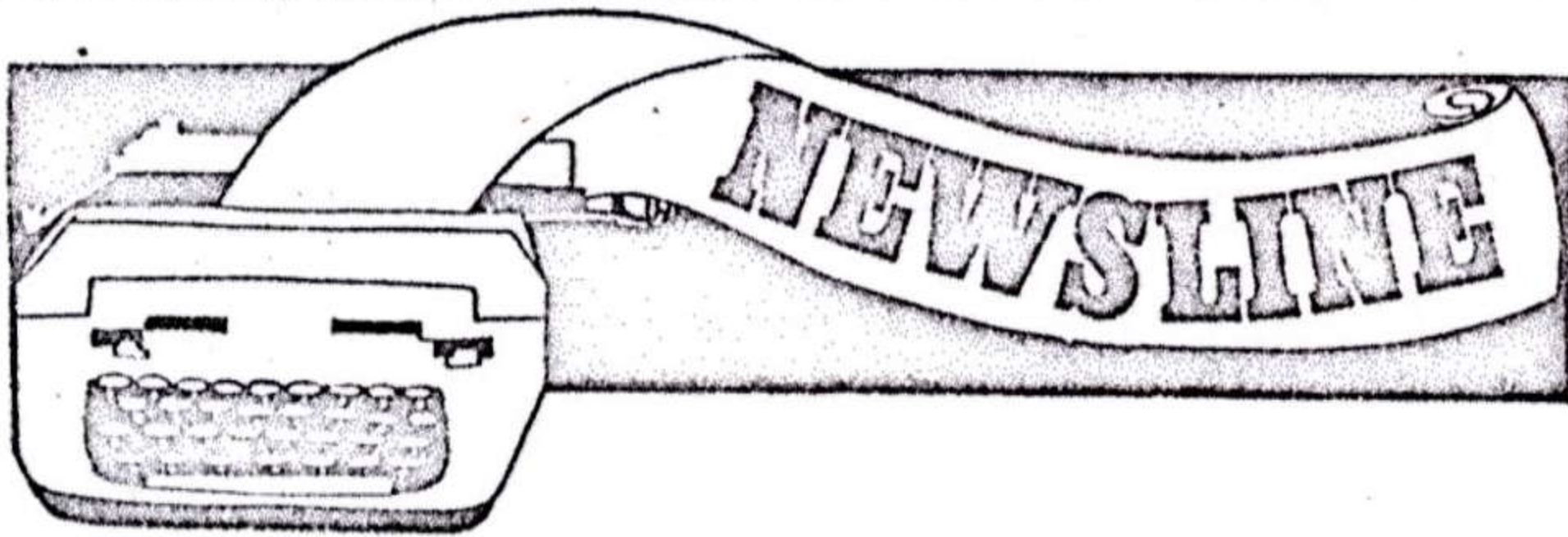


Irish Radio Movement

406 MOURNE ROAD, DUBLIN 12.

Medium 4

Mike & Jo



RADIO NOVA:

Following the closure of Radio North-Sea on August 31st. the Mebo 2 was delayed for 8 days at sea from coming into Slikerveer a private dock near Rotterdam, and joining the Mebo 1. Now that the ship has entered port, it

looks like she will have difficulty leaving. Recently a news story stated that the Mebo was bound for the Kent coast and so the Dutch Authorities have used a 1950's Telegraphy Act to impound the ship. The co-owners Meister and Bollier informed the Dutch Press that they will fight the court order and that Radio Nova will go ahead as planned.

RADIO CAROLINE:

While the Dutch anti-pirate legislation has affected all the other offshore stations, Caroline continues regardless. Anchored off the Frinton Coast, Radio Caroline is now being more than adequately financed by Radio Mi-Amigo, whose advertising contracts are very similar to those of Radio Veronica. The Dutch Marine Offences Act has not affected Mi-Amigo's advertising intake and with the absence of RNI and Veronica it is now the most popular station in the Benelux, as well as being popular with many people in Southern England. Daytime reception in London is as good as Radio One.

RADIO CITY:

Liverpool's commercial station opened to a rather shaky start on Monday 21st. on 194 metres amid the obvious worry about the phasing out of Commercial Radio under the Labour Government. Among those involved are Robb Eden (ex-RNI, Radio Brighton and Caroline) and our own Mike Murphy who does the breakfast show. Station format is mainly music with news on the hour. Reception of City is excellent in Dublin.

SWANSEA SOUND:

After a delay of some weeks Swansea Sound is also now on the air serving most of Wales. Ex-RNI, Caroline and Atlantis Disc Jockey Crispian St. John is the host of the morning show. Reception of Swansea Sound is good in Dublin.

SCRIPT

20p

The magazine on alternative radio

P.O. Box 400 Kings Langley Herts

Bargain Offer

IRM PENS @ 5P

CAROLINE STICKERS....

5 FOR 5p.

irm 406 Mourn Road,
Dublin 12, Ireland

Fight for

FREE RADIO

Join the

FREE RADIO

CAMPAIGN. BM

F.R.C. LONDON

WC1V 6XX

STOP PRESS..... RENEW YOUR IRM MEMBERSHIP NOW.....
SEND YOUR 50p NOW BEFORE THE CHRISTMAS RUSH!!!

--- YOU KNOW IT MAKES SENSE.

WE WELCOME ALL COMMENTS, CRITICISMS AND IDEAS ETC.
THIS MAGAZINE IS YOUR'S SO PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SEND
US YOUR ARTICLES ETC. NOTHING IS TOO SMALL. WE WILL
TRY AND INCLUDE YOUR ARTICLE IN THE NEXT EDITION, SO
RUSH YOUR PIECE OFF TO US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

THE ADDRESS IS THE SAME AS THAT AT TOP OF PAGE.

"The Medium" is the quarterly publication of THE IRISH RADIO MOVEMENT, the official address of which is:

406, Mourne Road, Dublin, 12

Views expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Editor or the policy of the Movement.

Articles and letters for publication in "The Medium" should be sent to the Editor, John Dowling, at the following address:

Ballytiglea, BORRIS, Co. Carlow, Ireland

EDITORIAL

Welcome to this, the fourth edition of THE MEDIUM. We hope you will find this edition interesting - and let's hope that you will find this edition "bigger and better than ever" to use a well-worn cliché!

Now, since the last edition was published, we have received a number of letters at the Borris address, and most, if not all, of those have been personally replied to. We like to do this, but please be patient if you do not receive an immediate reply to your letter. We have a large number of commitments to meet, and mail is sometimes apt to pile up somewhat.

But I would say this, not enough mail is being received from members. There are still a great many "sleeping partners"! Of course, this is a problem with every radio club, and I'm sure that the officials of certain clubs of which I am a member could also consider me as a possible "sleeping" member! But let's start a completely new trend in this club - let all our members be active participants in the activities of the club, and one of the most tangible ways in which one can participate is to contribute to the quarterly bulletin. At least write and tell us what you think of the magazine, tell us which articles you prefer (if any!) and let us know what type of articles you would like included in future editions.

We would ask you, though, to include return postage with your letters if you desire a reply. Our secretary, Mark Story, will deal with the question of postal expenses in an article following this editorial.

In the IRM magazine we are not seeking to compete with the international long-established DX clubs and popular radio programmes such as "Sweden Calling DX-ers". We could never hope to do this, but perhaps in our own small way we can complement the good work being done by the well-known international DX clubs and the radio programmes designed for DX-ers and radio enthusiasts in general.

We are also aware that most serious DX-ers are already members of other DX clubs and listen to programmes such as "SCDX", so there is little point in publishing a lot of DX information in THE MEDIUM - that would be duplication of effort. We will, of course, include a certain amount of DX information, but generally speaking THE MEDIUM will contain articles and contributions of a general nature and we hope to touch on most, if not all, aspects of the radio hobby.

