

## Hans Knot International Report Spring 2020

Welcome to this spring edition of the international radio report. None of us could have ever imagined that in this age we would be greatly and globally affected by the wretched Corona Virus. I wish no one would be infected and yet, even among my readership, everyone will not be immune to the virus. In the Netherlands a lot is already locked up, schools, restaurants, cafes, people in nursing homes who are no longer visited or patients in hospitals who are only allowed to visit 1 person a day.

In Rotterdam the 65th edition of the Eurovision Song Contest was supposed to be held this year in May, but on the day I write the first pages of the report (18<sup>th</sup> of March) it was also cancelled. The annual meeting of the NAB in Las Vegas will not take place and in the Netherlands there would be a two day reunion in Hilversum on the occasion that Radio Veronica started its programs 60 years ago. But this radio happening has also been cancelled. Meetings with more than 20 people are forbidden here and of course there are many other rules. It keeps us off the streets, which is best in these circumstances. Therefore another report, shorter as normal, with first of all some e mail reactions. Another report will not be in late May but at an earlier date. I wish you a some fun to relax in this heavy time for all of us.

First e mail is from Shaun in England, who wrote: 'Hi Hans, thank you so much for another edition of the international report. It was another enjoyable read. I really appreciate the work and specially the meticulous care you put into these reports. Regards Shaun Scannell.'

Jacqueline Lake had a question which came in versus Leon Keezer



Jacqueline Lake ▸ Pirate Radio Ships in the 70's

20 hrs · 🌐

Does anyone remember Ewan Macpherson from Aberdeen who was involved in developing the mast aerial for radio Caroline. He married a girl from Nicaragua and went off there to help in the revolution early in the 1970s. He was a friend of my husband, and we all came to London in 1970 after graduating from Aberdeen university.

Well Leon was so grateful to send my answer to her some weeks ago. A pity she didn't reflect. I answered with: 'It was Ewan Macpherson who worked as a technician for the BBC and I presume he knew also Paul Harris, who originated from Aberdeen too. In 1970 there was this prestigious radio project Capital Radio, from the former Groninger coaster Zeevaart, baptized into King David.



King David on the Wharf in Zaandam 1970 Photo: Rob Olthof

When meeting Ewan Paul Harris asked him several questions which were hopelessly and detailed answered by Ewan. When it became about aeriels it was MacPherson who told about a then recently published American article about a new type, 'the directional discontinuity ring radioator'. At the end it was decided that this

would be the type to be used on the King David. Following Paul Harris in his book 'To be a pirate king', Impulse Books Aberdeen 1971, Ewan took some time off for holiday with the BBC to work with the Capital Radio staff on the aerial project.

Harris died a couple of years ago, Ewan must be around 70, if he is still around. Anyone who might know him please contact me at [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

Next we go to Australia: 'Hi Hans. Next a reflection on the name Ram Dass which was in the report mentioned last time. Jan Sundermann wrote: 'I must admit that I never heard the name of Ram Dass before. Then I took out the original LA album and checked the large photograph inside. Some familiar faces there including the Mahatma, but no sign that could lead to Ram Dass at all?

Well I washed dishes with him in an ashram in Berkeley, California. And he went shopping with me, pointing-out his biography of his guru, which I bought. He fished-me out of trouble with the ashram's hotel-manager. And I learned how to make guacamole in the ashram's vegetarian-restaurant with best greetings Bryan Kilgallin.'

Thanks Bryan for your response and so we see once again the world is very small and also the power of the International Radio Report to bring people together on certain subjects. I also get on regular times newspaper cuts from people. This time one from 1971 and reading it back after so many decades I thought why tell leading people so much nonsense to protect themselves.

It were three RNI deejays who wanted to record their programs in the then future in the new RNI studios in Naarden. A request was done to John de Mol Sr., the father of the later worldwide known John de Mol. His father was director of the Dutch Radio Noordzee.

The three deejays were Andy Archer, Alan West and Steve Merrick. In the newspapers it was mentioned that the three were dismissed by the owners of the station and would not come on the air again.

The reason was a remarkable one done by John de Mol Sr.: 'The gentlemen came to me with the request to record the programs in the studios on the mainland. The reason was that they were married and wanted to be more at home. However, we no longer have any facilities for studio recordings and the charm of the English-language broadcasts is also that they come directly from the ship. Now that they have been fired we have hired one new deejay for the vacant places, the American Paul May, We are still looking for British deejays".



