

On Tuesday, BBC Radio 4 ran a programme on 'pirate' radio. It was broadcast in "FILE ON 4" at 7:20pm, and although at least one of the local stations was asked to supply material, this was never used. Apart from KFM RADIO in Stockport and SHEFFIELD PEACE RADIO, all the other stations featured were from the London area, in spite of the programme being produced in Manchester.

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

The station have not been heard all week, but were noted for a while on Saturday morning from about 9:30am. Signal was very weak and almost unreadable. Phil Davies was the DJ, but the signal seemed to be so lacking in "bass" that it took quite some time to recognise his voice. The station appear to have gone from the air by noon, and have not subsequently been heard.

RADIO ELENORE 1170kHz & 104MHz: 16, Stockbridge Street, Anfield, Liverpool L5 6PR.

This station appear to have had a full line-up of DJs this weekend, and to have operated their normal schedule. On Friday night they were noted on FM with an apparently strong signal, although the S-meter would not move from the end stop. The FM signal was not noted on Saturday, but by 5pm on Sunday the signal was hardly heard on the stereo and not heard at all on a portable. Bert Williams announced later that the station had had a few problems over the weekend, but didn't state whether these were equipment problems or not. The AM signal remains good and has increased in strength to S4.

RADIO MERSEYWAVES 1170kHz & 94.8MHz: 23, Birnam Road, Wallasey, Merseyside L44 9AY

Opened at 6pm on Sunday with good signals on both AM and FM. Closing time announcements have not been noted, but Bert Williams has done the 6pm-9pm slot, with Paul Jay taking over at the latter time.

RADIO ATLANTIS 963kHz & 102.7MHz: 150, Rake Lane, Wallasey, Merseyside L45 1JW

Somewhere along the line the postcode for this station seems to have got mixed up. This is corrected this week. The stations appears to have operated its planned schedule during the weekend and on Saturday. On Sunday, however, it was noted that the FM outlet was once again in use. Accurate frequency read-out is not available and station announcements have not been heard, but the frequency seems to be the former 102.7MHz. They appear to have closed-down early on Sunday night and have not been heard since a 9:30pm check.

CHANNEL FIVE 1242kHz: 23, Rice Hey Road, Egremont, Wallasey, Merseyside L44 0DX.

This station opened shortly after noon on Saturday and operated to the same schedule as the past few weeks, signing-off a few minutes before midnight. Sunday schedule also seems to that announced for the past few weekends, with Dave Graham on air at the time of writing, and just about to hand over to Frank Yerox.

STONETON COMMUNITY RADIO 1026kHz: 23, The Meadow, Woodchurch Estate, Birkenhead, Merseyside

Apart from a late sign-on on Saturday, when they were not noted until 10:30am, the station seems to have operated its normal hours, but with a greatly revised schedule, particularly during the evenings and weekend afternoons. Early in the week it was announced that Little Di was on holiday, which probably explains much of the "shuffling". Their long hours of operation make it almost impossible to establish a new schedule.

The new laws on pirate radio come into effect on Monday 16th July. Most stations have announced that they will try to stay on the air, but Channel Five have announced sweeping changes. It seems that from next weekend they will be on the air on Sundays only. All DJs will do 1½ hour programmes, which will be taped. Dave Graham said that the station simply can not afford to lose its equipment if raided.