



RADIO EIREANN :

Despite recommendations to the contrary by the Broadcasting Review Committee, RTE are to go ahead with their Cork experiment in Local broadcasting which is to get off the ground again this Summer. The IRM has recently been asked to contribute to a possible forthcoming RTE programme on alternative radio, although nothing has been finalised so far.

RADIO NORTHSEA INTERNATIONAL :

Due to dissatisfaction with the uncertainty that has been surrounding Radio Northsea's future RNI has lost two of their most popular DJs, namely Rob Eden and more recently Graham Gill. Both have since turned up on Radio Caroline. Graham Gill has been replaced by a friend of Don Allen, Jason Wolff (ex Radio Caroline North) while onetime Caroline DJ Norman Barrington is also joining the station.

RADIO CAROLINE :

Possibly the most powerful and certainly the most popular station now, Caroline has added many new names to its lineup in the past few months including David Gotts while Johnny Jason and Rob Noakes have both recently returned to the station.

RADIO ATLANTIS:

This station has been inaudible for some time, but, on the night of June 25th, it was heard with an excellent signal on the usual frequency of 964 kHz. An interesting information sheet was recently received at the IRM office, together with other information ... nice one, Atlantis...

RADIO PICADILLY :

"Picadilly" is now heard very clearly here in Dublin on 261 metres. The lineup includes DJs Stevi Merike and Roger Day (both ex-Caroline). The format is mostly Top Twenty and LP tracks with the station featuring a star and his music for a week eg Gary Glitter recently. The station's advertising is mostly derived from local contributors.

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RULES OF THE IRISH RADIO MOVEMENT -- APRIL, 74

1. The Committee of the Movement shall consist of its President and Secretary and other active members.
2. The Committee shall meet once a week.
3. The Movement shall operate on the principle of consensus.
4. The membership subscription shall be 50 pence per annum.
5. The Movement and its activities shall be deemed to be a separate entity from that of its individual members and their activities.

PRESIDENT: Kenneth Sheehan, 406, Mourne Road, Drimnagh, Dublin, 12.

SECRETARY: Mark T. Story, 31, Heidelberg, Ardilea, Dundrum, Dublin, 14.

A copy of these rules has been lodged with Allied Irish Banks.

The Irish Radio Movement has been in existence for about a year now. We should, perhaps, take stock of the situation as regards the Movement and ask ourselves where do we go from here?

The position is this: We have the framework of an organisation. And it is functioning to a certain extent. But it could be improved. As they say, there's always room for improvement!

The question is sometimes asked - well, what has the I.R.M. achieved? And it has to be admitted the answer is not clear-cut. There are actual achievements and intangible ones which are just as real nonetheless. For example, the Movement has served to put engineering types, so to speak, in touch with those who are non-technical in outlook, but who are nevertheless interested in radio - mainly on the production angle, and who might otherwise not have come into contact with each other. I would say that the Valleri function is an example of this.

On the other hand, there is the newsletter itself. John Dowling and others do sterling work here. But we have stressed before that we would all like to see more members contributing to THE MEDIUM. I believe all contributions are welcome - even critical ones! Your editor will confirm this and he is the one to contact in connection with this aspect of the movement's activities.

On the administrative side, the roles of the Secretary and President are still not as clearly defined as they might be. Broadly speaking, the Secretary should attend to most of the routine administrative tasks, and the President should, as implied, give a lead. It seems the biggest single problem is how to reconcile the various widely differing viewpoints of members. It was for this reason that we thought the idea of concensus, rather than a simple majority decision process, was the best course for the Movement to take.

It might well be a good idea to hold a general meeting this summer to discuss the situation. One member has informed us that he may be able to obtain the use of a hall for this purpose, and that all we have to do is name the date.

To sum up, each of us has his own pet theory or interest. Some still believe in "land-based" operation despite the danger of postofficeitis - not a pleasant complaint, I can tell you! Then there are the "off-shore" radio enthusiasts. And, of course, there are the DX-ers. My own bag is that there should be some form of overseas broadcasting service, ideally an independent licensed organisation should undertake this task.

Let us hear from you then - and keep your powder dry!

KEN SHEEHAN

I have received a letter from one of our Dublin based members who states that "feeling is pretty high here against certain members and their behaviour." Now, the reason for this "feeling" among "certain members" has not been made clear to me by this member. Nor have I received any letters from these "certain members" spelling out their grievances, real or imaginary. As you are already aware, the Movement is being operated on the "principle of concensus", and we may not be aware of YOUR views unless and until you write to us. As our President has pointed out in the article above all comments, even critical ones, are welcome and they should be sent directly to the editor, and I guarantee that all views will get an airing. You will see, therefore, that there is nothing to be gained by simply stating you are "dissatisfied", and then failing to spell out in detail the reasons for the dissatisfaction! Now, it's over to YOU for your views!

JOHN DOWLING

This station commenced transmissions, under the name Radio Exide, on 6230 kHz on February 16th and 17th last. Ten days later, the station received about a dozen reports from Britain and Europe. Other test transmissions also received encouraging reports. The first regular programme of Radio Kristel was broadcast on Sunday 3rd March last on short wave. Before that Radio Kristel had been transmitting to London and the south-east of England on 1520 kHz. These medium wave transmissions have now been abandoned, and there has been a full merger with Radio Exide, so that the staff can concentrate on broadcasting to Europe.