My own views as to what the IRM should do or could do are not clearly defined, because, as our President has so eloquently stated in his section of the magazine, there is a severe limit to what we can do. One of the main objectives of the IRM is to campaign for, and give publicity to, alternative radio, but if the authorities in this country are not prepared to permit the operation of independent community or commercial stations, where can we go from there? If we put up one argument in favour of our case, they will surely have their own counter-argument! Elsewhere in the magazine, we have reproduced the texts of correspondence between the Department of Posts and Telegraphs in Dublin and our Scottish representative, Kenneth Macinnes. The Department's reply to Kenneth's letter certainly leaves little room to manoeuvre in regard to the possibility of establishing an international short wave radio station in Ireland. The same holds true in regard to the legal position pertaining to the establishment of independent stations in this country, and to clarify this position even further we have reproduced another letter from the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, this being part of correspondence between our President and the Department.

There are scores of "pressure" groups, "action" committees in this country, not to mentioned the nationally organised and influential Organisations such as those looking after the interests of, for instance, workers, farmers, etc. But these groups and organisations, with their very vocal and eloquent officials, fail to have all their ambitions fulfilled. We must admit that we, in the IRM, are but a tiny minority, so we should not be too disappointed if we cannot move mountains. We can only strive to make a small start, and we should continue to maintain the IRM as an active forum for discussion. Here I am again emphasising the ideas of our President. I say we, in the IRM, are but a tiny minority - in fact, it might be even more correct to say that the IRM can be divided into even smaller minorities since we all have our own particular ideas - hence the well thought-out theory of operating the movement on the principle of concensus.

This brings me on nicely to the next item with which I propose to deal! I am aware that certain members of the IRM are not completely satisfied with the movement, but I have yet to hear really constructive and VIABLE suggestions from them! I wish the members who say they are dissatisfied would spell out clearly what they think we should do. There is little point in offering criticism unless it is accompanied by constructive suggestions.

One of our British members took very strong exception to some of the comments and remarks in the last edition of the magazine. I wrote to this member and pointed out that I did not accept some of his criticisms, but, at the same time, I invited him to write an article for the magazine in which he could set out his views for all to see and either agree, or disagree, with. But this invitation was ignored!

I will try to be fair and give everyone a forum in the magazine for airing his or her views, and I do apologise to the British member, to whom we have referred, if I overacted somewhat in my personal reply to him. Nevertheless, I disagree strongly with this member when he states that we should not give any publicity to pirate radio stations, and we also reserve the right to make criticisms of certain Irish authorities or departments, but this is not to say that we, in any way, wish to act outside the law, that is just not so.

We will endeavour to acknowledge in this magazine all letters received at the Borris address from members since the last edition was published. I hope to have many, many more letters to acknowledge in the next edition of the magazine!

That's about the end of this long editorial, now it's over to YOU!

... JOHN DOWLING

THE PRICE OF MEMBERSHIP... BY MARK STORY, SECRETARY, IRM

We are all aware that on October 1st of this year postal rates were increased rather substantially - a 40% increase in the basic letter rate, for instance (up from 5p to 7p). These increases posed a grave problem for the IRM in regard to the membership fee. Should we increase the subscription, we asked ourselves...

As you can well imagine, the 50p annual membership fee covers only a small part of the actual cost of membership. For instance, the postage on four issues is now 20p. In addition, there are the actual costs of having the magazine itself printed, the costs of stencils, paper and ink have also kept in step with our "top of the league" inflation rate (nearly 18% per annum). And we must also print membership cards and promotional material (such as the Radio Caroline sticker which is enclosed with this magazine) - and we do believe this is essential.

So the 50p certainly does not cover the costs of your membership of the IRM, and, consequently, certain officials of the movement, including the President and Editor, must bear these extra costs out of their own pockets.

An increase in the subscription fee would probably prohibit several members from renewing their membership - therefore, we are pleased to formally announce that it has been decided to maintain the fee at its present level - 50p per annum. However, we would ask you to take note of the following points:

All memberships will be due for renewal on or before December 31st of this year by which time all members will have received at least three of the four bulletins and about 70% of members will have received the full set of four bulletins.

It will also be necessary for members writing in to the President, Secretary

or Editor and who require a reply to enclose a 7p stamp.

These steps will help to keep down overheads and we trust you will agree that they are appropriate in view of the present runaway inflationary situation in which we now find ourselves.

I, therefore, look forward to receiving your membership fees before the end of this year. Also, by renewing your membership you will be giving us a vote of confidence.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Out of pure modesty, our secretary did not mention the fact that he, too, is bearing a large amount of the cost of running the IRM. For instance, the postage on most - if not all - of these bulletins is being paid for by Mark himself, as he wishes to leave our small bank balance intact. And Mark has also paid for the Caroline car stickers himself, so if that's not dedication to the IRM I don't know what is!

One other point, renewals should be sent to Mark Story ("The Chalet", 31 Heidelberg, Ardilea, Dundrum, Dublin, 14) and postal orders may be left blank or made payable to Mark himself.

ADVERTISEMENT: DO YOU WANT YOUR OWN RECORDING OF RADIO CLYDE JINGLES, ETC??
IF SO, SEND YOUR TAPE AND A 5p BRITISH STAMP (OR 5p BRITISH COIN FROM IRISH MEMBERS) TO: KENNETH MACINNES,
28 HUNTERHILL ROAD, PAISLEY, RENFREWSHIRE, SCOTLAND, PA2 6ST.

Just received here in Borris is the latest edition of the "Daffy Don Allen Fan Club" magazine, and the following STOP PRESS information regarding Radio Nova International is included:

September 25th ... Zurich ... Due to unforeseen weather conditions in the North Sea the MEBO 11 was delayed coming into its Rotterdam berth. Repairs and renovations to the ship have been consequently put back. Also due to the unpredictable weather this time of the year around the coasts of France and Spain the ship will almost certainly be delayed by at least two months leaving port - weather around the Spanish coast (especially the Bay of Biscay) is very bad this time of the year. Zurich headquarters have informed Don that RNI will most likely begin transmissions sometime in December from the Italian Riviera. End of Stop Press... Owing to this unexpected delay Don is now concentrating on personal appearances throughout the north of England and possibly Ireland. Places under negotiation at press time are Liverpool, St. Helens, Blackpool, Leeds, Wakefield and Dublin.

All the above from the DDAFC magazine which is issued twice a year (March and September). In addition, two newsletters are issued in June and December. The membership fee of Don's fan club is £1.00 per annum and the address is as follows:

MRS. S. ALLEN, 29 WYBOURN DRIVE, ONCHAN, ISLE OF MAN, BRITAIN

British or Irish stamps cannot be used in the Isle of Man, so enquiries should be accompanied by an IRC or British coin.

We have received a nice letter from our friend, Fintan Conway, Churchtown, and he enjoyed very much the last edition of the magazine - he described it as a "super edition"! Well, we are very flattered, Fintan! He also tells us that he has somehow converted his PYE 10G-831LE medium wave receiver to pick up short wave broadcasts and he has already logged stations such as Baghdad, All India Radio, Canada, Budapest, Moscow, Israel, Sofia, Vatican, Norway, etc. Very nice work, Fintan, keep those letters rolling in!JD

Des Walsh, Ballylynch, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary, has also written to your editor. He, too, was pleased with the last edition of the magazine, especially the presentation and the wide range of topics covered. Des is interested in long distance FM and TV reception and he hopes to write an article for THE MEDIUM Well, Des, we would certainly like to receive articles on these subjects - that would widen even further the scope of the magazine. Hope to hear from you soon, Des.JD

DX TIP: Radio Ghana home service heard with an excellent signal nightly with news in English at 2245 hours GMT.

