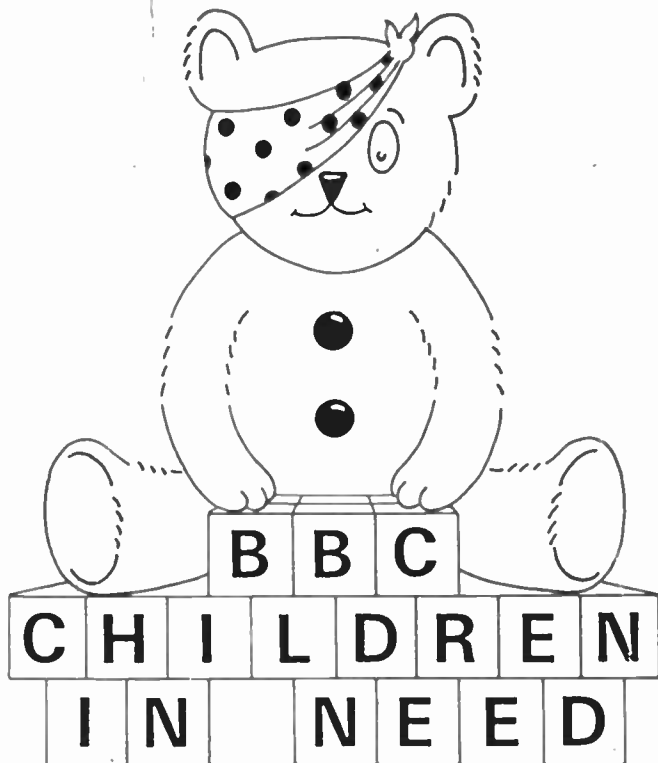


THE Magazine for Today's Radio Industry

# Now Radio

NOVEMBER 17, 1987

ISSUE # 40



A SEPERATE BILL FOR RADIO...BBC  
RADIO & CHILDREN IN NEED  
APPEAL... 'THE LEGEND' RADIO NOVA IS  
RETURNING... PLUS ALL YOUR REGULARS,  
NEWS, COMMUNICATIONS, LOOSE ENDS ETC

THE Magazine for  
Today's Radio Industry

# Now Radio

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# EDITORIAL COMMENT

ISSUE # 40

NOVEMBER 17, 1987

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*FRONT PAGE ILLUSTRATION:* BBC CHILDREN IN NEED LOGO. MIKE SMITH & RAY MOORE WILL HEAD BBC RADIO'S 'BIT' FOR THIS YEAR'S APPEAL AND WE REPORT ON THAT IN THIS ISSUE.

"THE FACT THAT THE FUTURE OF RADIO IS UNDER REVIEW SHOULD NOT, IN THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW, BE AN EXCUSE FOR DOING NOTHING IN THE MEANTIME" *TIMOTHY RENTON, HOME OFFICE MINISTER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR BROADCASTING. JUNE 1987.*

DOUGLAS HURD has pleased many people in the last few days with his 'hint' that we can expect separate Bill's for Radio and Television.

Of course, this is what we all wanted from the start!

Now, as well as some fast moving in the Home Office on a Radio Bill, let's see some indication of who will oversee non-BBC Radio when that Bill becomes an Act.

Will it be The Cable Authority or will it be the IBA?

Or might Mr Hurd decide that a new quango could best be suited for the job?

Perhaps Mr Hurd would like to give us a little hint????!!!

HOWARD G L ROSE (editor)

## NO DECISION YET - BUT EXPECT ANOTHER DELAY FOR RADIO

The head of the CABLE AUTHORITY, JOHN DAVEY, met with The Home Secretary last Monday.

However, despite rumours that The CABLE AUTHORITY had been told it was to oversee all non-BBC Radio following introduction of new legislation (and not the IBA), JOHN DAVEY told NOW RADIO: "Radio was not on the Agenda and Radio was not mentioned."

Asked for his reaction to the rumours, PETER BALDWIN, Director of Radio at the IBA said: "I've heard both rumours. We have not been told anything."

A senior HOME OFFICE source told NOW RADIO: "The Ministers have still not made their mind up. Whilst at the time of publication of the Green Paper it appeared that the CABLE AUTHORITY was favourite, the IBA has since put up quite a good case. I would say that the role of regulating non-BBC Radio is still up for grabs."

One source said "It would seem that the Radio White Paper is retreating into the distance. I don't think we will see it published much before the Spring - and not January as was being suggested by Government. However, there still could be an announcement (on who will run non-BBC Radio) in advance of its publication." The IBA has still not received a go-ahead from the HOME OFFICE for the proposed

13 new ILR stations it wants to open up.

This is despite IBA officers notifying certain interested parties in Eastbourne/Hastings and Cambridge and that advertisements will shortly appear asking for Contractors for the new franchises in these areas.

## BBC CHILDREN IN NEED APPEAL

Personalities MIKE SMITH and RAY MOORE will be rallying around Britain for the BBC's CHILDREN IN NEED APPEAL.

The pair will be moving around the whole country, fund-raising and hoping to better last year's £400,000 raised by RADIO s 1, 2, 3 and 4.

RADIO 1's MIKE SMITH plans to cover Britain's 3,500 mile coastline behind the wheel of a Ford Scorpio in just seven days.

RAY MOORE, RADIO 2's early show presenter, will be moving at a more leisurely pace with his 'Bog Eyed Jog' around five different running tracks.

Last year RAY MOORE raised £70,000 for the appeal with his 'Bog EyedJog' and his record "MY FATHER HAD A RABBIT". This year's record is "THE BOG EYED JOG" and is already in the lower section of the top 200!

The radio side of the appeal is kicked off by ROY CASTLE on RADIO 2 on GOOD MORNING SUNDAY on Sunday November 22nd.

## SPECIAL EVENT RADIO

The HOME OFFICE has still not sent recommendations to Ministers for Special Event Radio licences and conditions for the coming year.

# Now Radio

## MONIQUE/VIEWPOINT FREQUENCY CHANGE

Chief Engineer CHICAGO has finally made the long-awaited change of frequency from 963kHz for the RADIO MONIQUE and VIEWPOINT services from the CAROLINE ship ROSS REVENGE.

The move had to be made following the increase in power, to 600kW, by RADIO FINLAND on 963kHz.

Test transmissions were made this last Sunday morning, during the very early hours, following a complete day off the air for both MONIQUE/VIEWPOINT and CAROLINE 558.

The transmissions of the dutch-language service and the evangelical programming is now on 819kHz.

## SHORT WAVE

Last Tuesday CAROLINE and MONIQUE were off the air for most of the day whilst engineers completed work on the new shortwave antenna system.

A source claims that a shortwave transmitter will be operational on 6210 kHz within a fortnight.

At first programmes of RADIO CAROLINE 558 will be relayed, though the eventual aim is for a 24-hour religious programming service on that channel.

## TURNER

Senior DJ KEVIN TURNER is back aboard CAROLINE for a period which will lead up to and include Christmas.

He told NOW RADIO, "Last Year PETER PHILLIPS was aboard for Christmas. I will do that stint this year allowing him to take a break!"

## RADIO NOVA RETURNS WITH UNIQUE FORMAT

RADIO NOVA, the most successful Irish super-pirate, has returned to the Dublin airwaves with a unique format for European listeners. Test transmissions which had been noted in recent weeks on 100 MHz sprang into life last Monday as the new RADIO NOVA.

The station is programming an all-compact disc format - a first for the station.

At the present time the station is automated and no presentation staff are being used by the station

## RADIO SHIP ALL ADRIFT

The radio ship MV COMMUNICATOR was forced from her latest anchorage, about 3½ miles south east of the Sunk Light Vessel off Harwich, last week by more winter gales.

The ship, which is being prepared for two new stations, STAR FORCE 576 and HARMONY RADIO, ended up only two miles off of the port of Felixstowe, Suffolk.

A crew change took place towards the end of the week and by Saturday afternoon she was sailing out of British waters and back into International Waters of the North Sea.

Recent storms have delayed work aboard the radio ship but a spokesman for the organisation that now owns the station, speaking to NOW RADIO from New York, said they were still hoping for a December on-air date.

# Now Radio

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ARE YOU  
GETTING IT  
EVERY WEEK???

NOW RADIO REPORTS is the fortnightly 'newsletter' for readers of NOW RADIO MAGAZINE designed to keep them full up-dated with developments from throughout today's radio industry.

Published in the week between the magazine, NOW RADIO REPORTS is already a winner with very many subscribers. Like the magazine, all areas of radio are featured, plus the latest job vacancies, comment, etc.

