

**RadioWey**  
.org

**NHS**

Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Celebrating 60 Years



SCAN TO LISTEN

Hospital  
**RadioWey**

**Free**



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# foreword

## from John Machin



I do hope that you take some time to tune into [radiowey.org](http://radiowey.org) to brighten up your hospital stay."

**John Machin**

Chair of Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals' NHS Foundation Trust

Hi Radio Wey Magazine Readers. I trust you are well and hope that by reading this 2025 edition magazine you get to learn more about the marvellous work that our very own, award winning, Radio Wey do to help improve the health and wellbeing of our patients, their family and friends and ASPH staff.

Indeed, Radio Wey has been bringing joy to its listeners for over half a century now and is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. Radio Wey recently won Silver at the National Hospital Radio Awards and were finalists at the Runnymede and Spelthorne Volunteer Awards in June. So this year is off to a very good start.

It's an entirely volunteer-led operation that has adapted and developed as broadcasting techniques have evolved. So, a bit like the NHS it is benefitting in a shift from analogue to digital enabled delivery. It has also ventured out into engaging with the community, through its mobile unit, in order to provide live roaming reporting. The most recent reporting being on our marvellous VE Day celebrations.

I do hope that you take some time to tune into **[radiowey.org](http://radiowey.org)** to brighten up your hospital stay or simply to enjoy yourself listening to music, comedy hour or local news. I know that our Radio Wey team are happy for, and indeed would encourage you to make song requests and suggest dedications (no music genre is off limits) so please do call them on **01932 874433** or internal **extension 2017** and test their capabilities. Alternatively just drop a line to **[studio@radiowey.org](mailto:studio@radiowey.org)** It's really as simple as that!

On your behalf I'd like to say a big thank you to each and every one of our dedicated team of producers, technicians and presenters who make this all happen for us. Happy listening everyone!

# welcome to Sound.

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF RADIO WEY

Welcome to Radio Wey! We are a hospital radio station run by over 40 proud and selfless volunteers. Since 1965, Radio Wey has served to entertain and inform patients at Ashford, St Peter's and Woking hospitals, as well as the wider local community.

This year, we are incredibly proud to be marking 60 years of broadcasting. It's a moment to reflect on our history – from humble beginnings with reel-to-reel tapes played at the bedside, to a modern, dynamic station broadcasting online, through our app, and to over 150 WiFi radios across three hospital sites. It's also a moment to celebrate everyone who has helped us along the way – our volunteers, supporters, and, most importantly, our listeners.

Radio Wey has always been passionate about its goals and duty of care to its prime audience: the patients. As Chairman, it's been a privilege to witness the continued growth and evolution of the station. The response we receive from patients, families and staff is always heart-warming and reminds us why we do what we do.

In recent years, with ongoing support from the Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, we've expanded our output with more request and music shows than ever before. In the wards, our presence is known – through smiling volunteers collecting your song requests, and now through our brand-new WhatsApp service, which makes it



MARC BAKOS - CHAIR

even easier to reach us from your mobile phone.

We've also upgraded our studios with technology designed to make broadcasting more accessible and intuitive for presenters and engaging for listeners. We've refreshed our on-air content to include more health-focused programming, as well as regular request shows that truly put the patient at the centre of our broadcast day.

As we celebrate this 60th anniversary, we're not just looking back—we're looking forward. We're excited by the future of hospital radio and our role in it. Whether through outside events, new shows, or even more ways to interact, Radio Wey continues to evolve while staying true to our founding mission: to bring comfort, connection and joy through sound.

We hope you enjoy the 2025 edition of our patients' magazine and take time to discover everything Radio Wey has to offer. Every single volunteer gives their time with enthusiasm and care – and we are always looking for new people to join us or support our charity in any way they can.

If you'd like to listen, support or get involved, please visit [www.radiowey.org](http://www.radiowey.org).

# How to listen to Radio Wey

Whether you're in the hospital, at home, or on the go – there are now even easier ways to tune in!



## LISTEN ON YOUR SMART PHONE OR TABLET

Download the free 'Radio Wey' app!

Available on the App Store and Google Play

**Scan the QR code to go straight to the download page.**

• One tap to listen live • No need for TuneIn • Free and easy to use



## LISTEN ON ALEXA & SMART SPEAKERS

"Alexa – Play Radio Wey"

For other smart speakers (like Google):

"Play Radio W E Y on TuneIn"



## LISTEN ON YOUR COMPUTER OR TABLET

Go to: **[www.radiowey.org](http://www.radiowey.org)**

Click the 'Listen Live' button and enjoy the show.



## WI-FI SPEAKERS IN THE HOSPITAL

If you're on the ward:

Use the Wi-Fi radio speaker in your room – it's already set up!

**Press: Play/Pause | Volume Up/Down | Select Radio Wey**

Any issues? Email us at: **[info@radiowey.org](mailto:info@radiowey.org)**

(Include the speaker name from the back label)

## MAKE A REQUEST?

 01932 874433 or using  
the free internal  
number 2017

 [studio@radiowey.org](mailto:studio@radiowey.org)

## FOLLOW AND LIKE US ON

 [/radiowey](https://www.facebook.com/radiowey)

 [@radiowey](https://twitter.com/radiowey)





# shaping the sound of **Radio Wey**



**As the Programme Controller, I have the responsibility for the programme output at the station, and we need to keep in mind our audiences and the different types of programmes we can offer. We realise that being in hospital or a care home may feel strange to you and so we need to ensure that we are providing a means of entertainment which suits your environment whether you are in a ward, waiting for an appointment in outpatients or sitting in the Emergency Department.**

At Radio Wey, our aim is to provide entertainment, which is local, unique and focused on our communities of the hospitals and care homes as well as aiding with the relief of sickness, poor health and age-related conditions amongst people in our local catchment area of Runnymede, Spelthorne, Elmbridge and Woking. Hence, we can be considered as a hospital, health and well-being radio service completely run by volunteers. We give our time freely to support everyone in the Ashford and St Peters NHS Foundation Trust and we have been doing this for 60 years.

