WE ARE PROUD TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WURUNDJERI PEOPLE AS THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THIS LAND

3CR CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT 2010

It's hard to know what reconciliation means. After years of racism, poverty, deaths in custody, stolen children, shortened life expectancies, the erosion of native title and the federal government sending the army in, it's fair to say that many Indigenous Australians regard it as a hollow term.

And who could really blame them for cynicism? Is reconciliation really just another term to enable white people to feel better about themselves through an unconscious undercurrent of patronisation? I think the answer is sometimes yes and sometimes no.

Refreshing really, I think 3CR's new murals on our building fit into the 'no' category. Not once did I hear anyone say that we needed to paint the building with the most glorious and thought provoking Indigenous-themed art as a token of reconciliation. We did it because Aboriginal people are a strong essence of the spirit of 3CR and the artwork depicts organic expressions of that soul.

We didn’t have a team of artists do it because they felt the need to express a feel-good token of paternalising guilt on behalf of the station. Instead, the images on the building’s walls arose through a process and spirit of consultation at 3CR where members of the station community resoundingly said that artworks that reflect Aboriginal people are important parts of 3CR.

That’s not to say that everyone at 3CR thinks about these issues. It would be spin and deluded of me to say that they did. But we hope that those who may not, including many of the people who walk, drive, or cycle past 3CR, develop or enhance their acknowledgment of Aboriginal people. If people look at something often enough, then maybe more acceptance and tolerance will develop.

I find it interesting that there are people out there who believe that painting your building with Indigenous themes is a radical thing to do.

How can it be really radical to depict something that has been part of the country for at least 60,000 years? The fact that some people find it a novel concept indicates just how truly in denial elements of Australia are about our Aboriginal past and present.

Perhaps, for example, if European Australia was more historically in tune with the Indigenous relationships with the land, then our rivers and food bowls would have been less ravaged and better able to sustain droughts.

Discussion about topics like these is the sort of thing that 3CR is about. People may not necessarily draw an Indigenous connection to the subject but so often it is still there.

You just have to listen and now, when you travel or stop passed our building, you can see it.

James McKenzie
Chairperson

3CR: HANDMADE RADIO
ARTICLE BY: RACHEL O’CONNELL

From the beginnings of 3CR in 1976, the station has always been about handmade radio.

Starting with 3CR’s first test broadcasts in Armadale and its first home in Cromwell Street Collingwood, the station was made by people who believed so much in the value of community radio that they created their own, one of Melbourne’s first. Moving up the road to the current building at 21 Smith Street, volunteers, still powered by the handmade philosophy, transformed two old terrace houses from a publishing house Walker Press into a radio station. They made the studios, the newsroom and fitted out the kitchen. Individual supporters each bought a share in the building, one by one, until the community owned the radio station and when they’d paid for the building, they had a fundraiser for the transmitter. Thirty-four years on, that commitment to the DIY approach continues.

And just like the old rabbit-warren building that houses one of the most unique radio stations in Australia, 3CR today is an intimate tapestry of voices, people, political opinions, social justice and culture. Some of the threads have been part of 3CR’s story from those early days; 3CR’s commitment to Indigenous voices and perspectives, its ongoing coverage of important regional events, such as East Timor’s journey to independence, and the Tamil cause.

Unlike much of the mainstream media, 3CR doesn’t decide what you want to hear, and give it to you in bite-sized, processed, artificially-enhanced chunks wrapped in plastic packaging. Instead, 3CR is a bit like Slow Food. It allows you time to digest the issues you’re hearing about and savour interesting and unique perspectives. 3CR listeners can appreciate the organic goodness of the Gardening Show – nurtured to a fine and fertile mulch (since 1978) of well tended broadcasting.

Or, enjoy a home grown music show like Hip, Eek! A Hawk or Burning Vinyl featuring local Melbourne musicians. Like green bags, 3CR is also better for the environment, thanks to shows like Earth Matters, Radioactive and Beyond Zero. But whether it’s Indigenous issues, workers rights, queer politics, or the 20 different community languages you can hear each week, community media at 3CR offers you tasty morsels you don’t get offered anywhere else.

For the programmers at 3CR, handmade also means hands-on. You can be like me, walk off the street, and a short time later, thanks to excellent support from the 3CR community, be broadcasting your own show. You can have a disability, speak a language other than English, be part of a minority group, enjoy comics, or jazz and as long as you’ve got something to say, at 3CR you can get to work and create your own radio. No one’s going to give you a line to toe, and nobody’s going to do it for you.

So like the rest of 3CR, the content you make will be unique. Of course, like growing your own vegetables, being handmade and hands-on can take a bit longer and require a bit more effort than being mass produced. It takes commitment to articulate your own opinions and to facilitate those of the community you represent, rather than saying what someone has told you to say. Trying to master talking and pushing buttons at the same time takes patience - and a good sense of humour. Raising enough money to keep the station going year after year needs creative energy and lots of teamwork. But, in the end, the rewards of handmade radio are enormous. At 3CR the reward is a truly self-determined radio station that in 2010, is an even more important voice in combating media homogeneity in Australia, and beyond.

Because 3CR doesn’t represent the community it is the community.
3CR is made up of many hands. 3CR is a federation of community groups who control their own airtime. The consolidation of ownership of media outlets into fewer and fewer hands has translated into a neglect for issues of concern to the local community. Our listeners tune in to 3CR to tune out from a mediascape that is increasingly concentrated, repetitive and mass produced.

Many 3CR broadcasters are community activists and therefore uniquely placed to present alternative current affairs, news and views. When major social justice events are happening in Melbourne such as strikes, rallies and demonstrations 3CR programmers band together to broadcast the issues out to our listenership. The expertise of presenters comes from their involvement in issues and their activism in the community.

HANDCRAFTED

3CR takes time with our interviews. We provide an alternative to the five second sound byte with in depth analysis and critique. 3CR programmers are experts in the field, the people who produce and present the Gardening program are genuine experts many of whom are published authors, they are passionate about the radio they produce and through their talkback program encourage their listeners to put their words into practice.

