

news

FIRST
-
FAST &
-
FACTUAL
-
...starts
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BREAKTHROUGH magazine

THE VOICE OF
COMMERCIAL RADIO

March 70

Number 12

1/6d (7.5p)

INTERNATIONAL EDITION

WELCOME RADIO NORTH SEA ON 186!

**SPECIAL
REPORT
STARTS p4**



**RED SANDS
RENDEZVOUS**

PAGE 12

BROADSOUND ELECTRONICS

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Whitley Bay, Northumberland, England

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All goods sold by us are fully guaranteed, and money is returnable if not satisfied.

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Breakthrough
Magazine -March 70

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Liverpool
LI2 8QX

comment

RECENTLY it was announced that the BBC had discovered a way in which it could reorganise its wavelengths, so that a few of the new local radio stations could broadcast on medium wave.

WHEN this suggestion was made some three years ago, by commercial station owners it was made clear that local radio on medium wave was impossible, because there were no wavelengths, and as for the BBC giving up some of theirs, this was just not possible.

SUDDENLY three years later (and with no commercial radio station owners around) the medium wave has been discovered as the answer to BBC local radio expansion plans.

WHAT part, one may well ask, has the Government played in this "discovery" - the answer must surely be that of the leading role. Would they have been so bold if offshore radio was still on the air around Britain?

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

1/6d plus 6d postage

FOREIGN RATES ON APPLICATION



If a red cross appears in the space above, please complete the enclosed order form and mail it to us - with payment - if you wish to receive the next issue.



NEWS

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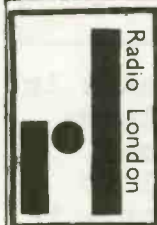
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R.N.I.

SPECIAL REPORT

RADIO North Sea International is now broadcasting daily to Britain and Europe, from a ship anchored off Holland.

BROADCASTS are mainly in English, but 5 or 6 hours a day are devoted to German language shows - with English records and jingles.

THE station can be heard on 186m (1165Kc) medium wave

49m(6.210Mc) and 31m (9Mc) short wave

102 Mc(channel 50) FM

DJs on the station at present are Roger "Twiggy" Day (senior announcer and programme director), Andy Archer, and Carl Mitchell - all ex Caroline South, Alan West (Ross Randell - ex Radio 270, Ed Moreno is also an announcer on the new station, but is not on the ship permanently. Ed is ex Radio City and Caroline South. The German DJs are Hannibal, and Horst Reiner Roger Day, Andy Archer and Alan West all face prosecution under the Marine Broadcasting (Offences) Act 1967, if they return to England.

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NEWS

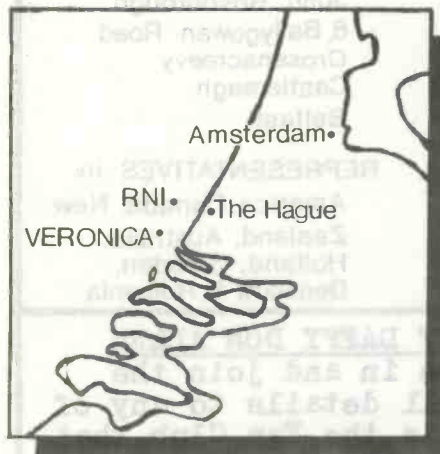
THE SHIP

THE SHIP used by RNI is the 670 ton MV **MEBO II**, anchored 5 miles off the Dutch coast, and about five miles from veteran offshore station Radio Veronica.

The Mebo II is a vivid sight, riding the waves of the North Sea - the sides of the ship are painted in multi colours and the interior has been completely

re fitted and re equipped. Studios are on the lower deck, with living accommodation immediately above, the ship's kitchen is on the top deck. THE staff have individual cabins and there is a TV lounge for relaxing in. The station is serviced regularly

from Holland by the tender **MEBO I**. Both ships are Panamanian registered.



the studios

THE STUDIOS are amongst the best equipped of any radio station. The main studio is 18'x18' and has 3 Ampex tape machines, 2 Tanberg Spotmasters, a 10 channel Telefunken mixing unit, and 2 EMT 200 record decks. Studio 2 is almost identical.

Ve-e-rry interesting!

facts



The station is run by two Swiss businessmen - Erwin Meister, and Edwin Bollier - they own an electronics firm in Switzerland - called Mebo.

Administrative offices for the station are at :-
PO Box 113,
8047, Zurich
Switzerland
- all letters, requests and reception reports can be sent to this address, but remember it costs 9d to post a letter to Europe!

Transmission power for the station :-
medium wave 100Kw
short wave 10Kw
FM 1Kw

Reception reports have been received from as far apart as Kansas City USA to New Zealand - a truly international station.

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Happy Birthday DAFFY DON ALLEN

FROM YOUR FAN CLUB SECRETARIES AND MEMBERS

HEAD OFFICE

Norah E Swallow
5, Pundles
Bradshaw
Halifax
Yorks

WALES

Terry & Steve
"Bryn Lllys"
Rhiwlas
Bangor
North Wales

MIDLANDS

Bill & Alan
2, Bearwood House
Bearwood Road
Smethwick
Warley
Worcs.

LONDON & Home Counties

John Baker
72, Gainsborough House
Ayley Croft
Enfield, Middx.

ISLE OF MAN

Bill Chrisp
7, Windsor Road
Douglas

SOUTHERN IRELAND

Ann Shannon
Clonuff
Moyvalley
Co. Kildare

CHESHIRE

Cathy Kendrick
40, West Avenue
Rudheath
Northwich

LANCASHIRE

Ann Fogg & Eileen Hall
23, Mather Street
Layton
Blackpool

NORTHERN IRELAND

John Rosborough
8, Ballygowan Road
Crossnacreevy
Castlereagh
Belfast

SCOTLAND

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Zealand, Australia,
Holland, Sweden,
Denmark & Romania

THE BIG WIDE WONDERFUL WORLD OF DAFFY DON ALLEN

Don't stay out in the cold, come on in and join the Don Allen Fan Club, send a sae for full details to any of the above mentioned secretaries. This is the Fan Club that gives you so much for so little...just 10/- per year for full membership. You get 3 magazines and 3 newsletters per year, plus tape lists and exclusive photographs, stickers, badges, and many other good things are also available.

Join now, and don't miss the Don Allen Fan Club meeting to be held in connection with the Second International Festival of Country and Western Music at the Empire Pool, Wembley, on March 28th 1970. Full details will be available on our tape Sound Magazine (March Edn) send an hour long tape plus return postage to our London Branch secretary, John Baker.

DON'T DELAY...JOIN THE DON ALLEN FAN CLUB TODAY!!

HOW IT ALL BEGAN



THIS is third time lucky for RNI. Two earlier attempts were made to launch the station, but met with failure. The first plan was to use the ex Radio London ship "Galaxy", but this plan fell through and another ship was found. This in fact was the Mebo I (The present tender) which actually set sail but never transmitted programmes. (These earlier attempts to start RNI were published EXCLUSIVELY in Breakthrough issues 1,2,3 and 4 - November 1968 - March 1969)

OWN LABEL

RNI plan to launch their own record label in April. Releases will be in Holland and possibly Britain, and will feature many up and coming Dutch groups.

It is thought that production will be under the direction of The Admiral Robbie Dale (Carol -ine South, Veroni -ca) who is already making and producing records in Holland.

Transmissions started on FM at the beginning of February this year, and short and medium wave broadcasts started at 11pm on Thursday February 12, 1970. The station continued test broadcasts until February 28. During this time the DJ staff was assembled and brought out to the ship. In fact when tests started many of the DJs were still working in Discos in Britain and on the Continent.

Full transmissions began at 6pm on Saturday February 28, 1970. The station came on the air with the Big L theme, followed by announcements in German by Horst Reiner and in English by Roger "Twiggy" Day. The first half hour of the new station was taken up by "chartbound sounds", with dual announcements in German and English. At 6.30 Roger took over solo for an hour, and throughout the evening each DJ did a show.

Advertisers at the moment are cautious because of the threat of prosecution, but the station has so far broadcast ads for

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from page 8

the Spanish national airline - Iberia, Japanese tape recorders and the United Nations Children's Fund. Further advertising is expected from USA and Japan. It is estimated that the station cost half a million pounds to launch. No broadcasts are planned in the Dutch language as this market is already well covered by Veronica, but of course Dutch based companies can advertise on the station.

R N I

Stickers available from
BREAKTHROUGH

- 1/- each
2/6d for 3

Please send sae with
your order.

Please make Postal Orders
payable to M A Leonard

NOTE the charge is to
cover production costs
only - these stickers
have been produced as
a publicity service.

LEGAL VIEW

The British Government are "concerned" over the RNI broadcasts to Britain. However, there is little they can do about it. Briefly the position is this - British staff on the station face prosecution under the Marine Broadcasting (Offences) Act 1967 - with possible imprisonment and fines - IF they re-enter Britain.

Most other European Governments have ratified the 1965 Council of Europe agreement to outlaw 'pirate' radio stations, by introducing similar Marine Offences Acts. Holland and Switzerland have NOT. Both the British and Norwegian Governments have protested to the Dutch Government that RNI is interfering with ship-to-shore messages. However, Holland at present has no definite plan for a MOA. If it did introduce one it would take about a year to become effective. RNI have plans to move their tendering facilities elsewhere if the Dutch introduce such a measure, but for the moment the station is relatively safe - as Veronica has been for 10 years !

ALMOST two years to the day that Caroline went off the air, a new offshore radio station has emerged in the form of Radio North Sea International. The fact that this has happened is no mean achievement, and the owners of the new station are to be congratulated on finding financial backing, a shipm equipment, staff and advertisers, in the face of almost 100% hostility from European countries.

Radio North Sea International is only a few weeks old but the fact that she broadcast at all is magnificent and something we must not let go this time - its a chance we may never have again, because if RNI fails to stay on the air for one reason or another, then it is probable that there will never be another offshore radio station because backers, staff and advertisers will be frightened off for good. DON'T LET IT HAPPEN!

**PETER
PEDLEY
SHOW**



The finest quality
of sound reproduction plus
a gigantic collection of
fascinating records

second to none!!

THE mobile discotheque
That is complete entertainment

Your happiness and satisfaction is
our guarantee

PHONE Peter Pedley personally Glossop 3971

TV SHOW SENSATION

RONAN O'RAHILLY recently 'masterminded' a plan to take over the Simon Dee TV show. One of the guests on the show was George Lazenby, and during the programme he virtually monopolised the discussion and expressed his views on the Kennedy assassinations.

It was later revealed that Lazenby planned the take over with Ronan O'Rahilly.

Ronan is very concerned about the assassinations of both John and Bobby Kennedy Kennedy. (Radio

Caroline was in fact named after President Kennedy's daughter). Simon Dee knew nothing of the plan, but it appears that all other guests did.

Simon Dee -the original offshore DJ- helped Ronan launch Caroline 6 years ago.

under-ground sound

PROGRESSIVE music fans now have their own radio station -Radio Geronimo on 205m medium wave. The station, formerly Radio 428, Radio Andorra, and Radio Rupert, broadcasts from the transmitter of Radio Monte-Carlo

Married

208's Paul Burnett to Lux girl Nicole Krettals (Nov 7, 1969)

208's Tony Prince to Christine Hall, (Feb II, 1970) ... Tony proposed over the air during his show on New Years Eve!

CONGRATS

MIRROR & LUX.

RADIO LUXEMBOURG'S news may soon be supplied by the Daily Mirror. At the moment the Mirror is providing sample newscasts each evening, although they are not being broadcast. No definite decision has been made about a starting date for the Mirror's news service. Why the Mirror? - It was felt that a tie in newscast and Mirror ad would be better than straight ad spots on the station, also the Mirror reaches the same, young audience as 208.

mini ADS

-use BREAKTHROUGH
mini ADS - 3d per word.

BACK ISSUES OF 'BREAKTHROUGH'
are still available :-
Issues 1,2,5,6,7,8,9,10,11
and the 1969 RALLY SPECIAL
- Price 1/- each plus 6d
postage per 3 copies.
Send your cheque or Postal
Order (Made payable
to M A Leonard) to the
address on page 3 of this
issue.

CONGRATULATIONS I86! -BM

CAR STICKERS FOR CAROLINE,
London, Scotland, City (3
different) 270, K.I.N.G.,
Sutch and 390 - available
from BREAKTHROUGH - 1/-
each plus 6d postage.
Send your cheque or Postal
Order (Made payable to
M A Leonard) to the
address on page 3 of this
issue.

BOOK YOUR **mini AD** N O W !
for the next issue of
BREAKTHROUGH MAGAZINE.

CONGRATULATIONS I86 ! -BM

breakthrough MAGAZINE

SOME of you will be reading
this magazine for the first
time - to you we say "Welcome"
MANY of you are old friends
and to you we would like to
say "It's great to be back
with you again".

DURING the six months we have
been absent many things have
happened (when we first plan-
ned this issue a couple of
months ago RNI was still a
rumour!!) and we felt that
something should be done to
try and keep the voice of
commercial radio alive in
Britain.

THE plan at the moment is for
an issue to be published 3
or 4 times a year and if we
can possibly increase sales
we will try and return to
regular monthly publication.
ENCLOSED with this magazine
is an order form for the
next issue (planned for
August). If a red cross
appears on page three of this
issue then you need to com-
plete the form and send it
back to us, with payment.
If there is no cross on your
copy you will automatically
receive the August issue. BUT
DON'T WASTE THE ORDER FORM! -
give it to a friend and talk
him or her into buying a copy!

Graham Gill Fan Club



For full details

see to:-



MRS PAM WOOD

3 HEATHSIDE AVE.

COXHEATH

MAIDSTONE

KENT



When the Marine Broadcasting Offences Bill was being introduced it did not seem likely that in just over two years the ranks of the BBC and its supporters would be in such disarray, but now every day for months the letter columns of "The Times" newspaper have been thick with protests about the new arrangements. BBC staff, Cambridge dons, actors and the intellectuals in general. If I may be immodest there was one letter printed from me and surprising as it may seem, my letter was the odd man out because I was supporting the BBC's plans.

As you know, I have always felt that departmentalised radio is what the general public wants and it seems as though Radio I is going to provide continuous pop, Radio 2 continuous sweet music, Radio 3 continuous classical music and Radio 4 words.

It seems now that the pirates really did cause a revolution in broadcasting because, certainly, the BBC had done very little to meet what the public wanted for many years. There would certainly have been no wavelength devoted to pop if it had not been for the pirates and I am thinking, of course, of Radio London and Radio Caroline. I think it is unlikely that there would have been a sweet music wavelength without Radio 390 showing that there was a tremendous demand for it.

I was surprised by the number of letters that I received which indicated that the writers found it astonishing that somebody like myself, who advocates commercial

RED SANDS RENDEZVOUS

Ted Allbeury

radio, should defend the BBC. Now, I think that this is a most important point. One of the things that most disturbed me when the Labour Government was marshalling its arguments against the pirates was its complete lack of respect for the truth. Members of Parliament and the public were told first of all that we were pirates because we did not pay fees to

the Performing Rights Society which were paid by the BBC. Even after I sent the Postmaster General photostat copies of our receipts from the PRS,

this story still continued. When it was obvious that the public had seen through this, it was suggested that we only paid "something" to the PRS. As I conducted the negotiations with the PRS myself I was able to state that the negotiations were extremely simple. I said to their officials that I was not a good negotiator or haggler, but if they told me what the correct scale of fees was, then it would be paid. So, we paid what we were asked to pay and I understand that this was exactly the same amount that the BBC paid.

Ted Allbeury was Managing Director of "sweet music" station RADIO 390. Red Sands Rendezvous was the title of his programme on 390 - broadcast every Sunday.

The attack then changed to the question of wavelengths. In other words, we had not been allocated a wavelength in 1948 under the Copenhagen Plan. I was then able to broadcast on this subject and I explained that there were hundreds of European stations which were operat-

ing without the blessing of the Copenhagen Plan, including Radio Vatican City, Voice of America, all East European stations and many others. It was an interesting fact that of the many radio stations in Spain, both Government controlled and commercial, not a single one had been allocated a wavelength under the Copenhagen Plan. In fact, several countries were not even invited to the conference.

With this out of the way, the next argument was that we were doing great
please turn to page 14

damage to the manufacturers of gramophone records. The sheer hypocrisy of this was almost amusing because most of our records on the station were supplied free of charge by the gramophone record manufacturers and I was constantly being pressed by them to luncheons, cocktail parties and the like and, of course, the manufacturers of gramophone records were quite right to do this. In this connection, there was always a slight inference that if the public would not believe that we were doing the record companies harm, then we had committed other sins like taking money for playing certain records. I don't know about the other stations, but, certainly, Radio 390 never received any payment or sought any payment from any gramophone record manufacturer, either in money or kind.

When all this proved ineffective, so far as the public was concerned, our adversaries came back with the story that nobody listened to us anyway, but their timing was unfortunate on this score because we had just commissioned the National Opinion Polls to do a survey on our listenership and that showed that we had four million listeners. The "Motor" magazine did a survey of the stations listened to by motorists with car radios, and we came out ahead of the Light Programme. In the end, we were

not beaten by facts or an argument or a good case against us. We were beaten by a parliamentary steam-roller, but it was not just the pirates who were steam-rollered, it was the public, and I don't think they are going to forget in a hurry. At that time I was receiving about 2,000 letters each week from the public and I was very much aware of how many people of all ages had become very dependent upon the station. However, I was still quite determined that in our arguments for commercial radio, we should not get down to the low level of our opponents and I see no need, when advocating an alternative

turn to page 15

Welcome back **BREAKTHROUGH**

We've missed you!

•

And talking about missing things, do you, in these dull days of Radio One, miss the happy sounds of Caroline, Big L, and the rest?

There's no need to—if you have a tape-recorder. My list of tapes covers an extensive range. Send a stamped addressed envelope and see for yourself.

TRY THIS FOR A START.

Fifty Pirate Jingles (Caroline, Radio London, Radio England, Radio Scotland, etc. etc.) 13/6

RICHARD TURNER

19 PIDDINGHOE AVE., PEACEHAVEN, NEWHAVEN, SUSSEX

ernative to the BBC to make the grounds for it an attack on the BBC itself. It served us very well during the War; it has a high reputation throughout the world and it is now finding difficulty in deciding what its new role is to be. However, I maintain that even if the BBC comes up with perfect solutions, a State monopoly in any mass communications medium is totally wrong. If this thinking was to be applied in other fields, we should have a State film company

which was a monopoly, a State newspaper which was a monopoly and one State television company which was a monopoly. We are fortunate in this country that this is not the case. We only have one State communications monopoly and that is the BBC and I should like to recommend to all those who supported the pirates, either pop or sweet, that their arguments should always be based on the need for alternatives and against monopolies.

.. NEWS FLASH ..

NEWS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR
NEWS PAGES

..... Mark West (ex Radio Essex) has joined RNI. Mark is another English DJ who faces prosecution under the Marine Offences Act 1967.....

more NEWS
more OFTEN
in breakthrough

PIRATE RADIO ENTERPRISES

POSTER

"Bring Back The Pirates"
-1/- each

CAR STICKER

"Radio One is Dead"
-6d each
-4/- doz.

TAPES

Last $\frac{1}{2}$ hour Radio England
-15/-
Rusty Allen on 270 (1 hr.)
--30/-

PRE -40 Stokesley Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE7 7AU

Please make all cheques and
Postal Orders to PRE





RADIO VERONICA

station survey

Now that Radio Veronica is nearly ten years old, here are a few facts and figures about Europe's longest surviving offshore radio station.

Location

3 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles off the Dutch coast

Ship

M.V. Veronica II (This is the second ship used by the station - for the first six years of broadcasting the "Borkum Riff" was used.)

Wavelength and Power

192m medium wave - transmitter -10KW

Programming

Records mainly British and American, announcements, news and commercials in Dutch. Minority interest programmes also broadcast (eg Italian, Indonesian, Flemish language programmes, also classical music folk, country and western, R'n'B music etc. shows.) News every hour at two minutes to the hour, sports coverage at week ends. Many programmes are taped in the land-based studios, the rest are live from the ship,

Airtime

6am-2am (Saturdays), 7am-1am (Sundays)
6am-1am (Mondays-Thursdays)
6am-2am (Fridays)

BIG L COMEBACK -

BY MIKE JOHNS

It is now just 2½ years since Big L, Radio London, closed down. Now we have news that she is to be re-born. Practically everything will be the same as it was, with the exception of the boat, and the owners.

The boat is a converted ("antique") trawler -MV Comet 3

The owners are a newly formed company-Radio London Enterprises

The old format will remain the same, and many familiar names will be there (on tape at Easter) such as Paul Kaye, Marc Roman, Willy Walker, Pete Drummond, Pete Brady Jason Wolfe (Caroline), Martin Kayne (Caroline) Mike Hayes (270) and many more.

Easter week-end's broadcasts are to test public response. Depending on how great the response is Big L will, or will not return by the end of the year. It must be emphasised that Easter's low power broadcasts are just a temporary measure

The times of the Easter broadcasts are:

Easter Sunday 11am-5pm, 6pm-7.30pm

Easter Monday 10am-4pm

-on 266metres - of course!

The reception area will be East Anglia, London and the East Midlands.

Large car stickers are available at 9d each (blank postal orders only, please).

Enquiries, advertising rates, correspondence, requests etc to the British mailing address (enclosing sae) at :-

Radio London Enterprises, (whatever Department), 255A Shakespeare Avenue, Yeading Lane, Hayes, Middx.

192 Decade!

Radio Veronica will celebrate her 10th Birthday on April 21 1970.

This makes her the most successful and oldest offshore radio station in the world.

We extend congratulations and best wishes for the future to the staff and owners of the station.

MANX SUE BBC FOR LIBEL

Manx Radio - Britain's only local commercial radio station has taken legal action against the BBC.

The action, alleging libel against Manx Radio was taken after the BBC TV programme "24 Hours" did a feature on the station. During the programme the reporter Bernard Falk said - "The Isle of Man threatened to appeal to the UN for the right to keep Manx Radio when pirate stations around the British coast were outlawed. The Isle of Man bought one of them for £50,000 and today it is the only commercial station in the UK. Tonight, like every other night, Manx Radio, which pirates an international wavelength, will sign off in the usual way by playing the Isle of Man's own national anthem." The case is still continuing.

THE FACTS ARE:-

Manx Radio was granted a licence by the PMG, before it started broadcasts in 1964.

Manx Radio was authorised to use two VHF wavelengths and later allowed to use 232m medium wave during daylight hours (when it would not interfere with BBC Europe)

Manx Radio also makes use of an international common frequency - 188m medium wave (This is one of two international frequencies which any country can use - the other is 202m medium wave - used in Britain by the BBC) Manx Radio was owned by a private company when it started, and until 1967, when the Isle of Man Government bought it.

208 reception

Radio Luxembourg's signal has been greatly improved following the introduction on December 1, 1969 of a new £100,000 transmitter. It has been built by German engineers and took 12 months to become operational. The 208 signal is now beamed UP into the atmosphere, and bounces back DOWN on the UK.

MEMO

TO: Mr Ronan O'Rahilly

FROM: Radio Caroline Listeners Everywhere

SUBJECT: The Return of Radio Caroline

It has come to our attention that Radio Caroline has been off the air for exactly 2 years now. What has been done to bring her back?

