# **Hospital Radio Basingstoke**



# Trustees' Report and Annual Review 2005

**Registered Charity Number 272046** 

# Trustees' Report

The Trustees of Hospital Radio Basingstoke are pleased to submit their report and accounts for the year 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2005.

Hospital Radio Basingstoke (also known as HRB) is a registered charity, governed by a constitution.

# **Charitable Objectives (as per constitution)**

The objectives of the charity shall be to promote the welfare of the patients and staff living on the site of the North Hampshire Hospital in Basingstoke. This will be achieved by providing a local broadcasting service within the parameters agreed with the hospital management.

#### Organisation

HRB is run entirely by volunteers, who pay an annual membership subscription and are not eligible for reimbursement of any out-of-pocket expenses. It is governed by a constitution (last amended in January 2004) and managed by an Executive Committee (the Charity's Trustees) who are elected annually by the membership.

# **Related Organisations**

HRB is a member of the Hospital Broadcasting Association, the national charity that supports and promotes hospital broadcasting in the UK. HRB's members have in the last twelve months attended both national conferences organised by the association, including the 2005 National Hospital Radio Awards ceremony, which was held in Belfast. Members regularly attend the regional meetings that are held every three months at various stations in the south of England.

#### **Review of Activities**

#### Programmes (by Neil Ogden, Programme Controller)

Throughout 2005, HRB provided programmes 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to the patients and staff of North Hampshire hospital. The station's programmes were broadcast via the bedside entertainment system, PatientLine, and on 945MW within the main buildings.

The station aims to provide live programmes every day, the focus of which is always on requests for patients and staff. Throughout most of 2005, between 25 and 30 hours of live programmes were produced each week.

Our computer playout system allows us to record programmes in advance and broadcast them when live programmes are not possible. These shows are recorded in such a way that they sound "live" and we have utilised this facility across the schedule throughout 2005.

There are also specialist music programmes such as Sounds of the 40s, The Fabulous Fifties, Club Classics, Smooth Jazz, Sound of Country 80s Revival and The Love Songs Hour. These programmes try to reflect the diversity of our audience, which ranges from the small children on G Floor to the older patients on E Floor.

The programme especially for the children's ward, The G Floor Jukebox, continued throughout 2005 and still remains one of the most important shows that HRB produces. As well as the live request show every Sunday morning, there is an hourlong programme every weekday afternoon which the G Floor play team regularly promote to the patients.

Finally, the station broadcasts some programmes that are produced externally by other hospital radio presenters/stations. These are sometimes used to fill last-minute gaps in the schedule, but do have regular slots in the schedule. All are well-produced and serve our audience well.

One such programme that has proved popular is a half hour show called The Music Box, which plays instrumental and classical versions of well-known tunes. This programme goes out every weekday lunchtime and four times a week in a late night slot.

Some one-off programmes that have been broadcast have included a special documentary about Concorde, the National Hospital Radio Request Chart, and a Cliff Richard special.

HRB got "out and about" at a variety of local events in 2005, producing outside broadcasts from events at Milestones Museum, Dummer Golf Club and from Alton. Following the purchase of radio microphone and headphone equipment, it has been easier to present shows live from the wards as well. It is hoped that more of this type of instant request show will be done in 2006 and plans are already being made to cover more events at Milestones Museum and in Alton.

It is also hoped that within the next few months, we will be able to provide news on the hour 24 hours a day.

The quality of our programming was recognised at the National Hospital Radio Awards 2005. At the ceremony that was held in April, the station was one of the nominations for the prestigious "Station of the Year" category, making HRB one of the top 10 hospital radio stations in the UK for the second time in three years. The awards show was broadcast live on HRB and over 60 other hospital radio stations via a satellite link from Belfast.

# Financial Performance (by Vernon Pearce, Treasurer)

It was a very successful year financially for HRB – one in which there has been a surplus income of £3,433.98 over expenditure, finishing with a bank balance of £8,288.24.

#### Income

The income in 2005 of over £8,025.81 was due to the tremendous efforts of those members who organised and took part in the Golf Day, that raised £1,023.60, and the sponsored Cycle Challenge, that raised £1,704.36.

The income from our "On Show" events, where we collect money from members of the public, was less than half that of the previous year but we still raised a respectable £812.48, almost half of which was collected at our pre-Christmas appearance in Festival Place.

We received an incredible £2,140 this year from Hospital Radio Publications, our share of the proceeds of the advertising revenue from the HRB magazine. The continued hard work of those who write articles for the magazine and the efforts of Hospital Radio Publications who sell the advertising space on our behalf, ensure this continues to be an important source of income for the station.

Members subscriptions, a Gift Aid tax rebate, commission from our website link to buy@hrb and bank interest on our deposit account all contributed to the income we so desperately need to build up our new studio fund, as well as running the station on a day-to-day basis.

#### **Expenditure**

We have made a number of investments in new equipment this year, including a portable mini-disk recorder for outside broadcasts and recording interviews, a new computer server to increase our computer storage capacity, dual flat-screen monitors which have greatly improved Studio 2's facilities, headphones and extra backup capacity for the computer systems.

