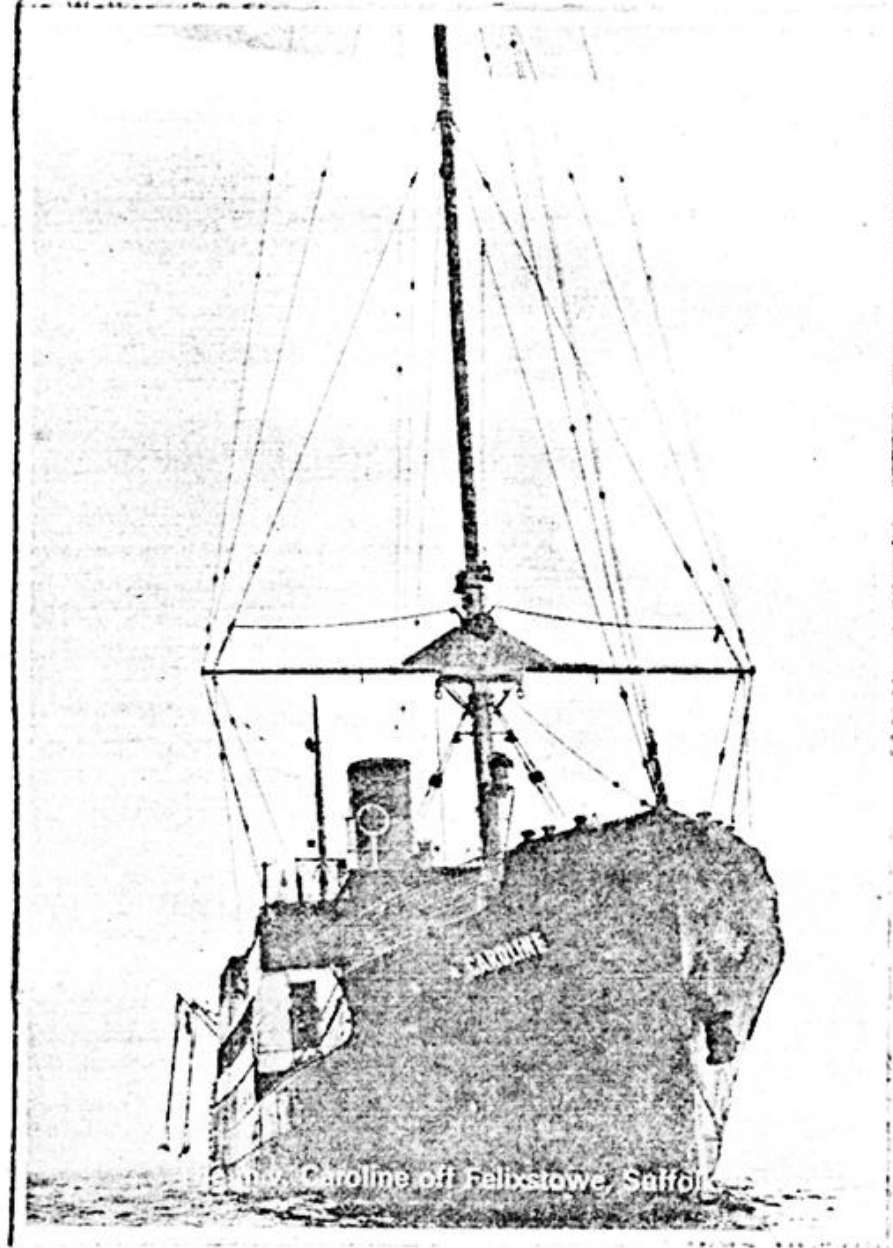


Free Radio Campaign, Ireland.

'SOUNDS ALTERNATIVE'

THE ONLY IRISH FREE RADIO MAGAZINE.



MAG No 12
**AUGUST/
SEPTEMBER**
1980.

