

SEPTEMBER

ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 1.

6WF Perth 1929: Last Australian station to move from long wave (240 KHz.) to medium wave. Programming was taken over by the privately owned Australian Broadcasting Company with 60 minutes of advertising daily. Photo is Walter Coxon who started 6WF.



6WF Perth 1929: Broadcast the first stereo experiments in Australia. This was achieved by broadcasting a live play with two microphones. Each microphone was fed into separate transmitters on different frequencies. Listeners needed two receivers to hear stereo.

1935: Most stations changed their frequency when 10 KHz. spacing was introduced.

Cut out these numbers and paste them on dial to indicate new station positions.

—3AK	—4BC	—2WL	—3HA	—3GL	—4RK	—3AW	—4QG	—5KA	—5CK
—2AY	—2UW	—3XY	—4GR	—2XN	—4WK	—2SM	—3LO	—2CH	—3AR
—4CA	—7LA	—2KO	—2GZ	—4RO	—3MA	—3WR	—7NT	—3KZ	—2FC
—2BE	—3SH	—7BU	—4AY	—2BH	—6PR	—6IX	—2BL	—4TO	—4QN
—TUV	—3YB	—2GN	—6AM	—3BA	—2GB	—3TR	—5CL	—6BY	—7ZL
—5MU	—2CA	—4BH	—3BO	—5AD	—5RM	—2NC	—6GF	—4MK	—3WY
—4IP	—3DB	—3HS	—5DN	—2TM	—3GI	—4AK	—2NR	—2KA	—6WA
—2QN	—2KY	—2MO	—3UZ	—4BK	—7HO	—2GF	—2CO	—2HD	—6ML

1976: Tobacco advertising was banned on radio and television.

ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 2.

4IP Ipswich 1935: Launched with 50 watts. First manager was **Jim Jordan** from **4JJ**. Initially relayed some programs from **4BK**. Their first studio had glass walls to allow visitors to watch. Used a locally built three channel mixer (microphone, turntable, and a radio tuned to **4BK**). All initial announcers were auditioned locally with no previous experience. Known as “*Station 4IP in the Heart of Ipswich*”. Railway station announcements and train whistles were often heard when the microphone was on.



2MW Murwillumbah 1937: Started by local radio dealers Carl and Tom Small, and the Budd family using 100 watts. Known as “The Popular Station of the North East” (later “The Voice of the Far North Coast”). Opened a relay studio and office in Southport in 1958. Moved their main offices and studios from Murwillumbah to Tweed Heads in June 1985. Sold to **2SM** in 1989.



2SM Sydney 1963: Launched the very successful promotion “The Good Guys”.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 3.

1939: All experimental and amateur radio and television licenses were cancelled due to security concerns with WWII.

ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 4.

9AD Aitape (T.P.N.G.) 1945: Australian Army station using 200 watts on 1180 KHz. Established by Eric McRae from **9AG**, **3SR**, and **7HO**. Their announcers were Laidley Mort from **3AR/3LO**, and **3UZ**, Arthur Pettet from **2UE**, and Norm Spencer from **3DB**



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 5.

2FC Sydney 1927: Originated the first of the “Empire Broadcasts” by relaying to the U.K., South Africa, India, Canada, and the U.S.A. Photo is their 1927 QSL card.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 6.

3XY Melbourne 1948: Both their towers on top of the Princess Theatre were blown down.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 7.

2KA Katoomba 1935: Started at Medlow Bath, with 100 watts. Installed by Wally Grant from **2KY**, who also installed the **2LT** equipment. In 1937 the studio moved to Bligh Street in Sydney, taking programs from all six commercial stations. Then moved to Katoomba above the Rural Bank, as “The Voice of the Mountains”, but had more listeners in Lithgow.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 8.

