

MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE

Week ending Sunday 28th June 1987

This week there hasn't been a lot of choice of listening. Radio Mersey Waves disappeared again on Friday afternoon, and Steve Bishop in his Free Radio Show said that this was due to DTI activity on the Wirral side of the river. Radio Julie opened at 6pm on Friday, but with so many DJs standing-in for others who turned up late, or didn't turn up at all, it was impossible to keep up with their schedule. Holidays also seem to be causing changes to schedules.

RADIO ATLANTIS 936kHz & 1197kHz: 150, Rake Lane, Liscard, Wallasey, Merseyside L45 1JW

On Monday evening, this station announced at 5pm close-down that Atlantis II would be on the air from about 5:10pm, on 1197kHz. The signal on 1197kHz couldn't be heard when walking down to the ferry, except when crossing Derby Square and on the Pierhead itself. The signal at Seacombe Ferry was barely audible, even through the earphone of my portable receiver. However, by the time I got to Liscard, the signal was well heard on the speaker of the same pocket-portable. It isn't known whether they carried out any "adjustments" while I was on the bus, and the station doesn't seem to have used this frequency since that date. "On air" announcements suggest that they have "tested" this frequency, and also another undisclosed frequency, a number of times recently. I must confess that in the past I used to listen to Radio Atlantis to find out what idiotic scheme Steve Bishop had "dreamed up", but these days I listen to them because I LIKE their output, which is different to the continuous "disco" and "chart" music put out by the other stations who are supposed to be "alternative". Noted this week were:-

Mon: (936kHz) 11am Steve Bishop; 2pm Rick Dane; 5pm c/down... (1197kHz) 5:20pm Steve Bishop; 7:30pm close-down with announcements of "more tomorrow", not heard.

Fri: 11am Steve Bishop; 2pm Cont. music; 2:30pm Rick Dane; 6pm close-down.

Sat: 11am Steve Bishop; 3pm Rick Dane; 5pm close-down

Sun: 10am Steve Bishop (Free Radio Show); 11am Steve Bishop; 2pm Rick Dane; 5pm Steve Bishop (who was still on the air at 8:10pm, but gone by 8:30pm)

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

As stated above, the station was on the air at 12:27pm, but had gone by 2:45pm. Other sources suggest that the DTI were active on this side of the river and that the station had closed-down voluntarily until their normal "sign-on" at 7am on Saturday, after they had previously announced that Phil Davies would be doing the 4am-7am slot that would allow them to go "24 hours". . Phil did the 4am-9am slot the following morning. The rest of the weekend seems to have passed off without incidence, and noted were:-

Mon: 7am Mark Palmer; 11am Jeff Starr; 1am Peter Thomas (standing-in for Paul Woods who was supposed to be standing-in for Alan Bates); 3pm Tony West (who was previously thought to have left the station); 5pm Mark Palmer; 7pm Steve Coltrane; 9pm Peter Thomas; 11pm Mark Wright; 12:30am T.P.Toppick; 3am close-down

Fri: 7am Mark Palmer; 10am T.P.Toppick. Noon John Cecchini....2:45 gone from air...

Sat: 7am Kevin Jordan; 10:15am Mark Wright; Noon Charles Pope; 2pm Paul James; 5pm KtC; 8pm Tony West; 10pm Paul Jay; Midninhht Roy & Tony West; 2am Brian Johnson; 4am Phil Davies (till 9am)

Sun: 9am Kevin Jordan; 11am Wayne Scott; 1pm Tony Coltrane; 3pm Pete Cetrine; 4pm Peter Thomas; 5pm DJC; 6pm Dave Benitez; 8pm Done la One; 10pm Larry James; Midnight Tony Hollis; 3am Brian Johnson; 4am close-down

RADIO JULIE: 104.8MHz: 112, Greenwood Road, Woodchurch, Wirral, Merseyside L49 8HU.

