By Valerie Robinson

RELAND’s state broadcaster first hit the airwaves on January 11 1926 as Radio 2RN, the original callsign for Radio 1. Most people on the island couldn’t receive 2RN’s signal on their wireless, prompting the statutory body to establish a high-power station in 1932 to coincide with the Eucharistic Congress, the greatest gathering of Church dignitaries Ireland had seen. Initially the station was known as Radio Athlone, becoming Radio Eireann in 1938. The conservative broadcaster faced stiff competition, particularly in the border region, from the BBC and Radio Luxembourg.

Most people on the island couldn’t receive 2RN’s signal on their wireless, prompting the statutory body to establish a high-power station in 1932.

The broadcaster’s history

By Valerie Robinson

I RLAND’s state broadcaster first hit the airwaves on January 1 1926 as Radio 2RN, the original callsign for Radio 1. Most people on the island couldn’t receive 2RN’s signal on their wireless, prompting the statutory body to establish a high-power station in 1932 to coincide with the Eucharistic Congress, the greatest gathering of Church dignitaries Ireland had seen. Initially the station was known as Radio Athlone, becoming Radio Eireann in 1938. The conservative broadcaster faced stiff competition, particularly in the border region, from the BBC and Radio Luxembourg. Today Radio 1 is known for its coverage of news and current affairs, leaving its sister station 2FM, founded in 1979, to concentrate on popular music. The Irish language broadcasting and the media industry in Ireland.

The broadcaster’s history

By Valerie Robinson

I RLAND’s state broadcaster first hit the airwaves on January 11 1926 as Radio 2RN, the original callsign for Radio 1. Most people on the island couldn’t receive 2RN’s signal on their wireless, prompting the statutory body to establish a high-power station in 1932 to coincide with the Eucharistic Congress, the greatest gathering of Church dignitaries Ireland had seen. Initially the station was known as Radio Athlone, becoming Radio Eireann in 1938. The conservative broadcaster faced stiff competition, particularly in the border region, from the BBC and Radio Luxembourg. Today Radio 1 is known for its coverage of news and current affairs, leaving its sister station 2FM, founded in 1979, to concentrate on popular music. The Irish language.

The broadcaster’s history

By Valerie Robinson

I RLAND’s state broadcaster first hit the airwaves on January 11 1926 as Radio 2RN, the original callsign for Radio 1. Most people on the island couldn’t receive 2RN’s signal on their wireless, prompting the statutory body to establish a high-power station in 1932 to coincide with the Eucharistic Congress, the greatest gathering of Church dignitaries Ireland had seen. Initially the station was known as Radio Athlone, becoming Radio Eireann in 1938. The conservative broadcaster faced stiff competition, particularly in the border region, from the BBC and Radio Luxembourg. Today Radio 1 is known for its coverage of news and current affairs, leaving its sister station 2FM, founded in 1979, to concentrate on popular music. The Irish language.

The broadcaster’s history

By Valerie Robinson

I RLAND’s state broadcaster first hit the airwaves on January 11 1926 as Radio 2RN, the original callsign for Radio 1. Most people on the island couldn’t receive 2RN’s signal on their wireless, prompting the statutory body to establish a high-power station in 1932 to coincide with the Eucharistic Congress, the greatest gathering of Church dignitaries Ireland had seen. Initially the station was known as Radio Athlone, becoming Radio Eireann in 1938. The conservative broadcaster faced stiff competition, particularly in the border region, from the BBC and Radio Luxembourg. Today Radio 1 is known for its coverage of news and current affairs, leaving its sister station 2FM, founded in 1979, to concentrate on popular music. The Irish language.

Great Spring City Breaks!

flybe.com

Northern Ireland’s Low Fare Airline.

RTE boss Cathal Goan’s Northern Ireland roots have failed to prompt him to comment publicly on the controversy surrounding the loss of the broadcaster’s MW service in the region.

Mr Goan, who was born in the Ardoyne area of north Belfast, completed his education at University College Dublin. He joined RTE in 1979, initially working in radio production before moving to television in 1988. He continued on an upward trajectory as editor of the Irish language current affairs and arts programme Cursai before his 1990 appointment as the editor of Irish language programming.

In 1994 Mr Goan was appointed head of Teilifis na Gaeilge, overseeing the development of the Republic’s third national television service. Six years later he was made director of RTE television and a member of the RTE executive board.

In 2003 he became one of the most powerful figures in Irish broadcasting and the media industry in Ireland. The Irish News contacted RTE seeking an interview with Mr Goan on the impending loss of the station’s medium wave radio service but his spokeswoman said he was “not giving any interviews at present”.

“The main topic at present is RTE Radio and plans re MW – there is no active issue with TV,” she said.

Dr Armaign native Dr Ian Malcolm, the sole northern representative on RTE’s nine-member board, also said he could not comment personally on the decision to ditch the MW service.

Members of the board, known as the RTE authority, are appointed by the Irish government and meet once a month to guide the broadcaster’s corporate direction.

Dr Malcolm is a fluent Irish speaker and part-time journalist. He edited the Antrim Guardian for several years before working for the News Letter.

He was granted a PhD by Queen’s for research into attitudes of young Protestants towards the Irish language in the north.

harm environment

the higher the frequency being broadcast – due to their radiated wavelength long-wave antennae are tall masts in their own right, while VHF antennae can be added to existing masts or buildings (in the case of low-powered ones) and generally have much less visual (or other planning) impact. “While we are alert to environmental issues our remit does not extend to research or policy in this area.”

Flybe are one way including taxes & charges, only available online, subject to availability. £19.99 handreg fee applies to all credit cards & £49 per debit card per passenger per one way flight. Minimum stay may apply. 3 day advance purchase required. Available for travel on or before 23.02.08. Not all routes operate throughout the entire travel period, see website for details.