



## Report From The Chair 2020

*This is the Chairman's Report given at the 2020 Annual General Meeting on September 16th.*

2020 has certainly been a difficult year in so many ways. Fortunately my report is for the financial year so we can start way back in July 2019.

It was in July 2019 that, thanks to one of our major sponsors, Solahart, we had solar panels installed in Seaview Road. Financially we have seen ongoing benefits as a result.

Spring of 2019 also saw a very successful show season for Fleurieu FM. We conducted live broadcasts from the Victor Harbor Rock n Roll Festival and one day of Port Elliot Show. We ventured up to Strathalbyn for their show day as well as successfully broadcasting live from Yankalilla Show. We generated almost \$450 from the show season last year. Funds gratefully appreciated at the time. More importantly, we raised our public profile across the peninsula.

There is always some concern about an outside broadcast, especially in Strathalbyn and Yankalilla as they are so far from home. Will we get enough support? Will we have technical problems? Will there be anyone listening? As you probably remember, all of our events were incredibly successfully. A huge thank you to everyone involved. Trust me, an outside broadcast is always a fun day for everyone who attends.

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Late last year also saw us successfully win a grant for new outside broadcast equipment. A significant grant of \$12,000. I'm looking forward to some exciting broadcasts in the future.

On the subject of winning, it was about this time last year that Fleurieu FM was successful in winning Best Sponsorship Message from the South Australian Community Broadcast Association. A Bilby Award for Jim Bickers and Mick Turner! Congratulations to you both.

It was late last year that Jim's technical skills were further recognised, winning the Technical Expertise Award from the Community Broadcast Association. A national prize!

November saw the arrival of Major Sponsor, Egritech & Mrs Clucks. I think we all remember the first time we heard Mrs Clucks on air. Those chickens running everywhere.

### Board of Management

Chair: Chris Askew

Vice-Chair: Darryl Keane

Secretary: Lynne Keane

Treasurer: Janet Chandler

Ordinary Member 1: Jim Bickers

Ordinary Member 2: Phil Davis

Ordinary Member 3: Jude Alexander

**The October Newsletter will contain profiles for all Board Members**

Fleurieu FM joined the Goolwa community to see in the New Year with fireworks and an outside broadcast. Our station provided the countdown to midnight and our music was synchronised with the exploding skyrockets!

The New Year heralded a new sponsorship drive. Discussions were held and proposals drafted that resulted in welcoming Victor Harbor Council as a Major Sponsor.

In January we also held a Strategic Planning Day that looked at the station's future and revised our Five Year Plan. Thank you to everyone who attended.

Of course, a full day of planning for the future failed to spot the looming virus that was only weeks away. Everyone around the world missed it, so I'm not upset about that outcome of the day.

COVID-19. March 2020 was a very difficult time. We had a significant number of presenters self quarantine and our daily schedule had some large holes. But the Fleurieu FM team jumped into action. Several presenters (Josh, Kirstie) took on extra duties and, as they say, the show must go on and it did!

I am very pleased and proud of the way everyone came together to survive the crisis. We have developed and implemented a COVID-19 Health Plan (thank you Maria). This plan of switching from Studio 1 to Studio 2 on a daily basis will ensure that we can safely continue broadcasting, come what may.

Our relationship with our Federal Member for Mayo, Ms Rebekha Sharkie, further developed during the Pandemic, and provided us with needed financial support. Rebekha has become a Major Sponsor of Fleurieu FM.

Our growing reputation for quality broadcasting across the peninsula saw a number of businesses seek us out. We entered into several sponsorships designed to help our community businesses survive the Pandemic.



## Report From The Chair 2020

I'm very pleased to say that something discussed this time last year at the AGM, the Strathalbyn Tower Project, has been completed. It was an awesome project and huge thanks to Allan.

Over the year, in fact over several years, Fleurieu FM has been very fortunate with a number of grant applications. Grant bodies such as the Community Broadcast Foundation have provided vital financial support and I would like to acknowledge their ongoing assistance.

The bottom line result for Fleurieu FM, at a time when others are struggling, has been proof that we are serving our community and I appreciate the professionalism of all our presenters.

This report ends at June 30, 2020, however there is more to say.

Looking forward, the economy is in recession. Times will be tough.

We need to continuously improve. I'm calling on all presenters to strive to make each show better than the one before.

Together we have had a successful year. Together we will have an even better year 2021.

### *Did You Know?*

918,000 Australians "listen exclusively to community radio".

"This figure shows the importance of utilising the sector for government communications, whether in future bushfire emergencies or equally with the current COVID-10 health crisis".

**CBAA CEO Jon Bisset**

*Fleurieu*

**fm**

*Turns*

**30**

*in*

**2021**



## Presenter Profile



### Archie Mombassa

A LOVE OF RADIO, AN OBSESSION FOR MUSIC, ROCK STAR POSING AND ALL THEN ON TO FLEURIEU FM

#### The Profile of a Presenter

When I was a kid I used to have a crystal radio set that was connected by bell and alligator clip to the downpipe outside my bedroom window and I listened to music for hours on end at night in bed on that crummy little radio.

