

MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE

Week ending Sunday 20th May 1984

Firstly, a reminder that Radio Eleanor's Listener's Night Out will take place on the 6th July, and will be held in the Mediterranean Bar of the BRADFORD HOTEL, Liverpool (corner of Tithebarn Street and Pall Mall), which is just round the corner from Moorfields Station. No news yet of Central Radio's next Listener's night out, except that it will not be held until after that of Radio Eleanor, so there is plenty of time yet.

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

This station was missing from the air again on Tuesday night, although I have not heard any reason broadcast. On Wednesday night they had already started broadcasting when tuned in at 9:09pm. The Benny James Show was in progress, but later timings suggested that this show had gone out a little late, starting at 9:06pm. It was followed at 10:06pm by an Eric Monaghan 2-hour spectacular. This was to be the last broadcast by Eric for ABC, although he will still be active behind the scenes. The programme was mostly music, interspersed at times with his assessment of all of the other local radio stations. I guess that he must have upset someone during this assessment, as ABC RADIO was completely obliterated by a very strong "jammer" from midnight on, and it was not possible to determine whether Tom Lodge followed Eric Monaghan.

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

This station seem to have had a few problems in maintaining their announced "extensions" over the weekend. The Friday night line-up was Paul Rogers/Barry Cullen/Mark Wright/John Freeman/Paul Rogers/Pete Davies/Paul Rogers, each doing one-hour shows between 5pm and 1am. The announced schedule for Saturday was:- 10am-11am Paul Rogers; 11am-1pm Paul Rogers(standing-in for Tony Reeve); 1pm-3pm Mark Wright; 3pm-5pm John Freeman; 5pm-7pm Barry Cullen; 7pm-9pm Paul Rogers; 9pm-Midnight Pete Davies; Midnight-1am Paul Rogers: All went well until 5pm, when Barry Cullen never turned up for his show, and Paul Rogers stood-in for him, thus doing a 5pm-9pm stint. Pete Davies was scheduled between 9pm and Midnight, but when checked at 11:45pm, the station had gone from the air, although Pete was heard at all earlier checks. Paul Rogers says that the station had an unscheduled break in transmission from about 11:20pm, but it is not clear whether it actually came back on the air later. The Sunday schedule was as normal. ie 10am-11am Paul Rogers; 11am-1pm Tony Reeve; 1pm-3pm Mark Wright; 3pm-5pm John Freeman; 5pm-5:30pm Paul Roger (Free Radio News);

RADIO ATLANTIS 936kHz: 150, Rake Lane, Wallasey, Merseyside, L44 1UU.

Please note the changes to both frequency and mailing address! On Monday, the new line-up of Noon-3pm Steve Tyler; 3pm-6pm Rick Dane; 6pm-9pm Steve Bishop was announced by Steve Bishop, together with the new mailing address and parallel operation on 102.7MHz FM. The station was not heard at all on Tuesday, either in Liverpool or Wallasey on AM or FM. They were back on the air on Wednesday, with Rick Dane also announcing the Rake Lane address, and that the station would be on the air seven days per week. It was not until Thursday that Rick Dane was heard to announce that Radio Atlantis would be moving frequency next week, and that over the weekend they would be "testing" on either 945kHz or 963kHz. The latter would have ruined any chance of Merseyside listeners ever hearing Radio Caroline, but, come Saturday, Radio Atlantis showed up on 936kHz, not the 963kHz mentioned previously! On Friday, the station seems to have operated its usual schedule on 1242kHz, with the same on Saturday, except that they had moved to 936kHz, and after 9pm they seem to have been playing continuous music. Later again, the station were playing old tapes featuring Andy Davies, which could only have come from Steve Bishop's collection, and the station was heard to go off the air at 11:20pm. It was heard on Sunday at 9:50am, with Steve Bishop apologising for intermittent reception, due to technical difficulties. After this, the station apparently carried continuous music until Noon, when they signed on with the Steve Tyler Show, during which he said that the station had been on the air all night, and would probably continue until Midnight on Sunday. Rick Dane was heard from 3pm to 6pm. but after signing-on his show, Steve Bishop seemed to feature continuous music, interspersed with apologies for his lack of programming, as he didn't feel very well. The station seems to have signed-off at 9pm, as they could not be found after this time. During the week, Rick Dane announced that they would be using a more powerful transmitter for their seven-day operation, and the MW signal has showed a marked improvement in Liscard, although the relay on FM seems to have been discontinued, as it has not been heard since last Monday.