John de Mol Sr, in the middle. Photo: Rudi Kagon

And of course March 19<sup>th</sup> we heard 40 years ago the people on the Mi Amigo in full distress. Lucky all were saved and taken ashore. A long, and so in depth, article appeared on March 19<sup>th</sup> in Kent on line:

<https://www.kentonline.co.uk/sheerness/news/pop-pirates-plucked-from-sinking-ship-40-years-ago-today-224049/>

Next is Mark King: 'Hi Hans, thanks for the newsletter, regarding your mention of Rolf van Brandtzaeg, this appears to be him on the left, the first photo is from your site, the other is a



Photo David Kendrid Collection.

Thanks a lot Mark. It seems he had hidden his hands all the time. He does remember me to another person who wanted to be bigger than he was: Basil van Rensburg. Have a good day. But next to Mike there was a response from Hans Klomp about the same subject:

'Dear Hans. I was pleased to read your Radio Report again. Regarding Brandtzaeg I took a look at the website delpher.nl of the Koninklijke Bibliotheek. On that site a lot of Dutch newspapers have been scanned. Brandtzaeg is mentioned once. In the article it says that Brandtzaeg was aboard Fredericia as leader of a large group of Swedes. This in turn as a quote from English newspapers.

Could Brandtzaeg have had something to do with the transfer of the ship to O'Rahilly? And so perhaps from Scandinavian offshore circles? Apparently Brandtzaeg has been on board at least twice, or once for a longer period of time. After all, it is hard to imagine him speaking to the press (Daily Herald) when O'Rahilly himself is on board.

And if he's standing here so quietly behind Ronan, this seems to indicate that he accepts his presence. So I'm not so sure Brandtzaeg is/was a 'dreamer' yet.

In the Daily Herald his name is Rolf of Brandtzaeg. But it may be Rolf (Rudolf?) Von Brandtzaeg. The German influence in Sweden has always been great.

Look up for this as well: <https://www.amazon.com/Slides-photo-Nadine-sitting-posing/dp/B01N9BH803> scroll down where it says;

Nadine sitting on bed and posing. Source - Camera Press London Photo by - Rolf Von Brandtzaeg And we already know that Brandtzaeg was a photographer.

By the way, if the man was 22 years old in 1964 and therefore from 1941/42/43, there's a chance he's still alive! A nice detective job to find out! Maybe try it with your Scandinavian contacts. Greetings, Hans Klomp.'

Next is a letter only revealed 55 years after the date.

In 2019 I received a number of boxes with clippings, photos, notebooks, letters, posters, stickers and so on, all related to offshore radio's history. These included a letter sent by the then captain of the MV Mi Amigo to Ate Harsta in Leeuwarden on 26<sup>th</sup> of February 1965.

*Ik heb een paar (13 min) met deze radioschepen bereq ajnde, kreeg ik zelf verleden week pas een Caroline spelbje, die ik hierbij insluit.*

Postje Caroline fan! 26 Februari 1965.

Mijn antwoord op je schrijven van 13 Dec 64. kan ik nu pas even gelegenheid vinden om te antwoorden. Ik ontving ik de brief pas eind januari toen ik 14 dagen verlof had, inmiddels teruggekeerd, een adres voor lidmaatschap opgegeven. Een foto van het schip heb ik niet, alleen een droogjockey beschrijving, welke ik hierbij insluit. Caroline heeft geen nachtwachting, en heeft 7 bemanningsleden (Hollanda) en 2 hunderttechnici (Eng) en 4-5 droogjockeys van diverse nationaliteit, dat is Australië, Nieuw Zeeland, Canada, Engels.

Er zijn 2 Caroline schepen, de allereerste <sup>(hoger naam ook Caroline)</sup> waar wij mee begonnen en bij Harwich lag is nu bij het eiland Man als radio "Caroline South" en heeft 9 Holl. bemanningsleden, met twee hundert als radio hunderttechnici, wij horen er venders weinig van.

De andere, "Caroline South" schepsnaam "Mi-Amigo" is de kleinste en ligt nu bij Harwich, om precies te zijn Frinton, en dat is degene die in Holland - België te horen is, het in 't begin waren we in de lucht als "Atlanta" dat was Mei 1964, kort daarna werd het Caroline South en ging de grote Caroline noordwaarts, eiland Man.

