

MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE

Week ending Sunday 7th June 1987

This week has seen some of the Radio Julie DJs "defecting" to Radio Mersey Waves, Radio Veronica with an attempted come-back and Scott FM being heard for the first time.

RADIO MERSEY WAVES 1242kHz: 9, Meadfoot Road, Moreton, Wirrak, Merseyside L46 7UW. On Monday, the weekend's equipment problems continued and the station closed down early at midnight. On Friday, everything seemed to be going well, but they were off the air for a while around 6pm. In the meantime, they appear to have acquired some of the DJs who have left Radio Julie. Noted have been:

- Mon: 7am Mark Palmer; 11:30am Peter Thomas; 1pm DJC; 3pm Dave Benitez; 5pm Mark Palmer; 7pm Steve Coltrane; 9pm Peter Thomas; 11pm Tony West; Midnight close-down
- Fri: 7am Mark Palmer; 10am T.P.Toppick; Noon Brian Johnson; 2pm Paul James; 4pm Peter Thomas; 6pm Paul Woods; 8pm DJ Sidney; 10pm Kevin Jordan; Midnight Tony West 2am off
- Sat: 7am Kevin Jordan; 10:15 Mark Wright; Noon Charles Pope; 2pm Paul James; 5pm DJC; 8pm Tony West; 10pm Paul Jay; Midnight Tony West & Roy; 2am Brian Johnson; 4am off
- Sun: 9am Kevin Jordan; 11am Wayne Scott; 1pm Peter Cetrine; 3:30pm Peter Thomas; 5pm DJC; 6pm Dave Benitez; 8pm Don La One; 10pm Larry James; Midnight Tony Hollis; 2am Brian Johnson; 4am ??; 6am(?) close-down

SCOTT FM 102.2MHz FM(s): 2, Greta Street, Toxteth, Liverpool L8 8ED

Thanks to a tip-off from Concept Radio, Scott FM were heard for the first time on Sun and the signal was so strong that it is difficult to understand why it has not been noted before. They were already on the air at 5:25pm with continuous music for transmitter warm up with programming from 6pm. Noted were:-

- Sun: 6pm Jimmy Coleman; 8pm Mike Smith; 10pm Charles Browne; Midnight(?) close-down.

RADIO VERONICA 104.4MHz FM(s): 81, Lark Lane, Liverpool L17 8UP.

This station announces 104.7MHz but appear to be on a lower frequency. An intermittent carrier was noted on Sunday from 10:45am and between 11am and noon, intermittent music was heard. Around noon, Phil Davies' voice was noted for a short while but only with "testing 1,2,1,2" messages. The signal remained intermittent till 12:39pm, when Neil Frazer announced "a short test transmission to find out why nothing works". He kept complaining that the signal in the studio sounded very bad and asking "Mark" for reports on "hum", etc, although the signal was quite good in Wallasey. At 1:37pm Neil closed the station down till next weekend.

RADIO ATLANTIS 936kHz: 150, Rake Lane, Liscard, Wallasey, Merseyside L45 1JW.

This station continues to announce problems with equipment although their signal seems to be getting out quite well with reception reports and telephone calls coming in from well outside this area. Rick Dane said that all transmitters are awaiting replacement parts and are being operated on reduced power. Heard have been:

- Mon: Noon Steve Bishop; 3pm station not found.
- Fri: 10am Cont Music; 11am Steve Bishop; 3pm Rick Dane; 5pm close-down
- Sat: Noon Rick Dane; 2pm Steve Bishop; 5pm c/down
- Sun: 10am Cont. Music; 11am Steve Bishop; 2:43pm Rick Dane; 5pm Steve Bishop; 7pm c/down.

SLAG-OFF INT 105.3MHz FM: 132, Norwood Road, Poulton, Wallasey, Merseyside L44 4EG.

