

free radio association

239 Eastwood Road · Rayleigh · Essex · telephone Rayleigh 4259

president Sir Ian Mactaggart Bt - chairman Geoffrey Pearl - general secretary Michael Tickner - treasurer Margaret Stock

1968 NEWSLETTER

Dear Member.

This edition of our 1968 Newsletter was written at the beginning of September. There is only one remaining European off-shore station — Radio Veronica on 192 metres. This Dutch pirate plays many of the Caroline jingles, and Robbie Dale has an English language show. There are currently plans for three English language ship-based stations, and we hope that at least one of these will succeed. There are also a great many rumours about projected stations — most of them without any foundation at all.

The most important achievements of the Free Radio Association in its first year were the development of an extensive branch network and the organising of numerous rallies, marches and public meetings. Our National Rally in Trafalgar Square was attended by thousands of Free Radio supporters. Less spectacular, but equally important, have been the discussions we have held with leading politicians. We have been recognised by the Shadow P.M.G. (though not, I regret to say, by the Government) as the voice of independent radio. The present Government chooses to ignore us entirely. But if there is a change of Government at the next General Election, we have been assured that our demand for independent radio will be met. Our role then will be to make sure that we get a system of radio which is genuinely Free.

The development which affected members most of all was the coming together of the members of BROADSIDE and the Free Radio Association in a BIG, NEW, 100,000 strong Free Radio Association. Please see page 4 for further details.

Many of you who receive this Newsletter joined BROADSIDE last year. BROADSIDE had so many members that it is taking us the whole of 1968 to write to them all! Because all BROADSIDE members became Associate Members of the F.R.A.. there were 4.500 Full (paid-up) Members, but 95,500 Associate (free) Members! I'm sure you can see how all this has put a terrific strain on our finances. We shall have to raise the subscription next year unless you Associate Members fork out five bob for Full Membership! 5/- isn't much for a full year, is it? So please do fill in the form below, and send it off straight away. Thanks!

We have a special Discount Scheme for all Full Members. The F.R.A. does not receive any commission from the Company which operates the scheme, so members reap the full benefit. With the receipt, and the new F.R.A. membership card, we enclose a leaflet entering you into the Discount Scheme. This allows you 20% off radios, record players, tape recorders and other electrical equipment, 15% off carpets and T.V. sets, 12½% off furniture, cots, cameras, clocks and watches, 7½% 10% off cars, garages, caravans, bicycles and prams, to quote just a few examples. Also made available is recording tape at approximately half the usual price. In fact, almost any durable goods you buy, no matter which brands you choose, you will be able to get at a big discount. We hunted and hunted to find what we think is the simplest and best Discount Scheme available. On average, it could save each family £50 per year!

Now back to the F.R.A's finances. Of course, no big Association can exist on 5/- per member without money from other sources. This applies especially in our case for the reasons I have explained. Last year, we had to choose between raising the subscription or further developing our fund raising schemes. We chose the latter. I'm sure we were right, because it means the Association can give its members something tangible for the money they pay. For example, the members who bought shares in the 1967/68 Pools Syndicate made a profit of over 150%. And the wide range of promotional material and photographs helps gather support for Free Radio. You'll find full details of the promotional material and fund-raisers on Pages 2 - 4.

Here is a new way in which every member can help. Become an "F.R.A. SELLER"! This is very easy, and very satisfying, because as well as helping the Association, it gets our slogans on display all over the place. Full details on Page 4.

For those of you who want to help various departments of the Association in the simplest way possible, we have devised our PACKAGE OFFER. This costs 30/-, and gives you full Membership for 1 year, including, of course, entry into the Discount Scheme, 12 entries in the Monthly Draw, 1 F.R.A. padge, 1 F.R.A. poster, 1 F.R.A. car sticker, 4 F.R.A. ball pens (1 blue, 1 red, 1 green, 1 black), 1 F.R.A. pencil, 3 different BROADSIDE car stickers, 1 copy of "Competition in Radio", 1 copy of "Freedom in Exile", 10 membership forms, 6 leaflets

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and I petition form. All you have to do is enclose 30/- with the form at the foot of the page overleaf.

