

## Julie McCrossin AM

### *Broadcaster, Keynote Speaker, Facilitator & MC*

Julie McCrossin is a veteran radio and television broadcaster who spent over 20 years with ABC Radio National, ABC TV and Network Ten. Julie spent five years as the presenter of Life Matters on ABC Radio National and five years leading a team on the comedy quiz show Good News Week on ABC TV and Network Ten. Julie has worked as a TV reporter for both the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and the Anzac Day Parade. She is proud to live in a country where it is possible to do both. Her favourite media experience was appearing as a Silent Clown called Plain Jane on ABC TV's Play School.

Julie was treated for stage four, HPV-related oropharyngeal cancer in 2013. Julie is an Ambassador for Targeting Cancer and TROG Cancer Research. She is a member of the advocacy group, Cancer Voices SA.

Julie has co-produced and presented a range of educational videos in partnership with cancer clinicians and advocates. Julie's recent video series include Talking To Doctors for Cancer Voices SA; the Head and Neck Cancer Video Series 2020/2021 with St Vincent's Hospital Sydney, St Vincent's Private Hospital and the Kinghorn Cancer Centre; and How Can We Improve the Patient and Family Experience of Radiation Therapy? in 2020/2021 with SAHMRI, the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute.

Julie became active in Gay Liberation at Sydney University in 1974. She attended countless demonstrations and was arrested many times. Julie remembers the gay activism of the 1970s and early 80s as a time of trauma, but also of comradeship and cathartic release. She says it was a joy to fight against the gross discrimination of that era before homosexuality was decriminalised in NSW in 1984.

Julie is a long-term advocate for marriage equality. When she was diagnosed with stage four throat cancer in 2013, Julie asked her partner of over 20 years, Melissa Gibson to marry her. In 2014, Julie and Melissa married in Manhattan in the presence of their two adult children, Luke and Amelia. Julie and Melissa are now happy grandmothers to their granddaughter Billie and grandson Jude.

Julie has qualifications in the arts, education and law. In 2019, she was awarded a Member of the



Order of Australia for significant service to the community, particularly through LGBTIQ advocacy roles and to the broadcast media.

Julie gets people talking. After 20 years as a presenter with ABC Radio National, ABC TV and Network Ten, she is now a freelance broadcaster, podcaster and MC.

## Client testimonials

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“ You did a mighty job keeping presenters on track and animating and energising our audience... Of particular note was your expertise and good humour.

- *ACR(National Industry Association for Disability Services).*

“ Excellent preparation and attention to detail. Great audience and panel rapport.

- *Association of Regulatory and Clinical Scientists*

“ Julie was extremely well-received by our audience. Her legal training, media background and her obvious sympathy with human rights issues made her not only an excellent MC, but also a wonderful advocate for us.

- *Amnesty International*

“ The Human Rights Unit would like to thank you very much for facilitating the The State of Human Rights panel event. We really appreciate the work that you put into becoming very well informed about the Charter and how it operates. You did a great job of ensuring that the event was interesting to everyone in the audience - from those with no knowledge to those who were very well informed.

- *Victorian Department of Justice*

“ The hypothetical was brilliant and Julie McCrossin was excellent. She used her sharp wit, expert knowledge to engage the panel and audience in a very topical issue which resulted in many of the participants having a greater understanding of the sentencing procedure.

- *Law Society of NSW*

“ I think that you added an extra, important element that is often missing from conferences - some life, personality, breadth of knowledge, and with a good dose of personal touch. It was a wise move to get you involved.

**- 3rd Regional Acquired Brain Injury Conference**

“ Very worthwhile. Lots to be learnt from others, skills and knowledge. A lot to take away. Julie was a very good facilitator, humorous style, confident speaker and keeps you awake. Thank you very much.

**- DEST**

“ Many thanks for a brilliant job! I can't thank you enough for your fluency, professionalism and enthusiasm. The interviews in particular with the award winners and the Living Books were fantastic. It made the event far more interactive.

**- Sydney City for the Mental Health Association NSW**

“ She did her research and was able to lead thought-provoking discussions with some of the most senior industry representatives.

**- National Prescribing Service (NPS)**

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