

NORTH COAST COMMERCIAL RADIO 1512kHz. continue to be heard daily. This week they are announcing weekday presenters as Dave Walker and Pete Henderson (11am - 1pm and 1pm - 3pm respectively), although when heard, the station has maintained its continuous music format and the presenters seem to have done little more than to give out the station ID and mailing address at regular intervals. They were given their chance on Saturday, when programming was not regular and their combined show replaced that of Kevin Palmer. Also on Saturday, Steve Bishop did not turn up for his show, so the John Freeman show was extended to 4:30pm with Tom Lodge taking over until 6pm close-down. Sunday saw the usual Andy Davies, Kevin Palmer, John Freeman, Steve Bishop, Tom Lodge line-up. The following observations were made on a small pocket-portable receiver. In Liverpool city centre, there is a nasty "het" on the frequency at 8:30am, but this can readily be looped out by lunchtime, when clear reception is possible. However by 5:45pm the "het" has become so predominant that the station can barely be heard. In Liscard, the signal is quite clear all day, but the pointing of the ferrite rod is fairly critical. The "het" becomes quite noticeable at 4:30 - 4:45pm and can be very severe by 6pm. At close-down of NCCR's transmitter, BBC Radio Merseyside is normally heard on the frequency, with some QRM from Wolvertem, but when the "het" is very severe and refuses to be looped-out, then Wolvertem is usually occupying the frequency strongly, with no trace of BBC Merseyside.

STRETTON COMMUNITY RADIO 1296kHz. were heard on Monday night with Miss Chris Sinclair to 6pm, John Sniff to 8pm and Brian "C" to 10pm close-down "announcing 'same hours tomorrow'". At 7:30pm Martin "C" said that the transmitter was "on its last legs" and that the new one would not be ready until next week. He said that from Wednesday or Thursday they would be using a stand-by transmitter but the signal would be well down on the usual. However, it couldn't go much further down than Monday, when there was tremendous QRM from BBC WS and splatter from Radio Prague on 1287kHz. On Tuesday they were heard with John Sniff to 7pm, then with Chris Sinclair standing in for either Norman Ward who had not turned up, or Brian "C" who was working overtime. The latter was on the air by 8:15pm, and at 10pm close-down he said that they would be back at midnight, but they had been heard by 12:36am. The station was not on the air at all on Wednesday night or on Thursday afternoon. They were heard just before 7pm with the John Sniff show, interrupted at 7pm by Martin "C" who announced that they had been off the air "due to antenna problems". He repeated that the transmitter was falling to pieces and that after a complete overhaul it would be sold. He said that the station would not be on the air on Friday, Saturday or Sunday, but hoped to be back on the air again on Monday with a new 850W transmitter, running at less than full power to avoid TVI. Heard Thursday were John Sniff and then Norman Ward to 9pm. Close-down time was not noted. SCR's signal made it to Norway on 29th November, where it was heard at 15:00 GMT!!

RADIO ELEANOR 1449kHz. were heard "testing" from 6:30pm until late evening on Tuesday. On Saturday, they seemed to be operating a normal schedule and were announcing a 7pm close-down, but were gone from the air before this time. I'm told that they were on the air at 5:20pm, but had gone by 6pm. On Sunday, they operated their normal schedule except that the Paul Rogers Show was replaced by continuous music, which over-ran the normal 7pm close-down time. In closing the station at 7:51pm, Paul Rogers apologised for the lack of transmissions on Saturday, saying that they had been "visited" by the authorities. He also apologised for disruption to the schedule on Sunday due to "other problems".

CHANNEL 5 1242kHz were not noted on Saturday until 12:25pm or so. They were announcing another "all-night" session with the regular DJ line-up until at least 1am. They were heard operating quite normally until 2:45pm or so, but when checked at 7:10 pm, they were gone, and were not noted again until 3:16pm on Sunday afternoon. A Gary Smith/ Pete Williams/ Steve West/ Nick Catford line-up was heard. At 8:43pm, Nick Catford announced that the station would be closing down at 9pm, "after quite an eventful weekend" Steve West, in closing the station down at 9pm, said that they had had a lot of "hassle" all weekend, and "what with getting 'raided' and things....."

STATION "M" 1413kHz. were on the air on Sunday with a pathetic little signal that never moved the S-meter needle away from the zero stop. Heard were Roger Dee at 11:31am and noon, Dave Wilson at 1:43pm, Ray Rockford at 2pm, Phil James at 3:38pm, Pete Heaton at 4:44pm, Roger Dee at 5:06pm, 6:21pm, 6:53pm and 7:34pm, Dave Wilson at 8:02pm and 8:13pm. After Radio Eleanor closed down it was virtually impossible to find the

Station "M" signal amongst the background noise, and close-down time was not noted. The signal was in complete contrast to that heard last week, when reception was very good

GENERAL RADIO INTERNATIONAL 1386kHz were heard "testing" at 11:31am on Sunday, prior to noon opening. Heard were Mark Evans to 1pm, Jim Brown to 2pm, Steve Turner to 3pm, Lynn Shaw to 4pm and Steve Tyler to 5pm. Rick Dane didn't turn up again, so Steve Tyler "stood-in" until 6:10pm, with Jim Brown then taking over until 7:15pm close-down. From about 6pm there was a very nasty low frequency "het" over the programme, but signal strength was up a bit on last week, and reception was generally better. The station is still announcing plans to merge with Jackie North on both FM and AM in the new year.

RADIO FREE WIRRAL 1611kHz were first noted on Sunday at 12:31pm. As usual the format was continuous music with no station IDs and no DJs. This format apparently continued until 4pm, when the station started to play a tape of a Radio Jackie North programme in which, Rick Dane was thanking people for sending in Christmas cards, announcing "317m, 945kHz" and saying that RJN would be seven years old on Boxing Day. By 5:30pm, the station was IDing as Radio Free Wirral, but the DJ's name was not heard. I think it must have been Chris White. At 8:10pm the DJ was Dave Mc.Coy, who was still on the air at 9:05pm. When checked at 10:18pm the station had gone (presumably closed down at 10pm), but an unmodulated carrier was back on the frequency at 12:24am. If last week's pattern was repeated, this should have been a warm-up for Radio Free Liverpool

RADIO JACKIE NORTH 945kHz. I'm told that Radio Jackie North were heard on Sunday and on 945kHz. It was apparently a tape of this broadcast that was put out later by Radio Free Wirral

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No news sheet this coming weekend -

LATEST! MONDAY - AFTER MIDNIGHT.

RICK DANE ON 945 KHZ }  
DAVE M<sup>c</sup>COY ON 1611 KHZ }

GENERAL CHAT & "ON-AIR" RECEPTION REPORTS -  
Using MW as their own private communications system!!

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