

Welcome to the November 2008 edition of the newsletter. By the time this is published, we will have submitted our application for a permanent license to Ofcom. We now look forward not just to Ofcom's assessment of the application but other activities planned for 2009.

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Permanent Licence Application

18th November 2008. That was the deadline for applications to be submitted to Ofcom for the latest round of community radio licenses. Since August 2006, Ofcom have been advertising community radio licenses on a regional basis. The penultimate area, East and SE England, is the area we fall under. The final area to be advertised is Greater London.

So after a great deal of work by a lot of people, Redstone FM has completed its licence application and it was duly handed to an Ofcom official on Monday 17 November – along with 10 appendixes of supporting documents. Now we wait! We don't know how long Ofcom will take to assess the applications for this region but at some point we do expect them to ask supplementary questions to clarify points in our document. This is a standard procedure with Ofcom.

Ofcom are expected to put copies of all applications on their web site over the next week or so. However if you want to read what we have submitted, it is available to view on our web site at http://www.redstone.fm/images/licence_bid.pdf

AGM Report

Following the 3rd Annual General Meeting of Reigate & Banstead Community Radio Ltd on 29 September, Des Shepherd, Anne-Marie Sinden and Collette Barber were elected to the board. Each will serve for three years. At the board meeting following the AGM, the director's elected that Mike Ward should continue as Chairman. The board also co-opted Chris Spring and Nigel Fitzmaurice. As co-opted directors, Chris and Nigel hold these posts until the next AGM.

Events - Saturday 24 January 2009

Redstone.fm will be present with a stall at the Voluntary Sector Fair which is taking place between 10am and 3pm at the Harlequin Theatre. The event aims to showcase the wide range of voluntary and charitable organisations in the borough. This is an ideal opportunity to meet some of those involved with Redstone .fm.

Training

One of our plans in the bid to Ofcom is to develop radio training courses. Over the past couple of months, we have had discussions with a number of bodies to organise short training courses to run from the New Year. We have currently applied for funding to run some short courses and once we know the outcome, we will let you know with details of the programme of events.

Another RSL Broadcast

You might think that with the permanent licence bid with Ofcom, there is not the need for a further temporary broadcast. If awarded the permanent license in spring 2009, it is unlikely we would start full time broadcasting until this time next year. We have been invited to cover the 2009 Redhill and Reigate Carnival plus some other events next summer. Therefore we are planning to return to the air with a 6th temporary broadcast next year. This broadcast will depend on the success of our fund raising activities but we should be able to announce further details and dates before Christmas.

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.

This newsletter is published by Reigate and Banstead Community Radio Ltd. The views expressed in this document are not necessarily those of the company or its management.