

# **The WEEKLY REPORT ANORAKS**

## **The First with the News in Print**

No. 209.....1st May 1988.

P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

With very little ado, Radio Nova International quietly took to the air last Friday. The station suddenly sprang to life with 'test broadcasts', mid-afternoon, commencing a new era in radio broadcasting in the United Kingdom. The first voice heard was that of station supremo, Chris Cary. An official opening takes place on Wednesday 4th May at 16:00, by the Minister of State for Broadcasting, Timothy Renton M.P. We shall be following the progress of this operation with much interest and reporting same within the pages of this news-sheet.

Apologies for late arrival of WR this week, of course, we, in the U.K., are now in the middle of the 'Bank Holiday season' and tomorrow is one such holiday.

**WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS** is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday evening, from Blackpool. Postal subscribers should note the following rates for this 20p news-sheet..... posted first class within the U.K. and to E.E.C. countries, including Eire, 40p..... posted second class (U.K. only), 35p..... posted to non - E.E.C. countries (Sweden, Finland, Norway, Switzerland, etc), at full rate, 45p..... posted elsewhere by air mail, 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish, at the above appropriate rate.

**ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT** and reach people genuinely interested in radio, both on the broadcasting and receiving sides. A full page will cost £20.00, a half page, £11.00 and a quarter, just £6.00 and will be sent to almost 800 subscribers. Send us a good quality copy, on white paper and the necessary remittance, and leave the rest to us. We do reserve the right to reject adverts which we think are unsuitable for inclusion. A one-off mail shot to almost 1000 non-subscribers, is about to be carried out. Anyone interested in advertising here, should write at once to P.O. Box 539, indicating their intentions.

**THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE** is operational at all times and regularly up-dated. Call Sheerness (0795) 511118 now and hear a three minute message of latest news. In reverse, we will take your information on Blackpool (0253) 882017, or on Sheerness (0795) 511119, the latter being an Answerphone service.

**THE DATA PROTECTION ACT of 1984** makes it compulsory for us to inform you that all names and addresses are stored on computer simply for the purpose of addressing envelopes each week. You may request your details to be removed and we will oblige, but feel we must point out that if this is the case, we can not operate our 'return of post' service and delays could occur. We are not able to freely give out subscribers details to anyone who may request this and if anyone wishes to contact one of the subscribers, he or she may address the envelope c/o P.O. Box 539, and we will gladly see it reaches that person.

**"COMMUNICATE '88"** will take place on Saturday 24th September 1988 in the Spanish Hall of the Winter Gardens Conference Centre in Blackpool. Further details will be soon forthcoming and at this stage, people contemplating staying over should seek accommodation at once, as this is Blackpool's busy 'Illuminations' period. We have some hotel brochures at hand.... please send an SAE.

**NEW MERCHANDISE.** Nothing new again this week, but just a reminder that **Radio Radio** by Peter Mulryan, is still available. This book, telling the story of the development of Irish 'free radio', is currently number six in the 'best sellers' lists in Ireland. Cost is £6.50 including postage and the item is definitely recommended.

**NEW ARRIVALS.** First off this week, is **'The Receiver Shopping List, Issue 10'**, as published by Radio Nederland. The May 1988 edition has just been printed, and contains 40 pages of receiver reviews, spanning all price ranges, as well as hints on choosing a set. Very useful when considering buying another receiver. This is available free, on request, from.... Receiver List, English Section, Radio Netherlands, P.O. Box 222, 1200 JG Hilversum, The Netherlands..... **Now Radio, Issue 54**, a bumper edition of 32 x A5 pages, with across the board radio news contained within. Plenty to read, details from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... **Radiotelex, Issue 123**, the latest edition has 6 x A5 sides, packed with logs and general SW news, plus, thanks to a joint venture with CPL (Current Pirate List) from Sweden, another 8 x A5 sides giving SW station addresses, and even more logs! Very good value, but the RT team are looking for ways to finance it! get some details today, from RT, Postfach 103771, D - 2800 Bremen 1, West Germany..... **C.L.C.G. Magazine**, the latest issue, has a wad of stapled A4 sheets, packed with news of European radio and logs. All in German, details from CLCG, Postfach 540101, 4100 Duisburg 11, West Germany..... **Play-DX, Issue 503**, with 6 x A4 sides of long distance logs and international news in English, Spanish and Italian. Details from Dario Monferini, via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy..... finally, a most elaborate book arrived here from America. The postage alone was \$9.50! Called **'Passport to World Band Radio'**, it is the 1988 buyer's guide to radios. With almost 400 pages, packed with receiver and antenna reviews, broadcast schedules and much, much more, it makes for very many nights reading. The marketing manager tells us that they have signed a deal with a major international book distributor to sell it world wide, so you may find it in your local (large) bookstore. Well worth investing in

for the real radio enthusiast, at just under \$20.00. Further details from International Broadcasting Services, Ltd., Penn's Park, Pennsylvania 18943, U.S.A.

**TAPE OFFER:** What else! **Radio Nova International Satellite Link Broadcasting.** Tape No. 196 features this U.K. pioneer on its first day of tests, Friday 29th April 1988. This C.90 tape is in mono and contains one or two pops and crackles as things slowly come together on both broadcasting and receiving front. Music, jingles and the voice of Tim Kelly can be heard here. Further recordings will be available very shortly, and possibly in stereo. Tape 197 features the south coast (U.K.) land-based operator, **ABC Radio Eastbourne.** This recording, off air, FM mono, in excellent quality, was made on Easter Sunday last, and ends as the DTI drive up and sit outside monitoring. The deejay announces this and promptly signs off! Both tapes are C.90's and cost £2.00 each.

**CONTACTS GALORE:** A Finnish Anorak will be travelling by rail throughout the U.K and Eire in August, with his girl friend. He would like to meet up with other Anoraks and visit free radio stations. Write to... Anssi Nieminen, P1 82, 40101 JKL, Finland.

**GENERAL:** We have rather an accumulation of small ads. this week, due to us having so much news of late. We apologise for the lateness in placing some, but you will find the lot on the back page of this report. In view of this and lack of time to carry out tests, we shall hold over our review of the 'Royal Blue' SW aerial, which arrived at high speed from Photo Acoustics, until next week's issue. Also, no doubt of interest to many people at this time is satellite receiving, and we have plans to feature this also, in future issues of WR.(e.g. how to go about receiving Nova and other future and current broadcasters yourself and how we have fared in this new [at least to us] venture, so far).

John in Amersham says 'With reference to your recent article on SW aerials, I enclose a copy of part of a booklet produced by Lowe Electronics covering this subject in fairly simple terms. As a learner myself, I found this very useful and I feel it will be of use to others too. The complete booklet, called 'The Listener's Guide' can be obtained by sending a



large SAE along with about 50p worth of stamps, to Lowe Electronics Ltd., Chesterfield Road, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5LE... Tel (0629) 580800'. A quick glance and it seems quite simple and straightforward, and most amusing! It must be worth 50p!

Finally in this section, Chris asks about the next issue of Monitor, No. 37. We understand from the editor, Penelope Page, that plans for the next issue have been somewhat delayed, but they fully expect to have Issue 37 out by July at the latest. And knowing them, it will be a bumper issue too!

\*\*\*\*\* ADVERTISEMENT \*\*\*\*\*

COMEDY - THE KEY TO REAL SUCCESS AS A DJ!

The best DJs have the wit to use comedy to brighten their

programs - and a source book of carefully-selected material

is now available - **"BOB'S COMEDY HANDBOOK"**. Material chosen

from thousands of items used over the past 6 years by

Bob Gallico in over 1500 Breakfast Shows on RADIO NOVA,

Q102 and ENERGY 103. One-liners, two-liners, quips, silly

stories, insults, odd news stories, and Bob's exclusive and

original "HORROSCOPES"...the funniest Horoscopes ever published

one load of laughs for every week of the year.

This collection is now available to DJs (and others).

60 pages of tried and tested material - your KEY to success.

Price IR£25.00, including postage - from:

Bob Gallico, 156, Foxrock Park, Dublin, 18, IRELAND.

ORDERS SENT BY RETURN OF POST.

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**RADIO STATION NEWS...IRELAND.** The rather extended spell of good FM reception conditions unfortunately came to an end this past week, leaving us with very little to listen on FM from Ireland, with one exception, Kiss FM. Undaunted, we turned back to good old medium wave and landed a rather good catch, for us at least, in Glencoe Radio on 1143kHz., from Donegal town. This was a ground wave catch and the signal was received best around mid-day each day. Plenty of ID's were noted, including one which said 'the voice of Glencoe', along with lots of adverts for businesses in the area. We obtained a telephone number, but are unsure if it is correct, due to the poor reception. Anyone who may have the address and telephone number details, may like to pass them on to us.

**Co. DUBLIN.** Q 102 announced that last week really was the final week in the very successful Abrakebabra (fast food outlet) competition. Only one car number is being read out each day this week, the final one being today, during the Jason Maine Breakfast Show. When the driver hears the number, he has twelve hours to contact the food outlet and win £100. Although Abrakebabra are no doubt delighted with results, one Sunday paper scribe didn't like it at all and gave both the station and food outlet a good slating in his column, last Sunday (see cuttings sheet). The 819kHz. transmitter, although sounding fine all week, certainly sounded a bit ropey yesterday morning, in fact was only just audible here. Later reports told us that it left the air, but on checking in the evening, it was noted back again.

We asked, last week, if one of our Dublin readers would check out Heartbeat FM. David in Rathmines gave them a listen on Monday evening last, on 95.5MHz., and was rather surprised to hear the popular Tracie Evans finishing a programme at 22:00. Tracie has, of late, been heard with a regular mid-morning show on Liberty 104. However, on ringing Liberty, David was unable to ascertain from the guy who answered, as to whether she had left the station, or what, due to the fact that he, himself, was new that day. We will listen out next week for the answers to this one. He goes on to say that the station seemed to have quite

a number of adverts and sounded quite well. As far as we know, they still play 'love songs' and the like. We are unable to monitor this one here, due to local BBC activity.

On the subject of Liberty 104, we are informed that the station may now have a Three Rock (local mountain) site and it is thought to be the one on 103.5MHz. The other two FM's are 104.0 and 104.5MHz., in addition to 1035kHz. AM. Ex Energy weekend news-reader, Michael Mahon can now be heard on the station, Saturdays and Sunday, reading the news from 9:00 till 16:00. He joins Tina Gates, who deals with news in the week, and Dennis Murray, who does the 'drive' spot daily. CAU FM apparently moved from 103.5MHz. because of the Liberty move. They can now be found on 104.2MHz. Former Energy deejays, Liam Coburn and John O'Hara were supposed to be joining CAU, but so far, have not been heard. The station has, though, 'borrowed' one or two now unused 'Power Station' voice-overs, formerly heard on Energy.

Radio Dublin has re-employed Gerry Maher as station manager, after an absence of eight years. Audio quality and general professionalism have already improved, we are told, and big things are expected. We hope to be able to report on these.

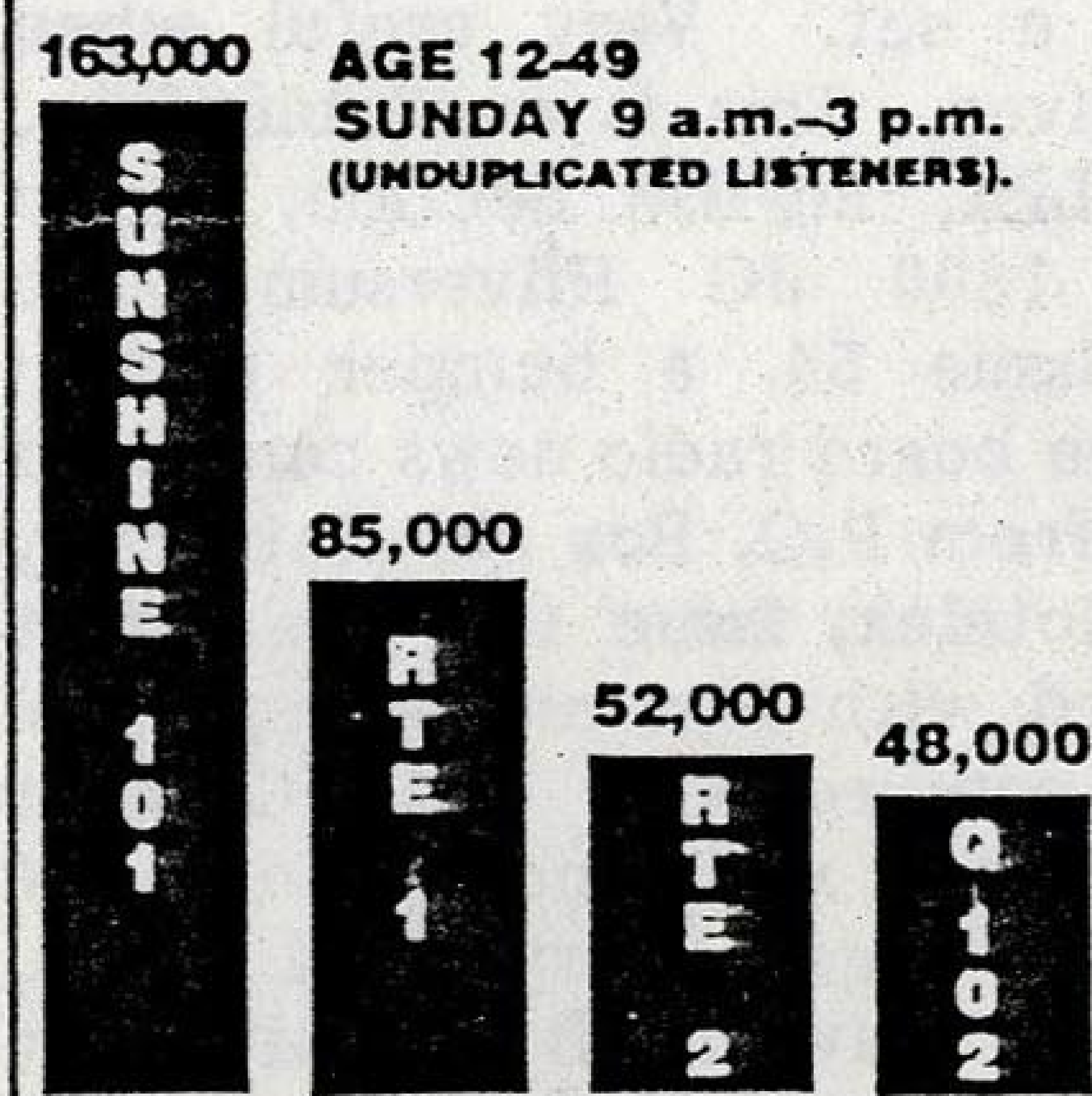
We mentioned a survey carried out by Sunshine 101 FM, in last week's issue. We now have the advanced ratings from the 1988 radio listenership study, carried out by Wilton Research for Sunshine 101.....

## WILTON RESEARCH & MARKETING LTD. 1988 ADVANCE RADIO RATINGS

— Listened Yesterday Shares —  
(Main stations only)

Station	Total Market			Adult Market			
	Age 12-34	Age 15-34	Age 12-49	Age 20-24	Age 20-29	Age 20-34	Age 20-49
Sunshine 101	56%	52%	46%	57%	48%	41%	33%
R.T.E.2	25%	27%	23%	26%	30%	29%	25%
R.T.E.1	31%	34%	44%	29%	34%	43%	56%
Q 102	34%	34%	26%	37%	35%	29%	20%

Station	Youth Market			Ranking Summary			
	Age 12-19	Age 15-19	Age 15-24	Age	SUN SHINE	RTE 2	RTE 1
Sunshine 101	79%	77%	67%	101	1	4	3
R.T.E.2	19%	20%	23%	12-34	1	4	2
R.T.E.1	13%	13%	21%	15-34	1	4	2
Q 102	40%	43%	40%	12-49	1	4	2
				20-24	1	4	3
				20-29	1	4	3
				20-34	2	3	1
				20-49	2	3	1
				25-49	2	2	1
				12-19	1	3	4
				15-19	1	3	4
				15-24	1	3	4



87% of the 12-49 year old Dublin people listen to radio. Listed above are listened yesterday shares from that 87%. These results are derived from the largest Radio Listenership Survey ever conducted in Dublin, according to the Marketing Society's guidelines for Radio Listenership surveys encompassing all age groups from 12-49.

The shares when added will be in excess of 100% due to the fact that there is duplicated listening amongst the stations.

A full report is forthcoming, and as part of our commitment to full service we have organised a Ratings Committee to answer any questions you may have regarding the methodology or the vast amount of new data that will be contained in this report. Ratings Committee will be comprised of Wilton Research and Sunshine 101 staff.

**Co. KILDARE.** Jeff in Naas writes and tells us that things are as quiet in Kildare, as they are in Dublin. He is delighted to be able to listen to Kiss FM from Monaghan, and says the signal is great on 103.7MHz., there, although their local station, K.L.B. on 103.5MHz., occasionally causes some spaltter over the Kiss signal. K.C.R. are no longer broadcasting on 1413kHz., during the week and it seems that the only time the station broadcasts is on Sunday mornings for hospital requests, in fact, last weekend, it was not heard at all. It is rumoured that the station could be for sale, complete. Meanwhile, over in Newbridge, some eight or so miles away, the joining of Zee 100 and K.L.B.



has not been too successful and it seems that all is not well there.

**Co. MONAGHAN.** We are delighted to see that Kiss FM are sending out prompt reception report confirmation letters, as a result of their medium wave emissions on 1008kHz.....



Lilttron Limited, trading as KISS-FM, Registered in Ireland.  
Unit Two, The Mall, Old Cross Square, Monaghan, Eire.  
Telephone: Monaghan (047) 84028/84029/84030.

Date: 25th April 1988

RECEPTION REPORT CONFIRMATION

Dear

We are happy to confirm your reception report of our AM transmissions on 1008 kHz on 20th April 1988.

Our broadcasts are made from our transmitter site at Glaslough, County Monaghan with an omnidirectional power of 3 kilowatts.

Additionally, we transmit on 103.7 MHz FM with an effective radiated power in excess of 400 kilowatts, providing a service to most of Northern Ireland.

Thank you once again for your reception report and I hope you will continue to enjoy our programme of music and news.

Yours sincerely,

*T. Miles Johnston*  
T. MILES JOHNSTON,  
Chief Engineer, KISS FM

Excellent programmes have been heard all week, once again, especially of note was an oldies show last Sunday afternoon, with tunes not heard for many a year being played. The FM audio on 103.7MHz. was noted missing on Wednesday, although the transmitter remained very much alive. MW was unaffected on checking. According to the station chief engineer, Miles Johnston, in a live interview on Radio West this morning, the link packed up and the installation people had to fly in from London to rectify the problem. Miles went on to say that advertising was coming in nicely and the station were now consolidating their position, before further expansion, in the form of split programming, in the Autumn.

Kits FM, on 100.9MHz. were missing on our regular bandscan on Monday morning, although for what reason, is not known. We are unable to monitor the 837kHz. transmissions because of BBC local activity and FM conditions dropped and left us with nothing, so we don't know when they came back! No mailing address has been noted for this station, can anyone help?

**Co. LONGFORD.** Longford Community Radio (L.C.R.) are now back on the air with full power, following their aerial being re-erected to its former height. Also, a new amplifier has been fitted to the transmitter, to give the station good audio once more. Whilst operating on low power, the audio had been very distorted. The station are announcing the new channel of 1035kHz.(formerly 1071kHz.) as 290 metres. Unfortunately, this is a very busy channel, and whilst the 1071kHz. used to be receivable here in Blackpool very well in the Summer and often at other times (due to no U.K. operator), we cannot now hear L.C.R. due to the powerful signal from Dublin station, Liberty 104. In a car, the new channel reaches Kells before Liberty 104 is clearly audible in its place.

**Co. WICKLOW.** Viking 105 has been noted missing all week, when monitored by us, on 1602kHz. FM is no doubt on air, but inaudible here due to very low power.

**Co. WATERFORD.** The famous 'religious' broadcaster, Roy Masters, has been in Waterford this past week, for a seminar. We were told that he was going to be interviewed on ABC Radio, live. Poor AM conditions prevented us listening, however. A new deejay, Dara Corcoran, has joined ABC. He comes from BLB in Bray, and briefly Sunshine 101. He can be heard at present, on the 21:00 till 23:00 slot, nightly. Waterford Local Radio (WLR) continue to prosper, along with ABC in the city, we are told, whilst N.C.R., the third operator, finds things not quite as good. Both their AM and FM signals are very low in power and the coverage area is resultantly small.

SATELLITE RADIO STATIONS....RADIO NOVA INT.

## Teledisc to be Radio Nova's first ad client

New satellite service Radio Nova International has secured its first advertising client: record company Teledisc.

Airtime for Nova, which starts broadcasting across Europe on 1 May, is being sold by Independent Radio Sales.

Nova is the brain child of former Radio Luxembourg station manager Chris Cary. He said that £1 million had been invested in the service, which will beam a 24-hour pop station to cable head-ends across Europe, including the UK.

The signal will be received in the home on audio equipment plugged into the same socket that supplies TV receivers.

Cary said: "I reckon we could earn £20,000 a week from advertising. We just want to go up to people and say, 'Look, you might as well just spend £1,000 because Nova is so cheap'."

Tony Blackburn will present a Sunday afternoon European top 40 programme and a soul show.

Following last week's mention of the station, test transmissions began at 14:50 on Friday afternoon (29th April 1988), beginning this new era in radio broadcasting. Owner Chris Cary was in the studio at the time, and played the first record, along with several announcements. Ex Energy deejay, Tim Kelly, was the first to programme, and he continued until an old Gary Owens syndicated show was aired. Some of the old Radio Nova jingles have been heard, along with a few newer promotions, but obviously at this time of only tests, no commercials have yet been heard. Further additions to the on-air staff include, ex Dublin and Cork deejay, Liam Quigley, now resident for some time in London. It is reported that Tony Prince may not, after all, be able to host any shows, due to his heavy commitments elsewhere. This is rather unfortunate, as many people

were looking forward to hearing this very popular voice. The station is officially opened at 16:00 on 4th May. (see copy of an invitation below). The article above comes from a recent edition of "Campaign" and it appears that the writer here, too, is confused about receiving the station!

Radio **NOVA** International

The Directors and Staff of Radio Nova International

cordially invite \_\_\_\_\_ to the

official launch of Britain's first commercial  
satellite radio station on  
Wednesday May 4th  
open house from 4.00 pm

Opening ceremony conducted by  
TIMOTHY RENTON MP Minister of State for Broadcasting 4.00 pm

R.S.V.P. Robb Edens/Sybil Fennell (0276) 692040

### LAND - BASED STATIONS : U.K.

**BRISTOL.** Last time, we left B.A.D. Radio (105.0) on the point of possibly about to start a full week's schedule. In fact, they programmed through the night into Monday 18th April, announcing that they were going off at 09:00, although if they felt like it, possibly a little later. B.A.D. Radio next appeared on Friday (23rd April), and were first noted at 19:40. Extended hours were again in operation, with the station still plugging away at 09:30 on Saturday morning (24th). At 12:00, 'Freddie Banton' hosted a lunchtime reggae slot, and gave mention to B.A.D.'s 24 hour schedule, and also stereo transmissions were referred to. The station continued throughout the weekend, continuously, apart from a few short technical breaks, with its regular diet of reggae, soul, dance, hip-hop, and jazz music. Audio quality was again up and down, resulting in distortion at times.

Monday (18th April) saw Radio F.T.P. (104.0 - mono) on air for their regularly scheduled weekday evening broadcasts starting at 17:00. The signal was weaker than normal. Mention was given to their forthcoming night out in London, with a telephone number of Bristol 557062 given for ticket information. The station had vanished by 22:00, and was not heard again until Wednesday evening, when their audio was very low and distorted, and the deejays could hardly be heard. This also occurred on Thursday, but by sign-on at 17:00 on Friday afternoon (22nd April), the problem had been cured. At 17:31 the presenter cut over the record, and appealed for 'Soulful D' to turn up at the studios. It was repeated several times that the situation was on a 'red



alert', before all audio fell almost to inaudibility. At first there was thought to have been some DTI activity, but the programmes soon recommenced and went on through until sign off just after midnight. Radio For The People returned late on Saturday afternoon, and broadcast through until at least 22:00. When next checked at 23:30, they had vanished, and did not appear on Sunday either. We hope to find out next week, if anything sinister has happened to Radio F.T.P.

#### LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

22nd - 25th April 1988.

This weekend, locked into 28 stations, 8 in stereo.

Missing / not heard :- London Rock, Solar 93, Starpoint, Ice, G.R.L./R.F.L., Raiders FM, Hits FM, SW Sound, Galaxy and TKO.

One or two notable names were missing this week, on a weekend when listening was complicated with a ridge of high pressure bringing in stations from all over the U.K., Belgium, Holland and France. Some time was spent, for instance, in trying to resolve a station on 105.6 playing soul music on Sunday evening, only to find that it was Radio France Int. This also meant that it was necessary to get quite close to some stations to ascertain that they were actually on. WNK (102.85) could only be clearly identified North of the Thames, whereas it can usually be locked into well South of the river. It also brought the bonus, that Essex and Easterner's Stomp FM (105.45 - stereo) were, for once resolvable in quite good stereo in some parts of the West End. The best place found was actually at the centre of Waterloo Bridge, just about 200 yards from the DTI/RIS main office, which is a building bristling with more antennae than MI5 have at their Curzon Street HQ.

Sangam has been on the move again this week. Having settled on 94.3'ish, a couple of weeks back, alongside the recently moved PRS (94.3), Sangam have now decamped to 89.95MHz. This is becoming another crowded sector, especially at the weekends. The 'powerhouse' transmitter of London Irish Community Radio (LIC-R) (89.6), the country and pixie music station from the North, already tramples low power Deptford weekend soulsters Groove FM (89.75). And on 89.95, RJR returned on Sunday from a few days holiday at the behest of the 'Reggae-cide Squads'. LIC-R are currently in mono, suggesting a recent visit, but newcomers Sangam have brought a stereo encoder with them.

Also missing this weekend are Greek Northerners, GRL/HRFL (96.15), who have on occasions been going 24 hours at the weekend. It has been found, that the literal translation of HRFL comes out as "The Greek Radio Voice of London" - but both sets of initials will continue to be used. It looks as though LGR (88.3) were also hit during the week, but made a quick comeback. GCR (104.45) were also notable for a couple of short absences, but this is thought to be technical problems, rather than the DTI.

CD 93 (93.2 - stereo) were back on Saturday for the weekend, with what started out as a good quality clear stereo signal to complement their material, which is a mixture of rock to jazz, via soul. By Sunday, they had begun to sound a bit ragged around the edges, so maybe a transmitter overhaul is called for already. A number of stations sounded as though they were having distortion problems. Super Fresh FM (103.4) were having problems again, as were renamed, and returned in low power Big Time Radio (103.9 - shades of Max Headroom perhaps), who were missing again on Sunday morning, only to be back by the evening.

Eastern weekend soulsters Sunrise (88.8) were on for the weekend from Friday, with a much enhanced signal, which is possibly why Saturday night rockers London Rock (same frequency) were not heard. A shame really, just when LR appeared to be getting everything going smoothly, they get done down again.

Saturday evening, a soul station was heard on 91.15, which was impossible to identify. This was mainly as my wife had been celebrating her birthday a little freely, and insisted on watching the portable tv. In normal times this would not have proved too much of a problem, but at the time we were driving down Streatham High Road at thirty m.p.h.. She was in the back I hasten to add.

The 'Magnificent Seven' at Rock FM (94.25) are taking over part of the mantle, originally cast by Clockwork Wireless last year, with the inclusion of a number of comedy records. At one point, with Hugo, they even included 'Hugo's Singing Dog', howling along to guitar accompaniment. Ah well - it's only rock and roll I suppose.

More from Sid next week.

#### LONDON UP-DATE.

Although the DTI have obviously been around this week, very few stations seem to have missed any air-time. In fact, this weekend, the only station missing seems to be the newcomer, CD - 93. All others were heard as normal. Solar 93 made a return to the air, after being missing for several weeks. Hits FM were also back on Saturday and although announcing programmes till 01:00, Sunday, had disappeared well before this time. Raiders FM made a test on the unfortunate frequency of 98.1MHz., and were wiped out over most of the city, by Traffic Jam. Also missing was Essex's Stomp FM.

