MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE. Week ending Sunday 1st June 1986

Central Radio were in court on Wednesday as a result of the DTI raid of 31st January. Jim Browne was fined £50 with £50 costs and Jeff Thompson was fined £100 with £50 costs. Concept Radio reported that the crew from Central had often attended court to give moral support to other stations, but that none of them saw fit to return the compliment on Wednesday. None of the FM stations were noted till Friday night.

RADIO MERSEY WAVES 1242kHz: 9, Meadfoot Road, Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside L46 7UW After being absent from the airwaves last weekend, this station re-appeared on Monday. Continuous music was noted from about Noon, but checks on the hour failed to show any DJs till 4:20pm or so, when Burt Williams was heard. He announced that the station have been off the air because the security men at the flats where operate from, formerly friends of the station, have suddenly turned against them and started pulling down the aerials. They have also promised to call in the police if they discover the location of the station's equipment. In effect, the security men are acting as a vigilante group, apparently with the approval of the police. An 18-man squad on duty 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and armed with walkie-talkies and roof-top cameras are doing the DTI's job for them. If something can not be sorted out with the security men, the station will probably close down on the first Sunday in July. The DJs heard on Monday were 4:20pm-5pm Burt Williams; 5pm-7pm Dezza (who said that Alan Bates had done a show earlier); 7pm-9pm Peter Thomas; 9pm-Midnight Tara; Midnight-lam KtC. They were next noted on Saturday and are apparently operating Sats/Suns from a new location. On Saturday, continuous music was noted from 10:47am, but the signal was distorted and intermittant. Later. Mark Wright was heard to apologise for the late start and "technical problems" Noted were: - ??-Noon Mark Wright; Noon-2pm Barry Noble; 2pm-4pm DJC; 4pm-6pm KtC and Paul Woods; 6pm-8pm Dezza; 8pm-10pm Tara; 10pm-Midnight close-down Mark Newman, On Sunday they again opened late and were not on the air by noon but heard were: - 12:40pm-lpm Wayne Scott(apologising for a short show); 1pm-3pm Paul Jay; 3pm-5pm Jeff Starr; 5pm-7pm Tony Coltrane; 7pm-10pm Peter Thomas; 10pm-Midnight Mark Newman. The remainder of the schedule was announced as Midnight-lam KtC and lam-3am Paul Woods, but the station wasn't checked after llpm.

CONCERT RADIO 104.4MHz: 18, Glynne Street, Orrell, Bootle, Merseyside L20 6DF.
This station were on the air on Monday for a secial Bank Holiday broadcast. Announcements the previous day suggested that this might have been an all-day broadcast, but in the event they opened at 8pm. Heard were: 8pm-10pm Jim Lowe and 10pm-Midnight Tom Webb. Announcements said that they would be closing down at midnight, but I understand that they stayed on the air beyond this time to hold a link-up with Wirral FM, which they apparently also did on the previous Sunday. They were next noted at 8pm on Sunday and noted were: 8pm-10pm Tom Webb and 10pm-Midnight Jim Lowe. They weren't checked after 11pm and close-down time wasn't noted. In their weekly report on the local stations they weren't too pleased that Mersey Waves never supported them in Court or that Radio Julie never gave them a "mention". They say that Mersey FM have ceased to exist, as the crew have combined with Central Radio and that Central FM were due on the air on Sunday but that the proposed broadcast on 102.2MHz never materialised. They also say that Storeton Community Radio were due on 105MHz, but they also hadn't been heard.

JULIE FM 104.8MHz: 15 Fitch Close, The Crofters, Greasby, Wirral, Merseyside L49 2RR Julie FM were noted around 8:30pm on Monday, after apparently signing on at 7:30pm or so. Heard were: 8:30pm-9pm Tony West; 9pm-11pm Dave Collins and 11pm-?? Andy Davies. They were apparently on the air on Friday around 10:17pm, with Larry James(??) but were only noted for a few minutes. On Sunday they opened at 8pm, with 8pm-10pm Dave Collins; 10pm-Midnight Joe Williams. The remainder of the schedule was announced as Midnight-2pm Larry James and 2pm-5pm Tony West. They apparently signed-on early on Sunday and noted were 6pm-8pm Andy Davies; 8pm-10pm Dave Collins; 10pm-Midnight Joe Williams. The station wasn't checked after 11pm.

The introductory comments overlooked the fact that Monday was a Bank Holiday and that it was from Tuesday on that nothing much had been noted on FM.

Dear All,

it is now 10:30pm on Thursday and no incoming mail has been received. As you will be aware, the GPO are on strike in certain areas, with Liverpool (as usual) in the forefront. The only people not on strike today are those who have been going around "sealing" the post boxes. The strike is supposed to be a 24-hour effort, but the unions in Liverpool seem to be set up for something much longer. The pillar boxes in Wallasey aren't sealed, but all outgoing mail is kning "channeled" through Liverpool, and all incoming mail via Liverpool seems to have come to a stop. If there are still problems at the beginnining of next week, I will try to get my mail delivered via WIGAN.

The news from this end is a mixture of good and bad. The bad news is that my sister has today had her leg amputated above the knee. It has been obvious for some time that "something" had to come off, but all the indications were that it would only be the foot. My other sister, a nurse, didn't say much right from the start, but it was clear from the look on her face that something was seriously wrong right from the outset. I have said previously that I would be short of time, due to hospital visiting, and that this would probably continue for some time to come. This still applies.

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The good news, not reported by the local press, is that in yesterday's court case, arising out of the DTI raid on Central Radio International in January, Jim Browne was fined £50 plus costs and Jeff Thompson was fined £150 plus costs. Details of "costs" are not currently known, as Jim Browne has been unavailable for comment. He, and a few other members of CRI, are busy setting up a "fake" radio studio in preparation for a visit to the station by the LIVERPOOL ECHO, who will shortly feature an interview with the station.

Radio Mersey waves were on the air on Bank Holiday Monday, when Eurt Williams said that the Concil's security force from the flats where RMW are located, and formerly friends of RMW, had turned against them. They had been pulling down the station's aerials over the past few weeks, and had called in the police a couple of times, which had resulted in the station losing some of their equipment. The security forces are "armed" with walkie-talkies and roof-top cameras, and operate as an 18-man Vigilante group, apparently with the approval of the local police. In effect, they are acting as an "extra" branch of the DTI, on duty 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, with only Mersey Waves to look out for. Burt announced that if the station couldn't come to some new form of agreement with the security men, then Mersey Waves will probably close down on the first Sunday in July.

The FM stations seem to have realised that the DFI might be in the area for the Central Radio court case and were likely to be in action, particularly on Fuesday or Wednesday night. The stations ALL seem to have taken a week's holiday and none of them has been till now (up to now, I mean). It will be interesting to see whether Concept Radio have been picking anything up this week. Dally lost challed AN ALTICLE ON CAL COLL FRIDAY CASC IN THUE. ISSUE - Will TEY TO GET A COPY.

Have just had a chat with Jim Browne, who tells me that he was fined £50 with £50 costs and that Jeff Thompson was fined £100 with £50 costs. He also hasn't heard any of the FM stations this week, although he confirms that Concept did do another link-up with wFM on Monday and that hMW have had a carrier on the air tonight from approx 5pm