This year has seen the organisation of the Irish Radio Movement. In 1975 there will be a need not only for the continuation of this, but also for the consolidation of the Movement. To this end, we must all co-operate... And, in this respect, consensus is the keynote, i.e., as far as consolidation is concerned.

At all costs, fragmentation should be avoided and this process of consolidation should put paid to that danger. Yesiree...! To put it plainly, as opposed to that fancy talk, we must all stand together or we'll certainly fall together!

It is envisaged that publication of the MEDIUM will continue and key personnel will remain at their posts - Mark Story as Secretary and John Dowling as Editor. In this connection it has been said that production of the newsletter is the most important activity of the I.R.M. Certainly it has the most cohesive effect, apart from the vital weekly committee meetings. These have had, incidentally, a most chequered history, but that's another story!

We must, however, ask ourselves the question - can we, or indeed should we, expand our activities. There are those among us who say we should and who advocate a reformation of the Movement no less. And that means, among other things, a changing of the guard. But let me say this: I'm proud to have been associated with the various people I've come into contact with through this hobby. Sure, we've had our differences on occasion, but that's only to be expected...

So, there you are, my friends, but where are you?! How far have we advanced in just over a year? Personally, I do think things have gone well. And most mail we receive, with one solitary exception, is complimentary. I shall deal with that briefly elsewhere in the magazine. For the umpteenth time I would like to repeat the necessity for feedback on all issues, however.

One point I've meant to make before is how much we value our contacts with our British counterparts. In August this year some of us were at the Free Wireless Rally in London's Hyde Park. There we found a convivial atmosphere. Elsewhere in this edition of the magazine, Secretary Mark Story has written articles on his experiences both in London and in Holland to where he travelled to see for himself firsthand the end of the off-shore era as far as Holland is concerned.

In other words, we'll have the "Adventures of Mark in the Netherlands" - not to mention England. There's a joy!

But please do be assured as I mentioned before that we'd like to hear your views, experiences and suggestions. And to date, we haven't received much of these. So start writing to our editor, John...

Finally, I'd like to say that if we have injured or offended anyone, and we all do make mistakes, then we're sorry about it, but we've done what we believed in, rightly or wrongly, for better or for worse. Don't forget to keep those cards and letters coming in...!

... .. KEN

We received a strong letter of protest from one of our members arising out of remarks which appeared in MEDIUM 3. In particular, Mark Story and myself were accused of "irresponsibility" in this connection.

The member concerned took issue, for instance, with my statement that offences deemed to have been committed under the Wireless Telegraphy Acts were truly technical in nature. This view was, he wrote, beyond his comprehension.

By way of clarification, I should make it clear that what I meant by this was that although the actual position is, as far as I know, that such offences are considered in the broad legal sense of the term as being criminal, I did not agree with this classification. Now what I refer to here are the charges of "keeping, working or using wireless telegraphy apparatus" without a licence from the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs.

As regards the charge of irresponsibility I agree with this to a certain extent. But I also believe that in connection with the silencing of a pirate station a few years ago, the authorities acted in an irresponsible way by diverting a large force of Gardai and other personnel to take part in a raid on this, a mere pirate radio station, particularly in view of the overall crime and security situation that exists here. I need only allude to the frightful events which took place earlier this year on streets not far from where this raid took place.

Indeed, it has to be admitted that all of us, authorities included, have acted

like children playing games of hide and seek. As regards the activities of IRM members, sure we've made some mistakes and I'd be the first to admit it. But I want to say one thing: no member is in this for personal gain. And that tells something about you. We've done what we believed in, sometimes right and sometimes wrong. Folly, yes... But for personal gain, never...

And now for a few words about the necessity for organizing the annual general meeting. This ought to be held before the year is out, preferably around the Christmas holiday period, as everyone should be able to attend then. I believe I know that the Movement needs a stimulus at present, and the AGM, which is more in the nature of a plenary session meeting, should provide this. So this is something we should get cracking on soon. In other words, all hands on deck!

KENNETH SHEEHAN

I regret to report that my suggestions of appointing a publicity officer and a second secretary have not proved viable. As regards my two secretaries theory, it seems the idea is just not practical. The mechanics of the Movement is that I receive mail at my own address and forward these to Mark Story, IRM secretary, who then deals with the letters received. Mark sometimes enlists the aid of another member, Steve, in this respect, who is, in practice, then an assistant secretary.

The problem of the publicity officer is another matter. Alan Geraty who has been entrusted with this post at his own request nightly makes the point that he must be allowed to operate on his own initiative to a large extent. And there's the stumbling block! It's almost impossible to get any two members to agree on any single approach - what suits one is not acceptable to another. This is something which I've already stressed in previous issues of the MEDIUM. And I still can see no better solution than to continue operating on the basis of consensus. I believe I have the support of the Editor of our newsletter in this matter and other members also.

However, I fully understand the discontent among some members about the activities and the running of the Movement. But I ask them to bear with us. Remember community television is already here, in an experimental form admittedly. And RTE is increasing its main transmitting station power to 500 kW. Meanwhile, RTE TV has gone 80% colour. I believe also that the proposed second radio and television channels are on the way. Certainly the facilities are being installed for this purpose. So take heart, me hearties!

After all, the IRM is primarily a forum for discussion among radio (and television) enthusiasts and there is a severe limit to what it can do. It must operate within the law, for example. It should scarcely be necessary to say that.

The most obvious title "The Irish Radio Association", which was considered, had to be dropped like a hot potato as the initials would cause confusion to say the least. Believe it or not, the title "Irish Broadcasting Council" was also seriously considered at the first meeting in Stillorgan. This, of course, had to be abandoned almost immediately as it, too, had somewhat misleading connotations. Even RTE thought the present name "The Irish Radio Movement" was "an official-sounding title"!

Be that as it may, the time has come around to looking back at the year gone by. Well, we've survived. Perhaps we may review it in detail at the general meeting due in December.

One point I would like to make is this. Perhaps it might be more constructive to have a Vice-President rather than a publicity officer. When I vacate the post, in other words, go, someone else can step into my shoes, so to speak. In the meantime, a Vice-President need not be just a bureaucratic figure-head. He (or she) could play a constructive role in advising the President, for example. Because, like it or not, there has to be a hierarchy of some description to run things, that is people who are delegated to act for an organisation. Otherwise it's a case of "what's everybody's business is nobody's business".

KENNETH SHEENAN

DX TIP: Radio Portugal now broadcasts to Europe at 2230-2300 GMT in English on 6025 and 9740 kHz. Reception on the former frequency just has to be heard to be believed, it's fantastic. RP now have a novel way of presenting the news with two announcers and extracts of music between the items - very effective.....

... JD

POLITICAL CLANDESTINE RADIO STATIONS

BY JARI R. PELTONIEMI

RADIO ESPANA INDEPENDIENTE: This clandestine station broadcasts from Chuj in Rumania in the Spanish language. It is owned by the "Spanish Republican Government", but, in reality, it is the Radio Voice of the Spanish Communist Party (PCE). The best time to hear REI is between 1300-1355 hours GMT on 10110v, 12140v, 14482-14505v and 15507 kHz. Identification in Spanish is "Atencion a las ondas volantes, Habla Radio Espana Independiente, Estacion Pirenaice". The station issues a very beautiful QSL card (by Pablo Picasso) and the station's address is: Box 359, Prague, 1, Czechoslovakia. Reports will be accepted in Spanish, French or English.

RADIO PORTUGAL LIVRE: This station is also located at Chuj in Rumania and it is operated by the Portuguese Communist Party. The best time to log this station is between 1800-1955 hours GMT on 10500v and 15483v kHz. Identification in Portuguese is "Fala Radio Portugal Livre, Aqui Radio Portugal Livre, Emissora Portuguesa progresso E'tudo democracia e independencia nacional". Broadcasts from this station have continued even after the coup in Portugal last April.

