

# A.W.A. Broadcasting Station 9MI (M/V KANIMBLA)

The M/V Kanimbla, built in Belfast in 1936, was the only ship at the time constructed with a full broadcast radio station. A.W.A. technicians shipped their broadcasting equipment to Belfast for installation while the ship was under construction.

The "Kanimbla" was granted a broadcast licence by the P.M.G. department, with the callsign 9MI. The radio station consisted of two studios; one for group broadcasts, and the other for announcer presentation. The crystal controlled transmitter was rated at 1,000 watts, but technical problems resulted in a usual output of only 50 watts. It was designed to operate on any wavelength between 20 and 50 metres.

The first test broadcast from 9MI was on 21-4-1936 during sea trials in the Firth of Clyde. The delivery voyage from Northern Ireland to Australia began at 0400 on 26-4-1936. 9MI made four test broadcasts each day during their 15,000 mile voyage.

The official launch of 9MI was made in a special broadcast to Australia while the ship was south of the continent in the Great Australian Bight, 1,000 miles from Sydney. At 2000 Sydney time, 9MI went on the air on 11,710 KHz. The program was received by the A.B.C., and relayed throughout their network.

The "Kanimbla" was a 453 passenger ship with a route connecting Fremantle, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, and Mackay with 400 berths. Regular broadcasts commenced on 6,010 KHz. with one hour programs several evenings each week, with their announcer and singer Eileen Foley. They also had a female orchestra with a pianist, violinist, and cellist performing on air, and at nightly on-board dances. The 9MI broadcasts were received and then relayed by A.W.A. stations 3BO Bendigo, 2GN Goulburn, 3HA Hamilton, 2AY Albany, 2GF Grafton, 4WK Warwick, 4TO Townsville, and 4CA Cairns.

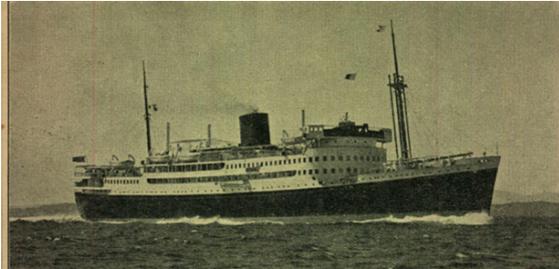
On 4-11-1936, while in Fremantle, the "Kanimbla", assisted by 9MI, held a ball open to the public, raising funds for various charities.

At the outbreak of WWII in 1939 the 9MI transmitter licence was cancelled and the "Kanimbla" became a troop carrier, first known as HMS Kanimbla, then HMAS Kanimbla.

