

Free Radio Campaign, Ireland.

'SOUNDS ALTERNATIVE'

THE ONLY IRISH FREE RADIO MAGAZINE.

RADIO

CAROUSEL

Dundalk 265metres

Drogheda 215metres

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DEAR MEMBERS,

WELCOME TO ISSUE NUMBER FOURTEEN OF 'S.A.' - WE'RE STILL IRELAND'S ONLY RADIO MAGAZINE. THIS ISSUE WE TALK TO EAMON COOKE OF RADIO DUBLIN IN OUR INTERVIEW SECTION. THIS IS PROVING VERY POPULAR WITH MEMBERS. WE ALSO BRING YOU THE LATEST NEWS ON RADIO CAROLINE ON PAGE 3 AND SOME REALLY HOT NEWS ABOUT CAROLINE ON PAGE 4. ALSO NEWS ON RADIO CAROUSEL (DROGHEDA), THE IRISH C.B. RADIO PLAN, DETAILS ON PREMIER DUBLIN RADIO AND OUR FULLY COMPREHENSIVE 'TUNE-IN' ON PAGE 5.

-GOOD READING! Kieran Murray, Editor.

FRC~IRELAND INTERVIEW WITH:- EAMON COOKE; RADIO DUBLIN.

Continuing our series of interviews with the people who matter in Alternative Radio, this time we talk to Eamon Cooke, owner of RADIO DUBLIN. On January the 11th we visited the studios of Radio Dublin in Inchicore Road, Dublin 8.....

FRCI: Eamon, how long has Radio Dublin been on the air for ?

Eamon: Going on fifteen years - came on the air in October 1966.

FRCI: When did you first become involved with it ?

Eamon: About 1974. In '74 I was running an electrical shop in Thomas Street and Doctor Don arrived along with a little bit of a transmitter; "Can you fix that, can you get a little more power" and all the rest. There onwards I seemed to get involved.

FRCI: Well since that Radio Dublin has been on the air consistantly - how is it that Radio Dublin has remained the most consistant of all the Free Radio stations ?

Eamon: Very hard to know - the name would have a fair bit to do with it, just the name alone describes the station without saying any more about it. With a lot of radio stations you have to explain what it is, or you say its radio such 'n' such - people just don't know. Radio Dublin I suppose the most talked about for years. If a Disc Jockey goes to another station, the ultimate aim is to get on to Radio Dublin or RTE Radio 2 - one or the other.

FRCI: Recently you moved from your old premises of Sarsfield Road to these new premises here in Inchicore Road, has that improved your broadcasting facilities ?

Eamon: It has. There's no earthly way we could have gone out on four separate frequencies from our old location. Bad enough going out on one and distroying television reception; you can imagine what four channels would do. So, far better facilities here for erecting aeralis, keeping interference down to nil - and there's room enough to park and things like that!!

FRCI: Now recently you opened up a second channel. To the best of my knowledge this is the first time a Free Radio station has done this - how has it been working for you and what reaction have you been getting from the listeners ?

Eamon: Well it opened up in May 1980 and for a week or two it seemed to go good and then it more or less died off until last December. It got itself reasonably organised; some good Disc Jockeys on it, going now three days a week, Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Now its getting some reaction, it's getting mail in, 'phone-in requests and things like that - so it may go places.

FRCI: As well as being on M.W. & V.H.F. your on the World Wide Short Wave band. What advantage do you see this having ?

Eamon: Well it's an advantage to people abroad. I read a letter today on the news from a man in America who just tuned into us; he had been searching around the band for us for some time, eventually found us - was delighted to know that he could listen to some place that his ancestors came from; all he had heard about Ireland and all the rest of it. Granted we weren't giving any information as such about the country; it was a programme beamed for Dublin here. But we will get 'round to a specialised programme for Short Wave listeners and they can hear what's happening in the country here and all the rest of it.

FRCI: You will have special programmes on Short Wave for all the cross channel listeners will you ?

Eamon: We will have special programmes, it will be a five hour programme especially for abroad. It will have English, Spanish, German and French. So anyone who hasn't come from Ireland may like to hear something about us; if they don't speak English I'm sure we can accomadate them with some language.

FRCI: Very innovative indeed. For those people who have never heard Radio Dublin how would you describe the programming, basically ?

Eamon: Well, a lot have described it as non stop pop music, or 'wallpaper music' or something in that line. It's the sort of programming that goes out to factories, people driving around in

(The Eamon Cooke interview continues on page 3)

TECHNICAL CRITICISM OF CB PLAN.....

Citizen's Band radio (CB) is to be legalised here in Ireland - and that's official!! The decision was made on Monday 16th February 1980 by Ireland's Minister for Posts and Telecommunications Mr. Albert Reynolds. However, the decision has been criticised on technical grounds by the Chairman of the National C.B. Council of Ireland, Mr. Eugene Egan. The Minister said he intended publishing full details of the regulations shortly. Irish enthusiasts would operate on FM at 27 MHz. The maximum permissible power output for transmitters, which might have 40 channels, would be 4 watts.