Now we have 100,000 members, we are setting ourselves a fantastic new target — ONE MILLION MEMBERS!!! Just think. Suppose you, and every other member, send in the form overleaf, and ask for 10 membership forms. Suppose, when you get them, you find 10 people who would like to become members (and that's easy!). Then, if you fill in the names and addresses on the forms, and send these here, WE SHALL HAVE ONE MILLION MEMBERS!!! We shall be the biggest Association in Britain!! And the best!! And the most powerful!! And FREE RADIO will be guaranteed!! So you will do this, won't you?

I hope you'll forgive me if I end with a little request. We ask our members to always quote their membership number, and to send a stamped addressed envelope when they write a letter which needs a reply. As well as keeping down our costs, this makes life a little easier for the overworked people here at H.Q.!

Sincerely,

FREE RADIO ASSOCIATION — 1968 OFFERS

HOW TO ORDER: Simply send details of items required, with your name and address, and postal order or cheque for the total amount, to the Free Radio Association, 239 Eastwood Road, Rayleigh, Essex. Please make postal orders, cheques, etc., payable to F.R.A.

When ordering photographs, please specify print numbers.

F.R.A. Promotional Material

Please keep for reference

Car stickers, badges, posters and tee-shirts all carry the F.R.A. transmitting mast symbol and our slogan: "FIGHT FOR FREE RADIO".

Wording is bold black on a white background.

BADGES: Very attractive! Plastic. 1½" diameter. Price 1/- each. 7/- per doz. £2 per 100.

CAR STICKERS: Size 11¾" x 2½". Price 8d. each. 1/- for three. 3/- per doz. 14/- per 100.

POSTERS: Size 13¾ x 10". Price 8d. each. 1/- for three. 3/- per doz. 14/- per 100.

BALL PENS (BLUE, RED, GREEN or BLACK): Hexagonal. 1st line of wording reads: "Fight for Free Radio — join the F.R.A." Address on 2nd line. Price 1/3d. each. 10/- per doz.

PENCILS: Lead. HB. Hexagonal. Wording as on Ball Pens. Price 1/- each. 9/- per doz.

TEE-SHIRTS: Good quality. Small, medium, or large. Price 12/6d. each. £6 per doz.

TEST: Tootal. Terylene. Blue. Single symbol under knot. Price 17/6d. each. 170/- per doz.

LEAFLETS: Complete version of our principal hand-out, part of which is reproduced on Page 4. Price 5/- for 50. 9/- per 100. £3 per 1,000. PETITION FORMS: Printed. Up to 3, no charge, but please send S.A.E.! More than 3, by arrangement. MEMBERSHIP FORMS: Printed. Up to 10, no charge, but please send S.A.E.! More than 10, by arrangement.

BROADSIDE Promotional Material

CAR STICKERS: Printed in red and black, with BROADSIDE gull and the slogans "Make Wilson Walk the Plank". "We DEMAND Free Radio", "Free Radio — Sink Wilson". Very high quality — genuine works of art! And they are BIG — 22" x 3". Should any slogan each. 4/- for 3. 10/- for 10, 60/- per 100.

F.R.A. "Supercool" Tape Recordings

Tapes available — "Radio City Last Hour", "Last Words of Radio 355", "Radio London Final Hour" and "Last Words of Radio Scotland". Speed 3\(\frac{1}{4}\) i.p.s. Price 30/- each. £6 for 5. £10 for 10.

Other Free Radio Books and Records

"RADIO CAROLINE" BOOK: The fascinating 184 page paperback by John Venmore-Rowland. The history of Caroline is traced from the birth of the venture to the transfer of its H.Q. to Amsterdam. Details of both ships are included, and the 2 chapters on the D.J's describe their life afloat and ashore. In fact, there is a list, with personal details, of every D.J. who worked on either ship during the 3 years. For the technically minded, details are given of the radio equipment. Price 10/-.

RADIO LONDON RECORD: This 45 r.p.m. E.P. features excerpts from the final hour, and also many of the jingles and sounds of "Big L". Some of the D.J's featured are Ed Stewart, Paul Kay, Pete Drummond, Duncan Johnson. Kenny Everett, Dave Cash, Tony Windsor, Keith Skues, Tony Blackburn and John Peel. Price 12/6d.