Now, some quotes from Radio Kristel's interesting monthly newsletter "K7 NEWS": "The programme format is designed to attract short wave listeners and free radio fans, with a backing of pop music - old and new. We try to include a variety of articles, items, technical tips and radio topics, and, as weeks go by, these will increase. As we are still feeling our way, the programmes are often unorganised, but this situation will improve. At the moment, our programmes are between 10 and 11 hours G.M.T. every Sunday morning, but sometimes Sibalius Grumbleweed "does his thing" between 11 and 12 hours G.M.T.

GENERAL PROGRAMME GUIDE

10.00 - 10.30 G.M.T.	Music programme with Chris Wain, Paul Parker, Gerry Fox or Mike Hunter.	
10.30 - 11.00 G.M.T.	DX Programme with Chris Wain	10.35 - Equipment Review 10.45 - Radio News 10.50 - DX Monitor
11.00 G.M.T.	CLOSEDOWN <u>or</u> "The Sibalius Grumbleweed Show" until 11.30 or 12.00 G.M.T.	

The station's announced frequency is 6230 kHz, but more often than not the station is off that frequency in order to avoid interference. A number of crystals are being tested and when a reliable frequency is found the station will remain there and change the announced frequency.

At the moment, Radio Kristel uses an ex-army 62 transmitter which has a power output of around 7 watts. A new high power rig is now being built and will be put into use within a couple of months. This should boost the signal considerably. The aerial is about 50 feet long."

As I have stated, the above are extracts from the April edition of "K7 NEWS", the editor of which is Peter Law. Until recently, the mailing address of Radio Kristel was Box K7, S.I.R.A., Horsham, but, with the recent re-organisation of the S.I.R.A. the station now has a new address - Box A2, 40, Ivor Court, London, NW1, 6BL.

The station has been noted here at 0900 hours G.M.T. on Sunday 23rd June with a very clear signal. At 0903 hours I noted the ending of a DX programme, so the schedule above may be slightly out of date now, but, nevertheless, it should give a good indication of what may be heard on the station.

Some of the IRM members have already received honourable mention in the Radio Kristel newsletter - Pat Callaghan from Ballinasloe and John Campbell from Cambridge. Your editor also managed to get his name into the newsletter!

The latest information from Radio Valleri is very interesting: Included in their last batch of mail was over 40 reception reports, about 50% of which came from the continent. The station has now received its first report from Belgium, and reception of the station has been noted by our friend, John Campbell, on the border between the Soviet Union and Hungary! Valleri also inform us that they have received several reports from the German Democratic Republic.

However, only a handfull of reports are being received from listeners here in Ireland. So, why not tune into Valleri next Sunday, they are on the air from 0900 hours G.M.T. on 6317 kHz, and get your report off to them!

Valleri's new address is: Box EIV, 40, Ivor Court, London, NW1 6BL.

Radio Caroline North, the north of Ireland station, now broadcasts on Sunday afternoons from 1300 to 1630 hours G.M.T. and on Wednesday nights from 2100 hours to 2300 or 2330 hours G.M.T. on approximately 1122 kHz. The signal is often very strong and I have noted it down here in Borris almost blotting out the Spanish stations on 1124 kHz! I have also noted reception of the station on Sunday afternoons which is surprising at this time of the year.

Now, we have some interesting observations by our President on the recently published report of the Broadcasting Review Committee:

The sections of the report of the Broadcasting Review Committee which dealt with television matters have, naturally, received much more attention than those concerning radio.

However, it is interesting to note the following points in the report: "The Committee has received no evidence of any considerable demand for local radio" and "The Committee does not recommend that local radio services should be provided at present". These statements are self-explanatory.

But there is a puzzling statement made in relation to a proposal which envisaged commercial broadcasting from a powerful medium-wave transmitter reaching an audience in the United Kingdom. In rejecting this idea, the report says, "Apart from the technical difficulty, the Committee would also be concerned about the likely international repercussions of directing commercial broadcasting into countries which do not themselves permit commercial sound broadcasting." As a matter of interest, the British do permit commercial broadcasting on a local basis under the Independent Broadcasting Authority - stations such as Capital Radio, Radio Piccadilly and London Broadcasting being typical examples.

The report also recommends that, "Because of the technical difficulties and the practical drawbacks the Committee is not satisfied that sufficient justification exists for the provision of a short wave broadcasting service." Since Ireland is almost alone in Europe in not having an international radio service of some description, why not entrust this task to an independent non-governmental organisation? As the saying goes, "Nothing ventured, nothing gained!".

EDITOR'S NOTE: Regarding the section of the Broadcasting Review Committee report which mentioned "international repercussions" - well, surely this is nothing more or less than a good old red-herring! Doesn't the tiny state of Luxembourg beam commercial programmes into Britain via a super powered medium wave transmitter? Doesn't Luxembourg also direct programmes at listeners in France, Germany, Holland and Belgium? What about Radio Monte Carlo, Sud Radio and Europe One, all beaming commercial programmes into France, a country which does not permit any sort of commercial broadcasting? I am certainly not aware of the "international repercussions" which, according to the Report under discussion, would appear to surround such broadcasts.