3XY Melbourne 1935. Broadcast from the Princess Theatre as “Your Quality Station” with 600 watts. Founded by theatrical and movie pioneer Frank Thring Sr. Inherited by actor Frank Thring Jr. aged 10 in 1936. First manager was Tom Holt, father of Prime Minister The Rt. Hon. Harold Holt. 15 year old Bob Rogers (now **2CH**) began his career as a turntable operator in 1942. Put off the air when their two towers on top of the Princess Theatre were blown down on 6-9-1948. Bert Newton started his career as a 12 year old junior announcer, reading advertisements for the “Peters Pals” children’s show (20,000 members). Joined with **3DB**, **3UZ**, and **3AW** to apply for a television licence in 1953. Graham Kennedy had a studio in his house for his programs 1970-1971. During a Billy Thorpe interview in 1973, a man arrived with a shotgun demanding to see him. Rated number one for most of the 1970s-1980s.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 9.

1946: The ABC announced numerous announcer positions available across Australia.

VACANCIES FOR 25 ANNOUNCERS

The Australian Broadcasting Commission invites applications from men and women for permanent appointment as Announcers.

Vacancies exist in all Capital Cities and Darwin, and order of preference should be specified.

Salaries range from £318 to £698 per annum for men and £302 to £682 for women, according to qualifications, experience, and ability. In addition, a district allowance of £100 and £80 per annum will be paid to married and single officers respectively, stationed at Darwin.

Appointments are subject to a probationary period of 6 months and will be confirmed only after a satisfactory examination by the Commonwealth Medical Officer. Successful applicants will be required to contribute to the Commonwealth Superannuation Fund.

Applications giving age and full details of qualifications and past employment and accompanied by copies (only) of references should be addressed to the Staff Inspector, Australian Broadcasting Commission, Box 487, G.P.O., Sydney. Applications close Monday, November 4th, 1946, at 2.30 p.m.

ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 10.

9AJ Wewak (T.P.N.G.) 1945: Australian Army station. The entire station was built into a three ton truck except for their ten watt transmitter. Their announcer was Ian Neil from **4BH**, **4SB**, and **4BK** (earlier on **9AB**, later well-known on the A.B.C.). Made radio history by broadcasting live the first Japanese war crime trials in P.N.G. Photo is their program manager John Rann.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 11.

3KZ Melbourne 1932: They issued a statement saying “*television will never be introduced into Australia*”.



3HS Horsham 1933: Owned by Jack Ward, owner of the *Horsham Times* and the *New Sunraysia*. They changed their callsign to 3LK Lubeck on 02-1-1937.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 12.

5SSA Adelaide 1980: (Later known as **SAFM**). Their launch slogan was “I Hear the Music for the First Time”.

ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 13.

3WR Shepparton 1934: (Previously at Wangaratta from 1-12-1924). Changed to **3SR** on 1-2-1937.



3XY Melbourne 1954: Put off the air by a fire.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 14.

2RG Griffith 1936: The licence was granted in June 1935 to **Radio Griffith**, with facilities situated in the *Area News* building (the *Area News* was a major shareholder, but when contacted for this research, they denied all knowledge, even though they also acted as the stations advertising agent). The *Area News* editor, Dr. Leo Jones, was also the Managing Director of the station, and later helped establish MTN-9 TV. Their first manager and Chief Announcer was Cyril James from **2UE**. Their opening was a live broadcast of “Australia’s Amateur Hour” with over 1,000 people attending at the Rio Theatre, with compere Terry Dear. An announcer once emptied a jar of 78 R.P.M. needles out the studio window, and an irate woman then burst into the studio while the microphone was on, and berated the announcer because the needles had scattered through her new hairdo.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 15.

4AM Mareeba 1967: Launched to cover the Atherton-Mareeba district. Started by manager Frank Bellet from **4KQ**. The original studios were in Yungaburra, with a relay studio in Atherton. Made a 6% profit in their first year. Moved to Mareeba in 1972. All the original equipment was kept on display in 2007 for their 40th anniversary. Their slogan was “You have to get up early to beat 4AM”.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 16.

2MV Moss Vale 1931: Their owner, W. Young, developed memory loss as a result of being gassed in France during WW1, and was forced to close the station. The licence, equipment, and pre-fab building, were transferred to Goulburn and became **2GN** three months later.