Printed in larger format (larger print and A4 size pages) NOW RADIO REPORTS is available to subscribers at the special rate of £15 for the whole year - that's 26 fortnightly issues.

Don't miss out!!!

TO SUBSCRIBE: SEND YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND SUBSCRIPTION NUMBER (THE FIRST FOUR NUMBERS OF YOUR ADDRESS LABEL) TO:

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FREE!!! With next Tuesday's NOW RADIO REPORTS - A Free Copy of ERIC - The Technical Newsletter for Student Radio Broadcasters!!!

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# Now Radio

## NEW AIRC CHAIRMAN

The managing director of the YORKSHIRE RADIO GROUP (RADIO HALLAM, PENNINE RADIO and VIKING RADIO), BILL MacDONALD has been elected the new Chairman of the ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT RADIO CONTRACTORS (AIRC).

He takes over from RON COLES, managing director LEICESTER SOUND and RADIO TRENT at the association's AGM on January 27th, 1988.

BILL MacDONALD has been an ILR managing director since RADIO HALLAM, the 9th local commercial station in the IBA chain, was first appointed Sheffield contractor in 1974. On the merger of VIKING RADIO (Hull), PENNINE RADIO (Bradford) and RADIO HALLAM, in 1986, he became m.d. of the group.

He gained his commercial broadcasting experience first in Philadelphia, USA, and then as a radio executive for TRIDENT TELEVISION in London, before becoming a founder member of the consortium which in 1974 applied successfully for the Sheffield ILR contract from the IBA.

During his years with AIRC he has served on all the committees and has been Chairman of the Marketing and Copyright committees.

AIRC is now electing the other six members of the association's 1988 Board. This is a reduction on the previous number of 18 which AIRC has had in the past.

These are the Chairman of Committees for Copyright, Finance, Labour Relations, Marketing (RMB), Programming and Technical.

## RADIO SESSIONS IN WOLVERHAMPTON

Two sessions at The LIGHTHOUSE MEDIA CENTRE, Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton, will be of interest to many readers of NOW RADIO.

On Monday November 30th, a session entitled THE SOUND OF COMMUNITY RADIO will start at 7.30pm. WOLVERHAMPTON COMMUNITY RADIO have been invited to present examples of the output of Community Radio stations in other countries including Australia, Canada, United States of America, Japan and El Salvador. Entrance is £1.50p (£1 for concessions).

On Monday 7th December PIRATES! is the title of a second radio session. It will be introduced by ALAN LOVELL, Director of the film THE BLACK AND WHITE PIRATE SHOW, shown earlier this year on CHANNEL 4. There will also be a speaker from the 'pirate' Community Radio station PCRL in Birmingham, who will talk about their situation.

Entry again is the same as the first session.

Further information from The LIGHTHOUSE MEDIA CENTRE on (0902) 312032/3/4. Or contact PETER WHITEHOUSE of WOLVERHAMPTON COMMUNITY RADIO on (0902) 312062 (daytime/work) or 771789 (home).

## LISTENER EDITOR NAMED

ALAN COREN, exiting editor of PUNCH, will be the first Editor of THE LISTENER under joint BBC/ITV ownership.

# Now Radio

## JEFF YOUNG GETS EXTRA TIME

BBC RADIO 1 is claiming the station's newest dance music show has proved so popular with listeners that it is being extended by an extra hour.

The recently launched JEFF YOUNG DANCE MUSIC SHOW will now air from 7pm to 10pm every Friday night featuring dance, disco and soul music.

JEFF YOUNG joined BBC RADIO ONE from CAPITAL RADIO.

## RADIO TARA

The joint venture between RTE, the Irish state broadcasting organisation and RADIO LUXEMBOURG, known by the working name RADIO TARA is moving ahead towards the naming of its first Chief Executive shortly.

A short-list of candidates was drawn up and a final name has been selected.

Also a list of six final possible call-signs for the station have been approved by the two backers of the station which will broadcast on long wave to Ireland and Britain.

One of the prime possibilities is WINNER 254.

A source claims that recent objections to the big antenna system for the station are now unlikely to delay the launch of the station.

Latest guesstimates for a start-date for the new commercial daytime-only station say next September/October.

## PIRATE RADIO QUESTIONS ASKED IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS

LORD AYLESTONE asked LORD YOUNG, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on Monday November 9th, whether the Government will strengthen the RADIO INVESTIGATION SERVICE of the DTI with a view to expediting the closure of pirate radio stations and clearing the frequencies for the existing legal local radio stations and the proposed community and neighbourhood radio stations.

In reply, LORD YOUNG of Graffham said, "We are concerned about the interference which unlicensed broadcasting stations cause to legal radio user's. My department's RADIO INVESTIGATION SERVICE already acts promptly by removing offending transmitters when unlicensed stations disrupt authorised radio communications. Where possible, it also prosecutes those responsible. It has taken into account of the need to make spectrum provision for the new services contemplated in the broadcasting Green Paper." LORD YOUNG said that the cost of radio regulation was largely met from fees paid by legal radio users. "We have to consider whether the benefits they could expect from a strengthening of the RADIO INVESTIGATION SERVICE would justify the increased costs to them. So far broadcasters have been unwilling to see their costs

# Now Radio

increase substantially." He said that in order to free resources for the important work of keeping the radio spectrum clear of unacceptable interference, he has decided that, in future, dealers will be required to show that they have taken measures to cure broadcast reception problems before referring them to the RIS.

LORD YOUNG told the House of Lords that so far this year the RIS had carried out 309 raids against 66 unlicensed stations. This is a 50% increase on last year. Of the 309 raids, 257 were carried out against 38 stations in the London area. So far this year 45 people have been successfully prosecuted.

LORD YOUNG said that the RIS suspected there are about 86 unlicensed stations in the country, of which 39 are in London. He said that about a dozen, mainly in London, operated commercially on a daily basis. He said there were many technical problems involved in "catching people" especially since stations had begun to separate their studios from the often remote-controlled transmitter sites.

LORD JENKINS of Putney asked where the finance comes from to support pirate radio stations - and would it be possible for the DTI to look into that matter to see if the "problem" could be tackled from that angle.

In reply, LORD YOUNG concluded: "Often this is carried out by groups who fund themselves. It is rarely carried out on the commercial radio services of

the kind that noble Lords would recognise. I suspect that there are on occasion those who actually pay money in order to have records broadcast, but that is very much in the minority."

## RIS CLAIM OFFSHORE RADIO STATIONS ARE NOT COMMERCIALY VIABLE

In the second annual report the RADIO INVESTIGATION SERVICE of the DTI claims that offshore stations such as RADIO CAROLINE and the late-LASER RADIO have no prospect of commercial viability.

The RIS report claims that no "reputable company" would advertise on such stations, aware of the fines possible under the terms of the Marine & Broadcasting Offences Act 1967.

The report also says that the RIS has continued to assist the Police with their investigations of the activities and people operating offshore radio stations.

RIS and DTI investigations into offshore radio have taken their staff as far afield as Holland, Belgium and France - as well as in writing - to advertisers and airtime user's in the United States.

There is a common belief in official circles in the British Government that the actual income from advertising and airtime sales for block programmes is very small at the moment for the pirate radio stations in international waters.



# Now Radio

## BBC EXTERNAL SERVICES FUNDING ANNOUNCED

The Government has informed the BBC that it will be providing the following funding for the EXTERNAL SERVICES for the coming two years:

1988/9	£89,400,000
1989/90	£94,000,000

The amount for next year is an increase of £4,000,000.

Both amounts fall far short of the amounts requested by the BBC itself.

## CHECKLAND CUT'S IN LOCAL RADIO UNDER ATTACK

The proposal carried in the BBC's five-year plan to reduce operational costs of Local Radio by 10 percent across the board has been strongly condemned by staff within the service.

"The intended savings on each local radio station will just about pay the salary of one personality TV newsreader," claimed IAN VELLS, a radio contributor and member of the Local Advisory Council of BBC RADIO LANCASHIRE.

## PASS THE KLEENEX... ILR COULD LOOSE A MILLION POUND AD CONTRACT!

KIMBERLEY-CLARK may pull out of commercial radio advertising after December and loose the network around £1 million over the coming year.

The company claims that it has reached agreement with all Radio sales houses except for BMS, who want to charge new higher rates for the next contract.

KIMBERLEY-CLARK is not the first giant client to become upset at the BMS stance over hikes in the rate card; another has been PROCTER & GAMBLE.

KIMBERLEY-CLARK have said they will pull out of all ILR advertising in 1988 if they cannot reach agreement with BROADCAST MARKETING SERVICES. The company says it only wants to plan a national campaign and would not push ahead with spots on non-BMS repped stations.