'SOUNDS ALTERNATIVE' IS A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF:
FRC-IRELAND, 53 CHARLESTON ROAD, RANELACH, DUBLIN 6,
IRELAND. YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION: £1.50 (Ireland), £2.00
(Europe). SINGLE COPIES OR BACK NUMBERS NO LONGER
AVAILABLE

2

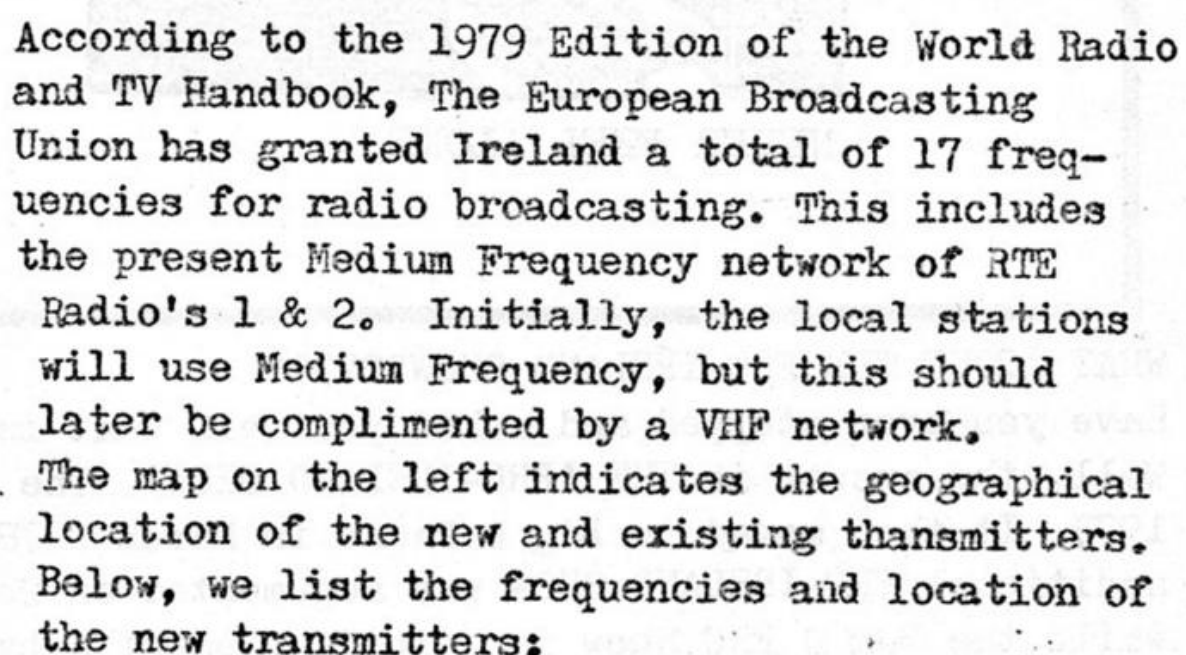
WELCOME TO EDITION NUMBER TWELVE OF 'SOUNDS ALTERNATIVE'. QUITE A LOT HAS BEEN HAPPEN-
-ING ON THE RADIO SCENE SINCE WE WERE WITH YOU LAST. WE HAVE THE EVENTFUL HISTORY OF NER, AN EXPLA-
-INATION OF THE CONFUSING FREQUENCY SITUATION IN DUBLIN CITY, NEWS ON SSR AND A WORLD RECORD ON THE
C.B. RADIO SCENE ON WHICH WE REPORT ON BELOW. THE LAST PAGE AS ALWAYS, HAS OUR VERY POPULAR 'TUNE-IN'
SECTION WITH ALL THE UP-TO-THE MINUTE NEWS ON ALL THE STATIONS BROADCASTING HERE IN IRELAND.

KIERAN MURRAY, EDITOR.

