health and well being makes PAWS, 3CR’s only program that covers pet and animal welfare issues, a great program for 3CR.

If you have any story ideas, you can email pawgs@hotmail.com or call 9419 0555 between 10.30AM and 11AM, Mondays.

PAWS
Mondays 10AM - 11AM
Great Voices

Great Voices is 3CR's classical vocal program and one that is unlike any other classical radio show. It has worked hard to involve the listeners, inviting them to call up and criticise the show, as well as taking requests each week.

Beginning in 1991 at the late hour of 12.30 am Great Voices alternated with a purely orchestral show called De-composing Composers hosted by Janet Howie. Chris Gaffney, currently the sole presenter of Great Voices, was there in the early days when listener feedback was both erratic and eccentric.

Chris, "you can hear the much slower pace of the delivery, so that by the time the show was ending I sounded like someone who had overdosed on Valium."

The late night slot lasted until June 1993 when the daytime Great Voices began, presented by Chris with Susan Patterson. Susan, a former teacher and family historian, has more traditional tastes than Chris, who would pepper the show with oddities. A choral singer and a broadcaster with Melton radio, Susan enjoys choirs, masses, Motets, madrigals, some opera and art songs while Chris would collection of opera and singers primarily gained by trades over the internet. Gradually the program became more popular and people began calling up. Susan left the program in 2005 to do an MA in History. The numbers of people calling into the show has doubled in recent years, and Chris feels people at 3CR now accept the legitimacy of a classical vocal program on 3CR. Chris sees the standard image of opera as the ruling class wanting all the best for themselves. However Great Voices was never conceived by the presenters as merely playing classical music, it also aims to make opera and songs popular with a 3CR audience. This means not talking down to listeners as a so-called expert - which Chris is certainly not - but giving context, politics and colour to each record played. Lastly the program should not sound like a dose of church. It must inform, entertain and not take itself too earnestly.

To achieve these goals means not just playing music you think will be popular with the listeners, but by asking the listeners. For Chris, "it is such a buzz talking to people whom you don't know, but who have been moved by the music and want more, or who have not heard a piece of great emotional significance in 40 years. More thrilling are people who had just discovered 3CR by first listening to Great Voices. We must be expanding our base all the time. Now the weekday music programming really does cover a wide spectrum of people". Among its many callers Great Voices has a few dedicated regular callers. Bob of East Hawthorn has called in every week for nearly 10 years. Often a third of the program's music is listeners' requests.

Since 2005 Great Voices has been issuing its own CDs. "I have been planning number eight in the series", says Chris. We have issued over 135 tracks of nearly 100 singers. Most of the material is not available elsewhere and certainly not in Australia, and there are singers included that have never been offered for public sale anywhere. They are also very cheap. Check out www.3cr.org for full details or call 9419 8577.

Now that 3CR is webstreaming Great Voices is gaining listeners from all over the world. Final comment is from Jim of Ohio:

"For the past several years, I have been listening to a radio program entitled Great Voices which is a 2 hour program originating from Melbourne, Australia and hosted by Chris Gaffney. The format consists solely of opera arias and songs sung by opera stars (mostly from the past) with commentary by Chris. It is an informative, entertaining, and, at times, humorous broadcast which I would definitely recommend to opera lovers."

Great Voices

Tuesdays 2PM - 4PM

TOP PICKS

On The Record:
20 Years Of Women's Radio

Showcasing the audio archives of 3CR's Women on the Line program, this 8 part radio series chronicles significant moments in the women's movement in Australia from 1986 to 2006. On The Record was produced with the assistance of the Victorian Women's Trust and is available to listen online at www.womenontheline.org.au or on CD ROM. If you would like a CD ROM of On The Record to add to your library, email women_ontheline@yahoo.com.au or call 9419 8577.

Congratulations to the Women on the Line presenters for producing the series.

Women on the Line
Mondays 8.30 - 9AM
(Repeat Saturdays 1 - 1.30PM)

Voices of Exile CD

Voices of Exile continues in Latin America, most of those who committed crimes against humanity are still free. The voices of those who suffered repression, persecution and exile under the different regimes and dictatorships in Latin America can be heard on a double CD.
'The [ ] of 3CR is [ ] and I [ ] for [ ]
there [ ] in [ ] for [ ].

ANON, Guantanamo Bay inmate

3CR is an admirable, critical part of the media that offers the Australian people a genuine diversity of opinion denied them by the so-called mainstream. I unreservedly support 3CR and call on others to give their vital support.'

JOHN PILGER, Journalist, April 2007

The Spin
Our Money

VOTELINE

Yesterday's results
Should our city be covered in graffiti?

98%

Yesterday's results
Should our city be covered in graffiti?

98%

Yes 9419 8377
No 9419 8377

Today's question

Should young people be allowed to congregate together in the same place?

Yes 9419 8377
No 9419 8377

3CR FOLKS

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BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL THE LANCET

IRAQ BODY COUNT

THE LANCET.com

IRAQBODYCOUNT.ORG

BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL THE LANCET

"Civilian killed by military intervention in Iraq.
Reported maximum 68,869."

"We did a national cross-sectional cluster sample survey of
mortality in Iraq. Of post-invasion deaths, 601,017 were due to
violence, the most common cause being gunfire."

VOX POP

How many Iraqi civilians have died as a result of the war?

GENERAL TOMMY FRANKS

"We don't do body counts."

GEORGE W BUSH

"I would say 30,000 more or less, have died as a result of the
initial incursion and the ongoing violence
against Iraqs."

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IN YA FACE turns 15

■ CONGRATULATIONS to In Ya Face which turns fifteen this year with presenters Jacqui Brown and James McKenzie celebrating ten years producing the show. "It's probably the longest running queer radio show in Australia," James says.