Being in hospital, you will not have all the means of entertainment that you have at home. Certain patients nowadays are not generally kept in for long periods of time and in most cases, certain treatments and minor operations are carried out within the day.

Thus, Radio Wey has made changes to keep up with the different choices people can make to hear us. We continue to broadcast to the three hospitals [Ashford, St Peter's and Woking] and we have installed specialised speakers in the wards which are tuned to Radio Wey. If you would like one by your bedside during your stay, please ask a member of the ward staff. We also broadcast via the internet, and you can hear us through any computer or smartphone via our website [radiowey.org](http://radiowey.org) or via the TuneIn app. We also have developed an app you can download to your smartphone giving you full access to listen to us live as well as listen again to a selection of our interviews – just scan the front cover of this magazine to get started. This is available in the Apple Store and Google Store and if you have a smart speaker, you can ask Alexa to “Play Radio Wey”.

We continue to work with the various areas of the Hospital Trust to bring you news of events through our series of Hospital Watch bulletins. We have undertaken interviews and promotions with the dieticians, the well-being groups, maternity groups and the Sleepy Eyes project to help promote their services as well as improve your stay in hospital. At the heart of our programme schedule are the ward request shows, where we visit the patients and staff

and collect your musical choices. We then play them either later that day or the following day on air. Meeting the patients and chatting to them is a key part of what hospital radio is all about and this makes us provide a unique service. You will see elsewhere in this magazine an article about the impact that Hospital Radio has with the patients and staff and we are grateful for the part we play in that.

Getting in touch with us is so easy and we have a range of ways of reaching us. If we miss you when we visit your ward or you just want to get a mention on air, then you can call the studio on 01932 874433 or 2017 on the internal system at Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals. Press option 2 to leave a recorded message of your request or shout out or option 1 to speak to our presenter.

Alternatively, send an email message to [studio@radiowey.org](mailto:studio@radiowey.org). We can even be reached using WhatsApp by sending a message, voice note or photo to 01932 874433.

Our schedule is varied and extensive and we broadcast 24 hours every day with live shows each day from 9am to 10pm. We cater for all musical tastes – for example, we have Jazz Music, Rock Music, Gospel Music, Album tracks and Classical Music. We also provide a weekly one-hour programme of local news produced by the team from the volunteer team at the Woking Talking Newspaper. To put a smile on your face and give you a giggle, we also have a comedy hour where we broadcast extracts from classical comedy sketches.



We have guests from local charities, other organisations and groups as well as celebrities and stars popping into the studios and joining us on air during the day. So you can see we have a lot to offer, and all the details and news of our programmes can be found on our website or through our new app.

The world is a changing place and so we need to continue to change and adapt and so if you have an idea for a programme, or a genre of music you think would fill a gap, please do let me know. If there is something that we broadcast and you don't like it, I want to hear from you too. I appreciate all feedback, both good and bad, as we can only get better if we are serving our listeners as everyone has a choice and they can so easily go elsewhere. I can be contacted via my email address **[andy@radiowey.org](mailto:andy@radiowey.org)** or you can call the studio on **01932 874433** and leave a message for me.

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**Andy Brown**  
Programme Controller

# message from

# Pete Bray



If you're reading this in hospital, you may not be feeling 100%, but I hope that Radio Wey helps lift your spirits a little through our wide range of music and our variety of presenters – all of us are volunteers!

I've been a proud member of the station since 1977 (I can't quite believe it myself!) and over the years I've worn many hats – from presenting my weekly Music Machine show to commentating on Saturday Sportscene during the football season.

These days, I'm mostly found "behind the scenes" as one of the station's Charity Trustees, serving as both Secretary and Treasurer. I look after the membership and charity admin, handle correspondence (thankfully all by email now!), and manage the accounts, expenditure, and receipts.

Now that I'm semi-retired, I have a bit more time to take on other roles around the station. I help with training new presenters, edit our monthly membership newsletter, and assist with IT and systems maintenance – the tech that keeps Radio Wey broadcasting day and night.

I also source the special WiFi radios that you may be listening to right now during your hospital stay!

And yes, I still handle most of the new music that comes into the station. Long gone are the days of popping into a local record shop to pick up the latest 7-inch singles – now I (legally!) download MP3s from trusted sources and import them into our music payout system.

You'll also spot me at many of our Outside Events throughout the year. These are vital fundraising opportunities that help keep Radio Wey on the air – enabling us to bring cheer and companionship to those both in and out of hospital. And don't forget, you can always listen to us at home too, via our website or app.



# “

**I've been a proud member of the station since 1977 (no, I can't believe it either!)”**

**Pete Bray**  
Secretary and Treasurer



# beyond 200:

shows sharing stories  
through classical music



HELEN JULIA MINORS

The capacity of music to tell a story, to raise mental images of characters, places and eras, as well as to impact our emotions, is profound. As a musician, professor, lecturer, writer, broadcaster, researcher and reviewer, I remain struck after many decades by how music can feel so fresh and immediate, and yet at the same time it can cling to our memories and emotions like nothing else. Whether the music comes from the medieval era or last week's new film release, it can move us even without words.