Stations reported on air this weekend include..... London Greek Radio (88.4), Sunrise FM (88.8), London Rock (88.8), London Irish Community Radio (89.6), Groove FM (89.7), RJR (89.95), RTR (90.2), Passion FM (90.6), Sina Radio (90.9), Faze 1 (91.0), Sky FM (91.7), LWR (92.1), Studio FM (92.7), Solar 93 (93.0), Jive FM (93.15), Kiss FM (94.0), Rock FM (94.3), City Radio (94.5), Traffic Jam (98.0), TKO (102.4), Fresh FM (103.3), Time Radio (103.7), Greek Community Radio (104.4) and Hits FM (105.5).

Two mysteries.... a blank carrier on 105.2MHz. for much of Saturday, which was not Raiders FM and also a station on 96.9MHz., very weak in Essex, possibly identifying as 'Strong Island Radio'.

MIDLANDS. The first Asian station to be logged for some weeks, has been noted during the past week, around 106MHz. The full identification was not heard, but the name included 'Islamic'. This appeared to be a test transmission, as the format was mostly records, with very few announcements. Another new station was heard being promoted via Enterprise FM (91.9). Calling itself Solar Rock FM, it was supposed to start on Friday at 18:00, and run through the weekend until Monday morning. It will be a weekend only station. The frequency has been announced as 90.9MHz., the former Enterprise FM channel. The format will be 70% soul, and some reggae. It is part of the West Midlands Music Network. Radio P.C.R.L.(103.6), Enterprise FM (91.9) and Powerhouse Radio (105.1), have all been heard as normal this week. Electro Radio (95.0) has been heard intermittently, giving out an address c/o Hackwood House, Oldbridge, Warley, West Midlands B69 1EG.

YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE & DERBYSHIRE. Just two stations have been noted in Leeds this week. Peoples FM (91.8) have been on, both in the week and at the weekend. Their audio is still said to leave a little to be desired (distorted). ABC FM (105.2) have not been heard in the week, but were back on the air on Friday night for what now appears to be a weekend only schedule. Music City Radio (90.3) have not been heard for several weeks.

W.L.N.G. (104.95) were on the air on both 26th and 28th April, between 20:30 and 22:30. Their regular variety of music formats and shows were apparent, interspersed with several adverts.

In South Yorkshire, Rebel Radio (105.4) were once again on the air on Monday night (25th), with programmes commencing at 20:00. A break in transmission was noted at 20:40, after which the audio was only half of what it had been. As well as Scooter Jones, a new presenter, Ken Crescendo was heard for an hour starting at 20:30. A mystery station playing 'house' music was heard several evenings in the past week, on various frequencies between 102.4 and 106.8MHz. No identification was noted. Village Radio also conducted a few tests last Monday, although the transmitter has moved up to 105.2 from 104.85, causing problems for the nearby Rebel Radio.

In Derbyshire, Radio Freedom were on the air today, with Bank Holiday programmes from 08:00 to midnight. Frequencies in use are 1242kHz. and 105.0MHz. They are also announcing similar Monday broadcasts.

NOTTINGHAM. Heatwave Community Radio (105.1) were heard in Derbyshire with their regular strong signal up until Wednesday evening (27th). From this time, the signal has either been very weak, or the station has been off the air. In fact, it appears that the latter was correct, from a further local report, which confirms that both Heatwave and Mainline International Radio (note correct title, here) on 105.5MHz., were both missing from the airwaves on Friday. The reporter tells us that Heatwave returned on Saturday.

THE SOUTH COAST. A.B.C. Radio (105.3) has decided to have a few weeks 'holiday' after repeated attempts by the DTI to raid the station. Luckily, each time the staff have managed to escape. Also, the temporary departure of A.B.C.'s number two man (Mike Williams) to Radio Caroline,



has caused this decision. A.B.C. hope to be back on the air by the end of May. More information and car stickers can be obtained from 128 Kingfisher Drive, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN23 7RT.

**Radio Atlantis (105.3)** made one of its monthly broadcasts on Sunday 24th April at 19:00, for two hours. The signal was good over much of East Sussex and Kent. Presenters were Nick Thomas and Johnny Diamond. Their address is the same as A.B.C.'s.

**RENFREWSHIRE.** **Neon Radio (103.9)** appeared again today, after several months absence. They were on their old frequency, and announcing a telephone number for requests. Tests were carried out up until regular programmes commenced at 13:30 until 17:30. **Paisley Free Broadcasting** were heard broadcasting on Saturday night between 19:30 and 20:30. The station is only an occasional one, and is using only low power. Northside Community Radio are expected back on the air during the coming week.

**MERSEYSIDE.** Its been a week of little action in this north west region. Monday saw the two main operators, **Radio Merseywaves** on 1242kHz. and **Radio Atlantis** on 1197kHz., on air. Normal programmes ensued and both stations completed their weekend schedules. On Thursday, Radio Merseywaves emerged once again, but sounded a bit 'rough around the edges', so to speak. Friday and they were joined by Radio Atlantis, as usual. On Saturday, the main two were on air and were expected to be joined by **Radio Julie**, but alas, Julie seemed to experience some problems when they switched on in the afternoon, as the signal kept going up and down, on 104.8MHz. Since then, and right up until time of printing on Sunday afternoon, power has been severely reduced and we can no longer hear and log the station. We are told by colleagues in the area that they are on air, however, but with a very poor signal indeed. **Veronica 104**, on the other hand, came on air as usual, at 15:00, and for the first time in weeks, we had little problem listening in on 104.75, due to the fact that Julie was not there, well, at least in this location. We checked for Phoenix AM, on 1296kHz. this morning, but found no audio at all. We did note a carrier, but this may well have been the World Service of the BBC, who use this channel. No other operators have been noted or reported from the area.

**MANCHESTER.** Just two stations have been heard this weekend so far. They being **Laser 10-35** who have been on the air all week with their diet of reggae and soul. Frequency tends to vary between 103.2 and 103.5MHz. They are using various old Laser jingles, which makes a strange mixture in between the reggae records. **WBL5 (102.4)** were noted on Saturday night, but not today, again with the usual soul etc. music. Not monitored this weekend, but reported to have been on the air at times over the past couple of weeks, are **Sunshine Radio** on 92.0MHz., and **F.A.B. FM (97.0MHz.)**. **Outlook 96.3** was on the air last Sunday evening, but when checked last night for their regular Saturday slot at 20:00, nothing could be heard.

**SHROPSHIRE / WORCESTER.** **WR Shropshire** were on the air last Sunday, and programmes included the first part of the T'Pau concert. The second part should be broadcast on 28th May. This was broadcast on 105.2MHz. A little further down the band on 103.8MHz., another station calling itself **WR (Worcester & Gloucester)** was on the air with some test transmissions. Two of the presenters heard were from the former Sunshine Radio in Ludlow. No more is known about this operation, although they are expected to be conducting another test broadcast today, using 80 watts. Problems were possibly encountered during the afternoon, as their was just a blank carrier on this frequency.

**READING.** A station called **KICK FM (102.4)** was heard in this area on 28th March. No more is known about it.

**FOR SALE:** A brand new, mint condition, 'Broadcasting From The High Seas' by Paul Harris. This much sort after hard backed book with colour picture jacket contains the history of offshore radio in Europe from 1958 to 1976. Very much a collector's item these days... £15.00..Tel. (0253) 882017 to check if it is still unsold.

**FOR SALE:** 'Nice and Fresh', 'hot and tasty', current USA radio, just off the plane.... send SAE for full lists, to..... DG Productions, P.O. Box 88, Redhill, Surrey RH1 6YG.

**FOR SALE:** Stable FM transmitters at reasonable prices... more details from RTR, P.O. Box 140, Ashford, Kent.

**FOR SALE:** Two copies of 'Rinky Dink' by Johnny Howard Band, on Decca Records. Good condition, £7.00 each.... T.P. Joyes, 47 Sanctuary Close, St. Johns, Worcester WR2 5PY.

**FOR SALE:** Jenny Knight's C.M. Thanet branch have a set of four cassette tapes available, entitled 'The History of Laser'. The price is £8.00. More details from 121 Monkton Street, Monkton, Nr. Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4JQ.

**FOR SALE:** Short wave transmitter, 18 watts, with P.S.U., unused since new, £50.00 o.n.o.....Telephone Neil on (091) 460 4944, before 19:00.

**WANTED:** Modern American jingle sets and details on transmitters.... contact Mark Wallace, 61 Delacy Street, Preston PR2 2DD... Tel. (0772) 21666.

**WANTED:** Recordings of Paul Graham on Caroline or RBL in 1987 or 1988. Details to Steve Ball, 2 Badger Grove, Meir Park, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs. ST3 7RY.

**WANTED:** Someone to construct and/or complete various audio compressors, telephone pre-amp, white noise generator encoder, etc. Any help greatly appreciated/ rewarded.... contact M. Kerslake, 31 Portland Street, Worksop, Notts. S80 1RZ... tel. (0909) 500329 anytime.

**WANTED:** Crystals 6 - 7 and 11 - 12MHz. range, IOXJ or FT type. Reasonable price. Also, circuit diagrams for FM mono/ stereo and SW (120 - 300 watts) transmitters... tel. Keith on (051) 653 5904 after 17:00.

**WANTED:** Good quality Radio Caroline 558 badges, or someone with a badge making machine to produce a few.... Nick and Penny Hartley, 10 Linlithgow Close, Papworth Everard, Cambridge CB3 8RX.

**WANTED:** Volunteers from anywhere to send taped shows to a Dublin station, also deejays and news-readers to go live on air at weekends. Demos to Shay Brennan, Rhythm FM, 31 Finsbury Park, Churchtown, Dublin 14, Eire.

# Now

## THE Magazine for Today's Radio Industry

# Radio

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NORTHANTS  
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**NOW RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

PUBLISHERS OF NOW RADIO MAGAZINE

The News Source For Today's Radio Industry

### NOW RADIO MAGAZINE

NOW RADIO magazine is published every Wednesday. As always we cover the entire radio industry - and that includes Offshore and landbased pirate broadcasters. A sample issue of NOW RADIO magazine can be obtained by sending your name and address to our address above. We'll also send you subscription details!

### NOW RADIO NEWSLINE

Available around the clock, seven days per week, THE NOW RADIO NEWSLINE contains the very latest radio news and information. Dial 0898 654 383 and listen! The newslines is up-dated six days per week. Calls are charged 25p per minute standard and 38p per min peak.

### BOAT TRIP

On Saturday May 14, NOW RADIO are taking a special boat trip to visit the ROSS REVENGE, home of RADIO CAROLINE. There are still places available. Tickets cost £25 per person. We depart (with a number of former CAROLINE deejays, too) Strood Pier at 8am and the journey should take around 12 hours.

### NOW RADIO-RADIO

On Saturday July 2nd, we are holding an event for all prospective owners, operators and broadcasters wanting to apply for the hundreds of community and local commercial radio licences which will be issued by the Radio Authority. The event will be at The Corn Exchange Hall, Kettering, Northants. Meet the experts, see the equipment (including studio equipment, aerial systems and transmitters) and start planning your station! Tickets £10 (subscribers to NOW RADIO, £15 non-subscribers). Special guests!

### OFFSHORE STATIONS...THE VOICE OF PEACE.

Two reports from the VOP this week.... We learn that Paul Fraser left on April 7th, having completed his contract. This leaves the on-air staff level at six. The ship sailed into Ashdod on 14th April to take on the new FM transmitter. Everything ran quickly and smoothly with everyone working hard under Abie's direction. The ship was in and out within four hours and in appreciation, Abie sent on board a case of beer and a case of coke! The broadcasts resumed before dawn on 15th, but only on AM, the FM appearing on 16th, reportedly with a new and powerful sound (from the new



transmitter?). Parts were also taken on in Ashdod for the repair of the old FM transmitter, so it is not certain which FM transmitter is presently on air. Seaman, Jim Kavanagh left in Ashdod and the station is currently recruiting a replacement. Ian Hudson is due to leave in early May and Steve Richards is waiting to re-join the ship. A date has now been set for a visit to the dry dock and it appears to be 2nd May. On Monday 18th April, at 15:55, the station broadcast the sound track of the movie, 'Forty State Independence' in a live broadcast from 'The Educational TV'. From 16:50 till 18:00, Abie talked with listeners about the movie. On Tuesday evening, 19th, at 19:00, 24 hours of classical music commenced, until 19:00 on 20th, in commemoration of the soldiers who perished in the Israeli wars. As Independence Day began on Wednesday evening, there were some special broadcasts featuring well known artists. Current line-up reads.... 00:00 Michael O'Sullivan, 03:00 Martin Murphy, 06:00 Kenny Page, 09:00 Ian Hudson, 13:00 John McDonald, 14:00 Abie's phone-in, 16:00 John McDonald, 22:00 Ian Hudson.

Our thanks to Vered, Gali and Steve for these reports.

**RADIO CAROLINE.** Things don't look too bright at present, as far as the staffing situation is concerned, and this week brought a real 'International' sound to 558kHz., with English, Irish and Dutch accents. After losing Peter Philips two weeks ago to Kent's Radio Invicta, and struggling through with one deejay short, the presenters at the beginning of the week (Chris Kennedy, James Day, Paul Graham and Richard Lee) must have been getting a little tired of the whole situation. The station left the air at 13:39 on Tuesday (26th) afternoon, and was not heard for the rest of the day. A close-down announcement was not heard by us, but we understand that aerial work was announced, and they would return later. When Radio Caroline did reappear at 05:00 on Wednesday morning (27th), it was with both fresh voices and a change in frequency of the shortwave outlet, back to 6215kHz. Steve Conway did the breakfast show that morning, returning after a short time on shore. Great, we thought, a complete staff change, to give the other lads a rest. In fact, it turned out that the shortage of presenters had got even worse, as Steve not only did the show, he also read the news all day, and did an extra hour, too. At 10:00, we believe there was a new voice, but with almost the same name as one of the jocks from last year, we were a little confused. The new voice identified as Mike Williams (a D.J. called Mick Williams was on board last year). Mike programmed through until 15:00, at which point the shortage of staff became clear, as two Dutch deejays programmed in the English language, through until 19:00. First off was Erwin van der Blicke, who hosted for two hours, until Ad Roberts sat in with a drive-time show. At 19:00 came the return of John Bibby, who was heard all the way through until cldown at 01:00 the following morning. Thursday and Friday saw the same line - up. The Dutch crew members have been on board for a while, preparing for the return of the 819kHz. service, but although the studios have been finished off, they still await the installing of the 'flexible' tower for 819kHz. The weakness of these type of masts was mentioned in a previous report, and indeed, we hear that a crack did occur in the base of this mast when it was tested out a few weeks ago. Repairs are understood to be required, along with the relevant staying equipment which was deemed un-necessary by the manufacturer. Whether this aerial will ever be suitable for broadcasts from a vessel is doubtful. Calm weather willing, all seems set for a re-launch of Dutch programming in the coming weeks, but from which aerial, remains to be seen. Some suggest that the 'T' aerial might be used for the Dutch service, at the expense of Caroline, which doesn't bring in much money at the moment. Saturday morning (30th), saw the 08:00 news started, but not finished by Steve Conway. In actual fact he was well into it, when he began to falter, and then stopped talking altogether. There was then rustling of paper, followed by footsteps, then some knocking and Steve saying 'Peter, the transmitter's died'. At about 08:07 programmes recommenced. We were actually listening on the shortwave, and it was the 558kHz. which had cut off, and we assume that the newsroom fader must have been left switched on in the main studio. Today (Sunday) saw no extra staff arrive, making it very difficult for those on board to attempt a serious full day service. This is, fuelling the rumours which abound, that Radio Caroline, as a station, may well have not long to go. We hope this is not the case however.

A quick mention for the shortwave outlet, which is still getting out very well. Some listeners with certain types of radio, find it impossible to lock on to the exact frequency, suggesting that the carrier is unstable. This is in fact the case, and it is this same problem, which is causing the hum, or growling. When the transmitter was first put into service, this phenomenon was not apparent, and this was because the oscillator was running from a battery at the time, and thus giving a stable voltage level. The 'mains' power supply was then introduced, which appears to have a ripple on it, from one source or another. This is giving the fluctuations in the frequency output from the oscillator, and hence the slight 'wobbling' in frequency. Mystery solved at last! Anyway, Saturday was the last day for those outside the AM range to listen to Caroline 558, as from around 06:00 BST, this morning, Sunday 1st May, **World Mission Radio** took its place. Caroline is not expected to be heard on this outlet, and was only used for test purposes. These religious programmes have been expected for some time, and should give a well needed boost to the resources of the Caroline Organisation. Hopefully, this will mark the start of an uphill climb back to healthy position they were in prior to the mast collapsing.

**SHORTWAVE STATIONS.** First of all this week, Neal West, compiler of the free radio news on Radio East Coast Commercial, was taken into intensive care last weekend, with stomach problems. We believe he is now out of danger and we send him our best wishes for a speedy recovery and look forward to hearing from him again very soon.

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#### Log for Sunday 1st May 1988.

6200kHz....RADIO RIDICULOUS, at 09:20gmt.  
 6215kHz....WORLD MISSION RADIO, at 07:30gmt.  
 6230kHz....RAINBOW RADIO INT., at 10:00gmt.  
 6230kHz....GUERNSEY SOUND, at 10:01gmt.  
 6230kHz....W.L.R., at 11:28gmt  
 6230kHz....'CRUISIN' SOLID GOLD', at 12:07gmt.  
 6264kHz....RADIO APOLLO INT., at 09:39gmt.  
 6264kHz....E.M.R., at 09:47gmt.  
 6275kHz....RADIO BLOND PIRAAT, at 08:33gmt.  
 6280kHz....4IFR, at 09:10gmt.  
 6280kHz....WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 09:25gmt.  
 6285kHz....UNID., at 11:45gmt.  
 6289kHz....RADIO APOLLO/ RADIO 48, at 11:58gmt.  
 6290kHz....P.F.B.S., at 09:36gmt.  
 6299kHz....RADIO ORION, at 09:07gmt.  
 6310kHz....RADIO BRIGITTE, at 09:41gmt.  
 6315kHz....RADIO NEW WAVE, at 08:14gmt.  
 6318kHz....'CRUISIN' SOLID GOLD', at 09:06gmt.  
 6815kHz....RADIO EAST COAST COMM., at 12:02gmt.  
 6820kHz....WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 08:40gmt.  
 6910kHz....RADIO DUBLIN INT., at 08:39gmt.  
 7330kHz....RADIO SUESAN, at 09:30gmt.  
 7330kHz....FALCON RADIO, at 10:50gmt.  
 7434kHz....RADIO STELLA INT., at 10:21gmt.  
 7446kHz....W.L.R., at 09:22gmt.

\*\*\*\*\*

Conditions today were rather good, with most stations audible for long periods. Logs in BOLD are ours in Blackpool, others were rung in by loggers in Cheshire and the Midlands.

It looks like we have heard the last of Caroline 558 on short wave, as this morning, 1st May, saw the commencement of religious broadcasts on 6215kHz. We first noted it at 06.00gmt., so it possibly commenced at 05:00gmt. The station appears to be called 'World Mission Radio' and on later checking, we heard 'your Dutch evangelist, Johann Maasbach'. The address for WMR was given out... Box 3416, Corona, California 91719, U.S.A.

The two transmissions on 6264kHz. were both audible with no heterodyne whistle noted. Apollo later moved up to 6289kHz., with 'combined broadcasts with Radio 48'.

Radio Blond Piraat announced 185 watts and a jingle played during the broadcasts said 'Sunshine Radio!' We noted unidentified transmissions on 6308kHz., at 08:33gmt., and the station later, Radio Brigitte, on 6310kHz., is thought to be the same, having drifted. It would appear that Radio Suesan and Falcon Radio used the same transmitter.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our thanks again for all info for this week's report. Once again, we must apologise for continually holding over items. This is unavoidable and we are trying to rectify matters. We have even made the paying adverts smaller this week in an attempt to get more news in!



# **The WEEKLY**

## **REPORT**

### **ANORAKS**

#### **The First with the News in Print**

No. 210.....8th May 1988.

P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

We understand that the official opening of Radio Nova International (Satellite Link) went ahead without a hitch and the station was duly opened by the Minister Of State for Broadcasting, Timothy Renton M.P., last Wednesday. Apparently, it was well attended and 'who's who' in radio today (and yesterday) were there. It seems ironical to many, that such an important man should launch this service, run by this worthy team, the majority of whom have been radio pirates for years. There seems to be a very thin line between these people (and many more planned, we believe), operating from studios on land, beaming up to a satellite, then back to Earth, for anyone (with the right equipment) to receive and, say, Caroline, beaming directly to land, from a ship in the unregulated International Waters, yet the latter is dogged by the Marine (etc.) Broadcasting Offences Act. If they beamed up to the satellite and back, would they be legal? We wish the former, all the best of luck in the world, and await our 'dish' with eagerness!

**WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS** is produced, printed and posted out each week from Blackpool. The 20p news-sheet is available on subscription and the following weekly rates are current..... posted at first class rate within the U.K., also to E.E.C. countries including Eire, 40p..... posted at second class rate (U.K. only), 35p..... posted to non-E.E.C. countries (Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, Norway, etc.) at full rate, 45p..... posted elsewhere, via air mail, 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish at the above appropriate rate.

**TO ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT** is very reasonable. A full page is only £20.00, half a page is £11.00 and a quarter, just £6.00. All we need is a good quality copy on white paper, plus the necessary remittance, then leave the rest to us and we will see that almost 800 subscribers, all interested in radio, receive it.

**THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE** is operative at all times on this number, Sheerness (0795) 511118. Ring it now and hear a three minute regularly up-dated message. If you have news for us, then either ring Blackpool (0253) 882017 or Sheerness (0795) 511119. The latter number is an Answer-phone service only.

**"COMMUNICATE '88"** takes place on 24th September 1988 in the Spanish Hall of the Winter Gardens Conference Centre in Blackpool, during the world famous 'Blackpool Illuminations'. Book your overnight accomodation now (we have some hotel brochures), and we will have full details of what it is all about in the very near future. WR subscribers and anyone on our non-subscribing mailing list will automatically receive this detailed sheet.

**NEW MERCHANDISE.** Something rather nice in the L.P. line this week, for a change. A few weeks back, we received a sample double L.P. from our colleague in Belgium, who told us that the album, which had been available for some considerable time, was still in stock in his local store. Entitled "Disco Queen - More than 200 Jingles from Radio", the double album was on the well known (from Mi Amigo days), small Monopole Record label. We gave it a listen and were pleasantly surprised to hear hundreds of old favourite jingles from Mi Amigo, Atlantis, Veronica, N.B.C., Luxembourg, London, RNI, Benelux, Hilversum, Caroline, England and many, many more suitable for disco and radio use. We ordered some, and subsequent copies arrived on the French A.M.G. Records label, but with a super picture cover of the RNI ship, The Mebo II. This really is a collector's item and the cost is £12.00 for this substantial offering of some of the best jingles ever produced. Unfortunately, customs will punish us for importing these, so, our colleague is going to mail them out from Belgium, so please allow at least 21 days for delivery in this case.

**NEW ARRIVALS.** The weekly **Play-DX**, **Issue 504** arrived first this week, followed on Friday by **Issue 505** (must be in the fastest time ever!). In each case, six x A4 sides of long distance logs and international news, plus a news-sheet in 504, from International Listening Guide in West Germany. Mostly in English, but some Spanish and Italian also, details... **Dario Monferini**, via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy..... **D.P.M. Newsletter, Issue 21.** Twelve x A5 sides of European short wave and FM news mainly, plus newspaper cuttings. All in German, details from Postfach 1130, D - 4154 Tonisverst 1, West Germany..... **Now Radio, Issue 55.** The weekly read from Kettering arrived on Friday (It has yet to arrive the day after it was posted, and often arrives on Saturday, despite clearly marked 'first class'). 28 x A5 pages of across the board radio news, as always. Details from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants NN16 0NW.... Finally this week, is the regular Dutch language A5 magazine **Freewave**. As always, this one has 24 pages full of news and stories from all sections of the free radio world, including offshore and land-based, and now even satellite station information. For more details and a sample copy of this two weekly publication, write to Hans Knot, Postbus 102, 9700 AC Groningen, The Netherlands.

**TAPE OFFERS.** We always seem to be blaming the post office for delayed mail, but this week, they have taken the biscuit, so to speak. Our colleague in Kent recorded Nova International for us, and promptly sent it 'recorded delivery' to Blackpool. It was posted on Friday last week but one, and has yet to arrive here. We doubt it ever will, now, and fully intend to once again take it up with the authorities involved. This is not the first time mail to and from Kent has gone missing and we are far from happy about the whole thing. Having said that, we find ourselves in the embarrassing situation of having no Nova 'first day' tape to offer. We can only offer subsequent days shows and apologise and offer a refund if not acceptable. This week, we have two recordings on offer which we already have in our hands! Firstly, it is out to **Radio Caroline** for Tape 198, which features an off-air recording of Erwin van der Blicke on an afternoon show from 1st May 1988. He is one of two Dutch presenters (the other being Ad Roberts) who has been helping out Radio Caroline during their staff shortage. The show is very well presented in English. Since the shortwave outlet does now not relay 558kHz., we felt that many distant listeners may want us to continue to offer Radio Caroline recordings, hence this one. Losing our contact in New York meant that up to date recordings from the 'Big Apple' have not been forthcoming. However we have a few from last year which it seemed a pity to waste, and so as Tape 199 we feature **WHTZ FM ("Z-100")** and the well travelled Scott Shannon in action for one his famous "Z-Morning Z00" programmes. This one was recorded in April 1987, but still makes good listening, and is of excellent FM stereo quality. As always, tapes are 90 minutes in length and cost £2.00 each including postage and packing.

**WANTED.** 7" single of "Frays Fintan Kirk" by Johnny Young. Good price paid for a mint condition copy. Send details to Heady Eddie, c/o Boyneside Radio, Broadcasting House, Donaghy's Mill, Mill Lane, Trinity Street, Drogheda, Co. Louth, Eire.

**ADVERT.** Customised shout and whisper echo jingles, with 'Laser' blasts, from £3.50 each. For more details plus a demo tape, send £1 to... FRPPS Broadcasting Services, 73 Middle Mead, Hook, Hants. RG27 9NX, England.

**FOR SALE:** A good condition copy of Emperor Rosko's DJ Book. Written in the mid-seventies, this 225 page



paperback is the 'how to' book for disc-jockeys (or at least it was!) written by the most successful DJ in Europe. Plenty about the pirates in it. It used to retail for 95p, but being a paperback, good conditions ones are very rare now.... £7.00, Ring (0253) 882017 to check it has not been sold.

**WANTED.** Crystals in the 6 and 7MHz. range. 10XJ or FT type, at a reasonable price. Send details to N.M.R., P.O. Box 5, Hunstanton, Norfolk PE36 5AU.

**GENERAL:** Correspondents are asking about the next issues of Monitor and Offshore Echo's. Monitor 37 should be out in July and is expected to be the biggest ever. Offshore Echo's 71 is expected in about three to four weeks time.

We have nothing to report yet as regards our new satellite dish for the simple reason... it has not yet arrived! More about that, when it does. The 'Royal Blue' SW aerial arrived and we set it up, but as yet, we have no full report on it to offer. More about this too.

#### RADIO STATION NEWS...IRELAND.

**Co. DUBLIN.** Things in Dublin seem very static at the moment, following the closure of Energy 103, and all stations seem to be consolidating their positions and programming away to their own loyal audiences. We wonder if any new transmitters will appear, relaying the programmes of the recently started Radio Nova Satellite Station?

**Q 102** still seem to be having problems with AM transmissions. The 819kHz. signal has been noted as being very distorted at times, this week. Another regular staff change around seems to have taken place, no doubt due to holidays, the missing man on this occasion being Greg Gaughran. The current line-up presently reads.... 06:00 Scott Williams, 10:00 John Power, 15:00 Gareth O'Callaghan, 19:00 Dave Kelly, 00:00 Al Dunne. Thursday, and Scott and 'The Star in the Sky' changed places, with Mike Hogan feet firmly on the ground, behind the DJ console and Scott flying high. It all makes for good listening. Scott was back on the ground for Friday morning's show.

Someone kindly sent us a recording of **Heartbeat FM** this week, and we were pleasantly surprised how well it sounded, very laid back of course! Lots of pleasant, easy listening music was noted with David Paul running the show. Adverts seemed a-plenty and apart from a few crackly records, the audio and signal seemed quite good on 95.5MHz. Apparently the station is listened to mostly by the female sector, for some strange reason! It is nice to see these specialist stations continuing to survive with just a small percentage of the audience. Of course as well as the 'Love Songs' of Heartbeat, the rock fan is also catered for amongst Dublin's variety of stations, with **Capitol / Nitesky** and its FM only service on 95.8MHz., and 93.9MHz.