I would also disagree with the inference that there is no demand for local radio. I would agree, though, that support for local broadcasting lies dormant in the minds of a considerable number of Irish people. This does not contradict my statement that there IS a demand for local radio. Most of you are aware that some months back, RTE transmitted four or five local programmes via the Cork MW transmitter. These programmes were a SUCCESS, they may not be everyone's idea of "local radio", but, at least, they were a step in that direction. RTE did receive much favourable reaction to these test programmes, and, in fact, throughout this week (as from Monday 24th June), local programmes are once again being broadcast to Cork at 6.05 p.m. (S.T.) daily for 25 minute periods. Now, would these transmissions be going out if the last experimental ones did not receive a pretty favourable reaction!?

Like our President, I also support the concept of an Irish international short-wave station which would put the Irish viewpoint forward throughout the world. Such a service would serve to dispel some of the curious myths about Ireland and the Irish people in general, and it would, consequently, help our image overseas, it would also help to bring more tourists to this country.

If the vast majority of countries in the world consider an international short wave service beneficial, why is there not "sufficient justification" for Ireland to provide such an international service? We are all aware of the fact that international broadcasting services are not merely confined to the leading "rich" nations of the world. Scores of less-developed and poorer countries in the third world recognise the potential of short wave radio and take steps to erect high-powered transmitters to beam programmes to many parts of the world. I could fill this entire magazine with examples, but that is hardly necessary!

 ABC Europe, the Dutch free radio station, was heard for several hours on Sunday 16th June (from 0900 hours onwards) on 6250 kHz. The signal was fair, and I think perhaps this station is now using a 100 watt transmitter. Programmes heard were in English and reports may be sent to the following address: ABC Europe, P.O. Box 9363, The Hague, Holland. Three IRC's should be enclosed with reports. The station is reported to verify with a "very attractive" QSL card. ... JD

The following is the text of a letter written by our President and published in the "Evening Press" of the 24th April, 1974:

There has been some discussion recently about the possibility of providing local broadcasting facilities in this country. But there has apparently been no move to provide what should be a priority, namely, an overseas broadcasting service of some description. In lacking this, Ireland is almost alone in Europe, if not in the world.

Under existing legislation, RTE is the only organisation licensed to broadcast in the state. But as the authorities seem either to be unable or unwilling to establish an international radio station, is there any reason why a non-governmental body should not undertake this task (with the government's blessing, of course)?

I am sure that the Irish abroad, in particular, would welcome such a service. In addition, it should go a long way towards helping to clear up misconceptions held about Ireland.

Signed: Ken Sheehan

Another letter written by Ken was published in "The Irish Press" of the 14th May, and here now is the text of that letter:

It has been stated in relation to law reform that certain misdemeanours should not properly be classified under criminal law and be subject to prosecution in the district courts as a result. At a meeting in Dublin recently, offences under the Road Traffic Acts were mentioned in this regard.

The speaker pointed out that nowadays almost anyone could be considered a criminal, in the broadest sense of the term, by committing offences which were non-existent in the last century and which now have become possible largely due to the advance of technology.

A striking example of this is where offences are deemed to have been committed under the Wireless Telegraphy Acts. In this instance, the offences can truly be said to be of a merely technical nature.

Apart from the moral question that is raised by this classification, there is the real danger that the extension of the long arm of the law to cover technicalities such as this could lead to a lessening of respect for the law in general by otherwise right-thinking citizens who would wish to see it consolidated.

Signed: Ken Sheehan

Our thanks now to John Campbell who has, once again, supplied us with some very interesting tips. On the 9th June last he did some listening around the 49 metre band, and here now is the list of stations he heard: (The times given are in G.M.T. and they indicate the time at which John first logged the stations)

6230	Thames Radio	0935 hours	(with some German programmes as well as English. address is: Box TR, 22, Fairdene Road, Coulsdon, Surrey).
6234.3	Radio Gemini	0948 hours	(back "after a short absence" according to the announcer - address is same as for the "old" Station).
6235.4	Time Radio	0940 hours	(address: Box 2061, Eindhoven, Holland - 2 IRC's for QSL).
6238	Radio Kristel	1044 hours	(new address: Box A2, 40, Ivor Court, London.)
6250	ABC Europe	0855 hours	(address elsewhere in this magazine).
6252	ABC Europe	1000 hours	(switch from 6250 kHz).
6252	unidentified	1300-1322 sign-off	(possibly test from ABC Europe).
6316.1	Radio Valleri	0900 hours	(new address: Box EIV, 40, Ivor Court, London).
6340	Radio Dublin	1200 hours	

Many thanks again, John, for giving us details of your loggings, we hope they will help some of our other members to add more stations to their lists in the near future!

Almost all British free radio stations to which I've written say they receive only a very occasional report from Ireland, so, come on, all you free radio freaks, get that short wave radio heated up NEXT Sunday morning and get off your reports to the cross-channel and continental free radio stations - they'll be glad to hear from you ... but don't forget to include a few IRC's! ... JD

The following article has been received from Radio Europa, and they have requested that we publish it verbatim - so, here goes!

