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Established in 1976, 3CR is an activist hub and social change media outlet!!! PH: 9419 8377
WELCOME TO THE AUTUMN EDITION OF THE CRAM GUIDE!

How will 3CR fare in the new Labor parliment?

Bookshop sales of 3CR's Seeds of Dissent 2003 Calendar were down early this year, despite the calendar being arguably the strongest so far in terms of content.

One Melbourne bookseller pointed out that the calendar came out just as Australia swept away a decade-long reactionary government, and that people, buoyed by the optimism of a new Federal Government, perhaps no longer thought it necessary to buy a left wing radical calendar.

If this is so, how can 3CR inform the more optimistic amongst us of the continuing need to support ongoing campaigning and broadcasting in order to address the urgent issues that a change of government doesn’t necessarily resolve?

In this CRAM edition, Kevin Healy seeks to refocus our attention after the relief of the election with his article 3CR - Still Relevant After the Labor Government? Kimba Behar writes about the constraints on paid journalists in doing investigative work in Sinkin Beneath the Airwaves. And Kitcha Edwards talks about being in Canberra on the Day of National Apology.

This CRAM edition also focuses on just a few 3CR programs that highlight how 3CR is at the vanguard on certain issues, Food Fight exposes the corporate interests that work against environmental sustainability, safety and health. Date Time promotes a constructive analysis on prison and detention practices. Out of the Pan explores the complexity and diversity of gender and sexuality, while Asia Pacific Currents brings together workers and labour activists in the Asia Pacific region.

Also profiled are the new 3CR programs, Salutation, Blood, James, Bading, Footprints, Blazing Textbooks, Radio for Kids, Good Job and Human Rights.

To subscribe, call, 3CR, 385 385, a $50 subscription is only too worthwhile.

Government’s always change, new governments make small changes, community action achieves real and lasting change. At 3CR we continue to broadcast community ideas and vision for what our future could look like.

LIBBY JAMESON
Station Manager

CRAM SHOUT OUTS!!

3CR’s CRAM Guide is only made possible with the generous response of all the contributors featured. We would especially like to thank Sydney-based cartoonist Fiona Katauskas who has been kindly donating and creating cartoons to the CRAM Guide since June 2004. Thanks to Pat Grant for his amazing radio superheroes that grace the mag and make it extra special! Thanks also to all the 3CR Promotions Sub-Committee and 3CR Staff.

Edited by BREE MCKILLIGAN
Designed by TOM SEVIL
Proofread by ELANOR MCDONALD
Cartoons by PAT GRANT and FIONA KATSAUSKAS
Photographs by STAFF and VOLUNTEERS. 3CR!
3CR - Still Relevant After the Honeymoon?

KEVIN HEALY

PREMUSING READERS OF THIS GUIDE ARE ALL 3CR SUBSCRIBERS
I'VE GOT NO IDEA WHY I'M WRITING THIS ARTICLE...

"Can you give me an article about why 3CR is still important when we have wall-to-wall Labor Governments?" the editor asked. The editor frightened me. "Sure," I said.

It's obvious isn't it? The left ranges from those who argue there is no difference at all between the options we have for governments, and those who argue Labor Governments are marginally better and we should give them conditional support.

The union movement, and certainly the ACTU, adapted the latter position in its campaign against WorkChoices (although often it didn't seem to be all that conditional).

As a result we have a new Government elected with a commitment to remove some of the worst aspects of WorkChoices (after giving bosses ample time to circumvent the intent anyway, like forcing workers onto AWAs for the next several years), but retaining many of the most draconian impacts such as restricting unions' right of entry, prohibition of unions charging service fees from those who benefit from union gains but refuse to join, a union secret ballot on industrial action, severe shackles on the right to industrial action in the first place, and the 'crush the workers building industry commission'. "We must have a police force in the building industry," the Government says.

On the service fee, we hear Industrial Relations Minister Julie Gillard mouthing the same hypocrisy as Howard, Reith, Abbott, Andrews, Hockey et al: that freedom of choice means workers must have the freedom not to join a union, not to pay for the services and benefits they receive. This argument can only be sustained if they give us all the freedoms to choose whether or not we pay the bosses, the corporates, for any services and/or goods we receive. And of course in that case all the rights are with the other side.

The constraints in industrial relations go back to the 1996 Reith legislation - passed with the support of the now dead Democrats - severely limiting union rights and actions. Forcing unions to operate with one hand tied behind their backs. WorkChoices was an addendum tying both hands behind their backs. I believe the campaign should aim at removing not only WorkChoices but the Reith legislation as well.

Our union-sponsored and related 3CR radio programs concerned about these issues are a vital source of information on what must be a long battle to win back the basic rights workers believed they had many years ago. Yet the current Government concedesthis would be a threat to employers and would tilt the so-called balance of industrial relations in favour of management.

So how is 3CR still relevant? Here is a list of ongoing issues, all addressed by 3CR programs:

Transport. The Fraser Government spent $50m on the Sydney-Melbourne rail connection in its last year. The Hawke Government reduced this to zero in its first year, and succeeding Federal Governments have maintained this noncommitment to public transport ever since. Road and freeway spending has increased almost exponentially, creating the massive urban and environmental problems we are now attempting to address as we address them - more and more of the same.

Health. Despite a long to provide a universal free health system, massive amounts of that public funding is propelling up the private health sector including the private health insurance industry. If we have a genuine free health service why do we need to be insured?

Yet the new Government is committed to maintaining the private health sector's private health industry.

Education. Ottawa. Under the previous Government tertiary education has been converted into a business for the elite operating under so-called market forces and competition policy. Sadly, vice-chancellors and most administrators have played the game. We are a long way from the Labor Government of the 1970s which gave us free tertiary education, allowing a true universal system for working class kids.