6KG Kalgoorlie 1931: Started by local tradesmen in the Methodist church hall, three hours each evening using 100 watts. Known as “The Heart of the State”. The Royal Flying Doctor Service Radio Base was operated by **6KG** announcers from its start in 1937 until 1939.



5MU Murray Bridge 1934: Their opening was delayed by a lack of access to A.C. electricity (local supply was D.C.). Known as “The Premier Station”. Their Chief Engineer, Frank Miller from **5BF**, designed, built, and installed their 50 watt transmitter and studio equipment. The original antenna was supported by two wooden 100 feet high towers installed by a carpenter. On air for four hours per day. Relayed some **5KA** programs.

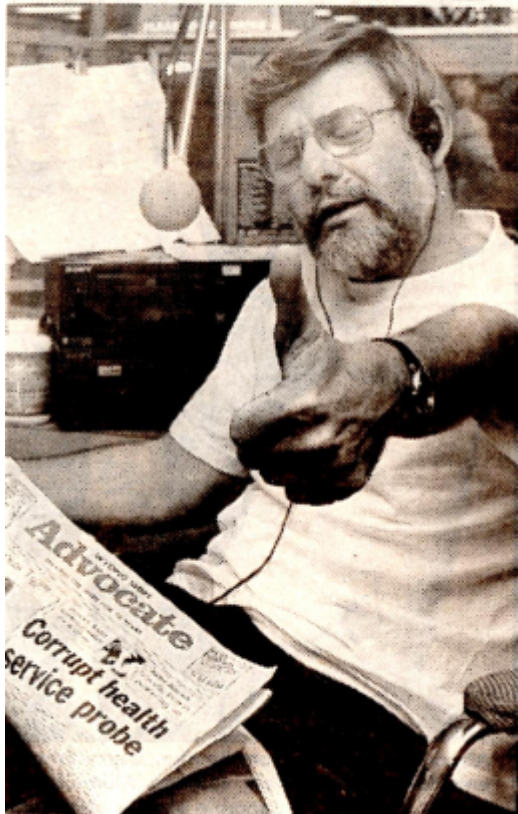


1956: Australia’s first fulltime television station was launched in Sydney with TCN-9, resulting in an increase in music programming on radio and a decrease in serials.



2CCC Gosford 1993: Bruce Carty broke the world record, as recognised by the “*Guinness Book of Records*” in their 1995 edition, for the “Longest Continuous Broadcast by One Announcer”.

World record!



DJ Bruce Carty nears the end of his marathon stint

2CCC FM disc jockey Bruce Carty has captured the world record for continuous lone radio broadcasting.

Bruce set the new world record of 121 hours and three minutes at Bay Village shopping complex last week.

His marathon stint beat the old record – set by 2GF announcer Mike Sommers in 1986 – by an hour and three minutes. He began the attempt on September 11 at 6pm – he finished, exhausted, last Thursday night at 7.03pm.

Bruce said the first 36 hours of the marathon were easier than he expected. “Then on Monday morning I started to feel very tired,” he said.

“I had a few psychological problems, but I had them under control by Monday afternoon. Monday night till about 1am Thursday I was fine.

“After 1am I was close to the edge and thinking of quitting. I started to think I’m only doing this as a publicity stunt for 2CCC FM.

“Then I thought of all the people who’d backed me and I told myself I couldn’t let them down.

“Thursday morning between 2 and 9 I was hallucinating and not quite with it. I couldn’t think as clearly as I should. It was not a matter of staying awake, but my mind wasn’t alert enough to cope with panel operating.

“For one three-hour period I used a panel operator to do the mechanical work for me. Incidentally, the guy who held the record before me didn’t operate his own panel,” he said.

Once he passed the old record Bruce kept on for another one hour and three minutes before he gave it away.

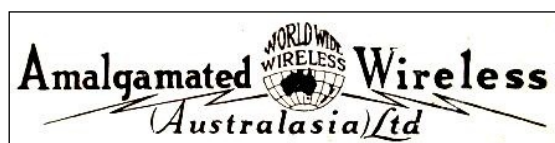
“I’d achieved what I wanted and I knew I wasn’t in the mental state to think what I had to say on air.