Five, four, three, two, one, BLAST-OFF!Look out for new Irish Free Radio Mag. in the New Year, titled "THE MEDIA" rip off from THE MEDIUM..... 65 dollar (I always thought it was the 64 dollar - JD) question - Is the IRM fulfilling it's promise "to cater for all aspects of free radio"? -- as promised at the first AGM. "With malice towards none" - Lincoln also said, "By the people, of the people, for the people." When did YOU last get a motion passed democratically in the IRM??? Lack of enthusiasm for free radio stations in Dublin at the moment.... Apart from Empathy, which is now gone, Dublin and Valleri have been with us for over six months..... Talk about stagnating! ... And now for something completely different....Guinness strike settled in record time - amazing what money can do (200 million spent on booze last year) ... (Thanks for the information, I'm sure it will be of interest to all our members! - JD) Rumours of new radio movement in the air.....proposed title - Irish Independent Free Radio Movement....neat, isn't it?? ... Caroline on 259 seem to have had about 20 different British deejays on during the past six months.....Ingenious film with lotsa radio-type gadgets - see "A Man to Respect" (Kirk Douglas) if you can..... All BIRM addresses changed to SIRA in London.....Radio Valleri's mail improves every time.....Ernie.....Who runs the IRM anyway???? - don't all shout together!apologies to all ego-trippers.....All characters, events are fictional, events coincidental, etc..... If at first you don't succeed, etc...etc....Bye.

(c) Radio Europa 1974

RADIO BELINDA INTERNATIONAL (??)

by JOHN DOWLING

On May 12th last between 0015-0100 hours GMT (Saturday night/Sunday morning) I logged a station on 1340 kHz approximately which identified itself as "Radio Belinda International". The station claimed to be operating from the "good ship Zodiac located in International Waters". The MW frequency was announced as 227 metres and it was also stated that the station was broadcasting to Europe in the 16 and 31 metre bands, but exact frequencies were not given. The actual programme consisted of requests and the records were by Irish and American country and western artistes. Voice modulation was poor, but the mod on music was fair, and the signal was rather weak. However, the following address was heard several times: Linda, 33, Gaskell Road, Highgate, London, N.6.

I recalled hearing a similar station in the past on about the same frequency, so I checked back and discovered that I heard a station with the same type of programme on the morning of February 4th, 1973. At that time, I did not catch the station's name, but I heard the address mentioned in the last paragraph. At that time, I wrote to "Linda" and enquired about the station.

Going back even further, I discovered that on January 31st, 1971, I heard a station on 6220 kHz approximately identifying as "Radio C.S." and claiming to be broadcasting from the "good ship Zodiac located in International Waters." The address of Radio C.S.? - yes, you've guessed it, Linda, 33, Gaskell Road, etc. A report was sent at that time.

Now at the time of writing (25/6/1974), all correspondence to "Linda" remains unanswered, despite the fact that, on all occasions, more than adequate return postage was included. For instance, last May when I sent the report to Belinda International, I included 15p to cover postal and other expenses. I've also sent follow-up letters and reports to Linda, each time with additional return postage, but all to no avail.

I wonder has any of the members of the IRM heard Radio Belinda International? I haven't succeeded in picking it up since May 12th despite regular weekend checks on the frequency.

Now, I must ask these questions: Why does this station announce a mailing address if they do not intend answering reports? Who is "Linda" anyway!? Let's hear from you, Linda, if you are reading this.

If anyone else reading this has had any correspondence with this mysterious Linda, I'd like to hear about it.... Who knows, I might have more to say about this subject in the next issue of the bulletin!

Did you know that on June 6th Radio Atlantis lost its anchor and accidentally drifted into Dutch territorial waters? However, the Dutch authorities did not take any action, and the station returned to the air after a few days.

Now, we have some more words of wisdom from our President, Ken Sheehan:

The two secretaries theory has been again put forward for consideration, and we are favourably disposed towards it. The idea is that we should have two joint honorary secretaries working together in tandem, so to speak. This should go a great way towards broadening support for the secretariat in particular and the movement in general. We will let members have the details about this when they have been worked out.

Another position that has been suggested is that of publicity officer for the movement. This is also being taken into active consideration. Still another suggestion is the multi-address system, something on the lines which our friends in SIRA use, such as a general address, and also editorial and publicity addresses which would be separate from each other, and perhaps a technical department.

In effecting these proposals, we would, of course, need to change our headed notepaper to take them into account. In this respect, Peter the Printer by appointment to the IRM please await instructions due shortly!

Secretary Mark Story has prepared a policy document on broadcasting in Ireland which is being circulated among the committee members for approval. Consultation is the keynote, and, in this regard, we must stress again the necessity for feedback from all members on these issues.

The weekly committee meetings have been going ahead in Dublin despite the prolonged bus dispute which hit the city. As most members know, Radio Empathy disappeared from the airwaves on April 6th. This was a sorrow, but life goes on. For example, the Valleri function is still intact (at the time of writing, anyway), with Derek and Mike at the helm (or at the Mike!?)

 How many members heard or remember the pirates of the mid and latter sixties? The litany of names goes - Radios Atlantis, Karina, Jacqueline, Santa Monica, 217, Channel 66 (there's a clue in that one as to the year!) Ah yes, they were the years. As L. P. Hartley the novelist said, "The past is a foreign country: they do things differently there..."

