

MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE

Week ending Sunday 23rd February 1986

This week has seen the appearance on the airwaves of yet more local FM stations, which, as yet are still apparently not operating regular schedules and are heard with reception that varies considerably from day to day. Radio Mersey Waves are still the only free radio station in the area to operate on Medium Wave.

RADIO MERSEY WAVES 1242kHz: 9, Meadfoot Road, Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside L46 7UW
This station were heard on Monday with:- 8am-11am Dave Collins; 11am-1pm Barry Noble; 1pm-3pm DJC; 3pm-5pm Mark Newman(in for Alan Bates); 5pm-6:27pm Peter Thomas. At 6:27pm the station disappeared from the air very suddenly and were still off the air when checked at 9:10pm. They were next noted at 10:56pm, with Tara till midnight, followed by Midnight-1am KtC and 1am-2am Mark Newman. On Friday they were announcing a new schedule with a few new DJs and the return of Martin Miller, but heard were:- 8am-11am Dave Collins; 11am-1pm DJC; 1pm-3pm Peter Thomas (in for Barry Noble who was sick); 3pm-5pm Paul Woods; 5pm-7pm KtC; 7pm-10pm Dave Collins and Hayley; 10pm-Midnight Mark Burgess(new DJ); Midnight-1am KtC. Heard Saturday were:- 8am-10am Dave Collins; 10am-Noon Mark Wright; Noon-2pm Barry Noble; 2pm-4pm DJC; 4pm-6pm KtC and Paul Woods; 6pm-9pm Tara; 9pm-Midnight Mark Newman: On Sunday, heard were:- 9am-11am Dave Collins (with his very last RMW Sunday Breakfast Show); 11am-1pm Wayne Scott; 1pm-3pm Paul Jay; 3pm-5pm Mark Wright (in for Burt Williams); 5pm-7pm KtC; 7pm-10pm(?) Peter Thomas. The schedule beyond 7:45pm was not noted.

UNID 104.5MHz
On Monday evening a signal was noted on approximately 104.5MHz from 9:10pm. The signal was intermittent but seems to have been carrying taped continuous music and signed-off around 10pm.

RADIO JULIE 104.8MHz
This station was noted at 10:02pm on Tuesday night with an extremely weak signal and seem to have closed-down a few minutes later. On Wednesday evening they were noted with a strong signal from about 10:08pm, but no mailing address was given. The DJ was "Me, the station boss, till 1am or so". Would-be DJs were advised that if they recognised the voice and knew where to find him, they should make contact. The broadcast was announced as a "test transmission" for a station due to open at the beginning of next month and they say that they will also be on 1344kHz (an extremely poor "split" frequency in this area due to the Irish transmitter with 100kw in Lisnagarvy, Ulster on 1341kHz). The station was heard again from 7pm on Sunday evening with a very, very weak signal which apparently disappeared when Concept Radio switched on at 7:30pm or so.

WIRRAL FM 90.3MHz FM(s): 3, Wareing Avenue, Birkenhead, Merseyside L42 6QH
If ever proof was needed that most of this station's programmes are taped, and that the tapes are broadcast "late" was provided by Kevin Palmer on Tuesday night who announced the time as "10pm give or take 40 minutes", when the station opened on time! The best DJs don't keep apologising for "mistakes" and KP is one of the very best!! Heard Tuesday were:- 10pm-11pm Kevin Palmer; 11pm-Midnight Phil James; Midnight-1am Mike. Their broadcast on Wednesday wasn't noted, but the station was on the air with Phil James "in the hot seat" at 11:35pm.

CONCEPT RADIO 104.45MHz: 18, Glynne Street, Orrell, Bootle, Merseyside L20 6DF
This station was heard on Friday from about 10:42pm with a "test transmission" that seemed to be more of an exercise to "protect the frequency" against the station on 104.6MHz than anything else. They were noted till Midnight close-down with Tom Webb. On Sunday they featured continuous music from 7:45pm-8pm, when they signed-on with Tom Webb till 10:30pm, then Jim Lowe till 1am close-down. They say that they will be on the air from 11am next Sunday, and will feature Jim Browne, Charles Browne and Phil Davies of Central Radio. The latter station hope to be back on MW themselves by the following weekend.

UNID 104.6MHz approx.
On Friday night, a very weak station was noted on approximately 104.6MHz. They were very weak and playing tapes of Radio Caroline's broadcasts in Dutch from the '60s. Some time later they were playing tapes of the Dutch Radio Veronica with English IDs at 10:52pm. The actual station ID still hadn't been heard by 11:28pm and the station were still on the air at 12:04 am last check

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