As we mentioned in 'S.A.' a couple of issues ago Citizens Band radio is very popular and its use on a nationwide scale is on the increase. Nearly every town in Ireland has its own CB Radio Club, which in turn, is affiliated to the National CB Council of Ireland. One of these local clubs - the Dundalk 11 CB Radio Club - recently organised a sponsored 'marathon modulation'. This was in aid of a local hospital (St. John of God's, Drumcar, Co. Louth). The 'marathon modulation' took place during the weekend of 29th/30th August. Commencing at 6.00pm and involving 3 breakers - SAM, REBEL and Z VICTOR ONE - located each in a caravan in different parts of Dundalk town. The 3 breakers took it in turn to talk to each other, and did so for a total of 30 hours! This, as well as being an Irish Record is also a possible World Record! Nearly £5,000 was raised on behalf of the Club for St. John of God's Hospital.

South Side Radio (300 Metres) returned to the airwaves in mid-July of this year, but are now broadcasting from the Hotel Victor in Dunlaoghaire. The station is now providing fine coverage of most of South Co. Dublin, with a strong well modulated signal on 1000 KHz/300 metres M.W. The service area is considerably reduced after dark due to Continental interference. Recently we note that SSR have changed frequency slightly to 1008 KHz presumably to improve night time signal.

A LOOK AT THE FUTURE OF INDEPENDENT LOCAL RADIO IN IRELAND.....



Galway/1359 KHz
Limerick/1386 KHz
Ring (Kerry)/1413 KHz
Waterford/1449 KHz
also 4 stations on
1485 KHz,
3 stations on 1584 KHz
and 2 stations on
1590 KHz.

