

MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE

Week ending Sunday 20th September 1987

Ten of the crew of Radio Mersey Waves were in Court on Wednesday to face charges arising from DTI raids on five different dates this year.. Nine of them requested and were granted adjournments but the case proceeded against the other, who was given an unconditional discharge for two years and ordered to pay £231 costs. All records and tapes were returned, but none of the equipment.

RADIO MERSEY WAVES 1242kHz: 9, Meadfoot Road, Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside L46 7UW
This station was on the air on Monday but was not heard on Friday, Saturday or Sunday. On Saturday they were to have taken part in a charity ten-pin bowling match between noon and 3pm but when I called in at the bowling alley between 12:30pm and 12:50pm, there was no sign of anyone from the station or of any match. Noted this week were:
Mon: 9am Mark Palmer; 11am Peter Thomas; 1pm Pete Cetrine; 3pm Steve Coltrane; 5pm KtC; 7pm Paul Woods; 9pm Don La One; 11pm Mark Wright; 1am close-down.

NORTH COAST RADIO 104.8 & 1350kHz: 18, Downham Drive, Heswall, Wirral, M'side L60 5RF
Being new, this station was forgotten about on Monday until 12:20pm, when the Mark Burgess show was noted. When checked at 2pm they had disappeared and it wasn't till 8:55pm that an intermittent signal was found on FM only. The DJ was Dave Moore but close down time wasn't noted. They were next noted around 10:15pm on Thursday with a continuous music "test broadcast". The weekend broadcasting seems to have gone well until Sunday evening, when they had gone from both FM and AM by 8:20pm and weren't subsequently found again. Noted were:-

Fri: Noon Dave Collins; 2pm Lyn James; 4pm Ritchie "C"; 6pm Mark Ross; 8pm Crezzey; 10pm Tony West; Midnight Dave Moore; 2am close-down
Sat: Noon Mark Burgess(?); 1pm Dave Collins; 3pm Neil Bishop; 5pm Crezzey; 7pm Mark Ross; 8pm Tony West; 10pm Andy Davies; Midnight Roy (Security); 2am close-down
Sun: 10am Mark Burgess; 11am Kenny Gee; 1pm Tony West; 3pm Ritchie "C"; 4pm Lone Ranger; 6pm Mark Ross; 8pm ??.....not on air at 8:20am

RADIO ATLANTIS 976kHz: 150, Rake Lane, Liscard, Wallasey, Merseyside L45 1JW.
This station was apparently on the air last weekend but not found on its new frequency. This week they were first noted at 4pm on Friday, when output to 5pm close-down was a continuous music/advert/Jingles tape. No DJ or close-down announcement was heard. A similar format was noted between 10:55am and 5:11pm on Saturday. The Sunday format was largely the same but with John Vaughan at noon, Andy Davies at 11am and 3pm, and Steve Bishop closing the station down at 5pm

WIRRAL COMMUNITY RADIO 106.2MHz
On Saturday a very strong carrier was noted on 106.2MHz from 8:20pm. By 8:40pm the carrier was modulated with continuous music but the signal was intermittent and many "on air" adjustments were being made. It was thought that the station was DTI-FM but at 9:56pm, Phil Smith announced the broadcast as a "test transmission" for Wirral Community Radio, which would be opening on 3rd October. They say that they would be on the air all night with continuous music and into Sunday as well. The station remained intermittent, but by Sunday morning everything was working properly. Continuous music was noted till 10:57am after which the carrier was still on the air at every check until 4pm.

LIVERPOOL PIRATE RADIO 1404kHz: 30, Elkstone Road, Norris Green, Liverpool L11 2TD.
This station was noted at approximately 11:25am on Sunday with a very weak signal and Phil Davies in the "hot seat". After this time, I was only able to listen on a small pocket-portable. At the top of the roads leading down to the promenade, the signal was just readable on this receiver, but on the prom itself, there was no trace of the station at all. Phil Davies was still on the air at 1:33pm, but when I got back home there was no trace of the station, even though the big receiver was still tuned to the same place as before, when the signal was heard.

