

MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE Week ending Monday 8th April 1985 (Bank Holiday)

This week has seen the return of two that previously operated in the area, and one brand new station, although all stations heard have had problems of one sort or another.

CENTRAL RADIO INT. 1404kHz: 30, Elkstone Road, Norris Green, Liverpool L11 2TD.

Reports say that this station has been heard "testing" through the week, but their return to the airwaves wasn't noted until 3:15pm on Friday. The signal strength is S2 but speech is indistinct and sometimes difficult to follow. Modulation on music passages is much better. Heard on Friday were:- 3:15pm-5pm Phil Davies; 5pm-7:30pm Jim Browne/Mark Evans joint show, with each doing about three records before handing over to the other. The station was supposed to close down at 8pm but problems with the mic seems to have persuaded them to close early. Central were the only station heard on Good Friday. On Saturday the carrier was on the air at 10:50am, and Jim Browne opened the station at 11am. Heard were:- 11am-Noon Jim Browne; Noon-1pm Mark Evans; 1pm-2pm Steve Tyler and 2pm-3pm Phil Davies. When checked at 1pm, Radio Merseywaves had gone from the air, and around 1:35pm, Steve Tyler was putting out regular messages for anyone who could tell them the reason why both Merseywaves and Storeton Community Radio had left the air, to contact them urgently. During the Phil Davies show, it was announced that Central would be going off the air at 3pm to change location as the DTI were in the area, and that they would be back on the air the following day. In the event, the station was back on the air by 5:20pm with Jim Browne and Mark Evans doing "1/2 hour on- 1/2 hour off". Close down time wasn't noted but believed to be 8pm. When they failed to show up at scheduled 10am on Sunday, things began to look serious. The carrier appeared on the air at 10:45am and the station opened with very intermittent operation and an old Steve Tyler Show tape at 11:15am. When Jim Browne came on the air at Noon, he said that the Tx was switched on at 10am, water had got into it via the antenna and that they had to switch off immediately. There were other problems with loose leads, etc and Jim Browne confessed to becoming very disheartened with the whole thing from time to time. Once they did get off the ground, heard were:- Noon-2pm(except for opening announcement) Mark Evans; 2pm-5pm Phil Davies; 5pm-9:45pm Jim Browne/Mark Evans till about 9pm, then continuous music. On Monday, prior to 10am, the station was heard with continuous music. From this time, heard were:- 10am-Noon Jim Browne; Noon-2pm Mark Evans; 2pm-5:30pm Phil Davies; 5:30pm-6:30pm Mark Evans; 6:30pm-7:00pm Jim Browne; 7pm-8pm Jim Browne/Mark Evans; 8pm onwards, relay of Radio Active with close-down not noted.

\*\*\* Please note the new mailing address for this station \*\*\*

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

Surprisingly, this station were not heard on Good Friday. On Saturday they were already on the air when first checked at 10:55am. It seems that the Jim Lowe Show started at 10am and that Tom Webb was to have followed Noon-2pm, but the station was not heard at 1pm and was not found later in the day. On Sunday, the station was first noted at 10:27am with Paul Henderson saying that he would be on the air till 11am. Around 10:45am he said that the station would be going off the air for about 10minutes for adjustments (to a perfect signal?). Between 11am and 1pm came a special Bank Holiday guest appearance of Tony Hennessey, followed by Mark Newman from 1pm-2pm. At 2pm, Burt Williams said that the station disappeared from the air on Saturday at approximately 12:30pm when the antenna was cut down. The culprits were believed to be members of the DTI. There were also other problems with the transmitter, and although it was back on the air by 6pm, it closed down again at 8pm. Schedule was then:- 2pm-4pm Burt Williams; 4pm-6pm Paul Jay, who was to have been followed by Mark Newman. At 6:06pm only a carrier was heard, and after a short time, the theme tune, followed by a repeat of the Paul Jay Show tapes. Just before 10pm the station was carrying bits and pieces of the afternoon's Burt Williams Show. At 10pm the station got back to normal, with the Mark Newman Show, originally announcing a midnight close-down, but shortly before close-down the station held a phone-in and said that they would be extending their hours past midnight to acknowledge the calls. Later, they announced that they would close-down at 2am, and were still on the air when last checked. Monday seems to have been a fairly normal day and heard were:- 10:30am-Noon Jim Lowe; Noon-2pm Tom Webb; 2pm-4pm Burt Williams(who turned up late for the start); 4pm-5pm Paul Jay; 5pm-6pm Tom Webb; 6pm-8pm Paul Henderson; 8pm-10pm Martin Miller. The DJ from 10pm-Midnight wasn't noted, but presumably was Mark Newman, and the station had gone from the air by 12:15am.



