

# NEWSLETTER

May 2024

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



We are pleased to introduce the latest additions to our esteemed Board of Directors. I, as the new President, extend gratitude to John Brand, our former President, and Andrew Link, our company Public Officer, for their longstanding service.

Joining us as Board Members of Tamworth Broadcast Services (TBS) are Djamin Seery, Carolyn Cash, Karen Roudenko, and Michael Pearce. They will work alongside new directors Sonya Howard and Brent Larkham on the TBS Board.

Karen Roudenko's appointment as Membership Coordinator is a valuable addition to the team, and a special thanks to DJ Seery for her work on the newsletter. Each member brings a unique perspective that will enrich our organisation's mission and strategic direction. Let's warmly welcome Djamin, Sonya, Karen, Carolyn, Brent, and Michael to the team. Together, we aim for a successful and impactful journey ahead! -Kevin Tongue, President







To date, we have 96 members, which is an increase from this time last year, thanks to the success of our events throughout the year.

Our objective is to offer members the chance to join our presenters in outside broadcasts to engage with the community. An "Expression of Interest" letter has been distributed to members for these events. For those interested, we will conduct a training session. Kindly return the form to Karen via email at *karenroudenko@hotmail.com* and we will be in touch.

Moreover, we are rewarding a \$10 coffee voucher to members who refer and enroll a new member. For referrals, please have them reach out to Karen via email or phone at 0429 545 088.

## Your membership card will be dispatched shortly.

The team at 96.3fm/88.9fm extends a warm welcome and gratitude for your loyalty. We appreciate your ongoing support.

# Carols in the Park

In December 2023, 88.9fm, with Rise Up Tamworth Inc., hosted an incredible "Carols in the Park" event at Bicentennial Park. Over 2,200 turned out and the event kicked off with a heartwarming welcome by the station's CEO George Frame and hosted by Adam Parker "Grizzly" and our station's own DJs, followed by captivating performances from local musicians. From classic Christmas carols to modern renditions, the park echoed with joyful melodies that brought smiles to everyone's faces. Guests met Santa and shared in the holiday cheer. Thanks to all who joined us! Keep tuning in for more community events and festive programming on 88.9FM!









### PRESENTERS PROFILE: Meet Howdy!

Howdy embarked on his radio journey at 2SER in Sydney in April 1981, serving as an early morning Breakfast presenter until March 1988. He later joined Radio 2TM in Tamworth as part of the renowned Hoedown Radio Network, Australia's longest-running Country Music program on commercial radio, broadcast from 6pm to 6am across the eastern states.

The Hoedown transitioned to CMR Country Music Radio in 2000 until 2008, when Howdy became the mid-dawn presenter across a vast radio network encompassing three capital cities and major regional hubs.

Following his commercial radio tenure in 2010, Howdy joined Tamworth Community Radio station 2YOUFM as a Floater and presenter trainer. Eventually, he assumed the Breakfast show from Monday to Friday after the station rebranded in May 2014. Concurrently, Howdy balanced his radio career with a professional role as a Firefighter with NSW Brigades and NSW Fire and Rescue, starting at Randwick fire station in 1971 and progressing to Station Commander at West Tamworth Brigade in 1994. A talented singer, musician, and songwriter, Howdy's materials has been recorded by numerous Australian artists.

These days, his day typically commences at 3.30 am during weekdays, starting his program at 5 am following meticulous preparation. Throughout his illustrious career, Howdy has earned several industry accolades, including induction into the Country Music Broadcasters Hall of Fame, People's Choice Awards for Best Country Music Radio Show (CMR in 2007), and the Tamworth Songwriters Association Song Maker Award. Notably, Howdy personally considers the reintroduction of the iconic Hoedown Radio Program on Sunday nights as a major highlight of his final years of radio broadcasting.





### ... JUST SOME OF THE THINGS WE'VE BEEN UP TO ...



Ray, Grizz & Howdy were at Paradise Farm Markets on Bridge Street, checking out the great specials in store. Many customers popped in to give them a big hello while they stocked up on fruits and veggies and pre-ordered their seafood for Easter.



We were thrilled to announce our exclusive media partnership with Connecting With Bricks Inc for their TCMF Lego Workshop Event Through their work, we could help to build a better future brick by brick.



What an incredible Facebook competition and Congratulations to our big winners and Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers out there!



96.3fm/88.9fm is humbled to be once again one of the media partners of the "Think Local, Shop Local" promotion that holds significant importance for retailers across various industries in our local community.

## 2024 COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL















The 52nd Tamworth Country Music Festival, regarded as the most successful festival, with over 150,000 reportedly attended the ten-day event that ran until Sunday, January 28th.

The station's Festival highlight was its exclusive live coverage of the Red-Carpet, which featured the stars prior to the Golden Guitar Awards.

Winner of 40 Golden Guitars Troy Cassar-Daley and his wife Laurel were interviewed with 96.3fm/88.9fm's Ray

McCoy and Emma Bailey.