Cross stitch by: Rachael O’Connell

3CR RADIOTHON 2010
7 - 20 JUNE

Our programming is made by the many volunteers who each week plan, develop and present their programs. We don't have syndicated news services, our programmers present the community's voice rather than the voice of the corporate world.

Our general training course actively encourages community participation in the station. Our training is hands on and in house, volunteer trainers pass on skills they have learnt at the station, our training is accessed by people who have never stepped inside a radio station before and is usually the start of a long association with community media for the people who attend the course.

In the past year 3CR has provided training to a number of community groups including Living Music, Doubtta Galla Community Health Service, the Summer Foundation, Collingwood College and Yarra Community Housing.

OUR FUTURE IS IN YOUR HANDS

How much does it cost to keep 3CR on air each year? $670,000. Radiothon meets 31% of our annual income. We need to raise $210,000 to meet our operating costs for the next year. Every $ that you send in goes towards keeping us on air for another year. We do a lot for less here at 3CR. If you've never donated money to the station please do it now and for those of you who donate regularly please consider donating more this year!

Libby Jamieson
Station Manager

Cartoon, Handmade Radio by Fiona Katauskas
www.fionakatauskas.com
handmade

Text by Greg Segal (below, right)
Article and design by Jane Curtis
If you have stories of handmade radio, let us know specialprojects@3cr.org.au

Butler-mitter

From 1977 to 1995 3CR’s antenna was next to Collingwood Town Hall in Hoddle Street. Until about 1985 the main transmitter (the device that actually drives the antenna) was the creation of several 3CR technicians. The key designer was Dale Butler (father of our current Program Coordinator, Meg Butler). The physical execution was not pretty, and OH & S types would have been horrified by the ease with which a wayward finger could find the 2000 volt power supply - mercifully none did. But the design was rather cunning, being a hybrid of valve and transistor technology, and the audio quality was excellent. We techs all became rather fond of it, and knew it as the Butler-mitter.

Harris Transmitter

While we employed contractors to construct the antennas and buildings at Woombye in 1995, I spent many months fitting out the transmitter building. A major job was modifying the Harris transmitter we had purchased secondhand in 1992 to work at 855kHz. Apart from the frequency change I deliberately adjusted everything that could be adjusted to be sure that it was correct (and no, I am NOT obsessive). While an American made box of transistors and microprocessors is not "handmade", I feel it had much of my own TLC lavished on it, and has rewarded us with fairly reliable performance over the years. This may be a bit corny, but the Harris engineers that built it in Quincy, Illinois, in 1985 personally signed the test sheet. (Technicians do that sometimes).

Help Build 3CR

It's not just a Radiothon slogan, it's the truth! 3CR is quite literally 'handmade'.
Our building, transmitters and studio equipment were all made or put together by 3CR workers and volunteers. And behind each piece of handmade goodness, there's a story...

3CR building

I was not personally involved in the purchase process in 1983, and had little to do with the actual renovation and studio construction (though I did much with the technical fitout, along with other techs). The official "builders" was a much loved 3CR identity by the name of Iain Sutherland (right), who died in 1995 in his early forties. In late 1983, 3CR bought the present studio building in Smith Street, Fitzroy. Iain was employed as the "site foreman", and over the next 10 months was in charge of the renovation of the century old pair of shopfronts, and the construction of the new studio complex in what was the backyard. Iain was the person that turned the designs of the architect and acoustic consultant into the studios we have now. Shortly after this, he went on to construct new studios for 3PPS in St Kilda, and was a consultant on the design of the original 3ZZZ studios at Trades Hall.

Photo above: The late Iain Sutherland

Background diagram: Studio 1 talkback circuit

Photo above: Sonia Thomas, surveyor

Photo above: Derek O'Brien

Photo below: Emel Heldringen

Photo above: Peter White & Greg Segal
GIRLS ON AIR
BY MARIAN PRICKETT AND MAJA GRAHAM, GIRLS ON AIR TRAINERS

In February 2010, 3CR trained five young women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in the art of making handmade radio in the inaugural Girls On Air training program. Made possible by a grant from the City of Yarra, each participant in the training made a short radio feature that was aired on International Women’s Day.

With little previous experience in making radio (only one participant had even set foot inside a radio station before arriving at 3CR for the first session), the young women demonstrated the spirit of community radio – having the freedom to tell your own story in your own voice. They were their own producers, researchers, scriptwriters, editors and presenters.

Ataror and Lucy teamed up to interview each other and talk about what life had been like before and after coming to Australia. Ataror decided to explore spoken word, reading her poem My Life about her and her family’s journey from Sudan to Australia; Ataror’s poem was great.

Avien: My poem worked really well, and I think it was a really great opportunity to come and do radio, and we could say what we want. We learned how to record the sound, edit it, test our voice and record over the phone. We also learned how to communicate using radio and how to interview people that you don’t really know.

Ataror: What I liked was learning how to talk on the microphone and edit. The final piece was good and our family listened to it. Our cousin said it was really good – she said “oh my God was that you?”

The content made by the Girls On Air team is inspiring, moving and funny – you should have a listen at www.3cr.org.au/girlsonair. Hopefully you’ll be seeing and hearing more of the team as they’ve all been bitten by the radio bug and are keen to keep on making handmade radio at 3CR!

Lucy: It was great! I learnt lots of different stuff, like testing the levels of our voices. One of the librarians at the library where we go to Homework Club listened to our radio show and she said it was good and everything, and Avien’s poem was great.

A recent addition to programming at 3CR, Out of Context has been described as ‘indigenous anarchism through song’. Confused? To get a better idea of what this show – which also includes comedy, talk, and community gossip – is actually about, Charlotte King spoke to its presenter, Darren Parker - or Das. But the only real elaboration you’ll get is by tuning in, 3-4pm Thursdays.

Why did you come to 3CR to do this show?
Because it’s a fantastic community station. It’s unique in its construction, it doesn’t know how to play up to the mainstream; quite the opposite, it gives a voice to those that don’t often get a chance to speak out.