**Co. LOUTH.** Following the raid on **Boyneside Radio** last Spring (15th April), the case finally came to court recently. The four defendants were told before the case that if one of them pleaded guilty, then the other charges would be dropped and they would get all the equipment back. Station owner Eobhain McDonnell pleaded guilty, and the result was just a £20 fine, along with costs and expenses. The newspaper article re-printed below tells the story in more detail, and was taken from the 'Independent' of 22nd April 1988. The station got more media coverage last week, in the Newry Reporter of 28th April (see opposite page) who were investigating the unique situation in that border area. **Boyneside Radio North** came top of a list of stations, including BBC, RTE and ILR, people had uppermost in their minds, when questioned. The latter station is about to move into the Carrickdale Hotel, formerly occupied by Radio Carousel.

The transmitter site remains the same and the station, beaming into the north, can be heard on 1233kHz.AM, 101.3 and 98.4MHz.FM. **Zee 103** can be heard regularly, when FM conditions permit, on 103.25MHz. They, too, run a news service on the hour. They can be contacted at Ardagh House, Ardagh, Omeath, Co. Louth...Tel. (042) 75271 or 75269.

**Co. MEATH.** **Boyneside Radio Navan** is understood to be doing much better than expected, and as a result, will be having a power increase during the coming weeks. The current power is 400 watts, and the aerial is an 80 foot pole at the transmitter site in Bohermeen, four miles west of Navan Town. Frequencies for this service are 1332kHz medium wave and 97.7MHz. (stereo). **Boyneside Radio Navan**... Tel. (046) 22566. **Radio Carousel Navan**, the only remaining station in the network, continues on 1386kHz and 105.0MHz., with several hours of music and requests during the daytime. They have a telephone number of (046) 28762.

**CO. LIMERICK.** On this morning's 'Anorak Show' on Radio West it was announced that **Radio Luimni** would be closing down at the end of next month. It appears that station owner, and main presenter, John 'The Man' Frawley is selling his house and moving up to Dublin. Radio Luimni is currently the longest running station in Limerick, operating now for many years, and the loss will leave a large hole in the radio market there. With **Hits 954** having closed and their transmitters being run from studios in Galway, this means that **Sound Channel** are the 'biggest' station operating from the city. Some smaller operations are also on the air, and these may grow bigger as the listeners of Limerick have to tune their dials to hear an easy listening station like Radio Luimni. Of course wherever they tune, they will never again find a unique presenter like John 'The Man'. The closure of Radio Luimni will certainly bring to an end a unique part of broadcasting history in Ireland.

**Co. WICKLOW.** **Viking 105** has again not been heard at all this week on its AM outlet of 1602kHz.

**Co. MONAGHAN.** Last week we mentioned about the news services on **KISS FM** and **KITS FM**. We failed to mention however, that **Northern Star Radio** have had a full news service in operation for the past two months. Bulletins are read on the hour, between 07:00 and 18:00, and they were apparently the only station from Co. Monaghan to have such a service. Northern Star has now fully moved into new studios in Monaghan Town, and is using a link from the studio, to the main 1116kHz. transmitter which is located some 10 miles out of town. Their postal address is Northern Star Radio, 31 Dublin Street,

Monaghan, Co. Monaghan. The station has a steady week-day line-up of... 06:00 Ian Akers... 09:00 Jim Alexander... 11:00 Gerry Callan... 13:00 Martin Clarke... 15:00 Paul Reavey... 17:00 Gerry Callan... 19:00 Johnathan Jackson... 22:00 Martin Clarke. Northern Star is plugged

## Mystery pirate TV plan

Two anonymous Newry businessmen are planning to put Newry on the map by launching the first ever pirate television station in Ireland.

The scheme is still largely a closely guarded secret but it is believed that large sums of money are involved in the region of 'not quite seven figures,' according to Mr. John Raymond of Imaginakers.

He claims the cost of television has gone down dramatically over the last number of years and the 'gear' would be easily moved if need be.

He said the shift in allegiance from radio to television had been huge and the interested parties were confident of success.

"I believe they will be using it as a testing ground to provide positive proof that they can bid for the next IBA television franchise which is coming up in two years time," said Mr. Raymond.

# Illegal radio owner fined

**EOBHAIN McDONNELL**, owner of **Boyneside Radio** was fined £20 and ordered to pay £100 costs and £136.68 expenses by Justice Flann Brennan for an offence under the Wireless Telegraphy Acts.

He pleaded guilty to unlawfully using apparatus for wireless telegraphy, the use of which was not

authorised by a licence being in force at the time, at Mill Lane, Trinity Street, Drogheda, on April 15 last year. Similar charges brought by the Minister for Communications against three other defendants, **Boyneside Communications Ltd.**, Edward Caffrey and John Thewlis, were struck out on the applica-

tion of state solicitor, Mr. Jack Griffin.

Mr. Griffin said that officers of the Minister obtained a warrant from the District Court and made a seizure of the wireless equipment at the premises at Mill Lane.

The equipment was being illegally used for

transmission, he told the court.

Ms. Fionnula Ryan, solicitor, who appeared for the defendants, said it was unfortunate there was no system by which a business like this could be operated.

She pointed out that Mr. McDonnell had pleaded guilty and saved the court time and expense by doing so.



# Battle of the airwaves — waging in N & M

The Newry and Mourne area has a unique situation in Europe as far as broadcasting is concerned, claims Mr. John Raymond of "Imagemakers". In this area there is the closest thing to 'close competition' in Europe without Government regulation, he told the 'Reporter'.

An experienced media expert, Mr. Raymond claims however that provincial newspapers such as the Newry Report have 'solid advertising' making them one of the most popular and steady forms of communication, with radio still very much a 'dark horse.'

Imagemakers, creative consultants in Newry have carried out an extensive survey of the radio environment in this area which they will be publishing in full in the next few weeks.

"Newry and Dundalk is either lucky or cursed," claims Mr. Raymond. "It is broadcast to by no fewer than 12 radio stations seven of those are commercial stations and at least three of them are pirates."

"This is a situation which simply does not exist anywhere else in Europe, and if we consider that the main target for this radio activity is the 72,000 population of Newry and Mourne, then it can be argued that there is no situation like it in the world."

"It is the purest example of competitive radio that can be found. We at Imagemakers, have spent the last seven months studying the listening patterns that have developed as a result."

The most listened to radio station in this area is unusually not one of the local stations, nor is it a Northern Ireland station. Instead, RTE One squeaks into first place with 16 per cent of overall listeners.

Radio Ulster runs a close second with 15 per cent of the overall listenership, but says Mr. Raymond, much depends on the programme with ratings soaring at certain times of the week, and falling off to almost nothing at others.

"Unlike television, we found that listeners were dedicated to a programme or to listening at a particular time of the day. Their listening duration was normally shorter than with television, but they were intensely loyal to their programme," he said.

However, Mr. Raymond says that when it comes to local, pirate radio stations, the competition is so heavy for a piece of the listeners' ear that the 'war' can only be compared to the circulation battles waged in the newspaper business in the early half of the century.

"Advertising prices have been slashed and slashed again and radios are open to new innovations that are now being

suggested by advertisers who are always looking for a better chunk of listening time."

"Unfettered by regulations the pirates sometimes show a little daring and advertisements are starting to break out of clusters. The recording studios, as an ancillary industry building up around radio, is getting more and more inventive."

Two pirates are running almost identical programmes, with local personalities either helping or severely hurting the ratings.

Mr. Raymond predicts in his survey that one station will go by the wayside within the next nine months.

"Our research shows that if the advertisers want good coverage they will have to advertise on at least two of the stations at the same time. Advertisers are beginning to divide up, many rationalise that the station they support is better than the others and often this better station is the one that the advocates regularly 'listen to themselves.'"

"But the sad fact is that the competition will not last much longer," said Mr. Raymond.

Radio Rainbow can be considered the favourite radio station of the lower social classes, according to the survey. It is listened to by 56 per cent of the lowest level of the social classes and 26 per cent of semi-skilled manual labourers.

Boyneside is listened to predominately by administrative management sector of society, skilled manual workers and semi-skilled manual workers.

BBC seems to get the most part of the top levels of the social classes right down to the semi-skilled manual workers while RTE attracts the middle sections of society, as does Downtown Radio.

The two most popular listening times for this 25 to 40 age group appear to be the Tommy Sand's "Country Ceili" on Downtown Radio on Saturday evening and Boyneside on Sunday morning.

Radio Ulster is the most commonly listened to by all categories and the lower social classes listen mainly to Irish Radio (67 per cent of the lowest classes and 76 per cent of the second lowest classes) whereas the social categories of a higher level seem to prefer non-Irish programmes.

Percentage of overall listenership.

RTE One, 16; Radio Ulster, 15; BBC One, 14; Boyneside, 13; Downtown, 8; Radio Rainbow, 8; BBC 2, 5; Zee 103, 4; RTE Two, 3; Sunshine, 3; BBC Four, 3; Carousel, 3; Foyle, 2; Began, 2; Q102, 1; Energy 103, 1.

There is some indication that those who mentioned Energy 103 really meant Zee 103, said Mr. Raymond.

Percentage of people who knew about the radio station and had it utmost in their mind.

Boyneside, 16.9; BBC One, 15.2; Downtown 12.2; Radio Ulster, 12.0; RTE One, 9.3; BBC 2, 7.9; Carousel, 6.6; Rainbow, 6.1; RTE 2, 3.6; Zee 103, 3.6; BBC 4, 1.5; BBC 3, 1.3; Sunshine 102, 1.3; Luxembourg, 1.2; Foyle, 0.9; Began, 0.4.

the station's publicity machine has certainly got into full swing. On the programming side of things, the news service got underway on Monday, with Colm McCandle sounding very confident when we tuned in at 08:00, 09:00 and 10:00. We have yet to check the other 'top of the hours', but feel certain that only a limited service is operational at present. A number of promotions for the Summer are being lined up and include PA's by the on air staff, along with the 'Kissettes'. It all sounds very exciting as the station settles down and consolidates its position. KISS FM, Unit 2, The Mall, Old Cross Square, Monaghan Town, Co. Monaghan...Tel (047) 84028.

According to numerous sources, (including Radio West on this morning's 'Anorak Show'), yet another station seems to be about ready to come on the air during the next few days in the Monaghan area. A name of Star Radio has been mentioned, although not confirmed, and the format is thought to be country music. The man behind this new venture is known to be Gerry Byrne, ex Radios Telstar, Big 'M' and Northern Star. Mid AM frequencies, possibly 927kHz., should be checked for a new arrival, we believe. A few tests were apparently monitored mid-week.

The cutting (left) comes from the Newry Reporter of Thursday 28th April 1988, and gives an insight into the situation in the border area. The listenership details are quite interesting, especially when even in this area of many strong local signals, Dublin stations Sunshine 101, Energy (now closed) and Q102 are feature in the results.

Newry Reporter, Thursday, 28th April 1988

as an 'Easy Listening Station', with a mixture of music in the morning until 11:00, and then country music until 17:00, after which it is pop. Currently, lots of adverts can be heard from businesses in Monaghan Town, to celebrate the station moving into the town.

Over at KITS FM, who also broadcast on 837kHz. medium wave, as well as 100.9MHz.FM, we are told that new adverts are being gained at present, although were rather sparse at first, possibly due to the fact that the station's rates were on the expensive side. However, it does prove that there is a place in the market for two 'pop' stations. Their medium wave service cannot be received here due to BBC Radio Furness on the same channel, although having said that, KISS FM on 1008kHz., is difficult to receive here due to Red Rose Radio (and its 'Optimod'), on the next channel. We are told that Kits can be heard quite well on 837kHz., away from this area, in particular in South West Scotland, but here, they don't seem to receive the 100.9MHz. transmissions at all good. Programming on Kits seems a bit erratic, with no set schedule, but deejays heard include Paul Thomas, John Anthony, Shane Martin, Kenny Davies, Simon Dee (!) and station manager, Brian James. Brian can also be heard on the news which only seems to be heard during the morning. At long last, we seem to have a mailing address (thanks to Ian who heard it announced - they don't seem to plug it much as we listen for hours at times!)... KITS FM, 11 Market Street, Monaghan Town, Co. Monaghan... Tel. (047) 81444.

Plenty of 'KISS FM' stickers have been seen out on the streets on Monaghan as well as in Ulster we are told, so

## LAND-BASED STATIONS : U.K.

### LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

29th April - 3rd May 1988.

This week locked into 33 stations, 7 of which were in stereo. New this week are :- WLIB and an Indian station on 95.5MHz. Revived :- Fame and Strong Island.

Missing / Not Heard :- P.R.S., Faze 1, Playback, Starpoint, K-Jazz, Galaxy, Stomp FM, Raiders FM, SW Sound and CD-93.

Faze 1 (90.95) and LWR (92.1 - stereo) both went out Friday. LWR going out just after 9pm, to return in low power, with test tapes, in the early hours of Monday morning with a very bright topsey sound. The signal could almost be compared to TKO (102.4 - stereo), except that it seemed to have been highly compressed and limited almost to the point of distortion. Surprisingly, LWR's man who launched a thousand comebacks, Wayne Turner, was not in evidence for this return. The signal was noted as deteriorating, going South thru' town, and this may indicate a change of transmitting site. Several new jingles and Bill Mitchell 'drop-ins' were noted, one announcing LWR as 'London's Wicked Radio'. They finished up Monday, with a good quality mono signal on 92.35MHz., before switching the stereo back in for Tuesday morning.

Also in the highly compressed league, and sounding it, are Super Fresh (103.3), who are still suffering from distortion problems, possibly because of over compression / limiting. The problem remains even after the main transmitters have been replaced, which suggests a problem in the studio / link chain. It is particularly noticeable when switching over to TKO (102.4 - stereo), who returned Sunday morning, with



the bright quality stereo signal, that we have come to expect from them. Overnight on Bank Holiday Monday / Tuesday, Fresh were claiming to be coming 'live and direct' from their 'Away Day' to Great Yarmouth. It is thought unlikely that they managed to actually set up links across 150 miles of countryside to North London, but the show certainly had atmosphere.

With the Brixton 'power house', **Faze 1** (90.95) out, a couple of other outfits were heard to take over the slot, at least for the time being. First heard on Friday night was **WLIB** (91.0) in the usual soul / funk style. The low level of signal in this noisy area of the band, made it difficult to say if they were on continuously over the weekend, as they were suffering from the side-splash from both Brixton's **Passion** (90.7) and Southall's **SRI** (90.85)! They had a stronger signal in North London and are probably the unidentified signal heard last week under somewhat difficult conditions. With **SRI** out of the way in the early hours, it is easier to establish what is there. And it was at this time that the return of low power Northerners, **Soul FM** (90.95) were noted early on Sunday. It is not known if they have been on at other times and masked by **Faze 1**, et al, or if this was an opportunistic move with the slot being open. **Soul FM** have been on or around this slot for the last year - more off than on. When they had some kind of regularity, they were noted for putting out a series of very fine sixties soul shows.

**London Irish Community Radio** (**LIC-R**) (89.6) pixie and country specialists, are maintaining a 'power house' signal, but have still to regain stereo status. Deptford weekend part-time funksters, **Groove FM** (89.65) were heard in the side splash from **LIC-R** Saturday evening. Overnight, they enhanced their signal, and they could be heard clearly over most of South East London. **LIC-R** suffered accordingly in those areas.

It now appears that **Sangam Radio** did not make the move to 89.95 from 94.4 (WR 210) as thought. Although not yet having a name, the station in this slot is certainly Arabic. Maybe a comeback for Arab Radio for London, which was on the air between August and October 1987, with one of the most distorted signals ever to disgrace the airwaves of this fair city. The current signal is in the 'power house' league and is in clear stereo. On Saturday, (the Muslim Holy Day), readings from the Koran were heard in English. Further complications set in Bank Holiday Monday, when another Asian station was locked into on 95.50, also playing traditional Indian music. No English ID's were heard. It was a slot near here that **LGR** were on the receiving end of a lot of aggro from megawatt **ILR** regional Capital Radio (95.8) last year. **LGR** suffered a lot of attention until they decamped down to 88.4. **GRL/HRFL** (96.2) on the other side of Capital, have yet to be the butt of Capital's mega wrath. What is still believed to be **Sangam** (94.4) is still in the same busy area as before, although the nomadic **PRS** appear to be on the move again, which clears 94.3. There is still a big stereo signal from Northern reggae-rockers **City Radio** (94.45 - stereo) that washes right across them. Just a couple of notches up again, on 94.60, and Saturday brought the return of **Fame FM**, with a transmitter that must have been bought second hand from London Rock. The signal contained various clicks, buzzes and hums, and very little bass, which gradually made some improvement over the weekend. **Fame** were regulars in 85/86, but were last locked into, briefly in March 1987. Strongly featuring a wide range of jazz, they may well be the original crew who were running **Fame** before, as a number of the same Bill Mitchell 'drop-ins' and jingles were noted.

Saturday rockers, **London Rock** (88.80) came out and joined battle with East London funksters **Sunrise Radio** and the result was probably an advantage to **London Rock**, who were predominant in most of the North, West and South, whilst **Sunrise** were clear down the East (appropriately).

South London Saturday 'Golden Groovers' **Hits FM** (105.5) made a welcome return for a full day's programming. This sector has been relatively quiet recently, since the attempted muscling in of **Classic Radio**. Although a stereo carrier was noted on 105.25 Saturday, nothing has been heard from **Raiders Pop FM** (105.25) or Essex funksters **Stomp FM** (105.45 - stereo). What was noted in the centre of town was a nasty distorted spurious signal from Lambeth soulsters **Rock to Rock** (90.25) on 105.35, which will no doubt bring the boys from Waterloo Bridge down on them in a great hurry once the weekend is through.

Returning for a full weekend's listening pleasure, were

**Solar 93** (93.0 - stereo), in glorious stereo, with a rock solid signal. Their new neighbours **CD-93** (93.2 - stereo) were not in evidence for the Bank Holiday, as had been anticipated. Maybe the transmitter problems noted last week have kept them off.

Tottenham's reggae rockers **RJR** (90.0) have now been chugging along in second gear for a number of weeks now. Now they finally hit the gas pedal and have burst into full power. Not yet in stereo, but that now cannot be too long.

After a lot of noise coming from the **Strong Island** camp over the last week or two, they finally made it back sometime over the weekend with a low power signal in the new slot of 96.85MHz. Time Radio associates **Girls's FM** were previously located in this slot, but haven't been heard since early January. **Strong Island** were previously located at 92.35, but **LWR** didn't like competition being that close, and had it away with their tx. After a little persuasion it was handed back. On Bank Holiday Monday, they held a live phone-in for listeners who wanted to know more about **Strong Island**.

A busy Bank Holiday, with little activity from the men from the ministry. I'm off to meet **Batman** at the Virgin Megastore.... More next week.

## ACTIVITY Magazine

The May issue of **ACTIVITY MAGAZINE** is out now! **ACTIVITY** is devoted to free radio and the current issue includes the following items...

'**Skywave**' is a very comprehensive review of short wave activity from the U.K., Ireland and the continent. This issue has station reports for April. Also, Dave Scott writes about Radio Apollo International and there is a full list of band usage during April. Some QSL's too!

'**City Scene**' takes a look at London's busy VHF airwaves and how stations got on during April. This section will be followed by some regional news from around the U.K. including a write up on Radio Merseywaves.

There is a lot more besides in the May issue of **ACTIVITY MAGAZINE**. To order your copy, sent usually by next day post, simply send £1 to the address below. Your cheques or postal orders should be made payable to P.S. Willsher.

Activity,  
3 Greenway,  
Harold Park,  
Romford,  
Essex,  
RM3 0HH.

**LONDON UP-DATE.** After a quiet week as regards DTI activity, the past seven days seems to have made up for it. Many of the larger stations were visited in the week, and these included **London Irish Community Radio** (89.6) who are still not back on this morning, and **Solar 93** (93.0) who only returned to the air last weekend, and are once again off the air. Also missing today were **KISS FM** (94.0), although they had started their regular weekend broadcasts, and were on the air yesterday (7th). Others missing today were **Rock to Rock** (90.4) and **Studio FM** (92.7). Many other stations were missing for periods during the week, but have now returned. **TKO** (102.4) were back on the air today after yet another week of not being heard. Let us hope that this time, they last a bit longer before the DTI make another visit. **Starpoint** (93.2) were heard on both Saturday and Sunday, and there was no sign of **CD-93** at all. **Hits FM** (105.5) were heard with a strong signal yesterday (7th), playing their usual 'oldies' format. As with last week, they left the air before the end of scheduled broadcasts, but we did not know why. (Last week it was due to a faulty transmitter). Otherwise, things are as normal this week. Just a little out of the area, **Stomp FM** (105.4) were logged on Friday



night. An unknown foreign language station has been monitored recently on 89.8MHz., and is believed to be in the Turkish language. No more details are known about this one - can anyone speak the language.

**YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE & DERBYSHIRE.** Activity wise, things improved a little in Leeds over the past week, especially at the Bank Holiday, with all three 'black' music station being heard at one time or another. **Music City Radio** (90.3) were heard just on the Monday, but **Peoples FM** (91.8) have been reported on each evening since, and **ABC FM** (105.2) were back on for this weekend. Also in the city, it was a welcome return to the air of **Radio Radar** on Monday, 2nd May. The station transmitted on a frequency of 105.5MHz., as their old channel of 104.5MHz., was a little close to various local radio stations who have cluttered up that end of the band since Radio Radar was last on the air. This was just a one off broadcast, and they are not expected to do any more transmissions in the near future. Many of the old voices were heard throughout the day's programming. A new improved aerial system was used, and they were heard as far South as Rotherham, with their 25 watt stereo transmitter. Broadcasts were from 10:00 until 22:00, and were live. **Thunder Radio** (104.8) mentioned a couple of weeks ago, were heard last Sunday evening after 20:00, their now regular time slot. They have apparently been on the air for two months and use a power of 10 watts, which covers their local area quite adequately.

**W.L.N.G.** (104.9) are now regularly heard on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, following a break a couple of weeks ago. This weeks programmes included, on Tuesday, Ric Sellars with chart music, Mark Crosby with heavy rock and Steve Wilson until closedown at 22:30 with house music. Thursday saw Steve Perry with chart music and new releases, then Tony King and oldies until 21:30 when Stuart Graham programmed with some new local bands and an a.o.r. format. Several adverts continue to be heard, bringing in a few coppers to cover the cost of each broadcast

**Music Weekend Radio** (105.0) were heard in South Yorkshire on Saturday evening (30th April) after 23:00. The presenter mentioned that the station would be on the air again in a couple of weeks. On Monday 2nd May at 16:00, **Ocean Sound** made a test transmission. It was announced that they would be commencing regular transmissions in three weeks with new transmitters on 106.3MHz., in stereo. The same day, **Rebel Radio** (105.4) commenced their regular broadcast at 20:00 until 20:30. Last weeks problems were due to some children were messing with the equipment. This week a new location was used, but the signal was understood to be much weaker than it used to be. Finally this week, **Village Radio** have been on the air every evening up until 30th April, although they are understood to be still spluttering quite a lot.

the weekend station are loaning the equipment from Enterprise, and in a deal relaying that station during Solar Rock's off air period. Enterprise were understood to be having a few problems with their link transmitters, with on occasions, only a carrier was being transmitted. The Enterprise FM roadshow is at the Porsche Club every Friday night, and the people there have to opportunity to read out requests live on the air.

**Powerhouse 105** (105.1) seem to be playing the 'Black Heath Cycling Club' advert every hour on the hour, and are asking potential advertisers to write in for details. The station is on the air most evenings from 16:00 until midnight.

**Midland Asian Community Radio** have been heard occasionally, and it was probably this which we reported as being heard last week. They were heard testing on 29th April from, 22:15 until 23:00 when the transmitter was switched off. The frequency is 106.0MHz., and the signal is very strong. Other broadcasts were noted on 30th April and 1st May, and appear to be always in the evenings. On the latter occasion, regular programmes were thought to be in progress, as the records were being announced.

**Electro Radio** (95.0) were on the air with occasional broadcasts over the past week. On 1st May they had an appeal for £10,000 in aid of an operation for a young girl, who requires a heart operation. They said all money should be sent to the Electro Radio address. Electro have also been heard playing the same promotion for Solar Rock FM, as has been heard on Enterprise.

**Radio P.C.R.L.** (103.5) are still plugging away with their 7 day schedule. Cecil Morris of P.C.R.L. is involved with a free newspaper called the 'Clarendon News', and this has been heard advertised on Enterprise FM, as well as being available from both Enterprise and P.C.R.L. headquarters. On 1st May, from 20:00 until 21:00, **Radio P.C.R.L.** had representatives of the Labour Party and the Alliance, in the studio to answer listener's questions. The Conservative candidate was apparently unavailable. Some problems with the microphones were eventually sorted out, and the programme went as planned.

**MERSEYSIDE.** It was a busy week in this area, but firstly we go back to last Sunday evening, when we heard a station on 105.0MHz. just around midnight. At first we thought it was an overload of the set from the BBC, as choral and organ music was being played. We realised it wasn't, when nothing else was found on the band, playing that type of music. Then, at around 00:05, the station announced as **Chester Community Radio** on 104.8MHz. Test transmissions were mentioned, and also an address. Unfortunately, by the time we had a pen and paper ready, we were too late to note it down, however after calls from other correspondents

we believe it was : The Chester Community Radio Association, 66 Oldford Road, Upton, Chester. C.C.R. then closed down, without repeating the address, and mentioning that the next broadcast would be on Spring Bank Holiday Sunday, 29th May, from 7pm until midnight. The signal must have been strong, as it was received here in Blackpool, without the aid of an external aerial at all. Craig and Neil in the area also heard CCR, who managed to swamp **Radio Julie** on 104.85MHz., completely, with their powerhouse signal last Sunday. On the

same day he heard **Concept Radio** on 104.25MHz., for the first time in ages, he says. They programmed past 02:00 with the well known 'Webb & Lowe' show from 01:00 onwards. Concept Radio were also conducting some tests in the week, on Wednesday night and also on Saturday lunchtime, with a new, but unfortunately unsuccessful aerial system. They are expected on tonight with their regular broadcast, and using the old aerial system. We understand that **Liverpool Pirate Radio** (LPR) on 1413kHz. were on air this day (1st May), and the same day the previous week. Power is so low though, that even detecting the signal here is quite a feat.

Bank Holiday Monday (2nd May) brought three stations on the medium wave. **Phoenix AM** (1296kHz.) made a return, following tests the previous weekend. Unfortunately both signal level, and modulation was lower than on the tests, and this along with interference local to us, meant we couldn't monitor the station properly. Hopefully the problems should be sorted out by their next broadcast. The two regular

## Radio chiefs try to track pirates

RADIO investigators have been called in to find a pirate station which has been broadcasting in the Derby area.

Radio Freedom, an illegal station playing chart hits and other popular music, was on the air over the holiday weekend operating next to BBC Radio Derby's 104.5 FM frequency.

The wavelength bandits even announced a list of DJs who they said would be on the air today.

Many listeners trying to tune in to Radio Derby heard Radio Freedom because the stations were so close on the FM band.

Radio Derby bosses complained to the police, who said they were powerless to stop the illegal station

because they did not have the sophisticated equipment needed to track down the source of the signal.

Police passed on the complaint to the Department of Trade and Industry's international monitoring station which in turn told the Radio Investigation Service. It uses high tech equipment to pinpoint the signal and apprehend the culprits.

Following a successful broadcast in Derby, over both the Bank Holiday period by **Radio Freedom** (1242kHz and 105MHz.), it didn't take long for bad publicity to arise, as can be seen by the above article from The Derby Evening Telegraph of Monday 2nd May 1988.

**NOTTINGHAM.** After being missing for a couple of days recently, **Heatwave Community Radio** (105.1) are now back on the air with a good solid signal once more, and can once again be received over a large area with their black music format and community news. The breakfast show is said to be particularly good.

**THE MIDLANDS.** Ken, in Rotherham reports regularly hearing two transmission from Birmingham as far North as his location. **Enterprise FM** has been heard during the week on both 90.9 and 91.9MHz. However in the early hours of Saturday morning, he heard a change to **Solar Rock FM** on 90.9MHz., whilst Enterprise was still operating normally on 90.9. So it seems as though the announcements on Enterprise two weeks ago were correct. We assume that



weekenders, **Radio Merseywaves** (1242) and **Radio Atlantis** (1197kHz) were on air as normal, with Atlantis signing off at 19:00. Locally heard also, were.... **Radio Julie** on 104.85MHz. and **CD - FM** on 105.0MHz., the latter testing in the late evening, with good music (from CD's possibly?)

