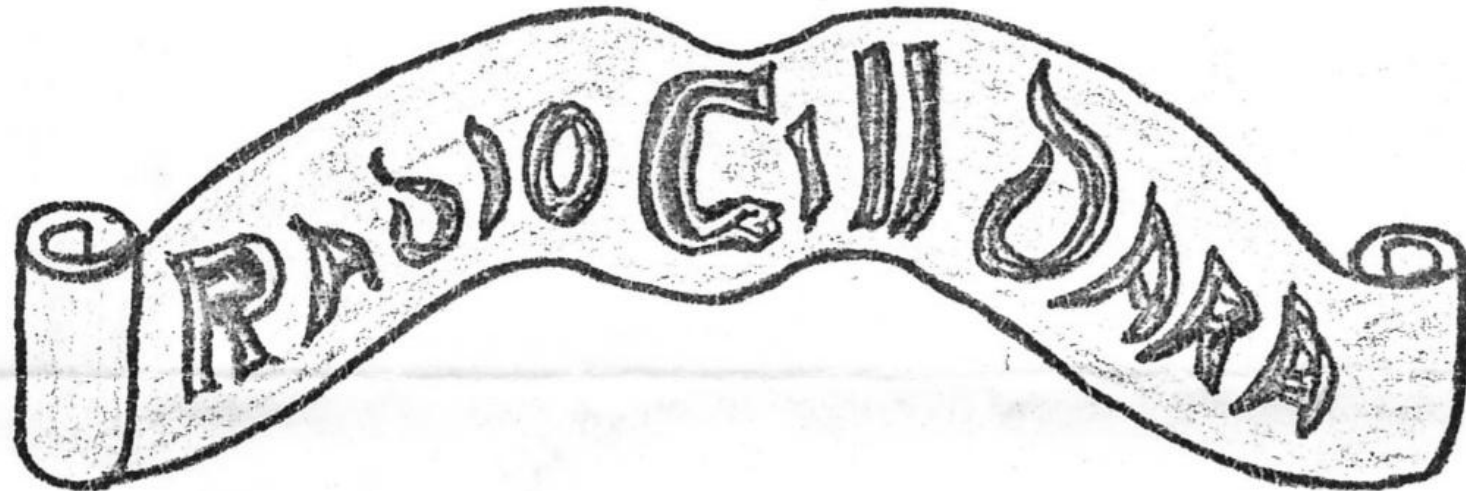


Free Radio Campaign, Ireland.

'SOUNDS ALTERNATIVE'

THE ONLY IRISH FREE RADIO MAGAZINE.



MAG No3

**FEBRUARY/
MARCH**

1978

'SOUNDS ALTERNATIVE' is a quarterly publication of:-

FRC-IRELAND, 53 Charleston Road, Dublin 6, Ireland.

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DEAR READERS,

WELCOME TO EDITION NUMBER THREE OF IRELAND'S ONLY FREE RADIO MAGAZINE! SINCE OUR LAST EDITION, A LOT OF THINGS HAVE HAPPENED; THE IMPACT OF RADIO DUBLIN AND ALTERNATIVE RADIO DUBLIN ON THE DUBLIN LISTENING PUBLIC; THE RAIDS; THE FAVOURABLE PRESS REACTION; THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY RTE OF ITS INTENTION TO SET UP A DUBLIN RADIO STATION AND THE INCREDIBLY LARGE SUPPORT

RTE PLANS FOR DUBLIN RADIO

As Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, Mr Faulkner, replying to Mr Quinn, said that he understood that for some time now RTE had been preparing plans for community radio in Dublin and in some provincial areas. Recently, RTE had submitted outline proposals to his Department for a community service in the Dublin area. These proposals had been the subject of discussion between the Department and RTE, and RTE was to furnish further detailed information on them. He could not as yet say anything definite in regard to timetable or cost, but he intended to reach a decision quickly.

