



**Gloucester FM
Report 2015 - 2016**

Acknowledgements

Jacky Francis
Chris Maltby
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Carol Francis
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Diamond Hair Salon
Jamaica National UK
KM Repographics
Gloucester City Homes
Gloucester City Council
Gloucestershire County Council
The Treddy
Walls Club
Irish Club
Elevation Nightclub
The Big Vic
Mr Mohammed Jaffer

Thank you to Everybody that participated in delivering GFM to the community of Gloucester and Online right across the world.

Thank you also to the supporters, Sponsors, and especially the listeners and community of Gloucester

Dear Members

At the 2015 AGM, I accepted the member's nomination of becoming Chairman of GFM 96.6. Prior to this I have been with GFM for 14 years as a DJ Presenter and Vice Chair for 1.5 years back a few years ago. I have to admit I was very uneasy about becoming Chair for numerous and obvious reasons. But GFM needed a Chair as the licence extension needed to be submitted. No licence, No GFM, no one did step forward, so I did.

It's a very challenging role, which is impossible to grasp and learn the information needed to maintain & grow GFM overnight. Never less I buckled down and got to work. I'm also in full time employment working nightshifts.

The first 3 months of my tenure was very difficult, the workload increased immensely for me and the Management team, and tasks needed to be balanced out. Three of the management team were only months into their new roles but still needed to learn and adapt very quickly to the demands of their role and tasks. There is no manual on how to run and keep GFM going for this long, there are many guidelines on how GFM works but there is always the human factor - everyone is different.

Within a few weeks it was clear GFM was very weak financially and would struggle greatly over the coming months. The Management found many tasks challenging, but went above and beyond on many occasion with a few members to generate funds and maintain GFM While the licence extension application was submitted. With any change in leadership there will always be a transition period and grumbles from a few members, they all have ideas to save GFM, in truth only a handful of members help with behind the scenes tasks.

In January an appeal was made to the listeners of GFM for donations towards a new Streaming PC and we gratefully received over £500 for the new PC. The listeners continue to make donations great or small, every bit helps GFM. When GFM needs help, the listeners always deliver. Thank you for your continued support and donations.

On 11 February 2016 Gloucester FM was awarded a licence extension for another 5 years. GFM still continues to make history in Gloucester; our listenership has expanded to many Different communities near and worldwide and GFM extends gratitude and respect to Volunteers, Listeners & Supporters who have brought GFM to this point. Long may it continue.

The good news did not last long as the management realised very quickly, with very low income and outstanding bills to pay, GFM is in danger of closing, in the current financial climate, and GFM was not self sustaining. During February & March, GFM finances took another hit, we had a good month with income from various advertisers but GFM had to resolve rent arrears with the landlord.

Because of this the Management served notice for an Emergency General Meeting to advise members of GFM's financial status and options for the future. The meeting displayed concern and passion throughout. Many ideas were suggested, but the same issues arose which most voluntary organisations suffer with, is actual volunteers needed to step forward and help if they can. We are all volunteers and can only do what is physically possible. Some can only dedicate time for their shows, some help behind the scenes, some have knowledge and Information, some have links to organisations who could advertise with GFM. In truth, we could all do more to save GFM's future.

The meeting was not positive for many reasons, the criticism directed at the management team for GFM's situation is unfair, and we can only do, with what we have. There has just been a change after 16yrs of leadership from the previous chair. Any new management team will need time to adapt. I had major doubt continuing my role as Chair, and informed members of my intention to step down from the role. I reversed my decision a few days later after advice from a good friend and discussions with the management team. It seemed a

few members frustrations were long time coming and chose that time to do it. The main point from the meeting is members voted for GFM to continue, even if we go in the red. The Management team turned negatives into positives, and it re-ignited their strength and passion needed for GFM's future. I conducted an interview with the Citizen and addressed the listeners regarding GFM's financial status and future.

In April the Gospel at the Treddy event took place, a much needed fundraiser organised by The GFM Gospel Team. On the night were Gospel DJ's, Singers, the Angels and Jamaican Patties on sale. The event was attended well and everyone enjoyed the night. GFM donated T. Shirts for raffle prizes. Funds generated amounted to over £400, On behalf of the GFM Family I would like to thank Albert Gardiner, Vere Richards, the Gospel team and many helpers for their efforts and passion to raise funds for GFM. Thanks also to Ras Head for the use of his Sound system for the event and the Treddy for the use of the hall. It was good to see children wearing GFM T. Shirts in the community again.