BANDSTAND

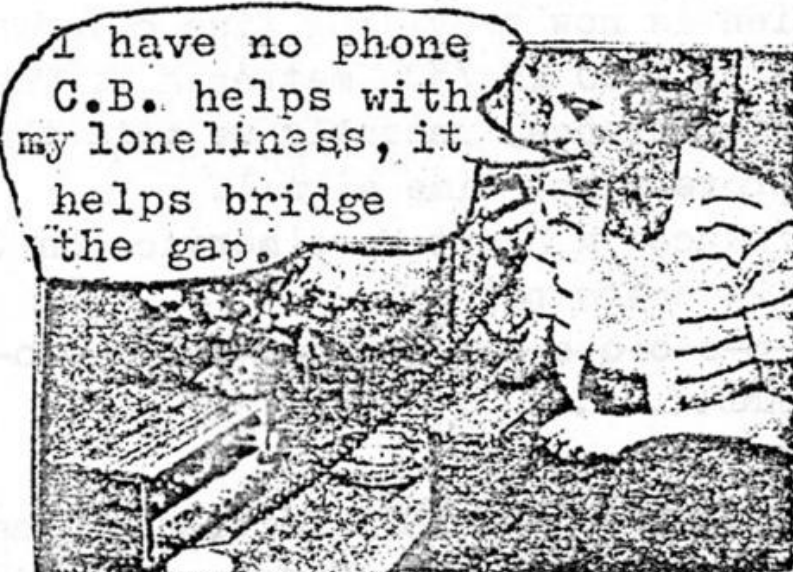
ALL ABOUT CB TWO-WAY RADIO

BM BANDSTAND
LONDON WC1V 6XX

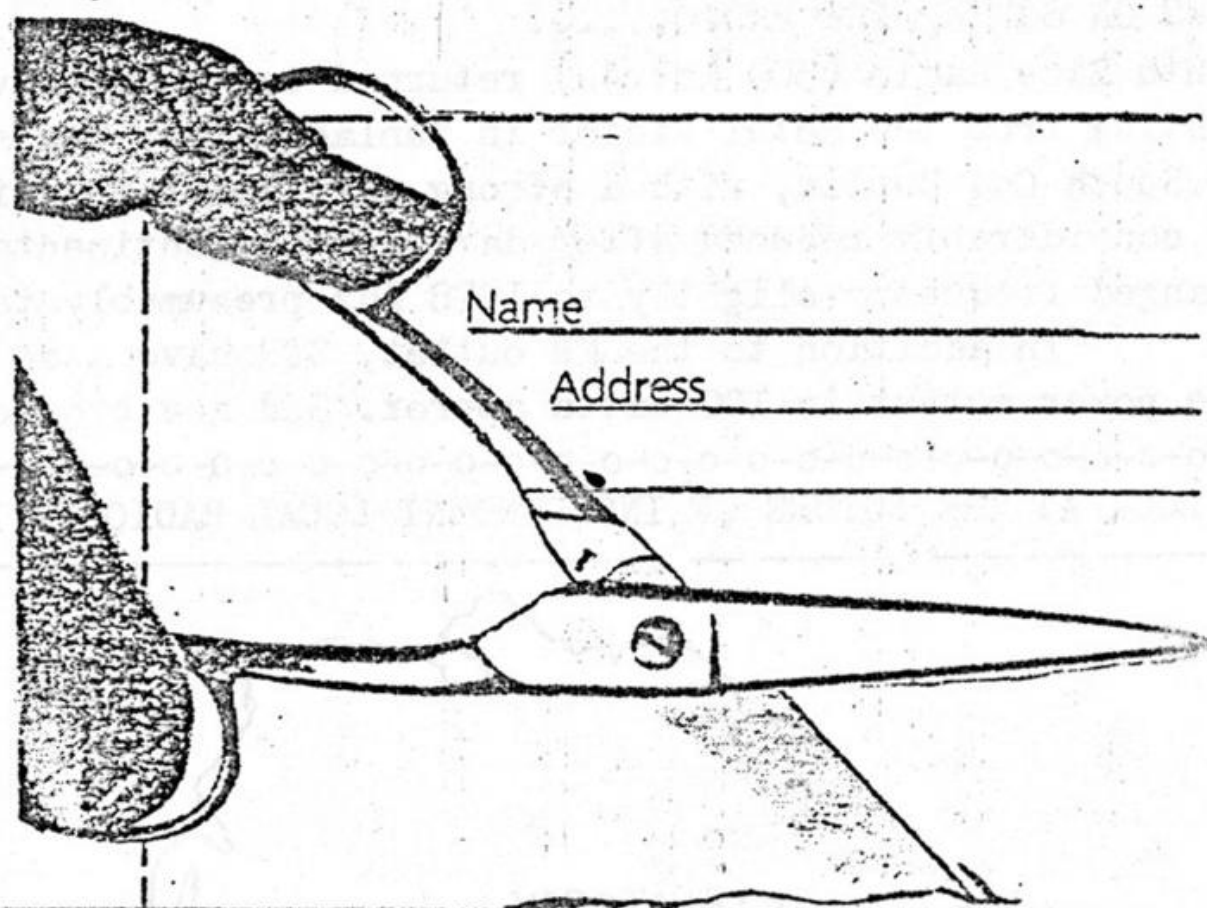


Bandstand is a monthly magazine which reports on the never ending fight for this legalisation. Its pages contain Parliamentary debates and questions on this subject, newspaper cuttings from all over the UK on the present illegal use of CB radio, articles from countries where this form of two-way radio is legal showing its many uses, which include the saving of lives, instant help in bad weather conditions, instant traffic reports, and its social implications for combatting loneliness of the housebound and its important use to the long distance lorry driver and motorist, to combat boredom.

If you would like to know more about this subject, why not write to us and obtain a copy of our monthly magazine. Just send a postal order or cheque made out to Bandstand at the following address: BM BANDSTAND, LONDON WC1V 6XX.



NEVER FEEL ALONE



Name

Address

WHAT ABOUT THE FRC-IRELAND SHOW???????