VERONICA INTERNATIONAL 1413kHz: 206 Randle Heights, Croxteth, Liverpool L11 6NJ.
This station signed-on at noon and were readable on the promenade. Heard were Gary Noble to 1:30pm, then DJ Steve. They announced that they would be on the air till 10pm, and that they also operate weekday evenings.. Back home, they were readable, but with a very weak signal until about 2:20pm, when the whole area of the band was just a mess of "nets"

RADIO VERONICA 104.7MHz: c/o 81, Lark Lane, Liverpool L17 8UP.
This station wasn't heard at all at home due to North Coast Radio but the drop to the promenade "shielded" the latter completely. The signal was weak at Egremont but at Seacombe Ferry I found myself turning the volume control down. The station was noted from 12:15pm to 1:15pm, with Neil Frazer in the "hot seat" at all times. Back home, the station was once more buried under North Coast Radio and close-down time wasn't noted

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Raided by D.T.I. officials on 15th Feb., 10th May (phone box raid), 15th May, 17th July & 14th Aug.

Daily Post. Thursday

September 17, 1987

Liverpool Echo. Thursday September 17, 1987

Pirate has his records returned

COMPLAINTS by Radio City led to a pirate of the airwaves appearing before Wirral Magistrates.

The independent station made a complaint about Radio Merseywave interfering with transmissions. An investigation followed by officers representing the radio investigation team from the Department of Trade

A total of 10 people were summoned in connection with the running of Radio Merseywave. In nine cases adjournments were requested and agreed. In the 10th case Colin David Humphries (24), of Weatherby, Mountwood Park, Woodchurch, admitted using a station for wireless telegraphy without a licence.

When officers went to the Woodchurch address of Humphries, music was being played on the medium wave band. It ceased when they knocked on the door. Humphries who was present claimed he was just a visitor and said he was only recording but later he admitted he had been broadcasting. The transmitter was found hidden inside a bed settee suite on which he was sitting. It was seized along with other equipment and 119 single records and seven cassettes.

The magistrates allowed the records and cassettes to be returned but ordered that all the equipment seized be forfeited. Humphries was unconditionally discharged for 2 years but was ordered to pay costs totalling £231.

Radio pirate caught on the air

A PIRATE radio station interfered with transmissions by Liverpool's Radio City.

And when the independent station made a complaint, an investigation was launched by officers representing the radio investigation team from the Department of Trade and Industry.

A total of 10 people were summoned before Wirral magistrates yesterday in connection with the running of Radio Merseywave.

In nine cases adjournments were requested and agreed. In the 10th case Colin David Humphries, 24, of Weatherby, Mountwood Park, Woodchurch, admitted using a station for wireless telegraphy without a licence.

Miss Christine Bradley, prosecuting, said there was considerable concern over overlapping of frequencies because of pirate stations and also concern over interference with emergency services.

Miss Bradley said Merseywave transmitted over a 30 miles radius. She said it was a powerful radio. It was very organised and not run for a hobby. It had been in existence for about 10 years.

When officers went to the Woodchurch address of Humphries, music was being played on 1242 Klf on the medium wave band. It ceased when they knocked on the door.

Ordered

Humphries, who was present, claimed he was just a visitor and said he was only recording but later he admitted he had been broadcasting. The transmitter was found hidden inside a bed settee suite on which he was sitting.

It was seized along with other equipment and 119 single records and seven cassettes.

Mr Ken Specter, defending, said Humphries and many of the others involved with the station were unemployed. They did not make a penny out of running the station which provided a service to the community and advertised charities.

Mr Specter said the records seized were a lifetime collection.

The magistrates allowed the records and cassettes to be returned but ordered that all the equipment seized be forfeited. Humphries was unconditionally discharged for two years but was ordered to pay costs totalling £231.