RADIO EUZKADI: This station broadcasts from Caracas in Venezuela and it is operated by the Basque ETA Movement which is fighting for the independence of the Basque provinces of Spain and France. Two 80 kW transmitters are controlled by the ETA, but the power output appears to be only about 20 kW. Radio Euzkadi is best heard between 2228-2305 hours GMT on 12060-12120v kHz and 13200-13310v kHz in Basque, French, Spanish and English. Identification in Basque is "Enmen Euzkadi Irratia" and in English "This is Radio Euzkadi, the Voice of the Basque Underground." Reports are verified with a QSL card and their address is B.P. 59, Poste Centrale, 75-Paris (16), France. Reports may be in Spanish, French or English and two IRCs must be included with the report in order to obtain a reply.

RADIO ESCUDA: This is a new clandestine station. It is also connected with the Basque Underground Movement and is located in south-west Europe.

It will be noted that the above stations operate on variable frequencies, this enables these stations to avoid jamming stations operated by Spain and Portugal.

Many thanks, Jari, for your interesting article on clandestine stations, the first three with which you have dealt may be heard clearly here in Ireland, but I have not heard of the last station you mentioned. Perhaps you could let us have further details... We look forward to receiving further articles from you on the subject of political clandestine stations JD

Your editor has been searching for some trans-Atlantic medium wave DX stations, but, this season, they are proving pretty difficult to log - at least that is the case before Midnight 30 GMT. However, one or two stations are coming through, and these include Stichting Radio Omroep Suriname on 725 kHz which is heard in Dutch quite often from as early as 2230 hours GMT, also CJON in St. John's, Newfoundland, comes in well on 930 kHz.

From one of our younger members, 15-year-old Gerry Delaney, Bushfield House, Hollymount P.O., Co. Mayo, we have received the following article. We think it should be of particular interest to IRM members who are fairly new to the DX hobby:

BUYING A RECEIVER: The selection is a matter of personal choice, even if it is influenced by the amount of cash available. Here now are details of the different types of receivers, their advantages and disadvantages:

(1) **DOMESTIC SET:** This type of receiver is mains operated - nowadays they have been generally replaced by the portable transistor battery operated set - but several years back they were quite common in almost every home. The receiver usually had a short wave band (or sometimes even two or three) in addition to the normal long and medium wave bands. It was quite normal to have an outdoor antenna with these receivers and a remarkable amount of DX could be heard with such a set-up. Many of these old domestic models are still around, the most popular brands being Philips, Mullard, Pye, etc. Limitations on these receivers included lack of bandspread control and rather wide bandwidths which meant that it was a little difficult to separate stations on the short wave bands.

(2) **COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVERS:** There are many types of communications receivers

available, some of the most popular models being the Eddystone EC10, the Trio 9R-59DS, the Codar CR100, etc. Communications receivers normally cover the medium wave band; they provide short wave coverage from 1.6 to 30 MHz in a number of different switched bands. Sensitivity and selectivity is usually very good, and far superior to that of domestic receivers. For instance, the selectivity enables the separation of stations broadcasting very closely to one another. Most short wave stations are spaced only about 5 kHz apart, therefore selectivity is very important. On medium wave selectivity is also very important as there are so many high powered European stations, and on receivers with poor selectivity these powerful stations tend to blot out other weaker stations broadcasting on adjacent channels. The communications receiver is equipped to overcome this problem to some extent. Other main features of communications receivers are RF gain controls, AF gain controls, Antenna trimmers (which match the antenna to the receiver), BFO (which enables the listener to tune into SSB transmissions). Here in Ireland, communications receivers are fairly expensive, but some second-hand models may be available if one shops around a bit.

(3) WORLD PORTABLES: These receivers cover medium wave, long wave and short wave, and sometimes FM. The short wave band may provide continuous coverage from 1.6 to 30 MHz in several switched bands. World Portables are normally operated by battery, but, in some cases, they may also be operated from the mains supply with the aid of a special adaptor. National, Sony and Grundig manufacture some of the most popular world portables. However, these receivers have certain limitations, the transistorised circuitry combined with the built-in antennae make them prone to images and harmonics when connected to external antennae, as a "mismatch" results. On medium wave the best type of antenna to use is the 40" by 40" box loop. This will significantly improve the signals on medium wave and will not cause any overloading.

(4) SURPLUS RECEIVERS: If you have a technical knowledge and have a limited purse, you could perhaps invest in one of the many surplus receivers which come on the market. These are ex-army and ex-navy receivers and models include the HRO7, the Murphy B40, etc.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Regarding surplus receivers, I do not think many of these are available in this country, but I've noted a wide selection advertised in British radio magazines. There are certain obvious reasons why surplus army equipment is not released on the market here in Ireland - JD)

ADVERTISEMENT:

IRM MEMBER NO. 70, JARI R. PELTONIEMI, WOULD LIKE TO EXCHANGE FREE RADIO RECORDINGS. HE WILL SEND HIS LIST TO EVERYONE WHO SENDS THEIR LIST TO HIM. PLEASE WRITE TO:

JARI R. PELTONIEMI, URHEILUK 9, SF-94100-KEMI 10, FINLAND

Jari has been kind enough to pass on his list of recordings to your editor and the following is a short review:

The list consists of five pages - a total of 56 different recordings. RECORDING NO. 1 is an LP recording giving the full story in 45 minutes of offshore radio from 1958 to 1970. Stations on the recording include Radio Scotland, Carline, RNI, Veronica, Capital, London, Hauraki, City, 270, Nord, Mercur, Syd, CNBC (Radio Veronica English programmes in 1962), Sutch, Invicta, Essex, BBMS, England, 390, Britain, 355, Dolfijn, Radio and TV Noordzee from the REM Island, Caroline International ... this is a tape copy of the famous LP by Paul Harris.

RECORDING NO. 10 is the Radio Caroline Story - LP tape copy of this record - includes Radio Caroline history from 1964 to 1967. It also contains recordings of Radio Atlanta, Caroline North and South, The Caroline Cash Casino, Johnny Walker and Robbie Dale together on August 13, jingles, etc. and the B side is about the comeback of Caroline in 1972. You can hear items with Crispian St. John, Andy Archer, test transmissions, recording of Radio 199, the first Caroline programme on Friday December 22nd, 1972, jingles and an interview with Ronan O'Rahilly. The recording lasts 46 minutes.

RECORDING NO. 55 sounds very interesting - the write-up goes like this: "ON THE RUN", the Story of London's Clandestine Broadcasting Stations. This 90 minute documentary traces the story of London's pirate broadcasting from 1967 to the end of 1973, from Radio Free London, the Helen Broadcasting Network and Radio Jackie to the VHF pirates and Radio Kaleidoscope. Excerpts are included from over 30 other stations - just a selection of the many transmitters which found their way on to the airwaves of London. You'll hear

interviews with Mike Knight of Radio Jackie, Michael Lindsey (ex Radio Free London) and a member of the Radio Kaleidoscope crew. The documentary also contains news broadcasts on BBC Radio London and Radio Luxembourg reporting raids on stations. The recording lasts 90 minutes.

Well, I have only reviewed three of the 56 different recordings - many of the 49 metre band short wave stations are also featured on recordings. Recording No. 48, for instance, contains a fourteen minute recording of Radio Hit Sud, Time Radio and the mighty Radio Valleri International.

When writing to Jari you might like to include an IRC to cover return postage, though he does not actually say he requires IRCs for a reply.JD

Radio Valleri celebrated its first anniversary on Sunday 20th October, 1974, by broadcasting a special programme in the 49 metre band which traced the history of the station and also brought back memories of other free radio stations which have unfortunately vanished from the scene.JD

PETER F. DUNNE, JNR

ADVERTISEMENT:

PRINTER BY APPOINTMENT TO THE IRM
82, MARIAN CRESCENT, RATHFARNHAM, DUBLIN, 14.
DANCE CARDS, BUSINESS CARDS, NOTEPAPER, ETC.