In reply BMS have said they are "not a charity" and must follow the published rates for their stations.

## COMMERCIAL RADIO AD REVENUE

In the year ending June 1987, Commercial Radio advertising revenue saw an increase of 17%, according to research released by SAATCHI AND SAATCHI.

## MERSEY PIRATES FINED

13 members of RADIO MERSEY WAVES, the Liverpool unlicensed radio station, appeared in Court last week accused of operating broadcasting equipment without a HOME OFFICE licence.

Fines on 12 people ranged from an average £75 plus £50 costs to a £250 fine for one person.

The four-and-a-half hour session was held behind closed doors with members of the public banned from the room during the hearing.

# Now Radio

## PIRATE RADIO OPERATOR FINED £100

The operator of LIVERPOOL PIRATE RADIO has been fined £100 and ordered to pay £50 costs by Liverpool Magistrates Court.

PHILIP WILLIAMS, unemployed Father of four, was tracked down by officials from the DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY'S RADIO INVESTIGATION SERVICE (RIS) who discovered him operating broadcasting equipment in the bedroom of his home in Elkstone Road, Norris Green. WILLIAMS pleaded guilty to operating wireless telegraphy equipment without a licence from the HOME OFFICE.

He told the Court, whilst he knew he was breaking the law he did not think he was doing any harm.

Speaking for PHILIP WILLIAMS, Solicitor TONY OSTRIN said: "He made sure he did not interfere with any other broadcasts, especially emergency transmissions.

"He was keen to run the station professionally and believed he did so with the help of local unemployed lads who enjoyed making the best of their free time."

A selection of letters of praise at the stations efforts were produced for the Court.

"Many of them came from inmates at Walton Jail... people from all sections of the community enjoyed the music-only station," said TONY OSTRIN.

The charge was for a 3-week long series of broadcasts in April this year.

## RED ROSE FORMS MINI-NETWORK

The Preston-based RED ROSE RADIO Group has formed what has been seen as a mini network.

The JAMES WHALE Programme, originating at Leeds' RADIO AIRE is now being broadcast by both that station and RED ROSE RADIO.

The programme is aired Monday through Friday 10pm until 2am.

The phone-in show invites calls on Leeds 455362 and Preston 704362.

The JAMES WHALE programme being broadcast by the Preston/Blackpool station now replaces outspoken call-in show host ALLAN BESWICK who departed RED ROSE for BBC RADIO MANCHESTER. earlier this year BESWICK was suspended for a period by RED ROSE after a row about comments he made on air about the Prime Minister and the intervention of the IBA.

Had RED ROSE managed to pull off its take-over of PENNINE RADIO and the other two stations in the YORKSHIRE RADIO NETWORK (HALLAM and VIKING) it is known that RED ROSE/RADIO AIRE wanted to have the JAMES WHALE programme aired on all 5 stations.

RED ROSE owns RADIO AIRE and also RED DRAGON RADIO in Cardiff, South Wales - which also incorporates the transmitters once used by the defunct GWENT BROADCASTING in Newport.

WHAT'S YOUR NEWS???

PHONE NOW RADIO  
0536 51 44 37

# Now Radio

L O O S E

E N D S

Just when you thought the name had gone forever ('cept on that sweat shirt you paid fortune for!) comes news that the name LASER is alive and well in Florida on a station called LASER 93.5.....

RADIO ONE Controller, JOHNNY BEERLING has been ultra quick to hit back at MICHAEL CHECKLAND'S claims for the future of the station - despite Mr. CHECKLAND being the Director-General! BEERLING has tried to squash any idea that more speech, editorial or dramatic programming may be added to the ingredients of the national pop and rock channel. BEERLING has accused the CHECKLAND plan for the next five-years of being poorly drafted. At the same time, no less than DAVID HATCH, Managing Director of Network Radio, indicates there'll be more educational output - though the BBC had a duty to try and publicise what it is already doing in that area as well.....

GERRY ZIERLER, one-time offshore dj in the 'sixties when known as GUY HAMILTON, is the newly appointed Managing Director of the facilities division of TRILION. He moves there from the post of Managing Director at TSI VIDEO.....

A good share of a £1 million or so will go to commercial radio in a major new ad

campaign being launched by the EVENING STANDARD, survivor of the recent newspaper battle in London.....

Work goes on...on preparation for the publication of FRESH AIR! FRESH AIR will be NOW RADIO COMMUNICATIONS' first venture in to publication of a glossy - and will be distributed FREE to all NOW RADIO Magazine subscriber's with our December 15th issue. By the way, FRESH AIR will appear FREE to subscribers each two months. Advertising rates are available on request for NOW RADIO Magazine, NOW RADIO Reports, FRESH AIR and ERIC - The technical newsletter for Student Broadcasters.....

Multiple subscriptions to NOW RADIO save pounds and are designed for such as radio stations, educational establishments etc.....Our Multiple Sub's start with 6 copies of each publication being sent to one address, up to 30 copies of each issue. Subscribing this way can save an organisation a great deal of money. A special introductory offer means if you take 30 copies you effectively pay for only 10 !.....

Expect public confirmation of the closure of a certain radio/media publication to be made at any time now. We have agreed to stay silent until the Editor of the organ has written to all his subscribers to explain why. What we can assure you is it is NOT us! .....

# Now Radio

## COMMUNICATIONS

WE ALWAYS WELCOME YOUR LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION, PLEASE SEND THEM TO:

THE EDITOR  
NOW RADIO  
PO BOX 45  
LETTERING  
NORTHANTS  
NN16 0NW

\*\*\*\*

*Heath Close  
Wokingham  
Berks*

Dear NOW RADIO,

I must write and put forward a few lines 'in praise of am'. The broadcasting world seems to be head over heels in love with FM at the moment. I would point out the following observations:

a) AM has a smoother sound for the listener and generally offers more 'presence'. FM is ok for hi-fi systems but for the majority of us who listen on relatively small-speakered portable radios, AM definitely comes over louder. The increased use of women's voices makes the spoken word even harder to hear on FM.

2) AM transmissions are more stable for portable radios - even with AFC. The power of FM transmitters are much less here than in the USA and FM transmissions are much more prone to being affected by outside forces, e.g. aircraft, atmospheric, etc.

c) The allocation of FM channels near the edge of the broadcast part of the spectrum means that some are still subjected to breakthrough interference from police and other emergency service transmissions.

d) finally there can surely be no denying that AM is far more convenient to tune in to on a

portable radio - no long antennas poking one's eyes out when it comes to moving the radio from room to room - and, on a car radio there are not the annoying noise from the tuner 'seeking' the strongest signal.

Let's hope the broadcaster's enthusiasm for FM does not result in poor old AM being left with speech-only programming. Even the USA is reviving music on AM - and 'sounds of the sixties' just doesn't sound right in crystal clear stereo!

Keep up the good work,

MICHAEL P SMITH

*From The ABD*

Dear Howard,

I write in response to your latest Editorial in NOW RADIO REPORTS issue 4 (Nov 10, 1987) which is in need of correction.

Your suggestion that unlike the BBC; The IBA, AIRC and the CRA had failed to come up with any comments regarding the future of radio may be true, however I must stress the statement does not apply to the ASSOCIATION FOR BROADCASTING DEVELOPMENT.

In the same issue of NOW RADIO that carried the story of the BBC's 5-year plan (NOW RADIO Magazine issue 39) an article of our 1987/88 plan was carried.

May I assure you that the ABD is far from being inactive at present.

Regards,

PAUL BOON  
Chairman  
ABD  
London

# Now Radio

L O O S E

E N D S

The TERRITORIAL ARMY seems to be the right organisation to be in if you want to make your mark in sound broadcasting in this day and age! COLIN MASON (managing director of the CHILTERN NETWORK), EDDIE VICKERS (managing director, SEVERN SOUND), PETER BALDWIN (IBA) and JOHN BIRT at the BBC are a few key figures who are in said movement. Can we please have a few more names?.....

SIMON WALLY BARRATT is not off the air at RADIO WYVERN. Despite our story in the last issue saying he'd lost the afternoon drive shift, and he's now Resident Painter at the station, it would appear SIMON can now be heard each Thursday, Friday and Saturday night from 10pm until 2am as well as painting and decorating!.....

The planned new BBC Local Radio stations will be FM-only stations. This follows hot on the heels of the IBA saying that their new batch of stations will also be FM'ers.....

A reminder, on the subject of the new batch of 13 ILR stations, that the IBA will be advertising for possible contractors in the Cambridge and Eastbourne/Hastings areas within a few weeks.....