In May the Gloucester Community Day event at the Irish Club took place with proceeds going to GFM. This event was organised by Roger Mitchell. On the day was music, Jerk/BBQ, stalls, bouncy castle and a Fire Engine. Despite a low turnout, it was a nice enjoyable day for those who attended. On behalf of the GFM Family I would like to thank Roger Mitchell, Donovan (BlackStar Sound), The Fire Service, Irish Club, volunteers and DJ's for their efforts and passion to raise funds for GFM, Thank you also to those who attended.

GFM generated funds through many events including comedy festivals, Tarrus Riley, local + bristol/birmingham adverts. In the previous month new literature was created to capture new advertising income. Sadly a fundraising Carwash was cancelled due to not enough volunteers available to help during the bank holiday weekend.

In June the Northern Soul event was cancelled due to concerns it would not generate good income for GFM. With any event there will be expenditure and the organising team felt the timing was not right and will look for an alternative date for this fundraiser. Also other northern Soul events planned either side of GFM's event was a major contributing factor. Whenever GFM puts on an event, promoters always try to entice partygoers with their events. On behalf of the GFM Family I would like to thank the Northern Soul team for their efforts.

Also in June Tahira Haq presented donations to GFM totalling £87 by simply collecting via family and friends. On behalf of the GFM Family I would like to thank Tahira for her efforts.

Also sadly Carol Smith left her position as GFM Assistant Treasurer, to pursue other interests. Carol also had concerns about the criticism levelled at the management team. With Carol leaving, GFM is weaker, here skills and knowledge was excellent and needed. On behalf of the GFM Family I would like to thank Carol Smith for her efforts and dedication.

With two cancelled events, June was a grim month for income, the management team stepped up the advertising campaign on social media to try and offset this. Also during these months the usual Ofcom licences were due. This drained the pot to very low levels. July fared much better with advertising and another 2 fundraisers.

On Sunday 10th July 2016, Mutsa Muzenda embarked on a unique fundraiser for GFM. Mutsa informed the management previously he was entering the Gloucester 10k race to raise funds for GFM. Training and Sponsorship commenced including interviews on BBC Radio Gloucestershire. Mutsa gave regular updates on social media on his training progress. The GFM Family went above and beyond to promote and support this fundraiser.

Mutsa completed the Gloucester 10k Run in 1 hour and 5 mins, He completed the race in a bright green one piece masked suit, branded with GFM's logo Mutsa then presented My Tunes at midday, in the green suit, encouraging listeners to donate to GFM. Mutsa then went for a stroll, still in the green suit, around a local shopping complex with a donations bucket.

Mutsa Muzenda raised £1655 for GFM running costs. On behalf of the GFM Family I would like to thank Mutsa for his continued passion, effort and dedication for GFM.

You are an inspiration and an example on how the simplest of ideas can be successful.

Thank you again MutsaWhat's next :)

Also thanks to John Mustoe for support, pacesetting and "catch him if he falls" duties on the day. John was participating in the race, raising funds for charities.

Also during July West Bromwich Albion Striker Tyler Roberts visited the Sportscafe team at GFM for an in depth interview. Tyler is no stranger to GFM or Gloucester. He was born and raised here and have visited the Sportscafe show many times over the last two years. Local boxer Akeem "Riiddy" Brown along with Local trainer Jon Pitman visited the Sportscafe Team on the way to winning a British title.

On 16th July 2016 GFM attended the Podsmead Funday organised by Josie Betton @ Melting Pot. Myself, Junior McCalla + Glen Brown played music throughout the day, this is the second time GFM has provided DJ's to play music at the funday, It is important GFM keeps this link, the day is packed all day long and it's important GFM is seen to be active at community fundays like these. On behalf of the GFM Family I would like to thank Josie Betton and team for their efforts and passion organising the Podsmead Funday for the community.

On 23 July 2016 GFM celebrated 16 years on air and 10 years broadcasting 24/7 with a party at Elevation Nightclub. GFM Birthday Bash "Summer Roast or Fry" was very well attended by over 240 partygoers raised £1502.

On behalf of the GFM Family I would like to thank DJ's Cage, Kaos, Heat, Danger, Richie, Fyah and the GFM Family for their efforts/time/skills/patience on this event. GFM hopefully will be having a summer party in 2017. Thanks also to Neil Bath & Elevation Nightclub.