Radio London International was heard on Sunday 20/10/1974 with its first transmission in two years on approximately 6230 kHz at 1100 hours GMT. Sign off was at approximately 1122 hours. The address sounded something like: 13, Shirley St., Roncourt, Stoke-on-Trent. The signal was very strong.

ABC Europe, the Dutch free radio station, broadcasts a DX programme at 0845 hours GMT every fortnight - an edition of the programme was heard on 6250 kHz on the 20/10/74. Reception was very good.JD

From Aine Bourke, Marieville House, Johnstown Bridge, Enfield, Co. Meath, we have received some comments on the magazine. She describes the first edition as "awful"! But goes on to comment favourably on editions two and three. She describes edition two as being like a "real" magazine ... "It looked like a professional amateurs job...the layout was good, too..." Aine does Art at School and she, therefore, likes a magazine "that catches the eye". Well, Aine, I hope this edition "catches your eye"! Do write and tell us... I hope you received my letter to you dated 24th July last.JD

My sincere thanks go out to Dr. John Campbell, King's College, Cambridge, and Patrick Callaghan, Carrowkeel, Clontuskert, Ballinasloe, for their welcome letters. In due course, both of you will be receiving personal replies.....JD

Thanks, also, to Alan Geraty for his article for the magazine, as I write this page I am not sure if there will be sufficient space to include it in this issue, but we will certainly not push your ideas to one side, Alan, and if your article is not included in this issue, we will include it next time.....JD

I also wish to acknowledge letters from our faithful supporters, Eamonn O'Connor and Peter F. Dunne. Peter does some very fine printing and we are very impressed with the work he has turned out.

And we must not forget to thank Anne for getting the stencils duplicated for us. I think we all agree that you are doing an excellent job for the IRM as we do not have the facilities yet to duplicate the magazine ourselves. I hope the postman will deliver these stencils to you safely!JD

A SIGN OF THE TIMES...! Adventist World Radio lost some airtime during three Sundays in June and July due to a technicians' strike and electric power failures... On May 30th the technicians at the transmitter site in Sines decided to strike for higher wages and changes in working policies. The strike was settled within a week. Electric power cuts were responsible for the station not being on the air on June 16th and July 28th. English programmes are broadcast by AWR on 9670 kHz on Sundays at 0830 and 0930 hours GMT. A DX programme is included in the schedule. This is presented by our friends at the World DX Club and the Medium Wave Circle.JD

HOLLAND 1974

... .. BY MARK STORY

Well, it's really happened... Holland, home of offshore radio for fourteen years, has outlawed the offshore commercial stations, which, up until September 1st, had been tendered from Scheveningen. Now, only Caroline remains — gone are Radio Noordsee International, Radio Veronica and Radio Atlantis. The Caroline ship, Mi Amigo, is now anchored off the English coast and is tendered from Spain.

I went over to Holland to see for myself firsthand the end of the offshore era. My first impression is one of amazement that the Marine Broadcasting Offences Bill succeeded. On September 1st, each of the Dutch National daily newspapers devoted editorials to the closedown of Veronica, and they called for the continuation of the station which had been so popular with the Dutch people for so long. They said Veronica should not be allowed to die, but should be allowed time on Hilversum 111, which M. Van Doorm, Minister for Culture (including Posts and Telegraphs) refuses to do.

I visited the offices of Holland's largest selling national newspaper, De Telegraaf, and was told that they had received literally hundreds of letters and telegrams in support of Radio Veronica.

M. Van Doorm was assaulted and had to receive medical treatment the same day, and the parliament building in The Hague was evacuated due to a bomb scare which was more than likely connected with the banning of Veronica.

In Van Hagendorpstraat, Caroline's offices are well and truly closed after a police raid during which taped programmes for Radio Mi Amigo were taken away by the police. Mi Amigo is still on the air with plenty of Belgian advertising. It is now probably the most popular station in Holland and Belgium, while a recent opinion poll gives Caroline a sizable audience in Britain, and this support needs to grow very fast if the station is to survive after the British General Election. The station will need much more support and, as Northern Europe's only offshore radio station, it also needs Irish support, and, for this very reason, we, at the IRM, have produced some new publicity stickers in support of Caroline. One of these stickers is enclosed with this magazine and we hope you will like it.

FREE RADIO LONDON RALLY 1974

BY MARK STORY

Possibly the last Free Radio Rally took place at Hyde Park Corner on Sunday August 18th, and, while a distinct lack of publicity preceded the Rally, an estimated five to six hundred people turned up. In addition to the badly organised publicity, the Rally itself was also disorganised — with no loud hailers, no proper arrangements for speakers and a general dissatisfaction with Caroline which had supposedly been responsible for organising the Rally. In actual fact, Caroline had nothing to do with the Rally, but only gave publicity to it, as had Radios Atlantis and Jackie to varying degrees.

As a Rally, the 1974 event was a failure, but, as a meeting of those who believed in and support the idea of alternative free radio, it was a real success. Those present included Tony Allen, Alan West, Norman Barrington, Andy Anderson, Steve England, Robb Eden and Robbie Day from the offshore stations, plus various heads of English free radio organisations and London-based landbased stations. Tony Allen was the "Star of the Show" (or the "Belle of the Ball" as someone said!) and was easily the most popular person present - a man with a magnetic personality who seems very sincere.

It was announced that Atlantis would not defy the Dutch Bill - this was announced by Andy Anderson. Alan West remained quiet, but admitted that he had hoped to return to the air over Atlantis very soon. Caroline's Robb Eden stood by eating an ice cream cone, and posed for photographs with the IRM President, Ken Sheehan, Radio Empathy's Ed McDowell, and IRM Secretary, Mark Story....while Atlantis deejay, Robbie Day, joined in for the Irish Post photograph (an English newspaper for Irish immigrants). An article about the Rally and the IRM appeared in a subsequent edition. We were assured by Robb Eden that Caroline would continue.

Police intervened towards the end of the Rally and stated that no march was possible, and the crowd was asked to disperse. A section of the crowd did, in fact, march to Capital Radio to protest over the use of Veronica's wavelength by that station. The IRM President hoped they would also argue the case of RTE also obliterated in London by Capital Radio. A spokesman was later interviewed on London's news and current affairs commercial station, London Broadcasting.

The Rally was finally brought to a halt by a rain storm, and, while it was

disappointing as a Rally, it did show that the stations did have real support in England despite the lack of organisation which seems to be a hallmark of free radio activities.

RADIO NEDERLAND is now beaming one of its broadcasts to Europe via its relay transmitter in Madagascar. This transmission is audible on 11730 kHz daily at 2000 hours GMT. Reception is quite good, apart from some slight "splash" from a jammer on the adjacent frequency of 11725 kHz. Just before the commencement of the broadcast, the familiar Radio Nederland intermission signal may be heard, and there is regular local identification superimposed on the IS every few minutes. Get this station verified and add a new country to your list! NOTE: As from the first Sunday in November, this transmission will be on 9630 kHz. ... JD

Bizim Radio, the Turkish speaking clandestine station, is heard every Sunday morning with a transmission at 0810-0840 hours GMT on approximately 6200 kHz. Reception is very good and the channel at that time is practically free of interference. Can any member tell me whether or not this station can be contacted, and, if so, at what address? ... JD

SPLASHING AROUND THE MARINE BAND

BY JOHN DOWLING

Recently I turned my attention to the marine band, which lies in the frequency range just above the medium wave band, and I found that I could increase my number of utility verifications by listening and reporting to the many stations which operate in that band.