And how does your show do this – give voice to those who don’t often get a chance to speak out?
Through my community connections and people I know – friends. Getting them on the show and getting them to tell us about what they do and what they’re thinking at the time. What’s going on.

And why do these people not usually get their voices heard?
Because they’re like me – they’re mouth off! Creating dissent.

So what are you mouthing off about?
Politics – that simple state of affairs and federation with indigenous policy and policy-making. I mean that’s just an absolute harvest for comedy, taking the piss, and making fun of, ridiculing.

So what’s the best thing about being a radio broadcaster?
Getting to play the music I like.

What’s the hardest thing about producing radio?
Coming up with good content.

So why do you think people should listen to your show?
I’m not really good with this whole sales pitch marketing crap... To have a laugh, to have a think. Yeah leave it at that.

Out of Context
Thursdays 3pm – 4pm

Photo above: Maja, Avien, Lucy, Ataror, Avien and Marian

Photo above: Darren Parker
EL RINCON H2
PRESENTERS: FABIAN HERNANDEZ AND OZ
INTERVIEW BY ELANOR MCINERNEY

El Rincon H2, meaning "the corner of hip-hop", is a music program each Thursday at 11.30pm featuring South American hip-hop and other types of music which aren't part of the mainstream, as well as political issues and more, presented by Fabian and Oz. Fabian was born in Australia and raised in Chile, and answered a few questions about El Rincon H2.

El Rincon H2 came to 3CR because...
Because my mum used to work at the radio station, and I always remember her saying that El Rincon is a place where one can express oneself and share one's thoughts. In this case, I want to show the movement of hip-hop, the one that isn't seen on TV. I want to share the hip-hop that evolves on the streets of Chile and South America, sharing the music and the culture behind it, and forgetting the commercial hip-hop.

The best thing about being a radio broadcaster?
Having your own space, sharing one's opinions, likes and dislikes with the listeners.

What is the hardest thing about producing and presenting radio?
Getting organised, preparing the program for the next week.

Why should listeners tune into your program?
Because it's new, I haven't heard the music that I listen to on the radio. Only the commercial part, so my program offers something different, something that you don't hear every day on your mainstream radios.

3CR is 'Handmade Radio'. What makes a handmade music program better than other music shows?
It's more natural; it's more honest in what the programmers are giving out. And the music isn't so commercial, it has a meaning behind it.

El Rincon H2
Thursdays 11.30pm – 12.30am

LIVING MUSIC
PRESENTERS: PAUL, GABBY, ANDREW, JOHN & JACK
INTERVIEWS BY CHARLOTTE KING AND DIANA BEAUMONT

The Living Music program doesn't just spin tunes. It represents a group of young people making music, talking about music, and using music to build social connections.

The program, which first aired in February 2010, is part of a broader initiative to harness the potential of music to forge community connections between young people, build their self-esteem, and develop their creative talent.

Coordinators Andrew McSweeney and John Favarro, and presenters Paul Milesen and Jack Hughes, talk about what this new chapter for Living Music entails.

What are the goals of the program?
We use 3CR as a promotion for musicians, and give them an extra boost to the top. To get young musicians on the radio gives them the chance to open the doors to their success. Paul

Living Music provides up and coming artists with the opportunity to have their music heard. Lots of people from programs like Gateway and Living Music get to be interviewed and showcase their music. Jack

What are the positive things that young people get out of music?
We use music as a tool to engage and then allow young people to develop positive relationships, experiences and connections into the community. It is also used for skills acquisition and pathways into further training and education or possibly even employment.

On one of our recent shows, two young men played their music which reflected their time stealing and doing graffiti and how music has moved them away from doing that type of thing to staying out of trouble. Andrew

What do you think is the best thing about being a broadcaster at 3CR?
Well it's good to play all this music that we've recorded over the years that otherwise wouldn't be heard. And it's also good to give the young people we work with just another thing, another string to the bow that we can add to their experience in the music industry and radio is a big part of that.

I suppose one of the big things for us is that they get a chance to have their opinions voiced. And a station like 3CR, which is very open to people voicing their opinion, is a great place to do it. Because there are hardly any restrictions on what they can say and there are no restrictions on what they think – so they can express the way they think about all sorts of issues, that otherwise wouldn't get heard in a public arena. Especially the young people that we deal with - the young people on the fringes. John

Living Music
Mondays 3pm – 4pm

Photo above: John Favarro, Paul 'Paulfactor' Milesen, Gabby Borden & Jack Hughes
Since the War in Iraq began in 2003, an estimated 19,000 Palestinians have fled Iraq. Of these refugees, approximately 2,500 have been stranded, in make-shift desert camps on the Iraq-Syrian border, some for more than five years. These refugees faced harassment: arbitrary detention, rape, torture and targeting by death squads in Iraq, and for the last 5 years were languishing, forgotten, in three camps along the border. This is what the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) spokesman said about the camps. "Living conditions at the border camps are extreme, unsafe and continue to deteriorate. Camp refugees face high temperatures and regular sand storms and more than half of them require urgent medical treatment."

**How did you become aware of the plight of these particular Palestinian refugee families?**

Being a close observer of the Palestinian situation and the producer of *Palestine Remembered* on 3CR, I came to be aware of the plight of the Palestinian-Iraqis as it evolved. But I was inspired into action by a question from Marita - a listener of my radio show. In September 2007, Julie Fox the program coordinator at 3CR passed on Marita's question asking me to report on the movement of some Palestinian-Iraqis to Brazil. So I created the next episode of my show to talk about the plight of the Palestinians in Iraq. A group of Refugees had been welcomed to Brazil. It seemed to me that if Brazil, a financially struggling country could host these refugees then surely Australia could contribute too.

**How did you first get in contact with them?**

I must admit that I was not aware of the level of complication involved. What I thought I could do was to employ my show to increase awareness about the case, in parallel with initiating contact with the parties concerned. I interviewed Mr. Amer Saab - one of the Palestinian Iraqis who made it to Australia as a skilled migrant, as an eye witness of their plight.

