

# TYGAbytes



THE E-NEWSLETTER OF DERWENT VALLEY COMMUNITY RADIO INC

## Issue 12 – Summer 2015

*TYGAbytes* is the quarterly e-newsletter of Derwent Valley Community Radio Inc trading as TYGA FM.

### AROUND THE STATION

#### Annual General Meeting

TYGA FM's Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in New Norfolk on 18 December 2014.

In his report to the meeting, TYGA President Bruce Lamb talked about the highlights of 2014 and the achievements of some of TYGA's people over the past year.

TYGA FM celebrated its 5<sup>th</sup> birthday in December 2014, and Bruce congratulated and thanked everyone who had been involved in setting the station up and keeping it running and growing over those 5 years.

This includes the diverse range of presenters, the tech team that keeps us on air, the Board members, and off air volunteers.

Bruce paid tribute to former President Steve 'Slabs' Halloran and Katrina Higgins, who stood down as Public Officer after 5 years in the role. Slabs and Katrina were both on the inaugural Board of TYGA FM, and have made significant contributions to the station since before it went to air.

You can read Katrina's story on page 3.

Bruce also thanked Barb Halloran for her work in producing *TYGAbytes*.

Some of the highlights of 2014 included:

- TYGA's participation in the Derwent Valley Country Muster, which Bruce described as 'a journey of adventure and risk'. It was a success for all involved.

(See page 5 for information on this year's Muster, which will be held on Saturday 28 February at Boyer Oval.)

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Contact information for Derwent Valley Community Radio Inc trading as TYGA FM

📻 98.9 FM | 🌐 [www.tygafm.org.au](http://www.tygafm.org.au) | 📱 TuneIn app

☎ (03) 6261 2888 (general enquiries) | (03) 6261 2000 (studio)

📘 [98.9 TYGA FM – Derwent Valley Tasmania](#)

✉ PO Box 377 New Norfolk Tasmania 7140 | 📍 56 High Street, New Norfolk

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## Annual General Meeting

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- Two outside broadcasts: at the Derwent Valley Autumn Festival in April and the New Norfolk Christmas Parade in December.
- Another successful Trivia night at the Golf Club in October.
- Three of our female presenters taking part in the Community Media Training Organisation's Women In Community Media Program.
- Obtaining just under \$7500 in technical equipment grants for a new signal processor, a dead-air detector with automated emergency audio, and a solar emergency power backup.

Looking to the future, Bruce noted TYGA was seeking further grants for upgrading to a satellite dish and server, which would give us access to national radio programs that we could broadcast directly or download to broadcast later.

We also have plans to enlarge the studio space. This will provide more space to train and work with New Norfolk High School students on media courses and to have a standby studio to cater for breakdowns or maintenance.