**Radio Merseywaves** was logged early on Thursday again, here, although we understand they were testing on Wednesday evening until about 20:30, along with **Radio Julie**, who signed off their tests at 23:30. RMW continued until well into the night on Thursday (at least they were still airborne as we retired well after midnight). After a spell on low power last weekend, **Radio Julie** (104.85) are now back to a better signal, and although not quite as strong here in Blackpool as previously, can still be heard well with the aid of an external aerial. The audio quality of the station is also much better than when we last heard it, when it was tending to distort somewhat on high levels of music and speech.

Friday saw RMW and Radio Atlantis, both on air, from fairly early. RMW were heard plugging a 'listener's night out' for under 18's, at Birkenhead Pleasuredrome for Monday 23rd May. The price of admission being an unusually cheap and attractive £1. Times are from 7:30pm until 11:00, and each ticket will have the chance to win prizes in a raffle. All the D.J.'s are expected to be there.

Saturday and Sunday saw both **Radio Merseywaves** (1242kHz) and **Radio Atlantis** (1197kHz) on the air on medium wave with strong signals, as well as **Radio Julie** (104.85) on the FM band. They were joined later by **Veronica 104** (104.7MHz.) at 15:00, for their regular transmissions until 22:15. Veronica are now back to this time, after moving around their schedule somewhat, and occasionally being heard on a Sunday morning with what we believe to be 'location tests'. Finally, with regard to **Radio Merseywaves** and the hum that seems to bug their signal from time to time, this weekend we took time out to have a good listen to find out exactly when it is occurring. After much earache, we found that on Saturday morning, the signal was great until around 11:20, when the hum started, as though another transmitter had been switched on 1242kHz. We do not know of any other stations except Radio Freedom in Derby who operate on 1242kHz., so can anyone solve the mystery. It is most unfortunate for distant listeners to Radio Merseywaves, and not any fault of the station. Does anyone know of any other operations on 1242kHz, who only open up during the late morning?

**MANCHESTER. Outlook 96.3** were noted with their usual religious programmes on Monday evenings (2nd May). The signal was very strong as it always seems to be when they are monitored here. No other reports have been received from the area, but we believe that **Laser 10-35** have been on throughout the week, on 103.5MHz.

**RENFREWSHIRE.** Just one station **Neon Radio** (103.9MHz) has been operating in this area all week. Neon were heard with the following schedule... Tuesday 19:00-23:00... Thursday 20:00-23:00... Saturday 13:00-16:35 / 00:00-03:00 and Sunday 13:00-16:30. There was no sign at all of Northside Community Radio during the week.

**OXFORDSHIRE.** A couple of stations have been operating from in or just outside this county. On Bank Holiday Monday, one calling itself **Radio Equinox** was heard on 105.2MHz., and this appeared to come from the Banbury area, as many mentions were given of the town. Secondly, also around the 105.2/3 area, in stereo, a station called **105.3 FM** has been monitored for the past few days. It is possibly from the High Wycombe area of Buckinghamshire. As yet we do not know if the station is just weekend only, or a seven day operation.

#### **OFFSHORE STATIONS.**

**RADIO CAROLINE.** Just before we start this week, many readers may have been under the impression from our writings last week, that the station was finished. This is far from the truth. However, it does appear that if the Dutch station does not get on the air soon, and they will be the ones supplying and bringing money to the keep the ship going, than something similar to the 1970's situation might occur. Then, the English service took a back seat and was left broadcasting just in the evenings, whilst the Dutch service was on the air during the daylight hours. After a time, an all English service did resume using a standby transmitter. The current problem, is that the 819 aerial seems to be faulty or broken, and that only one transmitter can be loaded at any one time into the 'T' aerial being used for 558kHz. We hope that the 819kHz aerial can be repaired and installed

Not a lot to report this week. The station has been off a few times, with what we presume to be generator problems (records slowing down). We left the station very short of presenters last Sunday afternoon, and in fact up to the time of printing, we have not noticed a staff change. They left the air for a time last Sunday afternoon, returning at around 19:15. Bank Holiday Monday, saw the same line - up as the weekend, with Mike Williams on breakfast, Steve Conway in the morning, and the two Dutch jocks, Erwin van der Blieck and Ad Roberts in the afternoon. The Dutch contingent continued to help throughout the week, but being heard earlier in the afternoon. Steve Conway continued with his news duties in addition to programmes.

The shortwave transmitter remained on the air most of the week, but of course, playing the tapes of **World Mission Radio**. We believe that this service was off yesterday, but this could have been poor conditions. Certainly this morning, the signal was very distorted, suggesting transmitter problems. The actual line - up of programmes is not known, but they are heard in both English and Dutch.

Back to the Dutch station now, and one can only wonder how much longer they are going to wait to get their station back on air and earning some money again. At least if Caroline were sacrificed for a short period money will be coming in again, together with funds from the religious groups on SW, to enable the station to try and re-coup some of the vast amounts they must have spent in the last six dismal months. It goes without saying that the station, despite once again surviving all odds, has experienced one of the worst periods since the desperate days of the late seventies. In true Caroline style though, she will make it back to normal, thanks to the dedicated team on board and on land and their never tiring leader.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **SHORTWAVE STATIONS.**

**Log for Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May 1988.**

**6215kHz...WORLD MISSION RADIO, at 07:20gmt.**

**6256kHz...RTR INTERNATIONAL, at 09:38gmt.**

**6299kHz...RADIO ORION, at 10:20gmt.**

**6305kHz...B.R.L., at 10:21gmt.**

**6308kHz...RADIO BRIGITTE, at 07:35gmt.**

**6910kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 10:26gmt.**

\*\*\*\*\*

An addition or two to last Sunday's log, from Stuart in Staffs., who tells us that he received Radio Waves Int., on 6271kHz., at 13:03gmt., Radio Andrea, on 6280kHz., at 10:46gmt and Weekend Music Radio in QSO with Radio Apollo, on 6300kHz., at 12:28gmt. Andy in Hull heard Kiss FM relayed by Rainbow, on 6230kHz., at 09:29gmt. and Radio Waves Int., on 6320kHz., at 10:17gmt.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Log for Sunday 8th May 1988.**

**6215kHz...WORLD MISSION RADIO, at 07:28gmt.**

**6230kHz...UNID., at 09:18gmt**

**6230kHz...RADIO RAINBOW INT., at 10:01gmt.**

**6230kHz...CRUISIN' SOLID GOLD, at 10:02gmt.**

**6230kHz...W.L.R., at 11:04gmt.**

**6277kHz...UNID., at 10:13gmt.**

**6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 10:04gmt.**

**6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 10:35gmt.**

**6300kHz...W.F.R.L., at 09:04gmt.**

**6305kHz...B.R.L., at 08:54gmt.**

**6318kHz...RADIO MARABU, at 10:05gmt.**

**6321kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 08:06gmt.**

**6815kHz...UNID., at 10:20gmt.**

**7365kHz...UNID., at 10:18gmt.**

Conditions today can only be described as grim, at least here in Blackpool, with no stations being very strong at all. Apologies to those who tried to telephone us, but found the line engaged. Hopefully we will be able to answer all calls next Sunday.

World Mission Radio, the religious station broadcasting from the m.v. Ross Revenge was very distorted today, although when monitored at midnight last night it seemed OK.

It is not known whether the unidentified on 6230kHz was from Radio rainbow or another source.

The unidentified on 6277kHz was of Dutch origin, but due to bad conditions we couldn't tell which station.

The unidentified on 7367kHz was announcing something like R.N.O. or R.M.O. International, however due to it being on top another legal broadcaster, it was difficult to tell.



# **The WEEKLY REPORT ANORAKS**

## **The First with the News in Print**

No. 211.....15th May 1988. P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

The 'alternative radio' scene is certainly always undergoing regular change (unlike some of the stale 'state' systems of Europe). After the beginning of a new era, two weeks ago, with the start of commercial satellite radio from Britain, this week, we sadly hear of the end of an era as far as terrestrial English broadcasting to Britain, from France, is concerned. Several stations located on the north coast of France have for a long time, beamed English programmes to the south coast of England and the Channel Islands. Due to new legislation in France, these must revert back to French, and as a result, the International Service of Radio Boulogne Littoral will make its final broadcast tomorrow (Monday 16th May). This will be a sad loss, both for the listener, and for the staff, who have worked hard to build up the service to what it is today. We presume that others (including Radio Force 7), will also finish their English shows around this time.

Many months ago, we heard about a new film involving offshore radio, which was about to be shot. The plan was to give an idea of the life on and around the station Radio 270, which was anchored off the Yorkshire coast in the 1960's, and we believe was the brainchild of Paul Burnett, who worked on Radio 270. This film is finally to become reality this year, as shooting begins during the first week of August, on the Isle of Man. A substantial amount of money has been put forward by Barry Gibb of The Bee Gee's fame. The film will be called "Rock : The Boat" (similar in title to "Abba : The Film"), and should follow the format of "American Graffiti". Many groups and former offshore deejays will be involved. The producer will be Beryl Vertue, with Ian Sharp directing from a script written by Roy Clark. As well as being based on the Isle of Man, a ship has obviously to be used for the rest of the filming. At one point the Communicator was in the running for this, but this plan was dropped, and so at this present time, the name of the vessel to be used is not known. What is certain, is that something resembling a 'radio ship' will have to be anchored off Douglas in order to fit in with the script. What will happen to it after the shooting has finished, one can only imagine! We look forward to seeing the film on its completion.

**WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS** is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday from Blackpool. The 20p news-sheet is available on subscription at the following rates... 'posted first class within the U.K. and to all E.E.C. countries including Eire, 40p..... posted second class (U.K. only), 35p..... posted full rate to non-E.E.C. countries (Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, Norway, etc.), 45p..... posted elsewhere by air mail, 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish at the above appropriate rate.

**PAYMENTS** for W.R. and any items offered, including Offshore Echo's material, should be made to either Anoraks U.K. or B.F. Johnston. We will accept postage stamps, the most convenient and cheapest way, and prefer 13p and 18p ones from the U.K, 28p ones from Eire. We will also accept cash in note form (any currency, but please note the exchange rate), cheques (English and Irish), Access, bank drafts and Postgiro transfers. The latter method is possibly the cheapest if you live abroad (often free transfer), and our details are thus... Account No. 12 141 6909... Account name, R. & B.F. Johnston. Don't forget to add 10% or 20% to list price, if you are having the goods posted abroad.

**ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT** because it is cheap and reaches the people others cannot reach! A full page, £20... a half page, £11... a quarter page, £6. Simply send us your copy on white paper, plus the remittance and leave the rest to us.

**THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE.** Just call Sheerness (0795) 511118 and hear the latest news in a message not exceeding three minutes in duration (to save your phone bills!). News for us should be rung in on Blackpool (0253) 882017 or Sheerness (0795) 511119, the latter number being an Answerphone service.

**"COMMUNICATE '88" or "C.'88"** as it is being referred to, will take place in Blackpool on Saturday 24th September 1988. The event will be an 'all-dayer' but people wishing to accomodate themselves locally should act fast as Blackpool will be very busy during the 'Illuminations' period. We hope to have something there for all free radio enthusiasts, including video and audio displays, celebrities on stage answering your questions, sales stands, demonstrations and plenty of nostalgia and memorabilia to view. For those having problems in obtaining accomodation, and also for those requiring special accomodation (such as for the disabled), please call the following number (0253) 21891. This is the Blackpool Hotel and Guest House Association, who specialise in finding rooms of all types. As this is the first northern convention to be organised, the first in fact, outside the Caroline listening area, we expect many different people to attend, than would attend if it were held in the south. As a result, we should appreciate any suggestions as to which celebrities we ought to approach, to attend. Obviously we have many in mind, but all will not be able to attend, as we fully understand, so who do you want us to ask?

**NEW MERCHANDISE.** Wavelength Issue 21 is now available. Priced at 85p, this 16 page A5 magazine covers offshore, short wave and a sprinkling of land-based (U.K.), plus one or two small features and is in stock now for immediate despatch..... Although not on the merchandise list, we still have a few copies left of the three Hans Knot books written about offshore stations. They are entitled 'De Historie van RNF' (about Radio Northsea International), 'Historie van Radio London' and 'De Kleintjes van de Noordzee' (about Radio 270, Radio Scotland and Capital Radio). The books are paperback and larger than A5 format and contain in excess of 100 pages. The text is all in Dutch, but plenty of photographs and newspaper re-prints from the time are included, with the Radio London book containing the most. The cost of these collectors items is £8.00 each, which includes postage and packing..... Again not listed, is "Stevie Gordon's Guide To Working In Norway". This 11 page, A4 booklet is written by former Radio Caroline deejay Stevie Gordon, following his extensive work experience in that country. Certainly of interest to any deejay who is thinking of working abroad. Price is still £1.50 including postage and packing.

**NEW ARRIVALS.** First to arrive this week, appeared on

Wednesday and was **Medium Wave News, Vol. 34, Issue 2.** In A5 format with 16 pages, the latest issue includes 'Falklands Calling', 'Central America and the Caribbean' and the usual DX news and logs. To join the 'Circle', write to Harold Emblem, 137A Hampton Road, Southport, Merseyside PR8 5DY ... Tel. (0704) 48317. The magazine takes a break for June and July and we look forward to the next issue in August..... **Radiotelex Issue 124**, with 4 x A5 sides of SW logs and general news from this medium arrived next. This news-sheet is always very interesting in that it features little bits of news on a number of stations, in addition to the previous two weeks logs. Subscription details from Postfach 103771, D - 2800 Bremen 1, West Germany..... **Contact Vol. 25, Issue 5**, a 64 x A4 page treat to celebrate its twentieth anniversary under the name of World DX Club. Written and produced by DX-ers, for DX-ers!! If you were considering subscribing, now is the time to do it, starting with this superb issue, but hurry as there is no doubt that supplies will be soon exhausted. Write today for details to Arthur Ward, 17 Motspur Drive, Northampton NN2 6LY..... **Now Radio, Issue 56** was the last to arrive this week, on Saturday, despite being posted first class on Wednesday! The 32 x A5 page magazine really is looking very smart and professional now, and gives plenty



of across the board radio coverage, the emphasis being on legal rather than pirate news. Details? P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants NN16 0NW.

**TAPE OFFERS.** Just two recordings again this week, both from Ireland, along with one from the archives. Tape 200 features the specialist rock and album format, FM only station in Dublin, **Capitol/Nitesky**. This station has kept strictly to this format since its early days on medium wave back in 1978, and has a small but loyal audience. This format is definitely one that is needed badly in the U.K. Recorded two weeks ago, your host on this segment is David Paul. Out into the midlands now, and we take a listen to one of the biggest stations **Breffni Regional Radio**, who can be heard over a wide area on both AM and FM. Plenty of adverts can be heard between the records and chat, with Sean Brady on his popular afternoon show. The cost of these C-90 cassettes is £2.00 each.

The archive tape this week is number SP7, and we go all the way back to around April/May in 1964, and take a listen to **Radio Caroline** as it sounded in those early days, just a month or so after commencing broadcasts. Despite a few off-air crackles, the audio quality on this one can only be described as remarkable for the time. Price is £2.50 for this 90 minute recording. All prices include postage and packing.

**FOR SALE.** The autobiography of "**Sylvain Tack**". A 265 page paperback book with a colour picture of Sylvain on the front. Entirely in Flemish/ Dutch, but with no photos or illustrations at all. We understand that it is very interesting and covers his life including the Suzy Wafels and Radio Mi Amigo periods in particular. Possibly only of interest, due to the language, to our Dutch readers.... price £6.00 and this includes the extra 10% for postage and packing for Holland..... P.O. Box 539, etc.

**WANTED.** Recordings of Peter Philips of Caroline and Invicta... details to Stephen Ball, 2 Badger Grove, Meir Park, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs. ST3 7RY.

**WANTED.** A copy of Michelle Hendrick's "Carryin' On" L.P. Will supply tape for copying if the case. Please help a jazz freak in distress! State price... Ring Mr. A. Smith on (0246) 812450 between 16:00 and 18:00 or write to 21 Romeley Crescent, Clowne, Nr. Chesterfield, Derbyshire S43 4LB.

**WANTED.** The souvenir picture book which was included within the famous (now deleted) Radio Caroline Six Album Box Set, any condition.... contact Graham on (0533) 351243.

**FOR SALE.** "**Billy's Bag**" by Billy Preston L.P. On the re-issued Topline Records label, this L.P. contains the title track plus some classics including 'My Girl', 'Shot Gun', 'Stop in the Name of Love' and many more. L.P. new, but cover very slightly creased.... £10.00... Tel. (0253) 882017.

#### **RADIO STATION NEWS....IRELAND.**

**Co. DUBLIN.** Following our comments last week about the possibility of an FM relay of the new Radio Nova International Satellite Link, Kevin sent us an interesting letter. Apparently Cablelink have put a carrier on 96.4MHz. FM in the Dublin area. When enquiring about what it was to be used for, Kevin was told that they were planning to relay the BBC World Service, and to carry out some experiments. He was also told that if a relay of Nova International would be of commercial advantage to them, then they would relay it!!

Elsewhere in Dublin, everything seems to be running smoothly this week. Greg Gaughran has resumed his afternoon shows on **Q 102**. Current line-up has now reverted to..... 06:00 Scott Williams... 10:00 Gareth O'Callaghan... 14:00 Greg Gaughran... 19:00 Dave Kelly... 00:00 Al Dunne. It goes without saying that the highlight of this station's shows must be the hour long 'Star in the Sky' feature each morning. What started as just an aid to motorists, has turned into a super show which no doubt entertains the motorist whilst he is stuck in the notorious Dublin traffic. The line-up is normally Scott Williams in the studio and Mike Hogan in the helicopter, plus telephone callers, but they do vary this from time to time, sometimes even taking the telephone callers in the helicopter! It appears that the station has employed the well known American radio PD, Bill Cunningham, according to promos and announcements heard on air at the weekend. Bill's voice was immediately noted on subsequent promos promising a completely new programming format called 'Supersound' in the next few days. It is to be hoped that he does not mute this fine station and eliminate such excellent features as 'Star in the Sky'. Some of the

promos infer that **Sunshine 101** and its 'Hot Hits' format is 'old hat', and Bill tells everyone that when they hear his voice on Sunshine 101, that it is from an old tape! He goes on to say that 'Supersound' is going to change our listening habits. If he had anything to do with John Power's fine rock programme on Saturday night, then we have certainly something to look forward to!

We spent some considerable time this week, listening to **Liberty 104**, as this station must now rate as No. 3 in the city. We found good presentation from Derek Flood (who recently left Radio West after a long period there) in the mornings and Dennis Murray in the afternoons, plenty of adverts, many with the voice of Tony Allan, who also is responsible for numerous promos. News on the hour, with headlines on the half hour, was read by Teena Gates in the morning, Mark Grace in the afternoon, with Michael Mahon on news and sport at the weekends. 'Job spots' featured every morning, along with general city information, and of course, plenty of Top 40 music. Signal-wise, and it is difficult for us to tell here, with the three FM's only receivable locally, except during 'lifts', and the AM on 1035kHz., a poor channel by anyone's standard on this side of the water, with many 'locals' resident there (Ayr and Sheffield to name two areas with stations). On top of this, **Longford Community Radio** was clearly audible underneath the Liberty signal, during quiet spells.

Tracie Evans has now joined **Heartbeat FM**, from Liberty 104, primarily as sales manager, although she does three programmes per week.

Elsewhere in the city, we understand that a John May has purchased **KLAS 98.5** complete, from Hugh Hardy, who is now concentrating on promoting live artists. The whole operation has been moved into the Harcourt Hotel in Harcourt Street, and ex ERI, the Big 'D', Nova, South Coast Radio, etc., Hugh Browne, is in charge. Some American tapes have been noted being aired, and on checking the frequency on Wednesday morning, we noted normal Klas type music being played. Former Hugh Hardy right hand man at Klas, David Baker, has joined the ranks of pirates going legal and can be heard at weekends, on RTE Radio 2.

Down to the southside now and better FM conditions on Wednesday allowed us to receive **CAU-FM** on 104.3MHz. Announcing 104.2, the station identified as 'the power station' (another one!) and heard being promoted was a three week holiday giveaway, with the usual three records in a row being played. The thirtieth caller would win the holiday and the three records would be played anytime between now and 31st May. We understand the station had some transmission problems on Tuesday.

**Radio Sandymount** took to the air on 1530kHz.AM and 94.1MHz.FM, locally, for the festival period, lasting from last Thursday for a further two weeks. The station will be heard daily from 09:00 until 18:00 and the usual team are involved, and include Dave Reddy, Bryan Lambert and Al O'Rourke.

**Co. MONAGHAN.** Despite chronic FM conditions again early in the week, **Kiss FM** was rock steady into this location. Conditions did improve mid week however. A TDK tape promotion has been aired each morning on the Nick Richards show, with various goodies being offered as prizes for answering some simple questions. The two syndicated shows, Scott Shannon and Gary Owens, aired daytime at the weekends, can be heard overnight (as Nova used to do) in the week. This weekend sees 'Ulster's Sailboard Championships' take place, sponsored by Kiss, at the Antrim Boat Club, on Saturday and Sunday. A good turn-out is expected and everyone will have a chance to see who's who in the Kiss team, as lots of other activities will take place.

Still in Monaghan Town, and on Wednesday, just after lunch, we logged music on 927kHz. at 13:30. This cut off shortly afterwards and on tuning in later, we found country music playing, along with frequent identifications saying.... 'you are listening to **Radio Star Country** on 927kHz., 324 metres medium wave and 103.2MHz. FM from The Swan Lake Hotel, Monaghan Town, telephone (047) 81179'. Several cliches were regularly used.... 'best in country music', 'this is Radio Star country' and 'the winning team in ??? race'. We tried 103.2MHz., but found that **Zee 103** on 103.25MHz., from Co. Louth prevented us receiving anything in that region. The station has been duly noted each day since.

**Co. LOUTH.** A carrier on 1125kHz. on Tues.10th is proving a mystery. John in Dundalk thinks Radio Carousel may return on 18th May. Of course, it may be **Boyneside Radio**?



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## LAND-BASED STATIONS: U.K.

**BRISTOL.** First off, we missed mentioning a new station operating in this area on 1st May. Calling itself **Emergency Radio**, it is another 'black music / community' station. Unfortunately this operation has plonked itself right in the middle of the 'police' band on 99.9MHz. We wonder how long this one will last before it has a visit.

Now onto Terry's report for the past two weeks; starting with the previously mentioned **Emergency Radio** (99.9) who were first monitored in between utility transmissions on Sunday 1st May. Their signal is said to be very strong, and seems to be spreading a large distance either side of the main carrier. Not only is it rather a strange place to go on the dial, but the station name seems to suggest that they know exactly where they are positioned. The first deejay heard was 'Martin' from 'Mad Hatters & Co.' in London. He was playing some Bill Mitchell jingles saying 'probably the best radio station in the world', 'Emergency - it's funky fresh', and 'it must be said, Emergency leave the rest for dead'. Apparently, even at this early stage, the station does sound a lot better, both presenter and technical wise. Stereo was mentioned but the signal was only in mono. At the end of his show, 'Martin' said that it had been an honour to present the opening show on **Emergency**, even though it was likely to be his last. He handed over at 14:00 to 'D.J. - C.J.' for an afternoon of reggae, during which a promotional recording asked potential advertisers to get in touch with **Emergency**. A telephone number of (Bristol) 540163 was given, along with an address of: P.O. Box 52, 37 Stokes Croft, Bristol BS1. Very competitive rates were announced. The station have obviously gained staff from **B.A.D. Radio**, as one of the presenters announced as **B.A.D.** during his first link, before correcting himself. **B.A.D. Radio** (105.2) themselves, were having a few technical problems with a severe hum. They were missing on Friday, and had a late start and early finish on Saturday 30th April. They were heard again on Sunday 1st May, but with very bassy audio.

**Radio For The People** (Radio F.T.P.) (104.0) were also having a few technical problems, but did manage to put in an appearance on Friday 29th April, and programming started early on Saturday afternoon, 30th April. Most of that afternoon, seemed to be for publicising the night out

## MARINE BROADCASTING NEWS

P.O. Box 963, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO15 6ED

Dear Weekly Report Reader

MARINE BROADCASTING NEWS Issue No 2, THE MAY EDITION IS AVAILABLE NOW, AIMED AT THE OFFSHORE RADIO ENTHUSIAST, MARINE BROADCASTING NEWS HAS REGULAR FEATURES, INCLUDING:

THE OFFSHORE QUIZ and the CAROLINE LINE-UP CHART (which tells you who was on the air in the previous month, and when). ALSO IN ISSUE 2 THERE IS AN INTERESTING INTERVIEW WITH AN ENGINEER WHO WAS INVOLVED IN GETTING RADIO 270 ON THE AIR, PLUS MANY OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST ALL WITH THE OFFSHORE RADIO ENTHUSIAST IN MIND.

Our readership is growing daily so, if you would like to subscribe to **MARINE BROADCASTING NEWS**, the price per monthly issue posted first class to inland UK is £1.30. The price per monthly issue to all other EEC and non EEC countries is £1.70. You may subscribe for as many issues as you wish. Please can you now make cheques, postal orders etc. payable to **MARINE BROADCASTING NEWS**. If paying in cash please ensure that any coins you may send are secured to a piece of card etc.

THANK YOU

to London that evening. Another F.T.P. night out was announced for the 'Moon Club' in Bristol on Bank Holiday Monday (2nd May). The station carried on into Sunday but had few breaks, and had disappeared by 19:00. They were not heard for the rest of the week.

After a busy Bank Holiday, last weekend (7/8th) was an anti-climax, with neither **Emergency FM** (99.9) nor **B.A.D. Radio** (105.2) being monitored. **Radio F.T.P.** (104.0) was on, following the disappearance the week before, but again with severe problems with low audio and a weak signal. They only came on Saturday evening (7th May), and many of the presenters were heard in the studio at the time for this return broadcast. On Sunday (8th) a marathon three hour edition of the 'Senior Citizen Hour' was broadcast. A mailing address was plugged regularly throughout the weekend, it being P.O. Box 548, Bristol BS99 1NX.

Hopefully the other two stations will be back on the air for our next report.

## LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

6th - 9th May 1988.

This weekend touched down on 31 stations, 9 in stereo.

Revived / New this week are :- **S.L.R.**, **P.C.R.** and **MMR**.

Missing / Not Heard :- **London Rock**, **P.R.S.**, **S.R.I.**, **Faze 1**, **Soul FM**, **Raiders FM**, **Hits FM**, **SW Sound**, **LIC-R**, **Ice**, **Studio FM**, **Sangam** and **Strong Island**.

Busted / Believed Busted :- **L.G.R.**, **Rock to Rock**, **Sangam**, **KISS FM**, **Solar 93**, **TKO**, **WNK**, **Galaxy**, **Super Fresh**, **Time**, **LIC-R**, **S.R.I.**, **Faze 1**, **Studio FM**, **Strong Island**, **Sky FM**, and **LWR**.

After recovering from the wounds sustained in the crowds at the Virgin Megastore in Oxford Street, whilst trying to get a personally autographed copy of the 'Batman' movie from Adam West, the machinations of the DoTI people were of little consequence to your intrepid reporter, as he bravely twiddled the knobs of radio sets all over London. It was a weekend preceeded, and overshadowed, by the heavy hands of the 'Soul Destroyers' as they stomped around crushing many stations. Some were to return almost immediately (**LGR**, **Solar 93**, **Fresh**, **Time**, **Sky**), others, like **Rock to Rock**, were back in a day or two. Still others were not heard over the weekend at all (**Sangam**, **Faze 1**, **SRI**, **Studio FM**, **Strong Island**). **LWR** (92.35 - stereo) were back in test mode on Friday evening (presumably with their own transmitter), with a variety of test subjects. Among those noted, were relays of **WMR**, and various other short wave samplings, and the highly detailed (and entertaining) happenings on a mini-cab circuit. Most of those who returned quickly were in reduced power modes, and were subject to slight frequency variations. **LGR** (88.4) - **Rock to Rock** (90.4 - who went out Saturday, to return yet again with tests Sunday evening), **Sky Radio** (91.8). Escaping the scythe were **Harlesden's JBC** (104.3 - stereo) and **Brixton's Passion Radio** (90.7), both of whom are rumoured to be unofficially sanctioned. Conversely, a massive beefing-up of signal has been noted again from **Tottenham's RJR** (90.0) and **Wembley's Traffic Jam** (98.0). Both are now very loud.