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

This station seems to have solved its technical difficulties, and been left free from sabotage. They signed-on on both Saturday and Sunday at Noon, although the line



up between 6pm and 8pm seems to be as much a mystery to them as it is to me! The station rarely seems to be able to announce presenters for these hours, and I rarely seem to be able to listen at these times. The planned schedule is: Noon-3pm Pete Williams; 3pm-6pm Steve West; 6pm-8pm ?????; 8pm-10pm Dave Graham; 10pm-Midnight Frank Xerox; Midnight-1am Frank Xerox/Pete Williams; 1am-3am Steve West: On Saturday, the 6pm-8pm slot was not determined, but Steve West was still on the air at 6:40pm, and may have done the whole slot. On Sunday, DICK TURK, a new DJ, signed-off at 8:15pm, after doing the previous hour. Dave Graham was on the air until 10:30pm, as Frank Xerox turned up late. After this, the station presumably got back to its original target schedule, but were not heard.

CENTRAL RADIO INTERNATIONAL 1323kHz: 27, Rushmere Road, Norris Green, Liverpool L11 2XF.

Note the new frequency for this station. Various reports last week said that CRI were interfering with BBC Ulster, or that BBC Ulster were interfering with CRI, so they moved. Plenty of news from the station this week. The schedule has been somewhat disrupted, due to Jim Browne having other things to do. It reads:- Monday 10am-Noon Jeff Stone; Noon-2pm Mark Evans; 2pm-3:30pm Jim Browne; 3:30-6pm Howie and Apple-pip: Tuesday & Friday 10am-Noon Jeff Stone; Noon-3pm Mark Evans; 3pm-5pm Howie and Apple-pip: Wednesday & Thurs 10am-Noon Jeff Stone; Noon-2pm Mark Evans; 2pm-3pm Continuous music: 3pm-5pm Howie and Apple pip. Saturday 10am-Noon Jeff Stone; Noon-2pm Mark Evans; 2pm-3:45pm Jim Browne; 3:45pm - 5:30pm Howie and Apple-pip: Sunday 10am-12pm Jim Browne; 12pm-2pm Mark Evans; 2pm-4pm Jeff Stone; 4pm-6pm Ken Woolfe; 6pm-8pm Howie and Apple-pip:

Jim Browne announced that the station is to close down at 3pm on Mon. 21st May for a period of four days, during which they will be doing a few general repairs and also converting the transmitter to a new form of modulation. The station will be back on the air on Sat. 26th May with a stronger, cleaner signal. There will also be some re-shuffling of the programmes, and the weekday line-up will be:- 9am-11am Ken Woolfe; 11am-1pm Mark Evans; 1pm-3pm Jim Browne; 3pm-5pm Jeff Stone; 5pm-7pm Howie and Apple-pip. They also hope to extend their broadcasting hours at the weekend, and to introduce some new DJs.

STORETON COMMUNITY RADIO 1026kHz: 74, Big Meadow Road, Woodvurch Estate, Birkenhead,

The station seems to have "got wind" of plans to Merseyside, L40 9AQ spoil the "Under 18's" night out, and on Tuesday, Keith the Chief announced that the SCR studio would not be un-attended on 21st May, and that in any case, there would not be any equipment left on the premises for persons to steal or wreck. Additionally, he said that none of the DJ's cars would be left on the car park at Ma Baker's, so the people concerned could leave their paint stripper and screwdrivers at home!

They appear to have operated normally through the week, but had a few problems at the weekend. Stevie Sounds did his own show, then stood-in for Uncle Ern until 1pm. The rest of the Saturday schedule was "as announced" until 11pm, when Paul Woods was heard in place of Phil Davies, who didn't do the overnight show, or the first show on Sunday morning. On Sunday morning, Stevie Sounds was already on the air by 8:15am, but sounded very tired. After complaining that Phil Davies had not turned up, and saying that he had only had one hours sleep, he closed the station down "probably until 10am". Strange, as he himself was due on the air between 10am and Noon. The station was not heard again until 12:32pm, when Little Di apologised for the late start "due to technical difficulties, which have now been sorted out by Martin". Between 12:30pm and 1pm, Little Di was on the air. At 1pm Wayne Scott took over to do his first "solo" Country & Western Show (very good it was, too) and at 2pm Little DI and Wayne Scott did a joint show. The station were back on schedule from 3pm, except that Uncle Ern stood in for Phil Davies from 5pm-7pm. It seems that both Sandie Babe and Phil Davies had reported sick. Let's hope that things are soon back to normal.

STATION "M" INTERNATIONAL 1413kHz & 90.2MHz FM: 78, Brunswick Court, Birkenhead, Merseyside

The station was not heard on medium wave, and was not found L41 6LW on FM until shortly before 5pm, when they were barely heard above the background noise level. Interference from the stations on both sides made listening very difficult, and I gave up after about ten minutes, during which time it was established that Roger Dee was running the programme

RADIO MERSEYWAVES 94.8MHz FM: 23, Birnam Road, Wallasey, Merseyside L44 9AY

This station operated its usual Sunday evening format, but at sign-on, Bert Williams said that they had increased the transmitter power considerably, and more than he had intended. Great signal here in Liscard, with none of the interference from the adjacent channels that marred last week's broadcast.

NOTE: Next weeks notes will be a bit late, due to the Bank Holiday.