When Mr Quinn asked if the proposals were for exclusively State-run community radio facilities, the Minister replied: "Run by RTE, yes".

The Minister told deputies that he had received an application for a broadcasting licence from Radio Dublin and that the applicants had been informed that it could not be granted. About 3,200 letters in support of the application had been received in his Department in recent weeks, he added.

The operators of Radio Dublin were well aware of the legal position. Under the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1926, anyone who possessed or used wireless telegraphy apparatus without a licence was committing an offence. RTE was the only organisation which might be licensed to provide a broadcasting service.

Control of radio frequencies in this country was exercised by his Department. "Unlicensed radio stations are a potential menace to radio services generally, including life-saving services. My Department will accordingly continue to take action against all unlicensed broadcasting stations."

Mr Jim Mitchel (FG) asked if the Minister agreed that there was a great need for a local pop radio; would he consider this being run by RTE?

The Minister replied that the simple fact was that the law was being flagrantly and publicly violated by these pirate radios. A very well orchestrated campaign was going on to try to force the granting of a licence. As for the question of need, RTE had a duty to provide for all the citizens, not just any particular group.

Mr John Kelly, Fine Gael spokesman on Industry and Commerce, said that the Minister should take legal advice on the decision that nobody but RTE was entitled to broadcast.

The Minister told deputies that, if he were to consider a licence application, those who flagrantly broke the law would be on a very low priority rating.

Mr Faulkner told Mr Michael Keating (FG) that his Department had no record of receiving an application for a broadcasting licence or a request for an application form from Alternative Radio Dublin (ARD).

Mr Keating said that the people involved were not by nature law-breakers.

When Mr Mitchel asked if it was proposed to introduce amending legislation, the Minister said that he was not going to be rushed into taking any decision on the matter.

AND INTEREST IN FREE RADIO - NOT ONLY IN DUBLIN - BUT NATIONWIDE. THIS CAN EASILY BE SEEN BY THE FACT THAT OUR MEMBERSHIP HAS JUST PASSED THE 100 MARK!! WE HAVE GAINED MANY FANS, ADMIRERS AND NEW MEMBERS THROUGH OUR SHOW ON

RADIO DUBLIN AND I WOULD LIKE TO SAY A WARM WELCOME TO ALL OF YOU. LET ME REMIND YOU THAT THIS IS YOUR MAGAZINE, SO WHY NOT SEND IN YOUR COMMENTS TO US?

IF YOU HAVE VIEWS ON ANYTHING TO DO WITH RADIO (BE IT COMMERCIAL, STATE OR OTHERWISE), DON'T HESITATE TO WRITE TO US. WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE? IT'S UP TO YOU - YOU ARE THIS COUNTRY'S FUTURE!

MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS TO HOUND/PESTER YOUR LOCAL T.D. FOR COMMERCIAL RADIO IN THIS COUNTRY - SEPERATE FROM RTE. THE NEXT ELECTION IS IN 1982 - PREPARE YE THE WAY FOR LEGALISED COMMERCIAL RADIO!!!

Kieran Murray, Editor.

RADIO TELEFIS EIREANN
REJECT

BY PUBLIC DEMAND!!!!!!

RADIO CILL DARA - THE DEFINITIVE ONE ON 270 METRES MEDIUM WAVE..... Although the Guinness Book of Records doesn't state it, the first Free Radio station to operate in Kildare was in 1971. Known as RADIO ATLANTIS, it broadcast to the populace of Naas at irregular intervals on 88.0 MHz VHF.

Pioneered by JOHNNY DAY, it soon grew to incorporate more staff: ALISTER MAC, THE DUKE and JIMMY ST. LEDGER. Summer of '77 saw the four heroes take over the airwaves of official RADIO DUBLIN 253, as the much publicised rift between THE CAPTAIN and DOCTOR DON had set in. Along with D.J. SYLVIE, they injected a new lease of life to RADIO DUBLIN, with records and equipment being supplied by JOHNNY DAY.

