

## New Presenters

We welcome the following new presenters who have recently joined our on air team

### Maureen Carroll

Maureen is on air every Friday from 8pm until 11pm and covers the broad range of music and genres which are so popular with Golden Days Radio listeners.



Maureen also adds a sprinkling of special music from her own collection which, over the years, has become significant and enjoyable music to her.

She is an exponent of authentic folk music (Irish/Scottish /guitar/vocal), and for some time, a friend had been telling her about GDR. When I finally tuned in, the first song she heard was the lovely, Irish singer, Ruby Murray, singing 'Softly Softly'. She was instantly hooked because it took her right back to her childhood in Glasgow, listening to the Sunday night Top Twenty on Radio Luxembourg and warm memories of her Irish granny who taught her the history of Ireland through song. She was an adoring fan of Ruby Murray.

Golden Days music has magical ways to make you smile and brighten your days and already offers old time nostalgic music that has automatic appeal to seniors and all age groups. "I believe I am lucky to have musical empathy with people young and old" says Maureen.

### Philip Dowd

**Presenter:**  
Fri: 2pm–5pm

Philip is a keen musical listener and enjoyed "surfing" the radio stations looking for music to his liking (Jazz, popular, easy, light classical, early rock, film & television, occasional opera). He was delighted to find the eclectic musical programs on Golden Days Radio.

In 2016, he was trained as a receptionist by Philip Dowse, became a receptionist for Loretta Simmons, then trained as a presenter with George Rolfe, Fay Thorne and Loretta.

Philip believes that Golden Days Radio provides a vast community service, especially to seniors through the presentation of news, information, historical material and music of various genres. Perhaps most importantly, the station provides genuine and caring company to listeners, with the opportunity of luncheons, meetings, and to ring at any time for a chat. Great moments have been hearing from relatives of elderly listeners praising the station's role in the seniors' daily lives.

He pays careful attention to listeners' comments and concerns, both as a receptionist and presenter.



### Robyn Butlin

Robyn trained as a high school teacher in English and History after obtaining a Bachelor of Art degree.

In the last few years she has taught migrants and foreign students English. Robyn enjoys lots of crafts such as knitting and embroidery and have recently become a judge in lapidary for cabochons.

After looking for a station that had pleasant music and not talk back I found GDR and I began volunteering as a receptionist which I have enjoyed for about 2 years.

I'll be playing typical GDR music each Tuesday between 2pm and 5pm and I will continue to play light and bright music with the occasional change to present an enjoyable programme to our listeners who enjoy music from the bygone days.



# THE GOLDEN BROADCASTER

Newsletter of Golden Days Radio  
for Senior Citizens Inc.

Registered in Victoria No A.0025759L ABN 29 845 875 007



**PATRON: Peter Smith OAM**

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## President's Report



In my last report I spoke about our review on the station under the title "Development and Operations Strategic Plan". Well, a great deal of work has been undertaken with several meetings held with key people to review how we do things and can we do it better. The answer is yes, we can do it better.

As with most organisations we need more volunteers, more listeners and more revenue to ensure that we maintain our high standards in broadcasting.

You will see elsewhere a list of volunteer positions that we need to fill to help keep the station running smoothly. Can you help? Or, do you know someone that can help us? If you do please let us know.

We would like to produce a variety of additional programs, but we need people to do this as the existing presenters and producers are flat out with their own programs. So, there is an opportunity to get involved.

You may have noticed a recent change in the way we present Community Service Announcements (CSAs). They are now presented each hour in a one-minute recording featuring 3 community groups. This has had favourable comment and has raised the standard. Similarly, we have also looked at sponsorship announcements and these are now all 30 seconds in duration – an industry standard.

At our forthcoming AGM in August, (details enclosed with this mailout) we will present our vision for the future and I'm sure you'll be pleased with our efforts

In May of each year throughout Australia the country celebrates "National Volunteers Week" and at Golden Days Radio we salute our volunteers as part of this special week. The theme for this year was "Give a little. Change a lot".

It represents the millions of volunteers who make a profound impact in their communities and on society, through giving a little time. Over 6 million Australians volunteer some activity to assist others, providing over 700 million hours of voluntary labour each year.

Our dedicated volunteer team of nearly 90 makes sure that you continue to hear *yesterday's music today*, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Congratulations to everyone and keep up the great work.