The interview was very informative, sharing the untold story of these people who have nowhere to go, they can't return to Iraq as they don't hold Iraqi citizenship nor do they hold Palestinian passports.

Quite a while after the interview was aired, I received an email from Mr. Ali Kassem - a refugee from El Hol camp who happens to be a relative of Mr. Saab. Apparently a rumour had spread, Ali took the initiative and called me and this was the first time I had contact with anyone in the camp. This was a turning point, I felt it was my responsibility to try to help. I made a promise to Ali that I would try my best to get him and his family to Australia. This was the beginning of a long working relationship between Ali, as the unofficial representative of the Refugees in El Hol and me.

**How did you facilitate their arrival in Australia?**

Ali's call was a turning point - my immediate response was to contact some Australian academics, businessmen, and women, lawyers, students and musicians to move into action.

In June 2008, the Australian Supporters for the Palestinian-Iraqi Refugees Emergency (ASPIRE) was born. ASPIRE was created with one goal - and that is to assist in the application and resettlement of this group of refugees to Australia.

The legal advice of Peggy Kerdo (Lawyer and Clinical Supervisor - La Trobe University and member of ASPIRE) has been of huge value in terms of knowing which applications to fill in and to make sure that the applications are legally ready for lodgement.

The biggest challenge was providing each family with an application to be filled in, they had no access to an Australian Embassy, there is no Embassy in Syria, and the closest one is in Jordan into which, they were not permitted to enter. So the solution was to reply via international couriers (CHL).

Being an accredited Arabic translator came to be very handy. I provided my translation services to translate the Australian visa forms from English to Arabic (so the refugees could understand them). Then they would fill out the forms in Arabic and Ali would collect the applications and send them to me.

In fact, the parcel that arrived weighed 11kgs filled with applications and documents (IDs, Passports, Birth certificates etc). This was a mammoth task that took more than 3 months to finish.

I must say that this process would not have happened without the help of three amazing volunteer editors: Shin Barak, Noga Nicholson and Karen Robinsen. These amazing women are from the Jewish community of Melbourne, something that shows the purely human nature of the project which knows no boundaries.

Equally important was the help of Dr. Graham Thom (Refugee Coordinator of Amnesty International, Sydney) who visited the camps for the same purpose. Dr. Thom's advocacy paved the way for the applications of 16 families to be lodged, which took place in Feb 2009.

Liaising with the Department of Immigration, UNHCR, Amnesty International and the Australian proposers of the refugees has also been a challenge I had to deal with.

**Where have they settled and how are they?**

On December 4th 2009, five families arrived in Melbourne and eleven to Perth altogether 18 people. The families were warmly embraced by the local communities and supported wonderfully by the Government appointed case workers who provided them with all the assistance they possibly could need. ASPIRE members who were involved in this project are not experienced in this field and so having the support around was vital to settling in.

We are very close with the 5 families in Melbourne and they amaze us every day in their adaptability, hunger to learn and joy at being in Australia. In fact this January on Australia Day 2010 Ali, wearing an Australian Flag cap hosted a BBQ at his place, including sausages and kebabs Aussie style.

**Do you have plans to facilitate any other families in the near future?**

Yes indeed! On 5 February this year, I visited El Hol camp to first show solidarity with the remaining refugees and see how we can extend the hands of help to them. That day marked the beginning of Phase II. New applications are on the way to Melbourne. Many more people have joined ASPIRE and we all fear we cannot rest until all the refugees are resettled and the camps are dismantled forever.

**How does such action interact with your weekly radio show "Palestine Remembered"?**

None of this would have happened had it not been for *Palestine Remembered* and its listeners. I honestly think Marita has no idea what a snowball effect her phone call created!

The purpose of the show is to keep the flow of information about Palestine and the Palestinian people going, so we never forget what happened and is happening today to the Palestinians. The show has allowed me and the cause a public face to tell the stories and widen the audience and it greatly assists projects such as bringing stateless Palestinians to Australia. So I have at least 66 good reasons to say "Thank you, 3CR!"

To contact Yousif or join ASPIRE email: y.reemawi@listmail.com or call: 0449 026 499

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**RADIO ON DEMAND 3CR PODCASTS**

Many 3CR programs are now podcast, which means you can listen to them when you want, through your computer, your portable mp3 player or your mobile phone.

Programs are updated regularly, you can subscribe to them or download them from the 3CR website.

For a full list of podcast programs and instructions on how to get started visit:

http://www.3cr.org.au/podcasts
PROGRAMMING UPDATES

Enjoy handcrafted and hands on radio everyday of the week on 3CR with a wealth of shows by and for your community. Over the last 12 months we’ve welcomed many great new shows and farewelled a few favourites, as well as bringing you some great live outside broadcasts.

NEW SHOWS

DES PARDES
(THE COUNTRY- THE FOREIGN LAND)
Tuesday 7 – 7.30pm
In Hinglish/Bengali, the program covers information, Australian news and entertainment, providing a platform for people who don’t have a voice.

EL RINCON H2
Thursday 11.30am – 12.30pm
El Rincon H2 is a program that plays Rap music from South America, but not the kind of Rap that is played in the mainstream.

GIRLS RADIO OFFENSIVE
Sunday 2 – 3pm
Women’s art and music with a focus on the modern. Maenad, the striky girl, the Dreckschwester – not your average chick.

LAZY WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON
HOT DAMN TAMALE
Programs have moved from a fortnightly roster to two weekly networks. Lazy Wednesday Afternoon is now broadcasting weekly on Wednesday 2 – 4pm, while Hot Damn Tamale is now broadcasting on Saturday 7 – 9pm.

LIVING MUSIC
Monday 3 – 4pm
This show is a vehicle for marginalised young people to showcase their music and to present their views and opinions on music and wider youth issues.

OUT OF CONTEXT
Thursday 3 – 4pm
“Indigenous anarchism through song. Now that I have your attention. Out of Context is a show for those that enjoy comedy talk; community information; a bit of a gossip (come on, it’s gossip what else are you supposed to do with it??); a giggle; all the while interspersed with sounds. Well I’ll have a go anyway.” Darren Parker, presenter.