Housing. The Government's solution to a housing crisis is to regard the impact on the development, investment, real estate industry and landlords as the crisis, offering as the only solution for the real victims more public handouts to the development, investment, real estate industry, and landlords. The words 'public housing' have not escaped their lips. The State Government provides more land for developers, opens up public lands for more exploitation, but provides not one unit of public housing on that land. The Docklands development overseen by a public authority clearly has a policy of providing only housing and facilities for the affluent. Any half-hearted Government suggestion that the Commonwealth Games Village could have been built at Docklands to then provide public housing was rejected by the authority, and the Government, rather than exercising its authority, handed over public perkedland to a private developer to make millions more out of more corporate welfare.

From personal experience, I visited Housing Minister Dick Wynne's office (about 200 yards down the road from 3CR) twice when he was appointed minister inviting him to come onto our City Limits program to discuss housing issues, and offering him a regular slot.

"We'll get back to you," his office promised both times. We're still waiting.

Indeed ring any minister's office to put a question about some story and we immediately get referred to the spin doctor, who promises to get back with the answer - and nine times out of ten we never hear from them again.

Rudd's ongoing commitment and selling obfuscation to the United States, his obsession to preserve and maintain the international capitalistic financial system (with less and more corporate welfare) are not promising signs that 3CR is no longer necessary.

Of course we all know we are as necessary as ever. That's why we get this CRAM Guide. We all know the Labor Governments are committed to neo-liberal economics - er exploitative and oppressive economic and social philosophy.

They know it too. That's why they regard us as the enemy while appeasing the Red Edingtons and co of this world as their political and economic advisors.

And what's more if 3CR didn't exist the editor wouldn't have a job!

KEVIN HEALY is co-presenter of City Limits Wednesdays 9 - 10am
SINKING BENEATH THE AIRWAVES

DAMARIS BAKER

Modern Journalism and the effects of economic rationalist management

Some have their news every night at 7pm, some have it over breakfast, but I am a shameless devourer of news. I sample a wide range of mainstream and alternative news sources online: feminist, activist, environmental, union and human rights news. I also dig deeper on my favorite topics: Guatemala, Venezuela, West Papua, women's rights, Indigenous struggles.

There is more news than ever to consume. But what are the implications for those who make the news? In Australia, young journalists are finding they have less opportunity to present well-researched and quality stories.

One reason for this is the impact of neoliberal policies and managerialism in the workplace. The media are not seen as part of a democratic culture, reporting and questioning how government and business work in practice. The media are now a product, with management focusing on efficiency, explicit standards and measurements, economic rewards and sanctions and restructuring. In practice, this means sacking staff and increasing workloads.

My background is in working in radio media for the past ten years, so I'll focus on radio journalism.

For radio journalists, the change from working together with a technical producer to recording and editing all their own work has become reduced in technical quality. There is less time for researching and producing news content. More recently, making podcasts and uploading information to web pages has become an additional task. Add to that extra paperwork to fulfill requirements for those distant managers demanding more efficiency, and there is even less time for the actual news content. News updates occur more frequently, there is less time for preparation, and news is 'old' more quickly.

Often there is less middle-management, which may sound liberating, but has mixed results. With a manager in a different building or city who knows little of your work, it can be difficult to sustain the high energy needed to produce excellent work. Your boss may not even know your name, let alone what you do.

With this level of fragmentation of the workforce, and decreasing recognition of quality journalism, there is little incentive to do good work.

Many journalists are hired as casuals or occasional workers, putting extra stress on them to manipulate new technologies with little assistance and recognition. The hollowning out of institutions combined with extra work, casualisation, reduced training and less technical support can further increase stress.

Public broadcasters should be in a good position to produce quality news and current affairs, and in many cases do, but I would argue that managerialism has impacted very negatively on public broadcasting in Australia. Under the previous government, funding was cut to the ABC while more demands were placed on the current workers to produce more. SBS introduced advertising, while staff cuts impacted on its limited resources.

These regulatory policies continue today. The ideology behind news as a market-driven product is problematic to start with. It results in a 'dumbing down' of news and current affairs as workers struggle to cope with increasing demands on their time. An obsession with management and efficiency forces journalists to continually justify their use of resources in researching and producing high quality work.

Producing the news has become particularly challenging due to the sheer amount of news available. A typical newsroom receives press releases, websites, publicity for events, media releases from think tanks, corporations and community groups. The Internet and email provide access to news from groups of interest to individual journalists. Sorting through the items involves an awareness of the interests and bias of each source.

Much of the mainstream news comes from a small number of sources and is re-edited and packaged without questioning the story or the angle. Although news has a stated aim of being unbiased, it is always created for a certain audience, in a particular language, with certain values and assumptions.

Take as an example: the reporting of the current Iraq war in the mainstream US media. Initially, a copious amount of news was produced, but none that challenged the US invasion or represented an Iraqi voice. More recently, there has been some criticism of the war, but still the news is framed from the viewpoint of a US soldier or citizen.

To find alternative news sources takes time and effort. Setting up interviews involves research and a consideration of whose voice to give priority. Although current affairs programs should be free to engage in deeper research and more challenging stories, neoliberal policies and managerialism imposed on these areas too.

Investigative journalism, on the other hand, is anathema to the idea of privatised market-driven media. It involves research, sniffing out a story about corruption or wrongdoing. It takes time, and comes from the idea that journalism can change society for the better. It involves making an effort to get enough knowledge of the topic. A journalist must also build trust with people to be interviewed, to produce evidence for a case.

Investigative stories don't come from reports, but involve extensive research, following a paper or electronic trail, doing interviews and carefully preparing the piece. The impacts can be widespread, as in the Watergate scandal, and result in court cases, or changes in the law. They may also serve to extend public debate around an important issue. Often investigative journalism uncovers information which has been deliberately hidden from the public.

Community broadcasting, despite being under-funded, is perhaps uniquely able to encourage young journalists to produce quality alternative news and do investigative journalism. There is freedom from the production of excessive numbers of news stories.

Community broadcasting is placed squarely in the community with access to activist groups, migrant groups and Indigenous groups who are often marginalised by the mainstream media. The challenge is to focus on finding the stories, hearing the voices and getting it out there.

DAMARIS BAKER is co-presenter and co-producer of Monday Breakfast, Mondays 7 – 8.30 am and monthly presenter and producer of Women On The Line, Mondays 8.30 – 9am.