Larry James, President



## Valé David Pollock

We lost a valued member and contributor to Golden Days Radio on 29th March when David Pollock passed away after a long illness. David joined us in 2011 and was a presenter and a member of the Committee of Management and will be sadly missed.

At his funeral, many GDR volunteers were in attendance together with family and friends from all walks of life that David had met.

David was a Member of Parliament in the 1st Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory Government from 1974-1977 in the seat of MacDonnell. He held the position of cabinet member for resources.

He had also been a policeman in the northern territory and president of RPANT.

He was also a journalist and author having written "Outback in Uniform" in 1999 detailing his life in the outback as a policeman.

At his funeral the Order of Service contained some written words that David penned whilst a student at Upwey High School in 1955 class 3A. They are detailed on the next page.

## Sponsors

We sincerely thank Golden Days Radio Sponsors for their continuing support throughout the year. We encourage you to use our Sponsors where possible and always tell them where you heard about them. Should you know of a business that may benefit from a Golden Day Radio sponsor partnership, please contact us on 9572 1466 or email: [sponsorship@goldendaysradio.com](mailto:sponsorship@goldendaysradio.com)



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## Country Cricket

by David Pollock

*The captains tossed the coin to see  
who was to bat*

*The visitors decided that they  
would take the mat*

*The home side took their places,  
upon the field so green*

*An early thing was settled, quiet and serene.*

*The bowler threw the ball up*

*The batsman hit it square*

*The batsmen took a single*

*And cheers were everywhere*

*The next man faced the bowler*

*He hit the ball to leg*

*The fieldsman threw the ball in*

*And hit the centre peg.*

*And so the game progresses*

*Till all have had their hand*

*Some have made an all-round score*

*And others have been quite grand.*

*The ladies bring the luncheon*

*to serve beneath the trees*

*The umpires have been loudly cheered,*

*and look a trifle pleased*

*We turn our steps for homeward,*

*another day well spent*

*The games the thing that mattered,*

*not which way the victory went.*



(L-R) Colin Dunstone with presenter Philip Dowd

## Recent guest to the station

A recent visitor to the station was Colin Dunstone who is the technician at community radio station 2CUZ FM in Bourke NSW.

Colin was in Melbourne staying with his parents who listen to us and he decided to look us up.

He met Graham Cook, Philip Dowd and Julie Bastow who hosted an impromptu tour. Colin says he enjoyed seeing the enthusiasm and devotion of our presenters and the preparations that are done before going on-air. He says the high standards the station encourages really showed through.

Thanks Colin for your very kind comments.

## Honorary Life Membership

Ian McLeod officially announced to a recent listeners meeting that our President, Larry James has been awarded an Honorary Life Membership of GDR. The Committee of Management unanimously agreed in supporting this award to Larry, not only for his 9 years as President, but, for exercising outstanding leadership during 2017.

There are exciting times ahead for all of us and I am sure you will join me in extending sincere congratulations to Larry James. The Musical Fun Factory is full steam ahead!



(L-R) Larry James with his framed certificate and Ian McLeod.

## Strategic Planning and the Future

As we reported in our last newsletter, strategic planning continues. Here is a list of volunteers positions available now:

1. **Sponsorship Team Member** – (3 positions required). Making contact with existing plus potential advertisers.
2. **Community Liaison Officer** – Public Relations, working with Community Groups, local councils and schools in promoting GDR.
3. **Publications Support** – Person with experience in Social Media and Publishing Software.
4. **Grant Writing** – (2 positions required) – To facilitate and secure funding for GDR.
5. **Events Planner** – Person required to investigate forthcoming theatrical productions and artists visiting Melbourne.
6. **Human Relations Officer** – Policy review and development – Excel data base updates
7. **Community Liaison Officer** – To Promote GDR at various community events and working with Councils and various organisations. Updating of database and liaising with OB team.

## Ginger Meggs – The Little Aussie Icon by Barry Gomm



Many listeners to Golden Days Radio will recall the weekend newspaper supplements which included Ginger Meggs' latest adventures. Today that little Aussie is gaining quite a worldwide reputation appearing as a daily comic strip in over 100 newspapers including, of course, many within Australia. He can be found also on GoComics.com, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter as well as having his own phone app.