As most of you already know, the international emergency and distress frequency of 2182 kHz is located right in the middle of the marine band. If you are interested in monitoring the various coastal stations, I suggest that a watch be maintained on this frequency, as the coastal stations put out a general call to all ships before they broadcast a weather forecast, gale warning or navigational warning. The coastal station will also announce the frequency on which it is going to broadcast the message. Several coastal stations in Britain and Ireland broadcast weather forecasts from around 2000 hours GMT - consequently, that is the best time to listen.

Make out your report for the station and then address it to the "Officer-in-Charge" of the station to which you are reporting. Exact addresses for the British stations are not really necessary, but you should try and ascertain the approximate location by consulting your atlas and noting the county. For example, if you look up the location of Oban Coastal Radio, you will note that it is located in Argyllshire in Scotland.

Include return postage when writing to these coastal stations as, in reality, they are not very interested in reports from DX-ers and reply out of courtesy. Therefore, you, out of courtesy, should send return postage. Irish members could send a British 5p coin (IRCs are too dear and Irish stamps are no use in Britain!)

Here, now, are details of some verifications received recently from Coastal Stations:

ILFACOMBE RADIO (Hore Down, Mullacott Cross, Ilfacombe, Devon): Heard on 2670 kHz with a gale warning at 1135 GMT. The power output of this station is 600 watts. Verification is by letter.

JERSEY RADIO (Department of Electronics, States Airport, St. Peter, Jersey): This station may be heard daily on 1657.5 kHz with a weather forecast at 1845 hours GMT. Verification is by letter and the Officer-in-Charge, Mr. D. Clarke, informed the writer that he was a former student of Kevin St. Tech. and also served as a Radio Officer in the Merchant Navy.

LAND'S END RADIO (St. Just, Penzance, Cornwall): This station transmits its weather forecast on 1841 kHz. Verification is by letter.

NORTHFORELAND RADIO. (96 Rumfields Road, Broadstairs, Kent): This station transmits its weather forecast shortly after 2000 hours GMT on 1848 kHz. The power output is 600 watts.

OBAN RADIO (Connel, Argyll, Scotland): The weather forecast from this station is broadcast around 2000 hours on 2740 kHz. Power output is 500 watts and verification is by letter.

PORTPATRICK RADIO (Portpatrick, Stranraer, Wigtownshire, DG9 8TG): This

station was heard at 2035 hours GMT on 1883 kHz. Power output is about 400 watts. Verification is by letter - my verification even included an invitation to visit the station if I ever happened to be in the area!

VALENTIA RADIO (Knight's Town, Valentia Island, Co. Kerry): The power output of this station is about 250 watts and the frequency used for weather forecasts at around 2030 hours GMT is 1827 kHz. During the summer I had the pleasure of visiting Valentia Radio. I was made most welcome by the staff, and I had the opportunity of speaking to the operators on duty at the time I called.

Our faithful Scottish member, Kenneth Macinnes, has been in touch by letter with the Department of Posts and Telegraphs regarding the possibility of an overseas broadcasting station for Ireland. We now publish in full Kenneth's letter to the Department together with the reply from the Irish Postal Authorities:

Dear Sir,

Puzzlement has provoked me into writing this letter. Ever since I first became interested in radio a couple of years ago, I have been puzzled by the lack of an international service of Radio Telefis Eireann. Why is it, when almost every other nation in the world has a shortwave service, that the Irish Republic has not? Even such countries as Kuwait and Sudan have foreign broadcasts...

What could possibly be the disadvantages of operating an international service? I can think of none. I can, however, think of two overwhelming reasons for having one.

The first concerns the international image of the Irish. For so long, the Irishman has been the victim of racialist jokes. Surely, if RTE broadcasts were heard all over the world a better understanding of Ireland and the Irish could be expected. Allied to this is my second point... The violence in Ulster gets worldwide attention. Whenever a soldier is shot in Derry or a bomb explodes in Belfast, people around the world don't think of these incidents as having happened in Ulster, but in IRELAND. They generalise... They are under the mistaken impression that ALL Ireland is in a state of strife. But without broadcasts from Ireland to tell them differently how can they be blamed for their misconceptions?

If it was constantly stressed that south of Sligo or Dundalk, Ireland is as peaceful as anywhere else, then tourism would surely be helped tremendously. The cost of setting up and running an overseas service would be paid for many times over by the amount of foreign currency tourists would bring in to the country. Due to their ignorance people have crossed Ireland off their list of possibles when deciding on a holiday. For many of them RTE could have told them the true story. Other radio stations, including domestic services, concentrate on Ireland only when there are events and that means the violence in Ulster. Even the BBC World Service only tells of the violence.

A third reason for having an overseas department of RTE would be to cater for the large numbers of Irish living abroad, particularly in Britain and the United States of America. In Britain, the Irish are, to a large extent, catered for by RTE on 530 metres, but the American Irish cannot hear RTE's domestic service.

I hope you will be able to reply personally and in detail to my letter. I thank you in anticipation.

Kenneth Macinnes

Department of Posts and Telegraphs

Dear Sir,

I refer to your letter of the 16th August, 1974, regarding the provision of a short-wave radio service.

The matter was considered in the late 1940's but was not proceeded with due to the difficulty of securing an interference-free wavelength and the consideration that short-wave listening in the United States and Great Britain was negligible because of poor listening conditions, the general absence of short-wave bands on radios and the spread of television.

The question of providing a short-wave radio service was again recently examined but there was no substantial change in the position. There

is still no international plan for the allocation of frequencies in the short-wave band which means that there would be difficulty in obtaining suitable interference-free frequencies and even if suitable frequencies could be found initially for a service there would be no assurance that they would stay reasonably interference-free since Administrations are not compelled to adhere to particular frequencies.

To make any worthwhile impact on a global basis, a substantial investment would have to be made in equipment and programme resources. An illustration is provided by the BBC whose world wide coverage is provided from 69 high-powered transmitters, of which 43 are in the United Kingdom and 26 are at relay stations overseas. Even when scaled down to what might be reasonable for this country, the investment required would obviously be substantial.

In regard to the United States the Department has been informed that the number of sets capable of receiving international short-wave broadcasts is substantially less than 1% of the total of radio sets in that country.

Having regard to all the circumstances the Department came to the conclusion that the heavy cost involved would not be justified.

You may perhaps be aware that RTE are installing a new and more powerful medium-wave transmitter to replace the Athlone transmitter and that this should improve reception in Britain substantially, especially during daylight hours.

I would like to express my appreciation of the interest you have shown in this matter.

SIGNED: S. O Gealbhain

We would also like to refer to a letter from the Department of Posts and Telegraphs which was received by IRM President, Ken Sheehan. The following quotation is, we think, self-explanatory:

A Chara,

Please refer to your enquiry about the possibility of establishing a local radio station in this country.

The legal position is that under Irish law a single public corporation - Radio Telefis Eireann - is responsible for the control and operation of Irish broadcasting. There is no provision for the establishment or operation of broadcasting stations by private interests. It is not possible, therefore, under existing legislation to grant to any person or organisation, other than Radio Telefis Eireann, a licence to establish or operate a broadcasting service in this country.

SIGNED: D. Hogan

LOCAL RADIO FORUM

... ..

BY JOHN DOWLING

Welcome to this section in which we hope to bring you some of the latest news from the local radio scene in Britain and Ireland:

SWANSEA SOUND: This station is now on the air on Radio Caroline South's old frequency of 1169 kHz (257 metres). The station is intended for reception in the south-west Wales area and the power output is listed at 800 watts. Here, in south Carlow, reception is very good during the daytime, but, as night time approaches, there is interference from continental stations. A directional antenna, however, helps considerably. The exact schedule of the station is not known but it has been heard signing-off at midnight on a Saturday at which time reception was even possible on a small transistor radio without any external antenna. Swansea Sound also operates on the FM frequency of 95.1 MHz.