The funds raised in July were used to clear bills and maintain no rent arrears. In August GFM had a good month regarding advertising including Beres Hammond & summer events advertisers. Preparations and early promotion started for the annual awards fundraiser on Saturday 1st October 2016. GFM in association with Lockdown Productions announced another event on the 15th of October. With GFM having 2 events in the same month, there were concerned the events were too close. But they are two very different events and both had the full support from the family.

On 6 August I represented GFM at the Church of God of Prophecy 's re-dedication service after recent repairs and a revamp of the church. On behalf of the GFM Family I would like to thank Pastor Charles Campbell and the members of C.O.G.O.P. for their continued support, prayers & contributions.

On 7 August, Jamaica's Independence Day was celebrated with the annual event in Gloucester Park organised by Verona Vidal. This event continues to grow each year. GFM provided support and Music. On behalf of the GFM Family I would like to thank Verona Vidal, GlosJam, DJ's, Black Ice Sound, BlackStar Sound and Volunteers for their efforts, passion and dedication. The day is always well attended by all communities and a brilliant and enjoyable day for all.

In September long overdue repairs to the office, with GFM up to date with rent, the landlord completed all repairs. Repairs also commenced on the main mixing desk and new streaming PC. GFM also announced it will be running our usual Accredited Training for radio presenters in October. Income was still low, it's been a miracle how GFM has survived up until now with many predicted it would fall in months.

On Saturday 1st October 2016 GFM held its annual awards fundraiser.

"We Lickkle, But We ...TALLAWAH" is a Jamaican term meaning Strong, Fearless & Determined and I decided to use this as the theme for the event. This year's event would

contain the elements of previous years but I had to sprinkle some Showtime on it. The event was at the Walls Club and I planned a night of Food, Praise, Recognition, Laughter & Music. Around 140 guests attended including Evadney Campbell M.B.E., The Sherriff of Gloucester Said Hansdot, Councillors Haigh, Gill, Lugg, Fearn, Coole, Tracey & Guests, The Mock Mayor of Barton C. Francis D. Francis, John Oldham, Bridgette Thompson-Smith, Leon Hamilton and the many friends and listeners of GFM.

The night was excellent and thoroughly enjoyed by all, and we also raised funds on the night with donations and a raffle. Verona Vidal excelled as compere, the food quality was good, the entertainment and performances of Aleighcia Scott, Rafeelya, Pink Panther, Praise and Worship, New Hope & Daddy English were Outstanding, pure quality and that's why they were carefully chosen. GFM had a budget for the entertainment, and I did not go over it. Thanks to all the artists who performed at no cost to GFM, or reduced fee. Special thanks to Father Rue who voiced parts of the advert, you probably don't realise But the advert was loved by all, even Vibes.net (London internet station) was airing it.

Community Link, Pioneer and Recognition Awards were given to J. Broderick, C. Francis, D. Francis, J. Oldham, C. Wallace, V. Vidal & M. Muzenda. On behalf of the GFM Family I would like to thank all that attended the event, a night I'm sure you will not forget, The Oldham Foundation, Jamaica National UK and Diamond Hair Salon for sponsoring the event. Thanks also to everybody who helped to make this event happen, including Ras Head who provided the sound system. Special thanks to John Oldham who also was commissioned by the BBC to record a feature including interviews on the event. This feature was broadcast on BBC Radio Gloucestershire twice. Thank you also to Charmaine Thomas for the Tallawah Cakes for the raffle. GFM raised £1082 in total. Charles Wallace was unable to attend the event, The GFM family and guests sent their Love and respect to you and your family.

Fundraisers generate income, but do not last forever; the income was used to clear some bills throughout October.

On 15 October 2016 GFM in association with Lockdown Productions brought Dancehall Finesse to Elevation. Legendary Reggae Selector Trevor Sax & Legendary Saxon MC's were performing on the night with DJ's Zeon, Kaos & Della Dread. Prior to the event, interviews with the Saxon MC's had been conducted over the week and Trevor Sax presented the Exclusive Reggae & Dancehall show on GFM. "Big Tings" as they say.

The night was busy, well attended. The artists and DJ's entertained all but due to another event on the same night, numbers were not as hoped for. With any event is expenditure and unforeseen issues, and unfortunately GFM did not receive any income.

On behalf of the GFM Family I would like to thank D. Francis, Lockdown Productions, Elevation, The DJ's and everybody who supported and attended the event.