Waar bij ons ligt ook nog het schip de "Catalij" een oude Amerikaanse mijnenveger, welke als radioschip dienst doet (radio Londen). Houwd ik zelf weinig van radio en muziek of fan's afweert, dacht ik toch, laat ik deze briefjes beantwoorden en of sturen wat ik als Caroline ~~schepen~~ heb spullen heb. tot zo ver dan en met groeten.

Misschen

In the letter Captain Visscher addressed: 'Dear Caroline fan' and continued with: 'I can only now find an opportunity to reply to your letter of 13 December 1964. I myself only received your letter at the end of January when I had 14 days leave. In the meantime I have

returned and provided your address for membership (Caroline Club). I don't have a picture of the ship, only a disc jockey description, which I include here. Caroline has no night broadcasts and has 7 crew members (Holland) and 2 transmitter technicians (England) and 4-5 disc jockeys of various nationalities, that is Australian, New Zealand, Canada and English.

There are two Caroline ships, the very first one (ship name also Caroline), where we started and was at Harwich and is now at the Isle of Man as Radio Caroline North and has 9 Dutch crew members and two Swedish transmitter technicians. We hear very little about them.

The other one, Caroline South, ship's name *Mi Amigo*, is the smallest and is now at Harwich, Frinton to be precise, and that's the one that can be heard in Holland and Belgium; very early on we were in the air as 'Radio Atlanta', that was May 1964. Shortly after that it became Caroline South and the first 'Caroline' went north and Isle of Man. Close to us is also the ship 'Calaxij' (Galaxy), an old American minesweeper, which serves as a radio ship (Radio London). Although I don't know much about radio and music or fans myself, I thought 'let me answer this letter and send it with what I have on Caroline's stuff. So far with greetings, had been signed with A. Visscher.

He added another P.S.: Even a year, 13 months working on these radio ships, I only got a Caroline spine last week, which I enclose with this'.

Thus a letter that until March 2020 was only read by a few pairs of eyes.

The Emperor Rosko had in his program 'LA Connection' from February 22<sup>nd</sup> a special surprise for with a virtual award for the one who has plugged the Emperor in this century the most. In the second hour, after a few mentioning, finally the answer was given. Thanks Michael for voting me at number one!





And the Emperor advises us all to stay safe!

Next one comes from Tony Meehan: 'Dear Hans. Thank you for your radio reports which always inform and entertain and all too frequently carry sad news about our Pirate radio brothers, who have passed away. I offer my condolences to Tom Mulder's family.'

If I may, I would like to comment two items in your most recent edition. The first relates to Roger Gale who was my boss on Radio Scotland in 1966, and the second to another Radio Scotland friend Ben Healy.

Roger Gale's appointment as deputy speaker in the House of Commons. While Paul Mulsing's news is factually correct, however due to the traditions, and dare I say quirky practices of the UK Parliament, I believe his appointment was interim during the period Purdah between one Parliament and the next. In December 2019 Roger won his constituency election with an increased majority of 6.24%. Considering he has held his seat since 1983 - 27 years he is clearly doing something right. He has a reputation as being a great constituency Member of Parliament.

My second comment relates to the piece by Ben Healy, regarding the article by Scottish journalist, the late Jim Blair who was also a friend. I am sorry that Ben feels so bad about it. To claim Jim Blair was the original fake news is unkind and unwarranted. He was an original and unique writer. In truth, and in humour, if he wanted Jim Blair could make crap shine like silver and vice-versa.



Blair's piece was written more than 50 years ago, so reading it now is out of time and context. Remember in 1968 BBC Radio One had their pick of all the UK pirates. 50 million of the potential Radio1 audience lived in England, so Radio 1's main audience was across England and quite natural for the BBC to go for the DJ's with English based profiles and existing audiences.

While Ben is right to protect his personal memories of Stuart Henry which are shared by many, myself included, there are those who have a different history to tell. I would suggest Jim Blair's article was

also against the BBC management in London who seemingly forgot those Radio Scotland DJs who presented shows every day from the ship and not one show a week from a land based studio. A minor point of correction, Jim Blair did succeed in getting a radio gig with Radio Clyde but discovered it was not for him. Sadly like many of that time, Jim Blair has passed to the radio / newsroom in the sky.