In Ya Face explores gay, lesbian and queer issues with interviews, music and chat. Topics include civil unions, relationships, HIV/AIDS and queer current affairs, plus much more. "We like to interview people doing interesting things in the queer community, whether it be activism, social justice, peer support or entertainment," Jacqui says. "We're also big on the quirky factor."

The show prides itself on its eclectic music and its capacity to analyse current issues in creative ways. "We also like to air our thoughts on general political issues with a queer bent," James adds. "Mainstream radio wouldn't give us the opportunity to do that or explore queer issues with a left perspective."

In Ya Face Friday 4 - 5.30PM

3CR farewells longtime programs

■ NICK VRBRIGA of the Yugoslav Program has been a fixture at 3CR since 1982, when the station was based in Cromwell St. He emigrated to Australia from Serbia and worked as a design engineer with a telecommunications company. The Yugoslav Program was unique in its 24-year history in that it aimed to speak to and unite all people from the former Yugoslavia. Nick has expressed his gratitude and thanks to 3CR for giving the Yugoslav Program the opportunity to express its political ideas about Yugoslavia. He also talked about the freedom he felt working at a radio station that valued left wing political ideas and promoted the importance of the union movement.

■ GREEK ECHOES was produced by the Greek Democracy League and finished up broadcasting at 3CR at the end of 2006 after 30 years on air. Over the years many people, too numerous to mention, have contributed stories to Greek Echoes. We are aware of the importance of media outlets and are sure that Greek Echoes will be missed by its loyal listeners.

Libby Jamieson
Station Manager

acknowledge individually here, were involved in the production of the program, providing an important voice for the progressive Greek community.

■ VICKY ARMSTRONG departs Indigenous program Ibijeri Chat after 9 long years. A dedicated volunteer and past Committee of Management member Vicky has made a valuable contribution to the station.

We are enormously grateful to these programs for the great amount of work they have put into 3CR - from programming through the years to fundraising for 3CR. Their commitment to the founding principles of the station - the ideals of a media outlet that broadcasts the voices ignored by the mainstream media - has enabled them to broadcast stories that differ from the prevailing orthodoxy.

Moody: Today's independent, rock and psychedelic bands.

TOMORROW IS TODAY

book and tribute CD

Last October 3CR held a festival and launched a book celebrating and chronicling Australian music, fashion and society in the years 1966-70. Tomorrow Is Today is a lavishly illustrated 288 page book which features chapters on Wendy Sadington, The Loved Ones, The Twilights, Spectrum, Daddy Cool and more as well as chronologies detailing the immense social change that Australia underwent during these years. Photos, film clips and music from the festival can now be viewed and downloaded via 3CR's website.

In 2007 3CR will continue to celebrate the music of the era as well as the talents of today's independent, rock and psychedelic bands with a tribute CD. Others have been recorded live at 3CR Studio 3, performing versions of songs by bands such as The Loved Ones, The Masters Apprentices and Marty Rhone. The double CD features these songs plus a disc of tracks from all the bands involved. It will be available in June for $25 including postage. Stay tuned to 3CR 855AM, www.3cr.org.au for details or email specialprojects@3cr.org.au.

The Tomorrow Is Today book is available at 3CR for $30. Postage is $10 within Australia. Contact admin@3cr.org.au or call 9419 8377 for your copy.

Congratulations to 3CR broadcaster Iain McIntyre for all his work on this project!
This is the perfect chance to impress loved ones, flat-mates or neighbours with your singing.

3CR Radiothon Worker Lisa Farrance gives good advice to those calling in to talkback shows.

‘There are 3 or 4 cocktail parties every night.’

3CR presenter Hong gets into the spirit of things for the annual 3CR Radiothon.

The Spin
COMMUNITY RADIO FEDERATION ELECTIONS

PLEASE note that the 2008 Notice of CRF Elections will be via email, radio announcements and the 3CR website www.3cr.org.au. If you would like to be kept up to date please contact the station via your email address and we will add you to our monthly e-log. Call 9419 8377 or email admin@3cr.org.au

FREE SPEECH

CRAM GUIDE SHOUT OUTS!!

THANKS so much to everyone involved for their enthusiastic work on this CRAM Guide. All the 3CR programs profiled here have been delightfully responsive. Thanks to the CRF staff for their suggestions, feedback and photo snipping. Thanks also to the Promotions team for their creative tabloid brainstorming!

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Hello: Pier, Colm and Leanne lookin’ good in the 3CR T-Shirts that are available from the station.

It’s an honour: 3CR T-shirt deal looms

Spread the seeds of dissent with 3CR t-shirts

True colours: 3CR’s Merki Hood

3CR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY GIG

ON MARCH 8 the Tote Hotel in Collingwood - generally populated by punks and black hoodies was taken over for Ladies Day, the 3CR Hip Sista Hop show’s early 2007 Radiothon fundraiser. Those who came were blessed with the talent of hula hoop queen Ms Fat Booty, the plat beats and rhymes of Hiatus, political hip hop from Merki Hood and MC Panika, and the beautiful harmonies of ska/tongt band Bertha Control, hailing from Brisbane. Thanks to all who came for supporting ladies hip hop and 3CR and keeping Independent, diverse community radio on air. 

www.myspace.com/hipsiestashop

Hip Sista Hop
Mondays 1–2PM

All sizes, non-sweatshop, quality 100% cotton tees.
Adults - $25 each.

Call 3CR on 9419 8377 or contact admin@3cr.org.au

Jan Bartlett Studio in honour of the hard work and dedication of long term volunteer Jan Bartlett.

If you would like to donate to the Studio 4 Appeal
Please contact 3CR on PHONE: 9419 8377 or EMAIL: admin@3cr.org.au

Live Web Streaming WWW.3CR.ORG.AU