Bruce’s wife took him home and after 1½ hours relaxing he went to bed.

He slept for 14 hours straight, got up for a couple of hours and went back to sleep for another five hours.

ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 17.

3EX Melbourne 1929: Owned by A.W.A. and established as a temporary station for the “Made in Australia” exhibition. Visitors were given a full demonstration and explanation on how a radio station operates. Managed by H. Sibary who was later manager of **6PR**.



1974: The Federal Government abolished Radio and Television Receiver Licence fees which funded the A.B.C.

PLEASE DO NOT PIN OR STAPLE (Please use Block Letters)		DO NOT COMPLETE IF NAME AND ADDRESS SHOWN BELOW IS CORRECT	
Surname Initials		Commonwealth of Australia	
Mr. _____ Mrs. _____ Miss. _____ St. _____ Town & _____ Postcode _____		Subject to the provisions of the Broadcasting and Television Act and the regulations for the time being in force thereunder	
LICENCE N U M B E R		A BROADCAST LISTENER'S LICENCE	
2 1 0 0 1 2 4 2 6 1 6 6		is hereby granted to:	
RENEWAL DATE		LICENCE NUMBER	
H O L L O W 2 3 1 2 7 2		2 4 2 6 1 6 6	
FEE		EXPIRY DATE	
K \$ 8 . 0 0		2 3 1 2 7 3	
DO NOT STAMP HERE		FEE	
DATE STAMP		2 1 0 0 \$ 8 . 0 0	
Issuing Officer _____		In respect of that address *or the period ending on the expiry date shown above. RECEIVED FEE PRINTED ABOVE ON BEHALF OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL	
		Signature of Issuing Officer _____ Time Issued _____ A.M. P.M.	
		Not valid unless the office date stamp imprint and signature of Issuing Officer or cash register imprint appear hereon.	
		IBM-4395F	

1946: The ABC announced increased hours for metropolitan and country stations.

Big A.B.C. Extensions

35 HOURS MORE FOR CITY COUNTRY GETS 15 MORE

● **Important extensions of the National broadcasting services will operate from October 20. These extensions will increase broadcasting time in metropolitan areas by 35 hours a week, and by about 15 hours a week on Regional stations.**

THIS announcement was made by the General Manager of the A.B.C. (Mr. Charles Moses).

"The A.B.C. is pleased to be able to extend its National broadcasting service," Mr. Moses said.

"Hitherto it has not been possible to provide an alternative programme in metropolitan areas—even though there are two transmitters in each capital city and in Newcastle—until 11.45 a.m.; nor has it been possible to give an uninterrupted service on Regional stations.

"Up to now," Mr. Moses explained, "it has been necessary to close down all National transmitters for 12 hours daily for service and maintenance.

"During the war this maintenance could not be carried out before the opening or after the closing of the broadcasting hours because of P.M.G. staff shortage.

"A large number of the P.M.G.'s staff were in the armed Services, particularly as specialists in such sections as Signals and Radar.

"For some time the Commission has been anxious to extend to listeners the benefits of a continuous service in the country and a complete alternative service throughout the day in the metropolitan areas.

"The Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs (Mr. L. B. Fanning) has now informed the Commission that with the return of men from the Services he is at last able to provide the technical staff necessary to make this extension in the National broadcasting service possible.

"From October 20, therefore, A.B.C.



In its coverage of the Federal elections, the A.B.C. established a central point in Broadcast House, Sydney, to handle Commonwealth-wide progress commentaries. In this picture Adrian Jose (Programme Co-ordinating Officer, who was in charge of these broadcasts) is receiving last-minute information from Interstate for inclusion in a talk by H. D. Black (centre). Alan Carmichael (nearest camera) gave progress coverage of the Referendum figures.

transmitters will provide two programmes in each metropolitan centre from 7 a.m. until 11 p.m. Between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m., and between 11 p.m. and midnight, one station alone will be on the air.

"Regional stations will give a complete programme covering from 6 a.m. until midnight.