As Radio Wey celebrates its **60th** anniversary, I am celebrating first visiting Radio Wey eight years ago to be interviewed by Matt Richings, first on Rock this Wey, then on Request Stop. My journey has developed, with training and support, before taking on my own show. It is now six years on since my first solo show. I have recorded three complete audio books which have been aired on Radio Wey a few times. But more momentous, for me, is that I have passed my 200th episode of my own solo show, Helen's Classical Journey, that airs every Sunday afternoon, with a mid-week repeat. This highlight came around

the same time that I met King Charles III at Windsor Castle (yes, I know, how exciting!). Our King was hosting an event to celebrate Community Music, and its benefit to our society. As my work spans music education, community music projects and enabling access to music



and art education I was fortunate to be invited. I was struck by how many people I knew and how many people, like me, all balanced their day jobs in various parts of the music and education industries alongside charity work and volunteering. My weekly show continues to share music written for orchestral instruments, but it is not restricted to music of the classical era (e.g. strictly speaking 1750-1800), rather I theme my weekly show to celebrate events, anniversaries, rituals, occasions, and themes, such as specific stories and seasons. The show spans film, TV and

# beyond

# 200:

shows sharing stories  
through classical music



video game music, through concert hall classics, to dance and theatre, opera and drama, as well as to both secular and sacred works from c.1100 AD to current releases (recently sharing the new film soundtrack from Mission: Impossible, The Final Reckoning released in May 2025). I love being able to navigate the globe, diverse cultures, heritages, histories and traditions through music. At the end of the day, everything I share has a story which is both human and emotional. This is why every week I dedicate time to a meditative moment whereby I slow the pace and settle the tone for us to think, breathe, and reflect. In such a fast-paced world, we all could do with more time to settle ourselves and have a personal moment to think and pause.

The 200th show meant a lot to me: it enabled me to thank Radio Wey for its support as I have developed my show, and it enabled me to share a journey through time of some of my favourite pieces of music too. I have followed on with a few request shows, integrating requests from patients, doctors and nurses that have come to me directly through my website or via email. I also

hosted a show dedicated to music requested by my friends and colleagues, all sharing their stories about the power of music. The personal touch is important – every composer has a story to tell, a message to

share, or an emotion to process. Just like our pop music favourites, classical music reminds us of life highs, such as weddings, graduations, birthdays, and personal firsts. With its persistent use in television adverts, radio adverts, TV, film and video games, we all hear a lot of classical music and recognise many of the themes, even we do not go out of our way to listen to it actively usually. I try to include well-known tracks every week, but I do so alongside what I hope are new pieces, with fresh melodies for our listeners. My visit to Windsor Castle reminded me: music is a uniquely human way to communicate beyond words and to share diverse stories.

Should you wish to catch up on any shows, they're all available on catch up via my website, where you can find shows dedicated to the Marvel Universe, to specific composers, to a season, to Halloween, and even to an entire two hour show dedication to meditation – just scan the QR code to explore.



# outside events



## Bring Your Event to Life with Radio Wey!

Looking for great music, a lively atmosphere, and professional sound support?

Radio Wey is ready to take your event to the next level – and we'll do it with energy, experience, and a smile!



## Why Book Radio Wey?

We're not just a radio station – we're a community team that brings the party to you! Whether you're planning a summer fair, charity fundraiser, heritage day, or Christmas lights switch-on, our outside events team is ready to make it unforgettable.

## Here's what we bring:

- Lively presenters to keep the energy high.
- A wide music library for any age group or occasion.
- Professional PA system and amplifiers.
- Our own branded gazebo (weather-ready!).
- Public announcements and info for your guests.
- Option to plug in your own gear or performers.
- A friendly team that truly cares about your event.



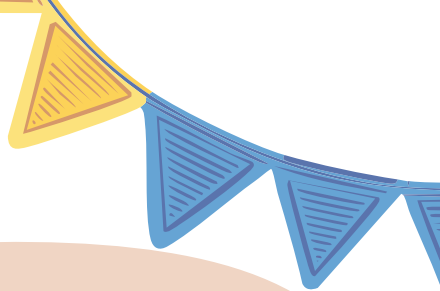
You've Probably Seen Us Already! We're regulars at local favourites like:

- Walton Heritage Day • Festival of Light
- Summer fetes and school fairs across the area

Whether we're running the sound for performers or entertaining crowds with music and messages, we love supporting our local community

CONTINUED...

# outside events



## Want Us at Your Event?

Getting in touch is easy – just email:

**events@radiowey.org**

Tell us a little about your event  
and we'll take care of the rest.

## Inside Events Too!

We also host Inside Events in local  
hospitals, where our presenters  
entertain patients and staff in person.  
Another way we help spread smiles  
through sound!



“

**Radio Wey brought so much fun to our event – music,  
laughs, and total professionalism. Highly recommend!”**

– Local event organiser

## hospital broadcasting an impact survey

The Hospital Broadcasting Association (HBA) commissioned an independent piece of research into the impact of hospital broadcasting on the health outcomes of patients. A UK wide study was completed involving over 250 individuals including patients, staff and hospital radio volunteers.

For the full report, and more information, please visit  
[www.hbauk.com/impact](http://www.hbauk.com/impact)



# Help us keep the **feel-good** flowing for another 60 years!

## Why We Need Your Support

**Radio Wey brings music, comfort, and company to the patients and staff of Ashford, St Peter's and Woking Hospitals – and reaches out to our wider community too.**

We're a registered charity powered by volunteers and local goodwill.

Your support helps us continue broadcasting and delivering joy to people when they need it most.

## Ways You Can Help

- Book Us for Your Event
- We provide public address and music services for:
  - Local fairs & fetes (like Walton Heritage Day, Lyne Village Fair, Festival of Light)
  - Charity runs, school events, and sporting occasions
  - Announcements, music, and friendly presenter support!

“

**We're not just a radio station – we're a support network on air. Help us keep it going!”**

## Get Involved Today

Email: [info@radiowey.org](mailto:info@radiowey.org) • Call the studio: 01932 874433 • Learn more [radiowey.org](http://radiowey.org)



## Become a Sponsor

- Promote your business and support a good cause:
- On-air mentions (2x an hour)
- Featured on our website with a sponsor link
- Packages from £150 to £550 per year

Join our supporters like **ASDA, Rotary Clubs, local care homes**, and more.

## Offer Goods or Services

Can your business donate equipment, print support, or volunteer time? We're always grateful for in-kind help too.

## Every Bit Helps

A third of our funding comes from our volunteers – the rest relies on generous supporters like you. Every pound helps us lift someone's spirits through sound.