As a courtesy I have copied Sir Roger and Ben Healy into this response together with Peter Bowman, Mel Howard, Bryan Vaughan, and John Kerr, who were named in Ben's piece for their information and comment should they wish.



**Tony Meehan - Private collection 2020**

Tony Meehan - currently broadcasting a weekly show on Scotland69am4u.com and open to offers.'

Dear Tony, thanks a lot for responding on these items in last report. And let's be truly as this is where the report is for too. So anyone can respond on others comments. Of course there was response from others but first a document from more than half a century ago about Tony Meehan.

FACTS ABOUT TONY MEEHAN

NAME:	TONY MEEHAN
DATE OF BIRTH:	24TH AUGUST, 1943
WHERE BORN:	LONDON
HEIGHT:	5' 6"
WEIGHT:	98T 7 LBS.
COLOUR OF EYES:	BLUE/GREY
COLOUR OF HAIR:	DARK BROWN
FORMER OCCUPATION:	SURVEYOR FOR INSURANCE COMPANY
FAVOURITE ACTORS:	GEORGE PEPPARD, STEVE MCQUEEN, PETER
FAVOURITE SINGERS:	NINA SIMONE, JOHNNY CASH O'TOOLE
FAVOURITE GROUPS:	THE BEATLES, MAMAS & PAPAS
HOBBIES:	SLEEPING, DRIVING, TENNIS, SWIMMING.
FAVOURITE COLOUR:	BLUE
FAVOURITE CLOTHES:	CASUAL AND GOOD SUITS
FAVOURITE DRINK:	SPATTENBRÄU
FAVOURITE FOOD:	SPAGUETTI
PERSONAL AMBITION:	TO OWN A VOLVO P.1800
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION:	TO WORK ON A LAND BASED COMMERCIAL RADIO STATION.

Steve Young reflected with: 'Interesting conversation! I do believe that there was a certain amount of "fake news" that went out over the airwaves of the pirate radio stations, mostly to support the concept of "Free Radio" and/or to add more "spice" to the otherwise mundane news stories that were being aired by the BBC.

Having said that, I also believe that there was, perhaps, more credibility to many of the news items that were read by your illustrious news readers (certainly on Caroline South) such as Graham Webb, Gerry Burke, Bob Larkins et al, as they were usually composed from stories broadcast by the BBC, Radio Europe, AFN and other sources, and so presented a more balance perspective of the happenings-of-the-day.

Always nice to hear other perspectives on the "facts" as discussed by Ben Healy, Tony Meehan and yourself too Hans. Thanks for

keeping us up to date and, as Webby's Radio Caroline introduction always said "First Fast and Factual....Caroline Newsbeat"....boom, boom.... (but now replace Caroline with Hans Knot, ha, ha)

Best, Steve Young PS Whatever happened to Bob Larkins and Gerry Burke (Gerald Frowe?)

Thanks Steve for your part in this discussion as well as the very nice words. Gerry Burke info from the Pirate Hall of Fame: During the seventies he made appearances on [Johnnie Walker's](#) Radio One shows as "Bill The Boilerman." Under his real name of Gerald Frow, he wrote for a number of radio and television series including *My Old Man*, *Young Sherlock* and *The Kids From 47a* as well as for the comedy duo *Hinge and Bracket*. [Ian Anderson](#) tells us that Gerry and his second wife Jean moved to Shetland in the nineties. Sadly Gerry died in December 2005.

And also sad message about Bob Larkins: With a growing family, he returned to Australia and took a job with the Education Department in Tasmania, writing copy for departmental publications. He still found time to do voice-over work for local radio stations and took the occasional acting job, playing a manic boat driver in a film called *Save The Lady*. He also wrote a [book](#) about the Australian actor Chips Rafferty.