<b>M/V "KANIMBLA" 11,000 TONS.</b>			
<b>MARINE BROADCASTING STATION.</b>			
Call Sign—9MI. Wave Length, 6010 K.C. — 49,917 metres.			
<b>McILWRAITH McEACHARN LTD.</b>			
<b>MELBOURNE.</b>			
Owners and Operators.			
<b>PROGRAMME OF BROADCASTS.</b>			
<i>(Subject to alterations and additional delays from time to time.)</i>			
Date	To Station:	Time (E.S.T.)	Position of Vessel Between:
Fri. May 6th	3BO, Bendigo	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Fremantle and Adelaide.
Sat. May 7th	2GN, Goulburn	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Fremantle and Adelaide.
Tues. May 10th	3HA, Hamilton	5.15 to 5.45 p.m.	Adelaide and Melbourne. (Children's Session).
Tues. May 10th	2AY, Albany	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Adelaide and Melbourne.
Sun. May 15th	2GF, Grafton	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Melbourne and Sydney.
Wed. May 18th	4WK, Warwick	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Sydney and Brisbane.
Sun. May 22nd	4TO, Townsville	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Brisbane and Mackay.
Fri. June 2nd	4CA, Cairns	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Mackay and Brisbane.
Sun. June 5th	2GN, Goulburn	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Brisbane and Sydney.
Wed. June 8th	3HA, Hamilton	5.15 to 5.45 p.m.	Sydney and Melbourne. (Children's Session).
Wed. June 8th	2AY, Albany	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Sydney and Melbourne.
Sun. June 12th	3BO, Bendigo	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Melbourne and Sydney.
Wed. June 15th	2GF, Grafton	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Sydney and Brisbane.
Sun. June 19th	4WK, Warwick	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Brisbane and Mackay.
Tues. June 23rd	4TO, Townsville	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Mackay and Brisbane.
Sun. July 3rd	4CA, Cairns	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Brisbane and Sydney.
Wed. July 6th	3HA, Hamilton	5.15 to 5.45 p.m.	Sydney and Melbourne. (Children's Session).
Wed. July 6th	2GN, Goulburn	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Sydney and Melbourne.
Sun. July 10th	2AY, Albany	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Melbourne and Sydney.
Wed. July 13th	3BO, Bendigo	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Sydney and Brisbane.
Sun. July 17th	2GF, Grafton	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Brisbane and Mackay.
Thurs. July 23rd	4WK, Warwick	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Mackay and Brisbane.
Sun. July 31st	4TO, Townsville	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Brisbane and Sydney.
Wed. Aug. 3rd	3HA, Hamilton	5.15 to 5.45 p.m.	Sydney and Melbourne. (Children's Session).
Wed. Aug. 3rd	4CA, Cairns	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Sydney and Melbourne.
Sun. Aug. 7th	2GN, Goulburn	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Melbourne and Sydney.
Wed. Aug. 10th	2AY, Albany	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Sydney and Brisbane.
Sun. Aug. 14th	3BO, Bendigo	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Brisbane and Mackay.
Thurs. Aug. 20th	2GF, Grafton	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Mackay and Brisbane.
Sun. Aug. 23rd	4WK, Warwick	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Brisbane and Sydney.
Tues. Aug. 30th	4TO, Townsville	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Sydney and Melbourne.
Thurs. Sep. 1st	3HA, Hamilton	5.15 to 5.45 p.m.	Melbourne and Sydney. (Children's Session).
Thurs. Sep. 1st	4CA, Cairns	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Melbourne and Sydney.
Sun. Sep. 4th	2GN, Goulburn	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Sydney and Brisbane.
Tues. Sep. 6th	2AY, Albany	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Brisbane and Sydney.
Sun. Sep. 11th	3BO, Bendigo	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Sydney and Melbourne.
Wed. Sep. 14th	2GF, Grafton	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Melbourne and Adelaide.
Fri. Sep. 16th	4WK, Warwick	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Adelaide and Fremantle.
Sat. Sep. 17th	4TO, Townsville	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Adelaide and Fremantle.
Sun. Sep. 18th	4CA, Cairns	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Adelaide and Fremantle.
Mon. Sep. 19th	3HA, Hamilton	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Adelaide and Fremantle.
Fri. Sep. 23rd	2AY, Albany	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Fremantle and Adelaide.
Sat. Sep. 24th	3BO, Bendigo	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Fremantle and Adelaide.
Sun. Sep. 25th	2GF, Grafton	10.00 to 10.30 p.m.	Fremantle and Adelaide.



M/V KANIMBLA in FREMANTLE



9  
MI

M.V.  
**KANIMBLA**  
11,000 Tons

McILWRAITH  
McEACHARN  
LTD.  
Melbourne  
Australia

**THE FIRST SHIP'S BROADCASTING STATION—**

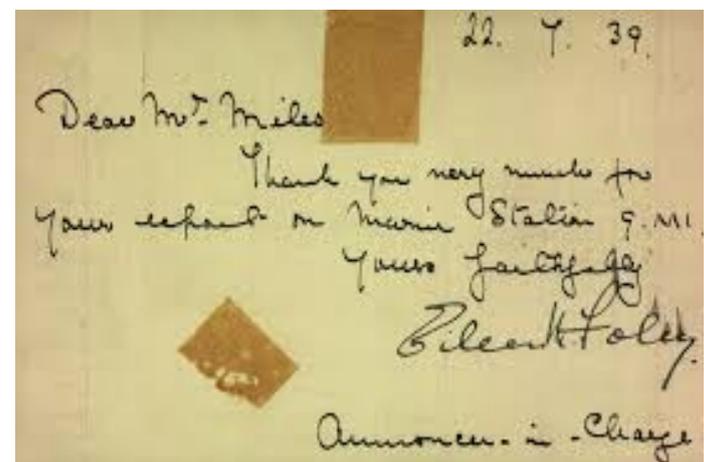
CALL SIGN - V K 9 MI

FREQUENCY - 11710 K.C. (25.619 METRES)  
6010 K.C. (49.917 M.)

POWER - 50 WATTS AERIAL RATING

TRANSMITTER - A.W.A. HIGH FIDELITY

SCHEDULES - VARIOUS



QSL (Reception Confirmation) letter from Eileen Foley.