# meet the team



## Clive Stevens

Clive Stevens has volunteered with Radio Wey since 1990, presenting request shows and co-hosting Saturday Sportscene for over 25 years. He's also hosted Kaliveascope, Sunday Night Clive, and now The Album Archive, exploring rare album tracks from the '60s to '90s. He first got involved after visiting Northwick Park Hospital Radio and discovering Radio Wey at a summer fete. A favourite memory: realising 45 minutes into a Christmas show that he hadn't pressed the On Air button! Clive enjoys walking football, lawn bowls, and gigs. As Radio Wey turns 60, Clive thanks every volunteer—especially his Sportscene teammates—and every listener for being part of the journey. Here's to many more!



## Helen Minors

Professor Helen Julia Minors has volunteered with Radio Wey since 2019, sharing her love of orchestral music—from film scores to opera, ballet, and games—with a focus on bold brass and percussion. A musician, trumpeter, singer, and author, she is Head of the School of the Arts at York St John University and a Visiting Professor in Sweden. Helen joined after friend Matt Richings invited her to record Yorkshire-style weather reports—over 40 “Betty and the weather” clips later, they still make her smile. Off air, she plays trumpet, bakes, gardens, and explores the countryside. For Radio Wey's 60th, she says: “Sharing music makes me smile with you.”



## Roger Manley

Roger Manley has been part of Radio Wey for 53 years, first stepping into the studio at Graham Laycock's invitation. His service mirrors his 33-year career with British Rail, taking on roles like Outside Broadcast Co-ordinator and Chairman. Roger loves visiting wards, collecting requests, and connecting with patients. Nationally, he supported hospital radio as Editor of On Air magazine and General Secretary of the Hospital Broadcasting Association. A power cut during a Sunday show remains an unforgettable moment. Off air, he enjoys tramways, steam trains, photography, and travel, with musical tastes from '60s hits to Coldplay and Cats in Space.



## Robert Chantler

Rob Chantler has been part of Radio Wey for 18 years, hosting Rob's Jazz Club every Sunday from 1–3 pm. He joined after a placement at the Abraham Cowley Unit and launched his first solo show in 2007. Inspired by a guest spot on LBC, he wanted to bring comfort to patients and staff. Rob is a teacher, psychotherapist, journalist, playwright, and St John Ambulance volunteer. A jazz fan since his twenties, he plays piano and has interviewed Clare Teal and Tony Kinsey. He's also active in environmental work and amateur dramatics. For Radio Wey's 60th, he hopes listeners “keep loving every moment for many years to come.”



## Alan Dolby

Alan Dolby has been with Radio Wey for 15 years, co-hosting Rock This Wey on Friday nights with Peter Adams. He got hooked after a studio tour during SportsScene and has been involved ever since. A highlight was helping recreate the 1967 Wireless Act live, celebrating the end of offshore pirate radio. Off air, Alan enjoys running, playing bass, and tinkering with his two MGs. A keen hasher and classic rock fan – especially Toto's Africa – he brings great energy to every show. Alan salutes the Radio Wey team and all listeners for keeping the music and community spirit alive and thanks all the listeners!



## Chris Hussey

Chris Hussey has been presenting on Radio Wey for over 20 years, inspired by the great shows and music that first drew him in. He loves bringing his shows to the wards and making listeners smile through their requests. A favourite moment is Friday-afternoon banter with Gayle and fun on-air competitions. Off air, Chris enjoys karaoke, writing music, playing keyboard, swimming, cinema trips, and running his YouTube channel, Chris On The Keys. He's fond of Paul McCartney, Robbie Williams, and listener picks. As Radio Wey turns 60, Chris calls it "a privilege" and thanks all who tune in.



## Jim Coombe

Jim Coombe has been with Radio Wey for an incredible 56 years, having joined after working with the station's founder. He's always loved "bringing pleasure and help to other people" – including the time he took a live song request from a caller in Spain! Off air, Jim enjoys gardening and flying radio-control model aircraft. A fan of Big Band music, he jokes that he "doesn't get no satisfaction by the Rolling Stones." Married to Jeanne for over 65 years, with one son and two grandchildren, Jim sends his congratulations to Radio Wey "for giving happiness to the wider public beyond the hospital" as it celebrates 60 years.



## Nigel Truscott-Smith

Nigel Truscott-Smith has been with Radio Wey for two years, hosting Listen over Lunch every Tuesday from 1–3 pm. After retiring, he joined to give back – enjoying patient visits, moving radios, and bonding with the team. A favourite moment: flipping pancakes on air for Shrove Tuesday! His shows span all genres, with a soft spot for '80s and '90s hits – always starting with Who Loves You by The Four Seasons. Off air, Nigel enjoys fishing, cooking, and working on cars. Happy 60th to Radio Wey! Nigel says it's an honour to be part of the team – here's to many more years of smiles and great music!



## Gayle Naylor

Gayle Naylor – aka Weather Girl Gayle – has volunteered with Radio Wey for 15 years, co-presenting The Friday Getaway with Chris Hussey for the past eight. She delivers the weather, runs quizzes, takes requests, and occasionally appears on Mondays. Drawn by her love of radio and music, Gayle values the variety of requests and being part of "a lovely team." A favourite memory: spinning out of her chair after forgetting to unplug her headphones! Off air, she enjoys gardening, animals, and friends. Looking ahead, she wishes Radio Wey "a continuing happy future" and thanks all for their support.



## Simon Matthews

Simon Matthews has volunteered with Radio Wey for seven years, joining after spotting the team at an event. Though he doesn't host a show, he's essential behind the scenes—training presenters, voicing announcements, and keeping studio tech running (often from under the desk!). A standout moment: improvising tracks during a children's ward show as presenters lost their headphones! Simon writes software—much of it used by the station—and enjoys music across all genres. His favourite is Jump by Van Halen. For Radio Wey's 60th, Simon says he's honoured to be part of its amazing journey.



