

# UK and Ireland Radio Stations in 1977

During the 1970s, radio in the UK comprised BBC Radios 1 to 4, together with a limited number of BBC and independent local stations. Most stations broadcast on both FM and AM, known as simulcasting. The main exception was Radio 1, which was only available on AM. However, the BBC national networks broadcast separate FM and AM programmes at certain times. Radio 1 borrowed Radio 2's FM network for a few hours a week. A few Radio 2 music programmes were also carried on FM only with sport opting out on AM. Radio 3's AM network sometimes broadcast cricket commentaries with regular programmes on FM only. Meanwhile Radio 3's and Radio 4's FM networks both opted out with education programmes.

Simulcasting was needed because nearly all car radios and many portables were AM-only during the 1970s. Furthermore FM reception, particularly on portable radios, was not as good as it was from the 1990s onwards.

1977 is a good point at which to take a snapshot as it lies between the 1972 and 1978 re-organisations of the AM band. It also follows the minor FM re-organisation in 1973 and the launches of the second wave of BBC local radio and the first wave of independent radio.

## BBC National and Regional Radio

See tables at end for details of the BBC FM network.

### BBC RADIO 1

Format: Contemporary Music with Talk  
Broadcast Hours: 0600-0000 (As Radio 2 Mon-Fri 0600-0700 and 1900-2200 and Sat Sun 0600-0800 and 1900-0000)  
AM: 1214, 1484 kHz MW, see table

Area	kHz	Site	kW
London, Herts, Essex, S Beds	1214	Brookmans Park	50
Brighton and South Sussex	1214	Southwick, Brighton	1
S Hampshire & Isle of Wight	1214	Fareham	1
Bournemouth area	1484	Bournemouth	0.5
Torbay area	1484	Occombe, Torbay	0.5
Plymouth area	1214	Plymouth	1
West Cornwall	1214	Redruth	2
South Wales, Avon, Somerset	1214	Washford	60
North Dyfed & SW Gwynedd	1214	Tywyn	1
Western Midlands Region	1214	Droitwich	30
East Norfolk & NE Suffolk	1214	Postwick	1
NW England & Yorkshire	1214	Moorside Edge	100
Humberside	1214	Hull	0.3
Tyneside, N Durham, S Nthmb	1214	Wrekenton	2
Central Scotland	1214	Westerglen	50
Aberdeen and East Grampian	1214	Redmoss	2
North Scotland	1214	Burghead	20
Belfast & East Northern Ireland	1214	Lisnagarvey	10
Derry area	1214	Londonderry	0.25

Coverage: 87% daytime, 38% nighttime

### BBC RADIO 2 LW

Format: Easy Listening Music, Mixed Music, Talk and Sport  
Broadcast Hours: 0600-0000 (As Radio 1 Mon-Fri 1400-1630, Sat 0800-1000, Sun 0830-1000 and 1800-1900,  
AM: 200 kHz LW, 1484 kHz MW, see table

Area	kHz	Site	kW
England, Wales, N Ireland	200	Droitwich	400
Glasgow area	1484	Glasgow	2
Edinburgh area	1484	Edinburgh	2
Dundee area	1484	Dundee	2
Aberdeen area	1484	Aberdeen	2

Coverage: 98% daytime, 83% nighttime

### BBC RADIO 2/ RADIO 1 VHF

As Radio 1 Mon-Fri 1400-1630 and 2200-0000, Sat 0800-1000 and 1300-1930, Sun 0830-1000 and 1800-1900  
As Radio 2 at other times, opting out with music when LW carries sport  
FM: 88.1 - 90.1, 91.1 MHz, see table

### RADIO 2/1, 3 AND 4 FM TRANSMITTERS (97% stereo coverage)

ENGLAND	R2/1	R3	R4	Region	Site	kW
London & South East England	89.1	91.3	93.5	SE	Wrotham	120
East Kent	90.0	92.4	94.4	SE	Swingate	7
Brighton and Worthing area	90.1	92.3	94.5	South	Brighton (Whitehawk H)	0.15
Central Southern England	88.5	90.7	92.9	South	Rowridge	60
Ventnor, Isle of Wight	89.4	91.6	93.8	South	Ventnor	0.02
Devon and East Cornwall	88.1	90.3	92.5	SW	North Hessary Tor	60
Okehampton, Devon	88.7	90.9	93.1	SW	Okehampton	0.015
North Devon	88.5	90.7	92.9	SW	Barnstaple	0.15
West Cornwall	89.7	91.9	94.1	SW	Redruth	9
Isles of Scilly	88.8	91.0	93.2	SW	Isles of Scilly	0.02
Channel Islands	91.1	94.75	97.1	SW	Les Platons (mono)	1.5
Avon, Somerset and Wiltshire	89.95	96.8	92.125	West	Wenvoe	120

