

FALKIRK'S mystery man of the airwaves admitted to me this week that he really WANTS to be caught.

Louis Nieto is the man responsible for bringing two hours of music six-days-a-week to the listeners of Falkirk district via his "pirate radio" operation Radio Woodstock.

Louis — who draws the line at giving away his H.Q.'s address — "that would make it easy," he says — has financed the whole operation with his own cash.

DJ Brian McMullan is the front man spinning the sounds from Monday to Saturday between 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on 239 metres/1251 K.hz on the medium waveband.

The radio station has really caught on since kicking off at the start of this year. Louis reckons that thousands of locals tune in to the request show every morning.

He said: "I think the authorities know who and where we are. But they know we bring pleasure to people. Maybe they don't want to do anything about it at the moment.

"We realise we must be in danger of being caught. But I think being found out may be the best thing that's ever happened to us.

"Maybe then we'd have some public support behind us for our ultimate aim. That's to get a proper licensed commercial radio station for the Falkirk area."

Louis revealed that he's all set to begin a legally-sanctioned radio station. He has thousands of pounds worth of equipment waiting in the wings.

Meanwhile he and DJ Brian will go on providing a private alternative to Dave Lee Travis and Co.

"We'll continue until the very last minute," added Louis.

And, according to him, that's when the fight will really start . . .

Soundsaround



DAVID HAMILTON

CONFESSIONS OF A RADIO 'PIRATE'

FALKIRK-BASED . . . chance of winning is enough to . . .

Tune in to a secret

IT'S estimated that hundreds of local listeners are tuning in to Falkirk's pirate radio station every day between 7 and 9 a.m.

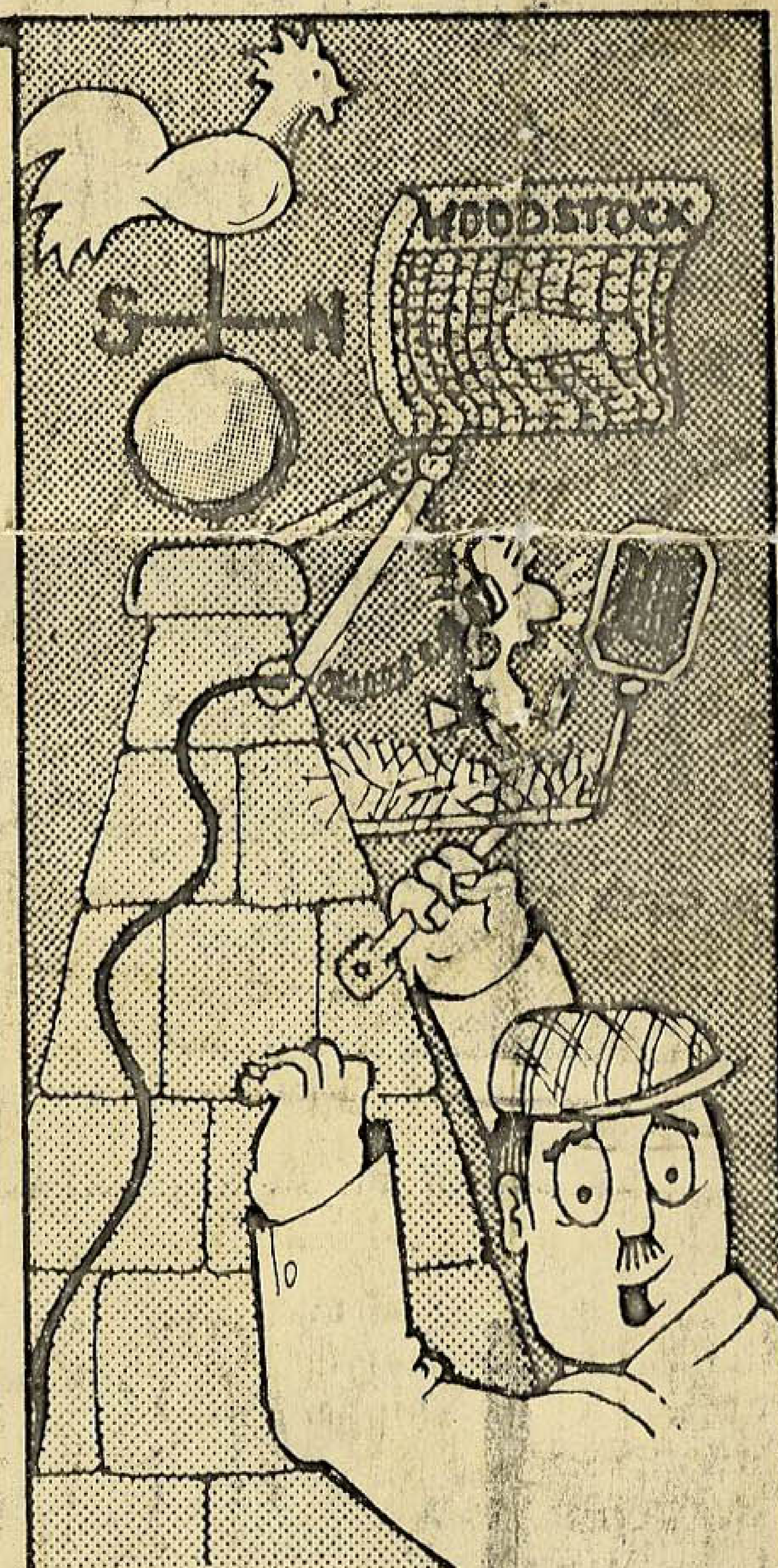
Radio Woodstock began broadcasting on 239 metres on the Medium Wave at the start of the year. Since then it's built up a strong following throughout the district.

But just WHO is the area's pirate of the airwaves? WHY is he continuing to broadcast illegally?

WHAT will he do when he's eventually caught?

This week, Radio Woodstock's boss, Louis Nieto, spoke exclusively to Herald entertainment editor David Hamilton.

See "Soundsaround" on Page Four.



"The things ye have to dae to get a request on the radio these days!"

FALKIRK'S pirate radio station — Radio Woodstock — "signed off" for the last time yesterday (Thursday) morning.

The station has closed down because, in radio boss Louis Nieto's words, "the authorities were getting too close".

Louis who has always maintained that he wanted to be caught to highlight his appeal for a licence to run a proper local radio station covering the Falkirk area, decided not to risk the confiscation of his expensive equipment.

But now he says his fight has just begun to establish a licensed commercial radio station for the area.

And he will welcome petitions and all letters of encouragement from the many thousands of people who tuned in to Radio Woodstock on 239 metres on the medium wave until yesterday.

Louis said this week: "We're all set to go for a legal commercial radio set-up. All we need is the licence."

You can address any

Radio pirate foils hunt

POP requests on Radio Woodstock are giving Post Office detectives a headache.

For they haven't been able to track down the source of breakfast-time broadcasts from the

pirate radio station operating in the Falkirk area.

The buccaneer calls himself Brian—no surname given—and refers to his station as Woodstock.

A P O official said it was illegal to make unauthorised radio broadcasts.

Brian would be liable to prosecution plus the confiscation of all his equipment.

seas did what the Home Office had failed to do.

Names

The Mi Amigo — the ship from which Radio Caroline broadcast—sank on March 20 this year.

But in the meantime the land-based pirates had raised the skull and crossbones.

And now Britain's airwaves crackle with offerings from stations whose names are as varied as their programmes.

Names like Radio Utopia, Radio Woodstock and Radio Invicta.

One of the reasons for the boom is the low cost