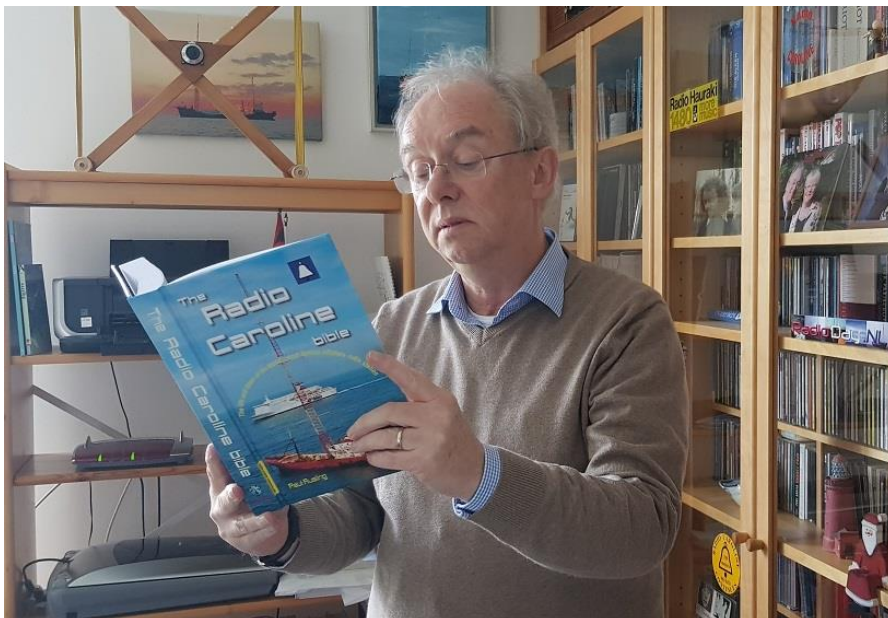
When his marriage broke up he moved to Sydney where he was employed by Channel 10 television and, later, by the ABC. He died of cancer in July 1999.

Bob Larkins Photo collection Pirate Hall of Fame

Ben Healy came back to the subject with: 'Hello Hans. Thank you for your forwarding Tony's E Mail to me. Tony is a friend of mine and he has a lovely Canadian wife and I have a great deal of respect for both of them. Had I known Jim Blair had passed on I would not have made those comments. Whilst I have never discussed my work relationship with Jim Blair when I was with Radio Scotland. It was strained to say the least. I will leave it at that. RIP Jim. I thank you Hans for this platform to express our opinions and I will take the high road on this one. Saludos from Puerto Vallarta Mexico. Ben Healy.'

Review time with Martin van der Ven:

'I have been following the history of offshore radio intensively for decades, and my book collection on the subject is impressive and almost complete. Especially on Radio Caroline there are numerous publications, but most of them focus on the sixties. Again and again the seventies and eighties are only cursorily treated.



That has now changed: Paul Rusling has published the "Caroline Bible", a mammoth work that not only meticulously depicts the history of the legendary radio station. It contains all known and less

familiar details about the ships, the transmitters, the hundreds of deejays and helpers in the background with countless anecdotes and a mountain of in-depth knowledge. For the interested radio listener an indispensable reference book has been created, the reading of which will not let the reader go. Rusling has consulted countless sources, conducted many interviews and compiled hundreds of photos, many of which were previously unknown. Without any doubt a must-have for anyone interested in radio history and the watery wireless!

Dr. Martin van der Ven (The Offshore Radio Guide).

<https://radiocarolinebible.com/>

There are two updates to mention for the Offshore Radio Archive on Flickr. First of all it was Henk Langerak who was decennia long active as media journalist for the Algemeen Dagblad. He went together with me twice to England. Reason was to visit the Ross Revenge. First time was in 1983 but we didn't succeed due to weather problems. Second time was in 1986 and the photos he made on that occasion can be watched when clicking on the next link. Also some photos are there, which he made on August 31<sup>st</sup> and Veronica.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/albums/72157713566577242>

The next link brings a marvelous collection of photos, mostly in black and white, taken in the seventies and sixties by Theo Dencker from Hamburg. Photos are there from Veronica, Caroline, Mi Amigo, Laser 558, Mi Amigo in Spain, the offshore conventions in 1977 and 1978. A must to explore!

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/collections/72157713564697631/>

Here is the latest update from Jon in London.

Hi,

I have just updated The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame.

- Radio Caroline's mv Mi Amigo sank in March 1980 - 40 years ago. In the final part of 'Caroline in the Seventies' we look back at that dreadful night with the help of the last three English disc-jockeys on board - Stevie Gordon, Tom Anderson and Nick Richards;
- and we look at how the media reported the sinking at the time;
- also this month, Eddie Austin remembers his stay on Radio Atlantis with a couple of photos and a rare studio recording.