One thing that might be stressed is that there is nothing intrinsically wrong in wireless transmitting, it's doing it without a licence that matters! (For wireless, read "pirate"). It could be said, too, that in truth there's no future in it. Finally, it's a fact that your president has been seeing, by chance, personalities from a past case. Is he being haunted by his past!?
 P.S. Remember you're a Womble! - Ken Sheehan

ODDS AND SODS WITH MARK TEE AND JOHN DEE

Tony Allen has re-appeared yet again on Caroline - MTVeronica heard with reasonable strength and much interference here in Dublin - MTCapital Radio in London audible here in south Co. Carlow even during the daytime, though with a very weak signal - JDThis year's Free Radio Rally in London is to take place on August 18th - MTCaroline now making plans for a move to the Clacton or Frinton coast of England when the Dutch MBOA becomes effective - MTWill Caroline be jammed then by England as happened to RNI when they once moved to the British coast?? - JDJohn Campbell, our faithful supporter in Cambridge, has been logging some very interesting stations recently, and he mentions Mauritius (MBC) on 4871.5 kHz with regular signals from about 1750 hours GMT, English news is at 1800 hours - JD
 Dr. Campbell has also been listening to Radio Cordac in French on 4900 kHz from 1830 hours to sign-off soon after 1930 hours - JDThe Peace Ship which was operated by Abe Nathan has gone bankrupt and is resting in Marseilles - MTDoes this mean that I'll never receive my QSL from them!? - JD
 Roger Twiggy Day's morning show on Radio Piccadilly is ONLY unbelievable, the best thing since Johnny Walker on Caroline South - MTThanks to our member, Pat Callaghan in Ballinasloe, for getting a request played for your editor on the NOS programme, Strictly Country Style - reception was perfect - JDMy thanks to Fintan Conway, Churchtown, for your nice remarks about the last edition of THE MEDIUM. At the time Fintan wrote he was receiving good signals from Radio Atlantis on 312 metres after 2100 hours GMT. He also receives RNI quite well - JDA laugh a minute is provided by the Irish Marine Offences Law of 1968: officially "The Broadcasting (Offences) Act 1968 (No. 35)" available from your Government Publications Sales Office at a mere 7½ pence - MTFollowing the demise of Radio Empathy, there is no longer any medium wave free radio voice in Dublin - JD Anyone know about free radio activity in other parts of the country? - Cork, Limerick or Galway, for

example - JDBelgian Radio broadcast a DX programme on the first Monday of the month in English at 2255 hours on 11875 and 9655 kHz. They send a very interesting copy of the transcripts used to listeners who write in requesting a copy - their address is: RTB BRT, Box 26, Brussels 1000, Belgium - MT A.J. Beirnes has a new feature on his DX Show on Sundays 0900 hours GMT on 6205 kHz - this being A.J.'s Offshore Diary with many interesting notes on Offshore Radio History - MT Radio England has been heard on 6235 kHz from 0930 to 1304 hours GMT on Sundays: address is Radio England, 3, Northside, Rockwell Green, Wellington, Somerset - MTIreland now has another DX Club, The Irish International DX Club. Their secretary is Antoine O Rinn; President is Don Kelly; Treasurer is Paul Ronayne. The address of this Club is Drake's View, Crosshaven, Co. Cork. We, at the IRM, wish this new Club every success - MT Recently, we had the pleasure of meeting IRM member, Dr. John Campbell, while he was over here on a short visit from Cambridge and, despite the bus strike, had a very enjoyable evening out - MTDr. Campbell and another IRM member, Lucy Mitchell, drove down from Dublin to visit your editor, and we spent a very enjoyable afternoon together. John and Lucy drove back to Dublin via a scenic route through the Blackstairs Mountains, passing, on their way, the entrance to the RTE transmitters on Mount Leinster. John noted with a certain amount of interest that there was no notice in Irish at the entrance despite the fact that one of the Radio na Gaeltachta transmitter's is located on Mount Leinster! - JD John also informed us that he recently picked up Radio Valleri on the border between the Soviet Union and Hungary - MTA new commercial station may start broadcasting to Southern Germany from the tiny independent country of Liechtenstein according to the Belgian paper, Le Soir - MT Hearty greetings to Whiskey Four over in England and thanks again for a very sleepy (!?) Saturday - MTIRM pens are available at 5p each from the Mourne Road address, and don't forget to send postage also! - MTThat's all from this section for this time, so cheerio until the next time from Mark Tee and John Dee.

SPOTLIGHT on RADIO ENGLAND

by JOHN DOWLING

Recently, I reported to Radio England, a relatively new free radio station, which operates on Sunday mornings on either 6235 or 6225 kHz. A very nice and prompt reply was received from the station. An interesting information sheet was received with a QSL card and personal letter. Here now are some extracts from the information sheet:

"Radio England was first conceived in the summer of 1973, and, in order that our programmes would be of high quality when we went on the air, we commenced building a studio. Into this studio was installed various gear for the making of taped programmes. Our five disc jockeys then began to familiarise themselves with the equipment, and also practise the art of deejaying under the guidance of our two disco deejays, Earl Grey and Julian Bell. At the beginning of 1974, it was felt that the station was suitably professional to start transmissions. These were done first with an ex-army 62 set, and then later with a 19 set, neither came up to our expectations power output wise, and the quality left much to be desired. Few reports were received, so it was decided to find a transmitter with more output, and also one which could transmit the high quality which the studio can produce. With this transmitter, first tests were broadcast on April 26th, 1974. Since that time, an improved aerial and earth system has increased range.

