

CHESHIRE FREE RADIO ORGANISATION

P.O. Box 11, Birkenhead, Cheshire, L42 9QG.

Your CFRO  
Number:

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Date:

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| 8/4/73 |
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*Alfred William  
from Phil*

LOCAL NEWS

Since the beginning of the year, there has been very little activity in local land-based stations. The main reason for this is because of the continuing presence of the authorities tracking devices since the raids last year on "Radio Free Liverpool", on 217 metres. A former operator from this station has also recently been prosecuted over some transmissions in Liverpool last year with Radio Free Liverpool. It is now over five months since any broadcasts have been heard from the station, and at the moment, things look bleak for the future of the station. It is very difficult to obtain aid for a station which has been tracked down, and even though Radio Free Liverpool gained quite a large amount of public support, it seems that yet another blow has been taken by free radio enthusiasts.

RADIO 222 has been on the air recently on Sunday afternoons from around 1.00 P.M., but broadcasts have been spasmodic, and of differing duration. DJ Tony Davies has asked for reception reports to be sent to CFRO, and we have received several letters indicating that the transmissions reaches approximately 5miles in radius. The mail concerning the station has been from the Wirral and central Liverpool. If you tune in to Radio 222, (1352 Khz), you might hear some rather way-out records, also! The signal strength and modulation seem to be fairly good by comparison with other local stations.

RADIO FREE WIRRAL, as reported in the last newsletter, has been making some test broadcasts on 214 metres, (1408Khz), but at present, we believe that they are having some trouble with the aerial design, and some modifications have been necessary to the transmitter. We hope to hear more of this station very shortly, and we would appreciate any reception reports for this station, as well as any others you can receive.

RADIO RHONDA, (227 metres), have also made some broadcasts recently, after a long absence, including a commemorative broadcast for Radio Caroline on March 3rd at 10.00 in the morning. Again, broadcasts have been sparse, with several test broadcasts, but overall, the signal strength and modulation seem reasonable. The station also used Box RR, at Southern Independent Radio Association as a mailing address for reception reports.

RADIO 225 have been making a few late night transmissions,(As usual), and only test signals and tones have been heard. The last one before going to print was March 21st at about 12.00 midnight.

Surprisingly, the move to short wave land-based stations has increased, and several stations have been received locally, the best up to now being Radio Gemini, on 6220 Khz, and with a supposed power of 150 watts. No doubt those of you with a good short wave receiver can pick up many short wave stations all over the country. A "Trio" receiver has been recommended to us for short and medium reception. Last weekend, before this newsletter was printed, a very good reception report was given to us for Radio Caroline of Dublin, on 227 metres, (1324Khz), which had apparently increased in power.

If anyone receives or hears of any new or existing stations on the air, we would very much like to hear from you here, and perhaps if you run a station yourself, we can pass on some comments on your broadcasts from people who listen to the air waves frequently.

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RADIO JACKIE, (LONDON), ...Apologies!

In the end of year newsletter, we featured an article by member number A51 on "King" radio, in which he stated that several ex-Radio Jackie DJs had been used on the station. Radio Jackie's Mike Knight has since pointed out that this is not so, and that the article was a fabrication. We would like to apologize for this, and ask for member A51 to write and tell us what it is all about, or better still, Radio Jackie!

NORTH WEST FREE RADIO CAMPAIGN

Since the January newsletter, we have still come no further towards an amalgamation with the Free Radio Action Movement of Romiley, but it now appears that F.R.A.M. have joined with N.E.F.R.C., and discussed a formation of N.W.F.R.C., which will envelop F.R.A.M.. We will certainly keep you posted on events which the Free Radio Campaign are proposing, and we hope that some sort of unification of all the free radio groups will help the cause of free radio.

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Cheshire Free Radio Organisation Advertisements.

Southern Independent Radio Association, 91, Park Street, Hershaw, Sussex, produce an excellent magazine every season. CFRO can recommend that you read this, for 25p, it is really full of all the latest news.

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LIVERPOOL FREE PRESS... for the news you're not supposed to know!

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SHAKESPEARE CLUB, Fraser Street, Liverpool, on April 9th for one week: Olivia Newton-John. Further details from CFRO or telephone the Shakespeare directly.

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The BIG WIDE 'N' WONDERFUL WORLD OF DAFFY DON ALLEN produces a regular newsletter with all the latest events about Don and free radio. We have enclosed a membership form with this newsletter, and would invite you to join this as CFRO members.

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COMING SOON: In conjunction with CFRO... The Phil Ellis Discotheque. A radio-styled discotheque with lights, all the latest records and Golden Oldies. Ideal for parties, weddings and all occasions. Watch for further details in forthcoming CFRO newsletters.

