

"The Radio Wave"

Keeping Radio People in Touch"

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Issue #61

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THE RADIO WAVE

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"The Beginners' Guide To Becoming A Radio Star"...
is a far reaching e-book for radio beginners or people who
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discover here is "the basics" of radio. Stuff that applies
anywhere in the world where professional commercial radio
is established.

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Wow!

Sixty one issues of The Radio Wave.

Issue one was sent out of the 7th. April 2002.

Originally it was aimed solely at radio beginners but gradually
changed its content to appeal to everyone who is involved
in radio or associated industries.

If you'd like to check back on any of the past newsletters
you'll find them archived at www.allaboutradio.net . Click on
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Meantime...the usual plea to help expand our subscriber base.

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And now...the news....

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Female Afghan Radio Station Owner Killed

Three gunmen fatally shot a female owner of a radio station in northern Afghanistan.

Zakia Zaki, the owner and the manager of Peace Radio in Parwan province, was shot seven times by pistol and automatic rifle fire in front of her 8-year-old son inside her house in the town of Jabalussaraj.

No one knows why. Seems the locals were all happy with her station and the information it was providing to the area.

Girl's toilet talk radio up for award

The gossip conversations between women in public toilets

have now been made into a radio show which has been short listed as a finalist in the best music/personality show category at the prestigious New York Radio Awards, which attract hundreds of entries from around the world.

Girls' Talk Sunday nights on the U.K's Oxford FM 107.9 lifts the lid (toilet lid?) on exactly what women talk about when they disappear to the powder room together for a 'girly chat'.

Host Anna Cookson heads up the on-air 'girly team' which fields questions and comments on a wide variety of topical and often taboo subjects from female listeners.

In its first six months, the edgy two-hour show has dealt with issues ranging from breast cancer to sex in relationships.

Although the show is promoted as being "by girls and for girls", Ms Cookson said it had also attracted a significant number of male fans curious to find out more about the opposite sex.

Programme controller, Aussie expat Ian Walker, said he was delighted the show had been nominated for such a major award.

He added: "We have had a really good response since we launched it. Before that, I could not get the phones to ring, but now we get scores of calls every Sunday night.

"I came up with the idea for the show when I was sitting in a pub one night and a group of girls I was with disappeared off to the bathroom en masse. I thought 'what do they talk about when they are in the toilets?' and devised the show from that."

Mafia station in Italy shut down by police

Police have closed down a mafia-run radio station they say was being used to broadcast secret messages to imprisoned members through song dedications.

The illegal station, set up by a clan of the Camorra (the

Naples mafia) at Ercolano — ancient Herculaneum — broadcast

'requests' for Neapolitan songs with dedications, which in reality were messages to clan members who tuned in while they were in jail.

The police said: "Some of the songs and dedications were a prearranged code to mafia gangsters at large."

The closure was part of a crackdown involving 54 arrests in the south of Naples on charges of drug trafficking, extortion and murder. Police confiscated mafia properties, seven armoured vehicles and video surveillance systems, as well as the offices and equipment of the radio station.

Bald Britney board brouhaha

Britney Spears is not happy and apparently is threatening to sue WFLZ-FM Tampa after the station ran a billboard promoting their breakfast show using photos of their personalities alongside photos of a bald Britney along with the tag lines "Total Nut Jobs," "Shock Therapy," and "Certifiable."

Apparently Britney's lawyer sent WFLZ owner Clear Channel Communications a letter claiming the billboards are "outrageous and extreme," and demanding they be taken down saying the pop star's "likeness has a multi-million dollar value for authorized commercial exploitations" and as a result of the misuse of her image, Spears is now entitled to "very substantial damages" from Clear Channel.

UPDATE: The posters have now been taken down and the station manager is totally pissed off that he was forced to do that.

FM radio frequency gets hijacked

Someone in Sana'a , the capital of Yemen, has been hacking into the 88.3FM frequency of Sana'a Radio to deliver a Christian missionary message in the Arabic language without having any license or permission from the responsible authorities.

The illegal broadcast has been playing for about two weeks, not continuously, and mostly appears in the evenings. The technical and engineering section at Sana'a Radio has identified the location of the source of this broadcast.

It is coming from a house in one of the capital's residential zones.

However it seems there's a lot of buck-passing going on between various Ministries and Government departments and nobody at this stage appears to be willing to do anything about it.

In what basically is theft of a radio frequency it seems a strange action for a Christian group to break one of the Ten Commandments.

Now four words from our sponsor

The two second radio ad is here. Known as Blinks, they began about a year ago as five second spots.

On certain U.S. Clear Channel stations just as one song on the radio fades away and another begins, a ghostly voice intones: "Iced coffee at McDonalds." No elaboration, no product superiority claims, no "tastes great!". Just four words. And gone. Sneeze and you'll miss it.

The two-second format offers two immediate benefits for advertisers. Because the ultra-brief ads pop up within the programs themselves, they don't compete for consumers' attention with longer ads packed into minutes-long commercial breaks. (Clear Channel says it will run no more than two "blinks" per hour.)

The second advantage is the ads' brevity and, well, sneakiness: A listener would have to be mighty fast on the draw to zap a two-second spot.

Spanish radio jumps on podcasters

Cadena SER (Sociedad Española de Radiodifusión - Spanish Society of Radio), the principal radio station in **Spain**, has sent 'cease and desist' orders to podcasters who are redistributing recordings of some of the station's programs.

The legal department of Cadena Ser alleges "copyright infringement" and has asked the podcasters to stop using the content or face legal actions.

The **audience of the station's podcasts and the podcasting** community as a whole has received the action with suspicion.

Cadena Ser was a pioneer among Spanish radio stations in the podcast domain. However, the demand for its content was greater than the supply, with the **audience demanding** that more programs be made podcasts.

Rather than sit and wait, listeners began recording radio broadcast programs distributing them as podcasts.

Wonder where the harm is in that? I would have thought the station should have thanked them.

Israeli radio shuns male singer due to feminine voice

Twenty-year-old Eliyahu Haim Fayzakov, a young and talented singer from Netanya, a city in the Center District of Israel, recorded his first album this year and released several singles, which were initially warmly accepted by radio stations.

However, Fayzakov recently noticed that his songs had disappeared from the airwaves and were no longer being played by the stations.

He explained: "At first they played my songs frequently and an interview with me was even held on one of the stations. But suddenly I noticed that they stopped playing me. I approached the stations to find out what's going on, and received the answer I feared most, 'Your voice is too

feminine'."

According to Fayzakov, radio station directors explained to him that his songs prompted angry calls from listeners who complained of the stations playing women singing. According to traditional Jewish law, men are not allowed to hear women sing, due to modesty considerations.

A FINAL NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

If there is anyone you know either in or outside the radio industry who would like to receive THE RADIO WAVE please get them to subscribe by sending a blank e-mail with the word "Subscribe" in the subject line to:

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