



The boys are back in town!

The community focussed radio station which ran and operated from Bushey Hall School throughout the late 90's is set to make a return to your radio dial.

Silver FM ran for four Summer RSL (Restricted Service Licence) periods between 1996 & 2000 and now years later many of the students from the team have got back together to bring the station back for Easter 2015.

The station has been licensed by Ofcom and will broadcast on 87.9FM for the Easter Holidays. And the radio station will serve as a community platform for charities and voluntary groups to get involved and promote themselves, along with giving opportunities to students in the town.

Jon Moonie, Silver FM Head of Training, explains "We are aiming to give 7 teams of between 3 and 5 young people the opportunity to be trained and then broadcast the daytime radio programmes, across four of the five days we are on-air. We are now looking to invite local schools or other groups to put a team forward.

Jon, an original member of the Silver FM student team back in 1996 added, "We want to find young people who will become passionate about radio just as I did way back then and create a very special station for everyone in Watford."

School students or teachers from years 9-13 can get in touch with jon.moonie@silverfm.co.uk if they are interested in getting involved in this exciting project and want to know more.

The station will broadcast from 2nd – 6th April from the Bushey Sports Club on Aldenham Road, and will be a platform helping a number of local charities raise funds.

Silver FM History

Sometime in 1995, a bunch of students at Bushey Hall School (now Bushey Academy) asked the Headmaster, Mr Geoff Hunter, if they could set up a radio station. He liked the idea, said to leave it with him and off he went to talk to the team who had run the national Radio Cracker RSL in Harrow (one of them being a parent at the school).

They hatched a plan, and in July 1996 Silver FM went on-air for the first time. 87.7FM all across South West Herts. The station was on-air for a month; at the end of the school year; once the GCSE and A-Levels were finished.

From 6am till 8pm the children were in charge. They chose the songs, produced the features and ran the news team. In the late evening and over-night the adults, who helped put the station together, took over and presented specialist shows.

The pupils of Bushey Hall not only got a chance to be on the radio, but they were given a unique educational experience of working as part of a team that had the daily challenge of producing radio shows, being creative and learning about all aspects of the technology that make a radio station.

For the next two Julys, in 1997 and 1998, Silver FM returned with many more pupils involved. A final broadcast, which was just on-line, was done in 2000.

Since then, several students have gone on to take up careers in radio, but many simply took the practical life experience, grew in confidence and made new friends for life.

Wind forward 15 years, and those life-long friends met up, got to talking about the old station and wondered - could we bring it back and inspire the next generation the way they had been?

The Silver FM story continues...

SILVER FM OBJECTIVES

To promote local, community driven radio

To give children a dynamic and social learning experience and to participate in their local community.

To raise money for local charities

- ENDS -

For more details & enquiries:

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