We are aware of a few early attempts to start the station (eg on the old Radio 270 ship), and can only share your disappointment in their failure to materialise. However, the original ships "Caroline" and "Mi Amigo" are quickly rotting in an Amsterdam shipyard - the targets of rust and vandals.

It has recently been proved that an offshore radio station can be operated off the European coast - why couldn't this have been Radio Caroline?

In the period since Radio Caroline closed you have concentrated on whipping up support for air-borne Caroline TV. This would be great if it could start, but we can't help feeling that a fraction of this money and effort could have been put into sorting out the RADIO Caroline situation.

During the four years she was on the air Radio Caroline did an immense amount of good - is all this to go to waste for ever??

The answer is with you, and even if you no longer care about Radio Caroline - 25 million of us do .

ACTION:

Take immediate steps to bring about the return of RADIO CAROLINE. If you don't want to be bothered - let somebody else have a chance, please!!

North Eastern Sector
Free Radio Association

N.E.F.R.A.



Progress Report from the General Secretary
10 Holywell Ave., Whitley Bay Northumberland, England

Firstly I must say that we are very pleased to see the return of BREAKTHROUGH, and I hope you will support it as much as you can, so that it may become a regular publication. We have our own publication which comes out every three months, and of course goes to all the FRA members in the North East of England. You can also receive this newsletter/magazine for 1/- (plus 6d postage), or 5/- post free for a year. Our October/December Newsletter is still on sale, and has news of all sorts that will interest and Free Radio Supporter.

The N.E.F.R.A. has been fairly silent for the last few months, as we have been organising ourselves for larger and bigger activities. We have also been re-organising staff for our newsletter / magazine.

We intend to hold an underground evening in the near future, so if you are interested in coming, let us know. Also we will be organising vigils to mark the anniversary of the closedown of Radio Caroline (March 3rd).

If you have bought posters, stickers, tapes, car-stickers or anything else from us, you may wish to know where your money went to, well here goes:-

N.E.F.R.A. Free Services supported by sales of goods:
Membership, Survey, Symbol Posters, Progress Reports in magazines such as BREAKTHROUGH, General Meetings, Press Releases, Social Evenings, Demonstrations, Vigils etc., Information sheets, Price lists, N.E.F.R.A. car - stickers, Correspondence-News -Service, advertisements etc. (we do a lot of work) All these services are free, and are paid for by sales. We have no paid staff at all, and all work done for N.E.F.R.A. is totally voluntary (SO BUY ALL OUR GOODS, please)

For any information on any activities carried out by the N.E.F.R.A., write to us , and enclose a 4d or 5d stamp.

Reuben M. Condie.
(General Secretary).



N.E.F.R.A.

N O R T H E A S T E R N S E C T O R O F F . R . A .

DAY - GLO CAR STICKERS

All the following are available in Red, Orange, Pink and Pink and Yellow.

Legalise Independent Radio (15"x2")

Bring Back the Pirates (15"x2")

Commercial Radio -Vote Tory (15"x2")

I'm Anti-Aunty BBC (15"x2½")

Set of four slogans - 2/6d Full set of 16 slogans - 6/-
One slogan - 1/-

Please include 6d p&p with all orders

TAPES

Typical Hour of Radio 270 - 30/-

Themes of Caroline, Big L, Johnnie Walker,
Robbie Dale, and We Love the Pirates 12/6d

Our latest newsletter (March) now available at one shilling per copy.

Send an sae for free copy of our survey.

All available from :-

NEFRA
Sales Dept (B)
301 Durham Road
Gateshead 9
County Durham

POP SPIN

CAROLINE

HAVE you noticed in recent months an increase in the number of new discs with the name "Caroline" in their title?

IF you have, then you've no doubt also noticed that these records have failed to make any real impression on the charts.

FOR reasons best known to themselves, the BBC and Radio Luxembourg gave the minimum of airtime to these releases and only Manx Radio, Radio Veronica, and more recently RNI, have really played the discs regularly. Thus by a partial ban on certain discs the two largest pop radio stations have effectively kept potential hits out of the charts,

TONY Blackburn admitted in a recent television programme that if a DJ did not play a certain record then that record's chances of making the charts was virtually nil.

THESE Caroline discs are a practical example of that theory.

BANDSPREAD I

....After 2 years of new format Luxembourg is looking stale - suffering from "monopoly complacency" ?

BBC2 "Man Alive" programme on DJ's featured Tony Blackburn, John Peel, Kemy Everett, Rosko and Jimmy Young...-WHO?

.....Jerry Leighton (Caroline North) - where are you???

RNI first offshore station to use 3 wavebands - 390 planned FM transmissions but never got going

BBC Local Station planned for London - what will Auntie call it? - Precedents so far.. Radio Leeds, Radio Nottingham, Radio Stoke on Trent, Radio Brighton, Radio Durham, Radio Merseyside, and Radio Sheffield they wouldn't DARE call it Radio London, -Would they?????

breakthrough
MAGAZINE

FIRST

BANDSPREAD 2

Manx Radio announcer Peter Kneale promoted to commercial manager recently. He is still on the air every Saturday morning with "The Green Scene" and daily "Sports News". New addition to Manx staff - Bill Chrisp who was formerley resident DJ at the "Wheel Bar" Discotheque in Laxey...

.....Roger Wallis back on Radio Sweden (254m med wave) with his Saturday Show. II.45 pm-Iam....

...Tony Blackburn's TV commercial for the Tea Council filmed at Radio Luxembourg's London studios NOT Radio One..

...208 returning to more taped shows - Alan Freeman lined up for Sunday Night "Wool Mark Party" programme.....

...Caroline's first tender "Essex Girl", blew up and sank in Douglas Bay, Isle of Man at the end of February. Salvage experts were called in from Liverpool to study possibility of raising the vessel, which has been used for fishing since 1965.....

**BREAKTHROUGH
FIRST
AND FOREMOST**

news

CAROLINE TV —

While plans are still going ahead for Caroline TV to be beamed to Britain from planes flying over the North Sea, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications (John Stonehouse) made a statement in the House of Commons on 16 February, 1970.

He said that "concerted action" would be taken by European countries against the operators. This included withdrawal of aircraft registration use of airports, and legal measures against operators.

Radio Scotland North

Hear the sounds of l-i-v-e commercial radio
FREE! FREE! FREE! FREE! FREE!

Send your tape plus return postage to

R.S.N.

12 Bruce Street

Macduff

BANFFSHIRE

Scotland

AB4 IXA



THE VOICE OF YOUR CHOICE

instant
programme guide

'TUNE IN AND TURN ON'

186

North Sea Int. ■

Daily - English & German
6am-1am
Top 40, chartbound sounds
flashbacks

192

Veronica ■

Daily - Dutch
6am-1am (6am-2am weekends)
Top 40, chartbound sounds
flashbacks, 'minority' music.

205

Geronimo ■

Saturday - English
12 midnight-2am
"Progressive" sounds

208

Luxembourg ■

Every Evening - English
Monday/Saturday 7.30pm-2am
Sunday 7pm-2am
Top 50, chartbound sounds
newscasts

232

Manx ■

Daily - English
Sunday/Saturday 7am-7pm
General music programme,
local interest features

254

Sweden ■

Saturday - Swedish/English
11.45pm-1am ("The Saturday
Show")
Chart sounds

INSIDE: ROGER 'TWIGGY' DAY INTERVIEW

After 9 years

RADIO

breakthrough

MAGAZINE

THE VOICE OF
COMMERCIAL RADIO

No.11
OCT. 69
1/6d

VERONICA TO CLOSE ?

AFTER more than nine years continuous broadcasting it looks as if Radio Veronica may close down.

THE station has beamed pop music to Holland and other continental countries since April 1960 - and gave inspiration to the British pirates. Although the Dutch Government have threatened at many times to introduce an anti-pirate Act, nothing positive has ever been done. Until now.

VERONICA has established herself very firmly in the lives of the Dutch people and at one time it was thought that the station would be invited ashore to set up a legal land-based operation. (This is what is being planned by the New Zealand Government for Radio Hauraki)

continued on page 28

breakthrough MAGAZINE

Regretably we have to announce that this is the final issue of BREAKTHROUGH MAGAZINE.

Rising costs, together with a lack of re-subscriptions resulting in a fall in circulation have caused the closure.

A full statement from the publishers appears on page 6.

Ted Allbeury

.. PAGE 9

Correspondence Dept 10 Holywell Ave. Whitley Bay Northumbs.

On August 14th we held a very successful vigil, which, due to the enthusiasm of the demonstrators lasted an extra 1½ hrs. On August 29th we organised a coffee morning, which was quite successful, and paid a lot to our last newsletter.

There will be another newsletter released on October 5th, and this is only 1/- a copy (post free). This newsletter is also sent free to all FRA members in the North East of England. A Disc Night will be held on 24th October 1969, and tickets are only 3/- plus 4d p&p. This is our third Disc Night, and both the previous ones were great successes. Details as to how to get to the Hall are available from us if you enclose a 4d stamp for a reply.

We are busy correcting files, and by Christmas we will have in excess of 1,100 members in our area (FRA is big!). If anyone wishes to advertise in our newsletters (which will have a circulation of 1,250 by Christmas) please ask me for details.

The adverts below are our latest materials, and Breakthrough is the First to tell you about them (as usual)

Christmas Cards - two types

1 Black and White, with pirate picture (4¼"x6"). The message inside:- Wishing you a merry Christmas full of good cheer, hoping Free Radio returns in the New Year. (envelope free) 1/- for 1, 3/- for 3, 4/6d for 6, 6/- for 12 (post free)

2 Black and White with picture of Radio 270 (6½"x8") The message inside :- Wishing you the exaltations, once brought by the pirate stations.

1/- (4d p&p) for 1, 2/6d (6d p&p) for 3, 4/6d (6d p&p) for 6
6/- (6d p&p) for 9, 8/- (6d p&p) for 12.

(Order early to ensure quick delivery and to avoid the rush)
Available from the Correspondence Dept (address above).

Day-Glo Car Stickers

All the following car stickers are available in Yellow, Red and Green (All of them bright day-glo)

"Legalise Independent Radio" (15"x2")	1/- for one
"Bring Back the Pirates" (15"x2")	2/6d for four
"Commercial Radio Vote Tory" (15"x2")	6/- for twelve
"I'm anti-Aunty BBC" (2½"x15")	(enclose 6d for postage with each order).

Available from 301 Durham Road Gateshead Co Durham NE9 5AE

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Red Sands Rendez-
-vous

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Roger Twiggy Day

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Station Survey

Page 22

The Voice of Your
Choice

Page 24

Pop Spin

Page 26

Published by

Action Central

2 Alvanley Road

Liverpool LI2 8QX

comment

AT last Caroline TV has hit the headlines - we have been reporting it since last September !

ONCE again Ronan O'Rahilly has the Government worried-hence the panic-stricken press conference from the Postmaster General in a vain, pitiful attempt to warn-off backers.

IT has been said that the air-TV project will not work - Nonsense! The technique is used in America and Vietnam and has every chance of success here in Britain.

IF the station comes on the air as planned it should inject some new life into British television, just as Radio Caroline did for our radio.

HOWEVER we cannot help feeling that it should be possible to bring back RADIO Caroline as well as Caroline TELEVISION.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

breakthrough

MAGAZINE

FIRST for
NEWS and
FEATURES

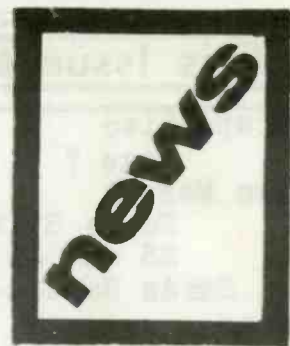
'PEACE' STATION

The coaster "CITO" is now in Amsterdam, has officially been bought by Abi Nathan the well known peacemaker from Israel.

He plans to anchor the ship off Israel and broadcast programmes in many languages. Some American religious groups have already booked airtime.

Known as the Voice of Peace the station will broadcast for 12 hours a day in English, Arabic, Hebrew and French. The ship will be supplied and serviced from Cyprus.

The Cito has been re-painted in white all over and the word 'peace' will be painted on all sides in many languages. The radio equipment will be installed in the USA.



ADVERTISING
MEANS BUSINESS

Sweden Saturday Show

Radio Sweden have brought back Roger Wallis and his Saturday Show!

The programme was axed at the beginning of the summer because it was said Roger was playing and saying too much about Free Radio (Radio Sweden is State owned). However, due to tremendous demand from listeners all over Europe the show hit the airwaves again on September 5th.

Roger can be heard every week on 254.6metres medium wave between 11.45pm and 2.am

DURING OCTOBER ONLY

10 PER CENT (2/- IN THE £) OFF

THE LIST PRICES OF ALL MY

FREE RADIO TAPES

Send s.a.e. NOW for full lists

*
RICHARD TURNER

19 PIDDINGHOE AVENUE, PEACEHAVEN, SUSSEX

when answering ads . . .

Say You Saw It in

Breakthrough Magazine

news

2

CAROLINE ships - news

MANX MOVE

Manx Radio - Britain's only local commercial station-is in the process of moving to new premises.

At present the administrative units are in the new offices at Douglas Head, while the studios are remaining at Loch Promenade.

The move will be completed next month when all operations will be at Douglas Head.

Manx Radio have been in Loch Promenade Buildings for over four years - before that they were in a converted caravan at Onchan Head.

Both Caroline ships, still at anchor in Amsterdam were raided twice in as many weeks at the end of August.

Large quantities of records were stolen, and also a television set was taken from one of the vessels.

☉ The Thames TV children's programme **MAGPIE** (hosted by ex Big L DJ Pete Brady) featured the Caroline ships in its show on Tuesday September 16th. The programme is running a series on European towns and cities - during the tour of Amsterdam they came across the sad ships anchored in the harbour - and included them in the broadcast as one of the sights! We hope they will only be a temporary sight in Amsterdam

WHAT IS RADIO ?

RADIO IS FUN

manx radio

232 metres Daylight Hours
188 metres Darkness
89 mcjs & 91.2 mcjs VHF All Day





ACTION CENTRAL



breakthrough MAGAZINE

AFTER a year of continuous monthly publication it has been found necessary to cease publication of BREAKTHROUGH MAGAZINE.

When we started last year we thought a demand existed for a news-magazine devoted to commercial radio - in fact this demand does exist in some quarters, but some support and fresh air is not enough to keep a magazine going. Over the past few months re-subscriptions have fallen and consequently circulation has dropped drastically. Coupled with this we have had increased costs to bear.

A SIMILAR, but not so drastic situation arose in March, but we were able to overcome that by a price increase. This time we feel we cannot justifiably put up the price again, and to do so would only mean further losses in subscriptions. We, therefore have no alternative but to cease publication.

THE cost of producing each copy is in excess of the cover price of 1/6d, and because we have only a limited amount of advertising (not our fault - we have a limited appeal to potential advertisers) product-

ion costs have been met out of personal money. If an increased circulation had been achieved the costs per copy would have fallen and we could have continued.

WE would like to feel that over the past year we have, in some small way, filled the very necessary function of providing features, news and articles about commercial radio. It would be great to carry on. Maybe sometime, somehow, we will be back again, but in the meantime we would like to thank all of you for supporting us.

A special thanks to our advertisers for giving us support and also we would like to thank those of you who contributed news and articles (without fee, - whether they have been published or not. Last, but by no means least we would like to thank our printer for his help, advice assistance and great service over the last year.

It would be nice not to say 'Good bye', but just 'Au revoir'.

Hear the Sounds of live
Commercial radio again
FREE !FREE!FREE!FREE!

Send your tape and
return p&p to
Radio Scotland North
12 Bruce Street,
Macduff
Banfshire
AB4 IXA

Opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those of the editorial policy followed by BREAKTHROUGH

PERSPECTIVE

This month's ideas from Paul Temple of New Cross, London.



The BBC's radio services I to 4 should be kept on the medium, long and VHF bands as at present, but several changes should take place. Here are my suggested formats:-

RADIO 1 - continuous 24 hours a day pop music with commercials

RADIO 2 - continuous light music plus hourly news, commercials

RADIO 3 - Non commercial, this service providing airtime for shows featuring jazz, folk, c&w music etc. Apart from this the station should give a wide coverage of sport thus alleviating the interruption of programmes on Radios 1/2. At other times Radio 3 would broadcast classical music.

RADIO 4 - non commercial, providing frequent newscasts, plays documentaries, quizzes and light music.

Radios 1 and 2 would pay for themselves and some of the profit would pay for Radios 3 and 4.

LOCAL RADIO - the existing stations should still be run by the BBC, but on commercial lines featuring local news and locally produced recorded and live music etc. Opinion polls should be held in all areas of Britain decide who should run future stations. Each location having five VHF stations of required power - all to be run commercially.

This plan would mean the radio licence would be abolished.

THE PETER PEDLEY SHOW

Mobile Entertainment Unit - Supreme :

Enquiries:-

33 Glossop Road, Gamesley, Glossop Derbyshire

Tel. GLOSSOP 3971



... AND A GOOD GOOD EVENIN'
TO ALL YOU GOOD GOOD PEOPLE
HELLO WORLD I'M MIKE MARVEL
AND THIS IS MY SUPER
RADIO... SOUND WORLD!

Mike Marvel

BY KEN KNIGHT
A SOUND PICSTRIP FOR
BREAKTHROUGH ... A STORY
ABOUT COMMERCIAL RADIO

© Knight 69

ONCE UPON A TIME IN A FRIENDLY
PLACE CALLED BUTTERFIELD SPRINGS
THERE WAS A RADIO STATION.....



SORRY FELLAS! ITS
A BIG EXCLUSIVE
LISTEN IN

OH COME ON
MIKE! THIS IS
NEWS GIVE US
A BREAK!

1-6

KNIGHT 69

RED SANDS RENDEZVOUS

WITH

TED ALLBEURY

One of the problems of discussing anything new in Great Britain is the difficulties induced by our strong sense of national hypocrisy and this, when coupled with a natural resistance to any kind of change, clouds most issues in our public life.

For many years we had BBC radio and it was a much valued part of our lives for both information and entertainment and catch words and jokes were based on radio programmes, and the interpretation of the world news was based on the BBC news. We are very proud of what we got and the worldwide acceptance of our radio station and impartial reporting of the news from all parts of the world seemed to justify our pride.

When BBC television first started it was for a few hours a day and for the very small audience who could afford television sets. One of the strongest arguments against television was that

it would stop people reading books. Both Ann and I read a lot and we belong to two public libraries and, apart from that, buy a lot of paperbacks. We read about six books each a week so this means that we also cover a wide variety of reading matter. I mention this to show that we ourselves are keen readers. However, I fail to see that reading a book has any more virtue to it than looking at television.

Not only was this initial argument against television proved quite wrong because television has done much to increase the reading of books but it was wrong in its basic thought i.e. that reading a book was a virtue and looking at television was either a lesser virtue or an actual vice. People say "ah yes but a lot of what appears on television is just twaddle" but there is an even greater proportion of

contd on page 10 9

twaddle in books and like many other people I read that too because we are not always in a mood wither with books or television to be educated or improved. We sometimes j want to relax.

When independent television came along it is interesting to note that it was felt necessary to refer to it as independent rather than commercial and the great argument against it was that the public would not like the advertisements and that the programmes would appeal to the lowest level of taste and it was inferred that the good British citizen would much prefer the higher standards of BBC television. Like so many preconceived ideas all this was soon proved to be wrong and despite the fact that the BBC has concentrated for two years now on competing with ITV the ratings show that out of the top twenty programmes in any one week the BBC is lucky if it appears at all and generally it appears in the bottom quarter of the list.

The argument then used by the defenders of the state monopoly is that ITV only succeeds because of the low intellectual level of its programmes. This may, of course, be so, nevertheless the other side of this argument is that ITV does provide the public with what it

wants and if the intellectual level of what the public wants is low that must be blamed on our educational system not on those who provide our entertainment.

At the start of pirate radio the audience was numbered in thousands and in the end the audience had to be measured in millions. Again the criticism comes up that the millions only listen because of the low intellectual level of the programmes. Now the programmes provided by the pirates were virtually entirely music and some stations played pop and some stations played sweet music and I wonder who are the people who decide that both of these are low on the intellectual scale. Much as I like classical music I cannot see why at the same time I cannot like Jerome Kern and Ivor Novello or the Beatles. These intellectual classifications seem to me a proof of narrow mindedness.

The most interesting fact is that the views which I am expressing in this small magazine BREAKTHROUGH are held by large numbers of people but they have to be expressed in this small magazine because no newspaper would give space to airing them. Why? Simply the newspapers do not want competition from commercial radio

In America Radio is under the FCC - Federal Communications Commission, which grants licenses permitting stations to broadcast. It controls the power of the stations, but does not control the programmes transmitted. Every sale or lease of a station must be sanctioned by the FCC.

The first station to sell time was WEAJ, New York, in 1922. Today there are 4178 medium wave stations, 1808 FM commercial stations and 333 FM Educational stations, operating from coast to coast. According to the National Association of Broadcasting the State of Texas has the most radio stations (AM and FM) in the USA - a total of 377! Second largest goes to California with 363 stations, and the smallest to Delaware which has only 12.

Whatever your choice in programmes you can find it on the dial. A great many stations devote their entire time to news - New York has two such stations on the medium wave - WINS and WCBS. Others devote their time to talks and phone in programmes.

There has also been an increase in the number of stations programming c&w music - notably WCOP in Boston and WIL in St. Louis.

Good music stations (as 390 was) are very popular with the daytime listening audience, and for those who like Hot 100 format (Caroline & London) they are well catered for. There are also stations programming

continued on page 27



By Roy Patrick

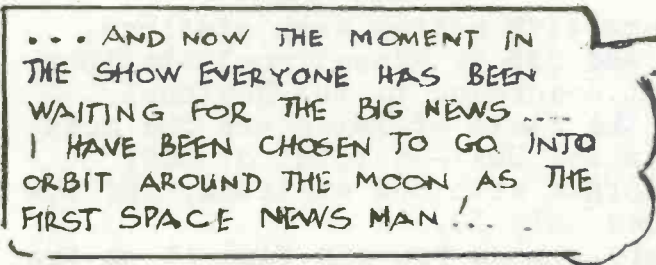
THE UNITED D.J.s APPRECIATION SOCIETY

Did you see the programme 'This Week' on television when our society was well and truly mentioned? There's no doubt about it U.D.J. are really getting somewhere fast! If you haven't joined yet, wake up --- show you care, don't let apathy ruin this fight of a life-time.

Send a S.A.E. to
U.D.J.
38 Millfield,
Sittingborne
KENT

-today.

Remember, it's all the way with U.D.J. and that means CAROLINE.



THE UNITED D.J.'s APPRECIATION SOCIETY

have this to say to every free radio supporter. (And those of you who have lost hope). O.K., so you were let down by Spangles Muldoon (although he didn't have much idea, at least he tried) and many of you have little or no faith in the so called free radio organisations as they have done nothing and they are not likely to, but why give up so easily? We offer you new hope. Free radio can and will be ours, as luckily we haven't given up, far from it, while the free radio people have been arguing amongst themselves and of course achieving absolutely nothing, we have been busy working out a plan to bring back our CAROLINE and reinstate the D.J.s in the quickest time possible, and that is our aim, nothing more ----- nothing less!