With very low income, some bills at the end of October and over November need addressing. All repairs were completed and On behalf of the GFM Family I would like to thank Stantek Electronics, The Oldham Foundation and the Listeners for their contributions.

Also in November, The Children's Family Trust sponsored the Gospel weekend shows, Hopefully this will lead to regular income.

During November, GFM had to terminate the contract of the GFM App (android version) with Exaget. This was due to intended charges due to low amount of users.

GFM has had 1500 downloads of the App since May 2015, and around 75 users per week. GFM needed 200 users a week to qualify for a free monthly licence. The Apple version of the App will be available again in a few weeks. GFM is currently looking into other options. You can still listen to GFM online via our website or free radio apps.

In December will be another fundraiser, GFM : It's Christmas and we still...TALLAWAH. Promotion well underway using the Tallawah theme again. As of 22 November, GFM is still here, yes funds are very low, but I have a feeling GFM's financial woes will change after the Annual General Meeting.

During 2016 the Gloucester community lost loves ones who passed away, this year, like 2010, affected communities near and far. GFM also had two former presenters pass away, Chris Fordwah & Gus Ravacca. GFM continues to be the community's choice to deliver information to its listeners. On 6th November Gary. T, Emma Loveridge, Donovan Smith, Carlton James, Shaun Ebanks & Denys Golden did a tribute show for Nobby. Michael Clarke aka Nobby , who sadly passed away in October, was a legend in Gloucester and further a field. His passing touched so many hearts, our love and thoughts go out to the Clarke Family and friends.

At the AGM, I will stand down from my role as chairman; this will give the opportunity to those persons who have the power to save GFM, to do so. I steadied the ship, the new era begins now. I have had highs and lows during my time as chairman and would never swap it for anything, It has been an honour serving GFM in this role and still intend to offer help and assistance behind the scenes, and continue being a presenter. I am hoping new management team members step forward to help.

I would like to thank Carol. F, Jacky, Chris, Reg, Marc, Carol. S, Jerry, Vere and everybody else who has worked hard this year behind the scenes and to all the members, including the new presenters who continue to deliver Music, News, Information & Advice for GFM. Thank you all, Management Team, Members, Listeners, supporters, and many more.

GFM needs Pounds and Presenters to survive and the focus must be on that only. We are all here for one thing – Gloucester FM 96.6

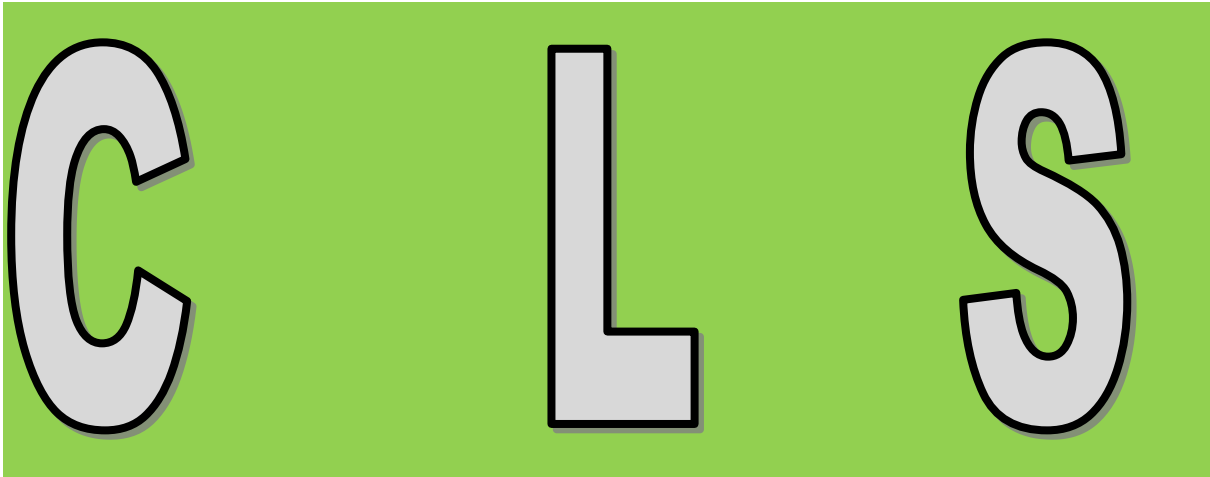
Yours Sincerely



Colin Riley
Chairman







Community

Link

Show

Report November 2015- October 2016

This past year has been difficult even harder than the year in fact it seems to be getting harder, what with less funding and the cut backs and with the shortage of volunteers I have found myself doing a lot of other jobs around the station. (Sounds familiar)

The Community Link Show continued to cover a wide range of topics and interviews.