The irregular hours and generally late-night operation make this station difficult to keep track of, but they have been noted on three days this week:

- Thur: 9:30pm Kim Stuart(demo tape?); 9:50pm carrier only; 10pm Mike Hughes; Midnight Steve Masom(?); ?? c/down
- Fri: Midnight Mike Hughes - signal very intermittent and close-down not noted
- Sun: 1:37pm Cont music, gone by 2pm.....10pm Mike Hughes, Midnight ??.

RADIO JULIE 104.8MHz FM(s): 112, Greenwood Road, Woodchurch, Merseyside L49 8HU.

This station continues to have problems with shortage of presenters. Many DJs have extended their hours to cover for others who haven't turned up and though the station has managed to remain on the air, the line-up has been very different to that announced. On Saturday night Phil Davies, of LPR, did a guest appearance. He announced that he would be on the air 10pm-8am, but it isn't known whether he did, or whether the station stuck to its intended schedule. Phil was definitely on the air at 3:30am. Noted were:

- Fri:3pm Mark Ross; 6pm Angie Cross; 8pm Crezzey; 10pm Kenny MG; Midnight Sergeant Bilko; 2am Andy Davies(?); 4am(?) c/down
- Sat: 6am Paul Miller; 8am Paul Miller; 10am Kenny Gee; Noon Kenny Gee; 1:30pm Neil Bishop; 5pm Mark Ross; 6pm Crezzey; 8pm Neil Bishop; 10pm Phil Davies; Midnight Andy Davies(?); 2am Phil Davies; 6am Paul Miller(?)
- Sun: 8am Scott Bremerman; 11am Paul Miller; Noon Kenny Gee; 2pm Joe Williams; 4pm Andy Rogers; 6pm Mark Ross; 8pm Phil Smith; 10pm Carl "W"; Midnight Andy Davies; 2am c/down till next weekend.

Power to curb radio pirates slashed

The Department of Trade's powers to close down pirate radio stations were drastically cut yesterday when five Law Lords unanimously ruled that the Department did not possess the powers to confiscate records and tapes from pirate stations convicted of broadcasting without a licence. They upheld a court of appeal ruling that records and tapes were not broadcasting "apparatus" under the 1949 wireless telegraphy act.

A department spokesman said later: "Records and tapes are often the most expensive part of their equipment—transmitters being worth only pennies in comparison." A pirate station where only the transmitter was confiscated had been closed down about 100 times but was back on the air each time within days.

"This ruling removes an important economic weapon from the enforcement authori-

ties," she said. New legislation might be needed.

The Law Lords' decision means that Jeffrey Rudd, of Liverpool, who pleaded guilty in 1985 to two charges of breaching the 1949 act, will now get back his collection of 310 discs and tapes, including some unique and rare recordings.

Mr Rudd, who had been illegally broadcasting from his home in Finchley Road, Anfield, was fined £100, plus

£40 costs, by Liverpool city magistrates in November 1984. The magistrates confiscated his broadcasting "apparatus" worth £3,000, including his radio transmitter, tape decks, record turntables, microphones, speakers and the records and tapes.

Mr Rudd took his case for the return of his music collection to the Court of appeal, which ruled in his favour in April last year.

The DTI appealed to the

Lords because similar forfeiture orders had been made by magistrates all over the country and it was not clear what powers they had in such cases.

Dismissing the Department's appeal, Lord Goff, sitting with Lord Bridge, Lord Brandon, Lord Mackay and Lord Ackner, said: "I recognise this conclusion may create problems for the enforcing authorities."

Mr Rudd was awarded costs against the DTI.

Victory for radio pirates

OFFICIAL powers to shut down pirate radio stations were drastically cut by the House of Lords yesterday.

They ruled the Government did not have power to confiscate records and tapes from stations convicted of broadcasting without a licence.

Five Law Lords upheld an Appeal Court ruling that records were not broadcasting "apparatus".

A Government official said later: "This is definitely in the pirates' favour." Liverpool pirate Jeffrey Rudd won the return of 310 discs and tapes.