With **London Irish Community Radio** (89.55) out, **Deptford's** low power weekenders **Groove FM** (89.65), who are now calling themselves **GWR - Groove Weekend Radio**, were expected to take advantage of the situation. But it was not until the early hours of Saturday, that a blank carrier preceeded their two day programming.

Out of towners **Playback** (93.2) and **Stomp FM** (105.45) were both believed to be heard on Friday evening, but conditions were such that a positive ID could not be made. Further problems with **Playback** were had when **Starpoint** (93.2) switched on the stereo tx for a warm up, for a brief spell just after 5:30am on Saturday morning. Problems were also found at 91.00 when either **WLIB** or **Soul FM** was heard at various points over the weekend, but not long enough for a positive ID.

With **Raiders Pop FM** roaming the dial, chasing **PRS** in search of the perfect slot, it was not thought surprising to hit an unidentified, non-stop CHR signal on Saturday evening. What was surprising, was that they were running the on-hour news from **IRN**. They were a little slow in switching out at the close of the news, when it was realised that they had filched it from **ILR** regional talker **LBC** (who are running almost as much music as **Capital** these days). They turned out to be **South London Radio** (**SLR** - 103.2), who from what was said, have been on the air at least once before. **Fulham micro-poppers SW Sound** (105.6 - stereo), who have not been heard since the end of March, were late last year, reported as intending to up power to cover South



London, and rename as SLR. Whether there is any connection between these two ventures is so far unknown. Anyhow, this at last gives an explanation for one of the three dead carriers which have regularly been locked into since Easter. SLR must be descended from the shakey tape loop heard over the Easter weekend, to be followed by dead carriers for a week or two. Last week, a stereo carrier was briefly commented on, and again was locked into on Saturday of this week. On Sunday, it burst into life as **People's Choice Radio** (105.25 - stereo), covering soul, funk and jazz. From references made, it would seem that at least some of the original crew, who were involved with PCR between November '86 and March '87, are still involved today. That now only leaves the blank carrier on 88.6, which has been hanging around for the last week or two, to be explained.

Lively new pop-rockers **Middlesex Music Radio (MMR)** - 105.5) were heard for the first time on Sunday. They are presumably in West Middlesex, as they were booming in at Croydon, but were only barely audible in Central London.

Rockers **London Rock** (88.8) and oldies **Hits FM** (105.5) were both missing on Saturday, probably keeping a low profile as a result of the crazed rampaging of the Government's finest. However, Sunday rockers **Rock FM** (94.25) were around all day, despite the threat. They are so regular these days, with a good clean signal (despite occasional splashover problems), that they now appear to be part of the 'Privateer Establishment'.

Weekenders **Solar 93** (93.0 - stereo) and **Starpoint / CD-93** (93.2 - stereo) seem to be co-existing quite amicably, at the moment, in their adjoining slots. Both have good clean stereo signals, and are being transmitted from fairly close to one another without too much splashover or other mutual interference. As both stations are very listenable, it would be a pity if things were to deteriorate.

Look out for next week's stunning 'Bat' episode!

**LONDON UP-DATE.** Most stations appeared to have escaped the wrath of the DTI this week, and only **KISS FM** (94.0) were noted missing over the weekend. **TKO** (102.4) were on in the week, but on much reduced power. **WLIB** were heard with a strong signal, rather than the more usual **Faze 1** on the 91.0MHz. slot. **CD-93** (93.2) were noted early on Saturday morning, but had disappeared by the afternoon, suggesting the worst. There was not sign of either **Hits FM** or **Raiders Pop FM**. Two new stations were monitored in South West London by Terry. Firstly was **Border Radio** on 104.4MHz. in stereo, who appear to transmit only on a Sunday evening between 7 and 10pm. Secondly, on 89.9MHz., **Free Music Radio** have also been monitored in this area, again only on a Sunday evening. The Turkish /Arabic station heard for a time on 89.8, has been partially identified as ..?.. Arab London. Can anyone complete the name?

**THE SOUTH COAST.** The sad news this week, as we mentioned in our leading article, is the end of the English service of **Radio Boulogne Littoral**. The final show will be broadcast between 20:00 and 22:00 tomorrow evening. We hope to have a few more details next week, when space will permit.

**O.T.R. (Old Town Radio)** on 106.0MHz., has just started up nightly broadcasts to the Old Town part of Eastbourne with a power of only four watts. The signal however is good over most of the town, and the programmes are understood to be presented 'live'. Only one presenter has been noted so far, calling himself Paul Davis. He used to present shows on **A.B.C. Radio** (Eastbourne) about twelve months ago. The signal is mono, and the audio is excellent. They use an address of : c/o 128 Kingfisher Drive, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN23 7RT.

**YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE & DERBYSHIRE.** Starting off in the Eastern part of the area this week. **W.L.N.G.** (104.95) are understood to have unexpectedly lost the use of their studio premises, and as a result will be off the air for several weeks, until a new location is found. Their final broadcast for a time was made last Tuesday (10th) between 20:30 and 22:30. In Hull, **Radio Takoradi** (105.0) are expected to be back on the air testing very soon. The station was raided several weeks ago. Apparently the strange name is taken from the name of a port in Ghana! Ken in Rotherham reports hearing an unidentified station from the east of him, on 105.0, playing a tape of 60's and 70's pop music, on both Thursday and Friday evenings. Perhaps these were tests from Takoradi?

**Rebel Radio** (105.4) were on the air last Monday (9th) with an improved signal, until in some areas they were wiped

out by the appearance of **Village Radio** (105.2) at 21:45.

In Leeds, just two stations have been monitored this week. **Peoples FM** (91.8) have been on most evenings, whilst **ABC FM** (105.2) have been heard on occasions. Finally, just to the South of Leeds, **Thunder Radio** (104.8) were monitored with their regular Sunday evening broadcasts from 20:00.

**NOTTINGHAM.** We had confirmation this week, that **Heatwave Community Radio** (105.0v) were indeed raided by the DTI two weeks ago, and this was the reason for their absence for two days. The station is now back up instrength, but seems to alter in frequency between 104.95 and 105.15MHz. Plenty of community programming is aired on Heatwave, with even Church services being broadcast. They have a phone number of 0860 328628, which, as with many other stations, enables them to receive the calls at the studio.

**MERSEYSIDE.** Monday morning saw **Radio Merseywaves** (1242kHz.) on bright and early with a good signal. We listened out for the hum which was commented on in last week's report, but this was not in evidence throughout the day. It suggests that another station is on the air (possibly in Ireland) on 1242kHz., but only at the weekend, and with an off-channel crystal. **Radio Atlantis** (1197kHz.) opened a little later, and were heard through the afternoon up until sign-off at 18:00. On FM, **Radio Julie** (104.85) were also on the air on Monday 9th, and so their schedule has now been extended from just Saturday and Sunday which they were operating up until last week. The station has also been announced as **RJ 104**. The new station, Phoenix AM, last noted on Bank Holiday Monday last, on 1296kHz. has a mailing address.... P.A.M (no station names on U.K. operator's mail), 91 Newham Road, Whitchurch Estate, Birkenhead, Merseyside. Nothing further has been heard from this station at the time of going to print, although correspondence from them state that they hope to be back shortly from a new location, the previous one being unsatisfactory. A change to 1026kHz. seems on the cards, also.

A carrier was noted on 1242kHz on Tuesday, presumably a test emanating from Radio Merseywaves. Regular programmes however were not heard by us until Thursday morning. Friday, Saturday and Sunday saw both RMW and Radio Atlantis on air at their usual times, and both with strong signals. The 'hum' on 1242kHz was not apparent this weekend, making listening much more pleasant. The 'country show' was not on the air this lunchtime, which must be the first time for a long while.

There was a return to the air today, on 1350kHz., of **North Coast Radio**. The signal was very strong, but the modulation was low and a little bassy. The records were much lower than the speech or jingles. This is the first time this transmitter has been used, and the whole day was announced as a test transmission, so there are obviously a few more adjustments to be made before the signal is perfect. An address of 26 Harcourt Avenue, Wallasey, Wirral L44 6LJ, was given out, and the 'new look' N.C.R. seems to be going to get itself involved in the community, as they are asking people to sent in details of local events etc., which will then be publicised over the air. Mark Wright, who left RMW a couple of weeks ago, was heard this afternoon. A call from the station yesterday informed us that they are the same staff as the pre-Christmas N.C.R., without those who are now on **Radio Julie** (104.85). **Radio Julie** were on the air with a nice clean strong signal with their weekend schedule, as well as on Wednesday and Thursday night. The signal is still not quite as strong as several weeks ago, and requires an external antenna to listen here in Blackpool.

**MANCHESTER / CHESHIRE.** After not being heard on Saturday last, **Outlook 96.3** (96.35MHz.) was back on last Sunday evening with a good signal at 20:00. The usual religious programmes were monitored. Only two other stations have been monitored this week. **Laser 10/35** has been on the air most days but on a frequency varying around 103.4MHz. Most evenings and the weekend **WBLS** can be heard on 102.4MHz. Both these stations play soul and reggae, with some community information.

**RENFREWSHIRE.** After being missing for a week, **Northside Community Radio** (103.25) were back on last Sunday evening for four hours, and again on Wednesday evening. **Neon Radio** (103.9) were heard Tuesday and Thursday nights, and again on Saturday afternoon. It is not known if they finished this particular broadcast, as they did not turn up for the midnight transmission for Sunday afternoon's regular few hours. We hope to know by next week, whether they were 'visited'.



**OFFSHORE RADIO : THE VOICE OF PEACE.** There is very little to report about happenings on the Peace Ship over the past few weeks. On Monday 25th April, Michael O'Sullivan went on his regular shore leave, with Steve Cromby returning to make a full crew. Friday, 29th April was owner Abie Nathan's 61st birthday. Kenny Page played a 'happy birthday' record without mentioning his name, as apparently, according to Abie, any mention of his name 'causes problems'. We presume this means his links with the 'offshore' operation are frowned upon by those in the upper classes of Israeli society. The Eurovision Song Contest was broadcast live via the station on Saturday 30th April from 22:00 until 01:00. This was to be the last full day of programmes for a week, as the following afternoon (1st May) at 17:00, the ship sailed into Haifa for its regular 'check-up'. It was due back out on Friday 6th May, but a few problems were encountered with the prop shaft, and at the time of writing, it was due back out to sea on Sunday 8th May. A new presenter Richard West joined the ship in Haifa, along with Steve Richards who returns from shore leave. The aerial array for the FM transmissions was also repaired and rigged up whilst in port, and that, along with the installation of the new FM transmitter by the manufacturers staff in Haifa, should see the FM service back on the air now on 100MHz. with a very good signal indeed. Only the medium wave had been in operation for several weeks, on 1539kHz. Ian Hudson left the station at this time, and is now back in the U.K. His last show was on 1st May. The line-up at the time of sailing into port was... 00:00 Martin Murphy... 03:00 Steve Cromby... 06:00 Kenny Page... 09:00 Ian Hudson (final show)... 12:00 Martin Murphy... 13:00 John MacDonald... 16:00 Kenny Page... 17:00 Closedown after Abie's speech.

**RADIO CAROLINE.** The week started off with still no change in the line-up of... 05:00 Steve Conway... 09:00 Mike Williams... 13:00 Erwin van der Blicke... 17:00 Ad Roberts... 19:00 Mike Williams... 21:00 John Bibby... 01:00 Closedown. On Tuesday evening, we were listening and noted Mike Williams handing over to John Bibby at 21:00 saying he would be back on Wednesday with the same two shows. We were able to listen for a further short time past 21:00 until the foreigner swamped the signal completely. We are now approaching best ground wave conditions time and the 558 signal on this power is reaching about as far as it will reach, without an increase in power. A correspondent asked why they did not put out 50kw on 558. This is simple to answer... the aerial, as it is, is just not good enough to handle great power on this rather low frequency and at present, only about 3 kilowatts is being put out, and this with rather poorer than normal audio, due to the above problem. A bigger better aerial is the answer, but in a regularly hostile sea, with 'hostile' countries (well, the Governments are hostile!) all around, this is not the easiest of things to do. The 819kHz. signal would fare slightly better, however, on this aerial system, but as we said previously, only one transmitter at once can be loaded into the 'T'.

We finally saw on Thursday additional staff arrive on board, and the return of Keith Francis who proceeded to do the breakfast show from 05:00 until 09:00. He was followed by Mike Williams, who, incidentally, is in no way connected with Mick Williams of some time ago. At 13:00, it was Erwin van der Blicke, with Steve Masters returning to the ship, and hosting from 17:00 until 21:00. Ad Roberts moved further down the lineup until 21:00, but still only programmed for two hours. He was followed by John Bibby from 23:00 until closedown.

The line-up has remained like this since.... 05:00 Keith Francis... 09:00 Mike Williams... 13:00 Erwin van der Blicke... 17:00 Steve Masters... 21:00 Ad Roberts... 23:00 John Bibby... 01:00 Close. 24 hour operation has been mentioned, and indeed the station went through the night on Friday, with John Bibby extending his two hours, to six. Steve Conway has been heard on all bulletins up until Saturday at 13:00, when Keith Francis sat in.

Some listeners have commented that since Thursday (when the new staff arrived), Radio Caroline has sounded much fresher, and the sound of the station in general has changed. Firstly, the music seems to have altered somewhat. Then, with Steve Conway having a little more time, extra bulletins on the half hour have been added at 'drive time' until 18:30. The Lotto adverts are also thought to be being played more, and one of the old long ones has been re-introduced.

World Mission Radio who use the shortwave transmitter on 6215kHz., suffered last Sunday with a distorted signal.

We were unable to receive them on Monday (9th) and assume that work was being carried out on the transmitter, as it was back to normal on Tuesday morning (10th). One interesting note, is that HCJB - The Voice of the Andes, can now be heard in the early morning on 6230kHz. We wonder whether this is due to Caroline causing them interference when they spent a couple of weeks on 6205kHz., HCJB's former frequency. Tuning to 6215kHz. just before midnight on Tuesday night, we were surprised to hear a first class signal here, with superb audio and no fading at all. This continued for all the period we listened, over an hour, during which time, some rather pleasant music was featured, along with various multi-lingual promos for WMR. On awaking Wednesday, a strong signal was still evident, although programming was in Dutch 'by your Dutch evangelist' to quote the exact words, although Johann Maasbach was not heard. In his place a female voice was noted (Mrs Maasbach?), who ended with some announcements in English stating that the Dutch programmes could be heard each morning at the same time (05:00 till 07:00?) and later on Sunday mornings, in addition to programmes in the early evening.

As far as we can ascertain, there have been no breaks in transmission due to generator problems since 7th May, so presumably the problems of the previous week have been sorted out.

#### **SHORTWAVE STATIONS.**

There are several additions to last weeks log, due to both poor reception here, and callers not being able to reach us, and so we will list them as a normal log to give it better clarity. Thanks to Stuart (Staffordshire), Podney R. Sixe (Cornwall) and Radiotelex (Bremen) for their written reports this week.

#### **Additional Logs for Sunday 8th May 1988.**

6230kHz...PFBS, at 09:25gmt.  
6265kHz...RADIO BLOND PIRAAT, at 09:24gmt.  
6271kHz...RADIO LUCE, at 09:33gmt.  
6271kHz...RADIO D.J., at 10:05gmt.  
6271kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 11:20gmt.  
6275kHz...RADIO RAINBOW GERMANY, at 10:05gmt.  
6295kHz...STARFLEET RADIO INT., at 09:20gmt.  
6298kHz...PFBS, at 12:50gmt.  
6310kHz...RADIO TUTENCHAMUN, at 09:10gmt.  
6310kHz...RADIO POGO 104, at 09:30gmt.  
6310kHz...AMEC, at 10:33gmt.  
6815kHz...RADIO EAST COAST COMM., at 11:09gmt.  
6816kHz...RADIO INDIGO, at 08:08gmt.  
6816kHz...RADIO PAMELA, at 08:45gmt.  
6820kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 08:43gmt.  
6910kHz...RADIO DUBLIN INT., at 08:29gmt.  
7373kHz...FALCON RADIO, at 10:12gmt.  
7375kHz...RADIO D.J., at 07:45gmt.  
7375kHz...RADIO LUCE, at 09:00gmt.  
7385kHz...WFRL, at 08:01gmt.  
7446kHz...RADIO STELLA INT., at 08:07gmt.

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#### **Log for Sunday 15th May 1988.**

6202kHz...F.R.S. HOLLAND, at 08:03gmt.  
6215kHz...WORLD MISSION RADIO, at 06:15gmt.  
6233kHz...GUERNSEY SOUND, at 10:40gmt.  
6233kHz...W.L.R., at 11:35gmt.  
6258kHz...F.R.S. HOLLAND, at 09:22gmt.  
6265kHz...EUROPEAN MUSIC RADIO, at 08:09gmt.  
6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO, at 10:20gmt.  
6299kHz...RADIO ORION, at 09:23gmt.  
6305kHz...UNID., at 10:40gmt.  
6316kHz...UNID., at 07:24gmt.  
6318kHz...W.L.R., at 08:12gmt.  
6815kHz...RADIO PAMELA, at 09:03gmt.  
6815kHz...RADIO EAST COAST COMM., at 11:28gmt.  
6910kHz...RADIO DUBLIN INT., at 08:19gmt.  
7375kHz...RADIO LUCE, at 07:19gmt.  
7378kHz...RADIO CALDONIA, at 08:36gmt.  
7380kHz...UNID.(poss. Sud Tyrol Radio), at 08:22gmt.  
7446kHz...RADIO SCORPIO, at 08:22gmt.

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Conditions today were good and stable all morning. All logs above were ours, here in Blackpool.

The 7375kHz. area seemed rather confused with a fourth station possibly heard... European Christian Radio.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thanks once again for all contributions this week, quite a lot has been held over till next week, unfortunately, including a feature on Radio Nova Satellite Link.



\*\*\*\*\*

# **The WEEKLY**

# **REPORT**

# **ANORAKS**

## **The First with the News in Print**

No. 212.....22nd May 1988. P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

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This week, it was the turn of Dublin once again, to have the spotlight thrown on it, with Q 102 grabbing the headlines mid week. Imported programme controller, Bill Cunningham, managed to stop the music for five hours, get everyone's attention, then proceed and introduce 'Supersounds Q 102' to the city and surrounds.

The appalling state of the Royal Mail delivery service defies belief. In an apparently rapidly worsening system, it is taking up to ten days for delivery of many second class items, three days for some first class, and the number of parcels and packets going missing amazes us. We wonder where all these latter items end up! If you are aggrieved with the service at all, don't hesitate to write to the consumer complaints department, c/o your nearest head post office.

**WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS** is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday afternoon, from Blackpool. The 20p news-sheet is available on subscription at the following weekly rates..... posted first class, within the U.K., also to E.E.C. countries, including Eire, 40p..... posted at second class rate (U.K. only), 35p..... posted at full rate to non-E.E.C. countries, including Sweden, Finland, Norway, etc., 45p..... posted elsewhere by air mail, 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish at the above appropriate rate.

**ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT** because, for one, it's cheap, and also, it reaches people who are interested in free, independent radio, both on the receiving and broadcasting side. A full page costs £20.00, half... £11.00, a quarter, £6.00. Just send us your copy on white paper, along with the necessary remittance, and leave the rest to us.

**THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE** tells you the latest news. You can ring at any time and hear a three minute message. The number? Sheerness (0795) 511118. If you have news for us, it is often better if you write to us, but last minute/late news can be rung in on Blackpool (0253) 882017. If you cannot get a reply, then our answer-phone service, on Sheerness (0795) 511119. Please say if you think it is urgent.

**"COMMUNICATE '88"**. If you are coming to this convention, organised by ourselves, Offshore Echo's and Monitor, on 24th September, and plan to stay overnight, then ring this number at once... (0253) 21891. This is the number of the Blackpool Hotel and Guesthouse Association, who specialise in finding rooms of all types. We have no further hotel brochures left. Full details of the Blackpool event will be made known very shortly indeed, but rest assured that all types of radio will be catered for, with personalities from each field, present. An event not to be missed, we can guarantee that!

**NEW MERCHANDISE.** The latest issue of **Radio Today**, Number 17, is now in stock. In A4 format, this 40 page, glossy colour cover magazine contains the stories about and behind free radio in the capital and surrounds. Worth checking out, this very professional looking magazine costs £1.50..... We were going to wait for "Communicate '88", but it seems a shame to wait so long, with this good weather here, so we are offering just a few genuine **American T-Shirts**. Logos available... "Go Bananas - 94Z Morning Zoo" (medium and large - black shirts), 'Kiss FM - 98.7' (small only - white shirts) and 'Rock 92' Rockin' Carolina' (medium and large - white shirts). Super logos on good quality genuine American product, the price is £7.50 each, but please ring to check availability, if not ordering immediately, as we only have a few.... Tel: (0253) 882017. We also have all the usual selection of T - shirts available, as per our merchandise list, and they are 'Anoraks U.K.', 'Laser 558' (both on black shirts), 'Laser Hot Hits', 'Caroline 576', 'Caroline 319', 'Caroline 558/ Monique 963' (all white shirts) and 'Monique' (yellow shirts). Sizes are usually medium, large and extra large, but we do have odd small ones, again, please check with us if in any doubt. The price here is £5.50 each..... Although not yet in stock, we are informed that Offshore Echo's, Issue 71 is at the printers, which means it should be with us by the month end. Items in it include an interview with Mark Wesley, a Simon Dee feature, 'songs by D.J.'s' feature, 'where are they now?' - RNI era, photos of the 819 mast, plus the usual news and stories. Orders are now being taken in advance, ready for despatch on arrival here. £1.90.

**NEW ARRIVALS.** The first this week arrived on Monday morning bright and early.... **Play-DX, Issue 506.** 6 x A4 sides of long distance logs and general associated news, in English, Italian and Spanish. Details from Dario Monferini, via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy..... **Activity Magazine, Issue 2** is now available. 28 x A5 pages delving into the Sunday SW stations, with small features on each. A brief run down on London and other land-based operators, plus SW frequency usage charts for April. Neat and well laid out and priced at £1, from 3 Greenway, Harold Park, Romford, Essex RM3 0HH..... **Horizon, Issue 3** from CM - Thanet Branch. 12 x A5 pages here, with the emphasis on the south east and, of course, offshore. An interview with Laser's Joe Young, a crossword and plenty of interesting snippets make up this latest offering. Just an SAE (WR size), plus

another 18p stamp from 121 Monkton Street, Monkton, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4JQ..... **Marine Broadcast News, Issue 2.** 36 X A4 pages, neatly bound, with a nice sketch of the m.v. Galaxy on the front. All about offshore, but very interesting, because it does not feature just recent Caroline happenings. An interview with an engineer who was involved with getting Radio 270 on the air, a quiz, a look back at important speeches from Caroline over the years, plus lots more, make this, one to check out. Details on price (strangely not indicated, although the first issue was £1.30) and cost of a subscription from MBN, P.O. Box 963, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO15 6ED..... arriving Friday this week, we found **Now Radio, Issue 57.** 28 x A5 pages of general radio news, most of it not to be found elsewhere. Always interesting and well laid out, with details being available from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW.

**TAPE OFFERS.** Due to several anniversaries occurring this week, we have decided to shelve the current tapes for once, and go back in the archives for all three recordings. First off, it is the turn of Nova from 1983, the great raids.... The station was first silenced on 18th May, mid morning, but returned the following day, naturally with reduced power, only for Tom Hardy to announce just after lunch that they would close officially at 18:00 on the following day, Friday 20th May. Tape SP8 features the final hour of **Radio Nova**, off FM, and includes so many well known voices, including that of Robbie Dale (whose Sunshine Radio had been raided on the Thursday). Needless to say the station returned, despite the wonderful closedown, the following day, Saturday 21st May and remained with us for a number of years. (Additionally, a C.90 documentary tape entitled **'The Great Irish Radio Experiment - The End?'** covers this exciting period and is available from ourselves at a cost of £5.00). The following year, 1984, saw Nova open a new station, using the mighty 50 KW transmitter which in itself had been responsible for the raids the year earlier. Called **EXIDY**, the station, on 738kHz., lasted just short of five hours on the morning of 23rd May 1984, with Tony Allan playing some wonderful tracks and ID - ing the station live. Problems with bleedover into Nova caused the plan to be aborted. This is Tape SP9. Strangely enough, the next day, 24th May, saw the official start of another radio station, **Laser 558 'All Europe Radio'**. The opening and other snippets from the first day are included on this recording of Rick Harris, made one year later, on 24th May



1985, from 05:00 - 06:30, when the station celebrated its first birthday. This tape is SP10. All tapes cost £2.00, the former is a C.60 (off FM), and the latter two, C.90's.(both off AM).

**GENERAL.** Apologies for many late arriving WR's recently, particularly abroad, the latter was obviously as a result of the ferry strike. At home there is no excuse and we think the post office have a cheek suggesting a new 'super' service, whereby they would guarantee next day delivery of mail (for extra money, of course!). After all, what is first class for?

More apologies for the continued holding over of items to the following week. We keep getting more and more news and are attempting to solve the problem. The Nova S.L. operation is one being neglected and we fully intend to up-date everyone about what's going on there, this week.

We were pleased to see some "Sporadic 'E' " appear last Sunday evening (15th May), with an FM dial full of Europeans. We were far too busy to DX here, as we were busy assembling a rather large satellite dish, in order to report first hand in the WR, on that side of things. Harri Kujala in Finland says he heard some British stations via 'Aurora Reflection', on Friday 6th May, and positively identified Radio Viking on 96.9, and BBC Radio Norfolk on 104.4MHz., plus others which remained unidentified. He heard no Irish stations, however, but says he will report on 'Sporadic 'E' ' logs, expected any day. He wonders if many of our readers are FM - DX-ers and would be interested to know if they can catch Finnish stations like Auran Aallott or YLE etc. Anyone interested can write direct to Harri at Yo - kyla 8 A 5, 20510 Turku 51, Finland.

We understand that now better weather is with us, boat trips to the Ross Revenge and nearby sights, are once again being operated from the Kent coast. Anyone wishing for further details should send an SAE to... Project Galaxy, 23 Grove Road, Grays, Essex RM17 6JY.

In view of the Summer weather, we have decided that rather than sit in front of a screen writing a report all day Sunday, we are going to compile it during the week and put the finishing touches only to it on Sundays (SW logs, Merseyside news, stop press news etc.). As a result, we are taking short wave logs at the slightly earlier times of 13:00 to 13:45, with around 14:00 reserved for logs from Bremen in West Germany (Radiotelex). We have already started this system and it seems to work satisfactorily, so, if you can call your logs in a little earlier, it will be greatly appreciated.

**WANTED.** Prospective community radio station is looking for the perfect jingle package - can anyone help or offer their product - contact.... 'Verwood Radio', 7 Aggis Farm Road, Verwood, Dorset BH21 6QD.

**CONTACTS.** John Hope in Liverpool specialises in attending car boot sales, flea markets and visiting second hand shops in search of records. He has lots of such records and wonders if any readers have 'wanted lists'. He would be willing to note and keep a lookout for such requests, if he could not oblige. John's address is 10 Robert Grove, Knotty Ash, Liverpool L14 4DD.