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RNI car stickers, red, self adhesive, 5p each. Also other stickers at your request. Please write with S.A.E. for details.

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CFRO thanks to the following people for their regular reception reports and help in compiling some of our newsletters: Gerry Glendinning; Eric Day; Anne Burnett; John Davies; Alan and Barry.

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CFRO Membership Problems

Quite recently, there has been a decline in incoming mail to us, and even some of our longstanding members have omitted to drop us a line. If you know of anyone who is at all interested in free radio or the pop music scene, please ask them to write. Lack of support is not what we need, and if we could boost membership, we might be able to increase the size and scope of this newsletter. If you can help us, then we can help free radio.

It has been decided that in order to boost memberships, regular advertisements will be placed in the musical press. Advertisements are expensive, and therefore, we will reluctantly have to introduce a small annual membership fee of 25p, which will cover all the newsletters and news bulletins throughout the year. We shall also issue you with a new membership number after you have paid the 25p, which can be sent to us after April 1st. So if you know of anyone who would like to help or join us, ask them send for details.... We need the support!

Any articles or comments on this newsletter or the free radio scene can be sent directly to: Phil Price, CFRO, P.O. Box 11, Birkenhead, Cheshire, L42 9QG.

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Article Sent in by CFRO Member, Chris McWhinnie, of Upton, Wirral.

Mini-Power Short / Medium Wave Transmitter

Want to be on the air in half an hour with 0.25/0.5 watts? This small, easy to build transmitter will cost less than £1 if you buy from inexpensive component dealers.

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Components required are : 330ohm resistor; 27Kohm resistor; 0.047uf capacitor; 0.0015uf capacitor; 100 pf capacitor; Transistors BC159 or OC45 or OC44. Coils: of 30SWG ..18turns on 1/2inch Diameter former(With slug); 5turns close wound on top of the first coil; and a 2.5 mH RF Cheke. All the power you need are two batteries: 6Volts DC from a PP8 ; 3 Volts DC from two HP7 batteries.The total cost should be around 50p tef1-50, depending on where you buy the parts.

If you are interested in building this TX, CFRO can put you in touch with the author of the article, or we can send you a circuit diagram ourselves. Don't forget the SAE. Sorry we can't print the diagram and constuctional details, but alas, lack of space.has caught us out again!

RADIO CAROLINE TRANSMITTER IMPROVEMENTS

Since Radio Caroline returned to the air waves, reception reports have not been too good. We have had reports about the power, some saying it is 10Kilowatts, others saying 20, and some 50! Well, according to the musical press, a 50Kilowatt transmitter is at present being brought into working order, and modifications to the aerial are also taking place.At CFRO, the reception is still very bad, and RNI's signal comes in loud and clear here. We would appreciate your comments on the signal from Radio Caroline, and also RNI. Please include the exact location you are listening from, the type of receiver, the type of aerial, and whether you are listening to RNI on short or medium wave.

CFRO Note to Don Allen Fan Club Members

We are sending all CFRO members a membership form for the Wide 'N' Wonderful with this newsletter, and we would also like to thank Sandy Allen for sending Don's fans some of our newsletters. Also, in Don's latest newsletter, an article from us has very kindly been included.

Free Radio Addresses

Radio Caroline: P.O. Box 2448, The Hague, Holland.  
RNI: P.O. Box 113, 8047, Zurich, Switzerland, / Postbus 117, Hilversum, Holland.  
Free Radio Campaign: 12, Queen's Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, NE2 2PP.  
Radio Jackie, (London), C/O 77, Burleigh Road, Sutton, Surrey.

Radio 222, Radio Rhonda, Radio Free Wirral, Radio 225, etc, all can be contacted through us if you have any queries or reception reports. We can sometimes arrange for such stations to send you QSL cards, but mostly, they can only send you a postcard with transmission times and frequencies included. Please drop us a line if you would like further details.

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Newsletters and Bulletins

In the past, when there has been a lot of free radio activity, we have had trouble fitting all the news into one newsletter! There have been other times when we really have trouble filling only two sheets. If you have any ideas or articles, we would be grateful for them, and if we can't use them right away, we may be able to use them at a later date. One thing is for sure, and that is that the newsletter will not be delayed because we are waiting for news to include in it! If everything goes to plan, we hope to be able to increase CFRO and free radio interest on the Wirral and on Merseyside in the next couple of months.

Amateur Radio Enthusiasts.

As well as free radio enthusiasts, several "Hams" have also shown some interest in free radio. we would welcome their comments, and also criticisms of free enterprise radio.

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That's just about all for this newsletter, so until the next, tell your friends to write, and do your best for free radio.

PHIL PRICE ( Area Organiser )

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