

# SOUNDWAVES NEWSLETTER



A couple of newsletters ago we showed you a picture of the new Rhema car that was purchased with a small loan from one of our faithful supporters. Now we have the signage and if you see us around town, give the driver a thumbs up.

Being a 4-wheel drive, the car was desperately needed to access our transmission site on Mt Cairncross, northwest of Wauchope. The road is very rough and steep, impassable by any normal vehicle, and it is essential for us to access the site from time to time.

The car was purchased partly using the loan and partly from the sale of our old car to another faithful member of the station.

## Shine the Light Dinner

Yes it's back again! We are planning this fundraising dinner for Saturday night November 2nd and we'd love you to come! It will feature guest speaker Peter Irvine (co-founder of Gloria Jean's Australia). More details later!

## Position Vacant

Rhema 99.9 has an opening for an experienced part-time Promotions/Event Coordinator who is well acquainted with the business trends of Social Media. While the position is volunteer to begin with, funding will be sought for remuneration for the successful applicant.

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The apostle John had an extraordinary revelation of the love of God; love made visible and personal in Jesus. The brothers John and James were nicknamed by Jesus "the Sons of Thunder" (Mk 3:17). These men were ready to call down fire on anyone who rejected Jesus (Lk 9:54), but Jesus rebuked them for this attitude! Instead, John had a divine encounter with Love Personified and became "the disciple whom Jesus loved" (Jn 13:23).

John witnessed the pure love of God; the eternal Word stepped down from his heavenly position into our world and humbled himself totally to serve in selfless sacrifice. He witnessed the God-who-is-love take off his robes and bend down to wash the disciples' feet. He heard Love Personified say "Now love each other as I have loved you" (Jn 13:34, 15:12).

Such a revelation caused John to include love as a compelling theme throughout his writing. John tells us that God is love and that real love comes from God (1 Jn 4:7-8). In the same breath, he also tells us that whoever does not love does not genuinely know God. If we know Jesus - the Jesus that John knew - then his love must rub off on us. What a challenging statement! Very challenging, but oh so necessary.

As Jesus' disciples today, we still need this reminder to love one another. It is so easy to criticise other people, other churches and pastors. Social media is awash with criticism and opinions about churches and pastors! I firmly believe that critiquing of other peoples' ministry practice or doctrine only has a place in a context of relationship. I know of churches whose leaders I know, love and respect, and yet others have had a negative experience in their church. The truth is that no church is free from imperfections. We are all a work in progress, and we only "know in part" as Paul says (1 Cor. 13:12). We are commanded to love; to be kind, patient and forgiving, to be encouraging and not critical. That is how people will recognise the distinctive character of Jesus amongst us - loving God is made visible by how we love one another (1 Jn 4:20-21). Let us not fail to be obedient to Jesus in this vital part of the Christian life. ■

# LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER

by Dave Dennis

Rhema 99.9 Board President



## From the Manager's Desk

### *Serving God is different to pleasing people!*

That song isn't spiritual!... You should play more jazz and blues tracks!... That presenter just laughs too much!... Why don't you play secular songs?!

Everyone has a particular bias as to the ministry and sound of Christian radio. And there's one thing I've definitely learnt... you can't please everyone! What we can do however, is share with you the strategic planning for the future God has for Rhema 99.9; which includes striving to be real and relevant in order to better reach our community with the good news of Jesus. Not everyone listening to the station will respond to God's prompting... but many have, and certainly many more will!

It's our responsibility at Rhema 99.9 to move forward in the direction we believe God has called us... and leave the conversion process and spiritual growth to Him. We are not called to see results, for some sow and others reap; though it's certainly exciting to experience them now and again. What we are indeed called to, is simple obedience out of our love for God and people.

Why not ask your church leader to invite me to share what's happening at Rhema 99.9 and where we are heading? I believe it will encourage you.

God bless,

Werner Egger

General Manager, Rhema 99.9



# June Appeal - 'Speak Up'



**Alan Sharpham, Paul Ordish & Marie Ford ready to broadcast live to the Hastings region.**

God blessed us abundantly through the June 'Speak Up' Appeal. Guests at the studio included Paul, Carol & John Ordish from Grafton along with Marie Ford from Coffs Harbour. Also our own Kerry Parker and Alan Sharpham (who flew across from Perth to be with us in person - he did complain about sore arms after flying so far!). We also had Shayne Holstein from Rhema Newcastle who is the host of our program 'Cream of Christian Country' heard on Sunday afternoons and former Rhema Breakfast announcer, Dave Felsch, 'dropping in' from Ballina to say hi!

A big thank you to the 'locals' who came in droves to help out by supplying food and answering phones. Also a great big thank you to you, the listener, who gave generously towards keeping Rhema on the air.

Our final total was \$10,555 which, although short of the \$20,000 target, will be well used towards the increasing expenses of providing a positive voice in our community.

**SPEAK  
UP!**

**WITH A  
MESSAGE  
OF HOPE**

***If you didn't make it during June it's not too late to give!***

***Go to [rhema999.com.au](http://rhema999.com.au) and click 'Donate'.***

*L to R: Paul & Carol Ordish, Shayne Holstein, Marie Ford, Sue Bullen, Karen Vanderzee and David Felsch during the June Appeal'.*



# Key Staff

Two of the key members of our staff are Werner Egger and Alan Sharpham. Werner is General Manager and Alan currently has the role of Content Director and Production Manager.

## Werner Egger

Werner started with Rhema 99.9 over 12 years ago. He began with loading songs on the station's playlist and after stepping up to the plate to different responsibilities when required, has since held the General Manager position for the past 5 years. Werner started his work career as an electrician, followed by a call to train for ministry at Tahlee Bible College. On completion of a Diploma of Theology, he was encouraged by the Dean at Tahlee to pursue Christian counselling where he subsequently completed a diploma with the Australian Institute of Family Counselling. Werner worships and is involved at Lifeway Church in Port Macquarie and enjoys motorcycle riding with friends for fellowship and ministry opportunities. Camping with friends and fishing along rivers in our beautiful region is also a favourite activity. Werner is a very proud dad of three daughters, a granddaughter, and another grandchild on the way.



## Alan Sharpham

Alan has been involved at Rhema 99.9 almost since arriving in Port Macquarie in 1998. He has worked in Christian broadcasting for 49 years initially producing 15 minute programs for commercial radio, then starting the Wollongong radio station now known as Pulse 94.1, working in Tasmania at Launceston's WAY-FM and finally working in a variety of capacities at our own Rhema 99.9. After moving to Perth WA 3 years ago, Alan remained involved with Rhema as Secretary of the Board as well as many and varied volunteer positions. As Alan says, 'The internet is a wonderful tool' and allows him to be as involved as he was when he lived in Port Macquarie.



**Would you like to become a volunteer?**

Go to [rhema999.com.au](http://rhema999.com.au) and select 'Volunteer' under the 'Get Involved' tab.



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