I do not recall exactly when I first found a love of the radio and the music it brought to me though.

Maybe it was 1962 or something like that. I just knew that the sounds coming from that cheap radio were thrilling.

I do recall these two things.

I used to make four cups of tea on a Sunday morning then take them into my parents room on a tray because they had a big expensive radio, you know the type housed in a big floor standing wooden box with a woven cloth cover over the speakers and a dial glowing amber when it was switched on, and I would sit on that 1930's valve radio whilst we all had a morning cuppa listening to music.

I loved music on the radio so much but I needed more.

In 1964 aged seven I knocked out one of my own teeth to get Tooth Fairy money to buy "All Day And All Of The Night" by The Kinks.

The crazy thing is that we didn't even own a record player.

So a boy of seven one tooth short in the gob but holding the prize possession of one 45 rpm record from his dental endeavours in his hand, purchased from John Martin's record bar on Saturday morning the 10th of October 1964, knocked on his Neighbour's door with his other hand because his Neighbour did have a record player and she let him in because she could clearly see how desperate the boy was to hear the record.

Even though the Neighbour much preferred Mitch Miller, Patti Page and Frank Ifield it was lucky she agreed to me playing The Kinks on her beautiful wooden cabinet HMV Imperial solid state record player.

It was 6 am on Sunday the 11th of October 1964 and it began a life long obsession with music and buying records for me.

Now movie style time jump sequence ten years to 1974.

The same music obsessed lad is in his teens and owns about 50 single and EP records, all paid for out of the money earned by doing odd jobs round the house and



## Presenter Profile

by not spending all of his lunch money at school, but he doesn't own one album.

There was The Beatles "Magical Mystery Tour" and The Who's "Substitute" Eps and singles by The Stones, The Doors, Neil Young and of course the aforementioned Kinks single. But not one album to my name.

I played those records until the grooves were just about worn out. Me and my mates in a roughly even rotation of accommodations would sit in each others bedrooms every night after school and most weekends thrashing our collective record collections. Blabbering on about this and that nuance and generally being obsessive about the music to the point when Mother's came in and suggested we all go back to our own homes depression set in.

What the music has to end Mrs. Delaney? Yes dear for now she would say.

Not for that long actually Mrs Delaney as I'd usually get home go to my room and put on one of my 50 or so records again and again and again.....

Even though his mother kicked us out of the house every time I really liked Paul Delaney.

His family seemed rich to me. They had a big stereo. He had albums. I was envious.

I need albums but what to do? What to do?

Get a job son my Dad said.

I don't think he said it to fuel my record buying obsession. I think he just wanted his freeloading son to earn some bucks.

So I did get a job.

I worked on a Thursday night and a Saturday morning.

I earned \$6.60 a week.

Just enough to put petrol in Mum's car, buy a burger on a Saturday afternoon and an LP record, they being all of \$3.95 on special, at the Target store up the road.

If I worked through the school holidays I earned \$40 for the week.

My Dad was impressed for as he often told me his first pay packet contained four crisp £1 notes.....and a nice note of appreciate from his boss to boot.

An album a week or more. Wow I was rich just like the Delaney's!

King of the world I was. All that music. What a future of weekly record buying I had to look forward to.

Now for the plot twist and there's always a plot twist.

Its only 1976, two years on, but enter stage right girlfriend, Uni and playing in a band.

That trifecta of activities an end to the record buying instantly.

But not forever.

I eventually got another job. Then another. Then a few more.

I bought records again.

Artistic time jump sequence for gratuitous effect coming up again.

Somehow one day in 1984 I woke up with 4000 albums all housed in plastic sleeves stored in plastic Decor record holders neatly placed around the walls of a flat I rented in St Peters.

Did I not eat or something? How did I get 4000 records?

Ha, I discovered second hand record stores that how.

I was rabidly obsessive.

I bought everything.

I bought records because someone else said they were good.

I bought records because the music papers said they were good.

I bought records to impress my mates.



## Presenter Profile Continued

I bought records to improve my chances of getting a date.

I bought records just because the cover looked good.

I bought lots of records.

Now for plot twist two.

I got rid of all 4000 records.

It was 1984 and CDs had arrived.

Would music ever sound better? I didn't think so and bought into CDs like there was no tomorrow.

Not for the first time I was rabid.

Get ready for another time jump head spin.

By 2000 I owned 5000 CDs.

I have a few more these days.

Don't ask. Same answer. I discovered second hand CD stores.

If I wasn't Big Star's first customer I was close but I'm betting I was one of the biggest.

During most of these years I also played in a band called The Mombassa Brothers.

As a musician I made a really good fan of other people's music.

My mates and I would get together and have Mombassafests where we'd play a bit and then just like the old days at some point in the day we'd revert back to being uber music fans and start playing CDs.

Not satisfied with just spinning tunes I'd challenge myself to play a number of tracks connected to a theme to impress my mates.