## James Friend

James Friend has been part of Radio Wey since 1994, rekindling his love of hospital radio from his earlier days at TLF Radio in South Devon. He began by collecting requests on the wards and values teamwork—especially when things don't go to plan. Now Director of Digital Strategy for NHS London, health challenges limit his time on air, but he says there's nothing "unfortunate" about contributing however you can. Off air, James is a churchwarden, charity trustee, and active in the Dorking Society. He enjoys Jim Reeves and The Carpenters. He says Radio Wey remains vital in keeping patients connected.



## Joe Sandell

Joe Sandell has been hosting The Joe Show every Tuesday for six months. At 18, he joined Radio Wey after spotting the studio during a hospital visit and thinking, "I want to present a show in there." A proud West Ham fan, Joe recently finished his A-levels and is off to university – but still shares music, stories, and smiles on air. A memorable moment: leaving his mic on while loudly unwrapping Haribo! Off air, he captains his college football team, catches gigs, and plays Diana Ross and Bruce Springsteen. As Radio Wey turns 60, Joe says: "Even one smile is good enough for me—thank you to everyone who listens!"



## Jamie Reynolds

Jamie Reynolds joined Radio Wey in April 2023 after 11 years at Hospital Radio Frimley Park. He hosts a weekly show of Sing-Along favourites and Golden Oldies, bringing energy and warmth to every broadcast. With early experience at Eagle Radio Extra, he came to Radio Wey to grow his hospital radio skills and has loved the friendly, professional vibe. A standout moment: calming a nervous guest with an Eric Morecambe-style throat-grip mime! Off mic, Jamie plays Korfbal, and his favourite track is One Love by Blue. As Radio Wey turns 60, he thanks Andy Brown and all his colleagues – and looks forward to many more.



## Richard Lightbody



Richard Lightbody has been with Radio Wey for four years, hosting Richard's Music Odyssey every Saturday afternoon. His show blends '70s favourites with modern gems, rooted in his love for music and radio. When not on air, Richard works as cabin crew out of Heathrow and takes great care in crafting each two-hour show. A highlight was co-hosting Eurovision specials with Maria Lopiano. A big fan of soul, his favourite track is Never Too Much by Luther Vandross. Congrats to Radio Wey on 60 incredible years—here's to many more!

## Rob Day



Rob Day has been with Radio Wey for 35 years, inspired by visits to St Peter's Children's Ward and a background in youth drama and mobile DJing. He combined his tech skills with a love for entertaining and values the camaraderie of the "happy ship." A standout moment: co-hosting a joint request show with a retired firefighter, broadcast to two hospitals simultaneously. Now retired from the fire service, Rob stays active in amateur dramatics and local council work. On air, he focuses on listener requests to keep each show fresh. Thanks to all the staff, patients, and listeners – here's to many more years of Radio Wey lifting spirits!

## Chris Ashbey



Chris Ashbey has been with Radio Wey since April 2019, playing a lively mix from '60s classics to current hits. He joined to "do something different" and brighten listeners' days. He enjoys the variety of requests and the surprises they bring – like announcing "Dick Turner and Dougie Graves" on a joke request. Off air, Chris plays bass in a band and dreams of hitting the big time. His motto? "I'm stuck back in the '80s, but I also love to rock!" As Radio Wey turns 60, he thanks every volunteer and listener who makes the magic happen.

## Maria Lopiano



Maria Lopiano has been with Radio Wey since the late 2010s, presenting a lively themed show with uplifting tracks. She joined after spotting the TARDIS outside the studio and thinking, "I had to give it a go!" With a background in entertainment – including West End dancing, Mamma Mia!, and global events – Maria brings showbiz sparkle to the airwaves. In 2024, she appeared on ITV's My Mum, Your Dad with daughter Livia. She fondly recalls co-hosting The Young Wey and says the best part of Radio Wey is the supportive team. As the station celebrates 60 years, Maria sends "a massive thank you to everyone at Radio Wey—it's such a special place."

## Dave Eacott

David Eacott has hosted Midweek Music Mix every Wednesday since August 2024, blending blues, classic soul, and indie rock. Originally from Welling and now in Weybridge, he joined Radio Wey after retiring, keen to share his love of music and connect with the community. A lifelong guitarist and Welling United fan, he enjoys featuring artists beyond his usual playlist. "It's a real privilege," he says of playing meaningful requests. Off air, David is learning Spanish, plays tennis, and chases down gigs. As Radio Wey turns 60, he invites everyone to get in touch: "Your songs bring the show to life!"



## Pete Adams

Peter Adams – aka The Mayhem Master – joined Radio Wey in 2021, returning to his pirate-radio roots after a 50-year career as a chartered accountant. Inspired by seeing patients light up during NHS work, he now brings rock and laughter to Rock This Wey, Fridays from 8–10 pm. His shows feature Queen, Sweet (a nod to his old neighbour Brian Connolly), and plenty of mayhem. He loves the camaraderie—and once hunted under studio lights for Alan's missing glasses. Off air, Peter enjoys picture framing, photography, sunshine in Spain with his "plastic Paddy Passport," and tracing family roots through genealogy.



## Warren Fox

Warren "DJ Fox" Fox joined Radio Wey less than a year ago, inspired by the comfort radio gave his wife during a hospital stay. Wanting to give back, he launched Foxy's Soul Den—a weekly dose of ska, reggae, soul, and his must-have "Northern Soul Five." He's always early to chat with Jimbo and still chuckles about the time a sneezing fit sent his glasses flying into the console mid-show! Off air, Warren and his wife Maria travel the UK for Northern Soul nights with their rescue greyhound Freya. Whether he's out walking or digging up new "proper bangers," music is always at the heart of what he does. Happy Anniversary to our brilliant station—and a huge thank you to all our listeners!