RESOURCES

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

ALTERNATIVE NEWS
www.newsmediado.com/faith/index.asp

LABOUR UNION NEWS
http://ltni.org/index.php?option=main

HUMAN RIGHTS
www.hn.org

INDIGENOUS NEWS
www.nit.com.au
Currently there are three queer programs on 3CR: veteran programs Dykes on Mics (3 years) and In Te Face (16 years) as well as (relative) newcomer Out of the Pan (3 years). Every Sunday, at 12pm, Out of the Pan focuses on personal issues (pansexual meaning 'knowing no boundaries of sex or gender') and includes transgender and bisexual issues.

The presenter is Sally Goldner (right), a woman who is well suited for talking about such issues. The spokesperson for TransGender Victoria for nine years, this stand-up comedian has also ripped the gender envelope to shred as the world's first male-to-female transsexual drag king Before coming to 3CR Sally broadcast for many years at Joy 94.9 FM.

Bree McKillen sat down one afternoon at a local cafe with Sally to talk about Out of the Pan.

Why do you hate Out of the Pan?

There is a need to reach out and explain transsexual issues to the broader community. Greater acceptance of transsexual people has been growing since the transvestite/sex change laws of the 1970s when trans people were so marginalised that the only jobs available to them were either in the massage parlours or the drag shows.

There is also a need to reach out to transsexual people. I carry an email address with me from one transsexual listener who said that she decided not to commit suicide after listening to the program. Community radio has that kind of power.

Is society evolving in terms of understanding transsexual issues and gender diversity concepts?

It is evolving. An example that came to mind is the beyoncé last year for Steve Brooks' seat and the partner of the Greens candidate was trans. The Labor candidate tried to sensationalise this but the community response was: 'This isn't an issue.' This contrasts with the media and community response to politicians Julie Peters when she was campaigning in the 1990s - media and community interest in her was primarily about her transsexual status.

What are some of the challenges in terms of media representation for people of gender diversity?

Just getting representation in the broader media for starters is challenging. Tabloids rarely interview a trans spokesperson for a balanced perspective on trans stories.

Why broadcast at 3CR?

I find that 3CR is progressive, not limited by commercial-roadblocks and queer-friendly, as opposed to being just 'gay-friendly' by which I mean gay/male-friendly. At 3CR I feel that my program is valued as much as all the other programs - all programs make up the whole. I don't feel that 3CR is a hearing a program on transsexual issues in a tokenistic way. 3CR presenters are very friendly with each other and I have found everyone supportive on both little and big things and management really 'walk the talk'. I have found support, trust and motivation on every level.

Given that there is a gay, lesbian, bisexual, transsexual and intersex (GLBTI) radio station, Joy 94.9 FM, in Melbourne what does 3CR offer queer audiences?

Queer listeners will get a diversity of 'queerdom' on 3CR radio. I would say that 3CR offers at least an equal if not a greater amount of coverage of queer issues compared to other pink media.

I think 3CR picks up on queer stories quickly like the February story of a lesbian couple that were thrown out of a Brunswick Street club for 'bathing' - it was covered on all these queer programs and the activist response of a lesbian was promptly promoted.

As well as the specifically queer programs there are quite a lot of queer broadcasters presenting other 3CR programs. This means that the occurrence of a 3CR broadcaster mentioning their same-sex partner on air while discussing a non-queer-related issue is not an irregular event - which is just great!

What in your opinion, are the top three issues for transpeople in Victoria?

We need a Gender Centre in Victoria which is a funded headquarters offering services like counselling or being able to direct people to counselling, advising and education. Sydney has had one for 25 years and it even has crisis accommodation. Crisis accommodation can be a real problem for trans people because of the binary bases upon which people are allotted crisis accommodation.

An excellent law to the Racial and Religious Tolerance Act which will cover sexual orientation and gender identity - perhaps an 'anti-homophobic harassment' law.

This is actually a federal issue but it's in the top three of things that need to be urgently addressed. There is no federal anti-discrimination law regarding sexual orientation and gender identity. All states and territories have some kind of law but it's a glaring omission that there is no federal law.

What is your advice to young people who feel that they are trans and to older people who are transinizing?

My best advice to a young trans person would be to find someone who you can really trust that you can talk to about how you feel. For transitioning adults I would say that, as much as you can, try to plan your transitioning well in terms of the financial, time and relationships aspects.

Is the trans community a cohesive one?

I feel that in the last 13 years since I have been out, the trans community is the most cohesive it's been. In a small community, differences stand out more and strangely small communities are often asked to do just one viewpoint, but we're a cross-section of people and we'll have different views.

What are some of the upcoming issues for the trans community, and broader community?

Now that gay and lesbian parenting is becoming increasingly acceptable, and increasingly people's parenting by trans people will come into the public focus like it has recently in March this year with an American trans man becoming pregnant. Children of trans people and young people who are themselves trans will become the focus of attention.

On a different pansexual note, the concept of polyamorous relationships where people are in many relationships at one point in an open, trusting way regardless of issues of gender and sex is another frontier.

Who is Out of the Pan's audience?

The exciting thing about 3CR is the diversity of people reached. As well as the audience of transpeople listening there is the rest of 3CR's listeners who may be hopping in. 3CR programming on the Sunday ranges from union programs to Latin American issues to environment programs and then to Out of The Pan, after which there is the theatre program, Curlin Up.

What does the future hold for Out of the Pan?

I would like to incorporate interviews with international guests like I did at Joy. I hope the program is broadcasting by mid year end, with live streaming on 3CR's website. I would like to develop an international audience. Accessing radio via the internet means listeners who live in repressive cultures all over the world could tune in, language permitting. I love the medium of radio and am keen to keep my radio career going!

More information >>

What is transgender? According to UK transgender activist and academic Stephen Whittle:

"Transgender is an umbrella term used to define a political and social community which is inclusive of transsexual people, transgender people; cross dressers (transvestites) and other groups of 'gender variant' people such as drag queens and kings, butch lesbians and 'passing' women. Transgender has also been used to refer to all persons who express gender in ways not traditionally associated with their sex. Similarly, it has also been used to refer to people who express gender in non-traditional ways, but continue to identify as the sex of their birth."