### TYGA FM Board Members 2015

President: Bruce Lamb

Vice President: Scott Shaw

Secretary: Chifley Clarke

Treasurer: Cheryl McIntosh

Station Manager: Roz Chapman

Sponsorship Manager: Lexie Hayton

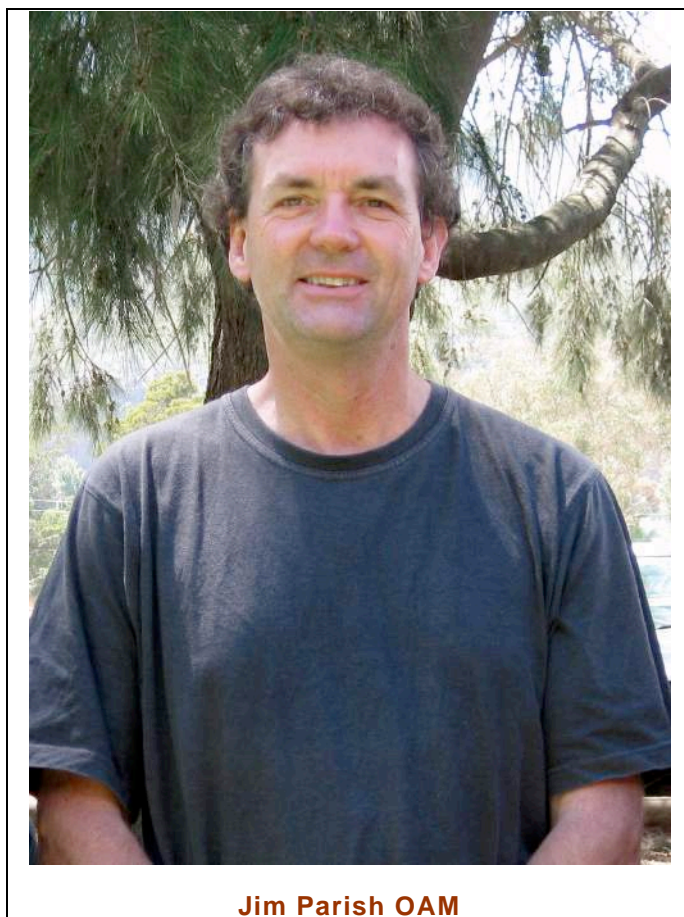
Public Officer: Bruce Lamb

## CONGRATULATIONS JIM

TYGA FM congratulates TYGA Tech Team member Jim Parish, who was recognised for his services to community broadcasting in Tasmania in the 2015 Australia Day Awards with an Order of Australia, Medal of the Order (OAM).

Jim, who was made a Life Member of TYGA FM in 2014, has almost 40 years of experience in radio and is an integral behind-the-scenes presence at TYGA.

He played a pivotal role in relocating the station to the new studio, and he's the mastermind behind all of our outside broadcasts.



**Jim Parish OAM**

Jim formerly worked at the ABC in Hobart. As well as TYGA, Jim is involved with 5 other community radio stations in Tasmania.

Congratulations Jim from everyone at TYGA FM.

## FAREWELL KATRINA

Katrina Higgins vividly remembers the day that Kaz and Ross Nicholson walked into the Valley Vision office in High Street New Norfolk to talk about the possibility of setting up a community radio station.

Valley Vision was the organisation responsible for renewing the economy of the Derwent Valley, and a community radio station was one of many projects that it was involved with.

Ross and Kaz had been involved with community radio in Queensland, and had a dream of bringing community radio to their adopted home in the Derwent Valley.

And so the seed that became TYGA FM had been sown, and Katrina was there right from the start – through her role with Valley Vision, and then as Vice President and Public Officer of the Incorporation. She also presented her own show for a brief period.

Katrina says that TYGA's early years were long, with many obstacles, but that it was definitely all worth it in the end.

Katrina, including the first public meeting to see how much interest there was.

Another highlight was receiving a letter from the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA, the body which regulates broadcasting in Australia) advising it would consider issuing a licence if we could find our own frequency – and then identifying a frequency for the station to broadcast on.

Getting volunteers on board to fundraise and then finally getting the grant to purchase the equipment (and announcing that surprise at a meeting) were other memorable moments – and the most significant step of all: going to air at 10 am on 14 December 2009.

Moving into new purpose-built studios was the icing on the cake. Katrina had been involved with preparing the successful grant application with New Norfolk High School for the new Language and Science Hub where TYGA FM is co-located.

Katrina says that setting up TYGA FM was one of the longest projects she'd been involved in with Valley Vision, but also one of the most rewarding, both professionally and personally. It was a project they didn't know if they'd be able to pull off, because of changes in legislation and rules from ACMA saying they weren't issuing any new frequencies. But in the end, Katrina says, the enthusiasm and determination of everyone came through and ACMA honoured its original commitment.

Katrina stepped down as Public Officer at the AGM in 2014 after 5 years in the role. She was the last remaining original member of the Board, and her contribution to TYGA FM has been immeasurable.

Katrina would like to thank everyone who has been involved with and supported TYGA FM – all the enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers over the years, many of whom are still part of the station today.

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**Katrina with former President Slabs and Craig Farrell MLC at the opening of the new TYGA FM studio in 2012**

“Frustrating and so very slow,” she says. “A lot of the time it felt like two steps forward and then back again.”

Even though progress was slow, there were many moments that have stood out for

# PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

## Valley Sunrise

*TYGA FM provides a wide variety of programs covering almost all musical tastes. Each issue of **TYGAbytes** will spotlight a different show.*

This time it's **Valley Sunrise**, with Ray Hewitt, which goes to air on Fridays and Sundays from 6.00 am to 9.00 am. Valley Sunrise is an easy-listening show featuring music from the 1950s through to the 1970s, with the occasional dash of country, jazz, light orchestral – almost anything, as long as it's not too heavy.

Ray plans each show carefully, and the show includes features such as *On This Day*, famous birthdays, and a segment devoted to tracks from the commercial radio charts of exactly 50 years ago. Ray also includes a track he calls a *Great Grand-Pop*, which is a popular music recording of the 1930s up to the early 1950s. Tracks might be from the Big Band era, the Second World War, or the Korean War years.