Due to the heavy schedule required by R.D., the four were unable to be on call 24 hours per day. Subsequently, in November they decided to call a halt and revert to their old station. There was absolutely no animosity between the two sides, and all remain the best of friends.

February 1978 is one of immense joy, as their new station becomes known as RADIO CILL DARA, with 500 watts output, the most powerful Free Radio station in the Republic. Staff: BILLY THE KID (one time guest D.J. on R.D.); Country music and new Irish sounds. JOHNNY DAY; Top 20 and all that's new. ALISTER MAC: Sounds Alternative (Alister, my friend, you'll be hearing from my lawyer!!!! - ED). DECLAN RYAN: Interviews, current community events and pot luck. THE DUKE: Station secretary and some time broadcaster. Other staff include JIMMY ST. LEDGER and ALAN HILL.

As you read this, test broadcasts are already under way and programmes commence early March. Mailing address; 9 John Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, Ireland.

DID YOU KNOW.....

That RADIO DUBLIN receives on average 1 call per minute; that's over 6,000 per week and earned the Post Office over £300 per week!!!! Per month that works out at £1,230!!!!

TAKE PRECAUTIONS IN CASE



OF A POST OFFICE RAID

ATLANTIC RADIO - THE VOICE OF GALWAY CITY.....

The choice of viewing or listening in the west of Ireland must surely be the worst in Europe. One T.V. channel and very little choice on radio either.

We had our pirates here before; SAOR RADIO CONNEMARA; RADIO BALLYVAUGHAN and RADIO WOODQUAY. Radio Na Gaeltachta exists, it is true but who listens? When the government will not provide the service the public want, somebody else will have to provide it. And that's where we come in.

ATLANTIC RADIO intends to commence transmissions on Saturday, February 25th on 300 metres/1000 kHz M.W. With one transmitter of 100 watts in North Galway and

one in central Mayo with 50 watts, the station intends to provide as far as possible a local radio station, which will provide what the public want.

What do they want? Well, mainly it's what RTE don't give them; local news, sport, music and information. To provide this, ATLANTIC RADIO has got local sports personalities, local musical people and a top line-up of local Disc Jockeys. From the technical angle, the station

has some of the best electricians and electronic engineers in the area. We intend our programming to be professional but not a copy of a commercial station. Our equipment consists of the following: 2 Shure mics, 4 Garrard turntables, 2 BSR turntables, 1 Orion tapedeck, 3 Philips tapedecks, 1 Echo machine and a mixer. The transmitters were designed by chief Engineer LARRY (BIG L) LACY who has a diploma in Electronics.

D.J.'s include: ALGOL, PRINCE ANDY, FLASH GORDON, JIM PETERSON, BRIAN BORU, BIG L, GERRY O'DEA, ROBBIE BANKS, TONY DANIELS and several others who are picking names for themselves at the moment! All together we hope to have a crew of about 15.

Our sister station - GALWAY COMMUNITY RADIO - which will cover Galway City, will also be co-operating with us in programme production and together we'll make radio come alive in this part of the world. We are considering the possibility of a Short Wave service on Sunday mornings and if all goes well, we should be on S.W. by April.

The station has car stickers, information sheets and QSL cards available for return postage and 10p. Our publicity drive has already commenced, but the week we open will see massive publicity in the local press.

We would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in the project. Please write to us at: ATLANTIC RADIO, 92 Renmore Park, Renmore, Galway, Ireland.
(See our 'TUNE IN' feature for frequencies, times of broadcasts, etc, Ed.)

