

Ian Devlin, BurnFM.com
Development Officer Nomination

About me

I'm the outgoing Midlands Regional Officer and have been involved in Student Radio for 5 years. I was part of the engineering team for three years (Head of Engineering for two), and assisted with the sourcing of equipment and installation of our new studio. I have also created the majority of the idents used on the station over the last two years and assisted the then station manager with the licensing requirements for an extension to our then limited RSL broadcast schedule. On his resignation, I briefly filled in as Station Manager for the three remaining months of the term, in which I was successful in gaining approval from the university to significantly extend the broadcast period. I have also assisted in securing two SRA award nominations, after both nominees requested my assistance with editing their broadcast output.

BurnFM.com had no known experience of outside broadcasting prior to 2007. The station held 2 outside broadcasts on consecutive days and I was responsible for the engineering effort for both events. As part of Hearing Aid 2007, BurnFM.com held a 12 hour live broadcast; I was able to ensure the success of both events by providing the required technical support and being on-site throughout both events.

Why me?

I have learned a huge amount about what SRA members in the Midlands require in my year as Midlands Officer. As part of my manifesto for the position I successfully created a monthly mailing list for the region, informing people of upcoming events, supplying important documents and dealt with many issues raised by the members in the Midlands. In particular, I have introduced two stations in the Midlands to Hearing Aid for 2008.

I was also asked to assist the exec in running a stand at the SBES trade fair, held at the NEC in Birmingham on the day before and of the awards in November. I ended up organising the entire event myself as a result of the exec being required to organise the awards. I was able to promote the SRA and the new projects to people from across the industry, including the Radio Magazine, the BBC, and OFCOM and visiting stations from across the industry.

I have learned a huge amount about radio broadcasting from previous conferences and Radio Academy Masterclasses. If elected, it is my intention to create a guide to broadcasting using my knowledge, to cover radio broadcasting in a student environment.

I would also like to make the SRA more transparent to its membership; from the various emails I received regarding the entry process to the awards, it is obvious that certain parts of the awards entry process are not clear enough to the membership. There are other areas where I believe transparency can also be improved.

It is clear that the student radio landscape is changing; since SBN collapsed in 2004, the SRA has gone from strength to strength, most recently by incorporating as a Limited Company. I want to be a part of that future and have the ability and time to dedicate to the position of development officer.