#### **RADIO STATION NEWS...IRELAND.**

**Co. DUBLIN.** As expected, we were bombarded with Bill Cunningham promos about the forthcoming 'Supersounds', on **Q 102**, in the early part of the week. It appeared that the emphasis could be on the presenter this time. Could personality radio be on its way back, we asked ourselves? Anyway, super-personality Jason Maine appeared shortly after we heard this one, but we think that it was more likely to be due to holidaying staff than the new schedule. On Tuesday, the latest promo, voiced by Scott Williams, promised the new Supersounds format 'within hours'. Subsequent live VO'd promos told us the same thing. On Wednesday, at 12:30, following the ad. breaks, a well spoken female Dublin voice started counting, 1,2, 3 etc., nice and slowly and clearly. When she reached 10, we were surprised when she went on, as we were, at 102, 1,000 and even 5,000! Of course, by this time, it was 17:00 and she was definitely 'flagging', although had taken numerous breaks, for refreshment, from time to time. She was joined by Mike Hogan, station manager, at this time, and they both proceeded to count to 5,500, whereupon, it ceased, and a voice counted down 10, 9, etc... 'welcome to Supersounds Q 102'. Normal programmes seemed thereafter, to resume. Yes, it was pretty boring, in fact as boring as when the same person was in charge at **Sunshine 101**, only that time, they played

the same record, over and over again for hours on end, before introducing their new format. We wonder how many switched off. We did, but kept going back to check! What did other listeners think? At least they did break up the monotony with a few ad. breaks and a little merriment when the 'countess' (!) faltered. On Thursday morning, we were awoken with the voice of 'missing' Gareth O'Callaghan on the early show, in place of Scott Williams, a show he has seemingly held forever. Plenty of 'Supersounds' voiced promos continued, welcoming listeners to this new era. The regular identification seems to be '**Super Q, 102 FM**'. Irregular news headlines were noted, at odd times, and the voice of Martin Block was heard here. The normal 'Star in the Sky' feature took place, with Dave Kelly in the air. At 10:00, Scott Williams was eventually noted, but saying rather little compared with recently, the breaks being filled with monotonous 'Supersounds' promos.

Now, all jingles seem to have gone, along with the Tony Allan on-hour ID's, which were excellent, and their place has been taken with mostly Bill Cunningham voice-overs. The line-up appears to be.... 06:00 Gareth O'Callaghan (the morning crew)... 10:00 Scott Williams... 14:00 Greg Gaughran... 19:00 Dave Kelly... 00:00 Al Dunne.

We've hardly listened to any other stations this week, but we guess that was Q's idea, maybe it does work after all! Congratulations go out to Gareth O'Callaghan, who takes the plunge, and gets married this weekend. His place on the early show will be taken by, that's right, Scott Williams.

Jimmy Smith, owner of **Treble T.R. Radio** in Dublin, no doubt still upset at the loss of all his equipment in a recent raid on his London based operation, London Irish Community Radio, has introduced something completely new to Dublin city. The programme called 'Night-shades' is aired at midnight each night, and runs for one hour, and features 'contemporary jazz and new age music'. Apparently, this is all the rage on the west coast of America. The show is hosted by Bob Gallico, although little chat is evident, we are told. In view of the fact that signals at this time of night are very poor, we have been promised a studio recording and we are tempted to offer this unique show as a future 'tape offer'.

**Co. MONAGHAN.** And once again, it is a pleasure to be able to sit and listen to such a good signal and hear a fresh sounding **KISS FM**, 'Ulster's newest music leader', on 103.7MHz. Of particular note is Nick Richards' morning oldies hour, from 09:00, with some very nice classic tunes heard. This programme is a must for all 'ageing hippies!' Edwin in Hampshire tells us that Kiss on 1008kHz. is almost like a local, around 23:00 daily, after the Dutch service has closed down.

**Co. CAVAN.** We understand that **Breffni Regional Radio** in Kilnaleck have received a complaint from **B.L.B. Community Radio** in Bray, Co. Wicklow, stating that their powerful signal on 657kHz. is affecting listening in the Dublin area. We find this hard to believe as BLB are extremely dominant in the Dublin area. Having said that, we can only receive Cavan and not Bray, here in Blackpool.

**Co. DONEGAL.** Does anyone know the address of **KTOK** in Donegal Town? Apparently they only operate on FM at present, and as far as we are aware, Russ Padmore is still involved.

**Co. CORK.** **Radio ERI** have started a country show each Sunday. The first went out last Sunday and is called 'Sunset Country' and is sponsored by the Sunset Ridge in Co. Cork. Sunday listeners certainly get plenty of variety now, with jazz, Irish and oldies and now country, all being played. A new promotion (which won't cost much!) heard on the station is... when you get a film developed in Spectra McSweeney in Cork, you receive a ticket for a chance of a VIP tour of Fort 97 (home of the ERI studios). 20 are picked each Friday, and these presumably will go through to a grand draw which will take place later. The line-up remains.... 07:00, Steve O'Neill... 12:00, George Talbot... 17:00, Mark Edwards... 22:00, Mark Lawrence... 03:00, Close. Saturdays... 07:00, Pat O'Regan... 12:00, Steve O'Neill... 17:00, Derry O'Callaghan... 22:00, Mark Lawrence... 03:00, Close. Sundays... 07:00, ERI Jazz with Tom Cotter... 10:00 Oldies and Irish with Joe O'Reilly or Pat O'Regan... 14:00, Sunset Country with George Talbot... 17:00, Derry O'Callaghan... 20:00, Mark Edwards... 00:00, Close.

Down in Bandon, **WKLR** are currently giving away 100 radio sets in conjunction with Griffin Electrical who have just opened new, larger premises.



# Radio Today

Radio Today is the quality alternative. We promise you the best writing on radio anywhere and a quality of presentation that puts all the others in the shade.

That means no seven page dirges in minute print, no rewritten press releases about IR profits, no wobbly Letraset and no streaky photocopied pages.

Instead you'll find 40 big A4 pages packed with the latest radio news and features, professionally typeset and printed. Take a look inside...

## THE ART OF HYPE

A no holds barred investigation of the UK music biz and its stranglehold on the charts. If you've ever been dissatisfied at what you hear on the radio, then this is an article you must read. Payola, cocaine and a billion pound international swindle.

## CHARLIE WOLF'S LETTER FROM AMERICA

Former Laser 558 jock Charlie Wolf writes exclusively for Radio Today from 96FM KFMV in the States. Read about the US' latest radio format and news of the Seawolf's return to UK radio.

## VOTE!

Your chance to vote for the top London DJs and stations of the past year in our readers' chart. Can Kiss-FM do it a second year running?

## AM/FM

The comprehensive guide to radio listening in London - your choice from over sixty BBC, Independent and unlicensed stations. Selections of the best programmes plus full schedules from many top stations. From around the UK there's also a county-by-county round-up of radio news.

## PLUS

Making an advert, Hits-FM, the satellite radio revolution, Alter the IBA, 1988 readers' survey, 1987 rapid Rewind, Hard News - Big Stories, a free pull-out London tuning guide to keep by your radio and much, much more.

*Please send me issue 17 of Radio Today. I enclose a cheque/postal order for £1.50 made payable to Anoraks UK.*

Name: .....

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*Send to Anoraks UK, PO Box 539, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY1 4RE.*

# Radio Today

### LAND-BASED STATIONS...(U.K.).

**BRISTOL.** Radio For The People (Radio F.T.P.)(103.6 mono) are still the only weekday representative of free radio on FM in Bristol and were transmitting every night except Thursday, from 9th - 13th May. The audio is now much better, although there have been a few breakthroughs from what sounded like aircraft transmissions. No transmissions were noted on Thursday, but Radio F.T.P. returned on Friday with a much stronger signal, programming through until the regular closedown just after midnight. Saturday saw the station on the air at 15:00, with the return of the 'Children's Hour'. This particular show features a much wider variety of music than is normally played on the station. Closedown was at midnight. Sunday (15th May) and Radio F.T.P. opened at 17:50, following which references were made to the previous night's party which was to raise money for the continuation of the station (Radio F.T.P. do not take advertising). Support was also asked from the listeners, BS99 1NX.

Sunday afternoon (15th), saw **Emergency Radio** (99.9 - mono) return to the air for the first time since their opening broadcast on 1st May. The transmission was marred by technical problems, and at 17:00, the deejay announced that they did not know what was wrong. By 20:00 'cutting out' problems had reached such a height that they were forced off the air for about 45 minutes. They then returned without the problems, and with a very clean and high quality signal, and programmed into the night.

There was no sign of **B.A.D. Radio** (105.2) last weekend. **NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.** This is one area where free radio activity has been virtually non-existent recently. However, perhaps this is all to change, as a station calling itself **N.B.C. (Newcastle Broadcasting Company)** was heard late last Friday night (20th May), and into early Saturday morning, on 102.2MHz. The format of the station appeared to be soul and disco, and the signal west of the city was weak. The station was advertised in a club, so presumably some of the deejays from this club operate the station.

### LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

13th May till 17th May 1988.

"If all the current operations had been on air this weekend, the FM band could have boasted 42 Privateers! Despite virtually non-stop frantic action from the DoTI men, the only no-shows from the regulars over the weekend were LICR, Faze 1, Kiss FM, PRS, Sangam and Hits FM. This dropped the total locked into from 42 to 36, of which 10 were in stereo.

The early part of Saturday evening found me forced into abandoning my car and the mobile band-scan as I got caught up in the chaotic traffic jams surrounding the Wimbledon Football Stadium. After a quick bop in the street, and a swift half, I managed to tear myself away from the lightly clad attractions who were there to waylay the unwary traveller. Duty must come first and it turned into another interesting Saturday night, despite the DoTI men having had a busy week and weekend overtime.

The foreign language stations had been hard hit during the week and on Friday, only **LGR** (88.35) and the Arab (89.80 st.) were to be heard. The Arab got hit on Sunday, but returned in the early hours of Tuesday. On Saturday, **Swinging Radio India** (90.80 - Sina Radio Int.) were finally back, as were **GCR** (104.45) and **GCR/HRFL** 96.15), although GCR went out again on Sunday. **Brittania Radio**, the previously unidentified Asian, was also back, but down slightly to 93.35. Brittania are now known to be on air from 10:00 until 22:00, with Asian music played live from the studio. What is believed to be Sangam (94.30) has not been heard for several weeks now. On Sunday, with Studio FM (92.70) down, it was possible to hear, mixed in with BBC R.4, an unidentified low power Asian station in the next slot on 92.75.

The DoTI men didn't give the Weekenders much time this weekend. Kiss FM (93.95) didn't make it at all, presumably as they lost two transmitters the previous weekend. **Solar 93** (93.20), also hit last week, were back Friday, but only lasted until Saturday morning. CD - 93



# Pirate station fights for survival

A PIRATE radio station is fighting to stay on air after being hit by four government raids in one week.

Southall's Sina radio has now launched a desperate appeal to listeners to send in money to replace seized transmitters.

In two days, the fund has raised more than £2,000 and station owner Mr Avtar Litt is confident he can keep the show on the air.

Mr Litt said: "We've had a great response to the appeal and we look to be in the clear as far as money is concerned. The people have shown we are not a pirate station — we are a valid community station."

Sina has more than 15,000 listeners and broadcasts Asian music and news seven days a week. The Department of Trade and Industry has raided the Southall studios more

than 20 times since it started four years ago.

But four raids in as many days nearly forced it to close until the urgent appeal on air whipped up community support.

Under new government plans to throw open the doors for radio licensing, Sina radio could apply to become legal when the bill is finally passed.

[Greenford-Northolt Gazette, Friday 13th May 1988]

(93.20) didn't get much past their early Saturday morning setting up tests, which consisted of back to back music. It would be ironic if CD - 93, a channel dedicated to high quality broadcasting, are putting out tapes - albeit of high quality. Later Saturday, and northern soulsters, **Studio FM** (92.70) were also lost.

Sunday, and the list of those missing in action continued to grow, as **TKO** (102.45) were taken out, to return within a few hours, a couple of notches down on 102.25, in stereo. Deptford's **Groove Weekend Radio** (89.65) and the Arab (89.90), whose massive signal spreads from 89.50 to 89.95, were both lost. Northerners, **City Radio** (94.45 st.) went out after moving up to 94.6 and sitting on top of weekend deep southerners, **Fame FM** (94.6), in what was believed to be a pre-emptive move away from powerhouse Sunday all day rockers, **Rock FM** (94.25), who managed a full day. **WNK** (102.85) may have also been taken out Sunday, but they do tend to be a bit irregular. Surprisingly, neither popular DTI targets, **RtR** (90.35) or **LWR** (92.25 - noisy and topsey stereo with a spurious signal on 105.25) were touched.

Despite the activity, weekend Easterners, **Sunrise** (88.80) managed a full weekend and were joined by Saturday rockers, **London Rock** (88.80). Other short duration stations clocked, were weekend powerhouse soulsters, **PCR** (105.25), with a solid two days of funk, soul and jazz. **Starpoint** (93.25) came out to play all day Sunday with a Heinekin signal - reaching parts of the south east that the others cannot.

Watford weekenders, **Playback FM** (93.15) were heard briefly Friday night, before the combined powerhouse transmitters of Solar 93, CD - 93 and Starpoint obliterated them. Popular Essex weekenders, **Stomp FM** (105.45) were only heard on Sunday, but with a much enhanced signal, putting them well up in the powerhouse league. For the first time, their stereo signal was getting not only into the West End, but well out into the southern Home Counties, and was clearly heard in stereo at the top of Reigate Hill.

Of the other 7 - dayers, Tottenham's **RJR** (90.00) are still powered up. In Harlesden, **Fresh FM** (103.35) have still got a nasty loud mains hum, but **Time Radio** (103.80) are now getting a reasonable signal out again. Near neighbour, **Traffic Jam** (97.95) have a loud spreading signal, which must bring them some official attention soon, and in fact, they got there's on Monday. In the south, Brixton's **Passion** (90.70) continue unabated, as do Peckham's **Sky Radio** (91.85).

The hoary old matter of subliminal messages on rock records was raised on Sunday night in a programme devoted to religious affairs, on Harlesden's semi-legit **JBC** (104.30 st.). All the well worn cliches were dug out and paraded, including 'Smoke Marijuana', attributed to a Led Zeppelin track which can only be heard if played backwards!, 'God is dead' and 'The Devil returns', both attributed to Black Sabbath. Many more were related, along with a general condemnation of rock music being the 'devil's instrument'. On the other hand, Calypso, Soca, Soul and Reggae embodied all that was good. It must be said that the interviewer sounded somewhat hesitant and credulous of his questioner, while the man of religion sounded as though he was trying to control the stridency of his voice. It is still amazing in this day and age that there are still naive people about, who are asinine enough to believe and promulgate this rubbish. 500 merits points to JBC who continue to put out many community orientated talk shows, with regular phone-ins on many diverse subjects, on both local and national issues. But 2,000,000

de-merit points for actually putting out views of a potentially racially divisive nature.

Clutter free **South London Radio** (103.20) are clear and solid from the deep south, but suffer from the side-splash of **Fresh FM** on 103.35, the closer one gets to the Thames. They also claimed to be simulcasting on 258m (11:00 am), but it was either off or on extremely low power, as nothing could be heard in this slot. Main programming seems to be extended back to back segues from the poppier end of the dance/funk spectrum. **IRN** are still contributing their top of hour news, for no charge.

It seems as though it was premature in ascribing the roots of **SLR** to the battered tape loop and subsequent blank carrier heard in the south around Easter, as Saturday saw 103.05 burst back into life with a much stronger signal, clean cassette deck and a new tape loop of Top 40 material - and a name. The station ID may cause some confusion as they are calling themselves **Hits FM**. At this stage, it is not known if there is any connection between this Hits FM and Saturday golden groovers, **Hits FM** (105.5). The format is about as tight as any format can be. No jocks, no talk, no climbers, no oldies, no newies, just the Top 40 recycled non-stop, every two hours, twenty four hours per day. Between every other track are short ads. for two of BT's special 'phone services. Presumably, these are just teasers to show how ads. would be placed, and sound. This is an interesting concept, with Top 40 radio stripped down to the absolute barest of essentials. Will they continue to use the name, Hits FM? Are they a re-incarnation of the Saturday golden groovers? How will we distinguish between the two if the latter return? Will this concept work? With **SLR** off, the signal is getting out, right across the south at least.

A tape loop has also been running on 96.95 in stereo, at least to begin with. No ID's as such, but an ad. for a Soca All-Dayer at the ubiquitous Tudor Rose Ballroom was heard at regular intervals. This slot has been used by Time Radio associates, **Girls FM**, off and on for the past year, and may be them tyeing for a comeback. To complicate matters further, **Strong Island** (96.95) also made an appearance on Sunday. Both must have been on the same frequency, as no mutual interference was noticed.

Finally, the low power soulsters on 90.95 have now been definitely ID'ed as East London's **WLIB**."

Our usual thanks to Sid for his latest offering. We might just add that of late, we have had a number of letters praising his excellent weekly articles.

**MERSEYSIDE.** First off here, some rather late news regarding Steven Bishop, formerly of **Radio Atlantis** (1197kHz.). He was recently in Huyton Magistrates Court following a raid on the station last year. The delay was apparently due to the DTI not being able to serve the summons as they couldn't find Steve for a long time. They did in the end, and he was fined £75 on two charges and had to pay costs. The total was £390. Steve has now left Radio Atlantis due to some disagreements over the direction the station was taking. We believe that most of the equipment was returned, including the records. Rick Dane is understood to be due in court on 9th June for similar charges.

As we went to print early last Sunday, we weren't able to report on **Veronica 104** (104.7), however, they did begin broadcasts as usual at 15:00, until 22:10, with a slightly stronger signal than usual. This might have been due to unusually good FM conditions however, as on occasions some European stations were breaking through also. Veronica's



'Famous' listener's Top 104 is due in a couple of weeks, in time to celebrate their third birthday. They will broadcast all weekend and, if past birthdays are anything to go by, it will be well worth listening to. Advertisers were also requested to contact the station. Also last Sunday, we listened in a bit later in the afternoon, and found that the low modulation problems on **North Coast Radio** (1350kHz.) had been sorted out. The signal was also up in strength, and was in fact the strongest 'alternative' AM station from Merseyside to be heard in Blackpool that day. Mention of all the other local broadcasters was made at one stage, even for Phoenix AM, of whom we have not heard since the May Day holiday. **Radio Merseywaves** owner, Burt Williams, was also noted, although not listened to, to any extent, due to our involvement away from the radio.

On Monday, we noted the the regulars, **Radio Atlantis** on 1197kHz., **Radio Merseywaves** on 1242kHz. and **Radio Julie** on 104.85MHz., the latter two broadcasting until the early hours. With Steven Bishop now left, Rick Dane was once again, running Radio Atlantis alone, something he has managed on many occasions before (remember Radio Jackie North?).

Radio Julie appeared at 18:00 on Tuesday, we are told, and again, ran into the small hours. This station also, was asking for advertisers, offering to undercut anyone, including local papers. It looks like competitive commercial radio is about to hit Merseyside!

In the temporary absence of our FM receiving apparatus, we are dependent on reports from Merseyside for FM logs. One such report tells us that Julie appeared again on Wednesday at 17:00, with Mark Kennedy opening up. So many phone-ins are featured, it is a wonder any time is left for music, our reporter, Craig, says. He also tells us the station identify as Radio Julie, RJ104, JFM, J104, Julie FM, Julie 104 and others.

Non stop music was heard early Thursday morning on 1242kHz., but this ceased shortly after we tuned in, and a blank carrier only was noted for the remainder of the morning and into the afternoon. 'Live' programmes from RMW commenced at around 13:00, and mention was made of DTI activity, although this was not clarified further. The station seemed to be having a little trouble with the audio, but perhaps this was due to a move of location. Everything seemed as normal later on in the evening, and again, extensive plugs were noted for the forthcoming RMW Night Out. Radio Julie once again appeared in the evening.

Friday saw a repeat of Monday, with the two stations noted there. We were unable to log any FM stations, but were assured that Radio Julie was active.

Saturday saw **Radio Merseywaves** (1242kHz.) back to its usual quality. There were obviously problems, as a 'thank you' was heard given out in the morning to Burt, who had been working hard to get the station sounding well for the weekend. A reduction to a four day weekend was also announced for next week. For the past few weeks, Thursdays have also been in the schedule. A different mailing address has been heard announced... 126 Curlew Way, Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside L46. Also on air this day, Radio Atlantis and Radio Julie.

Sunday saw **North Coast Radio** appear with an excellent signal on 1350kHz., this was in addition to the three heard on Saturday. These were expected to be joined by Veronica 104 later in the afternoon.

Finally, reporter Neil tells us that last Sunday evening, he heard **Concept Radio** on 104.3MHz. and on Wednesday, he heard an unidentified station on 105.5MHz., relaying Radio City, also **Slag-Off International**, on 105.3MHz. The latter was also active last night.

**YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE & DERBYSHIRE.** In South Yorkshire, there was no sign of the regular **Rebel Radio** (105.4) last Monday night, however they were heard with continuous music on Thursday night (19th). Scooter Jones is understood to be testing a new aerial system out, as recent transmissions have not been heard too well. **Ocean Sound** (106.3) were conducting test transmissions last Saturday night (14th).

**Music City Radio** (90.3) and **ABC FM** (105.2) have both been heard in the past couple of days with the usual soul and reggae music. **Peoples FM** (91.8) appear to have possibly moved location, as some reports indicate a better signal, and others haven't heard the station for over a week. However they were on the air at least up until yesterday.

**W.L.N.G.** (104.95) are still off the air temporarily due


to loss of studio location. They hope to be back on as soon as possible.

**NOTTINGHAM. HEATWAVE COMMUNITY RADIO** (105.1) are still operating every day, although with a few technical problems this week. Their signal is solid, and the adverts are still rolling in. One which stands out is rather funny, and is for the 'peoples bakery'. This one has a Dallas flavour to it.

**RADIO BOULOGNE LITTORAL.** As mentioned last week, **R.B.L. International** made its final broadcast on Monday 16th May 1988, on 91.6MHz. The final broadcast went out between 19:00 and 21:30, with a line-up of 19:00 Mark Daniels & Pete Simester... 19:45 Tim Stewart... 20:30 Mark Allen & Martin Standen with the 'Final Hour'... 21:20 Closedown. The last hour was understood to have brought the 'anorak' out in everyone! We hope to have a recording available next week of this final broadcast. Confusion has arisen over the actual wording of the recently introduced French Radio legislation, and this could mean that the English voices of R.B.L. may well be heard back on the air, although on a different station.

**SATELLITE LINK BROADCASTING....RADIO NOVA INT.**

Radio



International

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UK · 0276 · 692040

Do we report on this mode, as it is not pirate, or free radio? What do you think? It is certainly radio of the future, of that there is no doubt. As of 19:00 on Friday 20th May, we find ourselves in a position to report live on satellite action, as a result of the installation of the necessary equipment. Of course, we intend to initially report on just Nova, but later, may well expand our reports to other operators, of which there are quite a number, although Nova, at present, is the only U.K. one.

How does it work.... It takes only a split second for Radio Nova's programmes to travel thousands and thousands of miles from studio to receiver. The transmissions are micro-linked from the studios in Surrey, England, to the Telecom Tower in London's West End. From there, they are beamed directly to Docklands, British Telecom's Teleport, where the signal is uplinked to the satellite, Intelsat VA F11, in geo-stationary orbit 26,000 miles above the earth. The satellite re-broadcasts Nova (and the others) back to earth. At this point satellite dish owners can tune in. The station can be found on Transponder 63 of the West Spot beam of Intelsat VA F11, using sub-carriers 7.38 and 7.56MHz. The down-link frequency is 11.175GHz. (horizontally polarized). Alternative ways of tuning in.... being lucky enough to be on the cable system. Being in the listening area of a radio station taking Nova for all or part of the day and re-broadcasting it on FM locally. It is thought that many Irish stations may invest in a satellite dish and relay Nova, inserting their own adverts in opt-out advert spaces, and leaving Nova's national adverts in. But, of course, all this is in the future, we are only just at the beginning.

The station commenced at the end of April, properly on 1st May, and with an official opening by the Minister of Broadcasting, Timothy Renton M.P., on 4th May. Many top names from the radio world have been hired and we shall be listening out for them. At 19:00 on Friday last, station owner, Chris Cary, was the first voice we heard, and he was followed a while later by Paul McKenna, ex Caroline, Chiltern and now Capital. Programming was brisk, fast, and completely computerised we were told. News was hourly, via IRN and adverts were noted, along with jingles, including many classic old ones. They gave out a mailing address of Radio Nova Int., P.O. Box 1065, London W.2. The format is targeted at 15 - 39 year olds and is best described as CHR (contemporary hit radio). The line-up is very impressive, but we would like to listen for a few days, before we print this, as some names may not materialise, others may vanish (Tim Kelly is one who has already left, we understand). More to follow, next week.....



**OFFSHORE STATIONS...THE VOICE OF PEACE.** From a very hot Israel, the Kravitzki twins report that the station remained off air, in dry dock, in Haifa, until Friday 6th May, when she once again, sailed to her anchorage. The new 25kw FM transmitter was already on the air, when they tuned in at 22:00, but until 00:15 on the following day, it only played over and over again, the jingle 'all we are saying.....'. They then switched off until dawn. The Arabic show was presented as usual next day until 08:00, with the normal breakfast show following. As was stated last time, Ian Hudson has now left, and Kenny Page has been visiting Scotland, for a ten day break. On Sunday 8th May, a new D.J. was heard presenting the 'Night-Beat' show, from 03:00 until 06:00. His name was Richard West. Also heard later the same day, was Steve Richards, making a welcome return to the station. On Wednesday 11th, the station broadcast the entire European Soccer Cup Final, from 21:00 until 23:00. Abie's phone-in programme has now been moved to 15:00 (till 17:00), in fact, an hour later. Two big events are forthcoming.... The VOP 15th anniversary and the re-opening of Abie's restaurant, 'California'. The original California was closed down in 1972, to enable Abie to buy the Peace ship. Now to celebrate 15 years on the air, the restaurant re-opens. Designed as a ship (the Peace ship?), the eating establishment is located in a new shopping centre near the City Hall in Tel Aviv. The celebrations for the anniversary began on Monday, 16th and last throughout the week. Current line-up, as of 15th May, reads.... 00:00 Steve Richards... 03:00 Richard West... 06:00 John McDonald... 09:00 Michael O'Sullivan... 13:00 Steve Cromby... 15:00 Abie Nathan... 17:00 John McDonald... 18:00 Steve Richards... 19:30 Michael O'Sullivan... 22:00 ?

**CAROLINE 558 / WORLD MISSION RADIO.** A trip out to the Ross Revenge last weekend created a few problems, it appears, with a vessel from the DTI awaiting its arrival in the South Falls. None of the visitors boarded the radio ship and thus no offences were committed. Despite this, the 'anorak' boat was followed back up the Thames Estuary, and on returning to port, all on board the sight-seeing vessel were questioned at length by the DTI, and Government inspectors were examining the ship very thoroughly, as the passengers eventually left. According to Radio Kent, offences under the Merchant Shipping Act may have been committed, whatever that may mean. Perhaps the DTI made a fool of themselves over the whole incident as no offences against the MEBO Act were committed, and in order to 'save face', they had to 'find' something wrong with the vessel.

The signal on 558kHz. continues quite good, and the week started with Keith Francis on breakfast, followed by Steve Conway, who handed over to Erwin van de Bleeck at the earlier hour of 12 midday. In his programme, Steve was heard to say that traditionally, Monday is new music day, and he went on to play lots of new singles. In fact the line-up had been changed around quite a lot, with several different length shows, and a new programme being introduced in the evening. The 'new' show is called "Cuddle Up To Caroline". This gave a schedule of... 05:00 Keith Francis... 09:00 Steve Conway... 12:00 Erwin van der Bleeck... 16:00 Steve Masters... 20:00 John Bibby... 21:00 Mick Williams... 01:00 Closedown. The one hour show at 20:00 was hosted by Steve Conway, on Wednesday only. On Thursday (19th), the station left the air at 11:00 and Steve Conway announced that they would be back in the early afternoon, and that the break was due to essential maintenance, only able to be carried out during daylight hours and in calm seas. The re-appeared sometime between 15:00 and 16:00. So, it looks like they may be trying to erect the 819kHz. mast. They were certainly working on it, a reporter on the visiting vessel told us, when they were there on Saturday. Collars were understood to be being fitted to the vertical mast, in order that it could be stayed properly. The base of this fibreglass structure which was damaged several weeks ago when it was first tested, was also in the process of being strengthened. So perhaps everything was ready on Thursday for it to have a 'structural' test.

A message left on our Sheerness answerline on Monday, by a Dutch reporter, told us that the proposed Dutch service could be called 'North Sea 819'. We have no confirmation from official sources on this one, but the report does tie in with rumours stating that the service will not be called Monique.

On Sunday morning at 00:20, our reporter in the immediate coastal listening area of Harwich, noted a relay of Caroline

558 on 819kHz. These transmissions ceased at 01:00 along with 558kHz., to return at 05:00 once again. At the time of printing, both services are running in parallel, with the 819 service less powerful but far superior in audio quality. At this stage, we are not sure at exactly what time transmissions commenced on 819kHz., as here in Blackpool the channel is home to Dublin's Super Q, preventing any serious logging.