SOVEREIGN VOICE
Friday 11 – 12noon
“As you know, sovereignty was never ceded by the Indigenous people in this country. Always was, always will be Aboriginal land.” Robbie Thorpe, presenter.

DEPARTING SHOWS

Arts Up!
Monday 2 – 4pm
This fabulous arts show can still be heard each Monday on 3KND with Janina Harding, Kim Kruger and Liz Cavanagh: 3KND 1653AM

Blue Green Footprints
Thanks for many years of alternative country music from a great array of presenters.

Girly is Good
A decade of dedication to all things girly in the arts and music scenes - don’t go too far!

Kabayan
A longform show on 3CR presented by members of the Filipino Cultural Group. Great supporters of the station and the show will be sorely missed by the community.

Mixed Tape
Fabulous late night music with Maria and friends - we hope to have her back one day.

The Gut Response
Thanks to the team of Gut Responders for digesting the week’s news for us and all the best!

Voice of Cambodia
Thanks for the community news and information each week and good luck to the team.

Wuigada
Thankfully presenters Kutch Edwards and Robbie Thorpe will continue with their own shows Footprints, Fire First and Sovereign Voice.

SPECIAL PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

Last Drinks at the Tote
18 January 2010
3CR joined 3RRR and 3PBS for a simulcast live outside broadcast from the closing night of the Tote Hotel.

Tunernerinnerwalt and Maulboyheener
20 January 10
Outside broadcast commemorating the public executions in Melbourne of two Indigenous Tasmanians.

Survival Day
26 January 2010
A day of special programming including an outside broadcast from the Survival Day concert in Belgrave.

Sustainable Living Festival
20 February 2010
Outside broadcast from the Sustainable Living Festival at Federation Square.

Applecore Backyard Music Festival
20 February 2010
Live local music from a backyard in Thornbury presented by 3CR music programmers.

International Women’s Day
8 March 2010
24 hours of women’s programming – interviews, music and politics.

Where the Heart Is Festival
19 March 2010
Outside broadcast from the homelessness festival in the Edinburgh Gardens with the team from Roominations.

May Day
1 May 2010
A morning of special programming celebrating the achievements of workers while recognising the fight for equity in the workplace is far from over.

STILL TO COME...

NAIDOC Week
5 – 12 July 2010
International Day of People with Disability
3 December 2010
International Human Rights Day
10 December 2010
Since 1984 Tamil Voice has been a fundamental source of news, current affairs and community announcements to Melbourne’s Tamil community. Since 1989 Sabesh Sanmugan has presented the show, providing careful political analysis of the situation in Sri Lanka. For the past six months, while Sabesh takes time off, Aran Mylvaganam has taken over this role. He talks to Charlotte King about the continued significance of Tamil Voice after 25 years.

How did Tamil Voice come to 3CR?

From 1977 under the Prevention of Terrorism act there were State sponsored massacres of Tamil people. During that time thousands of people fled to Sri Lanka to Canada, Australia, Europe - and the group that came to Australia formed the Tamil Association, which was then called the Ceylon Tamil Association. Nowadays this is known as the Tamil Tamil Association. They are the sponsors of Tamil Voice.

In 1983 after another massacre of the Tamils by state organised Sinhala agents - over three thousand people were hunted down and killed in a day. Back then the Tamil Association thought that what SBS were trying to tell the world through its broadcasting was through the eyes of the government. So they were not really representing the Tamil Voice, Gopal Krishna, who was one of the members of the Tamil Association, knew about 3CR as an organisation that gave voice to groups like us. So he told the association about 3CR. They approached the trade unions and through them they were able to get a time slot at 3CR. And in 1984, Tamil Voice was born.

What kind of political analysis does it offer? How is it different from other media sources?

The Tamil Voice program focuses on the importance of the Tamil identity. Sabesh is a very good writer, he has a way with words - he has quite a few fans! And I have to live up to that! The program seeks to inform the diaspora community in Melbourne, Sydney and globally about what is happening in the country from within the Tamil community. Much of what the western media hears about the Tamil people in Sri Lanka is filtered through the policies and politics of the Sinhala Government.

How did Sabesh Sanmugan, who has been presenting the show for over 20 years, get involved?

Sabesh is a big part of Tamil Voice - the main reason Tamil Voice is so popular. In 1989 he came to Australia, and in the first week wrote an article about Thiyej Thiweekan, who was a medical student who lasted for 12 days without food or water, calling on the Indian government to save the Tamil people from the brutal regime of the majority-led Sinhala government. None of them accepted his demands, and he died after 12 days. When Sabesh came to Australia in 1989 he wrote an article about Thiweekan that was well received by the community leaders of that time and they asked Sabesh to read that article on air, on Tamil Voice. And that's how Sabesh came onto Tamil Voice - he became a newsreader, political commentator and then ultimately took over as the main presenter of the show.

Why did you come to 3CR?

My story is different. My school was bombed in 1995 by the Sri Lankan government - that was my first major experience of the government's terror. 75 kids died, including my own brother and three of my first cousins. I narrowly escaped. Just a concrete wall separated us from the bomb. To be honest, I witnessed one of my friends hanging on a Tamarind tree - you know we have big Tamarind trees in Sri Lanka - and after the bomb fell I saw one of my friends, who was one year older than me, hanging from the Tamarind tree by his intestines. That was not the worst I saw... I fled on a boat to Malaysia, and came to Australia as an illegal immigrant - as a 13 year-old illegal immigrant. A 13 year-old kid alone. And that was '97.

In 2007 I finished my degree in Arts/Science. That's when I started realising that I had been too quiet. Up until then I wanted to be active but didn't know how to be - how to take part in all this. Ultimately I ended up working with Sabesh. He trained me in how to speak on air - I had never had any radio experience before that, and only through him have I learnt all the radio skills.

Why do you think people should listen to Tamil Voice?