As a lad of 12-13 years of age going on 97 Ginger Meggs is Australia's oldest comic character and one of the oldest in the world. His creator was Jimmie Bancks, with Jason Chatfield, a gifted Australian artist who now lives in the US, being the fifth in a line of artists taking care of the little chap.

Ginger Meggs first appeared in 1921 as a member of a gang of boys in a strip called Gladsome Gladys where the heroine was named after the daughter of the lady who taught Bancks how to draw. The theme was for a little girl called Gladys to use her charm to get the boys out of trouble if their cricket ball broke a window, their billycart knocked someone over or any other tragedy befell them. Bancks soon ran out of ideas for

that theme and so brought one of the boys forward in a lead role, gave the little lad red hair because that was one of the only two colours other than black used in printing newspapers, called him Ginger Meggs and renamed the strip 'Us Fellers'. Ginger was modeled on Charles Somerville, a schooldays friend of Bancks, Gladys was renamed Minnie Peters and given the role of Ginger's girlfriend. Other characters drawn from people in Bancks' life were added as time went on, and so was born a uniquely Australian comic that took everyone's heart. In 1939 the strip was renamed 'Ginger Meggs'.

Ginger's meteoric rise in popularity led to the production of the memorable 'Sunbeams Annual – Adventures of Ginger Meggs' series from 1924 to 1959 as well as many items associated with the strip such as books, figurines, money boxes, breakfast sets and so on. Children also made their own toys featuring Ginger or some associated aspect such as the infamous billycarts.

Barry, presenter of 'Something Light and Bright' on Tuesdays at 5.00-7.30pm on Golden Days Radio, has put together a most comprehensive lifetime's collection of Ginger Meggs strips and items. He may be contacted via the station if your organization would like a talk on our little Aussie icon and catch up on some of the memorabilia.

We are always available to offer community talks to our listening audience – call us on 9572 1466.

## Email corner

Each week we receive a variety of emails from listeners locally and overseas. We're overwhelmed to also receive over 2,000 phone calls and messages each month.

Here are some of the latest email comments:

*"Hi there or should I say g'day. I'm tuning in to Golden Days Radio over the internet from rainy Cornwall in the UK! Your style, choice of songs are fantastic. As a retired teacher in my late 60s I look and listen back to the songs and music of the 50s and 60s. I'll continue to tune in fantastic station keep on doing all you're doing!"*

– Geoff of Cornwall UK.

*"Good evening Ian. Great to hear Benny Goodman and Glenn Miller. Much appreciated."*

– Ian of Beaumaris

*"Another superlative program! Loved Sam Cook especially. Well done, John."*

– Tess of Hampton

*"Thanks for a great show. I'm listening on my phone while walking on the beautiful Geelong Waterfront."*

– Virginia of Geelong

*"Just loving the music – especially the Gershwin segment. Best regards to the delightful d'wonderful duo Fay and Deborah."*

– Trevor of East Hawthorn

*"Good evening Leo and Mario. I will be tuned in, to your show for a little while, as to a party I have to go. I enjoyed Benny Hill and Danny Kaye."*

– Patricia of Middle Brighton

*"Thoroughly enjoying your show as Spring is around the corner and am preparing for another wonderful summer here in El Paso, Texas."*

– Peter and Tyrone

*"Greetings from the US! Just found your station on the internet. I live in Fort Worth; Texas and we have nothing close to the format that plays what you play. Thank you and best wishes."*

– Dave of Fort Worth



# The Royal Flying Doctor Service 90th Anniversary 1928 – 2018

## A brief history by Loretta Simmons

The story of the Royal Flying Doctor Service is forever linked with its founder Reverend John Flynn – Flynn of the Inland. His vision of providing a “Mantle of Safety” for the people of the Inland can be traced to the years immediately preceding World War I. Conscious of the terrible isolation of Inland people who were so remote from medical and religious care, John Flynn began his missionary work in 1912, at a time when only two doctors served an area of some 300,000 square kilometres in Western Australia and 1,500,000 square kilometres in the Northern Territory.