Have you ever stopped and asked yourself what is the longest running programme on Irish Free Radio? Well, the answer is THE 'FRC-IRELAND SHOW'. The programme first started on Radio Dublin in August 1977. It then moved to Big D Radio in March 1978 where it has remained ever since. In July 1979 an additional FRC-IRELAND SHOW was augmented on Southside Radio. This show was presented by Mark Boland while the Big D FRC Show is jointly presented by Kevin Murray and Bernard Lyons. Recently plans were announced of an arrangement between Big D Radio and Southside Radio whereby the FRC-IRELAND SHOW will be jointly presented on both stations. This should lead to a more highly informative FRC Show as a result of FRC staff pooling their information from both stations!

Bernard Lyons recently announced that he is to leave the FRC Show after over two years presentation. He will be sadly missed and we wish him all the best in his new job with Capitol Radio.

Would you like to contribute material to FRC-IRELAND'S 'Sounds Alternative'? Would you like an opportunity to express YOUR views on the current Free Radio scene? Well you can! Articles on any aspect of Free Radio would be welcome, as well as news from around the country. We also welcome newspaper cuttings from the various regional papers on the topic of radio. Also we hope in the near future to be able to bring you news on the Citizens' Band Campaign. All correspondence should be sent to: FRC-IRELAND, 53 Charleston Road, Dublin 6, Ireland.

North East Radio began transmissions on 251 metres MW in March of this year from the Imperial Hotel in Dundalk. The station was set up in direct competition with the established Radio Carousel, the idea being, presumably, to gain a share in the lucrative advertising market in the area. North East Radio got off to an excellent start, with a clear powerful signal provided with a custom built transmitter. The station had secure financial backing from prominent businessmen in the town, and all looked set for a successful period of broadcasting. People listening to the station found it a refreshing alternative to Radio Carousel, which at this time had become rather stale in its transmissions. However this situation was to alter drastically in the coming months.

Disagreements between station staff and the engineer caused the latter to depart leaving the rig in the hands of the staff. When the transmitter was serviced the job was done incompetently and the transmission quality deteriorated considerably. In the meantime management-staff relations were deteriorating rapidly with presentors claiming that they were not receiving payment for work done. There was much argument on this matter sometimes ending in fist fights. In June a Citizen Band Radio Operator with a mobile unit who was chatting to other "Breakers" outside the Imperial Hotel inadvertently caused North East Radio's transmitter to blow up. This was caused by an interaction of the two transmitters at close proximity. This put the station off the air for almost a week while the damaged transmitter was repaired. The station engineer constructed a new transmitter employing parts of the original rig in conjunction with parts of a standby transmitter.

While this combination of transmitters worked satisfactorily, it produced some very dangerous third harmonics on the Short and Trawler wave bands. Anglesey lifeboat Radio in Wales noted interference to their transmitters and the source of the interference was named as North East Radio. An official complaint was sent to the Irish Department of Posts & Telegraphs, and they in turn got on to North East Radio. The station was given 24 hours to sort out the problem. Station staff decided it was better to switch off the tx until the problems could be sorted out and this was done. At this point the hotel owners became unhappy with the presence of the station in the Hotel, and the financial backers were also becoming disillusioned. In late August the Hotel owners indicated to the station that they would have to vacate the studios and remove the twin 100 foot aerials within a week. At the same time the financial backers withdrew their support thus effectively forcing the station to close. Latest we have is that the aerials are still up but that transmissions have ceased and the studios vacated. Whether North East Radio will resume transmissions from a new location in the future is at this stage unknown.

RADIO 257 FREQUENCY (NAME ?) CHANGE.....

Listeners in and around the Dublin area to Radio 257 will have noticed that the station makes a daily change of frequency from 261 to 265 metres. The change taking place at dusk and reverting back to 261 during daylight hours. This is because of the wide bandspread of Radio City which operates on 257 metres. However, Radio City's tx tends to wander around 257m causing severe interference to Radio Dublin and Radio 257. In order to minimise interference, Radio 257 decided on a daily freq. change.