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FRC-IRELAND NEWSDESK.....
RADIO CAROLINE is now using 50kW on 319 metres. This wavelength is also shared by RADIO MI AMIGO during the day....Dublin based Free Radio station, RADIO CITY made a welcome return to the air in the early hours of New Year's Day.....Calling all our European members - don't forget to listen to the FRC-IRELAND SHOW on RADIO DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL, Sunday mornings at 11.00 hours GMT on 6317/6210 and 6240 kHz Short Wave.....If the two Dublin commercial radio stations estimates on their listening audiences is anything to go by, it appears that ARD and RADIO DUBLIN attract more than a quarter of a million listeners between them. The former attracting 85,000 and the latter 155,000. It would seem that RTE's audience in the capital and environs is steadily declining.....ATLANTIC RADIO located in the Galway area is now on the air. ERP 80/100 Watts, Frequency: 300 metres/1000 kHz. Programmes are on Sundays from 13.30 and later to be on Short Wave.. ARD now gone fill time as from January 16th, midday to midnight. They have also moved to new city centre offices.....Headlines on the Irish Press of Saturday, January 14th read: 'RTE TO LAUNCH LOCAL DUBLIN RADIO - MOVING TO BEAT PIRATES'. The article goes on to explain that RTE has applied to the Minister for a licence to operate the new local station. RTE envisages the station on the air from 7.30 am to 2.00 am. However, RTE is having some inter-union trouble and this could delay their predicted starting date of MARCH 1st 1978. However, one wonders what frequency the new station will operate on. Somewhere on the 250-metre band perhaps?.....ARD finally made front-page headlines in the Sunday Independent newspaper of January 29th 1978 with the headline: 'PIRATE RADIO TAKES ON RTE'. The story went on to describe how ARD have engaged the services of M. Donal Barrington S.C. to fight their case in the High Court.....Also on Tuesday, January 31st, 1978, ARD were raided by Post Office and Special Branch Officials. This was cleverly planned to get the station off the air before Budget Day - which ARD were due to cover.....

RADIO DUBLIN NEWS RAP.....

Over the Christmas and New Year period RADIO DUBLIN broadcast for well over 300 hours continuously. The BIG D was the only station in the Irish Republic to ring in the New Year. This was done by Mr. Michael Collins, Lord Mayor of Dublin. In his greetings he spoke of how the young people of Dublin should be proud of their own radio station which plays their requests....Monday, January 2nd, 1978, marked the introduction of RADIO DUBLIN'S new Mon-Fri schedule. D.J's are SARGE, GERRY CAMPBELL, JAMES DILLON, SILVIE, MIKE EASTWOOD, SHAY WEST, DENNIS MURRAY and JOHN CLARKE.....Calling all our European members - you can tune in to RADIO DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL on 6210/6317 and 6240 kHz on Sunday mornings. The FRC-IRELAND SHOW is from 11.00 to 12.00 G.M.T.....On January 16th, RADIO DUBLIN introduced a new jingle package. The jingles, sung by Northern Irish pop group CHIPS, all have the theme of 'RADIO DUBLIN 253' and are professionally made and of extremely good quality.....Tuesday 17th January, 1978 at 6.55pm R.D. were raided. Post Office officials, backed up by uniformed Police carried out the attack on R.D.'s Head Quarters in Sarsfield Road, in Inchicore. However, at midnight the station returned to the airwaves. The raid received extensive coverage on the media including RTE radio and T.V. news!!

The raid also got front-page headlines on all of the Irish daily papers.....A RADIO DUBLIN/FREE RADIO protest march was held in Dublin's city centre on Saturday, January 21st, 1978. An estimated crowd of between eight and ten thousand people marched to Leinster House (Irish Government Buildings). The march was lead by a RADIO DUBLIN float and in it were all of the D.J's including: SILVIE, SARGE, MARTY HALL, JOHN PAUL, DAVE MOORE, ROLAND BURKE and MARK BOLAND plus the station telephonists. Again, widespread media coverage by the press and RTE radio and T.V!!!!!! The Post Office cut RADIO DUBLIN'S aerial on Tuesday, January 24th 1978.....Sat 11th R.D. increased power & sound quality is incredibly good.....Plans for the future include a RADIO DUBLIN float for the St. Patrick's Day parade plus live commentary from Mondello Park later on that day.....Stay tuned folks for further news!