### BBC RADIO 3 VHF

Format: Classical Music with Jazz Music, Talk and Education (including Open University)  
Broadcast Hours: 0655-2330  
FM: 90.3 - 92.4, 94.75, 96.8 MHz, see table  
AM: 647, 1594 kHz MW, see table

### BBC RADIO 3 MW

As Radio 3 VHF (except OU), opting out with Cricket, Education and Music  
Broadcast Hours: 0655-2330  
AM: 647, 1594 kHz MW, see table

Area	kHz	Site	kW
Central, South, East England	647	Daventry	150
Exeter area	647	Exeter	0.5
Plymouth area	647	Plymouth	0.5
West Cornwall	647	Redruth	1
Swansea area	647	Swansea	2
North East England	647	Wrekenton	2
Glasgow area	647	Glasgow	2
Edinburgh area	647	Edinburgh	2
Dundee area	1594	Dundee	0.25
Aberdeen area	647	Aberdeen	2

Coverage: 91% daytime, 71% nighttime

### BBC RADIO 4 ENGLAND

Format: Talk, News and Entertainment  
Broadcast Hours: 0615-0015  
AM: 692, 719, 908, 1052, 1340 kHz, MW see table

Area	kHz	Site	kW
London and South East England	908	Brookmans Park	140
North East Kent	692	Ramsgate	2
South East Kent	1052	Folkestone	1
East Sussex Coast	1052	Bexhill MF	2
Brighton and Worthing area	692	Brighton	2
Central Southern England	692	Bartley	10
Devon, Cornwall and Dorset	1052	Start Point	100
West Cornwall	908	Redruth MF	2
South Wales and West England	908	Clevedon	20
Swindon	1340	Swindon	0.5
The Midlands	1052	Droitwich	150
Norfolk and Suffolk	1052	Postwick	7.5
North Norfolk	692	Cromer	2
Yorkshire, NW England & Wales	692	Moorside Edge	300
Humberside	908	Hull	2
Scarborough area	908	Scarborough	2
Cleveland and Darlington	1052	Stockton	2
South Cumbria & N Lancashire	1052	Barrow	2
West Cumbria	692	Whitehaven	1.3
Carlisle area	1052	Carlisle	2
North East, Cumbria & Borders	908	Stagshaw	100
Belfast	719	Belfast	0.5
Derry	719	Londonderry	0.25

Coverage: 97% daytime, 75% nighttime (includes R4 Scotland)

### BBC RADIO 4 VHF (ENGLAND)

As Radio 4 England except for Regional News and Educational programmes Mon-Fri 0900-1200, 1400-1500 Sat 0900-1200, 1400-1700, Sun 0900-1030, 1430-1600.  
FM: 92.5 - 94.7, 97.1 MHz see table

### BBC RADIO 4 SOUTH WEST

Opt out of Radio 4 England  
North Devon 683 Barnstaple 2  
Plymouth area 1457 Plymouth 1  
Exeter and East Devon 989 Exeter 1  
Torbay area 854 Torbay 1  
West Cornwall 755 Redruth MF 2  
With Educational programmes:  
FM: 92.5, 92.9, 93.1, 93.2, 94.1, 97.1 MHz, see table

### BBC RADIO 4 EAST ANGLIA

Opt out of Radio 4 VHF (England)  
FM: 93.3, 94.1, 94.5 MHz, see table

### BBC RADIO 4 SCOTLAND

Opt out of Radio 4 England  
Central and South Scotland 809 Westerglen 100  
Aberdeen and East Grampian 809 Redmoss 5  
Northern Scotland 809 Burghead 100  
South West Scotland 809 Dumfries 2

### BBC RADIO 4 SCOTLAND VHF

As Radio 4 Scotland except for Educational programmes (as England) and local opt-outs Radio Aberdeen, Radio Highland, Radio Orkney and Radio Shetland  
FM: 92.5 - 94.7, see table

### BBC RADIO 4 WALES

Mixed Format  
South Wales 881 Washford 70  
North Dyfed and SW Gwynedd 881 Tywyn 5  
North Dyfed and North Clwyd 881 Penmon 10  
Clwyd 881 Wrexham 2

### BBC RADIO CYMRU

Opt-out of Radio 4 VHF in Welsh Language  
FM: 92.5 - 94.7, see table

### BBC RADIO ULSTER MW

Mixed Format  
Northern Ireland 1340 Lisnagarvey 100  
Derry area 1340 Londonderry 0.25

