

MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE Week ending Sunday 4th January 1987

Plenty of news this week but it's all under individual station headings.

RADIO MERSEY WAVES 1242kHz: 9, Meadfoot Road, Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside L46 7UW.

This week, Dave Collins has taken a well-earned rest and removed his name from the schedule a few times. They closed down early on Monday to allow all the DJs to attend their Under-18s Night-Out and were off the air for part of Saturday morning due to technical problems with equipment, which was producing a very distorted signal. Noted have been:-

- Mon: 8am Dave Collins; 10am Jeff Starr; 1pm DJC; 3pm Cont. music; 3:50pm KtC & Paul Woods; 5pm Peter Thomas; 7pm close-down
- Tues: 10:30am Dave Collins; 11am Peter Thomas; 1pm Mark Wright; 3pm DJC; 5pm Dave Collins; 6pm Billy & Roy (for Mark Palmer); 8pm Dave Collins; 9pm Tony Hollis; 11pm Sidney; ?? c/down
- Wed: 9am Dave Collins; 11am Mark Wright; 1pm Tony Coltrane(?); 3pm Mark Palmer; 5pm Peter Thomas; 7pm Sidney; 9pm Paul Jay; 11pm Dave Collins; 1am c/down
- Thur: 11:50am Mark Palmer; 1pm Tony Coltrane; 3:30pm Mark Palmer; 5pm Peter Thomas; 7pm Don La One; 9pm Dave Benitez; 11pm c/down.
- Fri: Noon Dave Collins; 1:15pm Peter Thomas; 2pm Burt Williams; 4pm Dave Collins; 6pm Mark Palmer; 8pm Sidney; 10pm Dave Collins; Midnight c/down
- Sat: 8am Dave Collins...technical problems...11:45am Mad Mike; Noon Mark Wright; 2pm Paul James; 4pm Mark Palmer; 6pm Tara; 8pm Tony Hollis; 10pm Paul Jay; Midnight Sidney; 3am(?) C/down.
- Sun: 9am Dave Collins; 11am Wayne Scott; 1pm Tony Coltrane; 3pm Burt Williams; 5pm DJC; 6pm Dave Benitez; 8pm Don La One; 10pm Tony Hollis; Midnight Dave Collins; 1am c/d.

This weekend sees the end of the station's special holiday broadcasts with normal Fri/Sat/Sun/Mon format returning next week.

RADIO JULIE 104.8MHz: No mailing address noted this week

This station has announced that it will shortly increase power on FM and also open up on Medium Wave. They intend to operate on Sundays only, but the announced line-up and times were missed. The non-regular operating hours make it all but impossible to give full details, but noted have been:-

- Mon: 9:15pm Phil Smith; 9:30pm Dave Moore; 11pm Carl "W"; Midnight Tony West
- Tues: 6pm Cont music & "test" announcements; 7pm Tony West; 8pm Phil Smith; 10pm Andy Davies; Midnight(?) c/down
- Wed: 6pm Dave Moore; 7pm Andy Davies; 8pm Phil Smith; 9pm Tony West; 10pm Phil Smith; rest of programming not noted but known to still have been on the air at 3:30am
- Thur: 10am Cont music; 11am Andy Davies; Noon Phil Smith; 2pm Cont music; 3:30pm Phil Smith; 5pm Tony West; 6pm Andy Davies; 7pm Phil Smith; 8pm Cont music; 9pm Phil Smith; 10pm Andy Davies; ?? Close down.
- Fri: 9pm Andy Davies; 10pm Phil Smith; 11pm Andy Davies; Midnight close down
- Sun: 4pm Fiona; 5pm Cont music; 5:30pm Phil Smith; 7:30pm Andy Davies; 9:30pm Phil Smith; 10pm Andy Davies; 11pm c/down

CONCEPT RADIO 104.3MHz: 30, Elkstone Road, Norris Green, Liverpool L11 2TD

This station announced that from this weekend it would be closing down for 6 to 8 weeks. Past experience shows that there is a high level of DTH activity at the beginning of the year, so the station will be re-building their studio and overhauling their equipment. On New Year's Day, between 1pm and 6:30pm, they featured tapes of all the people who had done "guest appearances" on the station in 1986, together with the best parts of their own shows. Noted were:-

- Thur: 11am Tom Webb; 1pm "Best of Concept '86"; 6:30pm Dave Moore; 8pm Jim Lowe; 10pm Tom Webb; Midnight(?) c/down.
- Sun: 6pm Cont. music; 6:30pm Dave Moore; 8pm Jim Lowe; 10pm Tom Webb; ?? c/down

CENTRAL RADIO INT. 1404kHz: 30, Elkstone Road, Norris Green, Liverpool L11 2TD.