COMPETITION IN RADIO: The brilliant 28 page "depth" pamphlet by Denis Thomas, Review of the economic, political and social aspects of sound broadcasting. Price 3/- plus 6d. postage.

FREEDOM IN EXILE: An excellent little booklet about Free Radio, produced by the Reform Group. Originally published in August 1966 as "Make it Legal", this pamphlet was written by 2 F.R.A. members, and revised by our Branch Secretary for Dundee, Allan Stewart. It is not, however, an F.R.A. publication, as it was written from a party-political viewpoint. Price 6d. plus medium-size S.A.E.

BEATWAVE MAGAZINE: The second (and final) issue of Beatwave. Cover by Paul McCartney. Coloured pictures of Robbie Dale, Don Allen, Ed. Stewart, Paul McCartney, Rolling Stones, etc. Full page portrait of Johnnie Walker. Features on Johnnie and Robbie, etc. Price 3/6d. plus 8d. postage. (Special note — do not reply to any advertisements in Beatwave Magazine, as they are now out of date).

WHEN PIRATES RULED THE WAVES: We are proud to have been appointed agents for the only book giving the full story of offshore radio in Britain. It is written by Paul Harris, a young journalist who has also had first-hand experience of organising a pirate station. This lawish hardbacked book, with more than 200 pages plus 8 pages of photographs, is now the standard reference work on offshore radio. Every aspect of pirate radio is described with astonishing frakness. The chapter entitled "The Sinister Truth" is so outspoken in its condemnation of the Government that it was too hot for publishers to handle, and a new publishing company had to be formed for the purpose. The first edition was completely sold out. The F.R.A. has come to an arrangement with the author which enables us to offer the enlarged second edition to our members at the specially reduced price of 30/- including postage and packing — a saving of 5/- over the shop price.

F.R.A. "Supercool" Photographs		
Print No. Description	Print No. Description	
Radio Caroline North photographs A 1 The ship "M.V. Caroline" — full view. A 2 The ship "M.V. Caroline" — stern view. A 3 Don Allen at football match. A 4 Mark Sloane at football match. A 5 Ronan O'Rahilly at football match. Radio Caroline South photographs	L 6 Ed Stewart in the Mess. L 7 Grub on "Big L". L 8 The transmitter room. L 9 Mitch in the Mess. L 10 Tony Blackburn — close up. L 11 Tony Blackburn in the Mess. L 12 Tony Blackburn preparing for his show. L 13 Tony Blackburn preparing tapes. L 14 Tony Blackburn preparing tapes. L 15 Tony Blackburn amongst the jingles. L 15 Tony Blackburn on the air. L 16 Norman St. John on the air. L 17 Norman St. John on the air. L 19 Mark Roman — close up. L 18 Mark Roman — close up. L 19 Mark Roman in the Mess. L 20 Mark Roman and Mitch. L 21 Kenny Everett — close up. L 22 Dave Hawkins in the studio. L 24 "Big L" aerial mast. L 25 Tony Windsor on the bridge.	
B 1 The ship "Mi Amigo" — full view. B 3 Johnnie Walker on the air. B 4 Robbie Dale by the transmitter. B 5 Johnnie and Robbie by Free Radio stickers. B 6 Dave Lee Travis on the air. B 7 Emperor Rosko raving. B 8 Tom Lodge on the air. B 9 Spangles Muldoon off duty. B 10 Andy Archer — close up.		
Radio City photographs	L 26 Willie Walker — close up. L 27 John Edward — close up.	
C 1 Shivering Sands towers — full view. C 2 Tom Edwards on the air. C 3 Dick Dixon by "Radio Sutch" transmitter. C 4 Dick Dixon putting out fire.	L 28 Duncan Johnson — close up. L 29 John Peel — close up. L 30 Tony Blackburn in the studio.	

Radio Essex photographs		
D 1		

- D 1 Knock John fort full view. D 2 Dave Sinclair on the air. D 3 Mark West on the air.
- D 4 Roger Scott on the air.