We had many wine and whiskey fed evenings listening to a host of tracks linked in some way or other.

We sat around all obsessive in "Seinfeld" style talking about doing a radio show one day just like our CD listening exploits. Sit round, play tracks and talk trivia "that's a show, that's a show" we'd say.

Then in 2006 bloody Bob Dylan got there first.

Then in 2015 I lost my wife to cancer and struggled to get back to work and in 2018 I finally got there second.

I summoned up the nerve to contact a local radio station to blag an opportunity to "live the dream".

I met some really scary dude called Chris who seemed to think I could put on a show.

I later found out his optimism was based solely on the fact that the station needed presenters rather than on any talent I might have claimed.

Well some things never change.

We still need presenters.

Seventy shows later I'm still on air.

And I'm still loving it.

You're reading about Fleurieu FM 89.3/94.7 right across The Fleurieu and this has been your host Archie Mombassa and his journey to Theme Time Radio 8.00 – 10.00 pm alternate Thursdays.

Welcome

to new members

and new sponsors

**Catherine Muller (Presenter)**

**Marita Thornquest (Admin)**

**Rydges Adelaide**

**Strathalbyn Crash Repairs**

**Brand Fleurieu**



## Local Musician Profile



### Archie Mombassa

I have played in bands for over 40 years.

I have written over 300 songs.

I have demo'ed most of them and recorded over 50 of them.

As a musician I am rubbish.

The most successful thing I have done in the music business is meet Mark Knopfler.

I am Archie Mombassa and I play poorly and sing sort of OK as long as the tune has been written to suit my voice.

I write tunes that suit my voice perfectly.

I have made such of career out of writing tunes that I have kept my last royalty check to remind me of how good it all was, my career in the music business.

That check for \$10.29 is priceless.

It reminds me of how good my music career wasn't.

I actually have no career but I steadfastly refuse to retire.

I have spent the best part of those 40 or so years impressing my band mates. None of whom have been any more successful than me.

The most musical of the bands I have played in is called The Mombassa Brothers where the best tunes we ever hear are when we get together and play other people's tunes.

We do that regularly.

Usually immediately after agreeing that we were legends in our own lunch boxes.

In complete desperation for attention I agreed to present a little radio show every now and again on Fleurieu FM shamelessly calling it Theme Time Radio with your host Archie Mombassa wherein I get to lay my tunes on an unsuspecting audience of at least one.

I make public apology now and hope that you dear listener have not needed medical, psychological or physical assistance after listening to one of my tunes.

I can't promise I won't continue to play Archie Mombassa tunes on the radio because as my catch phrase goes...."someone might like it someday".

Catch you on air or round town soon.

Maybe we could go out together and watch a really good band or something.

Love and peace. (woops even that is Ringo's line)

*Archie Mombassa*



## Guest Presenter Profile



### John Stevens

John has been one of Fleurieu FM expert gardeners, appearing on air every fortnight for the last seven years during the Tuesday morning show.

MY WORLD - John H Stevens, Horticulturist

I was interested in the natural world from the time I was born! I lived with my parents in a cottage on my grandfather's dairy farm in the UK near the Welsh border, until I was five years old. I roamed the fields and farm area looking at, and enjoying, the animals, plants, insects, birds and all the natural world.

My mother taught me to read and write before I started school, and I was given many books on plants, animals, birds and natural history.

We moved to the town of Shrewsbury when I was five years old. Once I started school, every Sunday I visited my Grandmother, Grace, and began helping

her in her garden, learning a lot about gardening and plants.

I was just 13 when my family migrated to Australia early in 1960, by which time I was positive I would spend my life working with plants and the natural world. My parents enrolled me in Urrbrae Agricultural High School, which was the first step on my path to a horticultural career. In 1964 I commenced training as a professional Horticulturist at Adelaide Botanic Garden. I then completed a number of advanced courses in Horticulture in South Australia and Victoria and also attended the University of South Australia to obtain qualifications in Adult Education.

I had a rewarding career lasting many years encompassing all aspects of professional Horticulture, including 'middle' management roles in government and corporate parks and gardens, garden design and horticultural education.

I worked for the Federal Government, the Victorian and South Australian state governments, and was later a consultant to local governments, private enterprises and the S.A. Government. I have written and published many articles on horticulture, and designed several training courses in horticulture for T.A.F.E and private schools.

My career in Horticulture is the main area of a passion that I have for the whole natural world. My special interest is organic gardening and the growing of fruit, vegetables and ornamental plants without any chemicals or poisons. This also embraces promoting a sustainable lifestyle that includes recycling and responsible consuming as desirable goals.

I love music, and have many CDs and records, mainly of classical music but also popular music of the early 1960s, such as Cliff Richard and The Shadows, Rick Nelson, The Everly Brothers, Neil Diamond and Simon & Garfunkel, plus quite a large collection of jazz CDs.

I have a large library of books, mostly on horticulture and the environment, but also on poetry and classic British and Australian writers. I write poetry myself, and still write articles and give talks and presentations