Announcements say that this station may also close down for a few weeks depending on the outcome of a DJs meeting to be held next week. They were noted briefly on New Year's Day, but closed down at 5pm. On Friday, all the later DJs reported problems with the mic and one of the decks. On Saturday, they opened at 10pm, but closed down shortly afterwards. Later announcements said that the Authorities were "sniffing round the area" and the station stayed off for the rest of the day. On Sunday, they opened late.

- Thur: 3pm(?) Phil Davies; 4pm Jeff Thompson; 5pm c/down
- Fri: 8am Charles Browne; 10am Jim Lowe; 1pm Phil Davies; 4pm Chris Peters; 6pm Jeff Thompson; 8pm c/down
- Sat: 10am Jim Lowe: ?? c/down due to activity by others.

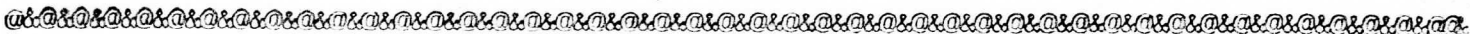
Central Radio cont.

Sun: 10am Jim Lowe; 1pm Phil Davies; 4:15pm Tom Webb; 6:30pm Jeff Thompson; 8:30pm c/d CAROLINE NORTH 1386kHz: 18, Glynn Street, Orrell, Bootle, Merseyside L20 6DF.

On Sunday, this station opened at 10am but on 1386kHz and with a much better signal than in previous weeks. By 3pm, the signal was poor with a terrible "het" from Central Radio on 1404kHz. Mark Evans asked Jim Browne to call round and help to sort things out. The station say that they had been forced to reduce power due to problems at their location, and had gone from the air at 3:30pm. Noted were:-

Sun: 10am Mark Evans; 11am Dave Starr; Noon Jim Browne; 2pm Mark Evans; 3:30pm c/down RADIO VERONICA 104.7MHz: 81, Lark Lane, Liverpool L11 8UP.

This station tells me that it has operated for an hour or so on most of the real holiday days (ie New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, etc), but are on very low power and the signal isn't getting out very far. They were due on the air on Sunday, but weren't noted here. The station are still having problems in finding a suitable location, but hope to be back on the air again soon



THE TIMES WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31 1986

Raids fail to stop pirate broadcasts

By Jonathan Miller, Media Correspondent

The Government is "clearly losing the war" against unlicensed radio stations, according to a report prepared by the Community Radio Association.

The association, which is opposed to unlicensed broadcasting, says 115 radio "pirates" have been on the air since July 1.

Sixty-five of the stations have been monitored in London, another 21 on Merseyside, and the remainder are scattered throughout the country.

Mr John Butcher, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Trade and Industry responsible for the Radio Investigation Service, told Parliament last month that 218 raids had been made on 84 unlicensed stations in the 12 months to mid-November.

He said 39 of the stations were in London, 14 on Merseyside and the remainder in Sussex, Birmingham, North Wales, Telford, north Hertfordshire, Rugby and Basildon.

Mr Butcher said that officials had raided PCRL, an unlicensed station in Birmingham, more than 30 times.

When the Government withdrew, in June, its plan to introduce a new community radio service, the Community Radio Association said that the decision would lead to an increase in the number of unlicensed stations.

"This is exactly what has happened over the last six months," the report said.

Solar Radio, a London station that closed down voluntarily in 1985 to apply for a licence, is among those that have returned to the air, and is broadcasting on VHF on a 24-hour schedule.

There are eight 24-hour pirate stations operating in London, with more expected to go on the air soon, the report said.

In spite of a number of raids in the London area on December 22, all were back on the air by Christmas Eve, when monitors picked up transmissions from 14 stations.