For information about TransGenDer Victoria go to www.TRANSGENDERVICTORIA.COM
Greenwash the White House and you might get a greenhouse, but not the kind you’d like to raise your seedlings in. Unless of course you like your patented plants genetically engineered to be sterile and drug-dependent on manufactured pesticides and pharmaceuticals.

Fortunately 3CR’s Food Fight is taking apart the spin and exposing the corporate hijack of sustainable agriculture. From the UK’s industry-sponsored biotech World Food Program feeding GMOS to schoolkids in Nigeria via the school meal program, to attempts to silence dissenting scientists, through to DIY permacultural alternatives, Food Fight serves a weekly feast of slow food for thought for guerrilla gardeners and grassroots gastronomes.

Food Fight presenters Leanne McLean, Pauline Rankin, Rachel O’Connell, Helen Lobato and Louise Merritt lead the way in promoting sustainable, seasonal eating.

Tuesday Breakfast presenter Eleanor McNemery had a chat to Louise Merritt about why she joined Food Fight in 2006.

“I started volunteering for 3CR. I just wanted to learn about community radio, because I think it’s one of the best organisations in terms of how it’s been able to survive over thirty years without funding. And I was asked to join Food Fight because I’m part of a group called the Preserving Ladies’ Guild and because I’ve been working in the organic industry for about ten years now.”

“Organics is all about seasonal, and it’s much better for our health. It’s much better for the world in general for people just to eat seasonal foods. You go crazy when it’s in season – you preserve it, cook it, make jams out of it, freeze it and you also eat it as much as possible during that period.”

The Preserving Ladies’ Guild is a group started by Louise and six friends. “We meet quarterly, or seasonally. We preserve our own and then we have a meeting. We bring seven jars of what we’ve made plus a tasting jar. And then we give each woman a jar that we’ve made and we have one to taste that night. So we just eat and drink, talk about life.”

Louise has found that a commitment to eating seasonally will require more of your time. “I’ve had to slow down my life to be able to do those sorts of things in my life. Something will take three or four hours to prepare, to actually get the whole thing done, shredded, cooked, sealed and put away. It takes a long time and I think it’s hard, when people are busy. I think we all expect so much of ourselves, to do so much more than what our parents and what our grandparents would have been doing, so of course we go for the most convenient option which will be pre-packaged food or just a quick meal instead of eating seasonally.”

It may be time consuming, but Louise thinks it is necessary that people change how they consume food, and how they think about what they eat. “I absolutely love food and organic food is incredible, but another reason for eating seasonally is there are these networks that are set up where you help a farmer with their farm by buying their produce - the most local farm. You help a shop stay in business by buying from that shop - which is a local shop you can walk to - all that sort of stuff. It’s a way of supporting local, supporting your local farmer. If anything really does go wrong where we can’t use transport anymore, because it’s too expensive or if there are these major catastrophes that people are talking about with global warming, the impact on our lives will be much less because we’ve already worked out what are the most important things in our lives, and all these things are already in place.”

It’s not a new temperance movement, but Louise sees benefits in the restraints of eating seasonally.

“Eating seasonally is good because it gives people an idea that you can’t always get what you want just because you want it. And when you do get what you want, you might as well just go, ‘That’s fantastic, I love it,’ but this will pass. This season will pass then you go into another season. There’s certain vegetables or fruits that you love about that season, and you enjoy that season. And so I think that there are good things that people learn about life in general by eating seasonally. And then learning… like if you’ve got an overabundance of zucchini, you can make zucchini bread. And so we also like to present recipes, and different ways you can cook the food that’s in season so that you’ve got as many ideas as possible when food is in abundance.”

Educating consumers about organics, farm-to-table, is also part of Food Fight’s role.

“On Food Fight we like to talk to farmers about their farming just so people have a better idea of what farmers make the decisions they do. What actually goes into farming, how difficult it is, and how much money it actually costs. So that when they do go to the shop and see the price of the produce they go, ‘That’s actually quite reasonable, considering.’ Just talking to farmers is really good because then as consumers we can find out about all the work that goes behind our food.”

Consumers are getting the message more than governments about the importance of supporting local organics networks, according to Louise. “The best way to vote in a capitalist society is how you spend your money.”

Food Fight
Thursdays 6 - 6:30PM
foodfightradio@gmail.com
On February 13th, 3CR crossed live to hear Kevin Rudd’s Apology to the Stolen Generations. With special broadcasts throughout the day, 3CR Current Affairs Coordinator Gab Reade, Technician Greg Segel, and broadcasters Gilli McGuinness, Kutch Edwards and Robbie Thorpe also brought the voices assembled on the Parliament House lawn to 3CR listeners.

Kutch Edwards (above) reflects on what the day meant to him.

The Nation (Finally) Says Sorry

What was it like to be in Canberra for the February 13 National Day of Apology?

For myself personally, and I suppose for our family, it was bittersweet. We were there as a family, seven of us, but the fact that our mother and father, our brother, our nephew and many other members of our family who have passed on didn’t get to hear the apology, that’s the pain of it. The bittersweetness of it all is that they weren’t there physically to accept the apology.

I went up to accept the apology not for my self-gratification. I went up there to remember the fact that my mother and father, and lots of mothers and fathers, have gone to their graves thinking that they mustn’t be much of a parent if they can’t keep their families together. Little did they know that it was a policy of government and of the people of the day.

To be institutionally not because of what we had done to society, but to be institutionalised because of the colour of your skin, is so hurtful, and so painful that until it happens to you, you don’t really know what it’s like. It hurts everybody of our lives.

And finally a government, if I can say it gently, with Rudd, has had the courage to face their demon. It’s not the fact that the Federal Government of 2007-2008 had done anything wrong. They have apologised on behalf of what they know about the system itself and the bureaucracy itself. It mightn’t mean much to non-Indigenous people who see politics as the lawmakers and so forth. But to be recognised, to be acknowledged, and finally come to the truth that wrongs have been done in this country, you know, and until you come to a realisation that that has happened, you will be denying yourself, I suppose.

