MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE Week ending Sunday 17th February 1985

On Thursday 14th Feb the local press reported the court case following the raid on Central Radio International on 10th November. Phil, who was caught operating the transmitter, was fined £75 with £40 costs, but the magistrates seem to have considered the greater crime to have been allowing one's premises to be used for the purpose and Geoff's fine plus costs amounted to £149. In view of the penalties that could have been imposed, those given seem to have been quite lenient. The station have not been heard this weekend, but they did say that they were looking for new locations. On Sunday, Mark Newman sent his best wishes to Keith the Chief, of Storeton Community Radio and said that he hoped the hard work put in to get SCR back on the air would soon bring some positive results. In the meantime, Radio Merseywaves are still the only local station being heard

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

Since the raid on 11th November this station has often sounded more like two separate stations. One operating on Saturday and on Sunday after 6pm, with the other being heard between 11am and 6pm on Sundays. This weekend, for the first time, it has all come together as one station, but not without difficulties.

On Friday 15th a very strong carrier was noted on 1242kHz, but this was still un-modulated by bedtime. Saturday 16th seems to have brought a few problems. The un-modulated carrier was noted at noon, but modulation was not noted until much later, when the station carried continuous music until 1:30pm or so, when Paul Henderson was heard. The station was not heard at 3:45pm check but were back in the air with intermittant operation by 4:20pm. A short time later, Paul Henderson was apologising for the break in transmission. By 6:33pm TARA was on the air, apparently since 6pm. The remainder of the schedule was announced as 8pm-10pm Paul Newman and 10pm-Midnight Martin Miller. By 8:26pm the station seemed to have been playing continuous music with no DJ being heard and at 10:20pm the signal was "carrier only". The blank carrier was still on air at 11:30pm, which was the last check.
On Sunday a really strong carrier was noted shortly before noon. At about 11:55am the RMW theme tune was noted and Burt Williams opened the day's proceedings. He was on the air to 12:30pm when Chris Palmer took over until about 1:50pm. After another 10 minutes of continuous music the station featured Burt Williams 2pm-4pm; Paul Jay 4pm-6pm, Tara 6pm-8pm; Martin Miller 8pm-10pm and Mark Newman 10pm-Midnight close-down.

The station still announce 1233kHz although they must be well aware that they are operating on 1242kHz. On Saturday, the level of modulation of speech during Tara's programme on Saturday was such that she was not heard above the background music, but on Sunday everything was back to 'near perfect' for the whole day, with the signal strength registering \$3\frac{1}{4}\$.