Following an inspirational letter received in 1917 from Lieutenant Clifford Peel, a Victorian medical student with an interest in aviation, John Flynn published an article in 1918 outlining the feasibility of Inland air transport and its possible use for air ambulance work. The young airman and war hero had suggested the use of aviation to bring medical help to the Outback. Shot down in France, he died aged 24 and never knew his letter became a blueprint for the creation of the RFDS. On 15 May 1928, Flynn’s dream became a reality when a long-time supporter, H.V. McKay left a large bequest for ‘an aerial experiment’. This enabled Flynn to open the Australian Inland Mission Aerial Medical Service (later to be renamed the Royal Flying Doctor Service).

The RFDS lacked communication technology to deliver services efficiently. Alfred Traeger helped to hurdle this barrier with the invention of a pedal-operated generator to power a radio receiver. By 1929 people living in isolation were able to call on the Flying Doctor to assist them in an emergency.



Annette Allison OAM, Victorian Public Affairs Manager and Ambassador for the Royal Flying Doctor Service with Loretta Simmons

The first Flying Doctor took flight on the 17th of May 1928 in a single engine leased Qantas plane from Cloncurry, Queensland.

In its inaugural year, the Aerial Medical Service flew 50 flights to 26 destinations and treated 225 patients. The first Flying Doctor pilot, Arthur Affleck, had no navigational aids, no radio and only a compass. He navigated by landmarks such as fences, rivers, dirt roads and telegraph lines. In 2016/2017 36,933 patients were transported by air and 70,576 by road and the RFDS fleet of 69 aircraft flew 26,412,555 kilometres.

On the 9th of May 2018, 25 antique aircraft took flight as part of the 90th Anniversary Antique Air Pilgrimage following the route of the first Flying Doctor flight that took place on the 17th of May 1928. The aircrafts followed the original flight path from Cloncurry to Julia Creek.

Golden Days Radio 95.7FM congratulates the RFDS on this important milestone in their history and extends best wishes for the future.

## Welcome to John Rowland

In February, John Rowland joined us as our General Manager. Making him welcome at a local eatery is (front) Larry James and Ian McLeod and (rear) Keith Irvine and John Rowland. Welcome aboard John!



## Avril Smith retires

We had a delightful afternoon tea at the station to celebrate the retirement of Avril Smith. Avril has been continuously on air since April 1998 – an amazing achievement.

Well done Avril who is pictured cutting a cake.



# ALL STOPS OUT – Live at the Dendy

## Dendy Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ

What a concert we had on Sunday 20th May at the Dendy Theatre in Church Street Brighton. It was a joint fundraising concert with FODO (Friends of the Dendy Organ) and Golden Days Radio. FODO is an off-shoot of Melbourne Theatre Organ who are a GDR sponsor.

Larry James President introduced organists Scott Harrison and David Johnston OAM who entertained the audience with some jolly music. David accompanied some silent movies featuring the first Mickey Mouse cartoon as well as Charlie Chaplin and many others.

Vocalist Ruby Page sang some great numbers and we had a sing-a-long, some raffles and afternoon tea too! We raised in total \$ 5,000-00 which was split between both organisations.

Here are some photos of the event.



David Johnston OAM



Ian McLeod, Margaret Sutcliffe (from FODO) and Larry



Heather Swift busy selling merchandise

Jazz singer Ruby Page

# Life Writing Course

Each Saturday after the 12-noon news, we have a program called “Recollections”. Community Group member the Hawthorn Community House provides the stories and the narrators for this program which has been a successful part of the station for many years.

The Life Writing Program offers a broad range of imaginative topics to make it easy and fun to start your writing journey. Writers are individually linked to an encourager, who reads the writer’s work and offers constructive feedback.

Telelink groups allow up to eight writers in different Victorian locations to join in a group discussion, on their own home telephone. Each year, a piece of writing from every writer is published in their book Recollections. This year’s launch in May saw people from interstate who also participated in this wonderful program.

Some photos below from the launch which had Dudley Chamberlain as the MC.



Dudley with GDR President Larry James and Carolyn Cuming from Hawthorn Community House



Janine Johnston with author and broadcaster Sian Prior who launched the book



Sian speaks to the group at the launch





One of the friends of Golden Days Radio is the Australasian Orchestra which has two concerts each year. Pictured here after a recent concert are L-R GDR President Larry James, Receptionist Lenis Russo, Robert Dora Conductor of the AO and GDR Vice President Ian McLeod.



Former Young Talent Time member Steven Zammit was interviewed by Larry James for Community Magazine.