And being outside of the Parliament, what was the mood of the people who had assembled there to witness the apology and to gather?

It was beautiful. Because all the Indigenous people, we knew what we were there for. Non-Indigenous people were there in numbers to see what was going on, and what was going to happen. And the Labor Party - Kevin Rudd in particular, he wrote his own speech so the Labor Party has in a sense been longterm. I can say, campaigners on Indigenous issues.

But the Liberal Party and their current leader, Brendan Nelson, when he started mulling the truth that was coming out of his mouth, people were very distraught and upset. Who was he there apologising to? Was he there speaking to Aboriginal and apologising to Aboriginal people or was he there speaking to the party line and a bit scared to speak from his heart? And that’s the Liberal Party line, I suppose.

But, you know, for all the media to be there, and 3CR to be there, once again shows the commitment that 3CR has to Indigenous issues. 3CR have been longtime campaigners and supporters of Indigenous painters and issues.

All in all it was a great couple of days. Yeah, it was nice. But the words have been spoken but I don’t see any action as yet. So that’s what’s gonna happen. Actions speak louder than words. So we’ll wait to see.

Kutch Edwards spoke with Tuesday Breakfast and Women On The Line presenter Eleanor McHerron.

3CR designer Toms Seidt also went to the Convergence on Canberra and took the photos opposite.

The Canberra Telstra Embassy, February 12th and 13th 2006 - The Welcoming Ceremony on Tuesday 12th February on the first day of Parliament to the lead up to the rally against the Northern Territory Intervention. Kutch Edwards on stage to sing "From Little Things Big Things Grow". A man protests the NT Intervention during the National's proceedings on the opening of Parliament. The Chooka Dancers perform Zorba the Greek. The One Tote in full swing with Johnny Huckle - Members of the Stolen Generation light the candles in the apology as the first step to sunset on the 12th.
Off Air Scene

PIER LEAVES THE CHAIRPERSONS SEAT

Pier Moro has vacated the seat of Chairperson of the Community Radio Federation after five years at the helm. Being a committee member is often a thankless task, there isn’t a lot of glory associated with attendance at numerous meetings, drafting policy and scrutinising budgets. We would like to thank Pier for his calm, frank and pragmatic manner and for his ongoing commitment and loyalty to the station.

Thanks so much for your support of 3CR and we hope that you will stay with us as we move toward digital broadcasting and the changes it will bring.

Longtime Broadcaster

Stan Ladd bows out...

3CR would like to thank Stan Ladd for bringing the popular music show Let the Bands Play to listeners throughout Melbourne and beyond for nearly 25 years. Let the Bands Play also reached national listeners via the Community Radio Network since 1997.

3CR celebrated Stan’s contribution with a morning tea at the station in April. “I have no doubt that Let the Bands Play produced by Stan Ladd was one of the most popular programs on 3CR,” said Station Manager Libby Jameson. “One of the things I most admire about Stan is his tenacity in learning new skills and using new technology to educate and entertain thousands of people across Australia. I wish him well in his retirement and offer him on behalf of the station our thanks and gratitude for all his hard work promoting band music and supporting 3CR in its commitment to broadcast music that is not heard elsewhere on the radio.”

Let the Bands Play will continue in its current timeslot, Sundays 7-8pm, with a new presenter, Gordon McKenzie.

2008 Radiothon Worker

To assist 3CR in reaching our goal of $200,000 for 2008 3CR has employed Leanne Minshull as the Radiothon Worker. Leanne has a great deal of experience in campaigning on environmental issues.

You can contact Leanne from now until the end of Radiothon at 3CR between 8am - 6pm and 9am - 6pm. You may call her on 9419 8377 or radiothon@3cr.org.au.

Reporting from the Inside

This place that we call home began its white history as a place designated for the imprisonment and internment of so-called criminals, an enormous prison bound by sea. The aim of white colonel masters was to completely remove any transgressors from their “civilised” society, and send them far away from their families and social networks, to sever any ties they have with their communities and force them to endure insufferable hardship and punishment for what they were, in the main, acts of desperation born out of poverty.

Two hundred and twenty years on and this culture of punishment by separation continues, with walls and razor wire fences replicating the sea (except for the prison camps on Manus, Nauru and Christmas Island). Now of course, society has a whole new bag of tricks to deal with “offenders” – solitary confinement, state violence, neglect and rape. As was the case with the Commonwealth-funded genocide of Australia’s Indigenous Nations, imprisonment is a tactic driven by vengeance, ignorance and fear.

Prisoners are described on the one hand as necessary evils housing the worst of the worst in society - men and women who, if let loose in society, would have us all dead in our beds before we could blink an eye. On the other hand they are viewed as holiday resorts with tennis courts, pools, 24-hour cable television and staff to cater to every whim. Both could not be further from the truth.

The reality is that prisoners are full of people that society would rather pretend did not exist, lest it expose our hypocrisy and apathy in addressing the underlying social issues that lead many to a life of incarceration. While the State trumpets new initiatives to deal with the issues of poverty, lack of education, health and community services, souring mental health problems, domestic violence and so on, behind the scenes they are devising new and improved methods of social control which see increasing numbers of people criminalised. These are deemed unable to contribute to a profitable society are removed and locked away whether they live in mental health units, immigration detention centres, youth detention centres or correctional facilities.

To continue to peddle the illusion to the people, the control of information is imperative. Nothing gets in and nothing comes out. Stories of death in custody, fires, brutality and inhumane treatment are largely only getting outside prison through prison advocates, activists and families of the women and men inside. Yet the corporate media reports what the State wants it to.

We believe that those in power, making decisions in our name, should be accountable to the people for every action they take and the management and operation of prisons and the conditions imposed therein should be no different. This is where 3CR’s Doin’ Time comes in.

