

MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE

Week ending 3rd February 1985

Storeton Community Radio have not yet returned to the air and Central Radio International have not been heard this weekend. Jim Browne of Central Radio International phoned Radio Merseywaves with a reception report and as no "bad news" was forthcoming it can be presumed that the station's non-appearance can be put down to equipment failure.

RADIO MERSEYWAVES 1242kHz: 18, Mallard Way, Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside L46 7SL

The station seem to have had quite a few equipment problems over the weekend. On Saturday the carrier was on the air shortly before 9am but not modulated until noon. Between noon and 12:40pm intermittant severely distorted music was heard, but at the latter time the station came on the air with a better signal and playing continuous music. At 1:49pm Ray Rockford appeared on the air saying he would be on until 3pm. After 3pm the signal reverted to intermittant continuous music. The schedule for the remainder of the day was not as announced in places but they did stay on the air until midnight close-down. On Sunday the carrier was again on the air before 9am with all sorts of modulation problems at 11am The station appeared to have operated with very intermittant continuous music until noon, when Paul Jay was in the chair until 2pm. New DJ, Tony Hennessy was 2pm-3pm. The station reverted once again to intermittant operation with continuous music between 3pm and 4pm, when Burt Williams did the 4pm-6pm slot. Ray Rockford was supposed to do the 6pm-8pm slot but he hadn't turned up when Burt Williams left the airwaves so the station switched once again to continuous music with many "on-air"adjustments of equipment. The remainder of the schedule was announced as Martin Miller 8pm-10pm and Mark Newman 10pm-Midnight close-down. However, at midnight another new DJ, Francis Barnett took over, announcing it as his first programme for Merseywaves and scheduled to close-down at 1am

This weekend the station has reverted to frequency announcements of 1233kHz although they operate on 1242kHz. With regard to other announcements it is sad to see the most reliable of stations become the most unreliable in such a short space of time. Equipment problems due to the DTI raids and the inexperience of the new DJs undoubtedly is to blame for this state of affairs and I hope that it won't be too long before they find their feet again.

[illegible]