Many top pirate D.J.s including Roger "Twiggy" Day, Martin Kayne, Andy Archer, Jason Wolfe etc., are 100% with us, also many ardent enthusiasts including members of the F.R.A. committee at Rayleigh are actively helping us. They know we are sincere, honest and very determined.

(Note: The F.R.A. itself does nothing to help us, although the F.R.A. committee members are a wonderful help to us!)

Join the ~~worth~~-while free radio society in which you just can't lose and do your bit towards bringing back CAROLINE. There's no doubt about it, CAROLINE will definitely live again as soon as everybody who really cares makes the effort.

Jason Wolfe at the F.R.C. rally, Trafalgar Square said: "Don't just moan about the situation, X!X! - well do something about it", help us by joining U.D.J. NOW!

Just ask yourselves, what would you rather have, stickers, leaflets and useless talk or RADIO CAROLINE ?

IT REALLY IS UP TO YOU

For more details send a stamped addressed envelope to:

U.D.J. 38 Millfield, Sittingbourne, Kent

ROGER "TWIGGY" DAY says "With your support we will become the biggest sound around".

MARTIN KAYNE says "Soon we will be able to say business as usual".

ANDY ARCHER says "We need you now, we hope you will need us soon!"

JASON WOLFE says "25 million offshore radio listeners can't be wrong, help us to reclaim that which once was ours".

Graham Gill Fan Club

For full details
send SAE to

Mrs Pam Wood
3 Heathside Avenue
Coxheath
Nr. Maidstone
KENT

Interview

FIRST IN A NEW SERIES

PETER PEDLEY TALKS TO
ROGER "TWIGGY" DAY

PP When Caroline South was towed away by the Tender Company, and you were landed in Amsterdam, what happened?

RTD After "Mi Amigo" docked at 6am I took a flight back to England almost immediately, in fact at 10 am the same day.

PP Did you not think, therefore, that Caroline was to return on the air?

RTD I was not certain at the time, but in any case there was no point in remaining in Amsterdam

PP Did anything transpire in London?

RTD For two weeks nothing happened, then Ronan contacted me, telling me to prepare to go on the air.

PP Was this in preparation for the return of Caroline on the "270" ship "Oceaan 7"?

RTD Yes.

PP What happened to this plan?

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

BY LES KINGSLAND

It is now over a year since the last of the offshore stations, Radio Caroline went silent; the Government, who are not without experience of the fickle-minded public, predicted that by now the "Free Radio" issue would be completely dead and forgotten. Yet, since the end of Caroline the Free Radio movement has actually grown. The success of BREAKTHROUGH, together with the increasing membership of the various Free Radio organisations proves this point. This has not only happened, but has happened against tremendous odds.

The Free Radio supporter now has two basic problems to overcome !! Complete absence of publicity or support from the national press, and complete ignorance on the part of the general public as to what the Free Radio issue is all about. The latter largely arises from the former.

During the "Pirate" era many young people had never heard of the Wireless Telegraphy Act and as a result had no idea why the stations were broadcasting from ships at sea. Because it is more recent, more people know about the Marine Broadcasting (Offences) Act, but do not understand its full implications, both politically and otherwise.

Older people understand the position a little better, but seem to lack any interest or enthusiasm; one reason for this is said to be the older folk associate

continued on page 27

"We loved the pirate station so please don't take them away"

Why not join us the
M.T.F.R.O.
Mal-Town Free Radio Organisation

it only costs
5/- to join and in return you
will receive many free radio
odds and ends including stickers.

Send S.A.E. for details to:-

M.T.F.R.O.
158 Leigh Sinton Road
Malvern Link
WORCS.

RTD We, after preparation, suddenly were informed that '270' was not to sail due to a press leakage in London. If the news of Caroline's return had not been released the station would have returned, and been broadcasting to this day.

PP You joined Radio Luxembourg. I presume it was good to get back to broadcasting again?

RTD I thought so at the time, but found Luxembourg no substitute for Caroline.

PP This is why you left?

RTD Yes. The studios were most impersonal places in which you could not possibly hope to create intimacy with ones audience. Also the records and controls were operated by one person.

PP Even so, I'm surprised you left, surely you were working alongside fellow ex-pirates?

RTD The ex-pirates I worked with on Luxembourg did not share my viewpoint, my views and my allegiance to the offshore stations, in fact quite the reverse.

PP Is it true that these and many other ex-pirate DJs would if given the opportunity condemn their former stations?

RTD Quite true. They should not do this, as all of them owe their present positions to one or other of the offshores. When on Luxembourg if ever I brought the names Caroline or 'Free Radio' into the conversation I was shouted down despite my insistence that they owed their announcing existence to the former pirates.

PP From the listeners point of view I find Luxembourg to be rather uninteresting, what do you think?

RTD It's very drab. For Britain's only commercial station it wastes a great opportunity. Most of their ideas are copied from the pirates, when they should be thinking up new ideas.

PP To return to Caroline; what do you believe are the chances of her return?

continued on page 19

FREE RADIO sale

PLEASE MAKE POSTAL
ORDERS PAYABLE TO
M.A. LEONARD

Pens - Red, Blue,
Black and Green

FREE RADIO

Slogan

-9d each

Set 4 - 2/6d.

Post Free.

Full colour post-
card size pictures.

1) Caroline North

- 9d each

2 for 1/3d

3 for 2/-

6 for 3/6d

2) Essex Girl

(first Caroline

Tender in Ramsey

Harbour)

- 9d each

(limited supply)

BREAKTHROUGH MAGAZINE Back
Back issues - Now collectors
items - obtainable nowhere
else!!

Issues I and 2 - 1/- each

Issues, 5, 6, 7, 8,

9, 10, 11 - 1/6d each

SPECIAL FREE RADIO RALLY

EDITION - (August 1969)

- 2/- each

PLUS PLUS PLUS PLUS PLUS PLUS

some rare ones !!

Special Issue (March 1969)

- Don Allen on Manx Radio -

Action Central Newsletter

(October 1968)

6d each

Please add 6d p&p for three
magazines, 1/- p&p for orders
over three issues.

EXCLUSIVE!!!!

35 minute tape (3 $\frac{3}{4}$ ips)

Featuring the discussion

about commercial radio

on the THIS WEEK (Thames

TV) programme PLUS inter-

view with Ronan O'Rahilly

on NEWS AT TEN (ITN) both

broadcast on Thursday, 4th

September 1969.

Two track 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ ips tape - 15/-

PLUS 6d p&p

Radio London Booklets

- Full history of BIG L

Price - 2/- incl p&p

Stickers from all stations

- full colour -

S8 - City Pirate

Licence

S9 - 270

S10 - K.I.N.G.

S11 - Sutch

S12 - 390

S1 - Caroline

S2 - Caroline

S3 - Big L

S4 - SRE/Britain

S5 - Scotland

S6 - City

S7 - City

Price - 1/- each

Plus 6d p&p OR

Set 12 - 10/6d

incl p&p.

RTD It depends very much on the outcome of the proceeding Court case in Holland.

PP I take it that if Caroline returned, so would you?

RTD Certainly!!

PP If the BBC approached you tomorrow and offered you a weekly programme, what would you say?

RTD No thank you!

PP After August 14th 1967 Caroline's existence took on a new meaning. It was during this period that Johnny Walker's broadcasting was for the greater part a pro-Caroline and anti-BBC campaign. Not long after the demise of Caroline, to my amazement, and no doubt that of all other listeners his attitude reversed, and apparently continues. Would you like to comment?

RTD This is a difficult one - I'll either be accused of jealousy or of being a traitor. Really I think Johnny was very silly to attack the BBC, he should have pretended it wasn't there, as I used to. As to saying he wouldn't work for the BBC it's like most young people saying they won't get married, inevitably they do of course. The answer is to watch what you say very carefully, never say anything that it's likely you'll have to go back on, especially on the radio-people do remember.

PP What are you doing at present?

RTD Operating my own discotheque and running an agency in which I am a partner. We supply DJs to the Scandinavian countries. Apart from that I'm always putting a lot of effort into bringing an offshore station back. One day I'll succeed.

PP To sum up, is there anything you wish to add?

RTD Yes, I'd like to thank all the readers for supporting commercial radio - it will come, never fear, but not because of all the people who are drooling over Radio One. It seems to be fashionable to support the BBC at the moment. Some people do forget easily! It's up to us to ensure that they don't. ■

The BIG,
W-i-d-e,
Wonderful
World of
DON
ALLEN

For more details
send SAE to
Mrs Norah E Swallow,
5 Pundles
Bradshaw
Halifax
Yorks

BANDSPREAD

☉ RADIO LUXEMBOURG re arranging their line-up for the winter - Kid Jensen now on at 7.30, Tony Prince at 9, Dave Christian 10.30 and Paul Burnett at midnight. Bob Stewart on news and with a show or two at weekends.

☉ YVES KUHN -who was responsible for the Caroline Revival Hour - now said to be touring America seeking support for regular broadcasts.

☉ AFN deny any knowledge of reports that they were to leave the medium wave this summer.

☉ WASN'T the Peter and Paul Show on 208 a BIG d-r-a-g ?

☉ Manx Radio Super power question comes up for Tynwald debate this month (October).

☉ STILL no sign of any regular transmissions to Britain from Radio Andorra, - two schemes which were certain starters have now collapsed - third time lucky?

RADIO TAPE will supply you with regular monthly shows of music memories, news and much more.

For full details and excerpts send us a small tape and return postage.

RADIO TAPE Allerdale, Waygate, Cleveleys, Lancs FY5 1JF

for their advertising. They are afraid that just as television was shown as a rival for the available advertising money, commercial radio would be yet another. So although brief reports will be given on meetings and rallies for commercial radio they are always slanted and frequently misrepresented and the general impression given that the people concerned are a bunch of cranks. Even politicians who support commercial radio talk about protecting newspapers and the great tragedy that it would be if a newspaper ceased to publish. At the moment crocodile tears are being shed because of the possibility of the "Sun" newspaper ceasing publication. If people who are members of the general public don't want to buy the "Sun" why should it survive? What magic is there to any newspaper; it is merely a form of communication. However, the British being what they are I am sure there must have been lots of protest at the passing of the town criers when newspapers were first published.

In ten years time I think there will only be two or three newspapers because our news and commentary on the news will come to us each day through the television receivers and at the pressing of a button the news will be pumped out of the tele-

-vision set on a long sheet of paper rather like a teleprinter works now. Equally our television and radio will come via satellites from all over the world but this will only happen when we accept that all forms of communication should be completely independent and that the listener and viewer in any country in the world should be able to see and hear anything he chooses. ■

FIRST B

Under 21 ?

How about a U.S Penpal ?

Send your name, age hobbies and full address, with a 4/- Postal Order to

A Yates
10 Hendwell Close
Southway
PLYMOUTH



RADIO NORD

station survey

Radio Nord - "The radio in time with the time". After much trouble with the ship, Radio Nord started regular broadcasts on March 8th 1961. The station had planned to be on the air in the autumn of 1960, this was later postponed to Christmas 1960. In fact many special Christmas shows were taped, but the ship troubles once again delayed the opening.

Most of the programmes were recorded some days before in studios located in Stockholm, Sweden. The tapes were then sent out to the ship in a waterproof metal capsule and dropped in the sea from an aeroplane. Crew members then fished the capsule from the water. A live news service was broadcast every hour.

At midnight on June 30th 1962 the station went off the air - on instructions from the owners in Texas. This close-down came one month before the operation of the Swedish anti-pirate Act. The Act in fact came into force at midnight on July 31st 1962. One of the commercials in Radio Nord's last hour was for the ship!

LOCATION

Broadcast from the ship "Bon Jour" (later "Mi Amigo" - Caroline South), anchored in international waters off Stockholm, Sweden.

WAVELENGTH

495m medium wave

AUDIENCE

1 million homes (3 million people)

BACKING

Owned by businessmen in Texas, USA. Managing Director in Stockholm - Jack S Kotschack

FORMAT

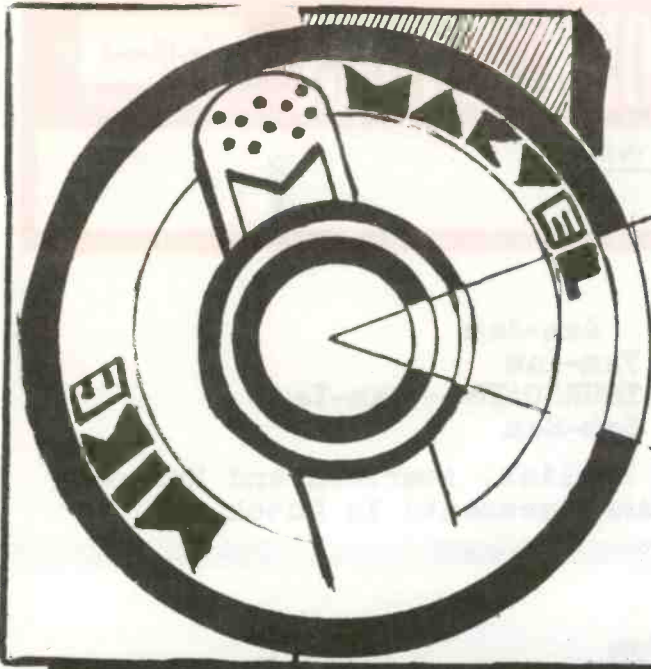
All types of music from easy listening to rock'n roll. news on the hour.

POWER

Two 10Kw transmitters

AIRTIME

24 hours a day.

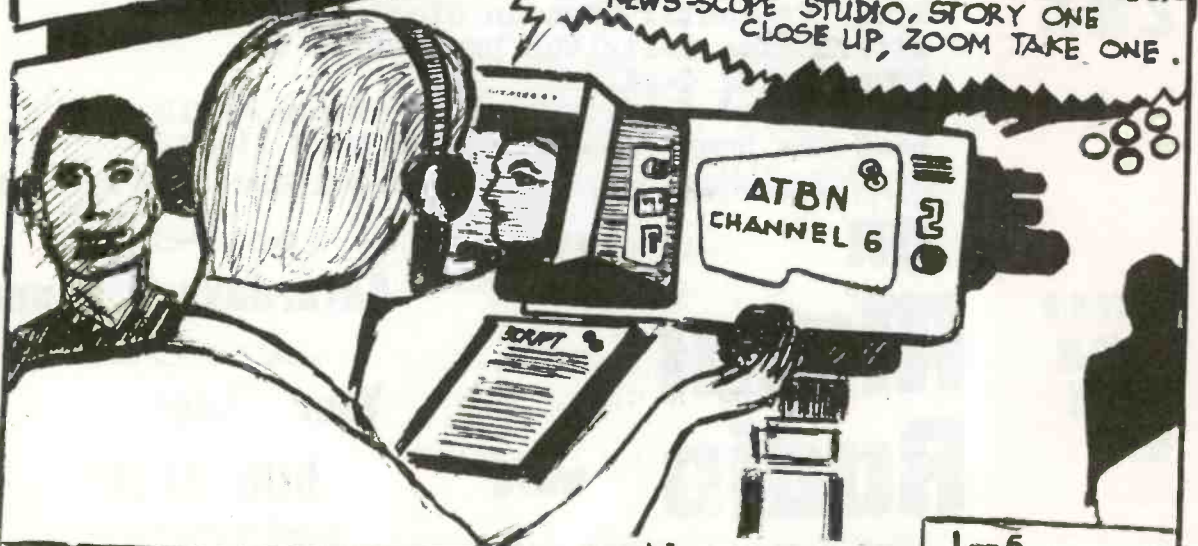


KEN KNIGHT UK 89.8. PICSTRIP
Ken Knight GB UK 8-89

KNIGHT
89

A SOUND PICSTRIP FOR
"BREAKTHROUGH"
BY KEN KNIGHT

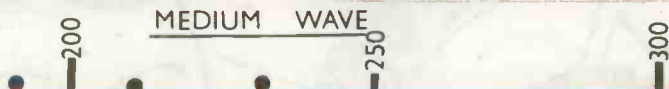
OK STUDIO STAND BY.....
CUE TO TITLES.... GRAMS INTRO MUSIC
NEWS-SCOPE STUDIO, STORY ONE
CLOSE UP, ZOOM TAKE ONE.



contd on page 25

THE VOICE OF YOUR CHOICE

instant
programme guide



192

VERONICA

SATURDAYS 6am-2am
SUNDAYS - 7am-1am
MONDAYS - THURSDAYS - 6am-1am
FRIDAYS - 6am-2am

Wide variety of English, American and European popular music. Announcements in Dutch.

208

LUXEMBOURG

SUNDAYS -7pm-3am
MONDAYS - SATURDAYS 7.30pm-3am

Pop music all night, news on the hour.

232

MANX

DAILY -7am-7pm (religious programmes after 7pm until station close-down)
Alternative religious programmes on 188m during daytime.
music based format, weather checks at 15 past the hour, local news at peak times.

There's a
World of
Country
Music

on
**Manx
Radio**

232m.

med.

wave


Saturdays 2-4 pm


Your host-

DON ALLEN


THIS IS WALLACE B WINSLAKE WITH NEWS OF A VERY EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT IT HAS JUST BEEN REPORTED THAT MIKE MARVEL OF WRSW....



TV FLASHES THE NEWS

MEANWHILE AT SANDS BEACH SPACE CENTER....



SPACE GROUND CREWS PREPARE THE CRAFT FOR COUNTDOWN

NO PROBLEMS ALL SYSTEMS OK.

... AND MIKE TESTS HIS SPACE FLIGHT SUIT

PRESSURE NORMAL AIR FLOW OK... OXYGEN... NORMAL ... WATER COOLED VEST FUNCTIONING 'A' OK.

BLEEP ROGER!....

BLEEP ROGER ... WE HAVE NORMALITY, ALL READINGS!

©KEN KNIGHT 69

POP SPIN

BY PETER PEDLEY

Morning!

So the Admiral Robbie Dale has joined Radio One. What a shock to hear him announced as a "DJ Discovery"- the cheek of it! I

suppose we will get an explanation from him soon, somehow (though I may be wrong) I still feel that I trust Robbie. Whatever may happen though, you and I know there are two BIG names who shall always be loyal to Caroline - Don Allen and Roger Day. I hope that it is not too long before Ronan rewards these two for their exceptional and unparalled loyalty.

Kenny Everett still the most entertaining DJ on Radio One and the things he gets away with!

Some excellent singles out at present, including several more re-releases. Highly recommended for getting up and charging around to are:-

Lee Dorsey	- Everything I Do	-Bell
Thelma Houston	-Jumpin' Jack Flash	-Dunhill
Mighty Sam	-Papa True Love	-Soul City
Giant Crab	- E. S. P.	-UNI
Andy Kim	-Baby I Love You	-Dot
Laurel Atkin	-Hailes Selaise	-Pama-Nu-Beat
Billy Butler	-The Right Track	-Soul City

I note that Major Minor have re-released Soul Coaxing by Raymond Lefevre (this brings back 259 memories), the 'B' side is WHEN A MAN LOVES A WOMAN. Another re-release that is worth buying is Tony Joe White - Saul Francisco on Monument.

Finally two discs that I find are still available and definately recommended for your collection -

(1968) Clancy Eccles - 'Feel The Rhythm' - Dr Bird
 (1967) Bobby Johnson - 'Do It Again A Little Bit Slower' - Ember

The Bobby Johnson record must be in your record cabinet, but not for the 'A' side. The 'B' side is the most dynamic version of TRAMP I have had the pleasure of hearing. It might take a couple of weeks for your record shop to obtain it, but it's definitely worth it!

Once again then, Cheerio,

Peter Pedley

0 CLASSIFIED 0

WANTED

MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED

Radio England Tapes
(any quality)

Please write to
Peter Lenton
101 Pytchley Road
Kettering
NORTHANTS.

Limited number
empty 7" spools
- 2/6d each incl
p&p. Send Blank
Postal Order to

BOX JLN 33
Breakthrough.

when answering
ads ...

Say You Saw

**breakthrough
CLASSIFIED**

NEVER USED !!

Desk-top photo-
copier and
"Sightscope" -
for photocopying
bulky items -
£13 -10 - 0d
incl p&p.
Enquiries to
BOX JLN 36
Breakthrough.

U.S RADIO - From page II

Rhythm and Blues, Ameri-
can music, religious
programmes and music etc.

One feature which is
almost unique to Ameri-
can radio is the foreign
language programmes from
the local stations - des-
igned for the colonies of
Italians, Spanish Germans
etc.

Also, in America, in
strict contrast to the
attitude of the British,
the press own a large
number of radio and TV
stations. ■

has the

has the

"IN" side

story

independent
continues
that the
music. If
can it be
half of Rad
Caroline's
listeners
years of
proportion
from 50

I am
that older
more pers
problems,
concentrate
than other
issues.

The last
from the
never under
repeatedly
rights to
democratic
ependent.
it insist
ependence,

Government
broadcasting
a murmur?
suggested
fear commerci
ause they thin
steal their
revenue, yet
where independ
has always
life, most
far more alive
our own.

In spite
obstacles,
Radio grow
body is now
delighted
now feel
the future!

RADIO VERONICA

In 1966 Radio Veronica won an international award for her contribution to European broadcasting - the award was for consistently high standards and entertainment value in programmes.

FACTORS which have given rise to the latest fears are firstly the fact that the anti-pirate Act now looks certain to become law next February and the Dutch minister of communications told television viewers in an interview two weeks ago that Radio Veronica would be included in the scope of this Act. He went on to say that Veronica was a danger because of interference caused to ship-to-shore communications.

STAFF changes at the station also seem to indicate that there are plans to close in the near future. Robbie Dale

left to concentrate on his TV work - he has not been replaced. Rob Out is presently doing a month's spell of service in the Army, and it is strongly rumoured that he too will concentrate on TV work, when he comes out.

AT the end of last year there were plans to move the transmissions from 192m to somewhere around the 500m spot, and in the last few months there have been plans to move to a new ship - the third in the history of the station. It is understood that these plans have been scrapped.

28

THERE is no official comment from Radio Veronica, but a spokesman has said that the station has commercials booked right until the early 1970's. However, it is said in some quarters that the station will close on December 31 this year, and so avoid any clash with the Government.



BANDSPREAD appears on page 20 this month



FIRST

AND FOREMOST **breakthrough**

FREE RADIO WEEK -

breakthrough

MAGAZINE

No.10

Sept. 69

1/6d

THE VOICE OF
COMMERCIAL RADIO

RALLY SUCCESS

The call of the bokmakierie bird daily introduces a Radio RSA broadcast for Britain.



see centrespread



see page 9

The two Free Radio Rallies held in Trafalgar Square on Sunday August 10, and Sunday August 17 were a great success!

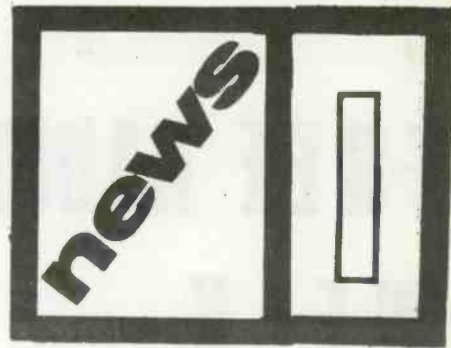
The August 10th Rally, organised by the Free Radio Campaign and the National Commercial Radio Movement had an attendance of between 1,500 and 2,000 people.