People should listen to Tamil Voice if you want to hear the truth about what's happening in Sri Lanka. Because the government of the government, so we have got the right picture about what is going on there.

What is the hardest part about producing radio for you?

The hardest part is that we're all full-time workers, I run a business, you know, I run two petrol stations - it's my own. And for me to come down here, it involves a lot of commitment. It requires lots of time.

So why do you do you keep committing to it?

Well, I realise the importance of Tamil Voice to me and many people - it's more important than my wallet. It's as simple as that.

The Tamil Voice program exemplifies the need for community radio stations like 3CR. The radio program is a place where people can get information about what is happening inside the country - information that is not suppressed by the ruling government and as a way of organising people and communities to advocate on behalf of those oppressed in a homeland. Stations like 3CR have presented this kind of platform for many communities that live in exile from their country of origin.

Tamil Voice

Wednesdays 6.30pm - 8.30pm
3AL HAWA

3AL Hawa is a program for and about Arabic and multicultural youth broadcasting every Sunday from 6 - 7pm.

In December 2009 Shyama Alisha-kin along with several other new broadcasters completed the training and joined the show.

Why did you become a 3CR broadcaster?
I love radio and 3CR gave me the opportunity to do just that!

What’s the best thing about doing radio?
You get people to concentrate on what you’re saying, rather than how you look, or what you’re wearing.

What’s the hardest thing about producing and presenting your show?
Going live on air!

Why should listeners tune in to your program?
It’s fun for a start! And because we present and discuss issues related to Arab/Muslim youth living in Australia. We conduct interviews with young stars and with musicians/artists/comedians and we think the content interests lots of people - particularly the youth.

This year’s Radiothon Theme is “3CR - Handmade Radio”. How is your show handmade?
We don’t have a one-way format to doing the show. There are no specific rules to how we go about it. Every show has its own style and as we go we come up with new ideas and ways to attract our listeners.

What sort of feedback do you get from your listeners?
That it is entertaining and informative.

What topics did you cover on your last show?
We talked about the Youth Victoria’s Entertainment night and interviewed one of its committee members to tell us about what surprises they’ve prepared so far. We spoke to Nazem Hussein from Fear of a Brown Planet Returns’ about his comedy shows in Melbourne’s Comedy Festival and interviewed the President of the RMIT Islamic Society and a committee member of Latrobe Islamic Society to speak to us about their Islamic awareness weeks coming up this year.

Sali Hawa presenters Shyama, Rashid, Faseal, Mohammed, Omar and Phil can be contacted at the station or via email 3ahlavan@gmail.com

3AL Hawa
Sundays 6pm – 7pm

THE TONY ABBOTT IRON LADIES AUXILIARY

We Ladies of The Tony Abbott Iron Ladies Auxiliary are most gratified by the kind invitation of 3CR to introduce ourselves in our esteemed publication. We are keen supporters of Corporate Radio, and all the interests, stocks and shares this enterprise represents.

We are entrepreneurs ourselves, in ladylike fashion, and thus we are proud to present a new range of beauty treatments which will prove once and for all that coal is an entirely clean and pure substance. In these times, facing the dreadful threat posed by environmentalists to our Way Of Life, The Tony Abbott Iron Ladies Auxiliary feel honour bound to campaign for all that is right in Australian politics, and indeed the world.

Our beauty range, the Holy Coaly Carbon Cleansers, is thus based exclusively on Australian coal, and is dedicated to Mr Abbott in the name of Our Lord the Prophet Margin. Please see the see advertisement we have commissioned – on this page – for a list of our products. Our email address is provided should the avid coal consumer have any queries about our innovative treatments.

Some of you may recall a time when we Ladies campaigned as The John Howard Ladies Auxiliary. It was a bitter campaign between Right and Rudd, and despite the finest Electoral Viagra we Ladies offered Mr Howard, poor Johnny was simply not up to such a hard election.

Having lost his election, Mr Howard then lost his seat, with the result that there really wasn’t much left of Johnny for us to adore. Our hopes for his resurrection were cruelly dashed when Her Majesty the Queen refrained from bestowing the Royal Order of the Garter, or any other sort of knighthood, upon Johnny. The situation appeared to be irredeemable. Our only consolation was that Kevin Rudd turned out to be quite white and right, like us, and a millionaire to boot; small comforts for us Ladies were forced to content ourselves with.

For two long years, we Ladies were out in the wilderness, struggling with the half-Nelson and the seditious Turnbull, mourning the demise of our beloved Coalition. The Christian right, it seemed, were dead in the water. We questioned ourselves in the hallowed halls of our Church of the Holy Rifa, and prayed for a miracle. And our prayers were answered! Suddenly, out from in the fog of the Liberal wetlands, arose a strident figure, a man with a mission, a dear emissary of the holy spirit – Tony Abbott! When Tony strode forth, dressed only in budgie smugglers and preening the Word of the Holy Rifa, we knew our savour had arrived.

Who else, in the face of all the science in the world, would dare proclaim global warming to be ‘absolute crap’? What other political leader would simultaneously promote virginity, abstinence, and the drinking of lyca suis? Our Messiah had come: Praise the Prophet Margin!

Now, in this election year, we Ladies are prepared to campaign vigorously for Mr Abbott and all that his member stands for. The hysterical environmentalists must be made to understand that a total collapse of the planet’s ecosystems may be exactly what Our Lord the Prophet Margin intends, and it is our duty as consumers to continue consuming as much as we possibly can. And Tony is just the man to take us there, to that Judgement Day: dear Tony is surely our very own Rider of the Apocalypse. And so, let it be known that the Ladies have mounted a crusade to support Tony on his Holy Emission to free the world from irrational atheists and scientists. Such is the World; now let us pray that the Lord may save our Coal.

Yours in glorious, coal-fried redemption,
Mrs Bea Wight and Bea Wight
The Tony Abbott Iron Ladies Auxiliary

HOLY COALY CARBON CLEANSERS

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WITH YOUR HOLY ORDERS!
NT INTERVENTION

BY ANDREW “A.J.” SADAUSKAS

Richard Downes is a respected leader from Anmatyertji in the Northern Territory, where community members have walked off their community - now a “prescribed area” - and set up camp in protest against the NT Intervention. As spokesperson for the Alyawarr elders, Richard Downes appeared recently on Fire First to share his story.