The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame went on-line for the first time on 14th March 2000, which means we celebrate our 20th birthday this month. Thank you to everybody who has helped and supported us over the last two decades - especially the former pirates who have generously shared their memories and memorabilia, and the enthusiasts who have supplied so many recordings and photos. We couldn't have done it without you. More next month. All the best,  
Jon

[www.offshoreradio.co.uk](http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk)

Paul Krooshof has special love for former lightships and Martin and I have taken his collection of photographs into our on line Flickr Archive

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/albums/72157713302613156>

also here are more:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/collections/72157713304351278/>





### Studio Galaxy late 1968 with Pascal Posé collection Posé

The arrival of Radio Nordsee International from the former Radio London ship the *Galaxy* was widely announced in 1968, especially in the German media. The ship had had a major maintenance overhaul and was to leave the port of Hamburg and enter the airwaves at a position near the coast of Helgoland. The German media were invited for an official party on board, after which numerous photos appeared in newspapers and weeklies, from which it became clear that there was a bright future for the *Galaxy* and the station.

However, the plans did not go ahead and no permission was given to leave for open sea. In 1970 RNI would start from another ship with a largely different team. But now, more than 50 years later, it is fun to publish the planned programming of RNI, as intended from the MV *Galaxy*.

# Radio Nordsee

266 m / 1127 kHz

**SA** 5.00 Musik für Frühaufsteher, dazw. 5.30 Nachr. 7.00 Munter in den Morgen, dazw. 7.30 Nachr. 8.00 Leichte Weisen — leicht serviert 9.00 Musik aus aller Welt 11.00 „Was kochen wir morgen?“. Eine Sendung mit Musik für die Hausfrauen 12.00 Nachr.; Aus der Plattenkiste 13.00 Unterhaltungsmusik 14.00 „Top-Hits-International“. Eine Sendung für Teenys 15.00 DDO-Hitprognose 16.00 „Musikalische Autopflanze“. Eine Sendung für Auto-Fans 17.00 Nachr.; Rendezvous mit Stars und Musik 18.00 Sound und Souliges 19.00 Nachr.; Neue Langspielplatten 20.00 Hits à gogo 22.00 Harte Rhythmen. Dazw. Ergebnisse der Fußball-Bundesliga 23.00 Eine Stunde bis Mitternacht 24.00 bis 2.00 Nachr.; Tanzmusik für die reifere Jugend

**SO** 5.00 Mit Schwung und guter Laune, dazw. 5.30 Nachr. 7.00 Unser Disc-Jockey serviert, dazw. 7.30 Nachr. 8.00 Morgenmusik 9.00 Programm für die Familie 10.00 Musikalischer Frühschoppen 12.00 Nachr.; Mittagskonzert 13.00 Zärtliche Weisen 14.00 Tips und Hits für Teenys 15.00 Nordsee-Hit-Parade 16.00 Kuschelstunde für Teenys 17.00 Nachr.; Der Plattenkrimi 18.00 „Go in“ Hits und Prognosen 19.00 Nachr.; Sport und Musik 20.00 Das Rätsel-spiel 21.00 Sängerporträt 23.00 Allerlei Durcheinander 24.00—1.00 Nachr.; Rhythmus zur Nacht

**MO** 5.00 Musik für Frühaufsteher, dazw. 5.30 Nachr. 7.00 Nachr. 7.05 Von See auf Land, dazw. 7.30 Nachr. 8.00 Blauer Montag 9.00 Musik u. Unterhaltung 10.00 Das Schlagerbarometer 11.00 Musik und Unterhaltung 12.00 Nachr. 12.05 Musik für die Hausfrau 13.00 Guten Appetit 14.00 Tips und Hits für Teenys 15.00 Musik für Twens und Fans 16.00 Musik zur Teestunde 17.00 Nachr.; „Auf der Heimfahrt“. Sendung für Autofahrer 19.00 Nachr. 19.05 Hits von morgen 20.00 Pop-Hits-International 20.45 Showsendung 21.00 Hit-Parade 22.00 Mögliche und Unmögliche Geschichten 23.00 Heiße Musik 24.00 Nachr.; Mitternachts-show, dazw. 0.30 Nachr.

