

MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENEWeek ending Sunday 25th March 1984

Storeton Community Radio will be holding a listener's night out at the Grand Hotel, on the promenade at New Brighton, on Wednesday 11th April, and commencing at 8pm. They will have collections, raffles and a "Miss SCR" competition. Entrance is free and all proceeds will go to charity. SCR wish it to be known that the night-out will go ahead as planned, even though the station may be temporarily off the air at the time. Currently they are collecting used postage stamps for the Guide Dogs for the Blind organisation, and plugging the latter's night out with Tom O'Connor at the Glenda Jackson Theatre in Birkenhead.

ABC RADIO 96.25MHz: 4, Glencairn Road, Old Swan, Liverpool L13 2AL.

In spite of fairly prolonged listening sessions both on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, this station remained unheard, although Eric Monaghan assures me that they did operate. Story from the station is that they are using low power into a very directional antenna which gets blown around a bit by the wind.

RADIO MERSEYWAVES 94.8MHz FM & 1197kHz AM: No announced mailing address.

My apologies for printing in last week's news the incorrect FM frequency for this station. On Sunday the station was noted with pre-transmission tests from about 5:15pm on FM and from 5:30pm on AM. They opened at 6pm with the Bert Williams Show. From 8pm, the station played continuous music, and at about 8:30pm Bert Williams announced that Paul Jay "had been unable to get to the other studio, and as there was no one in attendance, an emergency stand-by tape had switched itself on". A few checks later than this showed only continuous music. Both AM and FM frequencies had carrier only, when checked at 10:48pm.

STORETON COMMUNITY RADIO 1026kHz: 30, Bridle Close, Ford Estate, Birkenhead, Merseyside

On Tuesday night at about 6pm, Miss Jill Sinclair put out a message L43 9UU. to all SCR DJs, asking them to attend a station meeting at 6pm on Wednesday. It was also announced that the station would shortly be moving location. On Wednesday, when I got home from work at 6:20pm, the station had gone from the air and did not return. When they were also off the air on Thursday and Friday, things began to look ominous, but word filtered through that they were having problems with the transmitter and that they expected to be back on the air by Sunday evening. As it turned out, they were already on the air by 10am on Saturday, but seem to have operated on reduced power with a signal that had dropped from S3 to S2. Also, I suspect that they have already changed location during the mid-week break. Heard on Saturday were Uncle Ern and Little Di & Sandie Babe. After this, the station went off the air and were not found at 2:30pm. By 4:24pm they were back again with an S3 signal, and the Paul Woods Show in progress. Phil Davies took over at 5pm, but I didn't hear him give out any news of the possible return of Liverpool Pirate Radio. At 6pm the station was again having problems and Martin "C" said they would be going off the air for a short time to sort things out. Once fixed, they proceeded with the Phil Davies Show and then followed their announced schedule, except that Brian "C" extended his show to also cover the Martin "C" slot. When last heard, at 12:15am, Paul Woods and Keith the Chief were going strong. When noted on Sunday morning at 10:15am, Paul Woods was standing in for Uncle Ern, who presumably was at Wembley. Little Di and Sandie Babe also tailored their show to fit in with the football. Normally they do a joint show, but this weekend it was Little Di noon-1pm, Sandie Babe 1pm-2pm, then a joint show from 2pm-3pm. After this, the announced line-up seems to have been kept, and heard were:- Pablo Brad/Phil Davies/John Sniff/Brian C.

RADIO ELEANOR 1179kHz. 16, Stockbridge Street, Anfield, Liverpool L5 6PB

Another station with presenters lucky enough to get tickets for the Cup Final. They operated their normal weekend schedule, opening at 10am on Saturday, but with Nick James standing-in for Tony Carr, who had gone to Wembley, and with Paul Rogers standing in for Pete Davies who "hasn't turned up". Sunday schedule was the normal 10am-5pm line up. The close-down announcement was not heard, but the main point was picked up later. It seems that Radio Eleanor may also be planning a listener's night out.

CHANNEL FIVE 1242kHz: 23, Rice Hey Road, Egremont, Wallasey, Merseyside L44 ODX.

Sign-on time on Saturday was not noted, but probably took place shortly after 10am. The station appears to have followed its Gary Smith/Pete Williams/Steve West/Nick Catford/Dave Graham schedule until 10pm, at which time it was announced that Matt Black was not available, and that Frank Xerox would be doing the 10pm-Midnight slot instead of his usual Midnight-1am slot. At Midnight, Steve West came back on the air, announcing that he would be on until 5am. The station was not on the air at 3am, but it is not known if this was a "break" or whether the station had closed down for the night. Gary Smith was on the air by first listen at 10:35am on Sunday, but unusual was the fact that he handed over



to Pete Williams at mid-day rather than at 1pm. Apart from PW's additional hour, they followed Saturday's schedule. However, Steve West announced that after the station officially closed-down at 3am on Monday morning, they would be playing "The Story of Radio Caroline" tape, to celebrate the latter's 20th Birthday, which takes place during the coming week. It is not known whether they played it or not

CENTRAL RADIO INTERNATIONAL 1386kHz: 18, Glynne Street, Orrell, Bootle, Merseyside L20 6DF

Plenty of news from this station, some of which has been held over from last week. Radio Atlantis, their weekday off-shoot which should already have been on the air, has been held up for lack of finance. Bootle Community Radio is also due on the air shortly, but it will only operate for a couple of hours on two nights per week and is mainly designed to keep Central Radio's standby transmitter in a state of readiness. Central Radio, Radio Eleanor and Storeton Community Radio have been interviewed by BBC Radio Merseyside, whose programme on the local pirate stations is due to be aired on Sunday 1st April some time between 8pm and 10pm. Also on 1st April, BBC TV will be visiting Central Radio to record a programme to be seen on Nationwide some time during the following week. Bearing in mind the date next Sunday, I take no responsibility whatsoever for the accuracy of the above information! The station were heard from about 12:30pm on Saturday, with Jeff Stone and Steve Tyler keeping things going. Close-down time was not noted, but the station was not noted at 5pm. On Sunday the announced schedule was 10am sign-on, then Jim Browne/Mark Evans/Steve Bishop/Jeff Stone/Ken Woolfe/Steve Tyler and Jeff Stone doing 1½ hours each. Jeff Stone did the Steve Bishop slot, then Steve Bishop took over, but his programme was two hours long, and the rest of the schedule ran behind time. The station signed-off at 8pm, so presumably Jeff Stone cut short his final stint.

STATION "M" INTERNATIONAL 1413kHz: 78, Brunswick Court, Birkenhead, Merseyside L41 6LW.

This station signed-on at 12:13pm on Sunday. Signal is still S3, but modulation was much improved this weekend. It is still far from perfect, but at least it was readable. I'm still not too sure whether this station has any planned schedule, but heard this weekend were: 12:13pm- 1:45pm MIKE ROSS, the new DJ whose name couldn't be obtained last week; Dave Wilson took over at 1:45pm and was still on the air at 2:31pm. By 4pm, Roger Dee was on the air. There was no sign of John Mitchell whenever checked, but Dave Wilson followed Roger Dee, and when he signed-off at 7pm, the station featured "The Caroline Story", Roger Dee filling in time between the tapes. Close-down time was not noted, but the station had gone from the air at 9:25pm.

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Did anyone see the Wimbledon v Walsall match on BBC Match of the Day?? The far right-hand corner of the ground featured two huge "RADIO JACKIE" banners!

One point missed from the above notes is that Central Radio International operated without interference this weekend, which is good news, but on the other hand, the area has lost another "potential" station, which is bad news, especially as the "missing" station seem to have been regular until Christmas.