### BBC RADIO ULSTER VHF

Opt out of Radio Ulster MW with Education  
FM: 92.5 - 94.7, see table

Area	R2/1	R3	R4	Region	Site	kW
Bath	88.8	91.0	93.2	West	Bath	0.035
Gloucester & Cheltenham	89.0	91.2	93.4	Mid	Churchdown Hill	0.025
Hereford	89.7	91.9	94.1	Mid	Hereford	0.025
Midlands	88.3	90.5	92.7	Mid	Sutton Coldfield	120
Oxon, Bucks, Berks, S Midlands	89.5	91.7	93.9	SE	Oxford	22
Northampton	88.9	91.1	93.3	EA	Northampton	0.06
Camb, Beds, S Lincs, E Nthnts	90.1	92.3	94.5	EA	Peterborough (mono)	20
Cambridge area	88.9	91.1	93.3	EA	Cambridge (mono)	0.02
Norfolk and Suffolk	89.7	91.9	94.1	EA	Tacolneston	120
Lincolnshire & E Yorkshire	88.8	90.9	93.1	North	Belmont	8
North West and Yorkshire	89.3	91.5	93.7	North	Holme Moss	120
Sheffield & Rotherham	89.9	92.1	94.3	North	Sheffield	0.06
South Cumbria & NW Lancs	90.0	92.2	94.4	North	Morecambe Bay	4



**PICCADILLY RADIO**

Greater Manchester	97.0 Saddleworth	2.0
Greater Manchester	1151 Ashton Moss	1.5

**PLYMOUTH SOUND**

Plymouth area	96.0 Plympton	1.0
Plymouth area	1151 Plumer Barracks	0.32

**SWANSEA SOUND**

Swansea area	95.1 Kilvey Hill	1.0
Swansea area	1169 Winsh-Wen	0.58

**RADIO TEES**

Cleveland, Durham, N Yorks	95.0 Bilsdale West Moor	2.0
Cleveland and Darlington	1169 Stockton	0.32

**RADIO TRENT**

South Nottinghamshire	96.2 Colwick Park	0.3
South Nottinghamshire	998 Trowell	0.25

**RADIO 210**

Reading area	97.0 Butts Centre	0.5
Reading area	1430 Manor Farm	0.14

**RADIO VICTORY**

Portsmouth area	95.0 Fort Widley	0.2
Portsmouth area	1169 Farlington Marshes	0.12

# Irish Radio

**RTE RADIO**

Mixed format		Based: Dublin
Broadcast Hours: 0730-2350		
North West Ireland	89.7 Truskmore	120
South West Ireland	93.5 Mullaghanish	120
NE Donegal & N N Ireland	94.0 Moville	2
West Ireland	94.1 Maghera	120
South East Ireland	94.9 Mount Leinster	120
East Ireland	95.3 Kippure	60
West Kerry	95.3 Cahirciveen	5
Ireland	566 Tullamore	100
County Dublin	1250 Dublin	5
County Cork	1250 Cork	10

**RTE RADIO NA GAELTACHTA**

Irish Language	Broadcast Hours: 1800-2115	
East Ireland	89.1 Kippure	60
South East Ireland	90.4 Mount Leinster	120
South West Ireland	91.3 Mullaghanish	60
North West Ireland	91.9 Truskmore	60
West Ireland	97.0 Maghera	60
Western Ireland	539 Connemara	2
South West Ireland	962 Cahirciveen	1
North West Ireland	1250 Annagary	10

# Other Stations

**RADIO LUXEMBOURG**

Format Contemporary Music	Based: Luxembourg	
Broadcast Hours: 1900-0300		
Europe (night-time)	1439 Marnach	1200

**AMERICAN FORCES NETWORK**

Mixed format for US forces in Germany		
Europe (night-time)	872 Frankfurt	150
Also available (weakly) on 611, 935, 1106 and 1142		

**RADIO CAROLINE**

Rock Music broadcast from international waters		
London, South East, East Anglia	962 North Sea	10
Used 1187 and then 953 earlier in 1977.		

**INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTERS**

The following multilingual services are receivable throughout Europe at night and include programmes in English

<b>Radio Berlin International</b>	East Germany	1511
<b>Deutschlandfunk</b>	West Germany	1268
<b>Radio Moscow</b>	USSR via E Germany	1322
<b>Radio Prague International</b>	Czechoslovakia	1286
<b>Radio Sweden International</b>	Sweden	1178
<b>Transworld Radio</b>	Monaco (religious)	1466
<b>Vatican Radio</b>	Vatican (religious)	1529
<b>Voice of America</b>	USA via W Germany	1196
<b>Radio Warsaw</b>	Poland	1502