On August 17 the Free Radio Association held their International Rally and had an attendance of approximately 3,000 supporters.

In the week between the Rallies - officially designated Free Radio Week - many land-based pirates came on the air, and many midnight vigils were held all over the country on August 14/15 to mark the anniversary of the passing of the Marine Broadcasting (Offences) Act 1967. One of the other stunts which helped to promote Free Radio Week was the planting of a Free Radio flag on Broadcasting House in London - on two successive days!

continued on page 20

CHANNEL ISLANDS STATION



There's a
World of
Country
Music

on
**Manx
Radio**

232m. med. wave

~~~~~  
Saturdays 2-4 pm

~~~~~  
Your host-

DON ALLEN

~~~~~  
Don't miss the WIDE  
& WONDERFUL WORLD OF  
DON ALLEN - for details  
etc. send sae to:  
Mrs Norah E Swallow  
5 Pundles, Bradshaw,  
HALIFAX, Yorks.

Guernsey are not able at present to take part in any further talks about establishing a local radio station in the Channel Islands.

No further progress can be made at present, until the Islands Post Office Board have heard what the Postmaster General has to say about the proposal. This follows the publication of the BBC's plans for radio broadcasting in the 1970's

There have been twelve applications from various groups to launch a radio station in the Islands. News of the proposed Channel station was first published in **BREAKTHROUGH** in April this year.

## R. E. S. W. PLAN

Radio England (South West) is due on the air on September in the Bournemouth area. The station is a sister to the highly successful one in Brighton.

At first programmes will be on Sundays only and if these are a success they will be extended to Saturday evenings and Sunday evenings. Airtime to start with will be 10am-6pm on 227m



# In This Issue ●

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 Station Survey (Radio City) Pages 14,15  
 Voice of your Choice Page 16  
 Hot Ten Sounds Page 17  
 Pop Spin Pages 18,19  
 Classified Ads Page 19

Published by  
 Action Central  
 2 Alvanley Road  
 Liverpool LI2 8QX

# comment

So now we are to have Free Radio !! the licence fee is to be abolished. If this can be done simply because it costs too much to collect and the the BBC isn't getting enough revenue from it then surely this is a further point in favour of commercial radio?

Radio could be financed from advertising and thus relieve the necessity of having any licence, similarly with television.

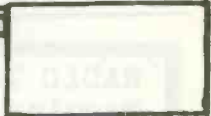
The argument put forward against this is that the consumer pays indirectly for commercial radio. Well, if an advertiser decides to spend a certain amount on publicising his product it is unlikely that the fact radio is included as one of the media that the price of that product will rise. This is a false argument against commercial radio, and one which needs to be cleared up soon.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Please make all cheques/Postal Orders payable to M A Leonard

- 1 MONTH 1/6d plus 6d p&p
- 3 MONTHS 5/- Incl. p&p
- 6 MONTHS 10/- Incl. p&p
- 12 MONTHS £1 Incl p&p

GGGGGGGGGG



If an X appears here it means your subscription has now run out. To renew it simply complete the enclosed form and send it, with the appropriate Postal Order, using the pre-addressed envelope.

**news**

**2**

# 208 CHANGES

## I.O.W. STATION

Radio Free Wight now on the air in the Isle of Wight area on 259m.

The station is on the air most evenings from 6pm onwards and on August 14 it was on all day paying tribute to the offshore stations.

Format is Top 20 plus many 'Golden Oldies'.

As from January 1970 Radio Luxembourg is to change some of its foreign language programme timings.

Programmes from 5-6 will be in German, and from 6-7.30 (Sundays 7) Dutch language programmes will be broadcast. The English service remains unchanged.

## veronica / robbie dale mystery

There is still a mystery surrounding Robbie Dale and Radio Veronica. Robbie announced on his show on Sunday August 10th that it would be his last broadcast.

However, many people believe that this is only a temporary break and that Robbie will be back on I92 soon.

No comment is available from Radio Veronica at press time.

*when answering ads . . .*

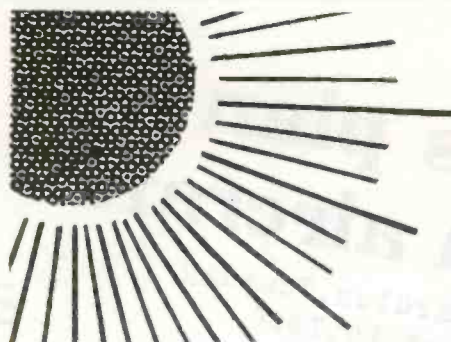
**Say You Saw It in  
Breakthrough**

RADIO TAPE will supply you with regular monthly shows of music memories, news and much more.

For full details and excerpts send us a small tape and return postage.

RADIO TAPE Allerdale, Waygate,  
Cleveleys, Lancs FY5 1JF





# sun radio

# FREE

The Radio Licence is to be abolished as from April 1971.

This is because the Government believe it is costing too much to collect. The licence costs 25/- a year but it is calculated that it costs 5/- to collect and this is uneconomic.

The new combined TV and radio licence will be increased to £6-10-0d, and a higher fee will be charged for a colour TV licence (see comment - page 3)



The weekend sound of Free Radio is on the air now in the South East - SUN RADIO. The station broadcasts on Bank Holidays and every Sunday on 239m medium wave.

Programme Schedule:-

11am-12noon STU PHILLIPS SHOW  
12noon-1pm CARL RIVERS SHOW  
1pm-2pm TONY SHERIDEN SHOW

It is planned soon to issue free day-glo stickers in support of the station, free to listeners on request.

when answering ads ...  
Say You Saw It in

# breakthrough

# WHAT IS RADIO ?

## RADIO IS FUN

**manx radio**  
 232 metres Daylight Hours  
 188 metres Darkness  
 89 mc/s & 91.2 mc/s VHF All Day



# Pirates plan TV from aircraft

The Guardian, Tuesday  
August 19, 1969

If you want  
to be a hit  
at 20,000 ft

Daily Mirror, Saturday  
August 23, 1969

Ronan  
confirms  
plans for -

# CAROLINE

# TV

BREAKTHROUGH MAGAZINE (issue No 9 - on  
sale July 31, 1969

## FREE!!!

TO ALL OWNERS OF TAPE RECORDERS

Send 1/- to cover post and packing and I'll send you  
FREE a short tape of Free Radio Jingles

RICHARD TURNER

19 PIDDINGHOE AVENUE, PEACEHAVEN, SUSSEX

Again and  
again  
and again

# breakthrough

proves that it  
is first with  
the news

Opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those of the editorial policy followed by BREAKTHROUGH

PERSPECTIVE

More personal opinions on possible future structures for radio broadcasting in Britain. This month's article is from John Rosborough of Belfast, N.Ireland.



My ideal system of radio broadcasting in the United Kingdom comprises broadcasting at three levels.

The BBC would be retained providing two services on two medium wavelengths and VHF, - Radio 1 (detailed news, plays and other features), Radio 2 (classical music, light pop, middle of the road music, "Family Favourites" etc). Licences would be cut to 10/-.

Authorised 50 Kw stations (about 5) should be set up for almost national coverage of pop music, operating

commercially, eg one in Scotland, Isle of Man, North of England and two in the South, all on medium wave.

Lastly the all important local radio on low power medium wave and VHF. There would be about 100 of these broadcasting local news and music, operated by competent organisations.

This would give the average listener a choice of 6 or 7 stations, and the more adventurous radio enthusiast could possibly receive a dozen of them.



MOBILE DISCOTHEQUE

FOR DETAILS WRITE:

'Irlam,' Glossop Road, Gamesley, Glossop, Derbys

As a lover of the former 'pirate' radio stations you have probably read with interest the possibility of new stations. Let us not forget the original 'pirates' however, and in particular let us not forget Graham Gill, Radios London, 355 and 390.

Graham is an Australian and when the Government forced the 'Pirates' off the air, the Home Office refused to grant him a work permit. He loves England and English people, and his many friends are here, so he fought very hard for the right to stay, but was unsuccessful. Eventually the authorities forced him to leave England under threat of heavy fine, imprisonment and finally deportation. He is at present in Holland, where he has been since being forced to leave England, but his dearest wish is to return to live and work in the country he loves.

FOR ALL RECORDING  
TAPE  
CONTACT

J M Pearson  
13 Queen St.,  
Horbury,  
Wakefield  
Yorks.

German made  
Basf tape,  
BEST QUALITY

LETTER TAPES STILL 5/-  
CASSETTE TAPES STILL 17/6d

Postage 6d per tape

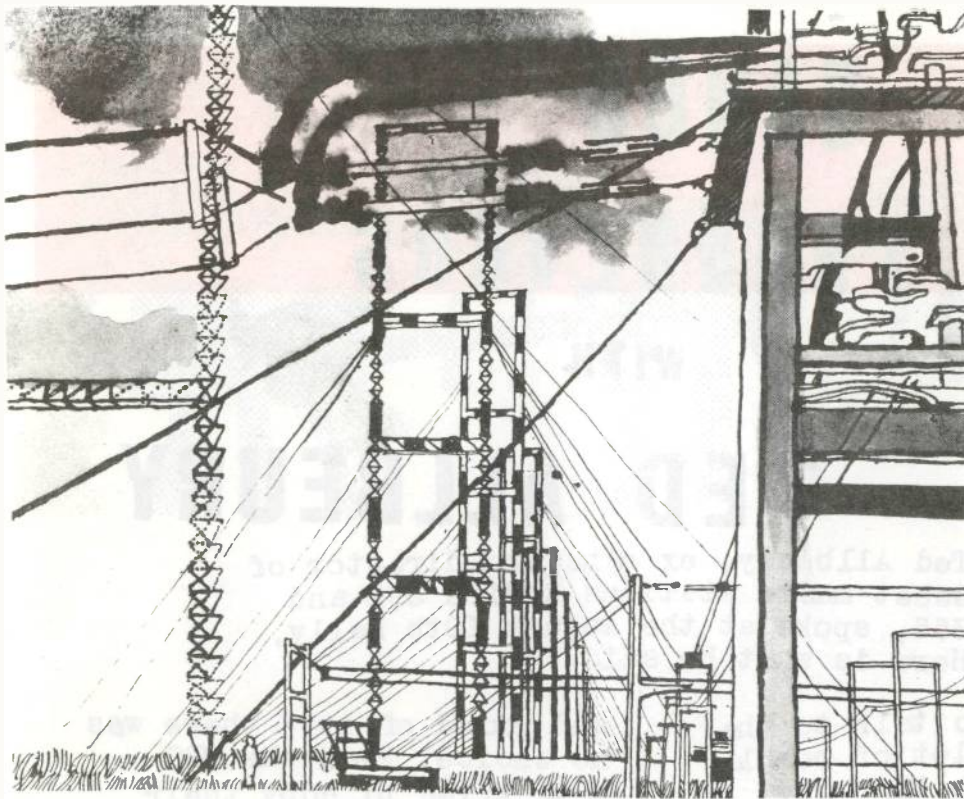
Orders over £1-10-0 POST FREE

Letter Tape complete with  
Box and Index.

That is part of a hand-out distributed by the Graham Gill Fan Club, and illustrates graphically the Governments attitude towards people involved with offshore radio.

The terms of the Marine Offences Act would not have applied to Graham because he was an Australian, so in order to be as awkward and nasty as possible the Government took these measures to force him out of the country. No doubt this is why many other offshore DJs left, but what harm were they doing by staying? NONE. The Governments attitude is vicious in the extreme, and denies a man the freedom to work where he pleases.





# RADIO RSA CALLING BRITAIN

Each night the clear call of the bokmakierie bird heralds a 50-minute-long broadcast beamed to Britain by 'Radio R.S.A., the Voice of South Africa'.

This forms part of the external service of the South African Broadcasting Corporation which has now been in operation for a little over three years and is broadcast from the M. F. Verwoerd transmitting station near Johannesburg.

The transmissions vary in duration from 12 minutes to nearly four hours for a general service in English and Afrikaans to the rest of the African continent.

The recent introduction of Chichewa for Rhodesia, Zambia and Malawi, brought the number of languages in which the broadcasts are made to ten. These are English,

Afrikaans, Dutch, German, French, Portuguese, Zulu, Tshonga, Swahili and Chichewa. The broadcasts cover Africa, Europe, North America and Australasia.

At present listeners in the United Kingdom and Ireland can receive the daily transmission from 1900 until 1950 local time on the 21500 kHz (13m) and the 17795 kHz (16m) frequencies.

The programme schedule now being followed in the English Service is given below. The programmes include features on South Africa's history, tourist attractions and industrial, agricultural and research work in various fields. Music programmes include the traditional music of the various population groups.

## PROGRAMME SCHEDULE:

Radio RSA English Service 4th May to 1st November, 1969



## stickers

...from all stations

- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| S1 -I love Caroline   | S7 - City tower of power |
| S2 -I want myCaroline | S8 -City Pirate Licence  |
| S3 - Big L            | S9 -Radio 270            |
| S4 -SRE/Britain Radio | S10-K I N G Radio        |
| S5 -Radio Scotland    | S11-Radio Sutch          |
| S6 -Radio City        | S12-Radio 390            |

I/- each plus 6d postage  
or 10/6d full set incl.  
postage.

All POs payable to  
M A Leonard.

| Mondays                | Tuesdays               | Wednesdays             | Thursdays               | Fridays                | Saturdays               | Sundays                |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| News                   | News                   | News                   | News                    | News                   | News                    | News                   |
| World Affairs          | Comment                | Comment                | Comment                 | Comment                | Economic Survey         | Africa Survey          |
| South African Panorama | South African Panorama | South African Panorama | South African Panorama  | South African Panorama | South African Panorama  | 300 Years in Africa    |
| Trading Partner        | P.O. Box 4559          | Historical Notebook    | South African Wild Life | A Place in the Sun     | Music RSA Talking Point | Meditation             |
| Conversation Corner    |                        | DX Corner              | Conversation Corner     | P.O. Box 4559          | World of Science        | South African Serenade |
| News Headlines         | News Headlines         | News Headlines         | News Headlines          | News Headlines         | News Headlines          | News Headlines         |

# Graham Gill Fan Club

for full details  
send sae to

Mrs Pam Wood,  
3 Heathside Avenue  
Coxheath  
Nr Maidstone  
KENT

## B.B.C. FIASCO

Statistics taken from  
a recent issue of "World  
Radio and TV Handbook"

The BBC broadcasts on 15 different wavelengths on the Long and Medium wavebands. To do this it uses no less than 60 different transmitters with a total output power of more than 2180 Kw. Using these transmitters on 15 wavelengths it broadcasts Radios 1, 2, 3 and 4 to all parts of the UK. It also repeats many of these broadcasts on VHF, excluding the local radio stations which use many more transmitters and about a further 1260 Kw power.

Even though the BBC has got its vast complex of transmitters and such a large number of wavelengths at its disposal it fails to satisfy the listening desires of quite a sizeable section of the population.

It may be argued that to give a reasonably clear service to all parts of the UK then all these wavelengths and transmitters are needed, but there are still many parts of the UK where reception of Radio One is unsatisfactory, and where it is impossible after sunset.

One might well ask why the BBC has to use such an elaborate expensive, wasteful and unnecessary system of stations? The answer lies with the unapproachable BBC Board of Governors and its equally complicated technical department, and only they

Continued on page 19

## RED SANDS

## RENDEZVOUS

WITH

## TED ALLBEURY

Ted Allbeury, ex managing director of sweet music stations Radios 390 and 355, spoke at the August 10th Rally, Here is what he said :-

"I want to talk to the squares! A lot of people believe that the only people who want free radio are the 'swinging cats', but this is not true. A lot of grey-haired people want free radio.

We have a right to the type of radio we want - no government permission is necessary to start a newspaper, make a film or write a book. This is how it should be with radio. Subject to certain technical qualifications anybody should be able to start a radio station.

Until the pirates came along, and I'm calling them pirates, NOT offshore operators - I was a pirate

and proud of it! - there was no choice. Even the BBC have tried to copy their ideas, but have failed for pop and sweet music fans.

One of the things the Government said against us was that we did not operate inside the Copenhagen Plan, but 300 odd stations, including the BBC are not operating within the Plan!

They also said we did not pay fees to the Performing Rights Society, - we did! Despite the fact that I sent receipts to the Postmaster General he sent out letters saying we didn't pay, - how low

continued on page 13 9



**Red Sands Rendezvous**  
Continued from page 9

can you get? They just wanted to make a case. They also said that the Musicians Union did not like the idea of pirate stations well, apparently the Musicians Union don't like what they have instead either! In addition they said that from the creative point of view the Association of Broadcasting Staffs was not happy. However, with more stations on the air this leads to a freer movement of staff, as in television.

The BBC now propose an all pop Radio I and a sweet music Radio 2. This is an attempt to copy the pirates and it is a bad copy. We can do a better job, and save money. If they let us come back the licence fee can go down and we can relieve the BBC of a lot of its duties.

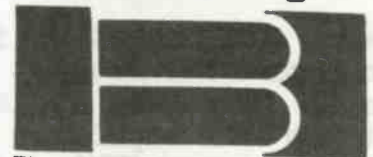
In the USA the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has rules based on freedom written into the Constitution. These say:-  
"Any citizen who meets certain technical requirements is entitled to operate a radio station."

The Berlin Wall is not the only wall against freedom, there is a wall against

freedom in Portland Place.

The Tories have promised commercial radio will be set up. Let's see it is top priority and let's have lots of competing radio - not just a State radio and one commercial station, but lots! "

**Breakthrough**



The SIGN of great reading

**Whitley Bay Branch of the FRA**

Special offer until Christmas Day standard:

- 3" | 150ft | 3/- ea. | 7/- for 3
- 5" | 600ft | 7/- ea. | 18/- for 3
- 7" | 1200ft | 10/- ea. | 27/- for 3

long play:

- 3" | 240ft | 4/- ea. | 10/- for 3
- 5" | 900ft | 10/- ea. | 25/- for 3
- 7" | 1800ft | 15/- ea. | 39/- for 3

double play:

- 3" | 300ft | 5/6 ea. | 14/- for 3
- 5" | 1200ft | 12/6 ea. | 34/- for 3
- 7" | 2400ft | 22/- ea. | 60/- for 3

NB enclose 2/- p&p with each order (C.W.O)

c/o NEFRA. (Correspondence Dept)  
10 Holywell Ave., Whitley Bay,  
Northumberland.



# RADIO CITY

## station survey

RADIO CITY (station identification "The Tower of Power" or "The Request Station of the Nation") began in May 1964 as Radio Sutch.

It was an impulsive move that put the station on a fort, because 'Screaming Lord Sutch', the pop singer who owned the station had in fact set sail in a small boat. On passing the Shivering Sands Fort he decided that it would be a safer base than his vessel and consequently all transmitting equipment, such as it was, was hoisted aboard.

Radio Sutch met with little success, and 'Lord Sutch' sold the station to his manager Reg Calvert in September 1964. The station's name was changed to Radio City, and a new transmitter was built by the engineers. A new pop music format was also adopted. This put the station in direct competition with the more popular Caroline South, and later Radio London. However Radio City became popular with a large number of listeners and advertisers alike, and had a successful time until mid 1966.

In the middle of 1966 (although the full facts are not known) it is understood that Radio London was planning to take over City, re-name it UKGM (United Kingdom Good Music Station) and launch it as a rival to 390 and Britain Radio. At the same time Caroline was looking at the possibility of leaving the ship-base in the South East area, and sailing the 'Mi Amigo' (newly fitted out after having run aground in January) to the Bristol Channel to launch Caroline West. (Caroline West had first been planned from the 'Cheetah II', but this ship was impounded at Harwich after docking in May 1966).

There was talk of double dealing, and it all ended with the tragic shooting of Reg Calvert.

Calvert's death brought reaction from the people who were horrified at possibilities of further pirate actions ( the Radio City fort had been taken over physically shortly before Calvert's death) and the Government was spurred into action. Within a month they had published a draft of the Bill which was later to become the Marine Offences Act, and shortly after took proceedings against the three fort-based stations. The result of this action was that a Court ruled Shivering Sands to be within territorial waters and the operators were fined £100 and the station closed at midnight on February 8, 1967.

### location

Shivering Sands Fort, in the Thames Estuary, 9 miles off Whitstable.

### wavelength

299 m medium wave

### airtime

6am- midnight.

### audience

3 million

### backing

As Radio Sutch - 'Screaming Lord Sutch', a pop singer. He sold out to his manager, Reg Calvert in September 1964, who ran it until his death in 1968. His widow, Mrs Dorothy Calvert then took over.

### programming

Top 60 ('City Sixty'), newscasts and weather.

### power

Equipment built by Radio City engineers, 20 Kw power, from an aerial 240 feet high

Radio City reception area



# THE VOICE OF YOUR CHOICE

instant

programme guide

200

MEDIUM WAVE

250

300

400

192

## VERONICA

SATURDAYS 6am-2am

SUNDAYS - 7am-1am

MONDAYS - THURSDAYS - 6am-1am

FRIDAYS - 6am-2am

Wide variety of English, American and European popular music. Announcements in Dutch.

208

## LUXEMBOURG

SUNDAYS -7pm-3am

MONDAYS - SATURDAYS 7.30pm-3am

Pop music all night, news on the hour.

232

## MANX

DAILY -7am-7pm ( religious programmes after 7pm until station close-down)

Alternative religious programmes on 188m during daytime.

music based format, weather checks at 15 past the hour, local news at peak times.

428

## ANDORRA

SATURDAY MORNINGS 1am-2am

English service - Underground music



**DISCO**

**hot ten sounds**

- (1) In the Year 2525  
Zagear and Evans
- (2) My Cherie Amour  
Stevie Wonder
- (3) Saved by the Bell  
Robin Gibb
- (4) Make Me an Island  
Joe Dolan
- (5) Curly  
Move
- (6) Conversations  
Cilla Black
- (7) St Tu Dois Partir  
Fairport Convention
- (8) Viva Bobby Joe  
Equals
- (9) Natural Born Bugie  
Humble Pie
- (10) Give Peace a Chance  
Plastic One Band

**Say You Saw It in  
Breakthrough**

**breakthrough**

We apologise for the delay in sending the Special Edition to subscribers who ordered it at the beginning of the month.

The delay was due to a number of circumstances over which we had no control.

Copies of the Special Issue are still available price 2/- incl p&p. Please make your cheque/Postal Order payable to M A Leonard.

**N.E.F.R.A.**



North Eastern Sector  
of the Free Radio Assn.

FRA Badges Purple on White  
(limited supply) 1/- each  
2/6d for 3.

'RADIO ONE IS DEAD' (15"x3")  
6d each

"KEEL HAUL HAROLD" Posters,  
Black and Red on White, 1/6d  
each, 10/- dozen.

Photo prints set of 5- 2/6d  
(270, Big L, Caroline N & S,  
and 227/355-can be used as  
postcards)

**THESE ARE SPECIAL OFFERS NOT  
REPEATED ON OUR PRICE LIST**

Send see and Postal Order to  
N E F R A , 301 Durham Road  
Gateshead 9, Co Durham

# POP SPIN

## disc & discotheque

BY PETER PEDLEY

Well, they were two good Rallies, and I was lucky enough to be at both of them. During the Rallies and the week that lay between them I met some wonderful people, and am so happy that so many genuine Free Radio people still exist. During the forthcoming issues of BREAKTHROUGH all sorts of delightful items will be unfurled due to these folks I was so lucky to meet.

Before a rather short disc review (kept short to make way for free radio news) I must make a special mention of one person in particular who I met whilst in London-Roger "Twiggy" Day. Quite briefly one of the most genuine blokes you could ever wish to meet. Thank you Roger for your courtesy, cups of tea and help!

Temptations - Cloud Nine - Tamla Motown ★★★

Just in case this doesn't get many plays, as it's not as 'Tamla' as usual, I'll recommend it to you "all the way". Exciting replacement of the usual backing strings by voices, gives impact. Hard, tight and neat sound it is Discotheque -ideal.

Aavon Neville - Tell it like it is - B&C ★★★

Re-release of a good old classic that I don't remember. What I would describe as 'Fresh Soul'.

Booker T - Soul Clap - Stax ★★★

Oh boy! After a couple of spins this will knock you out. Should have equal chance as Time is Tight.

Before I sign off, as a sort of thank you to R Day Esq., may I recommend you to join his Fan Club, the address is

as follows : Roger Day Fan Club, 27 Canterbury Road, Margate, Kent.

Until next month then,

*Peter Pedley*

THOUGHT : If you and every reader of BREAKTHROUGH enrolled at least ONE new reader this month, just imagine how that would not only double circulation, but improve your magazine even more. Think about it, and ACT NOW !

# CLASSIFIED MART

## WANTED

### WANTED

Newspapers, Pre War 1939/1940.

Your price. Details first, please.

Also publicity records.  
Buy/Exchange

Box JLN 31  
Breakthrough

## MISCELLANEOUS

Fred Hasler, Chairman of the NCRM particularly thanks the folks from the North for making the journey to the Rally on the 10th, and BREAKTHROUGH for publicising and supporting the Rally.

Congratulations!! FRA on the best ever Free Radio Rally on Aug 17 and also a great news-letter

N E F R A

when answering

ads . . .

Say You Saw

It in

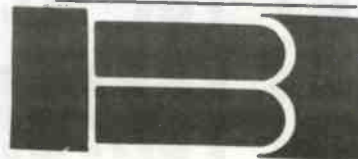
breakthrough  
**CLASSIFIED**

BBC FIASCO -  
from page 12

could account for such a blatant waste of frequencies and public money. This is a time when Productivity and efficiency are being emphasised by the Government, but if a public service makes no attempt to be efficient how can we expect anybody else to bother?

# FIRST

AND FOREMOST





# breakthrough MAGAZINE

continued from page 20

Both Rallies were followed by marches. The August 10th march proceeded to the Conservative Party Central Office in Smith Square to present a petition in support of commercial radio. The organisers decided to completely ignore 10 Downing Street because as they said "Harold Wilson has completely ignored the listeners demands for commercial radio".

On the other hand the August 17 marchers went directly to 10 Downing Street where they left a Free Radio T Shirt for the Prime Minister.

For full reports of both Rallies and reports of the main speeches you must read the special rally edition of BREAKTHROUGH MAGAZINE - still on sale - 2/- including p&p. When ordering please mark your envelope "Special Edition" and make your cheque/Postal Order payable to M A Leonard.

**FIRST for NEWS  
and FEATURES**

20

# EXCLUSIVE !

## new features

.. a new picstrip

by Ken Knight.... don't miss the first episode!

**EXCLUSIVE**

interview with Roger 'Twiggy' Day .

Roger answers questions— about what happened in Amsterdam after the Caroline ships arrived, -what happened in London in the weeks after the station had gone off the air; why a plan to bring Caroline back met with failure, -what happened in Luxembourg and why he left 208, and many many more.

This is the first of a new series of EXCLUSIVE interviews arranged for BREAKTHROUGH MAGAZINE by our very own Peter Pedley...

...Keep in tune with commercial radio .... buy BREAKTHROUGH every month ( and tell you friends about it !!)

**breakthrough**

**MAGAZINE** No.8

July 69  
1/6d

**RADIO**

THE VOICE OF  
COMMERCIAL RADIO

**CHANNEL ISLES**

news..