Listen out for a 'shake-up' of presentation on BBC RADIO 3 ! Seems that the long bits

of silence will soon go, and the station may attempt to get rid of some of it's sometimes (very) over-the-top highbrow music and delivery.....

The BBC has carried out a number of surveys in to what wavebands are used by RADIO 2 listeners. In 1983 30% of RADIO 2 listeners had FM Car Radio receivers. In 1987 the percentage had risen to 50%. And, adding to that, the JOHN DUNN programme is now being listened to by 50% on AM and 50% on FM. Seems like the Beeb starting to justify its move to FM-only operations of all of its national networks.....

That most likeable chap - former JACKIE/SOVEREIGN/CAROLINE/ENERGY staffer - RICHARD JACKSON is currently working for RADIO BANGKOK IN Thailand. Great news for us at NOW RADIO - as (a) we know where the old \*\*\*\*\* is, and (b) we advertised the job in the first place! Always nice to know we help fill vacancies with our FREE advertisements in our OPENINGS section.....

"THE FACT THAT THE FUTURE OF RADIO IS UNDER REVIEW SHOULD NOT, IN THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW, BE AN EXCUSE FOR DOING NOTHING IN THE MEANTIME"  
TIMOTHY RENTON, HOME OFFICE MINISTER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR BROADCASTING. JUNE 1987.

A new unlicensed station began broadcasting in Kent at the weekend, ID'ing as WKMR.....

# Now Radio

L O O S E

E N D S

Stand-by for news shortly of a new oldies radio service in London.....

KISS-FM 93.95 MHz is about to launch a new weekly speech programme. Running each Sunday the quarter-hours programme will be a guide to what's on around London.....

Expect to hear some news in the coming days of the closure of a certain radio publication. Not us! But sad to hear that our market still is not big enough to sustain even but the bravest. One day, when we have hundreds of local stations, perhaps the situation will be somewhat better when we have a few hundred stations on the air around the country and able to support such publications.....

You have been warned!!! MAX BYGRAVES will be presenting SOUNDS OF THE SIXTIES on RADIO 2 this Saturday November 21 from 9.03 am. Expect to hear music (so he won't be playing his own recordings!?!?!!) from SAM COOKE, THE SEEKERS and THE FOUR TOPS.....

Why is it that drama producer's have to use these awful American-accented actors in their programmes? Surely they aren't real? How about some deal whereby the Beeb can use real American's in drama based that side of the water - or which need real American's in 'em???.....

It is perhaps becoming compulsive listening, isn't it? We're talking about the BBC's CHILDREN IN NEED appeal. Like The Olympics, FA Cup Final, The Remembrance Service or (in day's gone by...) Miss World, This is Your Life and The Eurovision Song Festival.....

JAMES DAY is back on the wireless!!! Yes, our former offshore radio lad can now be found broadcasting again - this time with DOVER COASTGUARD!!!.....

That Libel case in which ROGER PARRY is suing the EVENING STANDARD over an article in which the newspaper claimed that the then BBC-employee was involved with LASER will not, we understand, reach Court much before the end of next year.....

BBC RADIO 1's new London FM transmitter on 104.8 MHz has been received by a NOW RADIO subscriber in Washington, Tyne and Wear!.....

Thank's for the magazine from subscriber BRADLEY ALLEN in Kent and for the postcards and stickers to BARRY ROBINSON.....

VOICE OF PEACE Programme Director MIKE DARBY is leaving the station at the begining of December.....

OCEAN SOUND NORTH FM transmitter, due in service in December, is still testing - but only in MONO.....

VOP Boss ABE NATHAN will be at Earls Court next weekend,...

# Wireless Workshop

## Special Event Radio

Our mobile caravans, complete with transmitter and aerial equipment, are available for hire for Special Event stations anywhere in the UK.

Wireless Workshop are pioneers of this kind of service, and our equipment is designed to produce first class results.

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Without Audio Processing, signals sound weak and lacking in clarity.

We can put a punch into your signal that will make it stand out on the dial. Our Audio Processors produce professional results at an affordable price.

## Inductive Loop Radio Systems

Our MF Inductive loop system provides a performance that is second to none.

Ten stations already use Wireless Workshop equipment for their transmission systems. We have many years' experience of designing and installing broadcasting networks for student and hospital radio.

Contact us now for more details and a free estimate of costs for your site.

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# Now Radio

## FOUR INTO SIX DOESN'T GO!

FEATURE BY NORMAN McLEOD

The BBC seems to be engaging in some remarkable sleight-of-hand in conjuring six networks out of the four it's got at the moment. The only rationale behind this must be that the BBC is seriously worried about the prospect of losing frequencies to new stations, and is trying to make sure that it emerges from the cuts which are sure to come eventually with as many frequencies as it can keep.

The trouble is, who is in a position to challenge them? The BBC can put its case - but who speaks for the rest of the broadcasters who have claims on the spectrum, particularly the ones who don't have any frequencies at all at the moment? Who can suggest ways in which the BBC's services can continue to be available in the most frequency-efficient manner?

### POTENTIAL CHALLENGERS

The CRA (Community Radio Association) has spent so much time on internal squabbles of staggering immaturity that it has difficulty responding to events as they happen, and would probably insist on sending a deputation of at least dozen people to discuss any points they wish to make, given than consensus and leadership seem to be conspicuously lacking in that organisation.

Other groups purporting to represent new stations have even less credibility. The ABD seems to be the complete inverse of the CRA, largely a one-man band: I've never heard of them holding anything so bold as a public meeting, and all the statements coming from them seem to be made by the same person.

The IBA isn't going to challenge the BBC's claims very seriously: it wants to preserve as much as possible of the status quo as well, and has no interest in rocking anyone else's boat.

So I suppose it's left to mavericks like me to take on the BBC's claims on frequency space.

### THE BBC'S PROPOSALS

As I understand it, what the BBC is proposing to do appears to be something like this:

(1) force all Radio 4 listeners onto VHF by discontinuing the long-wave service for most of the time;

This appears to be part of the BBC's "VHF is good for you" obsession. The Green Paper make its quite clear that a service devoted primarily to speech is not the best use of a stereo FM network.

Much of Radio 4 is mono speech and always will be, unless the network radically alters its character. It works well on long wave, and in those places where long wave reception is poor there are MF outlets supplementing the service. As AM coverages go, it's the best of the bunch by a long way.

Listeners in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland haven't had Radio 4 on VHF since 1978, and there has been no popular uprising in support of its arrival. Nevertheless, as part of its project to force people onto VHF whether they want to go or not, the BBC is intending to spend vast amounts of money creating another set of transmitters to national network standards in these countries. And, of course, this will use up 2.2 MHz worth of prime VHF spectrum which can't then be claimed by the competition.



# Now Radio

## BBC PLANS (cont'd)

(ii) to put Parliament and some other Radio-4 style opt-outs on long wave;

It seems that the rest of the time the long wave transmitter may still carry Radio 4, but the BBC is playing this aspect down in case it is accused of more simulcasting (dearie me!)

(iii) to put schools, further education, cricket and sports commentaries etc. on the Radio 2 MF channel;

The rest of the time it would come as no surprise to find the 693 and 909 transmitters carrying Radio 2, although this, too, is hardly being emphasised.

(iv) In effect, to transfer Radio 1 from MF to VHF, though with as long a period of simultaneous transmission as it can get away with;

(v) to disrupt Radio 3 VHF with schools programmes instead of Radio 4. Ah, but aren't the schools programmes going to be on Radio 2 MF. Well, yes, but, er, there's an explanation for this but I've never heard one I understood.

So there you have it. It seems to be that to spend money on new transmitters like it was going out of fashion is the BBC's answer to the frequency question. If it was my money they were spending (and to a small extent it is) I would actually save some rather than squander it by the simple expedient of leaving Radio 4 on long wave alone, and putting Radio 1 on the Radio 4 VHF transmitters. This wouldn't cost a penny. It seems to me that VHF spectrum is a luxury Radio 4 can do quite well without, as has been demonstrated outside England for nearly a decade.

This Parliament ruse for the long-wave network appears to be a spurious way of justifying keeping the long-wave service even after the VHF system is complete. Far better to use it for what it's good at: what it's doing at the moment.

If extended coverage of Parliament is required from time to time, it can go on the Radio 2 MF channel along with the cricket and the schools. There is no need for two AM networks to mop up the odds and ends displaced from the VHF networks when one will do.

## SAVE AND PROSPER

In my scheme we would have Radios 1, 2 and 3 on VHF only, with Radio 4 on long wave, plus - as now - medium wave in areas where long wave is poor. The sports commentaries, the schools and educational programmes, coverage of Parliament, and all the other bits and bobs would go on the Radio 2 MF channel.

