

COMMERCIAL LICENSES THAT NEVER WENT TO AIR

4CH Charleville: 28-8-1930. R.W. Gaskin. This callsign was later granted to the A.B.C.

5MG Mount Gambier: May 1932. Mount Gambier Broadcasting Company P/L.

5MC Adelaide: 1925. James Marshall and Company. Company closed in 1928.

5EP Port Lincoln: Date unknown. Radio Advertising Company (in Adelaide). In 1932, this company was also granted a licence for Bunbury in Western Australia (callsign unknown) which never went to air.

2LE Meadow Flat: 1933. Radio Corporation Limited. Their studio was installed in Sydney. They falsely believed that they would be able to cover all of New South Wales from this location.

2SI Singleton: 1937. Jointly owned by Alex Mather (VK2JZ) and the *Singleton Argus* newspaper. The licence was moved to Lochinvar as 2HR before opening.

6XY Perth: 1927. Licensee unknown.

2NZ Narrabri. Licensed in 1935 for 2,000 watts. Licence was owned by 2GZ. The licence was later changed to **2IN** but still didn't go to air despite the studio being installed in the "Courier" newspaper building.

5MA Adelaide. Millswood Auto and Radio Co. (A.W.A. retailers). First went to air with an experimental broadcast licence in 1921. Issued the first Adelaide commercial licence on 2-11-1923. They then tried but failed to sell the licence without having gone to air.

4MB Brisbane. 1926. Radio Manufacturers Brisbane.

3FB Melbourne. 1925. Berkery and Picken P/L.

2CS Casino. 1938. Transcontinental Broadcasting Corporation. A joint project by 2KA Katoomba and 2KM Kempsey.

Other examples of commercial licences that never went to air, allocated to commercial (pre A.B.C.) stations:

2FC was issued with a second Sydney licence as **2FL**.

2FC was also issued with licences for 6 NSW country towns which never went to air.

2BL was issued with a licence for Newcastle in 1925 which never went to air.

3AR was issued with a licence for Ballarat in 1926 which never went to air.

3LO was issued with a second Melbourne licence as **3FC**.

4QG was issued with a licence for Rockhampton in 1926 as **4RK**. This callsign was later launched at Rockhampton on 29-7-1931 with programming by the privately owned Australian Broadcasting Company, until taken over by the A.B.C. on 1-7-1932, relaying 4QG with some local programs.

FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT ANECDOTES

* **2RG** Griffith had a high percentage of Italian listeners so funeral announcements were also read in Italian.

* When John Scott, owner of 2XL Cooma passed away, his wife received a bill from the undertaker which included the cost of broadcasting his funeral announcement. The cost was much larger than the usual **2XL** charge for funeral announcements.

* A closed circuit station **3PD** in Pentridge Gaol, operated by Henry Gay, was asked to play a record called "The Swinging Kid" for a prisoner due to be hanged the next day. Henry refused and grabbed a record at the last minute to fill. It was called "Still Life".

* Alan Hubbard ordered a milkshake in a Dubbo café and **2DU** was then heard to broadcast their funeral announcements. The waitress heard the intro music and stopped the milkshake blender as a sign of respect until the funeral announcements were over.

* **2MG** Mudgee once played "Ding Dong, the Witch is Dead" immediately after their funeral announcements.

* Peter Van Hauen on **3YB** Warrnambool once mixed up the Protestant and Catholic announcements. He stated that the funeral in the Presbyterian Church would include the use of the Rosary.

* Alan Hubbard walked out of **2KM** Kempsey after starting the funeral theme and ahead of the 6PM news. He learnt that management was approaching staff with allegations that they had stolen money from the front desk. Alan decided that he didn't want his honesty questioned. When the manager, with little on-air experience, entered the studio and questioned him, Alan handed him the earphones and said "I no longer work here". He didn't know if the funeral announcements or news got to air, and couldn't care less.

* Bob Caldicott on **5AN** finished announcing the death of Martin Luther King then played the record "Old Black Joe".

* A **3YB** general manager played "Don't Worry, Be Happy" after their funeral announcements.

* Chris Isley on **6VA** Albany finished a burial announcement by playing the song "Down Down".

* **4BC** Brisbane, after announcing the death of Pope John Paul 1st, played the song "Down Among the Dead Men".

* **2UW** Sydney, after announcing the death of a Pope, played the song "Take My Hand, I'm a Stranger in Paradise".

* Rob Elliott on **2VM** Moree, attempting to sound sympathetic after a funeral announcement, played the song "Life Gets Better".

* Dave Eyles, acting on the advice of the stations birthday register, sang happy birthday to a man. His wife then phoned in tears to say that he had passed away. The birthday register was immediately updated.

* One announcer mentioned the death of Bing Crosby then grabbed a Bing Crosby record and played "Heaven...I'm in Heaven".

* Peter McMaster back announced "Elton John, Candle in the Wind, dedicated to Princess Diana", then played a Neilson Funeral Services advertisement.

* Mel Little did a long emotional chat with a suicide bereavement group, then played "Knocking on Heavens Door".