Cynthia Geybert, the Energy and Water Ombudsman recording one of her monthly interviews with Larry. Each segment discusses the daily issues that can occur in our community.



Tania de Jong AM, Australian soprano, social entrepreneur, businesswoman, creative innovation catalyst and motivational speaker came to the studios for a recording of Community Magazine.

## AROUND THE STUDIO



Melbourne Theatre Organ are a Golden Days Sponsor and here Larry welcomes Scott Harrison (President) with their former President John Sutcliffe and wife Margaret. Their program features on Tuesday nights at 7.30pm.



David Southwick MP with Ian McLeod and GDR Patron Peter Smith OAM at a recent function.



Our Wednesday night presenter, Ian McLeod often refers to a seagull flying into the studio when there is a minor technical problem. One of our loyal GDR listeners, Barrie from Montmorency, took Ian's comments literally, and kindly sent the above photo.



The GDR Development Fund is the tax-deductible arm of the organisation and here we have members of the fund L-R Mark Cherny, Dr David Dammery, Richard Hornidge and Peter Norman OAM. The Chairman of the fund Dudley Chamberlain was absent for the photo.



Loretta Simmons getting ready for her program for this year's Chinese New Year.



David Southwick MP in the Victorian Parliament for the seat of Caulfield presents Heather Swift with a certificate from the City of Glen Eira acknowledging her voluntary contribution to the community.



Ben Hart from the Level Crossing Removal Authority came along to inform everyone on the latest news covering this big project.

## Sponsorships

Golden Days Radio relies on our valued sponsors to keep the station alive and we're always looking for new ones. Do you know a business that would benefit from having their products mentioned on air?

If you do please ring the station on 9572 1466 or email [sponsorship@goldendaysradio.com](mailto:sponsorship@goldendaysradio.com)

## Bequests

We were very pleased to receive a bequest from the late Edna Eames (late of Clayton and Phillip Island) who was a dedicated listener to the station for many years. Listeners will remember the many calls that Edna made to the station daily as radio and more particularly the music was most important to her. The bequest will assist us greatly with our future endeavours.

If you would like to help the station continue entertaining our listening audience, you can by remembering Golden Days Radio in your Will.

## Would you consider leaving a bequest in your Will to Golden Days Radio?

Your thoughtful legacy will ensure Golden Days continues to bring back the memories.

Why not contact Larry James or Loretta Simmons for a personal confidential chat.

## It's nearly taxation time again!

How quickly the financial year comes around these days. You need to complete your annual taxation form or get a registered tax agent to do the work for you.

Now, if you desire to minimise your taxation, one way of doing this is to make a tax deductible donation to the Golden Days Radio Development Fun. Donations of \$2.00 and over are treated as tax deductible and we provide the necessary receipt to assist with your taxation return.

If you would like to contribute, please make your cheque in favour of "Golden Days Radio Development Fund" and post to PO Box 287 Glen Huntly 3163.



## NOTICE BOARD

### Meeting dates for the remainder of 2018

GDR Public Meetings will be held at the Uniting Church Hall, Centre Road, Bentleigh at 10am on:

AUGUST 15th (AGM) OCTOBER 17th

The mid-year and Christmas luncheons are held at The Bentleigh Club, Yawla Street, Bentleigh on Wednesday 20th June and 12th December. Reservations are required for these luncheons.



Don't forget to check our Facebook page weekly for upcoming events.

## IT BITS (Information Technology)

Here's some information about what's happening around the studios.

**IT** have just completed the isolation of the PCs in the studios from the internet.

This has been done for security reasons, that is to stop any hacker infecting the studio machines with viruses, malware, or ransomware. The last one being where they encrypt the computer contents and you have to pay to get the unlock key. If you ever get it.

GDR cannot afford to have these computers infected as they are a key part of running the station.

We already have in-place a firewall, virus and malware protection for all the computers so for the ultimate protection of the studio computers, which access all the music files. If you are not on the internet you cannot be touched.

Because presenters sometimes need internet access, GDR is providing iPads, one for each studio, which will provide the Internet access via our WiFi.

## Tip of the Day!

If you find the print on the PDF Program Guide too small to read when you open it from our website, all you have to do is use the Plus (+) or Minus (-) on your adobe reader to enlarge or reduce the print size.