I would pocket the cost of a new VHF network throughout the UK, plus the cost of a further network beyond England. I could spend that on better programmes or on sunning myself in some foreign parts for the rest of my life! I would also have two VHF networks and two medium-wave ones available to be restructured for future use.

Not only that, but I would save an arm and a leg by chopping simulcasting on local radio - about which the BBC has been rather coy. Although it looks like future stations will be VHF only, this has not been announced in the way the IBA has made its future policy clear.

I would tend to put BBC local radio on MF only, with ILR on VHF, thus encouraging them to be different, and providing local radio on both bands.

--- e'N McLeod 1987 ---

# Now Radio

SO THAT'S WHAT  
THIS KNOB IS  
FOR!!!

PART 2

FEATURE by ROB CHAPMAN  
For NOW RADIO

*The first part of this article originally appeared in another magazine which has now sadly ceased publication. I had always intended to write a follow-up dealing with post-August '67 events and my interest (or lack of it...) in radio during the 1970's. Now, thank's to NOW RADIO I am able to do just that! Part 3 of my nostalgic ramblings next time.*

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Of course I didn't cry. Like so often the ending, when it came, was an anti-climax. Like the last day at school when you've threatened to burn it down but you just walk out of the gates one last time without so much as a backwards glance. Like when that particular partner who you've worshipped from afar packs you up and you think you'll throw yourself in the river - but you don't. You just carry on because like a London bus you know that there will be another one along in a minute. Trouble was with pirate radio you knew there wasn't going to be another one along in a minute. And as I sat there in that back garden on that overcast Monday afternoon I knew that 6 weeks was a long time to wait for RADIO 1.

That's not to say I was about to transfer my allegiances over to the BBC (like so many casual listeners did.) Far from it. CAROLINE was going to gain a very special place in my heart over the next few months. But from now on it would be fighting alone. Quite simply there

would no longer be the choice. You could either listen or switch off. And despite what some people might say that's no choice at all. CAROLINE, it's true to say, took a while to find its feet after August 14th - as does anyone who has just moved house. Particularly if you've just emigrated! So as the weeks ticked by my thoughts turned to the Beeb and what kind of service RADIO 1 would provide. On the surface it sounded promising. All those pirate superstars on one station! I should have known better.....

That first weekend lulled me into a false sense of security: TONY BLACKBURN still sounded great. And I'd always listened to SATURDAY CLUB even when the pirates were at their peak (and to all those sneering anoraks, I'd say, where do you think most of us heard the BEATLES and the STONES live for the first time?) And then there were PEEL, ROSKO and MIKE RAVEN opening up whole new avenues of musical exploration for me. Add to this CHRIS DENNING's excellent magazine programme WHERE IT'S AT and you could almost forget the dreadful LIGHT PROGRAMME legacy of JUNIOR CHOICE and 2-WAY FAMILY FAVOURITES.

But weekdays were a different story. Weekdays were awful. BLACKBURN, like many others, soon started to sound forced and artificial, and apart from the occasional gem like SIMON DEE on MIDDAY SPIN and DAVID SYMONDS in the evenings (the BBC's one true home grown talent) the rest was unspeakable. JIMMY YOUNG, SAM COSTA, The NDO playing their bizarre versions of the hits of the day. Need I go on. This inconsistency between weekdays and weekends was to set the pattern for the next couple of years. And like so many others it wasn't long before my dial was retuned to 259.

# Now Radio

Most people's memories of CAROLINE post-August 14th seem to be clouded by the plug records issue. Memories can often be faulty. For a start some of that MAJOR MINOR and PRESIDENT stuff wasn't as bad as people make out. Personally I always had a soft spot for DAVID McWILLIAMS, The EQUALS and FELICE TAYLOR. And what most people conveniently forget is that despite the turgid Irish ballads it was still a thousand times better than the NDO attempting LET'S GO TO SAN FRANCISCO. And those MI AMIGO jocks weren't bad either. It was a good team; ROBBIE DALE & JOHNNIE WALKER, STEVI MERIKE, ANDY ARCHER, THE WIERD BEARD, SPANGLES etc. Their youth and enthusiasm came over well. And apart from GLENN ADAMS and BUD BALLOU who seemed to have disappeared off the face of the earth they've all done pretty well for themselves, haven't they? And although some of them would probably deny it now it did seem to be a cause worth fighting for.

Of course like the war most sceptics said it would be over by Christmas. But as 1968 dawned RADIO 1 was still unlistenable on weekdays and CAROLINE was still there.....

I used to have this favourite bit of piping in the loo at home where I could wedge my slender but perfectly formed transistor and for some inexplicable reason amplify the volume three-fold. Particularly useful when your HP2's were running down. No doubt Freudians could have a field day finding a link between radio listening and toilets, and bearing in mind ANDY ARCHER's later nickname for free radio enthusiasts (clue: bar a couple of letters it's almost an anagram of anoraks!) they could have a point. All I know is that on Sunday morning, March 3rd, 1968 I wedged my tranny in its place as usual and prepared to

blast the rest of the family out of bed and there was nothing on 259 but dead air.

TO BE CONTINUED

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Editors footnote: BUD BALLOU spent some time in London following the closure of CAROLINE in 1968 and did present some programmes on CHRIS CARY's land-based pirate RADIO FREE LONDON. Later he moved back to the states and commercial radio, where now he is a most successful Programmer of a group of commercial stations. He, of course, uses his family name, HOWARD (HOWIE) CASTLE.

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## FORMER TOP METRO JOCK AT AIRE

Former METRO RADIO presenter STEVE KING is currently broadcasting relief air shifts at the Leeds-based RADIO AIRE.

KING is believed to be looking for a permanent post within commercial radio. At METRO he was Head of Music.

## PROGRAMMER DAY

AIDEN DAY is Group Programme Controller for the RED ROSE owned stations at Preston, Leeds and Cardiff.

The stations are taking on board new computers for music programming starting this week at the West Yorkshire station, RADIO AIRE.

# Now Radio

L O O S E

E N D S

Up's and Down's at BMS in recent months have not put them off holding a special conference for clients and commercial broadcasters in Malta from 19 to 22 November.....

A programme worth checking out, if you're a media/advertising buff, is LBC RADIO's 'ADVERTISING WORLD' which airs at 6.30pm Saturday and is presented by TORIN DOUGLAS.....

As speculation mounts, Dublin is now talking about proposals for a third national television service which will be privately owned and commercial in addition to the proposals for a legalisation of the existing commercial and community radio services.....

Reaction to the news that it will not be a participant in future local radio development has caused great anger within senior circles at RTE. Not content with their project with RADIO LUXEMBOURG for RADIO TARA, RTE are putting the word around that it would, in their opinion, be unacceptable (to whom) for pirates to profit from their years of law-breaking.....

Share prices in commercial radio took a beating during the past month with CAPITAL RADIO shares down 18%, PICCADILLY RADIO down 25%, RADIO CLYDE down 25.9%.

However, RADIO CITY shares rose by 0.8% and those in RED ROSE RADIO stood steady at 125p each. RADIO TRENT is paying out its first dividend to shareholders in 3 years. Each share will get 8p.....

They are breathing easier within the walls of AIRC at the moment following their own mini-hurricane earlier this year. It now seems that all the sheep have returned to the pen and no commercial stations are thinking of quitting the ILR trade body after all. BRIAN WEST, Director of AIRC, can now settle down to see what Santa brings him and his 'members' in the forthcoming White Paper, due early in the year.....

The DAILY SERVICE (RADIO 4, 10.45am) will be celebrating its 60th anniversary next year. BBC ENTERPRISES will be publishing a special book on the programme. Not only that but they've produced a special Advent Calendar for listeners to the programme which is now available.....

It would have been nice to congratulate LBC RADIO on offering its listeners a choice on a recent Sunday when a split-frequency offering was made. However, it would appear to have been in extremely poor taste to discover that the split, from 10.45am until 11.30am was on Sunday November 8th. The BRIAN HAYES programme was broadcast on 1152 AM whilst DICKIE ARBITER brought coverage to the 97.3 FM audience from the Cenotaph in Whitehall of the Remembrance Sunday Service.....

"THE FACT THAT THE FUTURE OF RADIO IS UNDER REVIEW SHOULD NOT, IN THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW, BE AN EXCUSE FOR DOING NOTHING IN THE MEANTIME"  
TIMOTHY RENTON, HOME OFFICE MINISTER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR BROADCASTING. JUNE 1987.

The news that CHRIS CARY is to relaunch RADIO NOVA in Dublin has to be met by most in the broadcasting industry with considerable excitement. Especially when one thinks more and more about the unique All Compact Disc format that the station will be offering to listeners to 100 MHz FM.