**FIRST**

AND FOREMOST

news..

**FIRST**

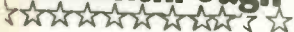
TO BE READ

news..

**FIRST**

IN

**breakthrough**



For over three months we have been reporting news of moves by Parliaments in the Channel Islands to establish a commercial radio station. Now comes news of a detailed plan to set up and operate a station in the islands

**Research**

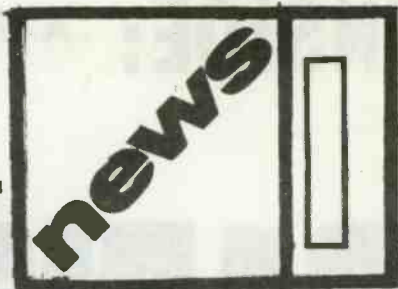
The plan is the result of three years research by a group headed by Mr Stephen Muir Field, a radio engineer from Guernsey and Mr Jonathon Hall, previously with Radio 390 and now working in commercial TV.

**15 hours**

Full studies have been made of management techniques and equipment used in local radio stations all over the world. The plan provides for studios to be set up in Jersey and Guernsey and for the station to broadcast 15 hours a day. The station could expand at a later date to 24 hours.

continued on back page

# NEW B.B.C. RADIO STRUCTURE REPORT



There's a  
World of  
Country  
Music

## on **Manx Radio**

232m. med. wave

Saturdays 3-5 pm

Your host -

**DON ALLEN**

Don't miss the WIDE  
& WONDERFUL WORLD OF  
DON ALLEN - for details  
etc. send sae to:  
Mrs Norah E Swallow  
5 Pundles, Bradshaw,  
HALIFAX, Yorks.

The long awaited report on future structure for BBC radio is to be published later this month. However, at press time (June 30) BREAKTHROUGH MAGAZINE understands that the report will make the following recommendations:-

RADIO ONE will concentrate on all pop music, RADIO 2 will be devoted to sweet music, RADIO 3 is to be transferred to the VHF band and will carry classical music for 90% of its time. RADIO 4 will be used for an extended news and drama service.

### 'quality'

The BBC argue that although only one fifth of radios can receive VHF broadcasts, the transfer of Radio 3 from the medium wave will mean better quality.

### radio 2

What will happen to the present Radio 3 transmitters? It is thought that they could be used for experimental local broadcasting but in the immediate future it is probable that the vacant wavelengths

will be used for Radio 2 broadcasts. -Radio 2 is only available on VHF and long wave.

## N.W. RADIO PLAN

An II man group has come up with a plan for non-profit making commercial radio to operate in the North West, alongside BBC services.



## In This Issue ●

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(Caroline South)  
Pages 14/15
- The Voice of Your  
Choice  
Page 16
- UK Sound Scene  
Page 17
- Pop Spin  
Pages 18/19

Published by  
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2 Alvanley Road  
Liverpool L12 8QX

## comment

"...We want no more ex pirates. Any ex pirates still around won't probably have much to offer". That is a statement by Don Wardell, Radio Luxembourg's publicity man in London, made in November 1968. In June 1969 208 sign up ex Caroline North DJ Bob Stewart. Congratulations to Bob! but how much longer will talented DJs have to fight this anti-pirate attitude. There WAS talent on the off-shore stations, but the tragedy is that nobody is prepared to recognise this fact and far too many DJs have already been forced to leave this country to find employment.

An end of the BBC monopoly would provide much more opportunities for ex offshore DJs as well as many up-and coming stars who cannot get the necessary break simply because they have no experience.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Please make all cheques/Postal Orders payable to M A Leonard

|          |                  |
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| 1 MONTH  | 1/6d plus 6d p&p |
| 3 MONTHS | 5/- incl p&p     |
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If an X appears here it means your subscription has now run out. To renew it simply complete the enclosed form and send it, with the appropriate Postal Order, using the pre-addressed envelope.

# MANX SEEK HELP WITH RADIO POWER

As reported in BREAKTHROUGH MAGAZINE last month, the Isle of Man is to take its dispute with the UK over the question of allowing Manx Radio to beam programmes to Britain, to the Commonwealth Secretariat, for arbitration.

## OCTOBER

Mr Clifford Irving (Independent, Douglas East) has tabled a resolution for Tynwald in October saying that "The British Government's continued refusal to allow Manx Radio to beam its commercial programmes to Britain is enforcing her domestic policy relating to radio on the Isle of Man, against the wishes of the Manx people."

## RESOLVE

The resolution asks the Secretariat to refer the disagreement to the Commonwealth Prime Ministers with a view to steps being taken to resolve the dispute.

Say You Saw It in

4 **Breakthrough**

news

2

## veronica - changes... competition?

Eddie Becker has left Radio Veronica, and his shows have been taken over by former newscaster Tom Collins (ex Radio 227).

There is also a new DJ- Klaas Vaak on the midnight slot in place of Tineke, whose airtime has been drastically reduced.

● After more than nine years uncontested rule of Dutch airwaves, comes news of possible competition for Veronica. Approaches have been made to a number of English record companies "at a serious level". Radio Veronica's owners have declined to comment on these reports.

ADVERTISING

MEANS BUSINESS

# FREE!!!

TO ALL OWNERS OF TAPE RECORDERS

Send 1/- to cover post and packing and I'll send you  
FREE a short tape of Free Radio Jingles

RICHARD TURNER

19 PIDDINGHOE AVENUE, PEACEHAVEN, SUSSEX

Breakthrough Magazine

news

3

## 208 BOB

Ex Caroline North DJ Bob Stewart is to join Radio Luxembourg, in place of Noel Edmonds.

Bob (28) who was chosen from 162 applicants will host the midnight - 3am slot of the station. He will join one of his ex-ship mates 'Prince' Tony in Luxembourg.

Since leaving Caroline in June 1967, Bob has been appearing in discotheques at Blackpool and Southport.

● Bob has in fact been heard on 208 for some months now - as the voice on 'Prince' Tony's jingles- made while they were both on Caroline!

July 69

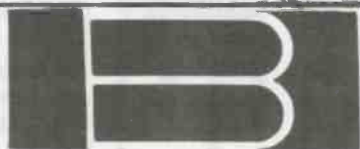
## S.R.E. FINES -

Three DJs, responsible for the operation of Britain's number 1 land-based pirate Swinging Radio England, were fined a total of £120 at Brighton on June 9.

### GUILTY

All three pleaded guilty to using radio transmitting equipment without a licence. Five items of equipment were also confiscated.

SRE and a sister station are due back on the air soon on 227 and 197m respectively.



The SIGN of great reading

### G.P.O. PROOF

An aerial system designed for use in occupied countries during the War is now being employed by Radio Atlantis in Derbyshire.

The system works in such a way that only the general direction can be detected, the closer one gets the more non directional the signal becomes.

# WHAT IS RADIO ?

## RADIO IS FUN

# manx radio

232 metres Daylight Hours  
188 metres Darkness  
89 mc/s & 91.2 mc/s VHF All Day





NEWS ABOUT



# PEOPLE

'Screaming' Lord Sutch  
(Radio Sutch)

Now a travelling salesman  
in the States for the  
Marshall Equipment Co.

# breakthrough MAGAZINE

## Advertising

DOESN'T

COST,

IT PAYS.

For your club, your dance, your party, book

# WOTTO

# MOBILE DISCOTHEQUE

FEATURING PETER PEDLEY & STEVE CHRISTIAN

- ★ Exceptional high quality sound
- ★ Entertainment PLUS fun
- ★ The most interesting collection of discs
- ★ ex ship jingles -Ahoy!!
- ★ a complete show - PLUS

see to WOTTO, 33 Glossop Road, Gamesley, Glossop  
Derbyshire, or telephone Glossop 3971



# PERSPECTIVE

More ideas on what the future structure of radio could be like in Britain. This month's plan comes from Harvey Gibbs of Bebington, Wirral, Cheshire.



The first item in any plan for Free Radio must be the abandoning of the Marine Offences Act. Not only is the MOA an infringement of the rights of man, but the "Threat of pirate radio" is necessary in any battle for needle time between Independent radio stations and the Performing Rights Society and the Musicians Union.

As far as the allocation of frequencies goes, Britain is lucky, being at the "top left hand corner" of Europe we can use the entire medium and long wave bands, by beaming the broadcasts away from the Continent. As well as this of course is the VHF band. This makes a grand total of 175 channels, many of which, for local broadcasting can be used several times over.

The 1948 Copenhagen Plan

which the BBC and the GPO frequently fall back on for defence has been broken by all the signatories.

The BBC itself has broken the 1948 Plan. When they stepped up the 247 network to cover a greater area for the start of Radio One they exceeded their power limit of 150 Kw. The British Forces Network in West Germany, Cyprus, and the Middle East is broadcast entirely on "unauthorised" wavelengths, as is the American Forces Network.

There is therefore no reason why Britain should not have a completely independent broadcasting service with no "Independent Broadcasting Authority" to suppress free thought. All that is needed is an advisory body to help stations choose the best wavelengths for their particular requirements.

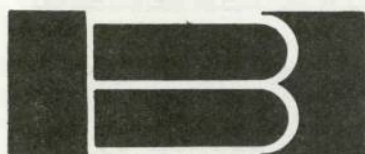


THE

# PRESS

PAUL ROWLANDSON

## Breakthrough



The SIGN of great reading



has the.  
"IN" side  
story

## N.E.F.R.A.



North Eastern Sector of the  
Free Radio Association  
EXCLUSIVE Free Radio Material

### POSTERS

"Make it legal for Caroline"  
(black on gold 13"x16" -2/6d)  
"Give Veronica your support"  
(purple on yellow 13"x16"-2/6d)

Please include return postage  
FULL price list available-  
including over 20 pirate tapes  
(Last words of 270-1hour -30/-  
1 hour of jingles - 30/- )

301 Durham Road  
Gateshead 9  
County Durham

Writing in the "Sunday Telegraph" about a Radio 4 programme on drug addiction, John Woodforde said:-

"I sometimes wonder how often today's pop music by groups, as put out on Radio I, helps to induce the imbalance of mind which starts the rot. Do the frenzied sounds affect the audience in the way they are known to have affected certain performers? If so, here is one more reason why public money should no longer be spent on Radio I, better by far that it should be used on the local radio stations, which are, I believe, exempt from charges of doing harm."

"The Spectator" on 'The BBC and the Public Interest' said "Radio I should be scrapped and the pumping out of pop music returned to circus proprietors and other commercial interests of an equally appropriate nature."

Throughout the ( so far) sad story of commercial radio in Britain the "allies" of commercial radio have displayed at best a condescending attitude.

continued on page 9

Breakthrough Magazine



# DOWN UNDER AUSTRALIAN RADIO

Radio Broadcasting and Television services in Australia consist of

☐ The National Broadcasting Service (radio) and the National Television Service. Programmes for these Services are provided by the Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC), which is a Federal statutory corporation. The programmes, which do not contain advertising, are broadcast through transmitters established by the Postmaster General's Department.

☐ The Commercial Broadcasting Service (radio) and the Commercial Television Service, with stations run by companies and individuals under licences granted by the Australian Broadcasting Control Board, under the authority of the Postmaster General.

☐ 'Radio Australia'- a service for overseas listeners, with programmes provided by the ABC and transmitters by the Postmaster General's Dept. The programmes, which carry news and information about Australia as well as entertainment are directed mainly to South-East Asia and the Pacific.

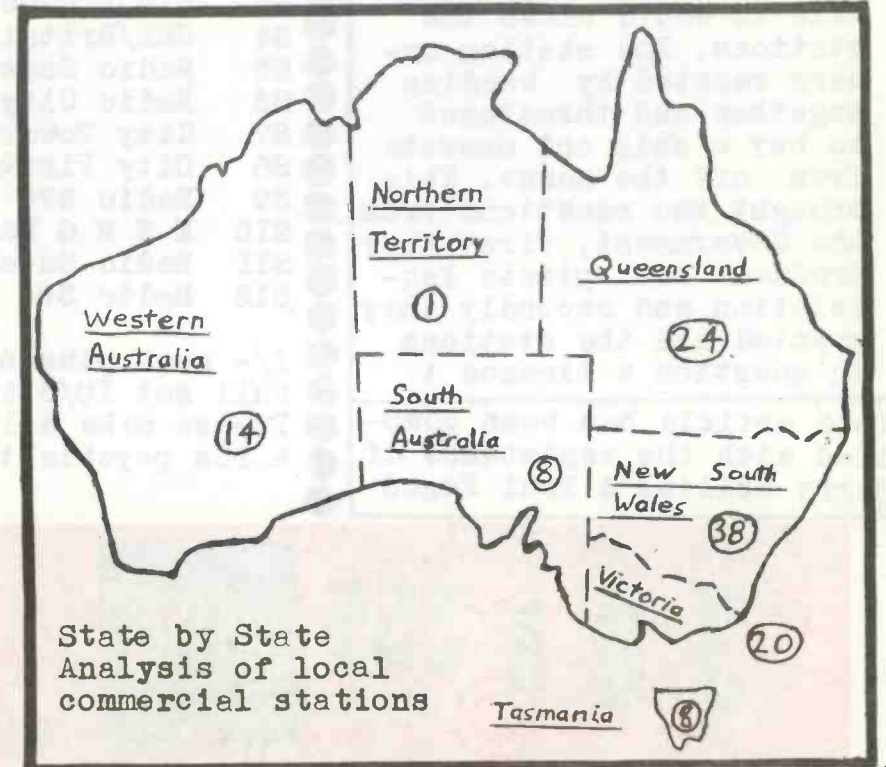
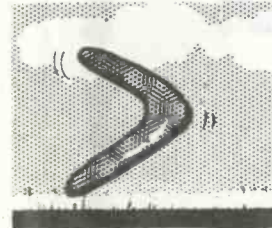
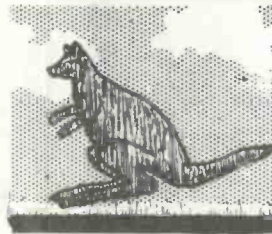
The general control of the radio and television services is exercised by the Australian Broadcasting Control Board.

The number one station in Australia was generally considered to be 2UW in Sydney, but 2SM, also in Sydney, dramatically changed its format in October 68, from a dull, middle of the road format to a replica of an offshore pop station, operating 24 hours a day. According to an opinion poll taken in January this year 2SM is now the number one station.

As far as the commercial stations are concerned these are distributed throughout the Continent, and broadcast under call letters and numbers. Each state has its own identification number, and the general location of a radio station can be determined from this,

- New South Wales call letter - 2
- Victoria call letter - 3
- Queensland call letter - 4
- South Australia call letter - 5
- Western Australia call letter - 6
- Tasmania call letter - 7
- Northern Territory call letter - 8

continued on page 12





Records played on the commercial stations are sent by the record companies free of charge, and the charts are based on the national Australian chart, the Cashbox Chart from America and sales in the local town or city.

The dual system of national and local commercial broadcasting is designed to provide listeners with a choice of programmes. As can be seen from the map stations are widely distributed and major centres of population can receive both national and commercial programmes.

● An interesting situation arose recently in North Queensland, where a number of radio stations were operating without a licence, having started before such regulations were necessary. The Australian Government said it would close the stations. The station owners reacted by banding together and threatened to buy a ship and operate from off the coast. This brought two reactions from the Government, first they produced anti-pirate legislation and secondly they granted all the stations in question a licence!

This article has been compiled with the assistance of Barry Collins & Poul Foged

# stickers

- SI I Love Caroline
- S2 I Want My Caroline
- S3 Big L Club
- S4 SRE/Britain Radio
- S5 Radio Scotland
- S6 Radio City
- S7 City Tower of Power
- S8 City Pirate Licence
- S9 Radio 270
- S10 K I N G Radio
- S11 Radio Sutch
- S12 Radio 390

● I/- each plus 6d p&p  
● Full set 10/6 incl p&p  
● Please make all cheques  
● & POs payable to M A Leonard

The Press is scared of losing advertising revenue to commercial radio and does its best to play the subject down. Even now there is more press argument over the abolition of the Northern Dance Orchestra etc, than there is over 'commercial radio versus the BBC'. As Alan Day pointed out in "The Observer" recently, if the Press objections to commercial local radio, on the ground that some local newspapers may have to close hold water, then it follows that newspapers should never have been allowed in the first place, because they forced the Town Crier out of business.

## THE NOW SOUND

- 1 SOMETHING IN THE AIR - Thunderclap Newman
- 2 BREAKAWAY - Beach Boys
- 3 BALLAD OF JOHN AND YOKO - The Beatles
- 4 IN THE GHETTO - Elvis Presley
- 5 LOVE MAN - Otis Redding
- 6 BAD MOON RISING- Credence Clearwater Revival
- 7 TOMMORROW TOMMORROW - Bee Gees
- 8 I'M A GAMBLER - Lace
- 9 HELLO SUSIE - Amen Corner
- 10 WET DREAM - Max Romeo

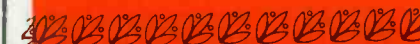
# Graham Gill Fan Club



for full details send sae to:



Mrs Pam Wood  
3 Heathside Avenue  
Coxheath  
Nr. Maidstone  
KENT



RADIO **340** & RADIO **355** SPECIAL

..SEE BACK PAGE

# readers opinions

please address  
your letters to  
The Editor

"... In reply to Pete Bowman's article (... They Were Good Stations, BREAKTHROUGH MAGAZINE June 69) there is one point which I'd like to answer. He says "Where are all the thousands of housewives, teenyboppers even pensioners etc.? They're all listening to Radio One". Well, I don't know about the teenyboppers, but the housewives and pensioners, especially the housewives, are listening either to Radio Two, or their own tape recorders, which hold memories for them. They cannot stand Radio One, and I know from the many letters that I receive that I'm not the only housewife who is very lonely and unhappy now that the 'pirates' have gone."

Mrs Pam Wood (Secretary, Graham Gill Fan Club)

# Congratulations

on sending us so many letters that we ran out of catalogues! and our apologies to those we kept waiting. We now have a new print so send us an Sae for a copy by return if you haven't got one. You'll be pleased you did - it's one of the best out! Write NOW with 5d SAE to Dept BT26

## C O N T A C T

If you live in our area you will be especially interested by CONTACT, our new magazine. News and features with a local flavour. No. 1, Is Od Post Free from Dept. BTC I, at Enfield.

**nlfrc**

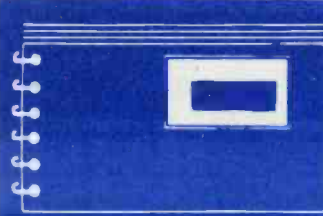
**North London Free Radio Consortium**

43 Cotswold Way Enfield Middlesex

**KNIGHT**

Look out for next month's SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT about Contact 2 - a special issue which will be of interest to EVERYBODY EVERYWHERE





# CAROLINE South station survey

Radio Caroline South first broadcast as Radio Atlanta on May 9th 1964. As Radio Atlanta it was anchored close to the original Caroline ship, and came on the air on the same wavelength as Caroline. The big difference between Caroline and Atlanta was that the latter's shows were generally taped in London, then broadcast from the ship. Caroline, on the other hand, produced all live shows. In July 1964 the two stations merged and Atlanta became Radio Caroline South, while the original Caroline ship sailed to the Isle of Man, becoming Radio Caroline North.

It was not long before Caroline had rivals in the south-east of England. Small stations such as Invicta, KING or Sutch did not prove to be too strong competition, but the more powerful Radio London - Big L - did provide listeners with a tempting alternative. In fact for the next 2½ years Caroline South and Big L were in constant competition with each other for advertising and audiences. Another rival, which proved to be only very short lived, was the all American Radio England between May and November 1966. However, with two ships the Caroline Network was the only offshore station which could effectively cover the country and so provide advertisers with a truly national market.

When the Marine Offences Act came into force on 14th August 1967 Caroline South, together with her northern sister defied the law and continued broadcasting. The name of the station was changed to Radio Caroline International (South). Headquarters for the station were moved from London to Amsterdam, and the ship was also serviced from Holland. This proved to be difficult at times, particularly during the winter, and the ship often went without seeing a tender for 14 weeks on end.

From midnight on August 14, 1967, Caroline International (South) played on to its ever faithful audience. However, on March 3 1968 at 5.20 am the station was put off the air in mid record, - the Dutch tender company had sent their tug "Titan" to tow the "Mi Amigo" to Holland. After an erratic tow across the North Sea the silent pop ship arrived, 24 hours later, in Amsterdam, soon to be joined by the Northern ship. The first and last voice of offshore radio was dead.

## **location**

MV "Mi Amigo" anchored 3½ miles off Frinton -on- Sea,

## **wavelength**

199m medium wave until May 1966, then 259m

## **audience**

6 million ( after the Marine Offences Act had closed all the other stations Caroline's audience was in excess of 10 million.

## **backing**

International backing invested in a company - Planet Productions. Joint Managing Directors, Ronan O'Rahilly and Barry Ainley.

## **programming**

Top 50 - 'Caroline Countdown of Sound', plus flashbacks jazz, folk and light music to suit house-wives. Newscasts and weather every hour, weather checks every half hour

## **power**

50Kw from a 163' aerial/mast

## **airtime**

As Caroline South on 199m -6am-8pm  
and on 259m - 24 hours

As Caroline International - 5am-2am



# THE VOICE OF YOUR CHOICE

*instant*  
programme guide

MEDIUM WAVE

200

250

300

192

veronica

DJs - Lex Harding, Hans Mondt, Jan van Veen, Rob Out, Gerard de Vries, Tineke, Chiel Montagne, Robbie Dale, Klaas Vaak and Tom Collins

SATURDAY 6am-2am, SUNDAY 7am-1am, MONDAY - THURSDAY 6am - 1am, FRIDAY 6am-2am

**HIGHLIGHTS** Veronica Top 40 Saturday 2-4pm  
Robbie Dale now on five days a week - Saturday English Hit Parade 7-8pm, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 11pm-12 midnight.

208

lux.

DJs - Paul Burnett, David Christian, Kid Jensen, Tony Prince, Bob Stewart

SUNDAY 7pm-3am, MONDAY - SATURDAY 7.30pm-3am

**HIGHLIGHTS** Sound Survey - Sunday 11pm-1am  
Kid Jensen Another Dimension, Sunday 1-3am, Thursday 12.30-3am

Newsdesk on the hour 8pm-3am

232

manx

DJs - Don Allen, George Ferguson, John Hughes, Peter Kneale, Louise Quirk

DAILY - 7am-7pm with alternative religious programmes on 188m (full details of exact timings given during 232 programmes)

**HIGHLIGHTS** Top 20 Show Saturday 11am-12midday  
Pete's Porridge Party - daily 7-9am  
Weather checks at 15 past the hour

Breakthrough Magazine



# UK sound scene

**K**enneth  
night

Commercial radio has been part of the American way of life since the earliest days of broadcasting, and has had a colourful history, spanning the years before World War 2 involving many aspiring giants now obscure in the sound archives. Few have however, assumed the audio crown, as is the case in the U S today, through that accepted medium of expression, the small town radio station, of which there are many thousands in the fifty states.

In the UK the popularity of these stations was re-generated in the offshore radio ships, which have now regrettably left the scene. A departure that has been filled by the locally operated, government inspired radio stations, which lack the essential atmosphere that made the 'pirates' a success - with an audience of millions in all age groups. Sad to say this great team of young talented entertainers has now dispersed to follow their fame and fortune elsewhere.

And here in Britain the growing public need and demand for commercial radio is being voiced both in and out of parliament. These are early days, but already the prospect of this new dimension is fast becoming a talking point in official circles. Many potential commer-

July 69

cial radio operators are known to be planning their systems and the radio manufacturing industry has not been slow in admitting that this would mean new business and immense development possibilities, - despite the rumblings of an unwilling government, who are only too keen to abide by the European wavelength restrictions, whilst preaching a total opposition to private enterprise broadcasting. But, whatever the reason that sounds the loudest, the public is already knocking on the door... and there are changes coming to British radio.

## RADIO SCOTLAND north

swinging to you

on 242 on tape

Hear the sound of live commercial radio again !  
Simply send us your tape together with return postage  
RSN, 22 Chapel Street,  
Peterhead Aberdeenshire  
Scotland.

# POP SPIN

# disc & discotheque

BY PETER PEDLEY

Morning,

As I write this Robbie Dale is giving forth a great Monday night show on 192 metres, it therefore must be sometime between 11 and 12 midnight, - sort of pre-early morning!

Although some records being currently released are interesting, including a few of the re-births - I somehow feel unhappy that there is no group individual or record company, creating something not only progressive, but powerfully exciting. My thoughts must go back to the mind-boggling

impact made during early and mid-Beatles, early Tamla, early Atlantic/Stax, early Chess, early Stones, and of course the whole Sue labeled era. Where are we now? I watch with interest the Island label, and although I might be wrong, I feel that this minor label could prove not only to evolve into a striking pacesetter, but a hub of new sound, ideas and talent. I hope this does happen, it would be a sin if Island sank into the same obscurity as the once creative Immediate label.

OH HAPPY DAYS - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIAN INTER-DENOMINATIONAL YOUTH CHOIR ★★★★★

Last month I reviewed the "Oh Happy Days" disc on Buddah. However, it is another version I am playing at discos. Not only is this version as exciting, but entirely danceable. It's not as readily available in the shops so I'll give you its number - DUNHILL SS8019

MELLOW MOONLIGHT - LEON HAYWOOD - MCA ★★★★★

A powerful blend of two or three tunes, rhythms and styles including that of Wilson Pickett. A fascinating record, which I imagine to be an old recording, but one of 1969 appeal. Not for the parade - but good for your collection.

PEOPLE GET READY - CHAMBERS BROTHERS

- DIRECTION ★

A definite, personal, no to this one, which in my opinion does not show just how good this group really are. Goodness knows why CBS/Direction have released this track off the American Columbia LP, as a single. Dated sound.

BUT ITS ALLRIGHT - J.J.JACKSON -WARNER BROS ★★★

Though not his true current release, I do like this, and you're sure to know this re-release.

THE MESSAGE - DENNY CURTIS

-PLEXIUM ★★★

Very bright and appealing disc with West Indian feel. Chart possibility very slight. Mr. Curtis gives a good performance.

Many thanks to those of you who sent sae's and letters re. the Caroline disc, especially the reader from France. I shall be writing to you shortly.

On August 10th I look forward to meeting you at the Free Radio Rally in London. I know for a fact that quite a number of people will

be coming from the north.

I hope that everybody will really make the effort to be at this Rally - it could prove to be surprisingly powerful - and I sincerely hope that not only will all genuine supporters attend, but all will act and demonstrate constructively for the cause.

*Cheerio, Peter Redley*

Issues 1,2,3,5,6 and 7 are still available, although some are in very limited quantities.

Issues 1, 2 and 3 - 1/- each plus 6d p&p

Issues 5,6 and 7 - 1/6d each plus 6d p&p

Please make all cheques/postal orders payable to  