Radio 355/227 photographs

- E 1 The ship "Laissez Faire" close up.
 E 2 The ship "Laissez Faire" full view.
 E 3 The ship "Laissez Faire" bow to stern.
 E 4 The ship "Laissez Faire" bow view.
 E 5 The ship "Laissez Faire" stern view.
 E 6 Radio 355/227 aerial mast.
 E 7 Control panel on Radio 355.
 E 15 Dave Mackey on studio panel.
 E 16 Dave Mackay in transmitter room.

Tower Radio/T.V. photographs

G I Sunk Head fort — full view. G 2 Tower Television — test transmission.

Radio 390 photographs

- K I Red Sands towers full view.
 K 2 Red Sands towers close up. K 2 Ked Sands towers — close up.
 K 4 Chris Clarke off duty.
 K 5 Jack McLaughlin on the air.
 K 6 David Allan parading the catwalks.
 K 7 All aboard the tender.
 K 9 Close up of single tower.
 K 10 Edward Cole on the air.
 K 11 Jonathan Hall on the air.

Radio London photographs

- L 1 The ship "M.V. Galaxy" close up. L 2 The ship "M.V. Galaxy" side view. L 3 The ship "M.V. Galaxy" full view.
- L 4 D.I's on deck.

- Miscellaneous photographs M 1 The tender "Offshore 1" M 2 The tender "Offshore 2".

Radio 270 photographs

- R 1 The ship "Oceaan 7" full view.
 R 2 The ship "Oceaan 7" close up.
 R 3 The ship "Oceaan 7" view of deck.
 R 4 The ship "Oceaan 7" stern view.
 R 5 The ship "Oceaan 7" and tender.
 R 6 Mike Hayes on the air.

- R 6 Mike Hayes on the air.
 R 7 Ross Randell on the air.
 R 8 Ross Randell ready for action.
 R 9 Rusty Allen and Ross Randell.
 R 10 D.J's in the Mess.
 R 11 Rusty Allen, Paul Kramer, etc., on deck.
 R 13 Paul Kramer close up.
 R 14 Rusty Allen on deck.
 R 15 Mike Barron opens the mailbag.
 R 16 Tuning up the transmitter.
 R 21 Radio 270 aerial mast.
 R 18 D.J's waving to passing ship.
 R 19 All aboard the tender.
 R 20 Rusty Allen and Ross Randell on shore.
 R 21 Mike Hayes at Bridlington Harbour.
 R 22 Rusty Allen at Bridlington Harbour.
 R 23 Mike Barron at Bridlington Harbour.

Radio Scotland photographs

- S 1 The ship "Comet" full view.
 S 2 The ship "Comet" bow view.
 S 3 The ship "Comet" from above.
 S 4 Drew Hamlyn on the air.
 S 5 D.J's and crew on deck.

HOW TO BECOME AN "F.R.A. SELLER": If every member becomes an "F.R.A. SELLER", it will soon be impossible to go far out of doors before seeing a Free Radio badge, poster or car sticker. This is how it works. You show your badge or tee-shirt, or any other promotional material which you have, to everyone you know, and to everyone else who is interested. Then you ask if they would like one too, and if they say "yes", you ask them to give you the money. Then, say at the end of the week, you send to 239 Eastwood Rado. Rayleigh, Essex, all the money, and full details of the goods required — in the way described in the "HOW TO ORDER" paragraph on Page 2. The only difference is that on the list of goods required, you write the words: "F.R.A. SELLER".