I met CHRIS CARY again only the other week at the STUART HENRY do in London and we had a fair old natter. One thing came through then, as it always has to me and everybody else who has either worked with or just known this amazing man - his unbounded energy for whatever he becomes involved in.

I first knew Chris in the days shortly after the closure of CAROLINE in 1968. It was his energy that led to the attempt to relaunch CAROLINE from the former RADIO 270 vessel, OCEAN 7, and the launch of the land-based pirate station RADIO FREE LONDON. Later the CARY energy went on to RNI, then to the relaunch of CAROLINE in 1972. I am sure if it hadn't been for his sheer determination the MI AMIGO would never had got back on the air.

He then became involved in

the world of computers and later the beginning of SUNSHINE RADIO with ROBEIE ROBINSON (DALE) and PHILIP SOLOMAN (former director of CAROLINE) were to sail a ship to the Med and broadcast. That flopped, but CARY bounced back and gave Irish listeners the most unique station that they had ever heard.

Suddenly CLUTTER FREE became the phrase of the moment and once medium wave only listeners soon began tuning to FM in their thousands.

15-minute music sweeps, few - but costly - commercials and the minimum wordage from announcers assured the station the number one position in that market.

Without CHRIS CARY at the helm that same format would not have worked. With him it became so popular that broadcasters across Europe attempted to copy. Even CAROLINE on its 80's relaunch attempted something like it, but failed.

Now, banning all traditional records, and using only Compact Discs, CARY is about to shake the industry again.

How long will it be before other's come along and try to duplicate the sound.

I feel they may. I know that they'll never quite manage to pull off what he will - for nobody I have known in this industry has that magic that this man has.

You would never have expected a Loon from Brum calling himself SPANGLES MALDOON could ever have achieved so much.

But this is only the beginning. Wait until NOVA goes Euro-wide via Satellite.

Even that will only be a beginning.

For CARY himself I am sure that the whole package is nothing short of having fun with something he feels is fun. He's the kind of guy who only does things he finds enjoyable. He's the sort of guy who could make RADIO 3 the number one station!

# Now Radio

## IBA HALT AUSSIE PLAN FOR ILR COMPANIES

The IBA has prevented CHALFORD COMMUNICATIONS, the UK commercial radio investor, owned by the Australian DARLING DOWNS TV Pty of Queensland, pushing into force a radical plan which would have created and floated a new holding company for its interests.

CHALFORD had planned to merge all of its shareholdings in ILR stations LBC RADIO, MARCHER SOUND, BEACON RADIO and RADIO FORTH (incorporating RADIO TAY, into a new holding company.

The IBA has, however, told CHALFORD it would not allow the measure. It will only consider take-over's and the like nowadays where it would effectively save the 'life' of a commercial station.

The Australian's UK subsidiary had been planning the move for many months. CHALFORD would have put its shares in the stations with the other UK shareholders in a new company, which would then own all the stations.

The next move would have been to go to the Unlisted Securities Market.

As CHALFORD would end up with what has been described as "a significant, but minority shareholding in the new company" it thought that the IBA would not object as the remaining shares would be British-owned.

One source at a CHALFORD station told a NOW RADIO Correspondent, "For God's sake don't quote me, but I reckon we are just going to have to wait. Wait for the current Stock Market situation to even itself out, and for the IBA to be put into a position where they cannot, or at least, will not turn down the plan. After all, money talks. This is no game to these people. They want something - they intend to get it."

## NEW RULER OF AUSTRALIAN AIRWAVES

After spending (Australian) \$71,500,000 WESGO has become the largest commercial radio owner in Australia.

WESGO has just bought an 8-station chain from AMALGAMATED WIRELESS PTY.

It brings the number of WESGO-owned stations to 16.

If WESGO now wishes to purchase any more radio stations it would have to apply for permission of the Federal Cabinet in Canberra.

## RTE PAY DEAL

Journalists at RTE have struck a new pay deal worth 3% back-dated to June, with a further 1% due in the new year.

Staff had been claiming a four percent hike, but RTE refused this claim, saying it would be against Government pay guidelines.

The following dispute led to one brief stoppage in news coverage at RTE Radio and TV services.

The NUJ did not back the action.

## NO DEAL WITH MERCURY, CLAIMS INVICTA RADIO

A formal denial has been issued by the Board of Directors of the Kentish INVICTA RADIO of plans to merge or of being taken over by the Crawley-based RADIO MERCURY.

INVICTA's Chairman, RICHARD STURT said: "RADIO MERCURY, like INVICTA RADIO, is a successful and profitable radio station with whom we are good friends. However, there is no intention at this time of a closer relationship."

Since the latest rumours started, it has been discovered that MERCURY has bought shares in INVICTA. Confirmed in the last few days is the change from BMS to IRS for INVICTA. IRS is now planning a new package based on the TVS region. One problem for this, however, is the decision of Bournemouth's 2CR to quit IRS.

## BUST-UP AT ESSEX RADIO

One of the most professional and respected people in UK commercial radio since the 'sixties, EDDIE BLACKWELL, is at the centre of a major row at Southend-on-Sea ESSEX RADIO.

As reported exclusively in last week's NOW RADIO REPORTS Major shareholders in the station are trying to force his resignation from the company.

The moves follows EDDIE BLACKWELL's move to switch from BROADCAST MARKETING SERVICES to the rival and

## CONFIRMED ADVERTISING OFFER

Two of the major shareholders in the station, PAUL RAMSAY BROADCASTING (with 29%) and BRENT WALKER (The leisure group who have a 27% stake in the station) have told BLACKWELL he must leave the operation.

One of the major shareholders said that the BLACKWELL decision to switch sales houses would simply not go ahead. He said that EDDIE BLACKWELL was in no position but to resign and once he was replaced, the new executive would reconsider the decision.

ESSEX RADIO remains with BMS at press time and EDDIE BLACKWELL is on leave. However he has been at his office in the past week. No spokesperson at the station would make a statement beyond saying they would make no comment.

Staff at the station are said to be worried by the position. BLACKWELL is one of the most respected people in commercial radio and his experience as a salesman has, until now, never been questioned.

"I would stake my life on his judgement," said one ESSEX RADIO employee who asked not to be named. "If you do... I'll be forced out, too!" Others refused to comment on the issue for fear of action.

60-year old BLACKWELL is now believed to be ready to quit is he is offered a substantial pay-off. He would also expect formal notification that his leaving was directly a result of the decision over national sales repping.

# Now Radio

## RADIO'S DEVELOPMENT UNLEASHED FROM TV'S FUTURE

Prospective operators of new commercial and public service/community radio stations were breathing easier over this past weekend following hints from the HOME SECRETARY, DOUGLAS HURD that new legislation for television will not, after all, be lumped together with the new Radio Bill.

DOUGLAS HURD left a conference in London in no doubt over the size, complexity and technical changes involved in plans for extra tv channels, new radio developments, satellite, subscription, after-hours tv, a fifth national tv network and cable broadcasting futures. One piece of legislation could not deal with the many issues effectively, and the complex nature of the non-radio issues, would slow down progress planned by Government for radio's future following the publication last February of a Green Paper on the future of radio.

A White Paper on Radio has been spoken of being ready in January, though there are some sources claiming that the decision to lump tv with radio, had slowed down the committee working on the paper.

The Government has been planning to introduce a Radio Bill into Parliament in time for next Autumn.

"THE FACT THAT THE FUTURE OF RADIO IS UNDER REVIEW SHOULD NOT, IN THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW, BE AN EXCUSE FOR DOING NOTHING IN THE MEANTIME"  
*TIMOTHY RENTON, HOME OFFICE MINISTER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR BROADCASTING. JUNE 1987.*

## IBA RECEIVE TWO RADIO TELETEXT APPLICATIONS

Two applications for the re-advertised Radio Teletext franchise for the London area were received by the IBA by the deadline of noon, November 5.

Submissions were received from AIRCALL TELETEXT Ltd, 40-48, Bernard Street, London, WC1N 1LE. Contact CLIVE LANDA on (01) 337 7182 and DATABASE Ltd, Case Communications Ltd, Caxton Way, Watford Business Park, Watford, Hertfordshire WD1 3XH. Contact JOHN AYLOTT on 0923 58000.

The IBA re-advertised one of the two Radio Teletext franchises for the London area on Friday October 2nd as a result of the unacceptable delays on the part of TELEMET UK Ltd in implementing its application proposals, after having been offered the franchise a year ago.

The successful applicant for the re-advertised franchise will operate on CAPITAL RADIO's FM frequency (95.8 MHz). Data Transmission, which is received in visual readout form, is not audible on normal radio programme reception.