Recently we have noticed that the station has been reverting back to its old name of ARD 257. The reason for this is unknown at present, but it is believed that this move is an effort on the station's part to try to regain its old identity. Meanwhile the signal from Radio 257 continues to provide good coverage to most of Dublin City.

THE IRISH SHORT WAVE FREE RADIO STATIONS.....

Radio Dublin's Short Wave service on 6317 KHz is receiving much acclaim from the British Radio Mags. The service from R. Dublin is 24 hours a day and is a direct relay from the Medium wave service on 253m. The power of the S.W. rig is about 200 Watts and NOT 5KW as reported in some British Radio magazines. More recently, Southside Radio from Dunlaoghaire (Co. Dublin) have added a S.W. service to their output. The power of their transmitter is approximately 100 Watts. SSR only bring their S.W. tx into service for a couple of hours during the morning and early afternoon. Westside Radio broadcast regularly every Sunday on 6280 KHz from 10.00 to 13.00 hours, relaying the FRC-IRELAND SHOW from BIG D RADIO 10.00 to 12.00 hours. We at FRC-IRELAND have received a number of reception reports sent by people who do not know the various stations' addresses. See our 'Tune-In' section on the last page for the most recent information available on the stations.

A MUST FOR FANS OF RADIO CAROLINE!!! Join the official Dutch Radio Caroline Club. Membership for persons outside the Benelux is £4.00 cash. For this, you will receive the latest bi-monthly club journal "Caroline Radio News". A nice colour picture card of the Mv. Mi Amigo; some nice stickers and a membership card. The address is: C.R.C., P.O. Box 35, 4153 ZG BEESD (GLD), THE NETHERLANDS. Please mention that you read this advert in 'Sounds Alternative'.

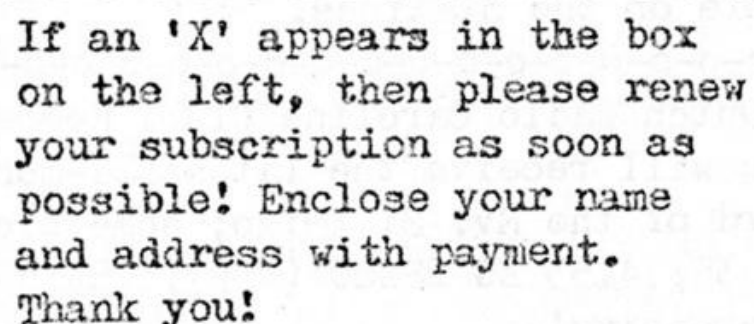
This list includes only the stations that are known to be active at the time of going to press.

If you know of any Free Commercial stations currently active, and not included in this 'Tune-In' section, please write to the Editor.

<u>STATION NAME</u>	<u>WAVELENGTH</u>	<u>TIMES OF BROADCASTING</u>
RADIO 257/ARD	261/265 metres	24 hours per day
BIG D RADIO (Dublin)	273 metres	24 hours per day (FRC Show Sundays 10.00-12.00)
BIG L RADIO (Limerick)	186 metres	06.00 to 02.00 hours, non-stop at weekends
BIG M RADIO (Monaghan)	230 metres	09.00 to 21.00 hours Mon-Sat only
BRAY LOCAL BROADCASTING	365 metres	11.00 to 23.00 hours daily
BOYNESIDE RADIO (Drogheda)	225 metres	08.00 to 21.00 hours daily
CAPITOL RADIO (Cork)	227 metres	08.00 to 02.00 hours daily
CAPITOL RADIO (Dublin)	226 metres	08.00 to 01.30 hours daily
CORK CITY LOCAL RADIO	261 metres	08.00 to 20.00 hours daily
INDEPENDENT RADIO DRUMSHAN.	186 metres	19.00 to 22.00 hours (Mon-Fri), 14.00-16.00 (Sun)
KILDARE COMMUNITY RADIO	216 metres	transmits daily
KILKENNY COMMUNITY RADIO	217 metres	07.30 to 22.00 hours daily
KERRY COMMUNITY RADIO	188 metres	transmits daily
LIMERICK B'CASTING COMPANY	270 metres	transmits daily
NORTHERN RADIO (Omeath)	235 metres	09.00 to 21.00 hours daily
RADIO CAROUSEL (Dundalk)	265 m/96.8 FM Stereo	07.00 to 24.00 hours daily
RADIO CITY (Dublin)	257 metres	24 hours per day
RADIO DUBLIN 253 m, 235 m, 91.8 FM, 6317 KHz SW		24 hours per day
RADIO LIMERICK	216 metres	08.00 to 24.00 hours daily
RADIO TRALEE	255 metres	transmits daily
SOUTHSIDE RADIO (Dunlaoghaire) 300 m/48m SW		24 hours per day
SUIRSIDE RADIO (Waterford) 257 m/98.7 FM		07.00 to 24.00 hours daily
WATERFORD LOCAL RADIO 252 metres		08.00 to 21.00 hours daily
WESTSIDE RADIO INTERNATIONAL 6280 KHz		10.00 to 13.00 hours every Sunday (Carries FRC Prog)
RADIO CONDOR/VOICE OF IRELAND 6243/11463 KHz		transmits Sundays