Community Link Crew:

We have had new members join as well as members leaving. Jenny left the CLC to present her own show in a rota with Juicy 7-9 on a Friday evening, one sad departure was the Sudden death of Gus in March I attend his funeral. It has been very difficult to get young people to come forward and volunteer. At present the CLC are Julia, Francesca, Lettie, Sean Blackmore, Holly and Ashleigh. The young people show presenters are Ryan, Shehany and Matt and Mercedes White. Ryan and Shehany took a break because of exams and Albert presented the shows. I'm glad to say they are now back. Family Time Pastor Charles Campbell joined the team in March 2015 Because of his other commitments Pastor Crawford had to give up presenting Family Time. The Family Time team are: Pastor Namachana, Mr Saunders and Pastor Campbell

Training:

Last year I worked with Gloucestershire Association for Voluntary and Community Action (GAVCA) to enable GFM to do its own accredited for the training but because of costs GAVCA became the accredited body for GFM.



However the charity closed down end of May 2016 which meant I was back to square one trying to find an organising charity that would be able to accredit GFM's media training. I made contact with a few organisations and managed to enrol GFM with The Volunteer Network based in Somerset they work with awarding organisation Ascentis.

There has been internal training for all the new Community Link Crew and News Team.





Through funding from the Council GFM was able to deliver a week's media training to the community, again with the help of Kevin Philemon from Bristol's Ujima Radio,

GFM Delivered its annual weeks training In October 2016. We had 15 people registered. However on the first day 13 people turned up. This year seven of the learners were already volunteering at GFM and the others did not live locally.



News Team: Again as with the CLS C the news team we have had new members join as well as members leave. I was contacted by a, Daniel Woodward, who lived in Swindon asking to volunteer as a news reader He had volunteered with community radio stations in Swindon. He would record the news from his home and emailed it across in the morning this worked very well until Daniel found employment with the BBC and had to give it up. Pauline has return to the news team. Beth cahalan a student from the university has also joined the news team. She is able to volunteer while she is at university. However she goes home at holidays. The news team at present is Charles Pauline Beth and Shaun Moore when he can.

Grants: I applied to the following:

- The Holly Gazzard Trust but was unsuccessful.
- The County Council's Community Chest Fund and was unsuccessful.
- The Summerfield's Charitable Trust, after getting to the second stage was unsuccessful. However they did say if GFM received funding towards the training they would reconsider and as GFM did receive a grant from the City Council they are now reviewing the application.
- The County Councillor for Barton and Tredworth Activity Together Grant Fund. I applied for £3,380.00 towards the wages for the Community Link post and received £1000.00

- The City Councillors for Barton and Tredworth has also have a budget they can give to community groups in their ward. GFM received £500 to put with the funding for training.
- Zurich was successful received £1735
- Gloucester City Council Community Grant received £6535.

Misalliances:

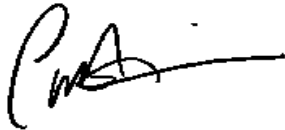
I have attended various meeting within the community representing GFM and trying to encourage more groups to use GFM as well as meetings with regards more funding. I have worked with the NHS Trust to re record the winning advert for dementia which has been playing on GFM. I know that through this project GFM has had some good publicity I met with Mark Hammond, Head of Careers and Employability Bridge Training Ltd and discussed amongst other things GFM running the media course for other interested students next year with Bridge funding it.

Visits to GFM Studio:

The new Corporate Director, Anne Brinkhoff. From Gloucester City Council
Andrew Sprosen, from Gloucester Academy.

Students from Gloucester Academy

As we go into 2017 GFM have to continue to raise fund to ensure the running of the station. The community & listeners have been very supportive. However, GFM needs committed volunteers for the Community Link Show and the News Team. GFM needs the Local Authority and Business to see how worthwhile GFM is to the community and invest in it. I will continue to apply for funding and promote GFM the best I can, and as members of GFM you too can help by promoting GFM in your place of work and your networks encourage friend, work colleague and family to volunteer with GFM and help to keep GFM broadcasting.



Carol Francis (Mrs)
Community Link Coordinator