Here is a list of the new frequencies for RTE and BBC Radio, due to come into operation on November 23rd, 1978: RTE Tullamore moves from 530 to 531 metres and will operate full power (500 kilowatts) both day and night. RTE Dublin and Cork move from 240 to 253 metres. (?). BBC Radio 1 moves from 247 to 275 and 285 metres. BBC Radio 2 moves from 1500 to 330 and 434 metres. BBC Radio 3 moves from 464 to 247 metres and Radio 4 moves to 1500 and 1321 metres L.W.

'CRAZY HORSES' of 47 South Great Georges Street, Dublin 2 - Have your own badge made to order! We do RADIO DUBLIN badges aswell. We also can do giant blow-up photos for you in less than one minute. A Xerox copying service at very reasonable prices. We even do this magazine! Call in and see us now @ 'Crazy Horses', 47 South Great Georges Street, Dublin 2. Telephone: 755 228.

THEY ALL WANT RADIO DUBLIN

NEARLY 8,000 people turned Dublin's O'Connell Street into an open air disco yesterday.

The teenagers had turned out in force in a massive show of support for Radio Dublin, the illegal pirate station.

Outside the G.P.O., the youngsters yelled slogans in favour of Radio Dublin.

Some carried banners

proclaiming "P and T give up the raids, Radio Dublin Rules the Waves," "Stop troublin' Radio Dublin," and "Fart to R.T.E."

The numbers of marchers swelled as the parade made its way down O'Connell Street and D'Olier Street.

At the corner of College Green a group of up to 30 rockers on motor bikes and wearing leather gear flashed their lights and gave clenched fists salutes.

On route Radio Dublin's disc jockeys - among them Silvie, Sarge, and John Paul and nine others were introduced to their followers. Each was greeted with tumultuous applause.

But the most thunderous applause of all was for Radio Dublin's Controller of Programmes, grey haired Capt. Eamon Cooke, 42, when he was introduced from the mobile platform.

And while the marchers wound their way across Molesworth Street to Leinster House the disc jockeys blasted them with amplified top rock songs.

A highly enthusiastic crowd joined in singing such hit songs as "Only the Strong Survive" and "We are the Champions."

Outside Leinster House the radio disc jockeys held a five minute platform meeting at which they restated their demands for a broadcasting licence - a petition for which they now have 20,000 signatures. Radio Dublin's offices in Inchicore were raided last week but the station was still broadcasting last night.

Capt. Cooke said yesterday "This is the happiest day of my life."

Happiest

He revealed that he and his team have now taken big precautions against further garda raids. One prominent businessman has presented them with a steel door and all the windows in his house now known as the Broadcasting House of Sarsfield Road have been shuttered, turning it into a virtual fortress.



FRC-IRELAND'S Pirate Cassette List. We can accept payment by International Money Orders, Cheques or postal Orders, to be made out only to: Kieran Murray.

- Casst. (1) RADIO DUBLIN - Doctor Don Show 253 mts/1187 kHz (Sun Feb 22nd 1976) Quality B.
RADIO DUBLIN - St. Patrick's Day Show (Wed March 17th 1976) Quality B.
Each show 30 minutes. Total 1 hour. £1.25 inc. postage.
- Casst. (2) PREMIER RADIO - First Official Broadcast 219 mts/1380 kHz (Sun Aug 29th '76)
Also - part of the Doctor Don Show on RADIO DUBLIN 253 mts/1187 kHz. Quality B.
Total running time is 1 hour. £1.25 inc. postage.
- Casst. (3) ALTERNATIVE RADIO DUBLIN 217mts/1380 kHz (Sun Aug 29th 1976) Quality B.
RADIO DUBLIN - Final nighttime broadcast 225 mts/1325 kHz (Fri Sept 17th '76) Qty C.
Each show 30 minutes. Total 1 hour. £1.25 inc. postage.
- Casst. (4) RADIO DUBLIN - The Final Hour 253 mts/1187 kHz (Sun Feb 27th 1977) Quality B.
Total running time is 1 hour. £1.25 inc. postage.
- Casst. (5) PREMIER ATLANTIS RADIO - Jimmy St. Ledger Show 88.0 MHz FM (Tues May 3rd 1977)
Total running time is one hour. £1.25 inc. postage.
- Casst. (6) RADIO DUBLIN - 36 Hour Marathon on 253. (Sat Sept 17th/Sun Sept 18th 1977) Qty B.
Total running time is 1 hour. £1.25 inc. postage.