The term of each of the Radio Teletext franchises corresponds to that of the



# Now Radio

ILR contractor on whose frequency the data transmission service operates. CAPITAL RADIO's contract expires in October 1992.

In due course subscriber Radio Teletext services will be advertised for transmission on IBA-owned transmitters in other areas of the United Kingdom.

Copies of the full applications are now available, by appointment, for public scrutiny in the IBA's Library at its Headquarters at 70, Brompton Road, London, SW3.

After what it describes as 'detailed assessment' of the 2 applications, the Authority says it hopes to be able to award the new contract around the turn of the year.

This new Radio Teletext service is entirely different from the RADIO DATA SERVICE (RDS). RDS, which also is transmitted on spare bandwidth within FM channels, provides automatic tuning and station identification among other auxiliary information.

The IBA is now in the process of introducing RDS on its ILR transmitters.

## NUMBERS TUNING TO ILR DOWN...

The number of people tuning in and listening to ILR has gone down to 45%. That figure, for the second quarter of 1987, is 2% down on the first quarter of the year.

However, potential advertisers are being tempted by the industry with the fact that the people who

do tune in are actually listening for longer periods of time.

The latest survey shows that total listening, as a result, has increased by 1% between the first and second quarters of the year.

ILR's share of listening in the Anglia region showed a 23% increase in the first six months of this year when compared to the same period in 1986.

In London the share was up 8% and it was up by 10% in Scotland.

The biggest hike comes in the area served by OCEAN SOUND - up by an incredible 82%.

Areas down include Wales and The West (down by 14%) and Severnside (down 13%).

The survey covers only areas covered by ILR stations.

## BARRATT TO NIGHT SHOW ON WYVERN

Former RADIO CAROLINE dj SIMON BARRATT has switched from afternoon drive to a thrice weekly night airshift on Worcester's RADIO WYVERN.

He is now on air 10pm until 2am on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

## CHILTERN MOVE

CHILTERN RADIO has managed to get the PAUL RAMSAY BROADCASTING GROUP to sell its 10.2% stake in the company.

The group had earlier told the IBA it would sell its shares, but had delayed doing so until now.

# Now Radio

## MORE PROGRAMMING... MORE PROFITS... NEW IDENTITY....

As revealed Exclusively in NOW RADIO, RADIO TEES is to re-launch in January.

Dropping the name RADIO TEES, which the station's new owners, METRO RADIO of Newcastle, believe portrays a "too narrow catchment area" will be only part of the station's plans for 1988.

More specialist programmes are being added, news bulletins, which have been knocked down by 3 per week, are to be increased again to 73 weekly and only the programme between 2am -5am will be shared with METRO RADIO on Tyneside.

A new set of jingles is being made for the re-launch by ALPHASOUND.

### PROFIT

Since being taken over by METRO RADIO, RADIO TEES has managed to get back into a profit situation. TEES has turned itself around into profit from a £25,000 loss.

### STUDENT RADIO AWARD

UNIVERSITY RADIO EXETER has won the GUARDIAN/NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS Student Media Award for the Best Campus Radio Programme.

They won the award for a documentary on The London Marathon.

Shortlisted were RADIO RAMIR, Bradford for News of Union Binge and UNIVERSITY RADIO BATH for a report on ghosts.

The winning entry from UNIVERSITY RADIO EXETER consisted of several live clips from their Sports Editor ANDREW DALBY as he ran in the London Marathon on May 10th 1987. The clips were used that morning as part of a programme hosted by URE presenter DARREN GREEN.

After much editing the competition entry tape was brought within the 7-minute time limit laid down in the rules.

The station received a cheque for £250 and Station Manager, ANDY SINCLAIR said, "This will make a welcome addition to our finances as well as confirmation that URE is the best of the nation's campus radio stations."

URE was placed 3rd in last years NUS/GUARDIAN Awards, and won the title in 1985.

UNIVERSITY RADIO EXETER, which broadcasts on 963kHz, operates commercially and serves more than 2,000 students. It broadcasts 91-hours per week.

### RADIO OFFICE MOVES

The COMMUNITY RADIO ASSOCIATION's LONDON DEVELOPMENT UNIT has moved to a new office on the South Bank of the River Thames, near Lambeth Walk.

It is now located at Room 181, Southbank House, Black Prince Road, London, SE1 7SJ.

The telephone number is (01) 735 8171.

# Now Radio

"THE FACT THAT THE FUTURE OF RADIO IS UNDER REVIEW SHOULD NOT, IN THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW, BE AN EXCUSE FOR DOING NOTHING IN THE MEANTIME"  
*TIMOTHY RENTON, HOME OFFICE MINISTER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR BROADCASTING. JUNE 1987.*

## INTERIM LICENCES FOR BROADCASTERS?

*COMMENT BY HOWARD G L ROSE*

If you are one of the 260-plus applicants for a Community Radio licence who still feels cheated and angry that the 'experiment' was cancelled at the last moment; or if you have plan and ideas for your own private commercial or public service radio channel, you will be feeling somewhat frustrated by the slow pace that Government and the Civil Service moves when it comes to broadcasting development. It's nothing new. Check back and you'll find that, apart from quickly turning the BRITISH BROADCASTING COMPANY into the BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION, all moves to develop radio in the United Kingdom have been slow and highly regulated.

Now the Government has given us a Green Paper which talks of scores, perhaps hundreds of new local radio services, including the kinds of stations that you and I want to operate. But, with talk of de-regulation comes the talk of how to regulate this de-regulation!

Accepting that there is a need for a rule-book, and accepting there may be a

White Paper on Radio at the start of 1988, and that a new Radio Bill will be presented to Parliament to debate and, hopefully pass in time, in the Autumn of 1988, we must be looking at a good couple of years before the types of stations we want to operate are legally allowed.

We could, I suppose, accept this long delay. After all, we've done it before. We did it in the sixties when the offshore radio stations showed there was a need, or was it a public take-up, of new radio services when offered. It took until September 1967 for the BBC to be told by Parliament to provide a national channel of pop to replace the offshore stations. Perhaps, in its own (highly restricted) way it replaced RADIO LONDON, or CAROLINE, or 270, but it didn't really replace RADIO 390 with its sweet music, farming and business programmes, did it? And it didn't replace RADIO SCOTLAND, either.

It was not until October 1973 that we had commercial radio in this country. Of course, the Isle of Man had MANX RADIO - but who could hear that anywhere but on that small island? Then along came ILR. Regulated by an Act of Parliament and over-regulated by the IBA. The number of stations still is not many more than 40, and ownership of many is hardly local, is it? Costs are high and controls have been unbearable by quite a few. Still there are stations who programme to

# Now Radio

the IBA rather than the local audience.

Waiting in the wings is a wealth of talent. So, why, if it is Government policy to open up the airwaves and provide greater competition between existing services, and greater consumer choice for the public, should we be forced to await the Radio Bill becoming law?

We have 3 choices:

(a) Wait for the day we are given a Licence

(b) Establish our proposed radio services without a Licence

or

(c) Pressure the Government/HOME OFFICE to issue special interim licences.

The third possibility is realistic. Under the WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY ACT (1949) The HOME OFFICE can issue a licence without need for any new legislation. That, despite what you may believe, is a fact of life.

We, at NOW RADIO COMMUNICATIONS, and VOICE OF THE LISTENER have both agreed that the HOME OFFICE should allow broadcasting services that are prepared to go on the air now, to apply for short-term licences. Licences that would last until the Radio Bill becomes an Act and comes fully into force. This might be as few as three years- perhaps four or more. Issuing such licences would

also provide working examples for both the industry and the public, as well as invaluable experience for whichever body will be the future regulator of non-BBC Radio.

There may be arguments put forward by THE HOME OFFICE against this idea; but those will be few. Especially if the onus of finding a suitable frequency, transmitter location and power were placed entirely on the licence applicant.

Furthermore, if each applicant for such a special licence were to include in his application a Promise of Performance relating to programming services to be offered, and a legally binding contract that all laws of the land would be followed by the station, there would be nothing for anyone to fear.

Of course there might also be noses from existing radio services, and in particular the ILR stations, many of whom believe they have God-given right to a monopoly of commercial broadcasting service to the areas they currently serve. Of course, they do not, and such an argument should be dismissed without consideration.

We must approach DOUGLAS HURD on this matter urgently. If the words of TIMOTHY RENTON (reproduced at the beginning of this article) are to be accepted at face value.

Let's make some positive moves with new applications, NOW!