In a move which echoes famous walk-offs at Cummeragunga (1939), the Pilbara (1946) and Wave Hill (1966), elders instigated the walk-off, asking Richard to lead their protest and establish a camp outside the “prescribed area”, on his mother’s homelands, an area for which he is a “leader or boss on his mother’s side”. While the camp still has few amenities and no running water, it lies outside of the “controls and measures that’s being imposed on us (as Aboriginal people)”.

The N.T. Intervention policy came against the background of over 200 years of Aboriginal people suffering dispossession, stolen children, stolen wages, war, and genocide. To get a feel for the sheer magnitude of this genocide, consider an example that in the Melbourne (Port Phillip) area, 80% of the pre-contact population died between 1835 and 1853, from disease and murder, less than 2000 Aboriginal people. By 1886, there were less than 1000 Aboriginal people.

Downs explained to Robbie Thorpe and Clare Land that across Australia, in the wake of such horrific mass-slaughters, Aboriginal people “were herded away from vast areas of our land into missions, into reserves, and we ended up with these little communities which are five-10 square kilometres...we’ve lost our permanence, we’ve lost our land rights. We know our Government’s focus is on minerals and resources underneath.”

Against this backdrop, before the 2007 election, Prime Minister John Howard announced his Northern Territory Intervention policy. Using the release of the Little Children are Sacred report as a pretext, Howard claimed his paternalistic policy would address supposed child sexual abuse and neglect in Northern Territory Aboriginal communities. But while he used the report to justify his policy, he implemented just two of the 97 recommendations in the report.

For instance, where the report heavily recommended more local control, Howard’s intervention brought more paternalism. One key part of the Intervention is the return to ration-era policies under the new name of “income management”, where a proportion of welfare benefits are given to recipients in the Aboriginal communities (dubbed “prescribed areas”) in the Territory. Spending patterns are controlled through the use of store cards, which only work at stores which have been chosen by the Government. Worse, if a bureaucrat thinks (rightly or wrongly) that an Aboriginal person is neglecting their children, all of their benefits are immediately suspended without the right to have this decision reviewed. On top of this, there was a take-over of Aboriginal service providers and all Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) were abolished.

Robbie Thorpe, Richard Downes, Miki Thorpe

Other key parts of the policy include a prohibition on alcohol consumption and distribution in prescribed areas, regardless of whether local community leaders support such prohibitions or not. And, in spite of a black incarceration rate higher than the rate at the end of the Apartheid era in South Africa (Aboriginal people make up 83% of the prisoners in the Northern Territory, yet less than 30% of the population), the Intervention has removed customary law and cultural practice considerations from bail applications and sentencing in criminal cases. In order to implement all this, key parts of the Racial Discrimination Act of 1975 were suspended.

The election of the Rudd Labor Government in 2007 and the Apology to the Stolen Generations brought both hope and disappointment to Aboriginal people. Downes told listeners that “there were a lot of expectations that Kevin Rudd would say: Okay, let’s abol in the Intervention, let’s start again, let’s look at the Children are Sacred report and its 97 recommendations.” Instead, the Rudd Government made the Intervention policy its own and, in May 2009, extended it by announcing that it wanted to move the residents of around 560 communities into just 29 “economic hubs”. Aboriginal people have been told that Government services would only be provided in these hubs, and are being asked to hand over their land rights claims and titles in exchange for renting a newly built house in a hub town. At the time of writing, exactly two people have taken up this “generous” offer.

The impact of all of this has been to make a horrible situation much worse. Downes recounts that “People are moving away in droves into those [20] townships and cities, and there’s where there’s more issues now than there were in 2007, 2008. With health issues with children, there’s more alcohol being consumed all over the place, and the Governments don’t know, what to do, oh! All they do is flag to the general public right across this country how wonderfully it’s working, but it’s the opposite.”

Downs finished by rallying us to join him in his struggle. In his words, “We’ve got nothing more to lose, and that’s why we’re saying the only way forward is to start fighting back. It’s time to stand up and rally our white brothers and sisters across this country, and rally the Unions to come on board with us, and that’s what’s happening now. There’s a movement that’s starting to happen, which is fantastic, from the public and from the Unions and all our Aboriginal brothers and sisters, we’re all coming together now.”

Fire First can be heard Wednesdays 11 – 12 noon
Sovereign Voice is on Fridays 11 – 12 noon

PRISONERS ON AIR
BEYOND THE BARS

In July 2002 3CR broadcast for the first time from inside a Victorian prison. The broadcast was groundbreaking not only for 3CR but for community stations around the country as we established the first of many live prison broadcasts.

The Thursday afternoon Indigenous shows at that time - Koori Youth, Stoneline and Songlines - all presented their shows from Port Phillip Prison in Laverton. And each year since then we've built on this commitment to giving voice to Indigenous men and women inside the prison system - to including them in the NAIDOC Week celebrations and having their voices heard.

Since 2004 we have created a highlights CD from these unique broadcasts. The CD is now produced each year and enables the opinions, cheers, songs and poems of the inmates to travel further afield. Copies of the Beyond the Bars Highlights CD are free and distributed around the country to organisations, individuals and media outlets.

In 2010 Beyond the Bars is one of 3CR's largest projects and this year we aim to broadcast from a record five Victorian prisons: Barwon Prison, the Dame Phyllis Frost Centre, Fulham, Marrongeet and Port Phillip Prison. Stay tuned for NAIDOC Week in July and look out for Beyond the Bars 7.

To get your CD copy email: specialprojects@3cr.org.au

For past participant of the annual project, Karlene Clarke, who participated in every broadcast from 2002 – 2008, the broadcasts gave her:

"the opportunity to just be heard, to have a voice and be able to be part of the community and family who I wasn't in contact with because of my incarceration - during NAIDOC week".