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The secret of being a successful "F.R.A. SELLER" is to build up gradually from a fairly small start. It is best to start with badges. Show the badge to everyone you can think of, and you'll be surprised how easy it is to get orders. When you get 12 orders, send off for a dozen badges. These will only cost you 7/-, but you will have been given 12/- for the badges. The 5/- "profit" can be used to pay for the poundage on the postal order you send, and the stamp; and with the balance you could perhaps buy a set of three B.F.R.M. Section car stickers to increase the range of things you can show people. Concentrate first on the things you can buy most cheaply in bulk — that is the F.R.A. Promotional Material and the BROADSIDE Promotional Material. Then, with the "profit" you make, add the F.R.A. "Supercool" Tape Recordings, and a selection of photographs, to your range. The next stage is to include the "Other Free Radio Books and Records", until you have the complete range of F.R.A. Offers to show people. By this time, you will have built up enough "profit" to buy in bulk in advance of the orders you get from people. They will then be able to buy what they want from you straight away, instead of paying and then having to wait for you to send up for them! The really keenest members will think of all sorts of ways to meets lots of people and increase sales — for example, by getting permission to set up a little stall at the best-attended local beat dance (or wherever else lots of people gather), and displaying all the different items with price tags. One member who did this at a dance in Chelmsferd sold 300 badges in one evening, and made a profit of £9!!!

FREE RADIO ASSOCIATION - MONTHLY DRAW

Each entry costs 10/- per year. 6/- of this goes into the draw, and the balance is transferred to F.R.A. funds. The draw takes place on the first Monday of every month. All the monthly prize money is won by the name drawn. Winners are notified by post, and the list of winners is displayed in the office at Rayleigh. You can have as many chances as you wish. 10/- gives you one chance every month for a year; £1 doubles your chance each month; 30/- trebles your chance, etc. The prize per month is at present around 70/-. To enter, simply send a note of how many entries in the Monthly Draw you would like, and enclose a cheque or postal order made payable to F8 4

THE REST OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS ONLY FOR NEW MEMBERS, AND FOR BROADSIDE PEOPLE WHO HAVE NOT ALREADY HAD A LETTER FROM THE FREE RADIO ASSOCIATION.

Welcome to the Free Radio Association!

If you originally joined BROADSIDE, you may already know that it ran into financial difficulties, and had to stop operations. We are continuing as many as possible of BROADSIDE's activities. For example, you'll see from Page 2 that the popular BROADSIDE car stickers are still available. If you wrote to BROADSIDE for the Manifesto, I'm afraid we can't send you this because it is not now being printed. Instead we are reproducing below part of the F.R.A. leaflet, which think states very clearly the importance of what we are fighting for. If you asked for the petition form, we are enclosing the F.R.A. one instead. And anything else which you asked, you will find answered in this newsletter, or in a little note at the top of this page.

BROADSIDE had 87,000 members!! In order that this superb achievement is not wasted, all holders of a BROADSIDE membership card have automatically become members of the Free Radio Association. All you need do is alter the membership number shown on your card to the number on the form at the foot of Page 1.

If you asked for membership cards, we are enclosing a batch of forms which your friends can use for Full Membership (5/-) or Associate Membership (free). Please do make sure they are all handed out, won't you, because we couldn't afford to send out forms which are not used.

If you wrote to BROADSIDE for membership, or to the F.R.A. without sending a subscription, we are enclosing an Associate Membership card. This is a BROADSIDE card overstamped "Free Radio Association". Everyone who has a BROADSIDE card (whether or not it is overstamped) or no card at all, is especially asked to note the 4th paragraph on Page 1.

Only Full Members can be Branch or Group Secretaries, or hold any other official position. If you are anxious to be very active in your local district (for example by organising Free Radio meetings and dances, and writing letters to the press, and helping with special projects), please send an S.A.E. marked "B/S" in the top left-hand corner. If you want to be equally active, but in a university or big club, etc., please mark the S.A.E. "G/S".

I expect you would like to know about our petition. It is the boldest and hardest-hitting national petition since before the war. Silencing Free Radio is a matter of doctrine to the present Government — no amount of reasoning, nor proof that the Government is flouting public opinion, has any effect. A conventional petition would have been a waste of time. We have to show the Government that their policy is costing them millions of votes.

We have been accused of being too political. But Free Radio is a political issue, so we can't avoid being a political organisation. But no one can accuse us of being party-political. We don't attack the Labour Party — only the Government, and ministers who have the same attitude towards Free Radio that the Communist Regime in Russia has towards the Free Press. And in the petition, we have laid the emphasis on the three aspects of freedom at stake, to prove that we are a responsible Association fighting not just for the pleasure of listening to our favourite stations, but also for fundamental principles of liberty.