M A Leonard



continued from page one

Two transmitters with "inter-changeable power output ratio" would be used so that power could be varied to suit different conditions and thus minimise the possibility of interference.

## Music

Programmes would consist of fairly continuous background music and information for holiday-makers. Facilities could also be made available for schools and public service broadcasting, and possibly a second channel would be started later.

## £100,000

The cost to set up and operate the station for three years is estimated to be £100,000, and given the go-ahead Radio Channel Islands could be on the air within 12 months.

Say You Saw It in

**20 Breakthrough**

# BANDSPREAD

- ★ What has happened to Yves Kuhn? attempts to find out why Radio 428 never came on the air have been met with silence. Let's hear from you Yves! .....
- ★ Newspapers circulating in Lancashire and North Wales now carrying full Manx Radio programme schedules
- ★ Radio Free Caroline (259m London area) wants to go offshore, Mike Baron station DJ says they are tired of dodging the GPO detectors.....
- ★ The electronics firm Mullard are carrying out experiments into the commercial use of optical broadcasting. A spokesman said that it was a purely point to point system and had limited use.....
- ★ Part of a Commons debate was broadcast by a land-based pirate, courtesy of a 17 year old apprentice with the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works who obtained a recording while he was carrying out electrical work in the House....
- ★ Don Allen playing "Caroline" by The Fortunes on Manx Radio, also name-checking ex Caroline North DJs

the new look

With this issue we introduce a new look format to the magazine, as well as more pages and new features. This is all in addition to the full news coverage, which has also been extended to give you fuller reports.

Those of you who have been with us since the start nine months ago will appreciate just how much we have progressed from a simple, duplicated news-letter to a full scale magazine. All this in spite of the fact that we are dealing with a subject-commercial radio which at the moment is almost non-existent in Britain!

We sincerely hope that as you read the next 28 pages you find something of interest to you personally.

**INSIDE: ...THEY WERE GOOD STATIONS - page 14**

**breakthrough**

**MAGAZINE**

**No. 7**

**June 69**

THE VOICE OF  
COMMERCIAL RADIO

**1/6d**

# MANX - UK REPORT

The report of Lord Stonham's working party on constitutional relations between the Isle of Man and Britain was published at the end of April.

## **Manx Radio**

The report, however, did not make any real progress on a number of topics which had been discussed, including a power boost for the commercial Manx Radio

## **18 months**

It is 18 months since the working party was set up, and many Manx MPs think that after such a long time at least something positive should have been worked out. One MP described it as 'terribly disappointing'. The only main recommendation was that a six - man stand-

continued on page 24

THE

# COMMERCIAL RADIO supporters club

invite you to visit their

FREE RADIO

## DISCOTHEQUE

the Gondola Club  
Little Queen Street,  
HULL

every  
Thursday &  
Saturday  
at 7.0 pm

ADMISSION - 1/6d (Membership - 2/-)

Dance to the latest Boss Sounds spun for you by  
Paul Rusling Rob Walker Mike Milner

Steve Kitt and Anita Bailey

plus !!! star ex pirate DJs

● Pin Ball machines ● Refreshments

|                    |                    |                  |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| ★ All the latest ★ | ★ FREE hit discs ★ | ★ BREAKTHROUGH ★ |
| ★ Free Radio ★     | ★ as prizes in ★   | ★ MAGAZINE on ★  |
| ★ Information ★    | ★ Free to enter ★  | ★ sale here ★    |
|                    | ★ competitions. ★  |                  |

Exchange visits with other Free Radio Discos etc arranged

For details phone (0482) 884743



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Published by  
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Liverpool L12 8QX

## comment

Although the BBC officially deny reports that they are planning to set up 30 or 40 more local radio stations (see page 24), it is interesting to see what could happen if the stations are in fact established.

It would be done with the approval of the Labour Government, and thus by the time the next General Election is due in two years time, there could be 50 BBC local stations.

With these established it would make the next Conservative Government's declared job of introducing 100 commercial stations very difficult.

Let's hope that for once this denial on the part of the BBC is true and the field is left open for the introduction of independent commercial radio.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Please make all POs payable to  
M A Leonard

|           |                               |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| MONTH     | 1/6d plus<br>4d or 5d postage |
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| 12 MONTHS | 21/- incl postage             |

GGGGGGGGGG

If an X appears here it means your subscription has now run out. To renew it simply complete the enclosed form and send it, with the appropriate Postal Order, using the pre-addressed envelope.

## LATE NIGHT

Manx Radio Broadcast throughout the night on May 23/24 to bring news of the Manx Trophy Rally

news

## BIG L

The 'Galaxy' - former Radio London ship, which at one time was to have been used by Radio Noordsee is now said to be heading for Madagascar. It is not known what the reason for this destination is

# RADIO ENGLAND COME-BACK !

Swinging Radio England the Brighton land based station which was put off the air on April 12th is planning a comeback later this summer.

## SISTER

When the station returns, probably in July, it will do so on a new wavelength of 227m (1321kHz) and with a substantial increase in power. It is anticipated that the power will be in the region of 150-200 watts.

Air time for the station will be 10 am - 8pm every Sunday, each DJ having a two hour programme. In addition to this a sister sta-

tion - Britain Radio will broadcast simultaneously on 197 metres with a 'sweet music format.

## NEW STUDIOS

New studios have been specially built to accommodate the planned stations, whose aim is "to compete with a local station - (BBC Radio Brighton) and a monopoly!"

## REMEMBER MARK ROMAN?

Or Tony Windsor, Twiggy Day, Earl Richmond, Carl Mitchell, Mike Ahern, Jerry Smithwick, and all the others you never, never hear on "Auntie"

YOU CAN HEAR THEM ALL AGAIN WHENEVER  
YOU LIKE ON MY TAPES

Send s.a.e. now for full lists

RICHARD TURNER

19 PIDDINGHOE AVENUE, PEACEHAVEN, SUSSEX

Breakthrough has the  
"IN" side  
story

## "QUOTE"

... from Graham Page MP, speaking in the House of Commons.....

'We are the only people in the English speaking world not to have local commercial radio'

Breakthrough Magazine



# G.L.C. BILL DEFEATED

A Private Bill, sponsored by the GLC aimed at giving the Authority power to provide local commercial radio programmes was defeated in Parliament (May 7, 1969) by only 26 votes.

## public want

Mr F Silvester, (Conservative MP for Walthamstow West), said during the debate that this bill provided a very reasonable way of going about the introduction of commercial radio. First, he said, a great authority is trying an experiment which is not going to harm anyone. Secondly it is providing a service which the public clearly wants, and thirdly it may provide revenues which could be used for the arts and for local bodies.

## competition

Mrs Jill Knight (Conservative Edgaston) said that the

June 69

competition which would result if the Bill were passed would improve the standard of radio.

Postmaster General John Stonehouse said if the Bill were passed it would be tantamount to accepting the principle of local authority and commercial broadcasting.

## NOEL EDMONDS QUITS LUX.

Noel Edmonds is to leave Radio Luxembourg at the end of June.

19 year old Noel who joined the station at the end of last year says he is coming back to Britain to 'Pursue my professional duties'

# WHAT IS RADIO ?

## RADIO IS YOUR CONSTANT COMPANION

# manx radio

232 metres Daylight Hours  
188 metres Darkness  
89 mc/s & 91.2 mc/s VHF All Day





# SHEFFIELD SURVEY RESULT

A survey carried out by graduates of the psychology department at Sheffield University has shown that most people in the City have little or no interest in their local radio station.

## shops

The survey, carried out amongst 868 listeners showed that most of them were not particularly interested in hearing what was happening in other Sheffield suburbs, but most people wanted to know what was happening in the city centre, particularly in the shops.

## commercial

This finding, says Neil Rackham who was in charge of the survey, shows that commercial local radio would score here with ads for sales cinema programmes etc.

# EIRE PLAN

A proposal for a group, backed by three national newspaper and magazine companies, to operate an international commercial radio station from Ireland was turned down by the Minister of Posts & Telegraphs.

It was planned to use the 240 metre band which is at present used by Radio Eireann's Cork and Dublin transmitters.

news

3

## INTERNATIONAL FILE

### IRAN

Radio Iran, in Tehran has announced that it is constructing a high power transmitter, for its medium wave service. Iran National Radio does allow commercials in its Home Service broadcasts.

### MONACO

Radio Monte Carlo French Service, beamed over the long wave transmitter on 1376 metres plans to increase its power to 200 Kw, giving full coverage of France.

### DENMARK

Test transmissions for a land based pirate - Radio Free City, have taken place in Denmark. Broadcasting on 92m/c VHF the station plans a regular service from August of September this year.



# PERSPECTIVE

Continuing this series of articles about your ideas for possible radio structures in Britain. This month's ideas come from Tony Brett of Mansfield, Notts.



My ideal system would be a few hundred 'pop' stations on low power, because the majority of people in Britain prefer pop.

I would also like to see a number of minority taste stations operating in various parts of the country, with power to cover nationally if required.

Finally I would like to see local stations giving the news of their area, but NOT relaying the programmes

of the other stations.

All these stations would be commercial, and the low powered local stations would be on VHF. The higher powered national stations would be on medium and long wave-bands.

Anybody should be allowed to start a radio station as long as they have qualified radio technicians to look after their radio equipment to prevent interference with other stations.



Do you have any ideas for this series? Why not let us know. Write in not more than 200 words exactly what you would like to see as the ideal radio system operating in Britain. You can cover either local, national or regional radio, or any combination, commercial or otherwise. Please mark your article PERSPECTIVE.

when answering ads . . .  
Say You Saw It in

# breakthrough MAGAZINE

"That there is an audience for continuous music as popular entertainment is not new. What is new is that by appropriating wavelengths allotted to other countries and by largely disregarding copyright in gramophone records, the pirate stations have been able to exploit the fact. Legislation to end the activities of these stations has been introduced. The Government recognize that there is, however, a need for a new service devoted to the provision of a continuous popular music programme. The question is - how the need can legitimately be met: legitimately in that it would be broadcast only on wavelengths available under international agreement to this country, and in that it would respect the rights of the performers, composers and others in the material broadcasts".

That extract is from the Government White Paper on Broadcasting (Cmd. 3169) published in 1966. One of the questions which arises from this statement is that of frequency allocations. It has been stated by the Gover-

# BROADCASTING

ment and their representatives that the medium waveband is overcrowded. One of the reasons is that Radios 1, 2, 3 and 4 operate on no less than 15 different frequencies.

This would appear to leave the VHF waveband, on which the BBC's local radio stations are operating. However, this would not provide a worthwhile service since it seems only 25% of the potential audience are able to receive VHF transmissions. This figure includes the relay services.

In pursuance of the matter of local radio stations, the Government has publicly stated that regional broadcasting in the sense of the Independent Television Companies is not truly regional, in as much as regional content is only news and occasional programmes of regional interest. What, may one ask is the content of the BBC's local stations if not 80% of Radios 1, 2, 3 and 4?



# - A MONOPOLY ?

Before anyone cries in indignation that the cost of providing a 100% local service would be too great, may I refer to the happy history of Manx Radio. This independent commercial station succeeds in operating for 12 hours per day, 365 days per year, at an operational expenditure of about £26,000 per annum. This includes such items as wages for staff, royalties etc. Place these figures against say, BBC Radio Brighton :£60,000 per annum for only 5 or 6 hours of local programmes per day £25,000 of this sum has been contributed by Brighton rate-payers with, and I quote "No increase in local rates".

One other criticism of commercial radio is the extensive use of gramophone records with no reference to the Musicians Union concerning royalties. It is a fact openly admitted in Parliament by a Kent MP that at least Radio 390, if not in fact all others, were paying royalties. It was also stated by Radio 390 that they did make formal approach to several band

and orchestra leaders with a view to employing a full light orchestra for broadcasting, which should keep union members happy.

One very important fact has been overlooked by the Government, and that is Radio Luxembourg. This station is proud of the fact that it is the main source of income for the Grand Duchy, which virtually means that British advertising is supporting that country. This also proves that even if commercial radio is illegal in Britain, big business will find some way around the law

After all these facts and figures, there is just one point left. This being, does one truly have the freedom of choice concerning what one wishes to listen to in the way of radio. This is something that facts and figures cannot answer. This decision is YOURS. Commercial on BBC would therefore be no substitute for independent radio.

© B.B.F.R.A.

NEWS ABOUT



# PEOPLE

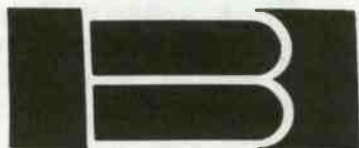
Jimmy Gordon  
Radio Caroline Int. North

Working periodically with the  
BBC under his real name - Guy  
Blackmore.

Jack McLaughlin  
Tony Allen  
Radio Scotland

Both now working for Grampian  
TV in Scotland, as continuity  
announcers. Jack also compers  
a pop programme with ex 242  
Clan girl Cathy Spence

**Breakthrough**



The SIGN of great reading

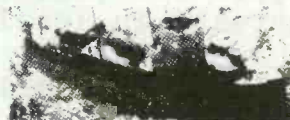
# stickers

- ...from all stations
- S1 -I love Caroline
  - S2 -I want myCaroline
  - S3 - Big L
  - S4 -SRE/Britain Radio
  - S5 -Radio Scotland
  - S6 -Radio City
  - S7 - City tower of power
  - S8 -City Pirate Licence
  - S9 -Radio 270
  - S10-K I N G Radio
  - S11-Radio Sutch
  - S12-Radio 390

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# BIG L



# BOOKLET

Covering the complete  
story of Radio London  
Available from Action  
Central - price 1/6d  
plus 6d postage & packing

Breakthrough Magazine



# Back Garden Pirates

by martin west

GGGGGGGG  
GGGGGGGG

## Part 3 - RADIO VICTOR

In and around Nottingham in July 1968, broadcasting had boomed and slumped, due to the sheer excess of operators, all eager to broadcast at the same time.

When many had given up in disgust at the jamming of transmissions by the short wave pirates, known as the Alpha network, the air became quieter.

Due to the efforts of former Radio Midlands operators a new station got back to fundamentals - pop radio - under the name of Radio Victor. I was present as the first broadcasts went out from Nottingham, unjammed, suprisingly. The same day a sabotage expedition was undertaken against the Alpha stations when several of their locations became known. An aerial or two was cut down, resulting in a car chase by the wrathful owners at one stage, who were further rebuffed by a few shots from an air rifle!

Radio Victor's greatest moment came on the occasion

of Radio Castle's first revival on BBC Radio Nottingham on Sunday 28 July 1968. The operators, invited to do a show on the FM station found themselves being relayed on the medium wavelength of 201 metres! This was by courtesy of Radio Victor! This act made more headlines than the actual broadcast.

Following this the G.P.O. were obliged to be more zealous in their detecting activities, so Radio Victor wisely went off the air, the equipment mostly being used two weeks later for the first Radio Free London broadcasts!

Since that time the scene locally has never been quite the same until more recent times when previously prosecuted pirates, led by Johnnie McKnight, have taken to the airwaves again

When I was recently making a documentary tape on the scene called "The Continuing Voice" (available



from Action Central) the question put to many of the operators interviewed was "Do you consider land-based pirate broadcasting to be a relevant part of the present campaign for commercial radio?"

Johnnie McKnight spoke for all in his reply: -"It's an essential part, whatever its faults. No campaign should disregard us because we still have what this whole scene is about - a free voice."



# breakthrough MAGAZINE

## Advertising

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Derbyshire or telephone Glossop 3971



# NEFRA

EDITED APRIL 1969

# SUPPLEMENT



North Eastern Sector of the Free Radio Association  
representing F R A and Action Central in the North East

Honorary Members : Wilf Proudfoot Pete Bowman Mike Hayes

We feel that although many people see advertisements for NEFRA they know very little about the organisation itself. Therefore, we have decided to improve our public relations our first step being this supplement in Breakthrough.

### T. Rounthwaite (County Co-ordinator)

The International Free Radio Association is mainly concentrated in Britain, where it has roughly 100,000 members. Headquarters are at Rayleigh in Essex, where a small group of people work full time running the organisation.

The North Eastern Sector was formed by a group of North Eastern F R A branches, who believed a larger unit would be more effective. NEFRA is run by a committee of five people (this number varies). The committee runs NEFRA and the other branch secretaries in the group run activities on a more local scale. Decisions are reached at weekly committee meetings and at monthly meetings of Branch Secretaries and keen members.

The General Secretary deals with most of the correspondence, including contact with other free radio organisations and dealing with the local Newsletter. The Newsletter is sent to the 500 members in the North East and other interested parties. It gives the latest news, views and developments in the field of Free Radio, with special emphasis on the North East.

The Sales Officer deals with the selling of promotional materials, which is the only way the organisation can pay its way. As it is, the organisation is heavily subsidised by the committee anyhow, as the £12 per month costs are not met by sales.

The County Co-ordinator is the official F R A representative and gives official press releases and official aims and views. He is also chairman at the meetings.

Dances, demonstrations, petitions and campaigns in general are organised by separate sub-committees to deal with each individual activity. So far Midnight vigils, dances, demonstrations and national meetings have been organised and more are planned for the future. Our most recent campaign has been active correspondence to the regional press.

We are also planning a national survey on the pirates, views on broadcasting at the present time and how it could be improved. We would appreciate it if you could help us in this massive task, by sending for copies of the questionnaire for yourself, and your friends, filling it in and returning it to us. Please send a stamp-addressed envelope to 'Survey', N E F R A , 10 Holywell Ave., Monkseaton, Whitley Bay, Northumberland.

N E F R A as a group of 20 F R A branches is part of the F R A branch network. Branches all over the country receive a periodical Secretary's newsletter which keeps them in touch with the rest of the branches throughout the country and gives them ideas for activities in their own regions. F R A branches throughout the country are active and run by enthusiastic people. The F R A is the only Free Radio organisation with a reasonably sized network of branches throughout the country. There are, of course, places where branches are not yet in existence but these are getting less and less.

### AIMS

The N E F R A's basic aim is to introduce 'Independent Radio' into this country. 'Commercial Radio' in itself is not enough, although independent radio will probably be commercial. This is why we have adopted the slogan 'Legalise independent radio'

We feel that the introduction of independent radio can most easily be achieved by one united Free Radio organisation, and it is about time some of the organisations put their petty jealousies of each other second, and the introduction of independent radio first.

Another problem organisations have to face is criticism from members and outsiders. Organisations are largely what individual members and secretaries make them. It is hardly fair to expect the people at the top to do everything, they are only human. The fight for free radio is largely up to individuals.



Become a Free Radio Association Branch Secretary  
Do your part in the fight for Free Radio by supporting  
the largest Free Radio organisation. Make Free Radio an  
important local issue.

For details of how to become a branch secretary write to  
The Branch/Group Co-ordinator, The Groundsmans House,  
Emsworth Park, Horndean Road, Emsworth Hampshire.

### What the F R A does

Many people feel the F R A does little as a national  
organisation because little is seen of the work it does.  
In fact the national organisation is run by very few  
people and having 100,000 members can be quite a handi-  
cap. Sending one newsletter involves large printing  
stationery and postage costs, and this money has to be  
raised from sales of promotional materials. Official  
policy has to be decided upon and many letters have to  
be replied to. This means little time is left for active  
campaigns which are left to the network of branches.

### What you can do to help the fight for Free Radio

1. Become a full or associate member of the F R A and  
get your friends to join too. (membership forms  
available from N E F R A - please send sae.) Talk to  
your friends and relations about the importance of  
Free Radio to a democracy. It is the principle that  
is important.
2. Write to the papers and Parliament stating your views  
Even if this does not appear to have any effect it  
will strengthen the case of the next person who writes  
and show interest still exists.
3. If you are very keen you can help your local branch  
organise activities, or if there is not one become  
a Branch Secretary (see above).

The fight is long term, but with widespread united support  
we should succeed in the introduction of independent  
radio.

Any questions or ideas should be addressed to the  
N E F R A, Correspondence Department, 10 Holywell Ave.,  
Monkseaton, Whitley Bay, Northumberland.

This supplement has been compiled entirely by N E F R A  
and edited by the County Co-ordinator. We do not accept  
responsibility for errors, due to developments after  
this supplement was written.

As N E F R A has little money, the costs of this supple-  
ment have been partly met by including adverts from  
F R A branches :-

Did you read 'Rise and Fall of the F R A' ?

If so send a sae for a FREE detailed copy of the per-  
sonal reply given by Mr. G Pearl, Chairman of the  
Free Radio Association.

send to :-

FRA, 239 Eastwood Road, Rayleigh, Essex.

QUOTE - 'You can fool all, of the people some of the  
time, you can fool some of the people all  
of the time, but you can't fool all of the  
people all of the time '

Abraham Lincoln

-Born 1809, assassinated 1865

Fill in the N E F R A  
Broadcasting Survey

Leeds Branch F R A is  
active - 43a Wesley Street  
Leeds LS11 8RB

Buy N E F R A tapes and  
posters. Send sae for  
full lists to 301 Durham  
Road, Gateshead 9, Co.  
Durham.

N E F R A Exclusive -  
Boots Bowman talks about  
Radio 270 (1/2 hour tape -  
£1 -)

Berwick Branch is Active  
- contact N E F R A.

**N.E.F.R.A.**



**voucher 5/-**

CUT HERE

This voucher entitles you  
to 5/- off any N E F R A  
tape over £1, or 2/6d in  
the £ off any order for  
our publicity articles.  
This offer closes on July  
1st 1962. No more than  
one voucher can be used  
for each order

# THE NOW SOUND

- 1 I THREW IT ALL AWAY - Bob Dylan
- 2 GET BACK - Beatles
- 3 PROUD MARY - Credence Clearwater
- 4 AT LAST I'VE FOUND SOMEONE TO LOVE -  
Amen Corner
- 5 THE IN CROWD - Dobie Gray (Re release)
- 6 LET ME - Paul Revere and the Raiders
- 7 LET LOVE COME BETWEEN US - James and  
Bobby Purify
- 8 OH HAPPY DAY - Edwin Hawkins Singers
- 9 LOVE ME BABY - Jo Jo Benson and Peggy  
Scott
- 10 TIME IS TIGHT - Booker T and the MGs

## A Tape Recorder

also two other prizes of  
£3 and £1 cash

