

Members Newsletter Issue 6 – March 2008

Welcome to the March 2008 edition of the newsletter. As you will read below, we are still waiting on Ofcom to advertise the final batch of community radio licenses. Whilst this is obviously frustrating, it does give us the opportunity to refine the content of our license application and try out a few new ideas on the forthcoming broadcast in May.

Licence Application News

Ofcom are in the process of advertising and awarding community radio licenses under their second round of licensing. Since August 2006, they have been advertising licenses on a regional basis. All areas except one have now been advertised and most applications either accepted or rejected. The final area is London and South East England. Ofcom have yet to give dates of when this final area will be advertised but correspondence with Ofcom suggests that a timetable may be advised after the next meeting of their Licensing Committee (due mid-March 2008). One reason for the delay is an audit on FM frequencies and to ensure there is sufficient space on the FM band for likely applications. As soon as we have any definitive news, we will update the web site.

Members meeting

A successful meeting for members was held on Monday 28th January. Des Shepherd gave a short presentation detailing the results from the recent audience research project. This was followed by discussions on different programming ideas, mainly around youth programming and music content.

May 2008 RSL

The dates have now been confirmed by Ofcom. We will return to the air on Saturday 10th May until Monday 26th May. The main daytime programme presenters have been booked as we needed to have a 'product' to sell to potential sponsors and advertisers. Other programme slots will be allocated by the end of March. If you want to get involved as a volunteer you will need to apply. Please follow the 'Get Involved' link on the front page of the web site www.redstone.fm where you can download an application form.

One new initiative for this broadcast is that we are offering formal work placements to students. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact us on 07933 430199 for an application form. Again specific vacancies are set out on the programmes page on the web site. The closing date for applications is 21 March 2008.

Training Courses

We are still planning to offer a series of short courses and are continuing to talk to East Surrey College to organise this. Full details will be sent out once confirmed and will appear on the web site.

Not a member?

Reigate and Banstead Community Radio Ltd is a membership organisation. Its strength is its membership. Whether you are interested in having a go at broadcasting or just want to support our aims, please consider joining. Annual membership subscription is only £10.

Please visit <http://www.redstone.fm/membership.htm> where you can download a membership form.