

CHESHIRE FREE RADIO ORGANISATION

Alfred Quillian W50

P.O. BOX 11, BIRKENHEAD, CHESHIRE, L42 9QG

from : Phil Price.

*Phil Price*

A member of the European Radio Association supporting free radio

Area Organiser: Phil Price

Telephone enquiries: 051-608 3735

EUROPEAN RADIO ASSOCIATION, E.R.A.

An organisation has recently been set up, called the "European Radio Association", which includes all the free radio movements on both the Continent and Great Britain. The Cheshire Free Radio Organisation is included in the new organisation, and a recent issue of the magazine "Rally" has been commemoratively produced in conjunction with the Southern Independent Radio Association, and includes the Free Radio Campaign, the Offshore Radio Campaign, Brighton Independent Radio Movement, Southern Free Radio Campaign, and others.

With the prospect of the Dutch Marine Offences bill being passed in the very near future, it is more important than ever right now if all the free radio movements should amalgamate to fight this; For the coming of such legislation can only mean the final blow to the offshore pirates, and then we will have lost the last remaining radio ships in the North Sea. Several of the free radio movements have announced that should the Dutch bill become law, resulting in the loss of RNI, Seagull, and Veronica, they will close also. There have been rumours that the ships will continue to operate from further afield, such as Spain, but only with increased difficulty, and it is doubtful if this situation could last for long.

At present, the situation seems delicately balanced for the future of the Radio ships, but the Dutch are not as willing to let their source of entertainment disappear as, perhaps the British were in 1967. The issue of free radio there could well be a major political one, so we shall have to wait to see if this is a turning point in free enterprise radio. Meanwhile, we shall certainly continue to keep you informed on the latest events, and endeavour to answer your questions.

International Free Radio Information Service

This service has been set up in conjunction with the free radio column in "Record Mirror" and CFRO have been asked to contribute to their article with local news. If any CFRO members would like to help in sending information to them, they can do so by sending it to us, or to the Free Radio Information service, at :

40, Ivor Court, Gloucester Place, London, N.W. 1 6BL.

Record Mirror is now called "Record and Radio Mirror", and CFRO can recommend this paper for all the latest happenings on the radio scene, both in free enterprise and commercial radio.

\*\*\*\*\*

ROUND AND ABOUT : News of stations medium and short wave

Radio Maghull heard recently broadcasting on 98 MGHZ ?? ; Strange noises and the theme tune "Caroline" by the Fortunes heard on 104MGHZ VHF on Merseyside on 23rd September; Radio City, now broadcasting on 6240 KHz heard on 30th September, talking to a station called "Penine Radio" on 225 metres medium wave! ..... The wonders of radio; Radio Venus with 30 watts heard on 6220 Khz ; Wirral station operating on 7100KHz heard during late September---seems as if the short waves are becoming very busy; Radio Rhonda, Radio Tina, and Radio Free Wirral among stations mentioned in a recent article of Record Mirror; Mysterious telephone call from "Charlie" of Radio Aquarius to CFRO headquarters gave a Poynton telephone number which turned out to be the wrong one! Radio Lancashire, (the mystery station), is now believed to have changed its name to Radio Aquarius, who used 227 metres medium wave, on Bank Holiday Monday, with a power of 50 watts--- information on this was from a CFRO member in Cheadle, Cheshire. Anybody heard any other station?.. Let us know for the next "Round and About" section.

\*\*\*\*\*

CFRO SMALL ADS SECTION

ANYTHING to sell?? What are you waiting for: Drop CFRO a line to :P.O. Box 11, Birkenhead, Cheshire, L42 9QG, and we will insert your ad. FREE!

\*\*\*\*\*

EXCLUSIVE RNI PHOTOS taken around the MEBO LL recently, for sale from CFRO address. SAE for details, they are reasonable prices. (15p and upwards).

@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

SIRA (Southern Independent Radio Association), have a new magazine out soon. Only 25p, it is really packed with all the latest events in free radio. Write to: SIRA, 91, Park Street, Horsham, Sussex.

@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

DELTA DISCOTHEQUES : For any occasion, they are very reliable, and reasonable. For details, 'phone us at CFRO, or direct to DELTA DISCOS, 051-652 8215.

\*\*\*\*\*

CFRO wants TRANSMITTER diagrams. Good prices paid for good circuits. Send to : Technical Information , CFRO, P.O. Box 11, Birkenhead, Cheshire., L42 9QG.

RADIO CAROLINE stickers now available to members, very reasonable in bulk. SAE details.

\*\*\*\*\*

BEHIND THE SCENES.....BEHIND THE SCENES.....BEHIND THE SCENES.....BEHIND THE SCENES...