Most of the local stations indulge in "competitions" of one kind or another, so I would suggest that if Radio Julie really wanted to hold an "unusual" competition, they ask listeners to send in the "official" GPO address of their "mail-drop". Letters addressed to the above will undoubtedly arrive at the destination, even though the address isn't too correct. They opened at 6pm on Friday night with Mark Ross, who said that Crezzey wasn't available and asked Mark Phillips to do the 8pm show. He didn't turn up till later and was first noted at 9:05pm. Kenny MG hadn't turned up by 10:15pm, when Ritchie "C" stood-in. By 11pm, Mark Ross was back on the air and the remainder of the schedule was announced as 2am Scott Brennan and 4am Robbie James.

Sat: 8am Dave Dee; 10am Kenny Gee; Noon Angie Cross; 2pm Neil Bishop; 4pm Chris Rhodes; 6pm Mark Ross; 8pm Ritchie "C"; 10pm Mark Phillips; Midnight Andy Davies; 2am Ritchie "C"; 4am Robbie James; 6am DJ "C"

Sun: 8am Scott Brennan(?); 9:30am Dave Moore; Noon Kenny Gee; 2pm Joe Williams; 4pm Andy Rogers; 6pm Mark Ross; 8pm Chris Rhodes; 10pm Phil Smith; Midnight Andy Davies; 2am close-down.

SCOTT FM 102.3MHz: 2, Greta Street, Toxteth, Liverpool L8 8ED

This station was noted from 5:20pm on Sunday with some very childish output before

6pm and some poor handling of the controls with music levels being too low and speech levels far too high. After 6pm they settled down again and began to sound more like a radio station. Noted were:-

Sun:..5:20pm Jegsey & Co.; 6pm Jimmy Coleman; 8pm Mike Smith; 10pm Charles Browne; Midnight close-down.

RADIO VERONICA 104.7(?)MHz: 81, Lark Lane, Liverpool L17 8UP.

On Sunday evening, Steve Bishop said over Radio Atlantis that he had heard Radio Veronica broadcasting during the afternoon, but nothing was heard here.

SLAG-OFF INT: 105.3MHz: 132, Norwood Road, Poulton, Wallasey, Merseyside L44 4EG This station has only been noted twice this week. On Thursday evening a strong but very intermittent signal was noted from 8:35pm, but had gone by 8:50pm and wasn't found again. On Friday evening around 11pm a very weak signal was noted. Mike Hughes was in the "hot seat" but was barely audible and further details weren't noted.

LIVERPOOL ECHO - Mon 29th June 1987

Radio Wang: Liverpool's new radio station?

A BRAND new radio station could be beaming out from Liverpool tomorrow night.

It's the little known (and almost certainly little heard) Radio Wang, the brainchild of that larger than life character Hank Wangford.

Dubbed the singing gynaecologist Wangford really is a doctor. But these days his efforts to spread the word about Country music mean he only spends one day a week working in London on women's health care and family planning.

He breezes into Liverpool tomorrow night for a Playhouse gig at which he plans to try another of his zany radio experiments.

"We have a transmitter and just whack the signal up to a satellite," explains Wangford cheerfully. It's a bit like throwing you-know-what at a fan.

"Then we just wait and see if anybody picked it up.

"I think sometimes it just vapourises into the ether. But we know it works because after one gig we had a letter from a Canadian couple in Turkey.

Wangford has strong views about Country music and depises the syrupy, sentimental style that oozes out all too often.

"I think it's a very misunderstood form," he explains "but the public get too much of that sturpy, honeyed Nashville stuff."

He promises that his stage act features the original, uncleaned up product.

"I go for the gutsy stuff," he insists, pointing out his style also attracts a lot of rock 'n' roll fans who are similarly saddened by the wimpish approach.

Just in case nobody picks up the latest efforts of Radio Wang he is resorting to more conventional methods next week with a Radio 2 series colourfully called On the Trail of the Lonesome Yodel.

"I love yodelling because it's half absurd and half emotional. For the programmes I've been plundering the archives to find all kinds of stuff from countries like Africa, Mongolia and Bulgaria.

"It sure will make a lot of Radio Two people turn off," he whoops gleefully.

by Roy West
TV Editor