Improvements have continued to be made to the studios with expenditure on heating, air-conditioning and various other domestic improvements, that have made life more bearable until we move into the main hospital building.

However, a large part of our expenditure is still on those items that are essential to the continued day-to-day running of the station – insurance £795.79, Independent Radio News licence fee £117.50, security alarm maintenance £79 and this year for the first time PPL (Phonographic Performance Limited) fees of £176.25.

#### The coming year

Although we go into 2006 with over £8000 in the bank, we still have some way to go in raising the estimated £12,000 needed for our new studio in the main hospital building. Dummer Golf Club nominated HRB as their charity in 2005/6 and we understand that by the end of 2005, they had already raised over £6,000.

We must continue, however, with our own fund-raising efforts and plans are already being made for "Soccer Sunday" - a football tournament - in June and more "On Show" collecting days at some of the major stores in Basingstoke.

## Fundraising In 2006

To enforce the importance of fundraising to the charity, the Executive Committee decided to create a new committee position of Fundraising Officer. In November 2006, the first person to hold that post, Marilyn Price, was co-opted onto the committee. She looks ahead to the station's fundraising projects for 2006:

I have recently taken up the new post of Fundraising Officer and realise that this role has a very important part to play on our radio station. In order make my job a success, I need to continue, with the support of my fellow members, to raise as much as money as I can for HRB during the coming

year to enable us to move into the main hospital as soon as we are given the say-so.

I will continue to run the On Show collections once a month in the hospital. This not only raises our profile but gets our faces known amongst hospital staff and patients.

I am also planning tin rattles at our local supermarkets and another one in the town centre this Christmas.

I am hoping to hold a ladies and men's football tournament in June as it is World Cup year which will encourage all the family to join in, and I also propose to hold a Ball either towards the end of this year or beginning of next and am going to every shop in town asking for a prize for the raffle.

I hope to have a very successful year in terms of raising much-needed money for our station.

# **Charity Trustees**

Chairman Dave Leonard

Station Manager Harry Robinson (Co-opted January 2005, elected March

2005)

Treasurer Vernon Pearce

Secretary Rosemary Kershaw (until March 2005), Simon McLean

(until November 2005), Sarah Beattie (Co-opted Nov

2005)

Programme Controller Neil Ogden
Public Relations Officer Andy Konieczko

Fundraising Officer Marilyn Price (Co-opted November2005) Engineer Peter Hawken (until September 2005)

# **Charity Number**

272046

#### **Address**

North Hampshire Hospital, Aldermaston Road Basingstoke Hants RG24 9NA

## **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank PLC, Basingstoke

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Dave Leonard Chairman Harry Robinson Station Manager

#### **Annual Review**

# Your award-winning local hospital radio station





2005 got off to a strong start when HRB was once again voted one of the top ten hospital radio stations in the country by judges from the Hospital Broadcasting Association. This is the second time in the past three years that the station has been shortlisted in the prestigious "Station of the Year" category, which whittles the 300 or so hospital radio stations in Britain down to the best ten.

Station Manager Harry Robinson and Andy Konieczko, HRB's PR Officer, flew to Belfast at the start of April to collect the judges' letter of commendation at the National Hospital Radio Awards event.

The awards generated a significant amount of interest from the local media, with at least one newsagent producing an outdoor hoarding proclaiming "Hospital Radio Station Honoured". This was accompanied by a full-page article in the *Basingstoke Gazette*, under the headline "Radio Station Hits High Note". The *Basingstoke Observer* and *Kestrel FM* also covered the story.

# Jumping through hoops for our listeners



HRB held its inaugural "Easter Egg and Spoon Challenge" in March, to mark the start of National Hospital Broadcasting Week. The event, which was organised in partnership with the North Hampshire Hospital's Communications Department, pitted members of staff from around the hospital in a unique fancy dress, relay-cum-egg-and-spoon-cum-obstacle race. The team of radiographers proved most adept at understanding the rules and negotiating the course and walked away with enough Easter eggs to ensure that they won't be quite so fast in the 2006 re-match!

The event was broadcast live on HRB and drew crowds of bemused-looking patients and staff to the windows of wards overlooking the course. A photographer from the *Basingstoke Observer* had been invited to capture the mayhem and a shot of Andy Konieczko skilfully negotiating his way through a hula-hoop made it into the paper later that week. *Connections*, the hospital's bi-monthly staff magazine, also devoted a page to the story.

# On the campaign trail



HRB was on hand to cover Liberal Democrat leader Charles Kennedy's visit to the North Hampshire Hospital ahead of the May 2005 general election. Harry Robinson interviewed the MP for Ross, Skye and Lochaber, while Programme Controller Neil Ogden hovered in the background to ensure that everything ran smoothly.

Video-footage of the visit was used by the Liberal Democrats in a subsequent Party Election Broadcast, aired on BBC1 during a high-profile slot in the evening schedules. The nation was glued to their screens as, about half way through the 3-minute broadcast, Charles Kennedy walked into the main reception of the Basingstoke hospital...followed by our intrepid reporter, Harry Robinson. Harry's guest appearance proved to be a source of amusement for his HRB colleagues – not least because he serves as a local councillor for the Conservative Party!

