



# **RADIO SKID ROW 2021 HIGHLIGHTS**

**A LOOK AT HOW FAR WE'VE  
COME**

**WWW.RADIO SKID ROW.ORG**

## **SKID ROW SHOUTOUTS**

- Adapted quickly to remote broadcasting with online training.
- Many Community language programs played an important role in disseminating covid information to the community.
- We launched a new website and shop
- All Station Sunday Zoom sessions were held to keep everyone connected
- Completed our NBN installation at both the Marrickville Studio and transmitter at Town Hall



**This report is dedicated to the memory of Tika Karki, founder and host of Himalayan Radio, the first Nepalese community language show in Australia.**

**REST IN POWER Tika and all the Skid Row family members we lost this year.**

**THE PAST FEW YEARS IN NUMBERS:  
1 PANDEMIC,  
2 NEW VARIANTS  
6 MONTHS OF LOCKDOWN  
& YET RADIO SKID ROW REMAINS  
RESILIENT**

**5000**

**Listeners on  
average tune into  
Radio Skid Row  
each week**

**50%**

**increase in listeners  
since the pandemic  
hit in 2020**

**36**

**programs stayed  
on air during the  
lockdown of 2021**

**400%**

**increase in  
sponsorship  
campaign revenue  
since 2019**

**94**

**sponsorship  
campaigns ran on  
air during 2021**

**70**

**Volunteers attended  
in-house online  
training**

# TECHNICAL UPDATE



We faced our biggest challenge in the history of the station and finally scored a victory when we transferred to NBN for our transmission during the COVID lockdown.

Much Respect to Raul Hernandez who had to coordinate with 5 companies to get the installation complete.

## STRATEGIC PLAN & AGM

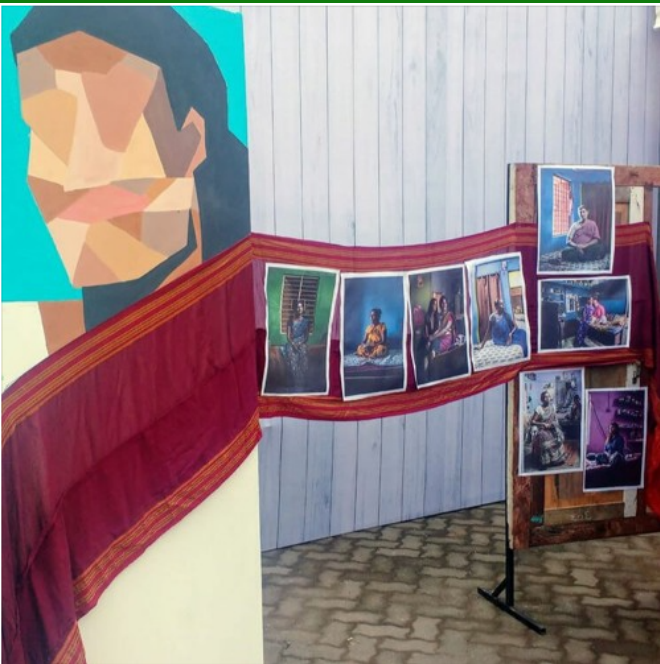
In a short break between lockdowns we all met in the Radio Skid Row yard to dream beyond the pandemic and brainstorm up a strategic plan.

It was a great day where we were able to begin to see the future. Key outcomes were that the station needs to stay pandemic ready both financially and technically.





# PANDEMIC RADIO



We continued to produce high quality features and documentaries about uprisings and revolutions around the world, the pandemic and the crisis in homelessness.

We kept communities informed about the quickly changing regulations and laws during NSW longest lockdown with a weekly Lockdown Breakdown that offered a useful alternative to the daily government press conferences.



Each week, we scrutinised the increased police powers to the public health response, assess the narratives of blame and criminality deployed by the state, and offer legal and community resources to help you get through lockdown safely.



# BREATH OF REVOLUTIONS



16 compilations from the resistance cultures of Sudan, Syria, Iran, Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon and Palestine. They feature songs, music, poetry, protest chants, speeches, street discussions and theatre clips. The content we shared is associated with different eras from the past 100 years of social and political struggle. It contains different themes and crosses many genres, and is in many languages.

Some of the tracks come from First Nations communities, and other peoples colonised and marginalised within the modern nation state. Many artists have reworked traditional and classical practices into much loved protest songs, and musical and vocal epics. Others use hip hop, and other more modern musical methods. Some of the music is anti-colonial and anti-Zionist, a lot of it is anti-capitalist, while other pieces engage with personal and everyday issues of suffering and social control.

The compilations features musical groups attached to radical collective struggles. In many of these tracks you will hear the historic hiss of cassette tapes, and defiant live recordings.

The Image used is by Palestinian artist, MOHAMMAD SABANEH



# ANYTHING GOES



The Anything Goes Team played a vital role in keeping the community informed during the pandemic.

The team broadcast daily from home. On Fridays, Lima had to get to a physio session before the end of the show so he presented using his phone to stream back to the studio in the car.

*"I used to sign off the show at the front door of the gym".*  
- LISTIC

As people living with disability, LISTIC and Sol were lifelines for many people who were struggling to navigate services that had 6+month wait lists or 5+ hours testing lines.

# COMMUNITY HUB

As community organisations struggled to connect with people during the NSW Lockdown, Radio Skid Row offered training and support in digital media skills to keep projects running online.

Partnerships included the NSW Legal Observers and Inner West Council History Week. With events cancelled around the state, Radio Skid Row worked with organisations to produce content that could be shared online. One stand out was production of a podcast to celebrate the multicultural childcare centre that has been in Addison Road for nearly 40 years.

Congratulations to the Inner West History team as they learned how to edit and record through our zoom sessions.



## **'Many little voices' podcast**

On the historic role of Addison Road multicultural childcare centre

## NEW MURAL

While everyone was broadcasting from home the station got a new paint job which included a new mural from Anthony Aitch, one of our artistic neighbours here at Addison Road.

**RADIO  
SKID ROW**



# HIMALAYAN RADIO: PASSING THE TORCH

In 2021 Radio Skid Row suffered a huge shock when we lost founder and host of Himalayan Radio Tika Karki.

As the first Nepali language show in Australia the community was stunned by his sudden passing. The station rallied around the community and his family to support them during this difficult time.

Much respect and gratitude to Sriya, Rasna and Naresh who stepped up after completing their certificate III to host the show and keep Tika's legacy alive.



[www.radioskidrow.org](http://www.radioskidrow.org)

Only On  
88.9 Mhz

Sydney Time @ 6pm

Sriya Rai

## TRAINING

We continued our Certificate III in Media course online and face to face when possible. Everyone passed with flying colours.

We started online training during the lockdowns to make sure people could stay on air from their homes.





# WEBSITE & SHOP



The new website has been launched! The shop is now live with Tshirts, Tote Bags and Hoodies up for sale.



## SPONSORSHIP

We have become a reliable source for sponsors during the pandemic. With our sponsorship income growing 400%.

This is in large part due to our community language programming and the government need to share vital information with people during the pandemic. Many agencies are returning to us because they love our high quality production and ability to record quickly in multiple languages.

Big thank you to all our broadcasters who lent their translation skills to building up our sponsorship income