HANDMADE AND AWARD WINNING

At the 2009 Community Broadcasting Association of Australia Awards, 3CR won Contribution to Indigenous Broadcasting for our Beyond the Bars 5 project and Excellence in Digital Media for our fabulous 3CR website. The awards are a great recognition of the station's innovation in online community media and its commitment to Indigenous voices on the inside and the outside.

3CR's Refugee Radio Broadcast was the winner of the 2009 Victorian Multicultural Commission's Media Award. The award recognised excellence in the reporting of multicultural affairs. The award was for the 2008 World Human Rights Day live outside broadcast from the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre in West Melbourne.

Women on the Line's "Young people in nursing homes" program produced and presented by 3CR's Rachel O'Connell received an honourable mention in the Radio - Best Radio Feature, Documentary or Broadcast Special award for most outstanding contribution of the year in the inaugural Yooralla Media Awards. (www.yooralla.com.au). The purpose of these awards is to highlight and celebrate journalism that promotes understanding of people with disabilities; explores issues relating to people with a disability; and seeks to promote active and informed debate.

Congratulations to the presenters, researchers and tech support involved, these awards recognise the talent and commitment of the 3CR community.
3CR MURAL PROJECT

Walking down the city end of Smith Street
It’s hard to miss 3CR, thanks to the amazing mural by artists Bindi Cole, Reko Reenie and Tom Civil. It was officially launched on 26 March 2010 and big thanks go to the City of Yarra, JB Seed Fund and Arts Victoria for funding the mural’s design, consultation and creation. Visit 3CR and check it out! In Full Colour!

This is a large-scale mural, reflecting the community, identity, rights and Aboriginal culture. It’s not often you get the chance to create a large mural that will have an impact on the community and reflect years of identity. Reko Rennie

The garden installation is a comment on a green earth, sustainability and an ecological revolution, which are important issues at 3CR and in our community in general. I like the fantasy element too, it’s a little Alice in Wonderland. Bindi Cole

The lightboxes are my favorite part. The black and white one is of Kutha Edwards, someone who has been a strong and important part of the station for such a long time and a representative of the Victorian Aboriginal community. The Women’s Land Army Poster, called ‘The Original’ is from a series where I appropriated mainstream imagery from Victorian History and recreated it using Koori models instead of white models, claiming a place in mainstream media for Aboriginal people and reclaiming a place in certain histories, such as that of the Women’s Land Army. The Women’s Land Army started in the 40’s and was the first time in history that women were encouraged to get out of the homes, away from their domestic duties and go out into society and work. Aboriginal women were a part of the Women’s Land Army, but possibly not acknowledged. ‘The Original’ makes up for this non-acknowledgement. Bindi Cole

The window stickers are an attempt to bring a little bit of the bush to the city with a beautiful and significant tree from country Victoria. I added the small lights to represent the ancestors of the Kulin Nation. Bindi Cole

At the front we’re trying to make the building really stand out - that it is a community radio station - and to use a lot of colour and liven up the wall and change the feel of the street. Tom Civil

Animals can represent the voiceless which is really what 3CR is all about. I love the idea of the animals looking like they are escaping, like animals from the zoo. It is also a small statement about colonisation as the animals are a mixture of photographs of and early pictorial drawings of native animals showing how these animals were misrepresented in the same way that Aboriginal people were. Bindi Cole

When people see the mural, we want them to feel welcome. The idea of a “meeting place” is something we wanted to represent, that people come from all over the place and they end up at 3CR for different reasons. I hope the stick figures are a universal play on the ancient symbol of a stick figure, that they just represent people and that people can make their own reading. Tom Civil

Article and design by Jane Curtis
How to make your own felt 'Handmade Radio'

Ingredients
Needle
Embroidery thread aka floss
Craft Felt in 2 or more colours
Stuffing
Velcro (optional)

Cut out pieces according to the pattern.
Take 1 radio body piece and layout the speaker, top & bottom panels and knobs and secure them with pins.
Stitch pieces together, starting with the smaller pieces – stitch the small knob onto the wide knob.
Stitch that piece onto the top panel.
If you would like to stitch numbers or any logos onto your radio, lightly draw on with a pen and stitch on before attaching panels to the body.
Once all of the panels are stitched onto the body you are ready to make the handle!
Stitch both handle pieces together, leaving both ends open and stuff with quilting or cotton (hint use a chopstick to push it in)
Leaving about 1 cm at the end of each handle, layout the body pieces so that the handles can be pinned to the inside of both body pieces.
Stitch the 2 body pieces together, making sure to securely stitch the handles on to both pieces, leaving a small gap at the bottom.
Stuff the radio from the bottom, when you think it is full, stitch up the bottom.
Make a cross stitch speech bubble and attach it to the speaker with velcro, this way you can make a few and switch programs!

Article and patterns by: Nicole Hurtubise and Rayna Fahey

How to cross stitch on to your felt speech bubble

Ingredients
Needle
Embroidery thread aka floss
Cross stitch fabric aka aida
Felt
Embroidery hoop (optional)

The first thing you need to do is secure the aida fabric to your felt. You can either tack the corners with some stitches which you can remove later. Or you can hold the two pieces of fabric together with an embroidery hoop. Stitch all the stitches following one of the speech bubble patterns. If you haven’t cross stitched before check out http://radicalcrossstitch.com/xstitch for tips.
Once you’ve finished stitching, remove the hoop or stitches and then trim the aida fabric as close to your stitching as possible.
Then you carefully pull all the threads out, starting from the edge.
My advice is to not pull too hard on a thread if it’s really tight, just move on to another section. Sometimes when you’re stitching you can accidentally stitch through the aida so it’s best to leave those threads until the end to deal with. The last thing you want to do is break one of your stitched threads!
Cut out the shape of a speech bubble around your stitching and attach to your radio! After you’ve glammed up your radio think of some other projects to make. Get some badge backing and make some cute little felt badges. Or make some patches. Or use the same technique to stitch direct onto a bag.

3CR SEWING THE SEEDS OF DISSENT - LITERALLY!
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