~~~~~

All you have to do is think
of a title for the new film
about pirate radio currently
being made by DUO FILMS for
release on the national TV
network.

Send your entry (in no more than 5 words) to Ralph
Stephenson, 1 Greys Road, Woodthorpe Nottingham,
NG5 4GU. Each entry must be accompanied by 1/- in
stamps. Closing date - July 31 1969

Graham Gill Fan Club

For full details
send sase to :

Mrs Pam Wood,
3 Heathside Avenue,
Coxheath,
Nr. Maidstone,
KENT

... THEY WERE GOOD STATIONS

What went wrong

Who is to blame

PETE BOWMAN gives
his views

Pirate radio is dead, yet refuses to lie down. Radio I is also dead, in a different sense, yet continues to monopolise our wavebands, and, inevitably, flourishes

As an ex-pirate disc-jockey, this state of affairs intrigues me. What intrigues me more, however, is the incredible fickle-mindedness of the British public and, more so, their complete apathy and ignorance.

Even today, people ask me "Oh whatever happened to Radio Scotland and 270? They were good stations".

They literally have no comprehension as to why the off-shore stations were situated in vessels three miles out to sea or why they were silenced in their prime by the Marine Offences Act in August 1967. The "pirates" were there

→ from page 14

now suddenly they wern't. Now you see them, now you don't. Who cares? I regret to say, very few people. With typical British apathy, the situation is just accepted without question.

Where are the thousands of housewives, teenyboppers, even pensioners who swamped the offices of the commercial radio operators with 'fan' letters; where are the countless members of the various clubs organised by the stations? Easy! They're all listening to Radio I because Radio I is and the "pirates" aren't. No one, except for a handful of enthusiasts, would presume to take it upon himself to ask why the commercial stations were pronounced as undesirable. The Government is the Government, they can do no wrong.

I am not a confirmed pessimist. I believe commercial radio will be introduced in Britain, it is inevitable, but equally inevitable is the fact that these future stations will sound nothing like the "pirates" as we knew them. They will not have absolute freedom they will not play continuous 'pop' music and they will not be as powerful. All this has to be faced.

Everything in Britain has to justify its existence, we have a tendency to accept nothing for its own sake. If we throw a party, there has to be a reason for it. Thus, the

June 69

BBC's sanctimonious obsession with that odious term "public service". We must provide stimulating, responsible broadcasting for the peasants, they say, we must attempt to improve them. The last thing we must do is to give them what they want!

Evidence of this incredibly pompous attitude is the setting up of the BBC's farcical local stations. Let me say, firstly, that I work occasionally for one of them, but that does not mean that I support their principles (whatever they may be). Radio Leeds has been running for almost a year now yet the majority of the population of that city have no knowledge of its existence. Indeed at the last count, a mere 10% of the people in Leeds could hear the station on its VHF frequency. How many of those 10% actually did listen or had any inclination to, is another matter. Yet these people are paying for Radio Leeds through their rates. You could almost liken it to robbing a blind man.

In short, local radio in this country, is dull, dry and unexciting. Furthermore, it has no audience. Need one say more?

Unfortunately, the BBC is in the unenviable position of being incapable of winning.

By setting up Radio I in the first place they admitted the demand for all day 'pop'

continued on page 16.

→ from page 15
existed. Yet during the reign of the 'pop' pirates, they refused to acknowledge their presence or influence and declined to provide a similar service. (There goes that word again). Such frivolity could not be tolerated at Broadcasting House.

The BBC cannot deny that there is a demand for all-day 'pop'. (Radio I is evidence) Even if they pleaded they had had no idea of such a demand it would be appalling if the sole broadcasting authority in this country was so completely out of touch with the opinions and tastes of the population it professes to serve. Therefore the BBC cannot

not win either way.

Yet, with the old pious complacency, they point to Radio I's success with glee. How can a radio station be anything but a success if the listener has no alternative choice?

I am already well advanced in plans to leave British shores for Australia where I hope to work for a top-rated station in Melbourne. It saddens me that so many would-be broadcasters are being literally driven out of the country by the narrow-minded attitudes of successive Governments over such a simple issue as licensed commercial radio. If commercial radio ever does return to Britain, perhaps, so will I

Pete Bowman was a DJ on Radio Scotland and Radio 270. He is an honorary member of the Leeds and Newcastle FRA Branches. This article has been compiled with the assistance of the Leeds Branch.

The following back issues of BREAKTHROUGH are still available :-

- Number 1 - (featuring Radio London Survey)
- Number 2 - (featuring Radio 390 Survey)
- Number 3 - (featuring Radio England Survey)
- Number 5 - (featuring Radio Caroline North Survey)
- Number 6 - (featuring Radio Essex Survey)

NOTE Number 4 is now out of print, and VERY limited supplies of numbers 3, 5 and 6 are available.

Issues 1, 2 and 3 - 1/- each plus 6d p&p

Issues 5 and 6 - 1/6d each plus 6d p&p

Please make all cheques and Postal Orders payable to

M. A. Leonard.

AUGUST 10

TRAFALGAR SQ

3 PM

FREE RADIO RALLY

Send a SAE for information and literature: Fight for your rights with the

Free Radio Campaign

Dept. 01, 28 Kingaby Gardens, Rainham, Essex.

this rally is being organized with the
NATIONAL COMMERCIAL RADIO MOVEMENT



BRITAIN RADIO / 355

station survey

Under the identification "Hallmark of Quality", Britain Radio first broadcast in May 1966. The station shared the same ship base as Radio England.

Together the stations were the most sophisticated (technically) and expensive of all the offshore pirates. The Radio England/Britain Radio venture, which was American owned, cost £1½ million to launch.

Britain Radio when it first broadcast was a 24 hour 'sweet' music station, in contrast to its fast-moving 'boss-jock' sister. It was in the same class as Radio 390, but the presentation of Britain Radio was a little more up-tempo. However, the station suffered from the same problem as her sister - lack of advertising revenue, and although drastic economies were made after six months operation (involving the closure of Radio England) the station with this format still did not attract enough advertising.

In March 1967, after the American backing company had gone into liquidation ex-Radio 390 boss Ted Albeury took over. The station changed its name to Radio 355 and its format to an easy listening Top 40.

However, the changes came too late. The Government's anti-pirate legislation was already going through Parliament and advertisers were not prepared to book ads too far ahead, not knowing exactly when any of the stations would close.

As it happened the lease on the "Laissez Faire" expired ten days before the Marine Offences Act came into operation and it was not considered worthwhile renewing it for such a short period. Consequently, Radio 355 closed down at 12 midnight on August 5, 1967

location

"Laissez Faire" an ex freighter anchored $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles off Frinton-on-Sea, Essex - the same ship as used by Radio England

wavelength

55m medium wave

audience

1 million

backing

Britain Radio - Peir Vick Ltd., backed by American investors - Managing Director William E Vick. In March 1967 a liquidator was appointed and the two stations (including Radio Dolifjn) were taken over by Carstead Advertising Ltd., - Managing Director - Edward Allbeury. Both stations were then re-named.

programming

Britain Radio - Light, lush, up-tempo music, presented by announcers. Newscasts and weather reports.
Radio 355 - an easy listening top 40, comprised of any current discs that are easy on the ear, plus show tunes, instrumentals and standards. Newscasts and weather reports every other hour.

power

Full potential 55Kw, but rarely used. In winter power was usually about 27Kw. The aerial/mast was 210' high and shared by both Britain Radio and Radio England. The two American made Continental transmitters were coupled by means of a cooperation filter to the same antenna. This system was unique in the field of medium -wave broadcasting.

airtime

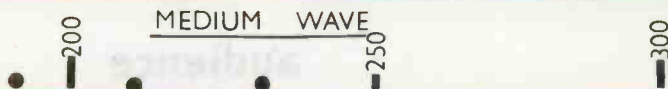
As Britain Radio - 24 hours, later reduced to 6am-12 midnight
As Radio 355 - 6am-12 midnight

Britain Radio reception area



THE VOICE OF YOUR CHOICE

instant
programme guide



192

veronica

DJs - Lex Harding, Hans Mondt, Jan van Veen, Rob Out, Gerard de Vries, Tineke, Chiël Montagne, Eddie Becker and Robbie Dale.

SATURDAY -7am-2am, SUNDAY -7am-1am, MONDAY-THURSDAY - 6am-1am, FRIDAY -6am-2am

Highlights - English Hit Parade (with Robbie Dale) Saturday 7-8pm
Robbie Dale Show, Sunday, Monday and Wednesday 11pm-12 midnight

208

lux.

DJs - Paul Burnett, David Christian, Noel Edmonds, Dave 'Kid' Jensen, Tony Prince

SUNDAY - 7pm-3am, MONDAY-SATURDAY 7.30pm-3am.

Highlights -Sound Survey - Sunday 11pm-1am, Hard Rock -(Kid Jensen Underground Sounds) Sunday 1am-3am, Thursday 12.30 am-3am

POP NEWS, Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.45pm and 11.45 pm.

NEWSDESK on the hour every night 8pm -3am

232

manx

DJs - Don Allen, George Ferguson, John Hughes, Peter Kneale, Louise Quirk

DAILY - 7am-7pm, with alternative Religious programmes on 188m (full details of exact timings given during 232 programmes)

Highlights - Top 20 Show Saturday 11am-12 mid-day, Don Allen Country and Western Jamboree Saturday 3pm-5pm

Weather checks at 15 past the hour

DEEP SEA REPORTER

IN the February issue of BREAKTHROUGH it was reported that AFN is to abandon 7 of its 8 wavelengths on the Medium Wave in preference to the VHF band. The AFN service operated no less than 22 transmitters on these 8 wavelengths, all based in Germany.

WOULD it not be a good idea for the GPO to obtain a number of these wavelengths and to licence an equal number of commercial stations to use them. This would eliminate the argument put forward by the GPO authorities that there is no space available on the medium wave for further stations. If the GPO does not obtain some of these wavelengths then they are sure to be snatched up by some propaganda station, and they will be a complete loss as far as broadcasting is concerned. It would be of more service to us here in Europe if our all too few wavelengths were employed to broadcast to our own residents, and not have these wavelengths designated to the sole use of the US forces.

ALSO two further wavelengths are at present being used by The Voice Of America - an American propaganda sta-

tion, based in the US, but relayed from Munich and Courier in Germany, to broadcast to the Soviet satellite countries. The VoA as it is called already uses the Short Waves, and it is a gross waste to allow precious Medium wavelengths to be used for propaganda.

RADIO SCOTLAND north

swinging to you
on 242 on tape

Hear the sound of live commercial radio again !
Simply send us your tape together with return postage
RSN, 22 Chapel Street,
Peterhead Aberdeenshire
Scotland.

POP SPIN

disc & discotheque

BY PETER PEDLEY

Good morning, (or something like that!)

If you've never met, seen or heard of me - that's your supreme good luck, however, **BREAKTHROUGH** is to experience the grave misfortune of having to bear my kinky mutterings this month, and possibly hereafter

When looking into new discs I shall in the main review recordings which come into the broad 'discotheque' category, and/or recordings not likely to be heard on the radio, or even in clubs -

and usually those which either have a great dance ability or are of interesting presentation, and might well add additional interest to your collection.

Whilst upon the subject of things of interest, if you would like to obtain a mint copy of "Caroline" by the fortunes, on Decca - please send me an sae (33, Glossop Road, Gamesley, Glossop, Derbyshire)

Right, - now to one or two recordings which you might have missed recently :

SWAN LAKE - THE CATS - BAF ★★★★★

Released a few weeks back this exceptionally appealing West Indian instrumental is unlikely to reach the charts. If you like an attractive rhythm coupled with a good tune (Tchaikovsky was a good lad!) you'll adore this.

LITTLE GREEN APPLES - GENE CHANDLER and - MCA ★★★★★
BARBARA ACKLIN

This too I must give four stars. Soul and big sound make this version superior to all previous. I doubt if our 'friends' on 247 will give this much air-time, but if they do - a definite hit!

WISH IT WOULD RAIN - SOULFUL STRINGS - CHESS ★★★★★

A previous two version Tamla, this is an improvement on both versions. In fact the gay strings, attractive rhythm and overall sound add up to an excellent disc.

SAVE IT - MELVIN DAVIS - ACTION ★★★

For the specialist in Soul disc collecting. Fervant feel and beat makes the disc above average standard.

OH HAPPY DAY - EDWIN HAWKIN SINGERS - BUDDAH ★★★★★

Buy it, hear it, play it, and keep on playing it. Not discoteque material, though I'll spin it at Discos. Exhilarating gospel that does not sound phoney. I must play this at full volume, with eyes closed (preferably sitting in front of a blazing fire, with a gorgeous dolly curled up on the settee beside me!)

If you haven't already purchased the LP THIS IS SUE - why not? !!! At 14/6d this must surely stand out as the very best value for yonks.

I'll list most of the tracks, and leave the rest to you. 'Treat her Right' - Roy Head, 'Daddy Rollin' Stone' - Derek Martin, 'Little Latin Lupe Lu' - Righteous Brothers, 'Harlem Shuffle' - Bob and Earl, 'Oh Baby!' - Barbara Lynn, 'You Can't Sit Down' - Phil Upchurch, 'Bony Maronie' - Larry Williams, 'Barefootin'' - Robert Parker, 'Let the Good Times Roll' - Shirley and Lee, 'Incense' - The Angles, 'Shotgun Wedding' - Roy "C".

THIS IS SUE - LP - ISLAND ★★★★★(plus)

Well, until you and I meet again next month,

Cheerio , Peter Pedley

Psst! Thought for the month - Has Johnny Walker or the 'Beeb' paid dues for the use of Radio England's Johnny Walker promo, used at the start of his new Saturday Show?

MANX REPORT

ing committee should be set up to look into any future Manx-UK clashes. It was also agreed that no military installations should be allowed on the Island without the Manx Government agreeing.

Caroline

The working party was set up in September 1967 after the Manx Parliament - the oldest in the world - had refused to apply the British Marine Broadcasting (Offences) Act to outlaw Radio Caroline North, anchored off the Island.

Defiance

During the debate on the report, held in Tynwald on May 6, Speaker of the House Mr Charles Kerruish said that the Manx Government should turn up the power of Manx Radio, in defiance of the British Government's veto. He went on to say - "for years we have been negotiating,

24

and for years we have sought an amicable solution. I believe that the time has now come to turn up the wick".

Arbitration

Mr Clifford Irving (Independent member for Douglas East) said that the only way to resolve the dispute was to ask the Commonwealth Secretariat to arbitrate.

Endorsed

The report and its main recommendation were received and endorsed by Tynwald

when answering ads . . .

Say You Saw It in

Breakthrough

B.B.C. deny rumour

The BBC have denied that they are planning 40 or 50 local radio stations to replace the present four regions in England. It is thought in some circles that this is one of the recommendations of the Mansell Committee, which is looking into BBC radio structure. The report will be published at the end of June.

● Lord Hill, Chairman of the BBC has again stated that the BBC will not turn to commercials for its revenue.

Breakthrough

the continuing voice of free radio

No.5

April 69

Price 1/6d.

'100 STATIONS' PLEDGE

CONSERVATIVE spokesman on broadcasting Mr. Paul Bryan has announced that the next Tory Government will set up 100 local commercial stations.

AS expected this policy statement has met with disapproval from local newspapers, and director of the Newspaper Society Mr. William Ridd said he thought the BBC should continue to run local radio. However, Mr. Ridd did say that if commercial stations were set up it was essential that the regional press had a share in the running operations.

● BBC chiefs are expecting the Government to give them the go ahead to set up 40-60 more local stations soon. The present experiment is due for a review in July this year.

IMPORTANT

It is with regret that we announce an increase in the price of BREAKTHROUGH, from 1/- to 1/6d. Since we first published the magazine in November last year we have greatly expanded both in presentation and news service. What you have seen so far is only a small indication of the full service we have lined up. In addition costs of stationery, printing and production have all gone up, so we had to decide between a price increase or a close-down. We hope that with an increase in circulation the new price can be held for some time.

NO CAROLINE SHOW ON 27th.

BECAUSE of lack of advertising support Yves Kuhn has announced that there will be no Caroline programme on March 27, as he had hoped.

● THERE are a number of plans to use Radio Andorra's transmitter to beam programmes to Britain. No definite plans have yet been announced, but a number of test transmissions have already taken place.

Breakthrough

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- Radio Lux.
Page I4
- Landline
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- Film Competition
Page I9

SUBSCRIPTIONS

MONTH

I/6d plus 4d
or 5d postage

3 MONTHS

5/- incl. post.

6MONTHS

IO/- incl. post.