A two-year transition period was envisaged to allow existing amplitude modulation equipment to be phased out. Once this begins, importation of AM equipment would be illegal. Mr. Egan said the Minister has decided upon the FM system contrary to the wishes of most CB enthusiasts in Ireland. His organisation would continue the campaign to have CB legalised on the AM system.

----- PREMIER DUBLIN RADIO.....

Premier Dublin Radio is the latest Free Radio station in Dublin to hit the airwaves. P.D.R. first began broadcasting on Tuesday 16th December 1980 on 217 metres MW. After further technical adjustments leading to an increase in power, the station officially went on the air on Sunday, January 11th 1981. Premier Dublin Radio broadcasts every Sunday on 217 metres from their premises based in Phibsboro' North Dublin City. P.D.R. are currently looking for reception reports, and these can be sent directly to their mailing address of:- P.D.R., 20 Caledon Road, Dublin 3.

Their Sunday schedule is as follows:

- 10.00am Aidan Hughes.
- 11.30am Peter King (of R. Caroline Dublin fame)
- 1.00pm Joe Roberts
- 3.00pm Roy Philips
- 5.00pm Premier Top 30 & Rock Show combined with
Greg Townsend
- 7.00pm Neil Walsh
- 9.30pm Dave Jackson to closedown.

Premier Dublin Radio Expect to increase power very shortly. FRCI wishes PDR the best for the future.

----- POLITICAL PIRATES IN NORTHERN IRELAND.....

"...and the Army began jamming broadcasts by illegal radio stations which have been operating from the troubled areas of Belfast for the past two weeks. The radio's are being jammed because they had been inciting rival crowds to collect in the street."

The above quoted paragraph is taken from an edition of 'Wireless News' dated Wednesday September 10th 1969. Just one day before that 'W.N.' reported:

"The police charged a man with the shooting as a clandestine Protestant radio urged Protestants to stage a mass protest rally"

On September 12th 1969 'W.N.' reported:

"The Home Affairs Minister Porter has said that if jamming fails to silence the illegal radio stations now transmitting in Belfast, other measures will be taken".

(Wireless News was produced aboard the S.S. Uganda during Mediterranean cruises.)

The above paragraphs are produced for historical information purposes only, and FRC-IRELAND in no way supports or publicises political pirates in any shape or form.

----- NEWS ON RADIO CAROLINE.....

After a couple of false starts, Radio Caroline is now set to recommence broadcasting on Easter Sun. (April 19th) - exactly 17 years after it first hit the airwaves. Home for the station's crew and broadcasters will be a converted freighter built in 1952, 300 feet in length with 72 luxury cabins. D.J.'s names are being kept secret, but it is a safe bet that most of those serving Caroline at the time of the MV Mi Amigo's decline will be back. A Caroline spokesperson said last week that the accent will be on contemporary music. John Lennon, Bruce Springsteen and Ultravox were mentioned as being fairly typical of the artists likely to be featured. News, weather and traffic reports will be incorporated. A new package of 20 customised jingles has been recorded. 519 metres is the most likely wavelength for the station which hopes to commence test broadcasts soon - using a revolutionary new aerial which should ensure excellent reception throughout Europe.

Recently, Caroline inked a 10 million dollar advertising deal with Major Market Radio of New York. MMR owns 42 radio stations in America and has considerable expertise in selling advertising. Fears of prosecution under the Marine Offences Act has previously resulted in British companies fighting shy of advertising with Radio Caroline, but spiralling commercial radio and ITV rates coupled with Caroline's international status - registered in the Bahamas and paying taxes in N.Y. State - has proved irresistible to many. To find out who, you'll have to tune in to Radio Caroline...

Tune in

BY

K. MURRAY.

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 active, and not included in this current 'Tune-In' section, then please write to the Editor.