Doin’ Time

Mondays 5-6pm

The Doin’ Time Crew/Collective
doinitime@optusnet.com.au

Prison radio has a presence on 3CR since 1976 when a group of anti-prison activists and students presented and produced a show focusing on Melbourne’s Pentridge Prison and the conditions within its notorious H Division.

In 1986 members and friends of the Prison Action Group took over the reins and Doin’ Time was born. Original presenters Maurice, Jenny and Jeff continued the tradition of critical assessment of the prison system in Victoria, exposing the ugly truth behind ‘correctional’ facilities and the inhuman treatment of prisoners to purpose-built places like H Division & Jkea.

Over the years presenters have come and gone and we have witnessed the birth of the prison industrial complex (complete with privatisation) and the pursuit of profit and commodification of human lives. Prison numbers have soared, more women are being incarcerated than ever before and Indigenous people are still over-represented in the criminal justice system. In spite of this, or rather because of it, Doin’ Time remains a constant.

We are advocates, activists and people with lived prison experiences (those who have done time inside or suffered the loss of a loved one via a prison sentence) and we seek to provide a voice for those the State would rather silence, and to extend a line of communication between our brothers and sisters inside and those on the outside. We recognise those in custody as part of our community, and in today’s throw away society want prisoners, their families and friends to know that there is support for them out there and that we refuse to take the easy and popularised route of fessing them up the scrap heap as extremists would have us do.

Those of us on the outside have a responsibility to speak out about what happens in prison, how people are treated, and the regular denial of the human rights of millions of women and men worldwide who are suffering, dying, brutalised, humiliated, raped, and bathed in prisons everyday. That’s why we are here. Raise your voice and join us.

“We create the society, or allow it to be created for us, and therefore have the power to restructure the society that we really want... Without community monitoring (and acted upon) abuses of all types will continue to occur and will be compounded by the arrogance and apathy of the bureaucrats running the system.” Ray Jackson, Indigenous activist, Indigenous Social Justice Association, NSW.
Solidarity Across Continents

How can people in different countries find out what is really going on in terms of labour relations in other countries? How can they join together to campaign in solidarity on the issues that face them? Asia Pacific Currents on 3CR aims to make these things possible.

Asia Pacific Currents is the radio program of Australia Asia Worker Links. It first went to air on 3CR way back in 1983. It was part of Australia Asia Worker Links’ plan to reach out to a greater number of people as well as supporting a labour-based, progressive media outlet.

Australia Asia Worker Links (AAWL) was established in 1979 by Australian activists who were working with labour and left wing movements in South Korea. They were soon joined by other activists with knowledge of the situation and struggles in Malaysia and the Philippines.

AAWL works to build international solidarity links between workers as the best means to develop and strengthen workers’ rights in the Asia Pacific region. Asia Pacific Currents features regular interviews with labour and human rights activists of the Asia Pacific region, updates on solidarity campaigns, and reports of labour and progressive struggles in the region.

The aims of AAWL, as part of the labour movement in the Asia Pacific region, are:
- To support workers in their demand for work, for a living wage, for health and safety, proper conditions, respect for human rights, and the right to organise in unions and take industrial action.
- To support women workers in their demand for equal rights at work and in society, and the right to control their own lives.
- To support indigenous people in their demand for land rights.
- To promote international solidarity among workers by developing exchange programs, education projects and information networks.

Asia Pacific Currents is a unique program that is able to access AAWL’s network - which has been developed over almost 30 years - to broadcast stories and issues from a partisan labour and grassroots perspective. We focus on issues of women, solidarity and campaigns and actions.

Recent stories include a report on the killings of trade unionists in the Philippines, organising for workers’ compensation in southern India, the significance of the Malaysian election results, organising workers in new trade union organisations in Pakistan, the situation for workers in Palestine, and the issue of health and safety for Chinese workers.

The current broadcasters of Asia Pacific Currents are Kavitha Chandrasekaran, Jasele Hanna and Piergiorgio Mero.

Asia Pacific Currents can be heard every Saturday morning 9 - 9.30am and is also available as a podcast from 3CR’s website. Go to www.3cr.org.au/podcasts and subscribe to the weekly podcast.

Contact the program either via 3CR or through AAWL at:
www.awl.org.au
awl@awl.org.au
+61 3 9663 7277
AAWL’s office is in the Trades Hall building, Lygon St, Carlton Sth, Melbourne, PO Box 45, South Carlton, Victoria, 3053, Australia.

Good Job

Stand-up comedian and Indigenous activist Shiralee Hood began broadcasting at 3CR in 2007.

Tues Morning 9 - 11

Her program, Good Job Tuesdays 9 - 11am, explores the world of Indigenous people in the workforce and documents real people’s lives.

Here Shiralee Hood gives The Answers at 3CR...

I came to 3CR because...

It’s a community-supported base where I felt like I could have a free voice.

What is the best thing about being a radio broadcaster?

Working through the airwaves to support community voices.

What is the hardest thing about producing and presenting radio?

Making sure that you have a full show.

If you were ruler for the day what would be the one thing you would change?

The amount of time that people put into their work - if we spent that much time putting it in to our families our family units would be stronger.

If you were queen of the world where would you start?

The governmental policies need a good clean and cultural education.

What were you like when you were ten?

Good fun, sports, 'girls just wanna have fun'. But I've always wanted something better for Indigenous people.

What is your favourite sound?

A child laughing.

Where do you escape to?

The river and the trees.

What makes you happy to be alive?

My family and observing the community.

If 3CR was a meal what would it be like?

A big kangaroo dish with lots of vegetables.

Why should listeners tune in to your program?

To find out what Indigenous people are doing in their community.
BLAZING TEXTBOOKS IS A NEW WEEKLY HALF-HOUR RADIO SHOW PRESENTING AN ANTI-CAPITALIST PERSPECTIVE ON CURRENT ISSUES IN EDUCATION FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA AND THE WORLD. THE PROGRAM EXAMINES ISSUES AFFECTING STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION, TAFE, AND RURAL AREAS.

Late last year the RMIT Student Union affiliated to 3CR. We wanted a show on 3CR because students need avenues to publicise radical perspectives.