## **Getting closer to the listeners**

A group of HRB presenters paid homage to the late lamented *Radio 1 Summer Roadshows* of their teenage years by holding a series of broadcasts live from the wards of the North Hampshire Hospital. The imaginatively titled *Live from the Wards* programmes proved popular with both patients and staff, many of whom sheepishly admitted that they had always wanted to be interviewed on the radio. Using a pair of wireless microphones, the presenters were able to talk to their audience live on air and instantly play their requests. Further *Live from the Wards* programmes are planned for 2006.

# Cycling to Scotland for the weekend



Forget the Tour de France! The most gruelling two-wheeled challenge of 2005 took place in Basingstoke's Festival Place shopping centre in July, when a team of HRB presenters cycled over 600 miles in three days to raise money for the station's new studios.

Using a pair of static exercise bikes located in the main entrance of the Sports Centre, the team cycled a total of 665 miles in just over 20 hours – equivalent to the distance from Basingstoke to Britain's most northerly hospital radio station, Radio Remedy at Caithness General Hospital.

HRB's presenters were joined along the way by a number of friends, including staff and members from the Sports Centre, members of Basingstoke's Junior Ice Hockey Club and the Hospital Broadcasting Association's President June Snowden.

The cyclists were cheered on by shoppers and other local residents walking past the Sports Centre, which is located on the corner of one of Basingstoke's busiest pedestrianised streets.

"It was incredibly demanding, and I think most of our presenters will be walking a little gingerly for the next few days", Andy Konieczko told *Kestrel FM*'s Steve Fox.

"One guy, Alan Minto, cycled over 100 miles – I don't think his legs will ever be the same again!"

The event resulted in photos in the *Basingstoke Gazette*, the *Basingstoke Observer* and *On Air* the Hospital Broadcasting Association's magazine.

## Swing when you're Winning



HRB's fundraising appeal received a massive boost when Dummer Golf Club chose the station as its Captains' Charity for the 2005/6 financial year. As part of the arrangement, Mel Martin and Gill White, the Captain and Ladies' Captain, invited HRB to cover the annual Captains' Weekend at the start of September.

Using the wireless microphones purchased for the *Live on the Wards* programmes, a team of roving reporters was on hand to provide live coverage of the morning's action at Dummer. The players seemed surprised when ambushed by HRB presenters on their way to refreshments at the Half Way Hut, but most were persuaded to talk on air. Perhaps the "special" fruit-punch that was being offered to them had something to do with it!

Remarkably, HRB was invited back to Dummer a few weeks later for the station's charity Golf Day. Several businesses from the Basingstoke area entered teams for the competition, which was eventually won by Convert-a-Loft. The tournament and the subsequent charity auction were covered live on HRB.

#### Beavers let loose on the airwaves



HRB was pleased to welcome back its friends from the Old Basing Beaver Scout Colony, who visited the station's studios once again in September.

The Beavers, with their Leader Holly, joined Andy Konieczko and Alan Minto for a special hour-and-a-half long programme, which was broadcast live to the patients and staff at the North Hampshire Hospital.

As well as being interviewed, the Beaver Scouts had the chance to play records by their favourite artists and help operate studio equipment. "Alan and I got away with doing almost nothing for 90 minutes!" Andy explained to a photographer from the *Basingstoke Gazette*, who had been invited to witness the spectacle. "We can't wait for the Beaver Scouts to return in 2006!"

# **HRB 2005 Accounts**

	2004	<u>2005</u>
Current account	£278.18	£421.93
Deposit account	£3,632.15	£4,710.81
Cheques uncashed	<u>-£259.54</u>	<u>-£278.48</u>
Total b/f	£3,650.79	£4,854.26
Income		
Membership subs.	£280.00	£390.00
On Show	£2196.61	£812.48
Cycle Challenge		£1,704.36
Golf Day		£2,233.20
Other fundraising	£286.41	£138.62
Magazine	£1,481.00	£2,140.00
Gift Aid tax rebate		£223.10
T-shirts sales & misc. income	£121.00	£264.50
Bank interest	<u>87.66</u>	£119.55
Total	£4,452.68	£8,025.81
Expenditure		
Equipment	£964.06	£1,292.67
Engineering/repairs	£133.52	£176.11
Furniture/buildings		£119.72
Insurance	£780.84	£795.79
Outside events	£75.00	£1,447.73
Computers and software	£348.00	£437.00
IRN	£117.50	£117.50
New jingles & sundry expenses	£830.29	£205.31
Total	£ <b>3,249.21</b>	£4,591.83
Current account	£143.50	£1.51
Deposit account	£4,710.81	£8,370.36
Cheques uncashed		<u>-£83.63</u>
Total c/f	£4,854.31	£8,288.24
Surplus income		
over expenditure	£1,203.47	£3,433.98

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Dave Leonard Chairman Harry Robinson Station Manager