Well, what have we in this new section of the newsletter, you may ask?...Read on: Does anyone remember RADIO CAROLINE TWO, who broadcast on 243 metres in 1969, and claimed they operated in support of the North West Free Radio movement? They used to say that DAZ (The blue whitener?) were their sponsors, and a mysterious DAVE TERRELL was the DJ, also from old RADIO RHONDA in 1969: Rumours have it that RADIO CAROLINE TWO operated from Aigburth in Liverpool, and was later also RADIO LIVERPOOL, (NOT Radio FREE Liverpool), which was on the air last year. Dave Terrell, however, now emigrated, or has anyone any further info?..... Chrissie, June, (from Moreton), and George, (from Ternway, Moreton), are free radio enthusiasts who should drop CFRO a line.....What are the test noises on 243 recently? ACFRO investigator is monitoring the airwaves!, .... Dave Kaye, Tony Davies, and Gerry Casey are three DJs with something in common: They are all land-based pirate DJs!.....Eric Day, a well known free radio enthusiast, now working on a disco, seen at Don Allen's Blackpool night out recently..... Has anyone a copy of "Broken -Hearted Pirates" or "Bring back the pirate-stations/ We love the pirate stations" by the Roaring Sixties? CFRO need them urgently.....Recent raid on Radio 225 a direct result of TV interview on Granada's "Newsday" for station operator; Bad news for publicity of free radio, isn't it?.....Don't forget :Veronica moet blijven! Omdat IK dat wil (whatever that means!).....Radio Tina transmitter caused so much trouble recently, operators nearly threw it out of the window!.....CFRO technical information required from amateur/ham enthusiasts on good TX design..... Whilst Manx Radio are, in our humble opinion, a fairly good commercial station, it seems a pity that their DJs are so restricted with their programmes and time of broadcast..... Rupert's Club seems like a dj's paradise, with loads of mobile DJ operators there from the Wirral: Definitely the best Club in Birkenhead says CFRO.... ....More "Behind the scenes" info next time.

THE BIG WIDE WONDERFUL NIGHT OUT AT BLACKPOOL WITH DON ALLEN

Saturday, 6th October, 1973, turned out to be quite an interesting evening, with plenty of interesting faces around. The four-course meal started off proceedings about 8.00pm, with a menu including tomato soup, Fillet of Sole Bonne Femme, Roast Fylde Chicken, and Apple tart, with coffee to follow, all nicely served up at the Park Hotel. Those present included Don Allen, (Of course), Sandy Allen, Bill Crisp, (from Manx Radio), Senita, (The receptionist from Manx Radio), the full complement of the 259 gang in days of Radio

CONTINUED.....

## INTERNATIONAL SNIPPETS

RNI, Seagull, and Veronica, lashed by gales in the last week of September, have managed to survive somehow. The aerial mast of Radio Seagull and Atlantis, on "Mi Amigo", was badly affected by the storms, and hung precariously over the side of the ship at one stage, and plans to erect a temporary aerial were soon underway, and the station resumed transmissions, at reduced power.

With the impending bill to be passed by the Dutch Government later this year, it will be interesting to see what the plans are for RNI and Veronica, and how many of the present DJs are going to have "Cold feet", and make the move now, with the idea of coming in on the commercial radio scene in this country, which is about to thrust itself upon us.

Several moves between DJ's on the radio ships, including the Peace Ship, have been taking place, and it will be especially interesting over the next two crucial months. Let's hope that Christmas will be a time to give free radio yet another lease of life, and not a time when we could lose it forever.

## CHESHIRE AREA: LOCAL LAND-BASED PIRATES

Well, with the risk of being skinned alive by local station operators, Phil Price will now endeavour to outline the latest events in local "Free??"radio:

Radio Tina has been heard making some very weak, distorted broadcasts on 238 metres, and we believe that some improvements are imminent to make the signal better, and to increase the power. We also hear that the location of the station has been altered from broadcast to broadcast, to baffle authorities!

A surprising day in local free radio was Sunday 16th September: With three stations making very loud noises on medium wave: Radio Rhonda, on 235 metres, came on the air at 11.55, and a programme by the mystery "Voice", was heard until 12.35, when the station went off the air, after playing a closedown theme. As usual, the programme and signal strength were both good, apart from some distortion in the first ten minutes of the show. Noticeably, jingles and fading-in were very good, too.

At 1.00, after a long absence of strong signal, Radio 222 were received at CFRO, and were on the air till 1.45. Tony Davies, the DJ of the show, also gave Radio Rhonda a verbal QSL over the air, and CFRO was indeed mentioned several times during the broadcast. (Well done!).