Foreign rates
on application

All POs payable
to M A Leonard

Published by
ACTION CENTRAL
2, Alvanley Road
Liverpool
LI2 8QX

COMMENT

AFTER 18 months very guarded silence (mainly for fear of reprisal under the provisions of the Marine Offences Act), the subject of commercial radio has at last come out into the open again.

SINCE the passing of the Act many dedicated groups of people have fought to keep alive the concept of commercial radio, despite possible official reprisal and an almost 100% press blackout on the subject. Suddenly overnight the picture changed following the statement made by Mr. Paul Bryan about Conservative Party policy towards local radio. ALTHOUGH everybody may not entirely agree with the proposals, Mr Bryan has succeeded in opening up the discussion on commercial radio. In the last month since the announcement the press have all run articles or longer features on the subject, the PMG, the Chairman of the BBC and the Chairman of the ITA have all made major speeches relating to local and commercial radio. In addition there has been another Wilson/Heath clash in the Commons, in the week of the Anguillan invasion too!

DATE of Mr. Bryan's statement?, significantly March 3, 1969, just one year after Caroline went off the air.

SUBSCRIBERS

If an X appears in this box it means that your subscription to **BREAKTHROUGH** has now run out. If you wish to continue receiving the magazine please mail a new subscription within the next 14 days.



RADIO ENGLAND 2nd SWINGS !

AS we featured in our February issue, Swinging Radio England 2nd is operating in the Brighton area. The station has broadcast since last autumn and uses 60 watts power on I97m Format is based on a boss 40 chart, which is changed every week. On Saturdays, when the station is on the air from 9am to 12 noon mostly new records are played, but on Sundays when broadcasts last from 9.55am to 6pm every other record is a 'golden goodie'.

POLICY of the station is to provide an alternative to BBC Radio Brighton, and the DJs adopt a friendly, humorous approach, but nothing is broadcast that might offend anybody ("even Radio Brighton")

 * advertise in *
 * Breakthrough *
 * Send Sae for *
 * rate card *
 * ...and get *
 * RESULTS ! *

Yorks. to use TV plane?

FOLLOWING the collapse on March 19th of their Emley Moor transmitter, the ITV Company Yorkshire Television are faced with the problem of getting back on the air.

IT is estimated that it will take a year to build a new transmitter to serve the whole of their area. In the meantime a temporary transmitter is being brought in from Sweden which will put the station back on the air, although it will not be able to cover its area completely.

FACED with the possibility of losing advertising revenue to rival companies in the 'fringe' areas of its region, YTV are looking at the possibility of using TV airplanes to beam programmes. This would be on similar lines to the system Ronan O'Rahilly intends to use for Caroline TV, and what the Americans already do in Vietnam.

EURO WAVELENGTHS

THE BBC are now pressing for a re allocation of European medium wavelengths, because of interference to their services. NOTE: there are no off-shore stations on the air now, yet there is still interference !

Exhibition Radio

THE London Evening News set up a radio station at the Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition in Earls Court.

STAFFED by 18 people the 'station' broadcast for nearly 12 hours a day during the exhibition.

PROGRAMMES consisted of music and interviews with visitors, with two minutes in every hour devoted to announcements about attractions at the exhibition.

HELEN BACK ON AIR

RADIO HELEN is back on the air in the Surrey area, after being raided by the GPO at the end of February.

TOP POPS.....

So Long!

WITH re-releases cramming the charts a new dance craze or a new sound is needed urgently. Looking back to the good old days of SRE and Caroline etc. most Breakthrough readers will remember that today's re-issues were first heard on these stations in 1966. The omen is shown there - the pirate stations played the best sounds and gave new singers and groups airplay.

POP VIEW BY GERRY ROGERS

union want B.B.C. ads

MEMBERS of the Association of Broadcasting staff (the BBC Trade Union) want Radio I to carry ads. The Association have passed a resolution asking the BBC to form a sub-corporation to operate Radio I as a commercial station. They think this would be preferable to a cut in production budgets.

TAKEOVER

BBC Radio Leeds was taken over by teenagers for a week on March 10th. Under the call RL7W (Radio Leeds Teenage Week) the station broadcast a variety of programmes, including an interview with Paul Bryan on the subject of local radio.

manx radio

232 metres Daylight Hours
188 metres Darkness
89 mcjs & 91.2 mcjs VHF All Day.



CHANNEL ISLANDS STATION ?

A proposal to establish a radio station in the Channel Islands is to be investigated jointly by the States Post Office Committee and a special committee set up by the States of Jersey.

It is thought that if a station is established in the Islands it will be on similar lines to Manx Radio in the the Isle of Man.

“QUOTE”

..from Hughie Green, writing in "Pensioner's Voice"..'It is unfair that pensioners should pay rates towards a service (local radio) they don't get.'

INTERNATIONAL FILE

HOLLAND - Robbie Dale, ex CarolineDJ who now works on Radio Veronica has got his own TV show on Dutch TV. The show -POPSIDE- is a 50 minute colour spectacular produced for Dutch TV by Tros(the legal continuation of TV Noordsee). Robbie Dale can be heard on Veronica on Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Wednesday each week.



GERMANY

Germany has also got a lot of land-based pirates, similar to RFL in this country, broadcasting for a few hours at week-ends.



NORWAY

It is probable that Norway will never have commercial radio, and may not get commercial television until the mid 1970's, because so many of the country's newspaper editors are also MPs.

This was stated by the advertising director of one of Norway's magazine publishing groups at a lunch in London recently.



BIG L BOOKLET

This publication, covering the complete story of Radio London is available from Action Central Price 1/6d plus 6d postage and packing.

If you loved BIG L you must read this booklet !

Scottish hospital services

ONE LEGAL way of broadcasting radio programmes is being developed in Scotland. Here many ex Radio Scotland and other offshore DJs are working on the hospital wired networks, services piped along GPO lines from a central studio to a number of hospitals. The Forth Radio Network links 16 hospitals in the Edinburgh area. Two of the leading personalities on this service are Dave Jamieson and Jimmy Mack from 242.

IN Glasgow there are plans going ahead for setting up a similar service, under the call sign Radio Phoenix. This system of broadcasting is completely legal, but provides a platform to stimulate the interest in local radio.

N.E.F.R.A.

North Eastern Sector of the
Free Radio Association
Exclusive Free Radio Material



POSTERS

"Make it legal for Caroline"
(black on gold 13"x16" -2/6d)
"Give Veronica your Support"
(purple on yellow 13"x16"-2/6d)

Please include return postage
Full price list available
including over 20 pirate tapes
(last words of 270 -1 hour 30/-)

301 Durham Road,
Gateshead 9,
County Durham.

radio **S**weden

UNTIL recently many English pop radio fans, and many others on the Continent tuned in every Saturday to 254.7m to listen to Radio Sweden's SATURDAY SHOW. On this programme old pirate jingles were played and many requests for pirate DJs were included in the show. Caroline was mentioned every week. Host of this programme was Roger Wallis, but how much do you know about this man? Roger is English, but has lived for five years in Sweden. He went there to study after obtaining a degree at Cambridge. However after a year Roger left the academic profession and spent two years in a Swedish pop group, playing organ. In August 1966 he joined Radio Sweden.. well you know what happened then.





Back Garden Pirates

by martin west

Part I - RADIO CASTLE

The East Midlands, 1966 - the city is Nottingham. In that year a whole new generation of radio pirates made their first transmissions, which were different from the usual illegal broadcasts people made before there was even a BBC, mostly for the fun of cheap communication.

This time the broadcasts were on medium wave and young people attempted to sound like the offshore stations by whom they had been inspired, and who they now saw threatened with extinction.

An early Midlands station was Radio 195, which was soon joined by others as the most bitter day in 1967 approached. In that July, the leading pirates, Johnnie McKnight and Spyke Danelli, were ahead of the rest, using recorded programmes put out as Radio Love, Midlands Free Radio and Radio Five.

What changed the scene was the arrival of an offshore pirate DJ, who met the other pirates at a local Free Radio association rally. This DJ was invited to join Radio Five, and after changing his name to Robin the Hood, he did so. Robin soon showed how easy it was to put out "live" shows. After the Radio Five debut, Robin suggested organising something better, with more local slant, entertainment and commercial potential. After lengthy discussions, the new station emerged as RADIO CASTLE, which made its first broadcast on Sunday 2nd December, 1967, on 201 metres.

Meanwhile, other people were planning stations and building transmitters in surrounding counties, a direct consequence of first broadcasts from Nottingham.

Radio Castle's next cast was on Christmas Day, but after that Robin the Hood went on to a job with a mobile discoteque, leaving behind a totally changed group of pirates.

So came the real era of back garden shed stations, and by the fateful 3rd March 1968 there were twelve operating pirates in Nottingham City alone !

The Radio Castle team planned a big day for Easter Monday, building a very powerful transmitter and using a deserted railway station as the radio station! All that gave them away was their 400' aerial (which was destined to serve with Radio Free London in August).

Radio Castle had made its last stand - the staff and equipment were escorted to the nearest police station except for one of the team who spread the news to a pirate broadcasting in Derbyshire -Radio Atlantis North BBC Radio Nottingham also interrupted their programmes that morning to give news of the station's capture.

The land- based pirates had just become a big story!

Next Month: The Divided Network

3 LP'S WINNERS !

Here are the results of our LP competition:-

Pen Number	Winner	LP Record
I067	Miss B Sutcliffe, BRIGHTON	The Graduate
II06	Alan Thomas SWANSEA	Best of the Seekers
II53	D Nevin HULL	Hollies Greatest Hits

Another fantastic competition starts this month on page 19

This month's ideas for radio systems comes from Roy Patrick of Derby, talking about the local stations he says:

One reason that I believe the stations will be a failure is that out of their total broadcasting day of around 21 hours the stations only broadcast about five hours a day of local programmes and for the rest of the day they relay one of the BBC's National Networks, thus the stations are nothing more than glorified relay stations for programmes which can be heard on VHF and Medium Wave bands.

Most of the local programmes are not proving very popular among listeners. What they want is a good all-day service on the lines of Manx Radio, which has proved very popular over the last few years.

Local stations run by the BBC, yet financed by the local councils is a very unsatisfactory state of affairs as it is the rate-payer who has to pay twice over for a radio service. It also makes the financial situation of the stations very unstable.

Local radio should be set up, but it should be independent and financed by advertising. The terms of transmission and licences for such stations should be controlled by a Broadcasting Commission and not by the Postmaster General.

The local station survey mentioned in last month's issue has been cancelled due to lack of response.

**CAROLINE
BIG L**

AND THE OTHERS

LIVE AGAIN ON TAPE!

*

NEW LIST JUST ISSUED MAKES A TOTAL OF
12 GREAT TAPES TO CHOOSE FROM

*

SEND S.A.E. FOR FULL DETAILS

RICHARD TURNER

(Dept. BT/2)

19 PIDDINGHOE AVENUE, PEACEHAVEN, SUSSEX

THE CAROLINE REVIVAL HOUR

NEEDS YOU!

MEMBERSHIP

BOOKLET
STICKER
PICTURES 10/-

REVIVAL TAPE

3.75 ips
70 MINUTES 30/-
30 " 20/-

CASSETTE and OTHER SPEEDS AVAILABLE

PIRATE DOCUMENTATION 20/-

DETAILS and PAYMENT To

YVES KUHN

68 BD GAMBETTA 94 NOGENT FRANCE

Interview

At a meeting of the Conservative Monday Club on March 3rd 1969, the Shadow Postmaster General Mr. Paul Bryan, DSO, MC, MP, made the first major policy statement about commercial radio since 1967. Mr. Bryan said that the next Conservative Government would set up 100 local commercial stations. In view of the importance of this statement BREAKTHROUGH put the following questions to Mr. Bryan:

GGGGGGGG
GGGGGGGG

Q Although this statement was made at a meeting of the Monday Club, does it constitute official Conservative Party policy, and will it be one of the points in your next election manifesto?

Local commercial radio has been Conservative Party policy for a considerable time now.

Q Assuming that when you are returned to power the eight local BBC stations are still operating, what will happen to them?

It is impossible to foretell the future of the eight local BBC stations, as we are still half way through the experiment and the Government has not yet decided how they are to be financed. I personally would be in favour of allowing any of the present eight local BBC stations that are successful, and which succeed in financing themselves locally, to continue.

Q How will the contracts be distributed - do you intend handing these out only to companies represented by the Local Radio Association, or will anybody else be given a chance to tender?

Anybody with the necessary talent and resources would be free to apply for contracts.

Q Do you think that in addition to the local stations it would be advisable to have, say, half a dozen national commercial stations covering all tastes - pop, sweet music, classical, news etc., possibly run by people who have already had experience in national stations during the offshore days?

We anticipate that local commercial stations would provide adequate choice and coverage. If experience shows that this is not so, the matter can be re-considered. → page 16



RADIO CAROLINE NORTH

station survey

Radio Caroline North - first broadcast as Radio Caroline off the Essex coast on March 27th, 1964. Following the merger with Radio Atlanta, the original Caroline ship sailed north, anchoring off the Isle of Man in July 1964.

The northern station of the new Caroline network rapidly established itself and became extremely popular with the audiences in northern England, north Wales, Scotland, Ireland and in particular, the Isle of Man. For some time Caroline North did not capture the widespread attention that the numerous other pirates did. It was usually only mentioned in press reports "... and the other Caroline station off the Isle of Man". However, during the summer of 1967, Caroline North became the focus of world-wide attention.

The attention resulted from the fact that the Manx Government had refused to apply the British Marine Offences Act, and at one stage there was talk of the case being taken to the United Nations, and the Island declaring a UDI. Although none of this in fact resulted there were a number of changes in attitude by the British Government to the Island, but in the meantime Caroline North was given press coverage all over the world.

The Marine Offences Act did not come into operation on the 14th August, but along with her sister station Caroline North became Radio Caroline International, although by a strange quirk of fate it was still not illegal. This situation ended, however, on August 31, when at midnight the Act came into operation in the Island.

From that moment on until 10pm on March 2nd 1968, Caroline International North continued broadcasting. At midnight on that day the Dutch tug 'Utrecht' drew alongside the ship, and at 6pm the following evening began to tow Caroline towards Holland, in silence.

location

MV "Caroline", an ex passenger ferry, anchored 3½ miles off Ramsey, Isle of Man.

wavelength

199m medium wave, until December 1966, then 259m. (these were the advertised wavelengths, the actual ones were 197m and 256.6m)

audience

8 million

backing

International backing invested in a company - Planet Productions. Joint managing Directors, Ronan O'Rahilly and Barry Ainley.

programming

Top 50 - 'Caroline Countdown of Sound' plus flashbacks, jazz, folk and light music to suit housewives. Newscasts and weather on the hour, weather checks on the half hour.

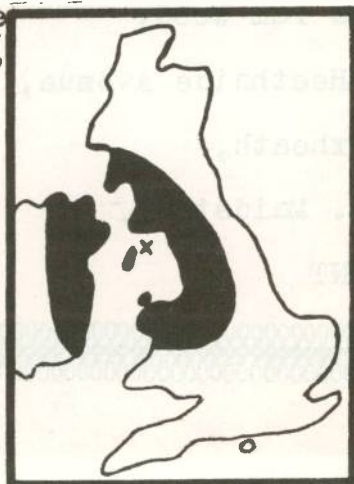
power

20Kw from a 168' aerial/mast

airtime

As Caroline North - 6am- 9pm,
Weekends 6am - 2am.
As Caroline International 6am-8pm
Saturdays - 6am-10pm

RADIO CAROLINE NORTH reception area



Graham Gill Fan Club

For full details
send sae to :

Mrs Pam Wood,
3 Heathside Avenue,
Coxheath,
Nr. Maidstone,
KENT

208 PLUS 12 MTHS.

IT is now a year since the "sound of colour radio" came to us on 208. It was on March 31, 1968 that Radio Luxembourg changed its format from sponsored 15 minute segments to longer, live shows. How has it fared over the past 12 months?

THE plan was to bring 208 up to date,- it had become very old fashioned when compared with the offshore stations. A nucleus of DJs were gathered in Luxembourg, and with the introduction of newscasts, snappy jingles and live programmes the station was at last showing signs of life. In fact it was on its way to becoming another Big L!

AFTER nine months there was a further change round of some DJs last November, and a regular team was established to provide all the programming each night. Now at last it was possible for a group of DJs to work together in building up the station, and to create an atmosphere of co-ordination and harmony. This was what the offshore stations did, but what the old 208 could not. The BBC are still unable to achieve this on Radio I.

WHEN the station goes 100% live soon, it will truly be able to show itself as a Pop 40 station and will provide strong nocturnal competition for any future British commercial radio.

THANK YOU

DON ALLEN for a great show

Sunday March 2 1969

We wish you every success on

Manx Radio.

Thanks also to Yves Kuhn

for keeping his promise.

MARTIN WEST NEWS & DUO FILMS

1 Greys Road Woodthorpe Nottingham NG5 4GU

q Do you believe the arguments put forward by local newspapers that commercial radio would damage their circulation, surely this has been disproved in the Isle of Man?

I think local commercial radio would probably take a certain amount of advertising revenue from local papers and for this reason I would be in favour of local papers being allowed a stake in local radio.

q What waveband(s) will the proposed stations use, bearing in mind the so-called technical difficulties of using the medium-wave?

All stations can use VHF, but we anticipate that a fair measure of medium wave will be used as well.

q Why is it necessary to have the stations under the control of a new Independent Broadcasting Authority?

It is necessary to have an I.B.A. to make the selection of contractors, to supervise advertising standards and quality of programmes.



Wobto



ON WHEELS

PETER PEDLEY & STEVE CHRISTIAN
WITH THEIR FREE RADIO R&B SHOW

FOR DETAILS WRITE:

'Irlam,' Glossop Road, Gamesley, Glossop, Derbys

PIRATE TWINS

A new land-based pirate has appeared in the Midlands, this time in Derbyshire.

Under the call sign Radio Free Britain, the station broadcasts from two locations on 225m. Each station does 15 or 30 minute broadcasts then hands over to its twin. As soon as a new transformer is obtained for the transmitter it is planned to have Radio Free Britain broadcasting on a strength of 300watts.

RFL FINED

Fines of £25 and 10 guineas costs were imposed by a West London magistrate on a Radio Free London operator, on March 12. Transmitting equipment was also ordered to be forfeited.

prosecution story

THE story of how Nottingham pirates avoided detection was described in the recent Court cases. Walkie-talkie lookouts were posted to give advance warning of approaching GPO detectors.

Fines ranged from £10 -£55 for using broadcasting equipment without a licence. Other fines were also imposed for using the walkie talkie sets without a licence.

You've read about Radio Castle (pages 7 and 8) now hear the station on tape. Also on this tape Radio Atlantis North announcing the close down of Castle plus excerpts from other major midlands land-based stations.



EXCLUSIVE tapes available :-

- 1) People called pirates,
(featuring stations mentioned in the new serial and other personalities)
- 2) Excerpts from top Midlands Pirates
(described above)
- 3) First broadcast from WGNF
(airchecked)

All tapes 30mins, recorded on twin track at 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ ips - 17/6d including postage.

Please make all Postal Orders payable to MA Leonard.

NEWS ABOUT



Mike Hayes
Radio City

Working at the 'Bonsoir'
Discoteque in Holland

Ron O'Quinn
Radio England

Currently on WBIM, USA

Martin Kayne
Caroline International
(North)

"At the moment I'm living
in suspense. I did an
audition for the BBC World
Service, and I am now wait
ing for the result."

RADIO SCOTLAND NORTH swinging to you on 242 on tape

Would you like to become a listener
of the new Super "S" ? ...
.... if so send your tape along to
us with return postage, and then you
can tune in to the super sound of
LIVE commercial radio, and what's so
fantastic is it costs you nothing!

SIMPLY CONTACT US AT:

22 Chapel Street
Peterhead,
Aberdeenshire
SCOTLAND.

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ADVERTISEMENTS

SPECIAL NOTICES

The international
pirate lives on
428m on Andorra.
Thanks for the
show Don, could we
have some more
please.

USE THE CLASSIFIED
ADS. YOURSELF ...

you never know what
may happen for you!

As regular readers will know DUO Films are planning a film about the land-based pirate stations, to be shown on all or several of the ITV Networks in Britain

MARTIN WEST NEWS AND DUO FILMS invite readers of Breakthrough magazine to pick a title for this production.

You can send in as many entries as you wish, provided they are each accompanied by 1/- either in stamps or Postal Orders

PRIZES

1st - PORTABLE TAPE RECORDER

2nd -£3 cash

3rd -£1 cash

Closing date:- 31 July 1969

The competition will be judged by a panel of three leading Free Radio personalities, whose names will be announced later.

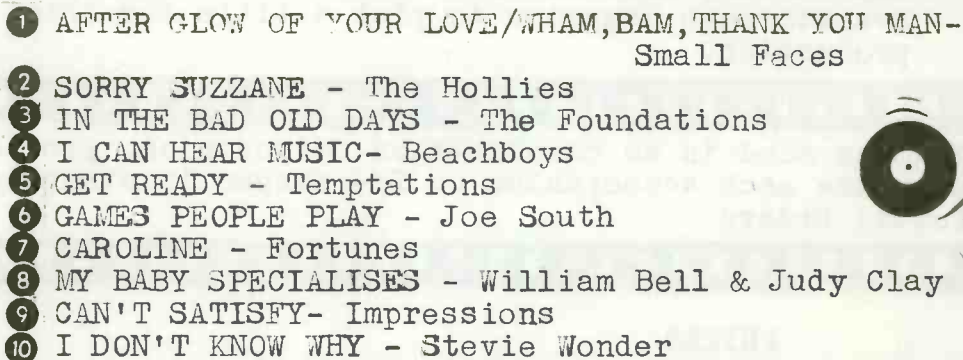
Send your title for the film (Five words maximum) to:-
Martin West News, 1 Greys Road, Woodthorpe, Nottingham, NG5 4GU
with your full name and address and 1/- with each entry.

Results of the LP Contest appear on page 8

HOT SOUNDS

First with Britain's
COMPLETE chart

The Top 10 for April from the Midlands land-based stations

- 
- 1 AFTER GLOW OF YOUR LOVE/WHAM, BAM, THANK YOU MAN - Small Faces
 - 2 SORRY SUZZANE - The Hollies
 - 3 IN THE BAD OLD DAYS - The Foundations
 - 4 I CAN HEAR MUSIC - Beachboys
 - 5 GET READY - Temptations
 - 6 GAMES PEOPLE PLAY - Joe South
 - 7 CAROLINE - Fortunes
 - 8 MY BABY SPECIALISES - William Bell & Judy Clay
 - 9 CAN'T SATISFY - Impressions
 - 10 I DON'T KNOW WHY - Stevie Wonder



Cut it out!



"I told the plastic surgeon to give me a hook nose."

stickers

...from all stations

- SI - I love Caroline
- S2 - I want my Caroline
- S3 - Big L
- S4 - SRE/Britain Radio
- S5 - Radio Scotland
- S6 - Radio City
- S7 - City tower of power
- S8 - City Pirate Licence
- S9 - Radio 270
- SI0 - K I N G Radio
- SI1 - Radio Sutch
- SI2 - Radio 390

1/- each plus 6d postage
or 10/6d full set incl.
postage.

All POs payable to
M A Leonard.