

THE GOLDEN ERA OF RADIO IN AUSTRALIA

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The year 2023 marks 100 years of radio broadcasting in Australia. In May 1923 the Australian Government devised a restricted scheme to introduce radio broadcasting into Australia. The first radio station to be licensed under this scheme was in Sydney, on 1 July 1923. The curious thing about this restricted scheme was that the radio broadcasting stations were to be licensed to both broadcast and to sell radios. The radios were designed to receive broadcasts only from the radio station that sold the radio receiver. This scheme was subsequently altered to enable the development of radio broadcasting in Australia as it exists today.

The pre-television days of the 1940's and 50's were the heyday of Australian radio. Radio soap operas, serials, talent quests, quizzes and children's sessions were the main source of home entertainment.



7c Wireless Receiver & Speaker

FDI 21 Nov 1973. 50th Anniversary of Regular Radio Broadcasting in Australia.



FDI: 13 June 1991 Australian Radio Broadcasting. Images depict a variety of materials broadcast.

- 43c Talent Quests and Variety Shows.
- 43c Serials.
- 85c Quiz Shows.
- \$1.00 Children's Sessions.



Specimen \$1.00 depicting children listening to the radio.



FDI: 17 Oct 2023. Centenary of Public Broadcast Radio in Australia



FDI: 13 May 2014. Australian Ballad—*Clancy of the Overflow*. Serialised for radio. As a young child I listened to serials like this on the radio.



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