INCREDIBLY LOUD and distorted, at 12.40, the same day, came onto the air one ESTUARY RADIO, on 217 metres, with a two hour show until 2.40, which was introduced, (Live, we presume), by a DJ called Dave Kaye, who took us through the two hours with what was a rather over-modulated show. The signal strength was very good, though. However, we haven't heard any further broadcasts from this station yet, nor Radio Rhonda. Both stations used the Southern Independent Radio Association as a mailing address, as did "Radio Free Liverpool" last year, and as most of the land-based stations are doing now. Estuary radio also mentioned CFRO. (Anyone would think we pay these stations for the plug!). (Who said we did??).

Several carrier waves have been received locally on medium wave, particularly on 225 metres, and of late, on 243 metres. Also, Beatles records have been played at intervals on 243 metres. The frequency of 243 was last used locally when Radio Rhonda first came on the air in 1969. Could they be planning a return to this frequency? We shall wait and see. Radio 222 have also been received strongly at CFRO, with some sporadic broadcasts, as seems to be the best thing to do to avoid the Post Office.

No further sign of Radio 225, Radio Free Liverpool, or Radio Free Wirral, all of which seem to have sunk without trace.

We believe that plans are afoot, however, to start a local land-based station of fairly high power, compered with those at present on the air.

\*\*\*\*\*

DON ALLEN'S NIGHT OUT (Continued)

Caroline, including Ann Fogg, Sheila Stirzaker, etc., Brian Cullen, (Delta Discos and ex-RNI), Eric Day, and Ronnie Dee, (Radio Caroline Disco), and of course, Phil Price from CFRO! Before and after the meal, Don Allen said a few chosen words, introducing all those present to the fifth get-together of the Don Allen Fan Club convention. Sandy Allen was doing an excellent job in keeping their baby girl Caroline under control, whilst Don made sure that everything was proceeding well.

At about 10.00pm, the guests were invited to listen to the sound of the Radio Caroline discotheque, which had travelled all the way from Liverpool with their "Caroline ship" to do their thing at Don's night out. Eric Day's sister, Sylvia, looking very charming, too, if we might say so!

Ronnie Dee played some records and jingles till 10.30, when Eric Day took to the mike with swinging sounds till 11.00pm. Bill Crisp was asked to play some country music at this point, and after trying out the disco equipment, he gave us his country music special show till 11.30, when the bar closed. Everyone seemed a little disappointed that the evening had not been planned for a longer night,, but after 11.30, Don Allen came up on stage, and brought a little party spirit in by arranging a knobbly knees contest! Amongst those "Knobbled" were: Brian Cullen, Bill Crisp, and later even some of the ladies. Everyone began slowly to leave after the music had subsided, and Don wished everyone all the best untillthe next meeting.

Altogether, the evening went quite well, but perhaps it would have been better if it had lasted a little longer, and perhaps been planned out for later in the evening. All the very best to Don and Sandy for a great night from Phil Price and all CFRO members.

\*\*\*\*\*

CFRO MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES: NEW MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

Because of all the enquiries from members recently regarding when they need to renew their membership, or whether they need to pay any at all, we have decided that as from the new year, January, 1974, all members who have not already paid their 25p must send it to us by January 1st, 1974, and they will also receive a new membership number. At present, we have a letter and number system of membership, depending on the area you live in, but because this has become somewhat complicated, especially since we have also used letters to represent listeners to particular stations, we think it is better to have a more simple system. Everyone in the Cheshire/Liverpool area will have a letter "C" in the membership, and those elsewhere in the country will have a letter "R". Whilst CFRO is primarily an information service, and can provide mainly snippets of local and international news to its members, we think the 25p annual membership is sufficient membership, and we hope you will encourage your friends to join, and also to help us compile future newsletters by sending in information.

@@

STOP PRESS.... STOP PRESS.....STOP PRESS....STOP PRESS....

Beatles records heard on 41 metre band on Sunday, 14th October, (About 7100 KHZ)..... Received at CFRO this week: Magazine produced by "RADIO ECHOS", in French language which was translated by CFRO experts!... Mailing address is: "B.P. No.3, 7870 Deux-Aeron, Belgium", and the editor is C.L. Vandaul, and the magazine outlines mainly international events in free radio, including Radio Atlantis, Nordzee, and Veronica, as well as "Bref historique de la radiodiffusion en France", and "Dernieres nouvelles des radios pirates", if you are good at French! .....Radio Tina heard on 238 on Sunday, 14th October, between 11.00 and 12.00 noon, and also Radio Rhonda testing at 12.00 noon.

Articles for CFRO newsletters/ Reception reports on local stations

Don't forget that if anyone has any articles at all on radio, or would like to relate their story of a free radio station, we will be pleased to accept your articles for our future newsletters. Also, CFRO can be used as a mailing address for local free radio stations occasionally, and if you require this service, drop us a line. Please do not mark the envelope with the station name, though. Keep tuned in, and have fun!

\*\*\*\*\*