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THE RADIO VIKING MAGAZINE! Features the R.V. story, extracts from letters, a word from Oscar Hansson and the R.V. sales Dept. Highly recommended by FRC-IRELAND! Price: 2 IRC's (International Reply Coupons). Available from: RADIO VIKING, Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Notts, U.K.

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BY

K. MURRAY.

When writing to any station, please enclose return postage. We have special reception report forms to enable you to send a proper clear report. Prices are: 5p for 2 forms, 10p for 4 forms, etc.

STATION NAME	WAVELENGTH	DAYS AND TIMES OF BROADCASTING (TIME IN GMT - note).
RADIO DUBLIN	253 metres	Monday to Friday 08.00 to 24.00 hours. 08.00 Saturday through to 24.00 Sunday (40 hours).
ALTERNATIVE RADIO DUBLIN	257 metres	12.00 hours to 01.00 hours 7 days a week.
DOWNTOWN RADIO DUBLIN	195/227 mts	Wednesday 14.00 to 24.00, Friday 20.00 to 01.30 hours. Saturday 12.00 to 20.00, Sunday 12.00 to 24.00 hours.
RADIO CLONMEL	220 metres	Sundays 14.00 to 20.00 hours.
RADIO CILL DARA	270 metres	Sundays 10.00 to 18.00 hours.
ATLANTIC RADIO	300 metres	Sundays 13.30 to 18.00 hours.
RADIO VALLERI	6202 kiloHertz	Sundays 10.00 to 13.00 hours.
WESTSIDE RADIO	6210/6317 kHz	Sundays 10.30 to 13.00 hours. (carries FRCI Show).
RADIO SEAGULL INTERNATIONAL	6525 kiloHertz	Sundays 10.00 to 13.00 hours. (carries FRCI Show).

STATION ADDRESSES:

Radio Dublin, 3 Sarsfield Road, Dublin 8, Ireland. ARD, Belvedere House, 43 Belvedere Place, Dublin 2, Ireland. Downtown Radio Dublin, 'Leugh', 3 Castles, County Kilkenny, Ireland.
Radio Clonmel, 53 Charleston Rd., Dublin 6, Ireland. Radio Cill Dara, 9 John Street, Newbridge, County Kildare, Ireland. Atlantic Radio, 92 Renmore Park, Renmore, Galway, Ireland.
Radio Valleri, 134 Eastworth Road, Chertsey, Surrey, KT16 8DT, England.
Westside Radio/Radio Seagull International, 53 Charleston Road, Dublin 6, Ireland.

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FRC - FRS DENMARK produce a very nice little magazine called: 'Pirat'. The current edition has a list of the Short Wave pirates, info on European Music Radio, a Medium Wave pirate list, the history of Radio Galaxy and Rastafari and details of Free Radio offers from FRC-HOLLAND. Price just 2 IRC's and available from: FRC-DENMARK, Hillerodgade 64, DK-2200 Copenhagen, Denmark.

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All contributions, news, articles, comments, etc, should be sent to us at: FRC-IRELAND, 53 Charleston Road, Ranelagh, Dublin 6, Ireland. © Copyright FRCI February 1978.

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