## Emily Small

Emily Small has been with Radio Wey for nine months, hosting Breakfast SmallTalk every Monday from 10–12. Her show blends lively chat, throwback tunes, and fun features like the week's random national holiday. She caught the radio bug at Exeter University's Xpression FM and joined Radio Wey to pursue broadcasting. A favourite moment: accidentally saying the station had been on air for "nearly 50 years" instead of 60! Off air, Emily enjoys running, the countryside, and the coast. She especially loves the throwback hour. Looking ahead, she's excited for Radio Wey's next chapter and hopes listeners keep tuning in.





## Fiona Ward

Fiona Ward joined Radio Wey in 1998, inspired by a newspaper article and a dream of broadcasting. After nearly 27 years on air, she stepped back in April 2025 but remains part of the station family. Living close by, she devotes her time to radio and choir, and credits “the lovely people at Radio Wey” for making every visit a joy. A treasured memory is catching a plectrum thrown by an artist she’d interviewed at Woking Theatre. Off air, she sings with Rock Choir and enjoys the blues. As Radio Wey marks its Diamond year, Fiona sends her warmest thanks.



## Andy Brown

Andy Brown has been part of Radio Wey for 38 years, working mostly behind the scenes. He produces News Hour, records Hospital Watch updates, and supports outside broadcasts. He first joined to combine his interest in radio with helping patients—and still enjoys the unexpected, like starting a show mid-sneezing fit! A highlight was winning Gold for Best Male Presenter in 2013. Off air, Andy enjoys walking, cycling, and baking. For Radio Wey’s 60th, he celebrates the dedication of all volunteers and looks forward to many more years of service.



## Brian Oatley

Brian Oatley joined Radio Wey in March 2024 and has spent 15 months sharing a vibrant mix of music to lift patients’ spirits. His love of music began with taping the Top 40, later leading to DJing, electronics, and 12 years as Station Engineer at Radio Hillingdon. Now retired, he aims to “bring a ray of sunshine to an otherwise cloudy day.” He enjoys the surprises of live radio – like scrambling for a new opener. Favourites include Bowie’s Life on Mars and Queen’s Don’t Stop Me Now. He congratulates all Radio Wey volunteers on 60 years and thanks every listener for tuning in.



## Jan Brown

Jan Brown has been with Radio Wey since 1990, starting on the Children’s Show and now hosting a nostalgic programme with music and news from the ’60s to ’80s. Her radio journey began in Australia, guest-presenting on a community station. Back in the UK, she joined Radio Wey “because I enjoyed it so much” and still values easing hospital stress through entertainment. A favourite memory: a 24-hour broadcast marathon – waffle maker included! Off air, Jan enjoys travel, photography, arts and crafts, and staying active. As Radio Wey turns 60, she’s “delighted and proud to be a member” and wishes everyone a wonderful celebration.



## Simon Boyle

Simon Boyle has been with Radio Wey for 15 years, drawn by a desire “to be around music again.” A lifelong musician—he’s played guitar, mandolin, harmonica, and piano—he brings that passion to his broadcasts. He enjoys making listeners smile, like during a live interview that turned memorable when a guest’s phone rang mid-silence. Off air, Simon enjoys art, theatre, and live music. His favourites are guitar-driven pop and rock. To mark Radio Wey’s 60th, Simon shares his motto: “Smile and the whole world smiles back.”



## Anita Reynell



Anita Reynell has been with Radio Wey for nearly four years, hosting the Friday Brunchtime Breakfast Show—the highlight of her week. She loves collecting requests, chatting live, and mixing feel-good tracks with patient favourites. A fluent German speaker and trained singer, violinist, and pianist, she previously spent 20 years as an international flight attendant. Anita now teaches singing and performs with the a cappella group Academix. She once chatted away off-air for 18 minutes! As Radio Wey turns 60, Anita salutes her fellow volunteers and thanks listeners for being part of the magic.

## Pete Bray



Pete Bray has been with Radio Wey for 48 years, sharing his passion for music and upbeat energy. He's done it all—presenting, managing admin and finances as a trustee, and keeping the tech running. A highlight was hosting the final hours of Radio Wey's FM licence with fellow volunteers. Off air, Pete once flew light aircraft and now enjoys travelling. A devoted ELO fan, he says their music has all the joy and variety he needs. For Radio Wey's 60th, Pete sends "a huge thank you to everyone involved—especially our listeners, without whom we're just blowin' in the wind."

## Steve Chambers



Steve Chambers has been with Radio Wey for 19 years—even continuing remotely from Dorset! After retiring from a 34-year British Airways career, he took his wife's advice to "get different music out there." He's presented two shows a week, served on the committee, supported events, and now records MiTunes from home—blending jazz, classical, folk, indie, world, and chill. His voice also features in station announcements, ads, and travel docs. Off air, Steve enjoys travelling, reading, walking, and the gym. As he says: "Well done to Radio Wey for being, I believe, older than BBC Radio 1!"

## Mike Maingard



Mike Maingard joined Radio Wey in April, though his love of music began in 1972 with a youth club record deck. He's known the station since 1979 and was drawn by its non-commercial freedom—"no playlist to follow, so I can just be me." He's already delivered themed shows like his VE Day special and enjoys sharing anthems like Music Is My First Love by John Miles. Outside the studio, Mike enjoys fantasy novels, cooking, gaming, and travel—a passion from his years abroad. He's delighted to give back by brightening hospital days with the music he loves.

# wey back then



2025 marks 60 incredible years of Radio Wey. What began as a simple idea between two friends in the 1960s has become a vital part of the patient experience at Ashford, St Peter's and Woking Hospitals – and a much-loved institution across our local community.

The story began with Alan Timbrell and John Best, who visited patients in Weybridge Hospital and recorded their favourite music on tape to play back on the wards. What might have seemed a modest act of kindness quickly grew into something far greater. On 5th October 1967, the very first live broadcast aired from a purpose-built studio in Weybridge Hospital, transmitted through Bakelite headphones – later replaced by plastic tube “stethoscope” systems.

There were no studio kits back then. Equipment was built from scratch using radio hobbyist kits. Still, the

station thrived. The original team of three presenters delivered 13 hours of live programmes each week – and enthusiasm quickly spread through hospitals in the region.