After the Federal Coalition Government introduced Voluntary Student Unionism (VSU) in December 2005, student unions across the country have faced massive funding cuts and students find themselves struggling for representation and a voice.

Blazing Textbooks has reported the unfortunate demise of advocacy and support services in student unions around the country. A recent report by the National Union of Students found that only two students' unions - University of Western Australia and Murdoch - are self-funded. All other student unions either received substantial university funding, have collapsed or are surviving on limited reserves. Only two other organisations, Curtin Guild and UNSW Arc, look like achieving self-sufficiency in the next couple of years. Students at rural campuses and campuses that are not sandwiched between universities have been hit particularly hard.

Blazing Textbooks first screened the airwaves in December 2007 with a feature on the complexity of teaching sexual assault issues, to coincide with the International Day of Action for Community Responses to Sexual Assault. Radio programs have included reports and interviews on the connections between universities and the nuclear industry, documented in the Australian Student Environment Network (ASEN) report ‘Opportunities to Waste’, teachers strikes in Puerto Rico, Anarchist approaches to education, information from the national Student Income Inquiry about the particular financial disadvantage of many international students, and the exploitation of postgraduate students.

In 2007 RMIT Student Union hosted the Rogue Education Conference at Trades Hall to take stock of the state of our education institutions and critically reflect on tactics and strategies for resistance in light of VSU. Over the past few months we have presented extracts from this conference on Blazing Textbooks.

RMIT's Student Union coordinates Blazing Textbooks, and we welcome all students interested in making their own media to get involved in helping us produce and present the radio program. Contact: studentunion.medios@rmit.edu.au if you are interested in joining us on the airwaves.

Teishan Alearme
Media Officer
RMIT Student Union

Blazing Textbooks, Saturdays at 1-1.30pm

By subscribing to the podcasts you can listen to these 3CR programs on your computer at any time or transfer them to your mobile audio player and listen to 3CR programs wherever you are.

Currently the below 3CR programs are available weekly:

- Alternative News
- Anarchist World
- Asia Pacific Currents
- Earth Matters
- Hararian Show
- HepChat
- Jump Cut
- Mafalda
- Radioactive
- Radio New Internationalist
- Raising Our Voices
- Stick Together
- Women On The Line
- Renegade Economists
- Tuesday Hometime
- Class Actions
Kutcha's got The Answers at 3CR...

I came to 3CR because...

3CR is inclusive.

What is the best thing about being a radio broadcaster?

You have a voice and you can control it. You are not listening to something edited like TV. With radio you can control the medium.

What is the hardest thing about producing and presenting radio?

Media law – you have to control your tongue when you don't necessarily want to.

If you were ruler for the day what would be the one thing you would change?

The amount of disrespect that is thrust upon indigenous people, and their communities, across Australia. I would also question what true wealth is – is it the amount of dollars you have in your pocket or is it to control your country?

If you were cleaner of the world where would you start?

I would start in the USA, sweeping the world clean of overzealous terrorists. The USA are the colonial terrorists of our time – before that there was British.

What were you like when you were ten?

I was a good kid. I was skinny, tall with an afro. My mother described me and my cousins once as 'The Jackson 5'.

What is your favourite sound?

A baby giggling.

Where do you escape to?

Sleep.

What makes you happy to be alive?

Sleep!

If 3CR was a meal what would it be like?

Pani Puri. An Indian dish – they're like little blown up rolls with spicy curried water in it.

Why should listeners tune in to your program?

It has been predicted that each year more than 20,000 Indian migrants enter Melbourne. My show is dedicated to Indians, if you want to know more about this group of new arrivals, apart from what you have seen or heard about Bollywood, snake, Krishna... then tune into Humaari Awwaz (Our Voice).

Humaari Awwaz presenter Devaki Monani provides The Answers at 3CR...

It's a while since 3CR has had a Hindi program. Dedicated to the issues concerning the Melbourne Indian community. Humaari Awwaz features Desi curry recipe-sharing, great Bollywood music, news from home and current affairs from the local community. On air every Wednesday 9.30pm to 10pm.

I came to 3CR because...

I am passionate about community issues, in particular gender issues. My training in social work has a lot to do with the way I think, feel and act. Coming to 3CR made it possible for me to voice those issues publicly with the support of community members.

What is the best thing about being a radio broadcaster?

The best thing about being a broadcaster is to have the privilege of giving voice to my own ideas to the public and help the public give voice to theirs.

If you were cleaner of the world where would you start?

I suppose America...

Kutcha's...
Radio for Kids

Radio for Kids is a new monthly show on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:15 am, as part of the Wednesday Breakfast Show. The focus of Radio for Kids is to interview young people from primary age to their mid teens, with a belief that kids are very socially aware and can often be asked questions that would be asked to adults. Interviews ask kids about local community activities and environmental topics.

In the first month of Radio for Kids, interviews have included an eight year old girl talking about practicing martial arts for the past four years. She spoke about how she only uses martial arts for self defense and also gave other kids advice about how not to get into fights with bullies at school. Another program found a six year old boy who had cared for a baby blue tongue lizard and then released it back into the wild. They reminded listeners about how soil pellets can kill blue tongue lizards and not to use pellets in gardens where native animals may be living.

The aim of Radio for Kids is to also make links with primary and secondary schools, by training kids to produce their own community interest segments and current affairs. Radio for Kids wants to hear from any kid who would like to contribute. All kids must be accompanied at all times by an adult family member. You can email Peter at wordsontherewire07@gmail.com or phone 0425 805 352.

One regular volunteer for Radio for Kids is George (pictured above), who is about to turn six. George records voice introductions for Radio for Kids segments. He also volunteers with his dad (Peter) every Sunday morning at 3CR doing station duty. George has grown up learning to press studio panel buttons on Sundays, playing the station carts and pre-recorded programs. George also opens the doors for guests to the station on Sundays.

The Comic Spot on the DIY Arts Show!