"These extensions will have the effect of increasing the broadcasting hours

from 7 a.m. till midday, while the Interstate network will be on the air with Mike Connors' early-morning session, the Hospital Half-hour, the Kitchen Front, Music While You Work, and the Women's Session.

"The change will benefit country listeners in that those Regional stations which were closed during the early part of the morning will now broadcast the Kindergarten Session and those that formerly closed later in the morning will now be able to present the Women's Session.

"All Regional stations will be able to get both; before this extension of broadcasting all Regionals had only one or the other."

Dr. Barry said the A.B.C. was especially glad to be able to extend this Regional service because many country listeners in Queensland and Tasmania had requested the Kindergarten Session and in other States had asked for the Women's Session.

Itemised programme details covering the new hours on all A.B.C. stations are given in the A.B.C. programmes in this issue. See the even-numbered pages from 18 to 30 inclusive.

Dawn to Midnight

in metropolitan areas by 35 hours a week, and by approximately 15 hours a week on Regional stations," Mr. Moses added.

THE A.B.C. Controller of Programmes (Dr. Keith Barry) said that a great deal of organisation had been necessary in the A.B.C.'s programme department to prepare for this change.

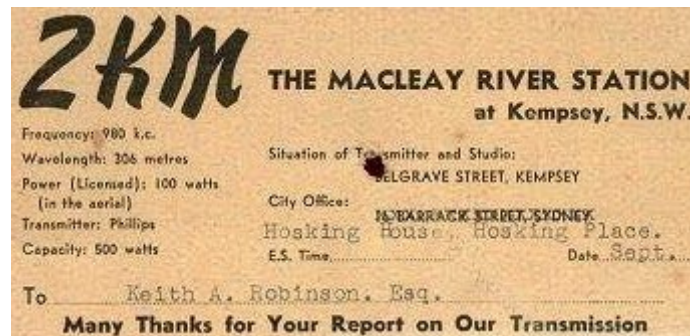
"The main effect of the change will be to provide a programme of fine music interspersed with such important service features as the Kindergarten Session and Daily Devotional Service

ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 19.

1934: Letter to the Editor “*4BK is our best station so please don’t spoil it by making every second record a jazz one*”.

ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 20.

2KM Kempsey 1937: Launched with better reception on Lord Howe Island than in Kempsey. Their original tower was moved to **2HD** in 1939. In the 1930s and 1940s, they broadcast dance programs from a local hall, despite only having one microphone. At 7-45 pm the announcer would put on a serial, then take their only microphone to the dance hall. He would return to the studio and put the microphone to air at 8-00 pm with dance music until he could return to the dance hall. At 10-00 pm, with the band playing to air, he would return to the studio and put on another serial. Then he would return to the hall and retrieve the microphone.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 21.

2LO Sydney 1923: Didn’t last for long. This station was launched by Len Schultz, who was later appointed as the first Chief Engineer of **2GB**.

ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 22.

AWA Melbourne 1918: They transmitted the first direct radio signal from Australia to the United Kingdom (previously, signals were relayed via India).

Rete Italia Sydney 1994: A High Powered Open Narrowcast (HPON) service with Italian programming. Most programs are on relay from Melbourne. Rete also has eleven HPON, two narrowcast, and 44 narrowband outlets.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 23.

2BS Bathurst 1950: They broadcast a live variety hour program from Goulburn gaol featuring acts by prisoners.



3XY Melbourne 1991: The station was sold to A.W.A. for \$600,000 (previously sold in 1986 for \$15.75 million).



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 24.

4RPH Brisbane 1990: Radio for the **P**rint **H**andicapped. They opened on 1296 KHz. A.M. with the old **4BK** 5,000 watt transmitter after they moved to F.M. They previously operated from 13-2-1984 for a few hours weekly outside the broadcast band on 1620 KHz. using 500 watts.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 25.

1958: All commercial stations broadcast a week-long campaign called “Radio Week” with the slogan “Wherever You Go, There’s Radio” to promote radio advertising.