By the early 1970s, Radio Wey had expanded its reach through GPO telephone lines to Walton, Ashford, Ellesmere, St Peter's, and Woking Victoria Hospitals. In 1970, a new link to the Stompond Lane football ground enabled live match commentary, first broadcast on 11th October 1970 – a tradition of sports coverage that continues to this day.

By 1971, the station had 23 volunteers



producing 30 hours of programming each week, with a mix of ward requests and specialist music shows. In 1973, a major upgrade included a new mixing desk and studio equipment – marked with a special launch day featuring Terry Wogan, Noel Edmonds, Johnnie Walker, Tony Brandon, and Keith Skues.

In 1978, Radio Wey became a registered charity (No. 275620), and in 1984 moved from the original Weybridge studio – affectionately nicknamed “the shoebox” – into a former telephone exchange at St Peter’s Hospital. After extensive fundraising and renovations, the new studios were officially opened by Sir Cliff Richard.

As technology advanced, so did Radio Wey. The 1990s and 2000s saw a leap into digital broadcasting, with the introduction of the Myriad playout system, replacing shelves of vinyl and CDs. By 2007, the station was broadcasting online, reaching care homes and even listeners overseas.

In 2008, Studio 1 was fully refitted to match the upgrades of Studio 2. These refurbishments cost over £40,000, supported through fundraising and a huge team effort from the membership.

Outside the studio, Radio Wey has long been active in the community. A dedicated outside broadcast caravan enabled the team to support fetes, events, and hospital open days –

raising awareness and essential funds for the station.

As the NHS landscape evolved, some smaller hospitals closed, and coverage became focused on Ashford, St Peter’s, and now Woking Community Hospital. The core mission, however, remains unchanged: bringing comfort, distraction and connection to patients through sound.

One enduring part of our programme schedule is the Sunday “Good News” service, now broadcast live from the new chapel in St Peter’s, thanks to permanent cabling installed during construction of the A&E wing.

Now, in 2025, our 60th anniversary brings not only celebration but exciting transformation. Our new Radio Wey app (available on iOS and Android) gives listeners more flexibility than ever, including live listening and on-demand interviews. On our website, a new “Now Playing” feature displays the current track in real time – with plans to launch a listener request chart later this year.

Behind the scenes, volunteers now benefit from a refreshed Members Area, online training guides, and a new Index search tool to access physical and digital media more easily. We’ve also modernised our telephone software, integrated into the studio handsets for smoother caller interaction.



On air, our sound has been re-energised with a brand-new jingle package, two distinct voiceover styles, and even the introduction of celebrity voiceovers, all contributing to a sharper, more engaging listening experience. It's part of our refreshed station branding – echoed in this very magazine, with updated presenter profiles and a clean new look.

Today, Radio Wey has 41 dedicated members, delivering over 90 hours of live content every week, and all of it powered entirely by volunteers. From admin and production to IT and outside events, every aspect of the station reflects care, effort and community spirit.

We've celebrated national honours including Hospital Broadcasting Awards and proudly received the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, recognising our commitment to improving wellbeing through entertainment.

From reel-to-reel to real-time, Radio Wey has adapted to every wave of change while staying true to its purpose – to bring music, comfort and companionship to the bedside.

As we mark 60 years of Radio Wey, we thank every volunteer who has made it possible, and every listener who's tuned in. Here's to the next chapter – and to continuing to be the soundtrack to recovery, reflection, and resilience.





# Training and recruitment



**Radio Wey is run by volunteers and our recruitment activity ensures that we have a flow of people joining our ranks. The starting point for most people is the website where you will find the form to express interest in joining the radio station. It's under Support Us -> Join Us. Though we have had people join us following our outside events.**

Radio Wey is a charity and all of the volunteers are members of the charity. We are also all registered as volunteers with the hospital trust. As a hospital volunteer the trust will carry out DBS and reference checks, as it is expected that you will visit the wards to meet patients and collect requests.

We run our recruitment events periodically when we have had a few people apply. These events are a chance for you to find out a bit more about Radio Wey. It also helps some of the committee members to meet you to understand your experience and motivation. Don't worry if you haven't been involved in radio before, we have lots of experienced members who can help. Some of our members have 60 years of experience. While most people join looking to be presenters, there are many other important roles that we need help with.

While we are not looking for experience we are looking for commitment. Training people to be able to operate to the required standards does take some time. Presenters are often on air within a few weeks. Having a presenter role with a show does mean having the same time each week for your show slot. As well as the time to prepare the content. Unlike commercial stations our presenters are producers as well, not just talking to a predefined playlist.

If you are interested in assisting in other areas such as studio engineering, fundraising, public relations (social media), outside events or another area that we may find useful, please also consider applying to join. We are always happy to have a chat.



**We have lots of experienced members who can help. Some of our members have 60 years of experience."**

# Training

## and recruitment

Once people join as members they undergo a comprehensive training programme. Like any activity presenting a radio show requires many different skills. Some of these are technical, some of them softer. We train and practice on the operation of the technology we use to broadcast. Like driving, practice makes many of these skills automatic. Being able to push buttons and talk at the same time is important. But no more complicated with practice than talking to a passenger whilst driving. We also cover the softer side, how to structure and prepare a programme. Tricks and tips when presenting and interviewing. How to interact with people around the hospital and ward visiting. At the end of the training process new members are ready to go "On Air" for the first time.

For our more experienced members, things do change in the studios and with the station overall. We run training events for specific knowledge transfer when it is needed. This may be for a new piece of equipment or a new way of doing things in the studios. For example when we converted the studios to digital operation we retrained all members on the new equipment. We are always happy to run small one to one sessions for specific learning and coaching.

### WANT TO APPLY OR EXPRESS AN INTEREST IN JOINING?

Visit our website [www.radiowey.org](http://www.radiowey.org) and look under the 'More' section for 'Join us'. There you will find all the details as well as our application form.