FIGHT FOR FREE RADIO

- FIGHT the miserable little band of Government kill-joys, who enacted a law to take away our freedom to listen to the friendly independent radio stations. By midnight on 14th August, 1967, all except Radio Caroline had been forced off the air. And the vicious Marine Offences Act made it a crime to give details about Radio Caroline's programmes. Who would have thought that free speech would be suppressed in Britain?
- FIGHT the questionable devices used by the Government in its efforts to silence the fort-based stations. For example, when Radio City wanted help, it was refused because the station was outside British jurisdiction. But when the Government decided to close the station, it suddenly became part of Britain.
- FIGHT the trickery of a Government which delays the Marine Offences Act until it has a majority of 97, and says nothing about its proposed legislation in its Manifesto. Its scheme was to get the whole issue over as soon as it could, so that everyone would have forgotten all about it by the next General Election.
- FIGHT the Government, which is trying to preserve state control over radio by crushing all competition to the B.B.C. The Marine Offences Act is the same in principle to an Act closing all free enterprise newspapers and making it a crime to read any newspaper except the one published by the Government.
- FIGHT for freedom of the air, as we have fought before for a free press and free speech. Remember that without these freedoms a country becomes a dictatorship. Under the Marine Offences Act, the Free Radio Association is partially silenced. That is what the Government wanted. But the Government will never silence us completely. We shall fight until we win.

FREE RADIO ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT: SIR IAN MacTAGGART

Chairman: GEOFFREY PEARL

General Secretary: PETER PHILIPSON

Treasurer ALLEN CHAPMAN

239, EASTWOOD ROAD, RAYLEIGH, EX.

Telephone: RAYLEIGH 4259

OVER 400 BRANCHES THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

July, 1968

SUPPLEMENT TO 1968 NEWSLETTER

The enclosed 1968 Newsletter was written in January! This supplement brings you right up to date. We start with our most important forthcoming event.

National Free Radio Rally

The annual Free Radio rally will be held in Trafalgar Square, London, on Saturday 17th August. The rally starts at 3 p.m., and will be followed by a march through Fleet Street, etc.

A large attendance is absolutely vital for the success of this event. Unlike the last rally, we can't depend on publicity over the air. So we are relying on every member who can to turn up with as many friends as possible and - ideally - a home made banner or placard.

Nidnight Vigils

On the most significant day of the year for Free Radio, August 14th, F.R.A. branch secretaries will be organising "midnight vigils" with protest banners outside town halls and government buildings.

1968 Offers - Additions

A third "Supercool" tape recording is now available. This is the "Last 55 minutes of Radio Scotland". Like the other two, it costs 30/-.

Other additional Free Radio offers:

"COMPETITION IN RADIO", the brilliant 28 page "depth" pamphlet by Denis Thomas. Price 3/- plus 6d postage.

The second (and final) issue of "BEATWAVE". Cover by Paul McCartney. Coloured pictures of Robbie Dale, Don Allen, Ed. Stewart, Paul McCartney, Rolling Stones, etc. Full page portrait of Johnnie Walker. Features on Johnnie and Robbie, etc. Price 3/6d plus 8d postage.

1968 Offers - Deletions
"REQUIEM FOR RADIO SCOTLAND".

"Supercool" photographs nos. L14 & K6.

1968 Offers - Price Change
"WHEN PIRATES RULED THE WAVES". Now in print, the special pre-publication offer has come to an end. However, we have come to an arrangement with the author which enables us to offer the book to our members at the specially reduced price of 30/-, including postage and packing - a saving of 5/- over the shop price.

Pools Syndicate 1968/69 Season
The final result of last season's syndicate was a dividend of 26/4d for each 10/invested! This proved to be our most successful fund-raiser, as well as providing a handsome profit for shareholders.

We are already guaranteed a bigger and better entry for this coming season. By buying a share or shares now, you stand an excellent chance of helping the Association and at the same time profiting personally!

We are looking for members willing to help organise our numerous national activities. If you are interested, please write - marking the envelope: "for the attention of Geoffrey Pearl".