

This weekend, two more of the Merseyside FM stations which have been mentioned in various publications have appeared on the air, while all of the AM stations currently operating have suffered numerous equipment failures and technical problems

RADIO MERSEY WAVES 1242kHz: 9, Meadfoot Road, Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside L46 7UW
The station was on the air on Monday with a full schedule (noted 8am-Midnight) and a new DJ, Barry Noble, doing the 10am-Noon slot. They said that they might stay on the air all week but even the carrier was gone by 7am Tuesday. They were not heard on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday although various DJs have said that they did broadcast on Thursday but the station was off the air quite a few times with technical problems. On Friday they weren't noted till 1:23pm, when Mark Newman announced that they were back after a break of about 8 hours. The early afternoon line-up wasn't noted but the station was off the air again at 3:25pm and hadn't returned by 4:25pm. At 5pm, Paul Woods was heard handing over to Keith the Chief for the 5pm-7pm slot followed by Tara, 7pm-10pm and Tony Coltrane, 10pm-???. When checked shortly before midnight the station was again missing from the air. On Saturday they opened at 11:37am with the theme tune and the Mark Wright Show. They operated their normal programming and at Midnight Keith the Chief said that it was the first show he had done all week as the aerials kept blowing down. Sunday had normal programming, but with Mark Wright standing-in for Wayne Scott and Dave Collins standing in for Edward Bear. Last check was around 11pm. They now seem to be operating on Thur/Fri/Sat/Sun/Mon/Tues.

CENTRAL RADIO INT. 1404kHz: 18, Glynne Street, Orrell, Bootle, Merseyside L20 6DF

This station was first noted at noon on Monday, but possibly opened at 10am. The transmission was intermittent and Phil Davies was heard "testing". From 1pm the line-up was:- 1pm-3pm Dave Smith, a new DJ being shown the ropes by Phil Davies; 3pm-6pm Jeff Thompson? At 6pm Phil announced that Tony James had also been on the air that day. On Friday the signal was first noted at 10:18am with what appeared to be continuous music but at noon, Tony James was heard signing-off. During the afternoon the station obviously had problems. At 1:09pm, Phil Davies was heard "testing" in the middle of what should have been Dave Smith's Show. It isn't known whether Phil handed back to Dave or stayed on the air himself till 4pm. Jeff Thompson was supposed to do the 4pm-6pm slot, but before 6pm the equipment was again giving trouble and the station closed down shortly before 6pm. It was back again by 6:45pm or so, with Jeff Thompson still in the chair, but Jim Browne closed the station down for the day at about 7:15pm. On Saturday they opened at 10am after a short warm-up and fulfilled the full day's programming till midnight close-down. On Sunday they opened at 8am with the 8am-10am Charlie Browne Show. Tony James started his two hour show at 10am, but the station had gone from the air by 11:25am. Although the carrier was switched on a few times, it was not modulated and the news from the station is that the modulator has blown up.

STORETON COMMUNITY RADIO 1026kHz: 91, New Hey Road, Birkenhead, Merseyside L49 7NE.
The station was noted on Monday in Liscard at 8:06am, but was not found in Liverpool at 8:30am. The signal appeared to be intermittent for most of the morning but heard were 11am-Noon Kenny Gee; Noon-3pm John Sniff; 3pm-5pm Dave Dee and 5pm-7pm Uncle Ern. They closed down at 7pm to allow all the DJs to get to the 13s-18s Night-out. On Tuesday they opened up at 8am and seemed to be OK at 9pm having been on the air all day. However, at 10pm, John Sniff was heard closing-down the station for the day, but the reason was missed. On Wednesday they were not heard until 6:50pm, when Martin "C" announced that both cooling fans had burnt out. He had installed one new one and was using the transmitter to appeal for one of the DJs to give him a lift to collect another, saying that the station would resume transmission at 8pm. From 8:13pm John Sniff and Paul Western did a joint show, with Paul going solo between 10pm and Midnight when the station closed down. On Thursday the station opened at 8am and carried out a full day's programming to beyond midnight. Friday brought more problems. They signed-on at 8am and operated normally to past 2:30pm. When checked at 3:36pm they couldn't be found. They were back again by 5pm when Dave Dee was heard to say that he had only been on the air for an hour. Uncle Ern signed-on at 5pm but closed the station down at 6:15pm, saying that they were going off the air to sort out some problems. On Saturday they failed to come on the air till Noon(?). They were not on the air by 11:40am and were first noted at 12:47pm. They operated normally until 7pm, when John Sniff closed the station down, saying that they might be back on the air at 10pm, but probably would stay off till Sunday. More problems were experienced on Sunday. They opened at 8am and were still operating OK at noon,

when Andy Sloane signed-on. However, the signal had disappeared by 12:47pm and although the carrier was noted for long periods, it wasn't modulated. They were back on the air by 10pm when John Sniff was heard, but the late night schedule wasn't noted.

CONCEPT RADIO 104.3MHz: 18, Glynne Street, Orrell, Bootle, Merseyside L20 6DF.

Although this station still announces 104.3MHz they appear to be operating on a frequency nearer to 104.8MHz which gives them quite good separation from Signal Radio in Stoke-on-Trent. They say that they were on the air from noon on Sunday but they weren't noted here until 1:20pm. As CRI were off the air, there was no relay via Concept, who ran their own programming. The schedule was:- Noon-2pm Tom Webb; 2pm-3pm Jim Lowe; 3pm-6pm Phil Davies; 6pm-8pm Jim Lowe; 8pm-10pm Tom Webb; 10pm-10:30pm Feature tape; 10:30pm-11:30pm Jim Lowe. The times shown above showed some variation and the station were last checked at about 8:45pm. When CRI had to go off the air, the DJs were invited to do guest appearances on Concept, but Phil Davies is the only one who accepted the challenge. The news that SRI's modulator had blown up came from this station.

WFM 90.3MHz FM stereo: 3, Wareing Avenue, Birkenhead, Merseyside L42 6QH.

On Sunday morning from about 12:28am, a strong but intermittent signal was noted on 90.3MHz. There was just one ID amongst the continuous music. The signal was also found at 8:20pm on Sunday, when programming proper was in progress. The sign-on time is thought to be 8pm with Stephen Davies, Kevin Palmer, Phil James and "Mike" doing one hour each, with a midnight close-down. Announcements suggest that this station is Sundays only.

C104 104MHz FM

At 8:20pm on Sunday a mono FM signal was noted on 104.0MHz, with Andy Davies in the hot seat. He was announcing the broadcast as a test transmission of C-104. The programme controller was said to be John Dwyer but no DJ names were heard nor any mailing address. Also it is not yet known at what times or days this station intends to operate