Unfortunately, as we are volunteers, we are unable to offer any work experience or similar at Radio Wey as we are unable to meet the criteria that these schemes require.



# hospital information

## your guide to Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals



### VISITING

Visiting times vary from ward to ward so please ensure you know the visiting times at the ward you wish to visit before coming to the hospital.

Most inpatient wards at Ashford, St Peter's and Woking Hospitals have visiting times between 2:00pm-8:00pm.

There are exceptions though so for specific ward information regarding times and direct telephone numbers go to <https://ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk/patients/visiting-the-hospitals/visiting-times>

#### Please:

- use the hand gel when entering and leaving the ward.
- respect other patients and keep noise to a minimum.
- no more than two visitors at the bedside and only bring young children if you really need to.
- help us minimise infection – don't visit if you are unwell, use the chairs and please don't sit on a patient's bed.
- do not use mobile telephones, cameras etc in patient areas.
- only bring in essential items for patients to keep areas clutter free.
- do not bring in flowers for patients (fruit, chocolate and biscuits are fine).

- do not use physical violence, verbal aggression or threatening behaviour towards staff as this will not be tolerated.
- your relative or friend may have agreed for you to ask questions about their condition or treatment – if you wish to speak to a member of staff please ask at the start of your visit so this can be arranged.

### FACILITIES:

#### Cafes

We have launched new catering and retail services at Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals, with some major improvements to patient food, and a wider range of food and goods available to visitors and staff.

The new food offer for outpatients and visitors includes an exciting range of portable items, with fresh juices, filled wraps, salad pots, paninis and baguettes. All our facilities offer fresh bean to cup coffee, a range of fruit and herbal teas and freshly produced food.

Our vending machines offer a range of beverages, confectionery and ready meals. We hope you enjoy the new improved facilities and services, and make the most of our local area loyalty card offers.

## WHSmith SHOP

Situated in the Main Entrance, featuring grab-and-go snacks, sandwiches, fruit, snacks, cold drinks, newspapers, magazines, books, cards etc.

Mon to Fri: 8am to 7pm

Sat to Sun: 10am to 4pm

Vending facilities are available in the following locations:

- Level 2 main entrance:  
Costa coffee and cold drink.
- Level 3 Duchess of Kent opposite the lifts: Snacks, cold drinks & hot and cold food (microwave facility).
- Abbey Wing ground floor:  
Coffee, snacks and cold drinks.
- Accident and Emergency: Costa coffee, cold drink and food.
- Rowley Bristow: Cold drinks and snacks.

## PARKING

Like most hospitals, we have to charge for using our car parks. However, we do have free 20 minute pick up and drop off time at our hospitals. We also offer a number of concessions as well as a scheme for eligible patients to claim back their parking and travel costs.

Details of parking, the charges and concessions can be found at <https://ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk/patients/getting-here/parking>



# Chaplaincy

## Available at your bedside

You may meet someone from Chaplaincy during your stay in Ashford, St Peter's or Woking hospitals. We are a team of chaplains and volunteers who support the wider healthcare team in offering additional pastoral spiritual care when our patients or their loved ones request it.

Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals have a multi faith worship centre open daily for the use of patients, staff, volunteers, visitors and friends.

At Ashford Hospital, the Centre is to the left of the main hospital entrance. Each centre has a Multi Faith Prayer Room equipped with prayer mats, sacred texts and faith symbols. You will also find a Chapel and a Quiet Room. There are ablution facilities for those who observe ritual washing before prayer and purpose designed shoe racks for those who remove footwear. The centres are available for private prayer and quiet reflection.

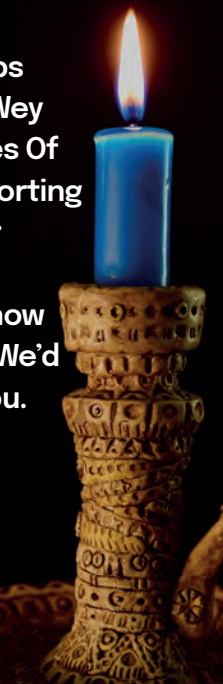
On Radio Wey, we broadcast Good News, a weekly programme of religious music and thoughts at 9:00am every Sunday morning.

Many of our patients cannot visit the centres but appreciate an opportunity to receive prayer, sacraments or blessing at their bedside. If you would like a visit from a Chaplain, please ask someone to leave us a message on **ext 3324** or **01932 723324** if calling from outside the hospital.

If your request is urgent, ask someone to contact the hospital **switchboard dial 0** from an internal phone or **01932 872000** from outside to speak to the on-call Chaplain.

“

We are proud to work with the healthcare team and with voluntary groups such as Radio Wey and our Leagues Of Friends in supporting you during your hospital stay. Please let us know if we can help. We'd love to meet you. God bless you.”





# Community helpline directory

HELP • SUPPORT • ADVICE

## HOSPITALS

St Peter's Hospital	01932 872000
Ashford Hospital	01784 884488

## POLICE

Surrey Police	101 (non-emergency)
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111

## FIRE & RESCUE

Surrey Fire & Rescue Service	01737 242444
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## COUNCILS

Surrey County Council	03456 009 009
- Adult Social Care	0300 200 1005
- Children's Social Care	0300 200 1006
- Schools	0300 200 1004
Runnymede Borough Council	01932 838383
Woking Borough Council	01483 755855
Elmbridge Borough Council	01372 474474
Spelthorne Borough Council	01784 451499

## HELP LINES

Age UK (Surrey)	01483 503 414
Alcoholics Anonymous	0800 9177 650
Alzheimer's Society	0330 333 0804
Childline	0800 1111
Citizens Advice Bureau (Addlestone)	01932 842666 / 827187
FRANK (Surrey Drug and Alcohol Care)	0808 802 5000
Give Blood	0300 123 2323
Mind	0300 123 3393
NHS 111	111
Relate	0300 100 1234
Action for Carers	0303 040 1234
Samaritans (UK)	08457 909090