

MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE

Week ending Sunday 30th March 1985

On Friday, Radio Mersey Waves announced that they were raided yet again by the DPM at approximately 9am on Tuesday morning. Fortunately, they were not broadcasting at the time and no-one was caught, but they lost all the studio equipment. Burt Williams said that someone "grassed" on them. The effect of this raid seems to have kept all the mid-week FM stations off the air although I understand that both WFM and Mersey FM are off the air because of transmitter problems. Radio Julie were reported to have been on the air on Thursday evening, but were not noted here.

RADIO MERSEY WAVES 1242kHz: 9, Meadfoot Road, Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside L46 7UW. Opened at 7am on Monday and schedule noted was:- 7am-11am Dave Collins; 11am-3pm Barry Noble; 1pm-3pm Tony Coltrane; 3pm-5pm Alan Bates; 5pm-7pm Peter Thomas; 7pm-9pm JEFF STARR (new DJ); 9pm-Midnight Tara; Midnight-4am KtC. As a result of this early morning finish, the station didn't open at 7am on Tuesday and the DPM booted them to it! They were back on the air at 7am on Friday but seemed to be using make-shift equipment and the signal wasn't too good at the best of times. In order to try to preserve continuity if they are raided again, they intend to have a couple of stand-by transmitters available. This weekend they have had transmissions on 981kHz (305m) and 1188kHz (250m). The transmission spans of the broadcasts on the latter frequencies weren't noted, but the station seems to have tested 1188kHz on Friday and Sunday, with 981kHz tried out on Saturday. Heard Friday were: 7am-11am Dave Collins, 11am-1pm DJC; 1pm-3pm P??; 3pm-5pm Mark Newman; 5pm-7pm Paul Woods & KtC; 7pm-10pm Mark Newman; 10pm-Midnight Tara; Midnight-1am KtC. The Saturday line-up was:- 7am-10am Dave Collins; 10am-noon Mark Wright; Noon-2pm Jeff Starr (in for Barry Noble); 2pm-4pm DJC; 4pm-6pm KtC & Paul Woods; 6pm-8pm Tara; 8pm-10pm Mark Burgess; 10pm-Midnight Mark Newman. They appear to have closed down at midnight. Heard Sunday were:- 9am-11am Mark Burgess; 11am-1pm Wayne Scott; 1pm-3pm Paul Jay & Dave Collins; 3pm-5pm Burt Williams; 5pm-7pm Mark Wright (in for KtC). From 7pm the station had a few equipment problems. The line up was 7pm-10pm Peter Thomas and 10pm-Midnight Mark Newman. However the station was off the air when checked at 7:35pm but had reappeared by 8:17pm, and was off the air when checked at 10:15pm. They resumed broadcasting at 11pm with 11pm-Midnight Mark Newman; Midnight-1am KtC and 1am-2am Mad Mike. This station was featured in an article in the Wirral Globe this week.

STORETON COMMUNITY RADIO 1026kHz: 91, New Hey Road, Woodchurch Estate, Birkhead. This station have been overlooked on Monday, and were Merseyside L49 7WE, forgotten about till 3:30pm. Noted were: 3:30pm-5pm Andy Rogers; 5pm-7pm Kenny Gee; 7pm-10pm Uncle Ern; 10pm-Midnight close-down Brian "C". At close down, Brian "C" is believed to have announced that the station was closing-down till Thursday, but on that day nothing was heard of them and Friday also drew a blank. They were next noted at 5:36pm on Saturday after apparently signing on at 5pm. Heard were:- 5:36pm-7pm Danny "D"; 7pm-Midnight Brian "C" and Midnight-?? Andy Rogers. On Sunday, the carrier seemed to have been on the air by 9:15am but modulation (continuous music) wasn't noted till 12:16pm. Programming seems to have commenced at 1pm, and heard were:- 1pm-3pm Andy Sloane; 3pm-5pm Brian "C"; 5pm-7pm Jeff Jones; 7pm-10pm Kenny Gee; 10pm-Midnight Andy Rogers

CENTRAL RADIO INT 1404kHz: 18, Glynne Street, Orrell, Bootle, Merseyside L20 6DP. This station's carrier was noted on Friday from 11am with the station "testing". The carrier was intermittently on the air, sometimes modulated with taped music and at other times not modulated at all. Sign-on time for programming wasn't noted, but Phil Davies was into his show when checked at 2:43pm. Heard were:- 2:43pm-4pm Phil Davies; 4pm-6pm Jim Lowe (relayed on FM by Concept Radio). At 6pm during the theme tune before Phil Davies' programme, the signal became intermittent and disappeared from the air within 30 seconds. They didn't come back on the air at the scheduled time on Saturday, and were not noted until 1:45pm, when the Phil Davies show was in progress. Heard were:- 1:45pm-4pm Phil Davies; 4pm-6pm Tom Webb; 6pm-8pm Charles Browne; 8pm-10pm close-down Jeff Thompson. Heard on Sunday were:- 8am-10am Charles Browne; 10am-noon Jim Browne; Noon-2pm Tom Webb; 2pm-4pm Phil Davies; 4pm-6pm Jim Lowe. From 6pm onwards there was some disagreement between the DJs from Central and Concept and it was disappointing to hear them making the disagreement public over the FM and MW bands. Neither station came out of it with any credit. Concept were to have relayed Central Radio till 8pm, when Central were due to relay Concept. However, due to one reason or another, Jim Lowe left the CRE studio at 6pm with the transmitter relaying Concept. At 7pm Phil Davies switched the MW transmitter back to "live" programming and did a show till 8pm, when Jeff Thompson took over till 11pm. From 8pm-10pm, Jeff featured the whole of War of the Worlds. At 11pm,