Radio 257, Crofton Airport Hotel, Dublin 9. Big D Radio, 85 Lower Camden Street, Dublin 2. Big L Radio, 13 Ellen St., Limerick. Big M Radio, Bree, Castleblaney, Co. Monaghan. B.L.B., 8 Goldsmith Terrace, Quinnsborough Rd., Bray, Co. Wicklow. Boyneside Radio, 14 Mill Lane, Trinity St., Drogheda. Capitol Radio, 51 Oliver Blunkett St., Cork. Capitol Radio, 36 Bachelor's Walk, Dublin 1. C.C.L.R., 2A French Church St., Cork. I.R.D., Vocation School, Drumshambo, Co. Leitrim. K.C.R., Saint Martin's, Naas, Co. Kildare. K.C.R., Ballycallan Rd., Kilkenny. K.C.R., Church St., Tralee, Co. Kerry. Northern Radio, Park Hotel, Omeath, Co. Louth. Radio Carousel, Dundalk Shopping Centre, Dundalk, Co. Louth. Radio City, Capel Arcade, 25 Capel St., Dublin 1. Radio Dublin, 58 Inchicore Rd., Dublin 8. Radio Limerick, Abbey Advertising, 47 O'Connell St., Limerick. Radio Tralee, c/o Kelly's Record Shop, 4 The Mall, Tralee, Co. Kerry. S.S.R., Hotel Victor, Rochestown Avenue, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Suisside Radio, 50 Patrick St., Waterford. W.L.R., Waterford Shopping Centre, Waterford. W.R.I & R.C. & V.O.I. c/o FRC-IRELAND, 53 Charleston Road, Ranelagh, Dublin 6, Ireland.

This is a local community radio station broadcasting from Ashbourne, Co Meath. Information on this station was received too late for inclusion in our 'Tune-In' section. A.C.R. broadcasts on 242 metres M.W. very close to RTE's 240m Dublin transmitter. The farm from where the station transmits is owned by Davitt Kelly, well known in Free Radio circles. Davitt was one of the original founder members of ARD, later moving to Big D Radio as weekend programme controller. He retired recently from the Dublin Free Radio scene only to start up this recent venture. Ashbourne Community Radio uses a power of approximately 100 watts. They broadcast from 09.00 to 18.00 hours daily.



Editor: Kieran Murray. Published by: FRC-IRELAND,
53 Charleston Road, Ranelagh, Dublin 6, Ireland.
Printed by: Hedges Ltd., Wynnefield Place, Dublin 6.
Contributors: North East Radio, RADIO 257, Dundalk
11 CB Radio Club, Southside Radio, Big D Radio and
others. Next issue: November/December 1980.

© COPYRIGHT 1980