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MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE Week ending Sunday 14th August 1983

The Central Radio listener's night out, held on Wednesday 10th August, was a great success, with about 100 people in attendance, including representatives from just about every local station except Merseyland Alternative radio.

During the week, stations heard have been back down to a minimum.

RADIO VERONICA were not heard on Monday night. The station engineer was working outside the Merseyside area that day, but rumour has it that Radio Veronica are not too satisfied with 1413kHz for evening and night-time operation. In the meantime, it has been reported that a station playing continuous music but no IDs was heard on Tuesday night on 1611kHz, 199m, one of Radio Veronica's old frequencies.

MERSEYLAND ALTERNATIVE RADIO were not heard on Saturday morning until approximately 10:50am. The frequency was checked at 10:25pm and nothing was heard. They appear to have played continuous music from 10:30am until the late sign-on of the ANDY SCOTT show at 11am. When the frequency was checked shortly before 1pm they had gone, and have not been heard for the rest of the weekend. (RAIDED AT MIDDAY!)

CENTRAL RADIO operated only from about 11am to 2pm on Saturday, mainly with continuous music. Jim Brown, the station manager, said that most of the DJs had failed to turn up, and that he got fed up playing continuous music so he closed down. On Sunday, they managed to fill their complete schedule, except that Rick Dene, a new DJ failed to materialise between 11am and noon. Line up has been:- 10am - 11am Engineering tests with many announcements; 11am - Noon Jim Brown; Noon - 1pm Mark Evans; 1pm - 2pm Mike Doyle; 2pm - 3pm Jon Brand; 3pm - 4pm Steve Turner; 4pm - 5pm Paul West; 5pm - 6pm Dave Rhodes; 6pm - 7pm Steve Tyler; 7pm - 8pm Mark Bazaar; 8pm onwards was phone-in requests and dedications

Central Radio were heard "testing" until 7pm on Monday night, and the news on Wednesday evening was that they are now crystal-controlled. Jim is to be congratulated for organising Wednesday's listener's night out at short notice, and doing it so efficiently.

RADIO JACKIE NORTH were heard from noon on Saturday and Sunday on 1395 and 963kHz. The former was very weak, and somewhat masked by Station "M" and Radio Eleanor, but Rick Dane announced that RJN was only using 10W on this frequency. The signal on 963kHz is never very strong in Wallasey, but it is a nice clean, clear signal which is perfectly readable. RJN operated until 7pm on Saturday, then announced that they would continue for a couple of hours with "tapes", but the station could not be found at 8pm. Sign-off time on Sunday was not noted.

KDA RADIO (FM only) tell me that they have almost finished the construction of a new Tx that they hope to operate from a greatly improved location in a few weeks time. This is a station that has never been heard in my QTH in the past, mainly due to the operational frequency not being anything like the announced frequency.

RNI were heard back on 1413kHz this Friday, but with a few more DJs, and an announcement to the effect that RNI was now spoilt for choice. I missed the full run-down of DJs, but managed to pick up:- Dave Graham; Dave Harrison; ..... Wilson, and me. This list should really have been printed in inverted commas, as it was spoken by Roger Dee. From my own observation, when I got home from work at approximately 6pm, JOHN FREEMAN of Station "M" International was doing his second "guest appearance" on RNI. Dave Graham has been a DJ on Merseyland Alternative Radio since it first started, which is why I particularly listened out for MAR

on Saturday. Although the new mailing address was announced last week, this week they are announcing it as a "new" mailing address.

RADIO ELEANOR managed their announced schedule on Saturday, except for the continuous music that was played during the Clarke Kent Show. At sign-off, Paul Rogers said that Clarke Kent was going on holiday that very night, and that he had not had time to prepare a show. He also announced that schedule for next weekend was uncertain, as Barry Cullen and Mark Wright were running things (Paul Rogers and Clarke Kent being on holiday). It was further announced that the station would be off the air for one weekend over the next Bank Holiday because so many people were on holiday that they did not have the staff available to keep the station on the air. Things will be back to normal on the following weekend.

LIVERPOOL PIRATE RADIO were heard for the first time today, with difficulty, following information divulged on Wednesday night. The station operates mainly on Saturday and Sunday generally from 9am to 8pm. Close-down today was 4:30pm, but Phil Davies announced that LPR will be on the air from 9am until 8pm on Tuesday to do an "Elvis Special" on the anniversary of his death. The mailing address for LPR is the same as that for Central Radio, ie 25 Glynne Street, Orrell, Bootle, Merseyside L10.

STATION "M" INTERNATIONAL opened at 11:30am with a  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour "guest appearance" of Eric Poad, whose name may be familiar to some, and ended with a new DJ, Marty Collins, although I am not sure whether the latter is "regular" or was also "guesting". Full line-up (all times are approximate) was 11:30am - Noon Eric Poad; Noon - 1pm Pete Heaton; 1pm - 2pm Kevin Palmer; 2pm - 3:30pm Tom Lodge; 3:30pm - 4:30pm John Freeman; 4:30pm - 5:30pm Phil James; 5:30pm - 6:30pm Roger Dee; 6:30pm - 7:30pm Phil James & Pete Heaton with the phone-in requests and dedications; 7:30pm - 8:30pm close-down Marty Collins.

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NEWS from the TOM LODGE SHOW on STATION "M" INTERNATIONAL

He reported that the return of Radio Caroline was featured on Breakfast time TV on both Wednesday and Friday mornings, but he really got his wires crossed when he said that RC was expected to start broadcasting "Today, Sunday 17th August". Letters from the station to Caroline have apparently not been answered, and Tom Lodge said that the latest info. from them was to the effect that the ship was being broken up!! Following last week's remarks that nobody from LBC had supported Peeno Kenny in court, Tom said that Bert Williams had called around to say that "he never got the letter, and even if he had, he would not have gone to Court because "they" have hidden cameras watching you". Tom invited the listeners to make of this what they would. He reported that Peeno Kenny was soon to start another station. (The one testing on 1611kHz ??). No details were given, but he hoped to interview Peeno Kenny on next week's programme. Radio Free Lancashire are supposed to be on 1170kHz, but Tom Lodge said that he hasn't heard anything of their signal. The next meeting of the Free Radio Association, open to two representatives from each station, is to take place on 7th September. Tom Lodge said that at all the other sessions, all they have done is get drunk, and he hopes that now the stations can get together to formulate some sort of policy and get the Association off the ground. Having met quite a pleasant bunch of guys at Wednesday's meeting, I think that they will all just get drunk again on 7th September!!