STUDIO: 2 Gerrard SP25 Decks, Eagle 4 channel Mixer, Home-built Deck and tape control panel, 2 Sanyo cassette decks for jingles and ids, Thorn modulation amplifier.

TRANSMITTER: 20 watt crystal controlled AM, using 5 valves with 6BW6 output valve.

ANTENNA: 70 feet half wave dipole fed by 75 ohm co-axial cable, rigged 20-30 feet.

Radio England broadcasts from a different site each week, from the south of England. These transmissions are on either 6225 or 6235 kHz depending on conditions.

We sincerely hope that you will listen in to Radio England sometime in the future, and we would very much appreciate reception reports which, if correct, will be verified by our QSL card. If you have a cassette recorder, a tape of one of our transmissions would be much appreciated, and will be returned with a QSL card. We also welcome comments and suggestions on our programmes - whether good or bad!

The deejays working for Radio England are: Earl Grey, Julian Bell, Greg Floyd, William Merlin and Thorpe. Engineer and deejay is John Krane.

If you would like more information on Radio England, please write to us at 3, Northside, Rockwell Green, Wellington, Somerset, and enclose two IRCs or an SAE (with English stamp) for your reply."

I can confirm that Radio England's signal is excellent in quality. Some reports say the station is on the air as early as 0900 hours GMT, but I have heard the station after 1100 hours. However, on that occasion, they were delayed from coming on the air due to technical trouble.

In their personal letter to me, John Krane stated that Radio England had only received three reports from Ireland (North and South), so how about tuning around for Radio England NEXT SUNDAY and sending off your reception report. They will be pleased to hear from you - tell them you read all about Radio England in THE MEDIUM!

DX AND QSL NEWS by JOHN DOWLING

BRAZIL: Following the recent test transmissions by Radio Nacional de Brasilia, the station is now operating one of its new 250 kW transmitters in its regular International Service on 15445 and 11720 kHz. English may be heard at 2100-2200 hours GMT. Reception on 15445 kHz is now very good and is considerably improved since the new transmitter was brought into operation. The correct address of Radio Nacional de Brasilia is Post Office Box 07/0173, 70000 BRASILIA, D.F., Brazil. Correct reception reports are verified promptly by a nice QSL card and colourful pennant. I received my card in 28 days, also other colour post cards, technical information sheets and the pennant. A total of nine 250 kW SW transmitters are being brought into service by RNB. Five, including the one which has just now been brought into operation, are being constructed at Rodeador Park, some 55 kilometres from Brasilia. Two more will be installed in the north-east of Brazil to cover Africa, and the remaining two will be installed in the extreme north of the country to cover the American continent.

GERMANY: United Radio Europe (full address in the last edition of this bulletin) which operates irregularly in German on Sundays on 6255 kHz recently verified a report by QSL card after quite a long wait, but I think my report must have been held up somehow, and I also think it is safe to assume that verifications will be issued more promptly in the future. My report was the first they received from Ireland. Some transmissions may be expected from the station in the very near future, so keep listening! Don't forget to enclose two IRC's with your report.

At the moment the Deutsche Welle radiates 93 programmes in 33 languages. Divided among 4 transmitters of 500 kW each at Wertachtal, 9 transmitters of 100 kW each at Julich, 2 transmitters of 250 kW each at Kigali and 2 transmitters of 250 kW each at Sines, 85 hours and 40 minutes of programmes are transmitted daily. Very detailed technical information may be received on all their transmitters by writing to the Deutsche Welle.

IRELAND: Radio na Gaeltachta verifies reports (in English!) with a very nice letter giving full details and signed by P.J. Lowney. I received a detailed verification of the Conamara transmitter on 539 kHz in 21 days. The address for reports is: Radio na Gaeltachta, Casla, Conamara, Co. na Gaillimhe.

MUSCAT AND OMAN: As we stated in the last bulletin, this country may be verified by reporting reception of the BBC's Eastern Relay Station located on Masirah Island, and which may be heard with sign-on and news in English at midnight GMT on 1412 kHz. My verification was by means of the "normal" BBC card, but the frequency and "BBC EASTERN RELAY STATION" was typed on the card. The card itself is very nice with a colourful view of Parliament Buildings as seen across the sparkling waters of the Thames.

MALTA: The relay station of Deutsche Welle on Malta is still under construction and, when completed, it will guarantee good quality reception of DW programmes for listeners in the Mediterranean area, including the countries of North Africa and the Near East. One MW transmitter has already been in operation with reduced capacity on 1570 kHz MW. Programmes consist of music with announcements in English. The entire plant will include one MW transmitter and 3 SW transmitters each with a capacity of 250 kW. Completion is expected this year.

RWANDA: Still on the subject of DW! The DW relay station located at Kigali verifies with a special blue and yellow card showing a map of Africa and a "red triangle" indicating the location of Kigali. This relay station may be heard in English at 0920 hours GMT on 21540 kHz. Local identification in French may be heard just before the commencement of the programme in English. The verie signer is Mr. G. G. Thiele and reports may, of course, be sent to DW in Cologne. The DW will also send out, on request, large quantities of tourist information, in addition to a wide range of programme schedules.

SRI LANKA: The Overseas Telephone Service, Colombo, verifies reports by stencilled letter, giving full and complete QSL details, promptly by air-mail. OTS may sometimes be heard with English "voice mirror" on 7540 kHz at

around midnight. The signal is in SSB and is quite strong.

