



Speech by
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MEMBER FOR CAPALABA

Hansard 26 November 2003

BAYSIDE COMMUNITY RADIO

Mr CHOI (Capalaba—ALP) (12.52 a.m.): On 22 November the Bayside Community Radio Association celebrated the 10th anniversary of the establishment of this wonderful radio station at the Redlands Sporting Club. This community radio station provides vital and local radio programs to the residents of the Redlands as well as the bayside suburbs of Brisbane.

With its current facility, it is hard to imagine that it all started in 1987 in a mobile van purchased by a community-minded member. Since 1987, the station has been moved to Thornlands and recently began FM transmissions and increased its transmission power to 4 kilowatts. The station is now officially known as Bay FM 100.3.

This station won the 1999 national award for arts and culture in the National Community Links Awards. In 2003 Bay FM was a semi-finalist in the Regional Achievers Award for the community of the year in the Department of Transport awards for the state of Queensland. In 1997 Chris Benton, a member of the radio station staff, entered the *Guinness Book of Records* for the longest broadcast by one announcer of 124 hours 30 minutes and 3 seconds.

The broadcasting of this station is only possible because of the untiring work of hundreds of volunteers. In fact, over 80 on-air announcers supported by committee members, administrators and technical teams continue to make this radio station a great success.

John Graham, the founder of the station, should be congratulated for having the foresight to set up the station. I would like to especially mention Rosemary Skelly, Des Stevens, Stan Reilly, Tom Yapp, John Handley, Geoff Harrison, Norm Dean, David Stone, Charles Sonnex, Wendy Jewell, Gavin Ginger, Jenny Cheshier, Kay Howick, Jim Gilbert and Patricia Smith for the wonderful work they have done with this radio station.

For 10 years, or just over 86,000 hours of broadcasting, Bay FM has provided a wide variety of music and interviews, national and local news, sporting information and special music programs from rock to classic for an audience aged from 80 to teens. More importantly, it has a strong partnership with the local community and is one of the major methods for community groups to broadcast their programs and events.

The mission of Bay FM is to provide a viable quality broadcast service which is entertaining and enables wide community access and participation. As far as I am concerned, Bay FM has successfully fulfilled every one of the objectives in its mission statement. It ought to be congratulated for its achievement and deserves all recognition available.