



Media Release

For immediate release

Date: - 22/1/2015 Attn:- Regional Affairs Editor

Regional TV Australia Web Project seeks out Regional Television History

A website and YouTube channel, *Regional TV Australia*, is seeking out Australia's regional TV history by conducting interviews with former regional TV workers.

To date, the website has briefly covered the GMV 6 Shepparton reunion, and an interview with former GMV 6 and GTV 9 reporter, Brian Smith is also available on their channel.

“We are seeking to get in touch with those who worked in the industry”, Michael said. “The way regional areas are serviced by their stations was very different to the way it is done now and a lot of these people have great stories to tell about their time in the industry” The website has received quite a bit of positive feedback for its efforts in presenting this material. Also on the website are a selection of old regional TV clips, including anniversary specials from GMV 6 Shepparton and BTV 6, Ballarat.

Wayne Collyer, a resident of Shepparton, has a collection of ex-GMV 6 technical equipment, and proudly carries the nickname of “Steptoe” at his local Amateur Radio Club. He also has a keen interest in what happened in the early days of the local TV station, and he has assisted Michael greatly by researching and conducting some of the interviews. His equipment is packed up high in his garage, awaiting the day space can be found locally to put it on display.

Michael Costello is a resident of Melbourne, but he has fond memories of watching the independent regional TV stations BCV 8 Bendigo and GMV 6 Shepparton on family holidays near Echuca. He remembers the days when the stations produced a lot more of their own material, and he enjoyed watching the locally made content and regional news broadcasts. “Sadly, with the coming of the Aggregation process, most if not all of this local content is gone, but by talking to people who were involved in the golden days of regional television we are helping to preserve its memory for future generations.”

Michael also ran a brief campaign to get a Community TV Trial running in Shepparton. “It is sad that the government won't consider any more broadcasts of Community TV, because it would be a great opportunity to restore local TV in regional centres throughout Australia”, he said.

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Web links: www.regionaltv.org , www.youtube.com/regionaltv

Photos of Michael Costello, Wayne Collyer and equipment are available on request.

Wayne Collyer may be available for interview on request to Michael.