To Celebrate **RADIO WEEK** you can
Sept. 21-27

Win Yourself this Grand Holiday

A trip for TWO with expenses paid for TWO WEEKS to NEW ZEALAND, plus £150 spending money

You'll fly by magnificent TEAL ELECTRA

75 Radios as additional prizes!

WHEREVER YOU GO THERE'S RADIO but WHERE IS THE RADIO?

Each day every commercial broadcasting station in New South Wales will play the clue to this Radio Week Competition. Tune in your favourite station and you will hear a radio playing in a background to some familiar noise which will locate the position of the radio. It may be in some room of your house, it may be out of doors, perhaps on a golf course, maybe even in a speedboat. Tell us **WHERE IS THE RADIO?**

I think the radio is _____

To make yourself eligible for judging it is essential that you write another line to rhyme with **WHEREVER YOU GO THERE'S RADIO.**

My entry is **WHEREVER YOU GO THERE'S RADIO**

My name is _____

My address is _____

POST YOUR ENTRY TO "RADIO WEEK" SYDNEY

Entries close September 28, 1958

ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 26.

6WB Katanning 1936: Launched by W.A. Broadcasters Ltd., next to the **6ML/6IX** studios. Installed their own generator to power the transmitter. Their aerial was between two wooden posts 130 feet high. Mainly relayed **6IX** programs using 2,000 watts, but closed 1300-1700. A **6ML** studio was used to provide 'local' programs.



1970: Radio Hauraki in New Zealand makes its' first broadcast as a land-based licenced private commercial station.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 27.

2ME Sydney 1927: The Kookaburra call was first used for pre Radio Australia shortwave tests.

6KG Kalgoorlie 1948: The station was destroyed by fire.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 28.

7LA Launceston 1951: 2,000 children attended their Peters Pals Fancy Dress Jubilee Radio Ball.



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 29.

3TR Trafalgar 1930: (Previously **3FB** from 27-5-1929). Opened using 30 watts as **Trafalgar Radio**. Managed by Archibald Gilchrist from **3DB**. Built and operated by volunteers. On air 1030-1300, and 1800-2230. Often used local artists on air, and borrowed records from listeners. Closed on 4-5-1932. Bought by Mr Gilchrist and reopened at Sale on 12-5-1932 using 50 watts.



4BK Brisbane 1930: Originally planned to operate as **4FO**. Situated in the **Brisbane King House** building. Used the original **4QG** transmitter which was later used to start **4AK**. Formed a 1930s '4BK Radio Club' with community singing, dancing to jazz bands, and picnics for listeners. Bought by the *Courier Mail* on 15-11-1941, calling themselves "The Newspaper of the Air".



ON THIS DAY SEPTEMBER 30.

5RM Renmark 1935: **River Murray Broadcasters**. Jack Hume (**5DN**) designed, built, and installed all the equipment. On air 1900-2200. Their technician lived in the station. Their wooden mast blew down in 1936. Relayed most programs from a separate **5DN** studio between 1-9-1937 and 31-3-1953 then took some programs from **5KA**.



2BE Bega 1937: Launched by local farmers with a 50 watt transmitter built by Director Morris Bell as “The Voice of the Far South Coast”. Went bankrupt in 1940 after being sued by the local tannery for comments on air about their ‘evil smell’, which resulted in a £2,000 fine. Kept on air by volunteers until sold in June 1941 to **2XL**, and then to John Kerr (from **2XL** and **2PK**) for £500.



4GG Gold Coast 1967: Originally planned to operate as **4GC** (Gold Coast Radio). A power failure was fixed 30 seconds before their official opening. A group which missed out on the licence established a pirate radio station to protest the decision, but never went to air. Investments were fully paid within three years as dividends. Photo is Bill Haley and Tony Schmidt in 1971.



4KZ Innisfail 1967: Their callsign is a corruption of the name of the nearby centre of Cairns (**Kairnz**). One of only three Australian stations to use three towers for their directional antenna. Opened a relay transmitter in Tully in 1985, followed by eight other locations. Their towers were demolished by a cyclone in 2006 (re-erected by the Army).