**World Mission Radio**, can be heard most of the time on 6215kHz., shortwave conditions permitting. The tapes consist of contemporary Christian music, with ID's in English, Spanish and German. Their address is WMR, Box 3416, Corona, Ca 91719, USA. At 11:00 and 21:00, there are transmissions by Dutch evangelist, Johann Maasbach. These are nothing to do with WMR.

#### **SHORT WAVE STATIONS.**

Amendments to last Sunday's log (15th May).... additionally noted an unidentified station on 6337kHz., at 10:33gmt., FMTR on 6305kHz., at 09:14gmt, Radio Waves/ Radio Limit on 6330kHz. and 'Born Free' on 7362kHz., at 08:05gmt.

The operator of Guernsey Sound informs us that the station will be taking a break for a few weeks from 6230kHz., whilst transmitter operator, Heady Eddie, in Ireland, takes his holidays (chasing Rainbows in the Canaries, no doubt!). The medium wave outlet is also off air at present, although this is due to re-siting. There will therefore be no programmes from GS, via Rainbow, until 19th June. They will be heard on the fourth Sunday of the month, as usual, on 7445kHz. We understand a similar break will occur with W.L.R., but we presume that they will still be heard via other transmitters.

#### **Log for Sunday 22nd May 1988.**

6215kHz...**WORLD MISSION RADIO**, at 08:49gmt.  
6231kHz...**GUERNSEY SOUND**, at 10:18gmt.  
6231kHz...**W.L.R.**, at 11:06gmt.  
6235kHz...**SUD WEST RADIO**, at 09:11gmt.  
6243kHz...**RADIO SKYLINE**, at 09:00gmt.  
6256kHz...**RTR INTERNATIONAL**, at 09:04gmt.  
6265kHz...**FREESOUND RADIO INT.**, at 10:33gmt.  
6280kHz...**STAR INTERNATIONAL**, at 08:48gmt.  
6280kHz...**WESTSIDE RADIO INT.**, at 09:28gmt.  
6280kHz...**RADIO PANDORA INT.**, at 10:42gmt.  
6285kHz...**RADIO POGO 104**, at 10:25gmt.  
6285kHz...**S.B.C.**, at 12:01gmt.  
6300kHz...**RADIO ORION**, at 09:16gmt.  
6305kHz...**BRITAIN RADIO INT.**, at 08:54gmt.  
6315kHz...**RADIO NEW WAVE**, at 08:24gmt.  
6315kHz...**STARFLEET RADIO INT.**, at 08:44gmt.  
6315kHz...**RAINBOW RADIO GERMANY**, at 10:06gmt.  
6315kHz...**RADIO RIDICULOUS**, at 10:55gmt.  
6815kHz...**RADIO EAST COAST COMM.**, at 10:00gmt.  
6815kHz...**RADIO PAMELA**, at 10:15gmt.  
6910kHz...**RADIO DUBLIN INT.**, at 08:36gmt.  
7310kHz...**RADIO MIRAGE INT.**, at 08:37gmt.  
7375kHz...**RADIO LUCE**, at 08:28gmt.  
7375kHz...**FALCON RADIO**, at 10:15gmt.  
7434kHz...**RADIO STELLA INT.**, at 10:37gmt.  
7446kHz...**GUERNSEY SOUND**, at 08:39gmt.

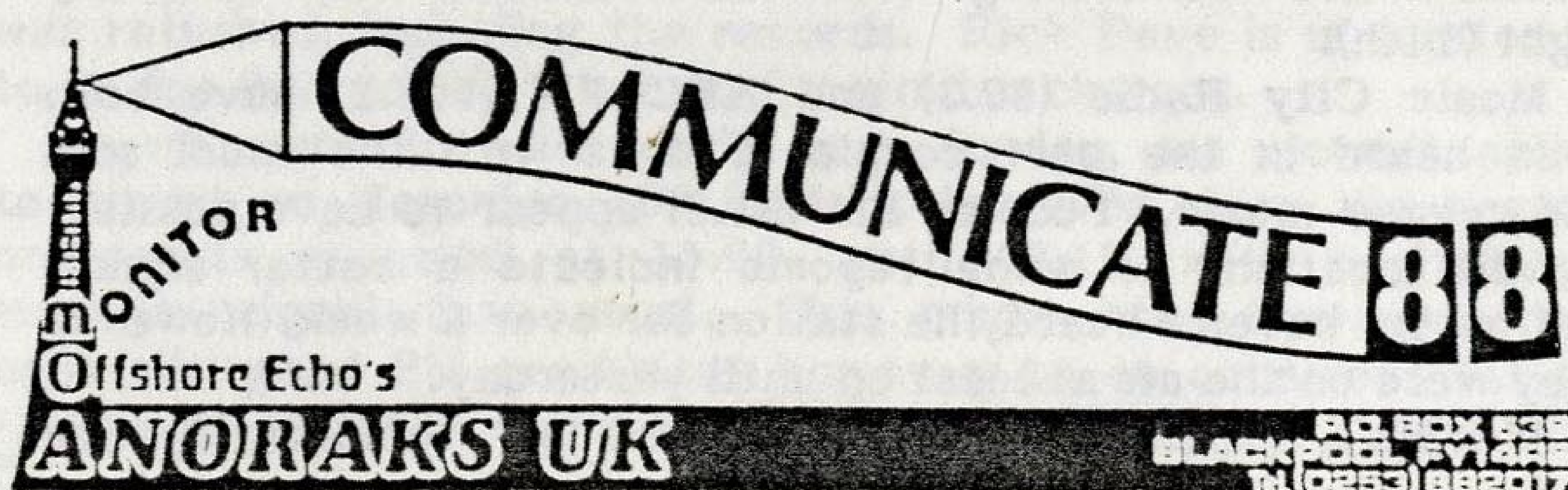
\*\*\*\*\*

Conditions today were rather good here, as can be seen by the logs in **BOLD**. The only ones we missed were Pamela, due to RECC being dominant, although we could just make them out, and the Rainbow relay plus Ridiculous ID (the latter relayed all 6315 stations), and this was due to lack of time more than anything, so, by and large, a quite good day for us. Other loggers kindly rang in and came from Cheshire, the Channel Islands, Hampshire and Surrey.

Radio East Coast Commercial and Radio Pamela were noted battling it out again, both on 6815kHz. Pogo 104 and SBC both announced that they were being relayed via Radio Mirage Int.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our thanks once again this week, for all contributions to Issue 212.





# **The WEEKLY**

## **REPORT**

### **ANORAKS**

#### **The First with the News in Print**

No. 213.....29th May 1988.

P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

Surprise! Surprise! But not at all unexpected, was the very quiet way in which during a cabinet meeting a couple of weeks ago, it was apparently decided to drop the idea, for the time being at least, of the introduction of a large number of community radio stations. This latest in a series of 'cons' by successive governments, is due apparently, to other bills in the coming Parliament being classed as 'more important', and thus no Parliamentary time is available at present, for the radio bill. Whilst we hoped that such a bill would be passed, it seemed a rather grandiose plan to put on the air 300+ radio stations, considering the experiment of 21 stations promised 4 years ago, was also cancelled due to a host of other excuses. Pressure from ILR stations cannot have helped the proposed bill either, as they saw their monopolies being threatened. As with the previously cancelled 'experiment', there will be many bitter broadcasters, who once again have put a great deal of money, time, and effort into planning their own particular venture, only to be let down a further time. We wonder how many more times this will happen. Each time it does however, it will give these ventures more reasons why they should just go on the air anyway, as it seems breaking the outdated law is the only way to make the authorities know of their disgust.

As well as in the U.K, it seems as though it is swings and roundabouts also, with the Irish radio bill. After thinking that the stations had another year to go, following recent comments by the Communications Minister, the past week's papers in Eire have been filled with articles stating that this is definately the end. The regulation of the new stations will now be by an independent authority, and not by the minister himself. In a statement issued on 23rd May, Ray Burke was hopeful that the amended legislation, which now includes TV as well as radio, would become law before the summer recess. He stated that as soon as the new radio stations were ready, the 'pirates' would be put off the air. A bill to set up the 'watchdog committee' is due before the Dail this coming week, and so we wait with baited breath, the outcome.

Finally in our opening this week, we were informed of a programme called 'Spotlight' which was to be aired on BBC 1 television on Thursday 26th May. This was to feature the 'border blasters' KISS FM, Boyneside Radio etc. Unfortunately this was not aired in our area, nevertheless, we would love to see a copy of it. If anyone made a recording they could perhaps loan to us, or even dub onto a VHS video-cassette, please let us know. We will refund all costs.

**WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS** is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday afternoon, from Blackpool. The 20p news-sheet is available on subscription at the following weekly rates..... posted first class within the U.K, and to all E.E.C. countries including Eire, 40p..... posted at second class rate (U.K. only), 35p..... posted at full rate to non-E.E.C. countries, including Sweden, Finland and Norway, 45p..... posted elsewhere, by air mail, 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish at the above appropriate rate.

**ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT.** A full page is just £20.00, half is £11.00 and a quarter, £6.00. Copies of the advert to be sent with the darkest print possible on whitish paper, along with the remittance

**THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE.** Call this number anytime, Sheerness (0795) 511118, and hear all the latest. News for us is best written in, but calls will be welcome on Blackpool (0253) 882017, or on our Ansa-phone service on Sheerness (0795) 511119, if the former gets no answer. If there is radio activity in your area (not the nuclear sort, of course!), and we are not reporting on it, let us know right away, please.

**THE DATA PROTECTION ACT of 1984** makes it necessary to tell you that all names and addresses are stored on computer for ease of access and to enable the addressing of envelopes to be carried out at high speed only. You can request removal of your details and we will oblige but cannot guarantee our rapid 'return of post' service in this case.

**"COMMUNICATE '88"** (spelt correctly this week, after a most unfortunate spelling error in 211) will take place in Blackpool on 24th September 1988, from 11:00 till 23:00. All types of radio are going to get coverage, offshore, land-based, Irish, short wave, satellite etc. Further details will be forthcoming very soon. Accomodation in the town, during the famous 'Illuminations' period will be hard to find later. Ring this number now and speak to the Hotel and Guesthouse Association, who will gladly assist.... (0253) 21891. Keep your suggestions coming in as to what you want to hear and see, we are taking note of all your comments.

**NEW MERCHANDISE.** Orders are now being accepted for Offshore Echo's, Issue 71. The magazine is due here from the printers in France, in a couple of days (post permitting, of course) and will be despatched immediately on receipt. Send £1.90 now for your copy of Europe's leading free radio magazine..... The double jingle album 'Disco Queen', containing more than 200 well known, favourite jingles from the offshore stations and more, is selling rather well. We did however, make a slight mistake when we said that we were now offering it on the French A.M.G. label, due to it being in a superb picture sleeve, showing the Mebo II. The A.M.G. label is actually Belgian and comes from a small company situated on the 'language border' of that country, hence us thinking it was French. The cost of this fine album, well worth investing in, is £12.00 and it is despatched from Belgium, so allow 21 days for delivery (often much less though).... Please note that **Alfasound Jingles Volumes 2 and 3** are now no longer available in L.P. format. A letter from the firm tells us that they have no more plans to repress the L.P.'s, but they will continue to be available in cassette format. We still have copies of the L.P. version of **Alfasound Jingles Volume 1**, priced at £7.99.

**NEW ARRIVALS.** Two envelopes from Italy arrived and contained **Play-DX, Issues 507 and 508.** In each case, 6 x A4 sides of long distance logs and international news, mostly in English, but some Italian and Spanish also. Details

from Dario Monferini, via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy..... **Freewave, Issue 162.** The latest from Hans Knot and Co. in Holland has 24 x A5 pages of news and radio information covering satellite, offshore and general European. All in the Dutch language. Details from Hans Knot, Postbus 102, 9700 AC Groningen, Holland..... **'Radio is my Hobby' from The Opportunity Press.** This one is a mystery, as there is no name, address, or anything to associate it with any group. The title is a take-off of 'Radio is my Bomb', and the 7 x A4 loose leaf pages can be vaguely described as 'a D.I.Y. manual for Anoraks'. It tells simply, how to go about making your debut on the air, via the pirate airwaves. It is simple but interesting, but you can't send for a copy, so if you want to get to see it, send us 60p and we will photo-copy and send it to you, unless, of course, the author lets us know beforehand and we can forward the funds on to him..... a Friday arrival for **Now Radio, Issue 58.** 24 x A5 pages of news and information from right across the radio spectrum, including details and comments on the delay in the proposed U.K. 'radio broadcasting bill'. Details from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... Finally this week, the regular shortwave newsheet **Radiotelex** arrived on time as usual, this being Issue 125. All the stations heard between 30th April and 23rd May are listed in its 4, A5 pages. There is also the latest news on the shortwave scene, as well as in this issue, an extra 4 page booklet listing addresses



of most of the shortwave stations. For more details on this shortwave publication write to R.T., c/o P.O. Box 10 37 71, D-2800 Bremen 1, West Germany.

**TAPE OFFERS.** Back to London this week, starting with Tape 202, and one of the stations which does not seem to get as much DTI attention as the others, namely **Traffic Jam Radio**. This recording in FM mono, from 10th May, features a fast moving breakfast show, complete with plenty of reggae and soul. Certainly a bit more interesting than some of the other programmes on London's airwaves. Our next stop is Dublin and for Tape 203 and another chance to listen to **Q 102** the day prior to their format change. This time we feature the excellent Jason Maine, who has been presenting programmes on Dublin's alternative airwaves since the late 1970's. Recorded in excellent FM stereo on 17th May, the programme also includes some promotions for the forthcoming format change. Tapes 202 and 203 are both 90 minutes in length and cost £2.00 each. Finally this week, we offer a double C-90 pack featuring the final programmes broadcast by **RBL International** on 16th May. The last part of the recording, which is in FM mono, also has many of the adverts and promotions which were used on the station over its several years of broadcasting via the transmitters of R.B.L., in France. The last hour is one for the 'anoraks' and includes a telephone calls with many of the former presenters, including one with Caroline (and R.B.L.) deejay, Paul Graham, who couldn't be there for the final broadcast. This twin pack, Tape No. 204A/B costs just £3.00 including postage and packing.

**P.O. BOX FOR HIRE.** If you run a free radio station and if you are looking for an address in West Germany, don't hesitate to write to us. We will send you further details then. Write to Radiotelex, P.O. Box 103771, 2800 Bremen 1, Federal Republic of Germany.

**WANTED.** Marco Salvi has dystrophic problems. He is a DX-er and his hobby, besides listening, is collecting stickers of radio and TV stations of the world. He needs the help of fellow DX-ers/ listeners. So, if you collect stickers and have surplus ones to simply send him, or trade, write (in English, French, Spanish or Italian) to Mr. Marco Salvi, via Romagna 9/A, Abbadia, 53034 Colle Val D'Elsa (Siena), Italy.

**WANTED. MEDIUM WAVE NEWS** are currently compiling an up to date resume of the best programmes on BBC local radio stations, along with their current schedules, which will make for easier identification for DX-ers. It would be of great assistance to them, if someone could supply the 'Local Radio' pages from their own region's Radio Times (we have supplied the North West edition). The cost of postage will be refunded. Please write to : Steve Whitt, 21 Cauldwell Avenue, Ipswich IP4 4EB.

**GENERAL.** We must apologise for our inability to receive certain stations at our QTH at the moment. Due to severe problems with a neighbour, the local planning authority and others, we find ourselves with no FM, no SW and no elaborate MW aerials at this time. All we can boast is a large satellite dish ( hence the extensive Nova report and all the problems), although this is hanging on by 'a wing and a prayer'. We sincerely hope to restore full facilities very shortly.

**RADIO STATION NEWS : IRELAND.** As mentioned in our opening paragraph this week, another attempt at passing legislation in the Irish Republic, to outlaw the 'radio pirates' is currently occurring. We await further reports on a Dail sitting this coming week which will apparently pass a bill to bring in a 'regulating authority' to oversee the setting up and running of the stations. If this goes through, then things don't look too good for the summer months.

**Co. DUBLIN.** With Gareth O'Callaghan having two weeks holiday for his wedding and honeymoon, Scott Williams returned to host the breakfast show on the newly formatted **Super Q-102 FM**. Also back up in the helicopter was Mike Hogan, although last Friday was expected to be the final 'Star in the Sky', as the contract has not been renewed. Missing was Martin Block, who had been reading the news and other snippets during Gareth's final programmes as a single man, last week. Actually, the wedding was last Wednesday afternoon, and not the previous weekend as we had thought, still, either way, we send the lucky pair everyone's best wishes. It was nice to hear Jason Maine back in a daytime slot (10:00), even if it is only for two weeks. Both Scott and Jason sounded very well by Tuesday, with lots of chat in a high speed, non stop music format. Sadly missing were the jingles, of course, and the on hour

ID's. The latter were replaced by spoken ID's at about 4/6 minutes past each hour, occasionally nearer, which seems an extremely strange thing to do, but not for the first time, we might add. The same P.D., whilst at **Sunshine 101**, last year, put their on-hour news back to about six minutes past each hour, something they still adhere to today, although the news service there now, is much curtailed from what it was then. The 'Star in the Sky' on Friday morning, rumoured to be the last one (in the present series?) was manned by Mark Lawler, and on the last 'link' we heard, Mark said he wouldn't be doing it again.

'The Big Kahuna 88' is back at **Sunshine 101**. Sponsored this time by the popular drink firm, Malibu (last year it was sponsored by M & M's, the confectionery firm), auditions start shortly, we are informed on air. 'Goodies' valued at around IR£50,000 are up for grabs, in Dublin's biggest ever giveaway. As last year, local firms are offering quite significant prizes to the winner of this, basically a D.J. competition, in return for constant promos featuring said 'generous' firms. The current line-up on the station reads... 00:00 'Roxy and Steve'... 06:00 'Nails' Mahoney (with Justin McKenna on news and inserts)... 10:00 Dusty Rhodes... 13:00 Jim 'Bob' McGinty... 17:00 Mark Byrne... 20:00 David Denehey.



## TREBLE T.R. RADIO

9 Harolds Cross Road, Dublin 6.  
Telephone 960340/966484

891 & 945 KHz AM 99.1 & 99.5 FM - STEREO

Superb AM conditions have prevailed on some days this week, which is just as well, as we are still without our FM aerial, due to bad weather holding us up with our modifications. Most Dublin stations have been loud and clear, and **Treble T.R. Radio** was one we tuned into, from time to time. The signal on 891kHz. was excellent for the low power put out, despite strong neighbours locally to us. The same cannot be said for 945kHz., however, which was virtually inaudible and being swamped here by the Yorkshire ILR station on the same channel. Late afternoon listening was most pleasant and a good selection of Irish and country music was noted, along with one or two classic oldies (Nights in White Satin, being one such example). Adverts were plentiful as is normal on TTTR, mostly of a local nature. News bulletins were read by ex Nova and Kiss FM (Dublin) news-reader, Irish American, Siobhan Purcell and were noted at odd times here also. Twenty to and twenty past the hour, although the morning ones, read by American colleague, Bob Gallico, are read conventionally on the hour and half hour. Requests were asked for on Dublin (01) 966484. **Treble T.R. Radio**, 6 Harold's Cross Road, Dublin 6.

**Co. LOUTH.** **Telstar Community Radio** have re-introduced their 1170kHz. transmitter to serve an area south of Dundalk. The site is believed to be around Castlebellingham, about half way to Drogheda. The signal here in Blackpool is not too good due to local ILR activity on the same frequency. Telstar made on outside broadcast in the town on Saturday, the same day as RTE were also coming from Dundalk. Severe problems were noted in the town, on the FM band, with nothing audible but RTE in certain places close to the RTE transmitter.

**Co. KILDARE.** Reports tell us that K.C.R. (Kildare Community Radio) have finally called it a day and all transmissions on 1413kHz. have now ceased. Lack of presenters and general enthusiasm were the main reasons, we understand. Things aren't much better at K.L.B. (1224kHz. and 103.5MHz.FM) in Newbridge, where the merger between themselves and Zee 100 fell through, leaving KLB just carrying on as before. The station (KLB) is still on the market, we understand and as far as we know, no buyers have yet been found.

**Co. WESTMEATH.** It appears that, following indications from station owner, Sean Coyne, the free radio show each Sunday morning on **Radio West** is no more. Pressure of business by Sean is reported to be the main reason for its disappearance, with lack of assistance being offered by other interested parties locally being another. The programme which was very popular and had been running for two years, was started initially by Philip Hilton.



## "BOB'S COMEDY HANDBOOK"

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### LAND-BASED STATIONS : U.K.

#### LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

20th - 23rd May 1988.

This weekend, touched down on 34 stations, 6 in stereo.

Missing / not heard :- Faze 1, City Radio, T.K.O., W.N.K., Stomp FM, Hits FM (new), Hits FM (old) and London Irish Community Radio.

Soul FM, last heard on 91'ish, a week or two back, have re-emerged on 96.85MHz., with a signal that at last does them justice. WLIB (91.0) now have the spot to themselves, albeit shipping a lot of sidesplash from Southall's wandering SRI (now up to 90.95). Soul have moved up to what is fast becoming yet another crowded sector. On 95.5 are recently resurfaced **Strong Island**, and splashing over both, is the recently arrived funk and soul station simply ID'ing as **96.9**, although a whispered drop-in did sound as though they were saying Quest FM. We shall have to wait and see, as they went out Sunday after being on for just over a week. Also going out Sunday were **Studio FM** (92.7) and **KISS FM** (93.95 - stereo). **TKO** (102.3 - stereo) went out Friday, and it isn't known when **City Radio** (94.45 - stereo) got theirs. **KISS FM** (93.95 - stereo) missed their usual early start, and were not heard until well into Saturday, only to go missing again on Sunday. Neither of the **Hits FM** (old 105.5 or new 103.05) were heard, and in fact the silence in the sector over 105 was only broken by soul weekenders **PCR** (105.25 - stereo)

Also getting mighty crowded, is the 88.7 sector, where another daytime Asian has settled, on 88.65, featuring mainly Bhangra disco music, as opposed to the normally heard traditional and film music. Powerful Saturday rockers **London Rock** are on 88.70, with a strong clean signal, taking them clear across London. And, East London soulsters **Sunrise FM** are on 88.80. The unidentified Asian on 92.75 was heard again on Friday, barely breaking in the side of North London long weekenders **Studio FM** (92.75). **SRI** (90.95) have upped their power this week, and wandered up band slightly from 90.85. This means they now obliterate low power **WLIB** (91.00) who can only be heard when **SRI** are closed down for the night. Daytime Asian **Brittania Radio** (95.4) were missing Friday, but made it back with full power for Saturday.

Yet another Asian signal was detected behind **R-t-R** (90.35) on 90.45 on Friday, but not heard since.

After living in the washover from London Irish Community Radio (89.5'ish - will they come back?), Deptford's **Groove Weekend Radio** (89.65) are now being submerged in the quite considerable stereo splashover from the Arab (89.7 - stereo). They aim to cover only SE London, so they are not greatly inconvenienced. But when the sector is clear, they can be heard loud and clear across most of London.

The Arabs (89.7 - stereo) are evidently getting advertising of a better class than normally heard on 'Privateer Radio', as amongst all the verbiage, which was presumed to be advertising, a number of Mayfair addresses were deciphered.

**Solar 93** (93.00 - stereo) made the weekend, but were off-air overnight Saturday. Watford weekenders **Playback FM** (93.25) could be heard Friday and Saturday, but were obliterated by Sunday's **Starpoint** (93.25 - stereo). It may have been Starpoint testing on Saturday evening when a very poor quality signal of the Doors greatest hits was heard on 93.30MHz. This abruptly cut off just after 8:15pm. Transmissions resumed in this slot in the early hours of the following morning, with a powerful but distorted signal containing a very loud hum on the left channel. Things had been sorted out by the evening, to give a relatively clean signal.

**LWR** (92.05) had a tx back on line by Friday, but presumably no studio, as they carried a relay of **Solar 93's** output, until **Solar** went off-air on Saturday night, to leave just a blank and noisy carrier on 92.05. **LWR** then got their act together and by just after 8pm on Sunday evening, the familiar sounds of a studio being put together live on air, were heard. An hour or two later, programming had begun in earnest.

In the stereo stakes, the only current 7 dayers are **JBC** (104.3), and the Arab (89.7). **LIC-R**, **City Radio**, and **TKO** are off the air for the moment, and **LWR** have just lost a stereo rig and have returned in mono. That leaves weekenders **Solar 93** (93.00 - stereo), **Starpoint** (93.25 - stereo), **KISS FM** (93.95 - stereo) and **Peoples Choice Radio** (105.25 - stereo) as the remaining stereo contenders. **Sky** (91.7), **Super Fresh** (103.35), and **Time Radio** (103.75) seem to have abandoned any stereo pretensions entirely.

More from Sid next week, about the ever expanding radio scene in the capital. Now that the proposed 'radio bill' has been cancelled for the time being, we will no doubt see even more stations attempting to gain access to the airwaves in sheer desperation at the ludicrous situation. It would seem that organisations might as well transmit, as they have nothing to lose as far as obtaining a license to broadcast is concerned. At the rate things are going we will be into the next century before the radio bands reach their full potential. We wonder when the next episode in the farcical story of the introduction of 'community radio' to Britain, will be announced! Watch this section next week, for a newspaper editorial summing up the knowledge of broadcasting of our Home Secretary. This follows an amusing incident in the House of Commons recently.

**BRISTOL.** A very quiet week in this area, with neither Emergency Radio, nor B.A.D. Radio being monitored. **Radio F.T.P.** (103.6) however were on the air each day, from 17:00, although they now appear to sometimes extend their schedule and begin broadcasts at lunchtime, if deejays are available. Last time we mentioned that **Radio For The People** did not take advertising. However this week a commercial has indeed been heard for a video shop, sports shop and a gym all under one roof. On 21st May the station had a trip to Barry Island pleasure park, with the Playboy and Enterprise Crews expected to have been present.

**THE MIDLANDS.** We missed out this area last week, so here is a summary of the stations monitored over the past two weeks. **Midland Asian Community Radio** were heard every night from 13th to 16th May on 106MHz. These transmissions were not regular, and so were possibly just tests once more. An address of P.O. Box 1144, Camphill, Birmingham B11 4NA was announced. They were again monitored each night on 18th, 19th and 20th May. Another unidentified Asian station, possible A.C.R. was logged on 21st May on 106.35MHz. **Powerhouse Radio** (105.0) was heard every evening with comedy sketches as well as the regular programmes of music. Two stations are currently operating on 95.0MHz. These are **Electro Radio** who have been on regularly each evening for the past few months, and who were recently joined by **Fresh 95 FM** with a format of hip-hop. The new station, **Fresh FM**, appear to be running a




full weekend schedule, although had disappeared by Sunday evening (22nd). When both stations are operating, reception is sometimes difficult in certain areas of the city.

**Solar Rock** (90.9) was not heard over the weekend of 13th - 15th May, and in fact nothing had been heard on this channel since 12th May. When the station did reappear on Friday 20th May, it was opened by Mikey B of Enterprise FM, who stated that Solar Rock was not on the previous weekend due to technical problems. By 22:50 that evening, Solar Rock had again disappeared, but Enterprise FM were broadcasting as normal on 91.9MHz. The West Midlands Music Network consisting of Enterprise and Solar Rock, were recently advertising for a 'sales person' to sell airtime on the two stations. Generous commission was said to be given, as well as a car provided for travelling between prospective businesses.


One of the longest running stations outside London celebrated its 3rd Birthday on 24th May. **Radio P.C.R.L.** (103.75) has managed to continue a 7 day schedule throughout most of this period, despite dozens of raids by the DTI, and bad publicity by the authorities. The station currently is reported to have very good audio, with none of the distortion which sometimes plagued the broadcasts in the past. Plenty of adverts for the birthday party were aired on P.C.R.L., as well as 'flyposters' being seen in Birmingham advertising the event. The party at the Hummingbird was very successful, and was packed with people. There were several big names there, including Smiley Culture and Total Contrast. At 02:30 the party was closed earlier than expected as the manager of the club announced that the police were waiting outside.

if rumours we hear are true. If this new station begins operation at the weekend, then it could cause problems for **Radio Radar** who were expected to broadcast another Bank Holiday Monday special, on 105.5MHz. Radio Radar would then be jammed between ABC and the newcomer. **ABC FM** (105.2) have been running a seven day schedule this week, although blank carriers have been heard at times. **Peoples FM** (91.8) were monitored during weekday evenings, and are expected on with a full weekend schedule. Information received from **Music City Radio** (90.3) tells us that the station were raided approximately five weeks ago, after which they were off the air briefly. Since then, they have successfully broadcast each Friday to Monday with reggae, soul and community news, to the city of Leeds. Their strong signal can regularly be heard as far south as Rotherham. This week, due to the Bank Holiday weekend, they are extending the schedule to include all day Monday and Tuesday.