Ray told **TYGAbytes** that his first experience in community radio was with 7CAE-FM (now Hobart FM) around 1979–1981, when he did a short show on behalf of Jaycees, a self-development organisation of which he was a member.

“Back then there were no CDs, no computers, no automation,” says Ray. “All music came from vinyl records and reel-to-reel tapes, which had to be carefully cued manually before each track went to air.”

After that show finished, Ray wasn't involved with community radio again until he retired in 2007 and joined Hobart FM.

He'd been presenting a Sunday morning show on Hobart FM when he joined TYGA FM in 2010 and started presenting TYGA's Friday morning breakfast show. For while he was presenting on both stations, and Ray says he had to be careful not to give the wrong call sign

on the wrong station. He says he didn't always get it right!

Ray left Hobart FM in 2013 and brought his Sunday breakfast show, *Sunday Sunrise*, to TYGA. Both Friday and Sunday shows are now called Valley Sunrise.



**Ray in the studio of what was then 7CAE FM**

Ray has designed *Valley Sunrise* to be different from breakfast shows on most other local radio stations, which he believes tend to sound very much the same. He was inspired by the late Bob Cure from ABC radio.

As a foundation member of the Derwent Valley Railway, Ray has spent a lot of time in the Valley and this, combined with his love of community radio, made it a logical step to join TYGA FM.

Having retired after nearly 40 years in the public service, Ray can now devote more time to organisations such as the Railway, TYGA and Hobart City Mission's Barrack Cottage shop.

Ray says that he loves being part of TYGA and seeing the enthusiasm of the volunteers at the station. “If community radio is your thing and you live within easy distance of New Norfolk, then TYGA is for you,” says Ray.

Ray welcomes requests, but asks that they fit within the general format of the show. If you'd like to make a request on *Valley Sunrise*, you can call Ray in the studio on 6261 2000 between 6.00 am and 9.00 am on Fridays and Sundays.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Country Music Muster

TYGA FM is proud to support the Derwent Valley Country Music Muster again in 2015.

The Muster is on Saturday 28 February 2015 at Boyer Oval, New Norfolk.

Star acts are Amber Lawrence and BayLou, as well as local artists.



**AMBER LAWRENCE**

**28 FEBRUARY 2015**  
BOYER OVAL, NEW NORFOLK

**BAYLOU**

**DERWENT VALLEY**  
**COUNTRY**  
**MUSIC**  
**MUSTER**

GATES OPEN 10.00AM

ALSO FEATURING SARAH KATE LANDY  
ZACK WALSH & THE YOUNG GUNS  
BRIDGET PROSS AND GOODFELLAS

Bookings: 03 6261-2888 [www.derwentvalleymuster.com](http://www.derwentvalleymuster.com)  
Tickets: 56 High Street, New Norfolk

The Country Music Muster is proudly brought to you by Lions New Norfolk, New Norfolk District Football Club, Molesworth Cricket Club and TYGA FM.

Ticket prices are:

Adults:	\$35
Concession:	\$30
Children (11-17):	\$15
Children 10 and under:	Free

You can get tickets from the website [www.derwentvalleymuster.com](http://www.derwentvalleymuster.com) or from 56 High Street New Norfolk.

Check out the Facebook page for more details: [Derwent Valley Country Music Muster](#)

### Bushy Park Show

If you're heading to the Bushy Park Show on 21 February, be sure to keep an ear out for TYGA FM's Nigel Jones, who will be MC for the arena and entertainment.

Nigel MC'd at the show last year and did a fantastic job, and he's honoured to have been asked back to do it again this year.

## CHRISTMAS PARADE

New Norfolk's 2014 Christmas Parade was held in High Street on Saturday 13 December.

TYGA FM broadcast live from the parade, with commentary from Craig Farrell MLC and TYGA FM's Station Manager Roz Chapman (pictured).



### Farewell Katrina

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TYGA FM thanks Katrina for her many years of service to the organisation, and will miss her experience and enthusiasm.

"To see where it is now is wonderful," says Katrina. "It's all about the confidence and feeling of belonging that it gives. I'm so glad to have been a part of it and to have seen the massive contribution by so many to get it where it is today."

"We had a lot of laughs along the way too."

Thank you Katrina, and good luck for the future.