PORTUGAL: We have just received the latest edition of SHORTWAVE NEWS, the monthly bulletin of the Danish Shortwave Clubs International, and from it we have the following details of events in the field of broadcasting in Portugal following the military coup:

The Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs denied reports that the Director General of "Radio de Televisao Portuguesa S.A.R.L.", Mr. Ramiro Valedao, had sought political asylum in the Brazilian Embassy in Lisbon, as published by the "Republica" newspaper in Portugal..... The employees of "Radio Clube Portugues" in Lisbon dismissed the Board of Directors and the members of the Supervisory Council of the station and elected a committee "to represent the demands of the workers of Radio Clube." The first strike for many years in Portugal took place at "Radio Renascença" in Lisbon, when the directors decided not to participate in the broadcast coverage of the arrival from exile of Mr. Alvaro Cunhal (Secretary-General of the Communist Party of Portugal). The employees protested against this decision and also handed over a list of demands concerning working hours, wages, and the right to participate in the programming of the station..... "Radio Portugal Livre" is still transmitting from Rumania at 1800-1930 hours on 15485 with unchanged programming..... All this information was originally contributed to SHORTWAVE NEWS by Robert Veltmeijer.

In Sines, Deutsche Welle uses two - at times three - shortwave transmitters of 250 kW each. A number of directional antennae for broadcast bands of 6 to 21 MHz as well as one vertical polarized logarithmic periodic antenna are employed to cover Eastern and South East Europe. The programmes are transmitted from Cologne to Sines by means of SSB of the Posts and Telecommunications Administration of the Federal Republic of Germany within the frequency ranges allotted for point-to-point communications ... This information received from DW.

TOGO: Radio Diff. Togo verified a report for me in a period of 19 days with a very nice QSL card which came by airmail. This station may be heard with a very good signal in French to closedown at 2300 hours GMT. Frequency is 5047 kHz. Though my QSL was posted in Lome in April this year there was a colourful "Christmas 1971" postage stamp on it!

U.S.A.: Radio Station WHN, New York City, verified a report in 145 days. This station is one of the most consistently heard North Americans during the winter time and it is often heard very well after the closedown of BBC Radio Four on 1052 kHz at 11.50 p.m. approximately. However, this station cannot be heard just now, unless you are up at some very unusual hour of the night, but from September onwards it should once again be audible.

WEST BERLIN: In some "country lists" West Berlin is acknowledged as a separate country, so if you wish to add this "country" to your list, you may do so by reporting reception of the AFN transmitter on 935 kHz - this transmitter of 10 kW is located in West Berlin.

The local programmes now being transmitted from RTE's Cork transmitter on 240 metres have been mentioned elsewhere in this magazine, but I'm sure some of our members will be interested to note that, here in south Co. Carlow, it is possible to pick up the transmissions from both the Dublin and Cork transmitters simply by making use of my loop antenna. By setting the loop in one position I can hear clearly the local programme from Cork, then by rotating it slightly Cork disappears and in comes Dublin loud and clear on the same frequency! -- JD

At present programme schedules arrive here regularly from the following stations: Radio Nederland, Deutsche Welle, Radio Sweden, Radio Norway, Radio Warsaw, Radio Berlin International, Radio Havana, Radio Moscow, All India Radio (always out of date!), Radio RSA, Radio Canada, Rome Radio, BBC Overseas Service, Radio Australia and Radio Prague. However, I think my name has been deleted from Moscow's mailing list after I wrote a series of letters to Mrs. Irene Osipek concerning the jamming of certain transmissions beamed to the Soviet Union! I received no replies to any of the letters I wrote to Radio Moscow regarding jamming!!

If you are receiving regularly programme schedules from stations not listed above I would appreciate receiving such information..... Stations which I omitted from the list are Radio Portugal and the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation - sorry! - JD

Can anybody tell me how to get a programme schedule from the VOICE OF AMERICA!? I have requested the schedule from them several times, always without success.....

Your editor has just received information concerning the latest free radio offers from ICENI ENTERPRISES, 45, Sandringham Road, Norwich, NOR 86G. As we feel these offers may be of interest to several of our members, here are full details:

"10 Years of Offshore Radio 1964-1974" (Double LP or Cassette) Here is a superb double LP record, comprising of 10 years of British offshore radio. This double LP contains many historic, valuable recordings, original opening broadcasts, highlights and typical extracts of programmes. First announcements of closure, station closedowns, SOS Mayday broadcasts and many more famous nostalgic moments from Radios Essex, Scotland, 390, Caroline, England, 270, Invicta, 355, Dolfijn, Atlantias, KING and RNI Double LP Record Set ... @ £4.99
Double Cassette Set ... @ £5.49
(plus postage and packing 25p)

Offshore Radio Book Offer - 'The most informative ever compiled' - 'Result of three years research' - 'With over 100 photographs'