# Now Radio

## BLACK GROUPS EXIT C. R. A.

The COMMUNITY RADIO ASSOCIATION held the second extra-ordinary general meeting of the year at Imperial College, London, on Sunday 8th November. More than 50 members attended.

The session was called to try to resolve the difficulties caused by an earlier resolution adopted at the AGM which gave 50% of the membership of the staff management sub-committee to the Black Policy Advisory Group.

Internal disputes at subsequent meetings were blamed on the resolution by many members and resulted in a number of groups and individuals leaving the organisation.

The meeting considered a new resolution which overturned the previous one. The new one also called for all sub-committees and other sub-groups to be properly constituted. Also it asked for membership support that several small working groups be established.

The resolution was approved by 46 votes to 22.

Following the vote the 2 organisations most actively involved in the Black Policy advisory Group, Brixton-based AFRO-CARIBBEAN RADIO PROJECT and LONDON ASIAN RADIO formally stated they no longer wished to be members of the CRA and their representatives on the National Co-ordinating Committee, STAN REID and SALIM SALAM both withdrew.

They said in a letter to CRA Chairman, BEVAN JONES, they felt the CRA "clearly has no real commitment to improve either its own practices or the position of black communities generally through the imaginative promotion of community radio."

## STATION STAFF CALL FOR MPs SUPPORT

Staff at BBC RADIO LONDON are calling on MPs and Councillors for their support. The staff are continuing to fear closure of their station and BBC RADIO's WM and MANCHESTER, despite claims from senior management that the BBC is committed to local radio in London. That assurance came from the Head of Regional Broadcasting (South & East), KBITH CLEMENT and his head of local radio, ARNOLD MILLER.

At RADIO WM staff have been given further assurances that they should not fear for the future of the station by DAVID WAINE, the Head of Regional Broadcasting for their area.

## EX-RADIO SWEDEN BROADCASTER HAD DEATH THREATS

ROY CARSON, who is now working at DEVON AIR RADIO, the Exeter ILR station claims that he was forced to leave Sweden after death threats were made against him.

He claims that the Swedish Foreign Office wrote to 300 Swedish newspapers, radio and television operations warning them not to use him. They also communicated, through the diplomatic service, to media services outside Sweden a warning not to use his material after he wrote an analysis of Soviet penetration of Swedish territory by submarines.

Last year CARSON linked a Czechoslovak arrested in Sweden for spying with spying for the USSR. Death threats were made on his ex-directory telephone in the southern city of Malmo.

Now British MPs are being urged to pressure the Swedish Government to withdraw its allegations against the broadcaster. MPs of all party's are being approached.

# Now Radio

## CAROLINE REVISITED

COMMENT BY NORMAN McLEOD

I knew I would set the cat among the pigeons when I dared to criticise Radio Caroline in my piece "Whatever happened..." run in NR 34 last August.

I can slander the IBA, curse the BBC, and challenge the Government as much as I like: they're big enough and ugly enough to look after themselves, and besides no-one usually takes much notice. But knock Caroline and - wham! - the massed ranks of anoraks quiver and tremble. Who dares challenge the Mighty One?

This is the problem with Caroline, and indeed with offshore radio freaks generally. To challenge the merits of any offshore broadcaster within earshot of the born-again anorak is tantamount to heresy. It is as about as difficult to suggest to one of these zealots that all might not be well with the world of seaborne piracy as it is to tell Jehovah's Witnesses to get lost, or to persuade Norman Tebbit to vote for the Labour Party!

As far as Caroline is concerned, I do not have "a down" on Caroline, as the correspondent Paul Aston suggests in NR 39. What I feel is a sense of betrayal: I was foolish enough to believe Ronan O'Rahilly was SINCERE when he wrote in Broadcast magazine, 23 September 1983:

*"...Our listeners need have no worries that once we start with advertising we will sell out and play more commercially orientated music. We will always be an album station, playing non-stop rock music, the best from the past 15 years."*

Oh yeah? There's a word for this..

It has eight letters, starts with a 'b' and ends with a 't'. Caroline has no principles, no perspective, no sense of purpose. It's just become one more commercial station out to screw its frequencies for as much as it can get. If that means playing much the same records as everybody else, so be it. If that means ditching Overdrive and filling up the evening hours with American religious guff which no-one listens to, it'll do that too.

This is not intended as a personal criticism of Peter Phillips, although if O'Rahilly wishes to tell us why his statement in 1983 appears to run totally contrary to the actual run of events I'm sure he would find the pages of Now Radio open to him. As far as Mr. Phillips is concerned, I have never met the guy but I have no reason to suppose that he is anything other than a truly wonderful and warm human being. I just don't like listening to his radio station, that's all!

In any event, I think offshore radio will go rapidly into terminal decline once the go-ahead is given for land-based stations of much greater variety than we have today. Who will bother to set up a dodgy offshore operation - banned from UK advertising and always hovering on the fringes of the law if not actually breaking it outright - if they can do more or less the same thing legally with far less hassle?

The only point then in having an offshore station will be to do some programming which you CAN'T do legally, i.e. to offer a genuine ALTERNATIVE to established radio. At the moment, Caroline is no more 'alternative' than Capital is: the real alternatives are to be found in the landbased FM pirates. So why do they bother? Answers on a postcard, please, not more than 200 words.

--- © N McLeod 1987 ---

H Band 9 months

26 Nov  
3-20  
311 Dec →  
311 Dec ← set Bed  
T. Fred  
on Deck

Handwritten notes: 7.14, 23, 1-20, 1-40, 1-00, 2.00, 55, 55, 17.20

Handwritten notes: 16, C.M. VIDEO, THREE BROTHERS, 27 Nov, JB News

Handwritten notes: 33, 2 miles x Redston, 576-weekend, Radio N.A., 45, 45, 45

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FRED W. DAVIES



Handwritten notes at the bottom: 17/2/2000, J.R. MITCHELL



# Now Radio

# Openings

BBC RADIO LINCOLNSHIRE has a vacancy for a REPORTER. Good microphone voice and current driving licence are essential. Salary £9,357 - £11,610 plus £624 annual allowance. Position based in Lincoln. Ref: 4583.....

MERCIA SOUND are looking for an EXPERIENCED RADIO JOURNALIST to replace yet another who has been snapped up by television. CV and demo tape should be sent to: COLIN PALMER, Head of News, MERCIA SOUND, Hertford Place, Coventry, CV1 3TT.....

NEWS EDITORS are required for the next two BBC Local Radio stations, BBC RADIO GLOUCESTERSHIRE and BBC WILTSHIRE SOUND. You will be expected to have firm ideas on how to provide distinctive, lively journalism in the face of established commercial competition. Salary £13,509 - £17,530 plus £1,066 annual allowance. Applications for either or both appointments welcomed. BBC RADIO GLOUCESTERSHIRE vacancy based Gloucester, Ref: 4585. BBC WILTSHIRE SOUND position based Swindon, Ref: 4616. Contact BBC APPOINTMENTS on (01) 927-5799 or write BBC APPOINTMENTS, London, W1A 1AA for application form. Please enclose s.a.e.

BBC RADIO HUMBERSIDE have a vacancy for a NEWS PRODUCER to work at their Hull studio centre. Journalistic experience at sub-editor or reporter level, good microphone voice and current driving licence are essential. Salary £10,881 - £15,388 plus £1,066 allowance. Ref: 4613.....

The VOICE OF PEACE radio station has an immediate vacancy for an ENGINEER. Experience of AM and FM transmitters and associated studio and processing equipment required. Good salary and conditions for this posting. Interviews in London this coming weekend. Please telephone NOW RADIO COMMUNICATIONS on (0536) 514437 immediately and during office hours. Outside office hours, leave name and telephone number after Newline.....

The VOICE OF PEACE also has PRESENTER vacancies. Again contact NOW RADIO COMMUNICATIONS for details on (0536) 514437.....

LEICESTER SOUND is looking for a PRESENTER for the breakfast programme. If you've got what they are looking for, how about a demo and c.v. to LEICESTER SOUND, Grenville Road, Leicester, LE1 7RW.....

A selection of current radio vacancies around the country (and beyond!). Entries in this section are free of charge to subscribing stations. Details should be sent in writing or by telex.

OPENINGS, NOW RADIO NEWSLETTER,  
PO BOX 45, KETTERING,  
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(NOW RADIO)

# Services Guide

# Now Radio

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WIRELESS WORKSHOP. 25 Ditchling Rise, Brighton, BN1 4QL. Telephone (0273) 671928. Special Event, Induction Loop Transmission Systems and Audio Processing Specialists.

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SOUND BROADCASTING SERVICES. 42, Grenville Road, London, N19 4EN. Qualified and Expert Service. Please write for brochure.

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