

MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE      Week ending Sunday 10th March 1985

Once again Radio Merseywaves have had the local airwaves to themselves, with no sign yet of either Storeton Community Radio or Central Radio International

RADIO MERSEYWAVES 1242kHz & 94.8MHz: 18 Mallard Way, Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside L46 7SL

Although numerous checks were made on Saturday to see whether any of the other local stations had returned to the air, Radio Merseywaves were completely forgotten and were not checked all day. In the absence of Sunday announcements to the contrary, it is assumed that all went well on Saturday with the station fulfilling a complete schedule on both AM and FM. On Sunday the sign-on time was not noted, but heard were:-

11am-1pm Steve Jones; 1pm-2pm Tony Hennessey; 2pm-4pm Burt Williams; 4pm-6pm Paul Jay; 6pm-8pm Mark Newman; 8pm-10pm Martin Miller. The station were announcing Paul Henderson between 10pm and midnight, but he wasn't heard. Martin Miller started his show at 8pm and was still on the air when checked a few times later. Paul Henderson's show wasn't checked until 11:20pm when the carrier was on the air but not modulated. The carrier was switched off at about 11:30pm.

The station have still not been heard to announce their FM frequency although it has now been on the air for the past two weekends. The modulation level during speech on Mark Newman's show is always low and more often than not, it is extremely difficult to make out what he is saying when he talks over background music. It is good to hear Tony Hennessey back on the air, even though some of his shows are a little shorter than we are used to. The newer DJs sound much more professional than the original "crew", but it is quite amazing how the latter have improved with experience since Christmas. The one blot on the station's record is their un-fulfilled promises to provide Free Radio News. Chris Taylor drops the occasional snippet, saying that Burt Williams will be giving out more news in his programme. The latter may mention a few details of RMW's plans, saying that Paul Jay will be including some Free Radio News in his show, but when it comes along we are lucky to get a few brief extracts from the off-shore stations of the '60s. The AM signal seems to be getting out particularly well, and the station mentioned this week that they had received a report from Scotland. It is a pity that the station can not present a regular free radio news section at a regular time, as this type of programme is most likely to produce a response from "long-distance" listeners, who can not only send RMW reception reports, but possibly help out with free radio news from their own areas.

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