RADIO FORTH: Information received recently from the IBA Engineering Information Service states that tests in preparation for the opening of Radio Forth (Edinburgh) on 1546 kHz (194 metres) have recently been completed. The next series of tests will take place in December.

RADIO HALLAM: This IBA station, which serves the Sheffield area, is difficult to log here in Ireland (at least at this location), but I have been able to hear and identify the recorded announcements which are superimposed on the station's carrier after the end of normal programmes at 0200 hours. If you hear this announcement and identification, which is repeated every five or six minutes, the IBA will issue a verification from their office at Crawley Court, Winchester, Hants., SO21 2QA. But be sure to get the full text of the

announcement.

RADIO CITY: Another IBA station scheduled to operate on 1546 kHz, this station will serve the Liverpool area. Test transmissions have been heard recently, and a very strong signal has been noted. Best reception will be obtained from Radio City by using a directional antenna as there are now several other local stations on this frequency, including BBC Radio Bristol which is heard quite well in the east of Ireland. A report on one of the test transmissions may be sent to the Crawley Court address and verification is by letter almost by return of post. In addition, the IBA will send, on request, further information about the local radio stations in Britain.

RADIO NA GAELTACHTA: One night recently a comparison was made between the signal strengths of RTE on 566 kHz and Radio na Gaeltachta's Connemara transmitter on 539 kHz. Firstly, the receiver's RF gain was set to receive Radio na Gaeltachta at strength nine, then the dial was tuned to RTE without adjusting the RF gain. RTE's signal then only registered 9 + 20 dbs! It was observed that Radio na Gaeltachta's signal is grossly undermodulated, the percentage modulation must, indeed, be very low. Recent reports indicate that R. na G. is being heard consistantly on the west coast of Britain...

CAPITAL RADIO: This station now provides a good clear signal during the daytime with just some occasional "splash" from RTE Athlone on the adjacent frequency. Continental QRM blocks the channel from late afternoon...

BBC RADIO FOUR SOUTH-WEST: For some time now the BBC has been carrying its regional programmes to south-west England via low-powered medium wave transmitters at Barnstaple (683 kHz), Plymouth (1457 kHz) and Torquay (854 kHz). Reception of the Barnstaple transmitter is excellent during the morning and throughout the day, and good reception has been noted from the Plymouth transmitter with regional news before 0800 hours. If you wish to receive verifications for any of these transmitters it is best to report on a local programme and reports may be sent to the BBC's local office in Plymouth, Devon.

Still on the subject of local radio, our Scottish friend, Kenneth Macinnes, has sent us an interesting article which appeared in the June 6th edition of the "Glasgow Herald".

The article states that Radio Clyde has had a relatively trouble-free existence so far, and the station's managing-director, James Gordon, states that they have now reached "break-even point". 60% of the station's advertising space is being sold and some 71% of the population are tuning in.

The article goes on to deal with the problems which London Broadcasting and Capital Radio came up against when they first came on the air... The results of a recent survey proved interesting - out of 200 people interviewed at peak listening time only five were listening to Capital Radio and none were listening to London Broadcasting.

Hughie Green, the television personality who was a strong believer in commercial radio, withdrew from the bidding for the London entertainment station franchise after spending £60,000 on research. He concluded that commercial radio just was not viable...

Also, the costs of setting up a station are very high - Radio Clyde's studios cost £300,000 and £93,000 has to be paid over to the IBA in rent for the use of the transmitter. Out of the advertising revenue 15% has to be paid in copyright fees for records played on the station.

Now, the IBA has stopped awarding radio franchises, so the target of 60 commercial stations will probably never be reached. And the Labour Government is well-known for its opposition to commercial or independent radio and they are liable to impose punitive levies on advertising revenue at any time.

Our thanks again to Kenneth Macinnes for supplying us with information on the Scottish local radio stations. ... JOHN DOWLING

FORMULA FOR CONVERTING KILOHERTZ TO METRES OR VISA VERSA Several members of the IRM probably still use "metres" when dealing with "frequencies". These members may find the terms "kiloHertz" and "MegaHertz" confusing. There is a simple method of converting "metres" to "kiloHertz... Frequency in KiloHertz is calculated by dividing 300000 by the wavelength in metres. The wavelength in metres is calculated by dividing 300000 by the frequency in kiloHertz.

JOHN DOWLING

Our good friend and active supporter, Dr. John Campbell, Cambridge, has been kind enough to supply us with the following up-to-date information - trust you will find it interesting:

CAMBODIA: Radio Nationale Khmère on 4907 kHz may be heard with good signals from opening at 2200 hours. The station carries unique Asian music. Since the last Asian DX season, this station has begun to answer reports. A prepared card is required, with two IRCs, and they should be sent to the Chief Engineer. Reports should be in French.

INDONESIA: (1) RRI, Jogjakarta (that's how it sounds) or Yogyakarta (in the new spelling) on 5047 kHz is fair from about 1630 to 1700 sign-off, with local music.

(2) RRI, Pekanbaru on 5853 kHz may be heard on "good" Asian nights from 2300 opening. The station has five minutes of old commercials at 2350, most unusual.

(3) Regional stations usually send QSL letters, but those with their own cards are Ujung Pandang, Surabaya and Yogyakarta. Banda Aceh will send local postcard with QSL text on back if specially requested.

LIBYA: The short wave outlet on 8630 kHz is now back on the air after about ten months off. Carries the Home Service in Arabic and is heard best around 2130 hours. Reports, with an IRC, should go to the Chief Engineer, who may be interested in reports now, because of renewed broadcasting. The station is normally hard to QSL.

PIRATES: (Times mentioned are LOCAL)

(a) Radio Seagull is a new station on 6272 kHz, but is announcing 6320 kHz. Operates 1100-1700 on Saturdays, not Sundays. This station has not announced any address yet. (I am not aware of any address for this station either - Editor). Does anyone else know of an address for this station?

(b) The following is a list of Sunday pirates with latest frequencies, usual opening times and addresses:

- 6210 Radio Valleri - 1000 or 1030 hours - Box EIV, 40, Ivor court, Gloucester Place, London, NW1 6BL.
- 6215 Radio Freedom - 0900 hours - Free Radio Enterprises, 15, Springfield Place, Roslin, Midlothian, Scotland.
- 6224.6 Jesus Radio - probably 1030 hours - 3, Northside, Rockwell Green, Wellington, Somerset. Tests are predicted for the near future.
- 6225 Radio Europe International - 1030 hours - 9, Northside, Havant, Hampshire.
- 6228 Radio Kristel - 1100 hours - Box K7, 40, Ivor Court, Gloucester Place, London, NW1 6BL.
- 6235 Radio Copernicus - 1200 hours - c/o John Dee, 9, North St., Havant, Hampshire.
- 6235.7 Radio England - 1000 hours - same address as for Jesus Radio.
- 6240 Tower Radio - 1030 hours - latest information is that this station is now using the "same" address as Radio England - the address was formerly 339, Derby Road, Nottingham. The station is planning tests for dry Sundays in England!
- 6250 ABC Europe - 0850 hours GMT - Postbus 9363, Den Haag, Holland.
- 6275 Radio Sixty Nine - 1100 hours - Box 69 at 40, Ivor Court, etc. (This is the station with the lovely QSL card).

SCOTLAND: Radio Free Scotland was on 6281 kHz after the British Elections with a celebration in favour of the Scottish National Party.

SIERRA LEONE: SLBS says that it will soon be testing a new 250 kW transmitter on 3316, 5980 and the new frequency 9630 kHz. This should be interesting, because the present transmitters are very hard to hear because of interference. Reports to Mr. E. Pele Roberts, Engineer-in-Charge.