Across in Hull, we hear that **Radio Takoradi** (105.0) are once again on the air, and apparently taking a few more precautions with their location this time around. They are attempting to gain advertisers, and the front page of their leaflet is printed below. Broadcasts are from 10:00 on Saturday mornings, through until late in the evenings. As yet we have no reports as to the programme content of the relaunched station.



**SSH! Don't tell Sid!!**



**THE MAKING OF HISTORY**

**It's here at last!**

\* LOTS OF GIVEAWAYS!

**P.C.R.L.**

\* BIG PRIZE RAFFLES

Radio

proudly presents their

**3rd Birthday Party**

\* 8 till later (than usual)

\* Tickets £5

on

**SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1988**

at the luxurious HUMMINGBIRD, Dale End

A host of top Soul/Reggae Celebrities: ★ ERIC DONALDSON from JA ★ SMILEY CULTURE ★ ANN & SONIA ★ TOTAL CONTRAST ★ TONGUE-IN-CHEEK ★ MACABE ★ PETER CULTURE ★ AYISA ★ TREVOR HARTLEY ★ TEX JOHNSON ★ PETER HUNNIGALE ★ SKIBBU

★ Music by P.C.R.L. DJ's ★

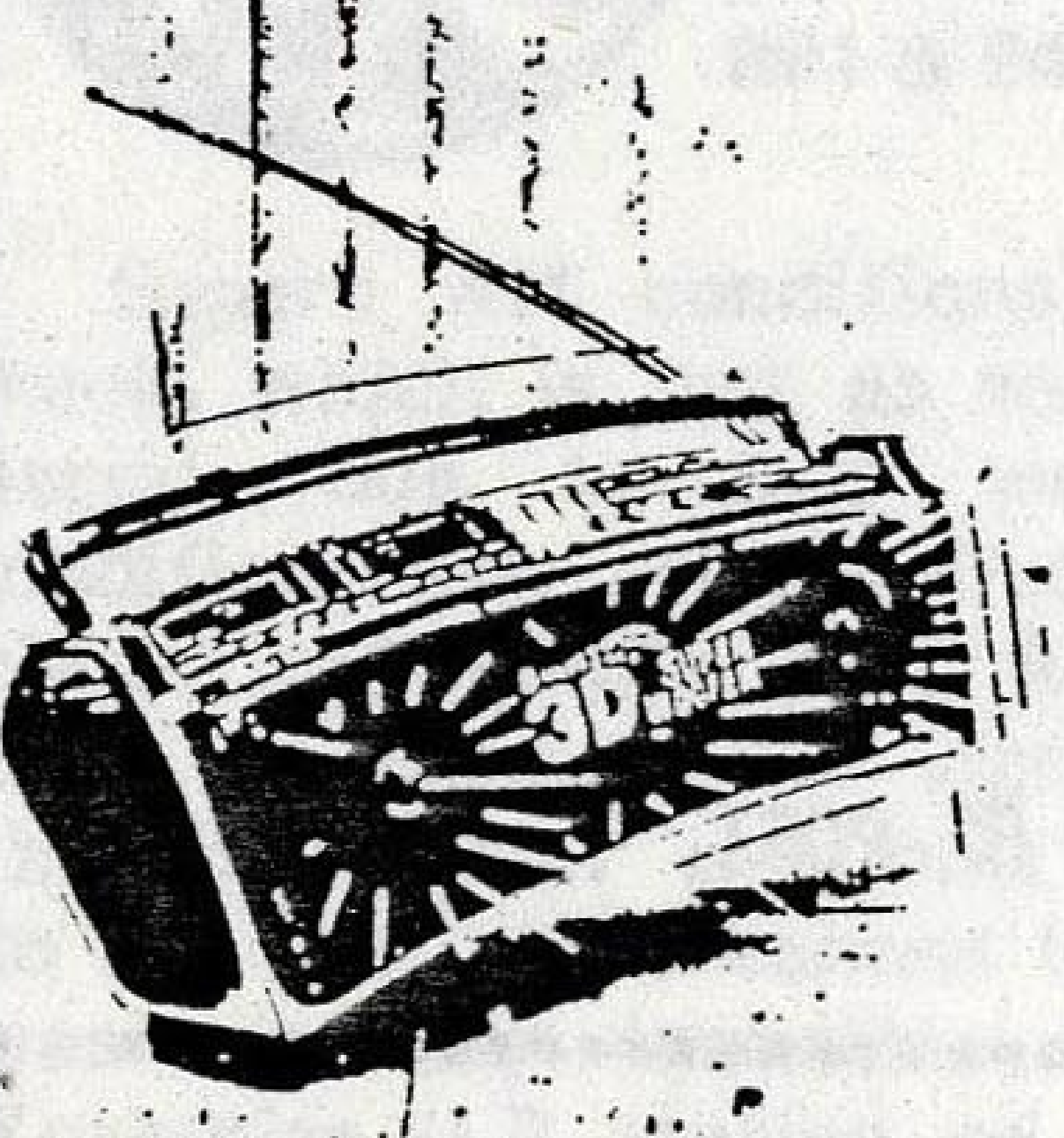
Don't let your friends tell you about it just BE THERE!

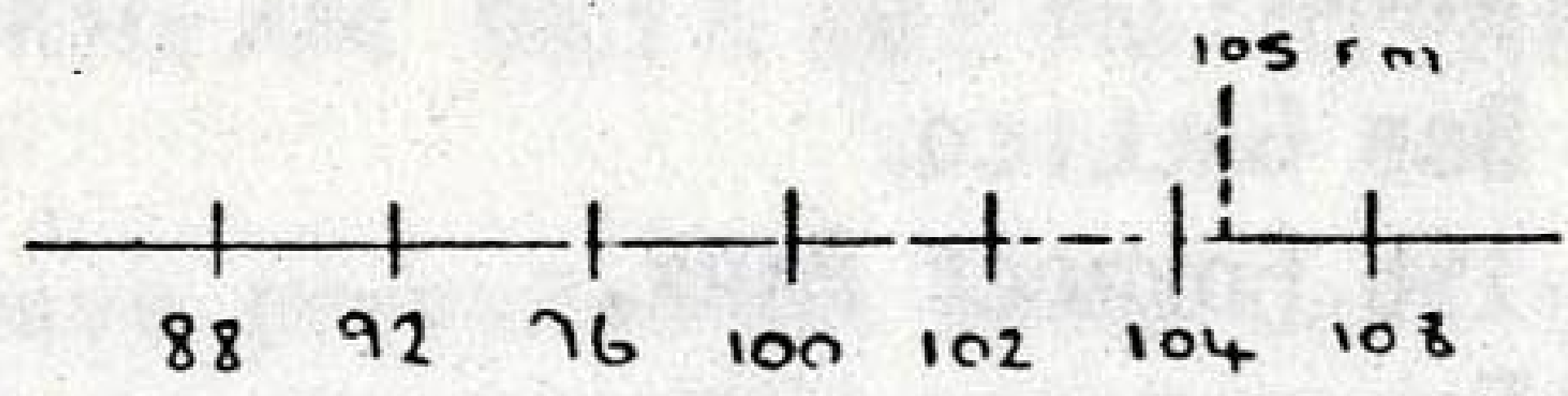
Bring your whistles, bring yourselves and join in the party!

P.S. It's not Tropical, It's crucial.

# RADIO TAKORADI

## HULLS RADIO STATION:-






88 92 96 100 102 104 108

FM - BAND VHF

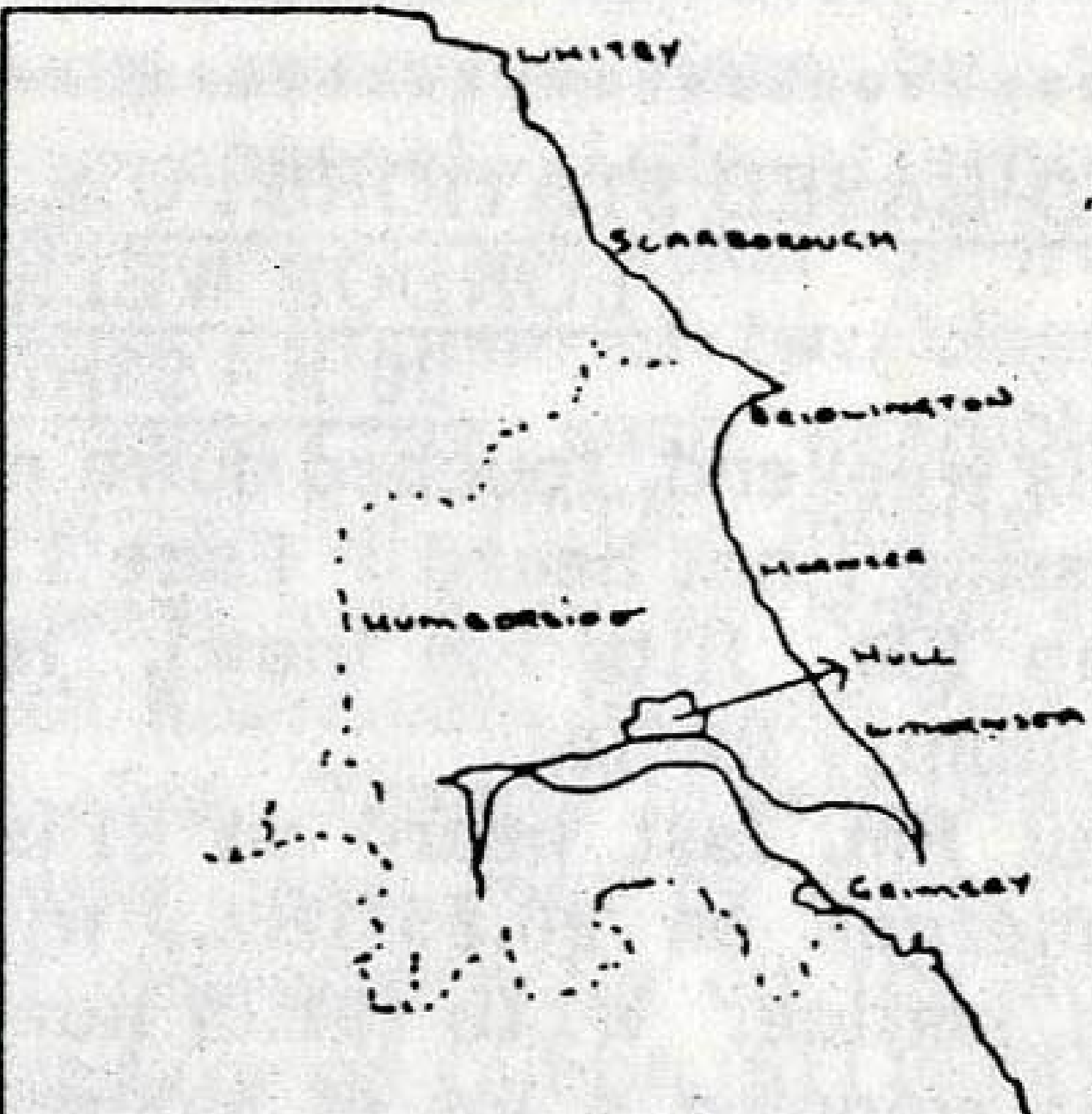
**SATURDAYS ONLY:-**


**WHERE TO FIND US:-**

**ADVERTISING INFO:-**



**RADIO TAKORADI**





**MERSEYSIDE.** Listening to **North Coast Radio** (1350kHz.) last Sunday afternoon, Mark Wright gave mention of broadcasting from a boat in the Mersey! We think that this was probably a little 'tongue in cheek', as different studios on the 'port' and 'starboard' side were said to be in use. It certainly made interesting listening though. One listener heard them say they were broadcasting from the bar, but on checking with us, we pointed out that we thought it may have been meant to mean an area of the bay called the Barr? Their signal continued to be very good throughout that afternoon, and was even audible here in the evening, despite the powerful French station on the same channel. There was a low frequency hum however as darkness approached. North Coast Radio is understood to be owned by Bob Kimusavi (correct spelling?), and engineered by Martin C. of Phoenix Radio, who made test transmissions a few weeks ago, and are understood to be possibly going to merge with N.C.R. to form one big station. The signal strength

**YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE & DERBYSHIRE.** As we were printing last Sunday evening, **Thunder Radio** (104.8) were heard with their regular Sunday evening broadcast just South of Leeds. Later on in their broadcast, another transmitter was switched on the slightly higher frequency on 104.9MHz., and relayed BBC Radio 1 as well as other stations, as the operator tuned up and down the band. No formal identification was heard. The regular three reggae/soul music stations, **Music City Radio** (90.3), **Peoples FM** (91.8) and **ABC FM** (105.2) may soon be joined by a fourth one on 105.8MHz.,



from N.C.R., just has the edge on Radio Merseywaves at this present time, but both are very powerful for this type of operation.

Although not heard by us due to lack of aerials, **Veronica 104** (104.7) were on the air on Sunday (22nd), with a strong signal heard as far away as Manchester. They were announcing an extended weekend broadcast in two weeks, and programmes would run on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Whether this meant the Bank Holiday weekend we are not quite sure. Monday (23rd), saw **Radio Merseywaves** (1242kHz.) on the air as usual, and heavily advertising (as they had all weekend), the big night out that evening, at Birkenhead Pleasuredome. All the Merseywaves deejays were expected to be attending and according to announcements, each will do a short spot live. The deejays and all the 'behind the scenes' staff will all be introduced to the audience at one stage during the evening. The station left the air at around 19:00, and although we just missed it going off, we presume it was so that all the staff could get themselves down to the Pleasuredome for a good night out.

**Radio Atlantis** (1197kHz.) was also on the air all day Monday, and Rick Dane now seems to be manning the station by himself, as he was heard both in the morning and at closedown time of 18:00. There are still plenty of adverts being broadcast by Atlantis, which we believe is unique for stations on Merseyside.

Thursday (26th) saw **Radio Merseywaves** back on for their regular weekend schedule. There had been a few announcements last week mentioning that they might drop this day, but obviously enough staff are still available to keep Thursday's going. The station has been monitored regularly since this time, and they gave plenty of mentions to the night out at the Pleasuredome. Occasional breaks in programming were noted on Saturday.

Rick Dane was again heard manning **Radio Atlantis** (1197) beginning on Friday morning. Transmissions were also noted on Saturday and this morning up until time of writing.

**North Coast Radio** (1350) were not monitored this morning at time of writing, but perhaps they are intending to operate on Bank Holiday Monday instead. As mentioned earlier, we have not been able to monitor FM this week, but we believe that **Radio Julie** (104.8) have been on the air as normal. When on high power they could be received here in Blackpool without an external aerial, but at present, we can note a station there, but it is not strong enough to identify.

**Chester Community Radio** were expected on the air this evening on 105.00MHz. We hope to confirm the FM logs in next week's report.

**NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.** **Newcastle Broadcasting Company (N.B.C.)** were on the air again last Saturday (21st May) on 102.2MHz., but with a very distorted signal by all accounts. They continued broadcasting until early on Sunday morning. The distortion had reduced somewhat by Sunday. An address has been mentioned, but only occasionally, of P.O. Box 1XN, Newcastle NE99 1XN.

**MANCHESTER.** The two main stations in the city have operated as normal this week. **WBSL** (102.4) and **Laser 10-35** (103.5) both serve the black community with reggae and soul music along with community news. **The Illegal Broadcasting Company** (104.4) was monitored last Sunday afternoon on the usual frequency of 104.4MHz.

A little further south, **Outlook 96.3** (96.35MHz.) made its regular Sunday evening transmissions on 22nd May, but was not monitored on Monday night. The usual switch on time for this religious broadcaster is around 20:00 on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

**ESSEX.** **Stomp FM** (105.4) were noted back on the air last weekend, but only with a Saturday schedule. They were putting out a strong signal with the usual disco and soul music.

#### **SATELLITE LINK BROADCASTING.**

##### **RADIO NOVA INTERNATIONAL.**

This station is hypnotic, get a satellite dish at once! The programmes, listened to extensively on Tuesday, were excellent, well produced and fast moving. The line-up on this day could best be described as 'interesting'.... 07:00 Paul Burnett... 10:00 Chris Cary... 13:00 Declan Meehan... 15:00 Tony Blackburn... 16:00 Greg Edwards... 19:00 Liam Quigley... 22:00 Mark Walker... 02:00 Pete Simester. Requests and calls were invited to be made on (0276) 692040. Independent Radio News is relayed on the hour and is, on all occasions, superbly slotted in, making it hard for people outside the LBC area, to determine whether it is Nova or

LBC produced. Numerous adverts are noted and include Teledisc, Premier Film Channel and Sunday World, in addition to Comp Shop and Hi-Tech (subsidiary companies) and in-house ones. Jingles and promos feature strongly, the former incorporating many of the original ones adapted for satellite use, plus scores of new ones also. Bill Mitchell features strongly and his 'Nova, playing all over Europe now' could only have been bettered by Tony Allan. Mention was made by Chris Cary that Declan's appearance at 13:00 was his first on Radio Nova for three years. Chris also mentioned that the reason he was on air was because Paul Burnett was off making that pirate radio film we mentioned a couple of weeks ago. On Wednesday evening, we tuned in fairly late to hear Howard Pearce with the new 'Nova Night Network' and an excellent show featuring so many classics, it prevented 'an early night!' The only trouble with the station is the fact that the satellite thing ties you to the room housing the receiver, for example you cannot go out in the car and listen to it, or even go into another room (or even to bed with headphones!). Of course, you can always record it and listen to the tapes in the car! The line-up for Wednesday featured Brian McKenzie, although it was not the ex RNI and Dublin-based Brian of Bay City Studios fame, but an American called Hank McKenzie. (The 'Brian' jingles were obviously at hand!) Tony Blackburn was only listed for one afternoon, but did in fact do one hour shows on several afternoons, which will no doubt increase, now that he has 'been told to go' by the BBC. Tony sounds fresh and bright and the change of environment/ scenery has obviously been a good move for this veteran broadcaster. Half the excitement of the station comes from wondering who is going to appear next. We are told to expect Pat Sharp and Timmy Mallett in a few days and last night, we had the pleasure to listen to the talents of the up and coming Cassidy Jones. The latter was last heard of at ILR station in Hereford and Worcester and may possibly still be there(?), doing weekends only, at Nova. A settled line-up is expected, once different people have been tried out at different times, we are told. On the subject of the hourly IRN news relay, there is a reciprocal deal here, whereby Nova gets IRN news via land-line, and in return, IRN news is heard hourly throughout Europe. Regarding 'oldies', we understand the station has purchased a complete library on CD, from 21st Century in America and these are expected to air shortly.

Finally in this section, if anyone would like details of satellite receiving equipment (dishes, receivers, etc.), drop us a line and we will forward your name to Hi-Tech. In the cost stakes here, we are talking about a figure somewhere between £400 and £999 for a complete system, depending on whereabouts in the country you live (cheaper if you live in the main 'footprint' area, in the south of the U.K.).

#### **OFFSHORE STATIONS.**

**RADIO CAROLINE.** The station continued on Monday, with the lineup as we left it last week. We were expecting it to change at any time, as Erwin would obviously be required to help with the start of the Dutch service on the then testing 819kHz. However it was not Erwin's programmes which were to disappear, as we found on Thursday. The line-up until Tuesday was... 05:00 Keith Francis... 09:00 Steve Conway... 12:00 Erwin van der Bleeck... 16:00 Steve Masters... 20:00 John Bibby... 21:00 'Cuddle up with Caroline' with Mike Williams... 01:00 Closedown. On Wednesday night we found that the one hour slot between 20:00 and 21:00 hosted by Steve Conway, as it had the same evening last week. Steve mentioned that this would be his last show for some days and he would be concentrating on the news side of the station. 24 hour operation was also being announced once more, suggesting that a crew change had taken place. Indeed, at 01:00 on Thursday morning, Dave Asher took to the airwaves, and programmed through until 05:00. We presumed that this Dave Asher was the same one as has been on the Voice of Peace for some time, but as we have yet to hear a programme ourselves, we cannot be sure. At 05:00 Keith Francis hosted the breakfast show as before, with Steve Conway on news. 09:00 brought a new name to the station, that of Rob Harrison, although his voice sounded very much like Robbie Jay who was on several months ago. Erwin was still on at 12:00, and Mike Williams at 16:00. The line-up on Friday was... 01:00 Dave Asher... 05:00 Keith Francis... 09:00 Rob Harrison... 12:00 Erwin van der Bleeck... 16:00 Mike Williams... 20:00 Rob Harrison... 21:00 Mike Williams.

Across on 819kHz., the relay of Radio Caroline continued



on Monday morning. The first reports we have of 819 being active, are on Saturday night at about 22:15, when Geoffrey from Essex checked the channel, only to find it silent. Tuning down to 558, he found that silent too, but seconds later, a voice, he thought was John Bibby, said something about a 50p in the meter. Both channels then continued in parallel. Whether 819 was active before this, is at present unknown. The signal was reported to have gradually increased from its weak start, throughout Sunday, although the transmitter was never actually switched off at any time. By Monday, it was almost as strong as 558kHz., but was preferred by most listeners due to the excellent audio quality. An announcement heard on Sunday mentioned that Radio Caroline would only be relayed on 819kHz. for a couple of days. On Tuesday morning (24th), the 819kHz. transmitter was not heard and only 558kHz. carried Radio Caroline programmes. Around lunchtime 558kHz. also went off the air for a short period. Erwin van der Bleeck came on at 12:00 as usual but went off at 12:20 after his turntables played at erratic speeds, then slowed down and finally stopped. There was then silence, apart from a jingle at 12:27 and another at 12:37, until the station returned with the 13:00 news. In all, a 40 minute break during which time, the transmitter remained switched on. Erwin apologised for the break in transmissions at 13:05, but gave no reason for it. (Thanks to Simon for the details on this one). 819kHz. was not heard again until Saturday morning (28th), when it once again was quite strong, and had excellent audio quality. Apparently the off-air period in the week was due to problems with the system, after the power was upped significantly. The Erwin van der Bleeck programme on Friday was announced as his last. Just before he left the air at 16:00, he said to the listeners that he would see them on 819. So keep tuned! The transmissions on 819kHz did not last too long however, as it left the air at 20:34 that evening. It has not been heard since.

As regards **World Mission Radio**, this outlet on 6215kHz. is on the air for 20 hours per day, from 05:00 till 01:00 British Summer Time, with ten hours of non-stop gospel music, plus the programmes of Johann Maasbach. These detail as follows.... 07:00-07:30, in Dutch... 11:00-11:30, in English... 16:00-16:30, in Dutch... 21:00-21:30, in English. In the Dutch programmes, the old times of his appearances on Viewpoint and Monique are mentioned, which means that some are old tapes. Johann Maasbach is heard on all programmes. The female voice we have noted belongs to an employee who reads information on the churches, broadcasting times and other things only. Some 'dead air' has been noted and also some slow running tapes, obviously on reel to reel and playing at the wrong speed. Something else, in the English address read out, the American P.O. Box is number 3416, yet in the Spanish, German and French promo, it is 346! We think the former is correct, however. Also, ten hours of music and two hours-of Johann only add up to 12 hours, the rest being filled in with other religious programming. Our thanks to Rudi from the Netherlands, for pointing out these things. With reference to our recent comments about HCJB, Edwin in Hampshire says.... 'the transmissions from HCJB on 6230kHz. in the early morning has nothing to do with Caroline causing interference on 6205kHz., which they used for a few weeks. 6230kHz. is a long used frequency, beamed to Central and North America between 02:00 and 07:00. HCJB seem to have vacated 6205kHz. as they have not been heard for some weeks now. They usually vacate this channel to Europe at this time of year'.

**WANTED.** Kevin would like to find out the names of Caroline and Monique presenters of the early morning shows (03:15 - 04:15), between July 1985 and April 1987, as he has many un-identified recordings from this period. If you can help please write to Kevin Brindle, 17 Heathcote Green, Chiltern Park, Blakelaw, Newcastle on Tyne NE5 3TX.

**THE VOICE OF PEACE.** Little to report this time. John MacDonald and Michael O'Sullivan are both on shore leave. This gave a line - up on 23rd May as 00:00 Steve Richards... 03:00 Richard West... 06:00 Kenny Page (now back from Scotland)... 09:00 Steve Cromby... 13:00 Martin Murphy... 14:00 Abie Nathan... 16:00 Kenny Page... 18:00 Steve Richards... 19:30 Steve Cromby... 22:00 Martin Murphy. The station is currently celebrating 15 years on the air.

## SHORT WAVE STATIONS.

Apologies to Radiotelex for no calls from us last weekend. This was due to their Whitsuntide holiday falling then (when we were supposed to call), whereas ours is, of course, this weekend (when we intended to call). Normal fortnightly log swaps will commence next Sunday (5th June), at the earlier time of 14:00BST.

On the subject of Radiotelex, this magazine/ SW news-sheet, with the additional 4 page current pirate address list makes it most comprehensive. Any SWL/ DX-er, who does not subscribe is definitely missing out. Their address can be found on the front page of this week's issue.

**Log For Sunday 29th May 1988.**

**6215kHz...WORLD MISSION RADIO, at 06:57gmt.**

**6230kHz...W.L.R., at 11:35gmt.**

**6235kHz...RADIO ORION, at 07:24gmt.**

**6240kHz...UNID., at 08:54gmt.**

**6242kHz...RADIO SKYLINE, at 09:21gmt.**

**6271kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 09:26gmt.**

**6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 09:23gmt.**

**6285kHz...RADIO APOLLO INT., at 08:53gmt.**

**6295kHz...RADIO KRISTEL INT., 08:05gmt.**

**6300kHz...EMPIRE RADIO, at 09:40gmt.**

**6310kHz...RADIO BRIGITTE, at 09:15gmt.**

**6320kHz...UNID., at 08:59gmt.**

**6870kHz...UNID., at 08:16gmt.**

**6910kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 07:26gmt.**

**7310kHz...S.B.C., at 07:27gmt.**

**7310kHz...RADIO MIRAGE INT., at 08:28gmt.**

**7375kHz...UNID.(R. Luce?), at 07:44gmt.**

**7375kHz...RADIO LIMIT INT., at 08:46gmt.**

**7375kHz...EMPIRE RADIO, at 10:09gmt.**

**7446kHz...RADIO STELLA INT., at 08:39gmt.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Conditions on the bands today were quite good, with most signals being steady all morning. Thanks to listeners in the midlands, who kindly telephoned their logs in on (0253) 882017. Stations in **bold** were monitored here in Blackpool.

Radio Orion were heard on 6235kHz. and were announcing night-time transmissions on 6400kHz., on the 46 metre band.

The 'mess' of the week was around 6240kHz., where two stations were operating about 2kHz. apart giving a rather nasty heterodyne. We identified one as Skyline, but the other seemed to be just playing continuous music.

It has been a long time since Empire Radio has been on the air, but today's broadcast was to celebrate their tenth anniversary.

The station on 6870kHz. was playing continuous music also, but then just cut off abruptly.

The two German stations on 7310kHz. were relayed via the same transmitter, which has its own 'interval signal tune' in between the programme tapes.

7375kHz. was also a bit of a mess, as it has been for several weeks. There seems to be at least two stations operating on this channel. In addition, at 10:00, the powerful 'spy numbers' station comes on the air and obliterates everything.

Amendments to last Sunday's log, from Podney R. Sixe.... additionally, Radio Rainbow Int., on 6231kHz., at 09:46gmt.

A press release from Radio East Coast Commercial, received this week, confirms that, as we thought, they are cross about Radio Pamela broadcasting bang on top of them, on 6815kHz. They (RECC) checked this area of the band, to ensure it was clear, and, convinced it was, carried out satisfactory tests. Once on the air, Pamela opened up on the same frequency. Not only can RECC not be heard satisfactorily, neither can Radio Pamela, making the whole exercise futile.

Finally this week, on the subject of QSO-ing, several correspondents this week have expressed their distaste at some of the unsavoury language used by some QSO operators. Whilst free radio means just this, it does seem rather a shame that other stations attempting to entertain, are tarred with the same brush, should any of this come to light as a result of the authorities monitoring said transmissions.

Our thanks to everyone once again for this week's contributions. We have printed slightly earlier than normal due to the holiday and have posted on the Sunday. However, the Monday (U.K.) holiday will delay the arrival of this issue, hopefully, only by a day.