STATION NAME	WAVELENGTH	TIMES OF BROADCASTING	TELEPHONE No. (If any)
ARD/RADIO 257	261/265 mts/99.0 FM	24 hours per day	(01) 373473
BIG D RADIO (Dublin)	273 metres/98.0 FM	24 hours per day	(01) 784815
BIG L RADIO (Limerick)	186 metres	06.00 to 02.00 hours	(061) 46271
BOYNESIDE RADIO (Drogheda)	225 metres/99.2 FM	07.00 to 24.00 hours	(041) 31699
BRAY LOCAL BROADCASTING	360 metres	08.00 to 24.00 hours	(01) 860401/862653
CAPITOL RADIO (Cork)	225 metres	08.00 to 02.00 hours	(021) 505861
CAPITOL RADIO (Dublin)	226 metres	08.00 to 01.30 hours	(01) 742043
COMMUNITY RADIO YOUGHAL (Cork)	196 metres	transmits daily	.....
CORK CITY LOCAL RADIO (Cork)	270 metres	08.00 to 21.00 hours	.....
DUBLIN COMMUNITY RADIO	312 metres	weekends	(01) 681900
INDEPENDENT RADIO DRUMSHAMBO	190 metres	transmits daily	.....
INDEPENDENT RADIO LIMERICK	256 metres	transmits daily	.....
KILDARE COMMUNITY RADIO	214 metres	transmits daily	(045) 22084
KILKENNY COMMUNITY RADIO	216 metres	07.00 to 22.00 hours	.....
KERRY COMMUNITY RADIO (Tralee)	187 metres	transmits daily	.....
LIMERICK B'CASTING COMPANY	272 metres	transmits daily	.....
PREMIER RADIO DUBLIN	217 metres	10.00 to 21.30 Sundays	.....
RADIO CAROUSEL (Dundalk)	265 metres/96.4 FM	07.00 to 24.00 hours	(042) 31164/31165
RADIO CAROUSEL (Drogheda)	215 metres/96.4 FM	07.00 to 24.00 hours	(041) 31396
RADIO CITY (Dublin)	257 metres	24 hours a day	(01) 745825
RADIO DUBLIN (One)	253 mts/6317 KHz	24 hours a day	(01) 758684
RADIO DUBLIN (Two)	240 mts/90.2 FM Stereo	24 hours per day	(01) 758684
NORTH WEST RADIO (Letterkenny)	186 metres	transmits daily	.....
RADIO LIMERICK	216 metres	transmits daily	.....
RADIO TRALEE (Co. Kerry)	255 metres	transmits daily	.....
ROSS COMMUNITY RADIO (Wexford)	230 metres	transmits daily	.....
SLIGO COMMUNITY RADIO	273 metres	transmits daily	(071) 2551
SKYLINE RADIO (Dundalk)	220 metres	08.00 to 18.00 hours (Sundays only)	.....
SONIC INDEPENDENT RADIO (Shankill)	228 mts	24 hours per day	.....
SOUTHSIDE RADIO (Dunlaoghaire)	300 metres	24 hours per day	(01) 853464
SUIRSIDE RADIO (Waterford)	257 metres/98.7 FM	07.00 to 24.00 hours	(051) 74148
SUNSHINE RADIO (Portmarnock)	539 metres	04.00 to 21.00 hours	(01) 460003/462450
TELSTAR RADIO (Dundalk)	250 metres	07.00 to 24.00 hours	(042) 34881
TRALEE COMMUNITY RADIO	192 metres	transmits daily	.....
WATERFORD LOCAL RADIO	252 metres	08.00 to 01.30 hours	(051) 72248
WESTSIDE RADIO INTERNATIONAL	6280 KHz	10.00 to 13.00 hours every Sunday	.....
RADIO CONDOR/VOICE OF IRELAND	6243/11463 KHz	transmits Sundays	(01) 314356

STATION ADDRESSES: ARD/Radio 257, Crofton Airport Hotel, Dublin 9. Big D Radio, 85 Lower Camden St., Dublin 2. Big L Radio, 13 Ellen St., Limerick. Boyneside Radio, 14 Mill Lane, Trinity St., Drogheda, Co. Louth. B.L.B., 8 Goldsmith Tce., Quinnsborough Rd., Bray, Co. Wicklow. Capitol Radio, 51 Oliver Plunkett St., Cork. Capitol Radio, 36 Bachelor's Walk, Dublin 1. C.C.L.R., 2a French Church St., Cork. I.R.D., Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim. I.R.L., Hotel Greenhill, Caherdavin, Limerick. K.C.R., St. Martins, Naas, Co. Kildare. K.C.R., Ballycallan Rd. Kilkenny. K.C.R., Church St., Tralee, Co. Kerry. Radio Carousel, Dundalk Shopping Centre, Dundalk, Co. Louth. Radio Carousel, Stameen Court, Stameen, Drogheda, Co. Louth. Radio City, Capel Arcade, 25 Capel St. Dublin 1. Radio Dublin (1 & 2), 58 Inchicore Rd., Dublin 8. Radio Tralee, Keily's Record Shop, 4 The Mall, Tralee, Co. Kerry. R.C.R., New Ross, Co. Wexford. S.C.R., Bridge St., Co Sligo. Skyline Radio, Fairways Hotel, Dublin Road, Dundalk. Sonic Ind. Radio, Sonic House, Rockfield Pk., Kilmacanogue, Co. Wicklow. Southside Radio, Hotel Victor, Rochestown Ave., Dunlaoghaire, Co. Dublin. Suirside Radio, 50 Patrick St., Waterford. Sunshine Radio, Sands Hotel, Portmarnock, Co. Dublin. Telstar Radio, Wine Tavern, Park St., Dundalk. W.L.R., Waterford Shopping Centre, Waterford. W.R.I., R.C.I., V.O.I., c/o FRC-IRELAND, 53 Charleston Road, Ranelagh, Dublin 6, Ireland.

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