JOHN CAMPBELL

Also 6225 Radio Venus North - 1300, 1330 or 1400 hours - BOX EVI.

On October 4th, 1974, the case against the operator of Radio Empathy was heard. Here now is a report written specially for this magazine:

"Take your hands out of your pockets, and repeat after me - I said, repeat after me..." muttered the Clerk, in a sharp whisper, and the Judge asked sternly, "Well?"

The place was Dundrum Courthouse; the time was 11 a.m.; the occasion being the trial of one Mr. Ed McDowell; the charge: murdering the airwaves with illegal broadcasts...

Three summonses had been issued, following the raid on Radio Empathy six months previously - one each for working, using and keeping a transmitter (a "crate o' bottles") without a licence. One of the three was struck out, since two of the three were so ridiculously similar as to border on the absurd.

Mr. McDowell was informed upon entering at 10.30 that "half the Post Office" had turned up for the case, and was flattered, at first, that so many people had turned up. It then gradually dawned on this most perceptive young man that they were, in fact, the opposition, and reflected that, perhaps, this sort of popularity could be done without!

Mr. Paul Kearney, who did such a fine job, defended, asking the accused a few questions regarding the broadcasts. Mr. Kearney then said that the return of most of the equipment could be effected, after a small consultation with the prosecution, in the person of Mr. Declan McGovern, for the Post Office. On the whole, the Post Office were reasonable enough, and did agree to confiscate only the medium wave and VHF transmitters and medium wave modulator (although, in fact, that's all they were entitled to confiscate).

The case of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs versus Ed McDowell commenced at 10.55. Mr. McGovern, kicking off, called upon the Sergeant of the Investigation Branch, who told the court, or, in this case, mostly the Judge, how he, representatives of the Engineering Branch, and uniformed Gardai entered premises in south Dublin, warrent in hand, made their way straight to the attic, where, for some reason, they guessed (correctly!) that the transmissions originated. In this attic, they found the accused, along with a number of items of radio transmitting and sound equipment which they proceeded to dismantle and load into a car. It was then brought to Dundrum Garda station.

Mr. McGovern then asked that one of the summonses should be struck off. Agreeing, the Justice asked about any previous convictions, and was, of course, told there were none.

Mr. Kearney, defending, told the Justice of the agreement to return all equipment to the accused, with the exception of the first three items on the list (this being a six page file compiled on Radio Empathy by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, taking into account everything that was taken, and, in some cases, alluding to specific items, etc.) The first three items being the two transmitters and the modulator.

It should be added that, throughout the hearing, audibility was dreadful and, even in the front benches, it would be necessary to strain one's ears to hear what was being said.... And so to where we came in...

Ed McDowell was called to the stand and asked by the Clerk, "To take your hands out of your pockets". After the swearing in, Mr. Justice O'Reilly asked McDowell, "Well, young man?" McDowell's immediate thought was that he was being called upon to say something on his own behalf, as it were, to plead for leniency, and stood aghast, and enquiringly at the Justice's request, contributing an awkward pause to otherwise smooth flowing, if almost inaudible, proceedings. At this, the Justice qualified, "Well, do you agree to this undertaking?" McDowell, because of the terrible acoustic conditions, did not realise what had been arranged between the defence and the Department officials, as they were sitting at a table between himself and the Justice. After clarification, he decided that this would be the best course open in order to avoid forfeiture of the equipment and/or a heavy fine. Agreeing, he said "Yes" and, in the process, called the Justice "Your Worship" by accident.

During the case, Mr. Kearney, defending, had cause to tell the Judge that mostly pop music was being broadcast, twice or three times a week (nothing really subversive about that), at which the Justice, good humouredly, cast his eyes towards the celestial abode of the departed, and remarked that this was purely constructive interest on the accused deejay's part, and seemed to think that, apart from the matter of the licence, that the whole thing was probably quite positive on McDowell's part.

Mr. McDowell was given the Probation Act, thereby not fined, and, in a cordial

session with the P. & T. outside the Courthouse afterwards, it was agreed that all boxes of equipment (worth about £400) would be returned in a P. & T. van (minus, of course, the MW modulator and the two "crates o' bottles")!

From Kevin Ryan, Beechwood, Roscommon, we have received the following information about QSLs which he recently received. Kevin has been DX-ing for only about seven or eight months, but already he is making good progress.

RADIO PEKING verified by airmail in 17 days with an attractive card showing a picture entitled "Night Cruise Through the Yangtse Gorges". (I also received a similar card and was surprised to note that the date and frequency were written in on the card. I also received enough "literature" to start my own waste paper disposal company - Editor). Radio Peking broadcasts to Europe from 2030 to 2230 hours and frequencies used include 6610, 6270 and 7690 kHz.

ORTF, PARIS, can be heard daily in their English language transmissions to Africa on 15295 kHz (time?) Reports are verified by QSL card and I received mine in 20 days. The address of ORTF is: Service de Controle des Emissions vers l'Etranger, Centre ORTF, Batiment H, Bureau 212, F-92130, Issay-les-Moulineaux.

RADIO FINLAND verified my report with a nice QSL card in 18 days. The station can be heard at 1400 on 9550 kHz, at 1800 on 15185 kHz and at 2030 on 9550 and 11755 kHz. Address is: Radio Finland, Helsinki 26, Finland.

SAARLANDISCHER RUNKFUNK (West Germany) verified a report for me by QSL card in 11 days. The station broadcasts on 1421 kHz MW 24 hours a day. I reported in German and the QSL was printed in German, French and English. Address is as follows: 66, Saarbrucken, Postfach 1050, West Germany.

SBC, BERNE, verified by QSL card in 13 days. Address of this station is: European and Overseas Services, CH-3000, BERN 16, Switzerland.

QSLs RECEIVED BY JOHN DOWLING

Radio Yaounde in the Cameroon verified my report by card in 63 days. Frequency was 4972,5 kHz in the 60 metre band. The reply was by air. IRC was sent.

Radio Nationale Tchadienne (Chad) verified my report by card in 16 days. Frequency was 4904,5 kHz. The reply came by air and, in fact, a second QSL was received about a fortnight after the first one!

Radio Clyde, Glasgow, verified by QSL card after no less than 180 days! I had sent a number of follow-up reports - all copies of the original report.

Radio Piccadilly, Manchester, verified by letter in 109 days... BBC Radio Sheffield verified by a nice QSL card after 147 days!

Six different Radio Nacional de Espana medium wave outlets were verified directly from Madrid. The frequencies were typed in on the six QSL cards.

Radio Tashkent, which was heard on 15460 kHz, verified by airmail in 33 days.

Land-based free radio stations verified included Radio Odyssey (1340 kHz) after a number of follow-up reports), Radio Freedom (Scotland) replied in 21 days - this station may be heard early on Sunday mornings on 6220 kHz. My report was also acknowledged over the air. Radio Europe International verified my report in 9 days - their frequency is 6225 kHz.

ADDRESS OF RADIO CAROLINE AND RADIO MI AMIGO IS: c/o Rado, Playa de Aro,
Province of Gerona, Spain..... ..JD

We have now just about come to the end of this "bigger than ever" edition of THE MEDIUM. Once again, may I stress the necessity for "feedback" from all the members, and that includes YOU! If you wish to have some information published or if you can write an article for us, don't put it "on the long finger" - do it NOW!

As you may not receive another edition of this magazine before Christmas, I will avail of this opportunity of wishing all our members a very happy and peaceful Christmas and all the best for 1975. I know it's a bit early to be sending out traditional "Season's Greetings", but sure I know you wont mind!

Cheerio for now, and don't forget to read our Secretary's notice about the renewal of subscriptions and the need for enclosing stamps with your letters to cover return postage.

JOHN DOWLING