Just how much do you know about Offshore Radio? Did you know that the first Offshore commercial radio station broadcasting in Europe started in the summer of 1958? Did you know that the first transmission from an offshore station designed specifically for a British audience went out in February, 1961? After reading "Offshore Radio", you will know much more about this fascinating subject. This book traces the history of every station. For the past three years, extensive research has been going on to compile a completely accurate history of Offshore Radio. Far too many untrue stories circulate about Offshore Radio, no notice has been taken of these; instead, literally thousands of newspapers, magazines, etc., have been combed to obtain information written at the time the event happened. Read of shipwreck, fires, boarding, mutiny, arrests and even a marriage. Management have been traced to obtain information about setting up and operation of stations and on other aspects of Offshore broadcasting. This book contains details of programming, studios and transmitting equipment, deejays, ships, etc. and is illustrated with over 100 photographs. This book does not involve itself with the political aspect of this form of broadcasting, but sets out in words and pictures a full and factual history of each station. Three years of hard work has gone to make this book an essential addition to the bookshelf of all interested in Offshore radio..... Pre-Publication Offer ... £4.00 (postage 25p)

EDITOR'S NOTE: I have merely quoted from the advertisements, as of now I have not ordered either of the above items.

The BBC's "World Radio Club" programme may now be heard at 2315 hours GMT on Fridays on the medium wave frequency of 1088 kHz..... Members of the World Radio Club receive regular frequency charts covering all areas of the world - these are in addition to the normal programme schedule.

Engineering tests have started from IBA Sheffield on 1546 kHz. Reception reports should be sent to Engineering Information Service, IBA, Chorly Court, Winchester. Radio Cleveland (formerly Radio Teesside) and Radio Bristol also operate on this frequency, so it may be difficult to hear these tests here in Ireland!

CONTACT, the monthly publication of the World DX Club, reports the opening dates of the following IBA local stations: Newcastle (July 12th); Swansea (September 1st); Sheffield (October 1st); Liverpool (October 1st); Edinburgh at the end of the year.

BRMB in Birmingham verified reception report recently by letter "as we have not yet received QSL cards from the printers".

No sign of a proper verification yet from Radio Clyde, despite several follow-ups to my original report. Acknowledgments are received but they cannot be classified as verifications.

Radio Piccadilly, which can be heard very well in Dublin, is only heard here in Carlow occasionally. Normally the channel is blocked by BRMB and Radio Clyde.

DX MAGAZINE, the monthly publication of WWDXC, reports that BBC Radio Derby seems to verify local programmes only, because a report on a transmission relaying BBC Radio Two was not verified. The same is probably true of BBC Radio Sheffield as a report I sent them was not verified - I reported on a transmission relayed from Radio Two..... JD

ECOS DEL TORBES in Venezuela may be heard very clearly in Spanish on 4980 kHz late at night - address is: Ap. 152, San Cristobal, Tac, Venezuela. Verificat-

ion is by letter.

RADIO SUTATENZA is another Latin American station which may often be heard with a very clear signal on the 60 metre band frequency of 5095 kHz. The address of this station, which broadcasts in Spanish, is: Aereo 7170, Bogota, Colombia. Reception is best late at night.

Another regular South American station is RADIO BRASIL CENTRAL on 4995 kHz which transmits in Portuguese.

Why don't YOU tune around the 60 metre band and dig out some interesting DX - and then let us have the information for the next edition of THE MEDIUM!

Remember, the magazine is YOURS, you let us have your contributions and we will publish them! JD

We trust you will take note of the advertisement on page one of this issue, the one about SIRA MAGAZINE. If you have not already ordered your copy of SIRA MAGAZINE, why not do so straight away? We, at the IRM, guarantee that you will not be disappointed with it.

Information received from SIRA HQ states that the new editor of the magazine is Mark Lett, but Mick Mayhew will continue to maintain overall control of the magazine which will be renamed "Dee Jay and Disco". SIRA will also publish another magazine but no title has yet been decided. However, this magazine will feature exclusive information about London's land-based pirates.

Now, we have for you an extract from one of the articles contained in the Spring edition of SIRA MAGAZINE:

Russia's latest pop phenomenon is the pirate radio station... Hundreds of these stations are in action across the Soviet Union. Every day they blaze out a stream of pop and jazz music, chat, political jokes and unofficial news. The authorities call them "radio hooligans" because they constantly broadcast on wavelengths reserved for official use.

The stations are mainly operated by teenagers, many of whom, say police, have stolen most of their equipment. The broadcasts are usually made from private houses and flats. And every day stations with names like Radio Crocodile, Black Cat and Diamond take the risk of being discovered. But almost as soon as the police close down one pirate another opens!

Up to now the operators have got off with little more than a fine. Now the authorities are going to crack down. Any radio pirate can expect a spell in jail or labour camp under the stern article in the Russian legal code ... "anti-Soviet activity."

Our thanks to Gerry de Lacey, Bushfield House, Hollymount P.O., Co. Mayo, who wrote to your editor offering to contribute articles on receivers and/or antennae. Unfortunately, at the time of writing, Gerry's articles have not arrived here, but we will endeavour to include them in the next edition of the magazine.

Thanks, also, to Reinhold Mardorf in West Germany, for writing to us - hope you received the copy of THE MEDIUM okay and that you enjoyed reading it. I will be in touch with you by personal letter very soon - JD

We have now come to the end of this edition of THE MEDIUM. I hope you have enjoyed reading it. Do write and let us know. Comments about, and articles for, the magazine should be sent directly to the editor:

JOHN DOWLING, BALLYTIGLEA, BORRIS, Co. CARLOW, IRELAND.

Best 73's and gud DX to all our readers until the next time!

JOHN

(JD)/26/6/74/