

MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE

Week Ending Sunday 28th August

Through the week I have been told that MERSEYLAND ALTERNATIVE RADIO and RADIO JACKIE NORTH did operate last weekend. RJN were supposed to have moved to 945kHz, but I have been assured that Rick Dane operated the transmitter on 217m(1395kHz) only, for about 1/2 hour, then closed it down. Time and date are not known. Ian Iredale tells me that he heard Merseyland Alternative Radio at 5pm on Sunday night, with the "John Dwyer Show", but on 1242kHz. The general feeling seems to be that this was probably another well-known local character with a Tx on 1242kHz indulging in his favourite pastime of playing old tapes.

Nothing has been heard through the week of Peanut Kenny's proposed high-powered station.

RNI 1413kHz Failed to appear for the second week running on Friday. In his show for Station "M" International, Roger Dee said that this week only one DJ show-up for his programme, and there were also a couple of other problems. He hoped that everything would be sorted out by next Friday and that RNI could continue with its scheduled programmes.

RADIO VERONICA 1413kHz Also failed to appear on the air for the second Monday running, so it looks as though last week's equipment problems have not yet been resolved

RADIO JACKIE NORTH Have not been heard this weekend on either 1395kHz, 963kHz or 945kHz.

MERSEYLAND ALTERNATIVE RADIO are another station not heard on either 1142kHz or 1242kHz.

LIVERPOOL PIRATE RADIO Were heard at 12:30pm on Saturday, on 1249kHz with an extremely weak signal. On Sunday they were heard around 11:30am, but had drifted up to 1255kHz. The signal was extremely weak, and just about causing QRM to MARCHER SOUND's test transmissions on 1260kHz. Having a vested interest in Marcher Sound, Radio City, who are nearer to LPR than I am, would undoubtedly be monitoring the signal on 1260kHz

CENTRAL RADIO 1358kHz Were heard at Noon sign-on on Saturday with Paul West standing-in for Mark Evans, followed by Mike Doyle and Jon Brand. The rest of the line-up was not noted, but due to holidays, the station is still short of a Saturday DJ, and it closed down at 6pm. On Sunday, they seem to have managed a fairly full day's programming, although the whole line-up was not heard. Heard were:-  
11am Jim Brown; Noon Phil Davies; 1pm continuous music by The Shadows; 1:20pm Mike Doyle; 2:20pm Jon Brand; 3:20 Steve Turner; 4:20pm Paul West; 5:20 Dave Rhodes; 6:20pm Mark Bazaar. A very protracted "phone-in" programme was heard in progress at 8:35pm and this did not finally sign-off until 9:50pm.

STATION "M" INTERNATIONAL 1413kHz Signed on shortly before noon on Sunday. Line-up was  
Noon Pete Heaton; 1pm Kevin Palmer; 2pm Tom Lodge;  
3:20 John Freeman; 4:45pm Mark Wright (of Radio Eleanor) guest appearance; 5:45pm Phil James; 6:45pm Roger Dee; 7:45pm Marty Collins; 8:45pm Pete Heaton/Phil James phone-in request and dedications show; 8:45pm close-down.

All presenters have been announcing a special Bank Holiday Monday Tom Lodge/Eric Monaghan/John Freeman/Kevin Palmer programming, with a new format. No further details were given. Tom Lodge announced during his show that the new FM transmitter was now ready, but was not yet on the air "for a very special reason", but he did not go into details. Big news is that Station "M" are running a competition to find a name for Peanut Kenny's new AM/FM station. The competition will be open for four weeks, and the winning suggestion will be awarded a prize of £50 in cash. Each entrant may suggest as many names as he or she wishes, and the only rules seem to be that the suggestions should be in envelopes, not postcards and should be sent to Station "M"'s mailing address ( 78, Brunswick Court, Birkenhead, Merseyside L41 6LW) to arrive within the next four weeks. Tom Lodge gave an assurance that this was not a publicity stunt, and the £50 prize money was a genuine offer.