Tune into John Rehak's new segment The Comic Spot on the last Thursday of the month on the DIY Arts Show, Thursdays 5pm. The Comic Spot interviews comic makers and graphic novel creators such as Mandy Ord and Bruce Muchall as well as featuring reviews of Australian comics and upcoming comic related events.

Grow Your Own Grassroots Defiance Against the Capitalist Diet

Taste Your Own Fruits, Herbs, Flowers and Vegetables!

GROW VITAMINS AT YOUR KITCHEN DOOR
LATE 2007
THE CLIMATE CHANGE
MYTH HAS BECOME AN
ELECTION WINNING
REALITY...

WE'VE PULLED OUR
HEADS OUT OF THE
SAND!

CLIMATE
SOLUTIONS
NOW!

MANAGEMENT
RECONSIDERS ITS BUSINESS
AS USUAL.

MEANWHILE
IN THE HUNTER
VALLEY, THE WORLD'S
LARGEST COAL PORT IS
MAKING THE EFFECT
OF BUSH GOVERN-
MENT REFORMS

NO COAL IS
CLEAN COAL.

SUPPOSE WE
SHOULD SELL THE
HOUSE FIRST
SOON?

END AT THE CLIMATE SO,
CHANGE SOMETHING IN BELL.

I'M NOT GOING TO PULL THIS
OFF WITHOUT HURTING
OUR FUTURE INDUSTRY...

OOF. I MEAN
ROBUST
ECONOMY!

OK, HERE'S THE DEAL
YOU GIVE US A HILARIOUS
BUNCH OF CASH AND
WE'LL MAKE YOUR
COAL LOOK CLEAN.

OK, HERE'S THE DEAL
YOU GIVE US A HILARIOUS
BUNCH OF CASH AND
WE'LL MAKE YOUR
COAL LOOK CLEAN.

AND IS IT BUSINESS AS USUAL
IN THE HUNTER FOR 2008?
NOT ON YOUR LIFE!

THE CAMP FOR CLIMATE ACTION
FIVE DAYS OF INSPIRING WORKSHOPS & GRASS-ROOTS DIRECT
ACTION AT THE WORLD'S LARGEST COAL PORT.
NEWCASTLE, JULY 10TH TO 15TH, 2008

THE CAMP FOR CLIMATE ACTION WILL BE AN INSPIRING CONVERSATION OF PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER AUSTRALIA
WHO ARE SERIOUS ABOUT TAKING ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE. NEWCASTLE IS THE WORLD'S BIGGEST
COAL PORT AND IS SET FOR A MASSIVE EXPANSION. IF YOU'RE TIED UP IN JUST AIR AND WANT TO TAKE REAL
ACTION AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE, WE WELCOME YOU TO JOIN US. GET INVOLVED IN NEWCASTLE THE CAMP,
AND HELP SPREAD THE WORD. FOR MORE INFO CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE.
WWW.CLIMATECAMP.ORG.AU
The Launch of an On Air Computer System!

3CR has launched a computerised on air system: DINESAT - and our 300 broadcasters were trained earlier this year in how to operate the new system.

The computerised playout system replaces 3CR's car system which used cartridges with tape, pods and other hardware that simply isn't readily available any more. The new system will improve the sound of 3CR and make scheduled programming and on-air programming much easier.

Digital Radio Transition

Digital radio broadcasting is just around the corner, and 3CR is committed to embracing this new technology and responding to the needs of the listening community to enable us to continue our vital broadcasting into the future.

Over the next few years there are some big changes required at 3CR, to allow us to participate in the transition to digital radio. These changes require upgrading and developing our facilities for digital broadcasting.

The 2nd of January 2009 is the date legislated by the Federal Government for community radio to begin its digital broadcasts. 3CR is part of the Melbourne Digital Radio Company with eight other stations: RRR, RPH, PBS, 2ZZ, KND, MBS, Light FM and SYN. We have been meeting regularly to resolve the complexities of signing up to become a part of the Digital Radio Spectrum.

Thanks to 3CR staff, particularly Juliet Fax and Greg Segal (pictured), for the installation of the system. Advancing technology creates large demands on not-for-profit media outlets such as 3CR. Support 3CR to keep up with the digital age and donate now!

Bequest $88

Leaving money in your will for 3CR is a great way to ensure the future of progressive independent radio.

A bequest of $10,000 given to 3CR last year has gone a long way, providing a much needed upgrade of facilities that we just can't afford to do out of our annual operating budget.

$3,000 has so far paid for three new computers for our newsroom so that programmers can research stories, edit audio, respond to emails and prepare their shows.

This year we will use another $3000 to refurbish our production room for national programs, providing a new computer and a workspace that is better suited for long hours of computer editing. We will also be putting a computer in our telephone booth giving us an extra facility to record and edit phone interviews.

It just goes to show that your decision to leave 3CR some money in your will can really help us to continue broadcasting into the future.

For information on how to put 3CR in your will contact Libby on 039419 8377 or stationmanager@3cr.org.au.
Donate to 3CR’s Radiothon (2 - 15 JUNE 2008)

Name: ____________________________
Surname: __________________________
Address: __________________________

Postcode: __________

Daytime Phone (required for credit card payments):

Ph: __________________________

Email: __________________________

Would you like to join the monthly Email Newsletter? Please tick.  □

I AM DONATING TO THESE PROGRAMS:

PROGRAM  $________

please attach extra list if needed

DONATE:  $100  $50  $20

Other $________

I WOULD LIKE TO PAY BY:

1. CREDIT CARD

Mastercard/Visa/Bankcard No.  ________/_______/_______/_______

Expiry Date: ___/___

2. CHEQUE / MONEY ORDER

Made out to "Community Radio Federation Ltd" (please enclose)

3. DIRECT DEBIT

I wish to pay my pledge in monthly instalments directly from my bank account. Please send me an application form.  □

RETURN THIS FORM TOGETHER WITH YOUR PAYMENT TO 3CR: PO BOX 1277 COLLINGWOOD VIC AUSTRALIA 3066

Donations are tax deductible ($2 and over)

(please note a tax deductible receipt is not available if you receive a giveaway or merchandise)

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