**DI** 5.00 Musik für Frühaufsteher, dazw. 5.30 Nachr. 7.00 Zum Frühstück, dazw. 7.30 Nachr. 8.00 Instrumental-Hits 9.00 Musik und Unterhaltung 11.00 Hit-Börse 12.00 Nachr. 12.05 Musik für die Hausfrau 13.00 Wir helfen beim Abwasch 14.00 Tips und Hits für

Teenys 15.00 Musik für Twens und Fans 16.00 Musik zur Teestunde 17.00 Nachr.; „Auf der Heimfahrt“. Sendung für Autofahrer 19.00 Nachr.; Hallo, liebe Hörer 20.00 Pop-Hits-International 21.00 Die Roy-West-Show 23.00 Music, music and happy time 24.00 — 1.00 Nachr.; „Gute Nacht“. Wir senden noch

**MI** 5.00 Musik für Frühaufsteher, dazw. 5.30 Nachr. 7.00 Kalter Kaffee — heiß serviert, dazw. 7.30 Nachr. 8.00 Filmthemen 9.00 Musik und Unterhaltung 11.00 Für die Hausfrau 12.00 Nachr.; Unser Bordkoch hilft beim kochen 13.00 Keine Zeit zum Essen 14.00 Tips und Hits für Teenys 15.00 Hörergrüße 16.00 Musik zur Teestunde 17.00 Nachr.; „Auf der Heimfahrt“. Eine Sendung für Autofahrer 19.00 Nachr.; Wir stellen vor 20.00 Heiße Rhythmen — Schlag auf Schlag 21.00 Jazz für Kenner 22.00 TOP-Pops à gogo 23.00 DDO's servieren aktuelle Scheiben 24.00 — 1.00 Nachr.; „Geisterstunde“ Gruseliges, heiter serviert

**DO** 5.00 Musik für Frühaufsteher, dazw. 5.30 Nachr. 7.00 Gut gelaunt in den Tag 7.30 Nachr.; Auf dem Weg zur Arbeit 8.30 Musik und Unterhaltung 11.00 Für die Hausfrau 12.00 Nachr.; Operettencocktail 12.30 Hits von damals und heute 14.00 Tips und Hits für Teenys 15.00 Hörerpost 16.00 Unser Nordseeclub 17.00 Nachr.; „Auf der Heimfahrt“. Sendung für Autofahrer 19.00 Nachr.; Hits und Tanzmusik für Partys 21.00 Fan-Musik, gewünscht von Radio-Nordsee-Fans 22.00 Top-Pops à gogo 23.00 Musik ohne Pause 24.00—1.00 Nachr.; Mitternachts-show

**FR** 5.00 Musik für Frühaufsteher, dazw. 5.30 Nachr. 7.00 Morgens um sieben 7.30 Nachr.; Heiteres zum Frühstück 8.00 „Around the World“ — Schleger der leichten Muse 9.30 „Up to date am Plattenteller“. Musik frisch aus der Presse 11.00 Deutsche Schlager 12.00 Nachr.; Fröhliche Melodien 13.00 Internationale Folklore 14.00 Tips und Hits für Teenys 15.00 Wer schreibt mir? 17.00 Nachr.; „Auf der Heimfahrt“. Sendung für Autofahrer 19.00 Nachr.; Party an Bord 20.00 Interviews mit Stars und Sternchen 21.00 Musikalisches Roulette 22.00 Aus der Discothek 23.30 Top Ten aus Amerika und England 24.00—2.00 Nachr.; Start in den Samstag

Well another e mail, this time from long time radio friend Andrew in England

'Thanks for this Radio Report, Hans. Very interesting, especially with the 'alternative' versions of history that are being circulated by people who fantasise that they were involved.

I think it is worth mentioning that the song 'I'd Like to Buy the World a Coke' was not a new melody. It was written in 1970 and

released originally by Susan Shirley as 'True Love and Apple Pie'. Video at <https://youtu.be/bPNkgQft498>

<http://www.45cat.com/record/db8787> tells the story. I remember this record was a favourite of Tony Blackburn, who played it on Radio One. It was also promoted on Radio Luxembourg. All the best, Andy Emmerson.'

Thanks a lot Andy for this update and keep well!


Now another memory from me: 1969 was a year when it was time for many baby boomers to make a decision regarding their choice of favourite radio station. For the English-speakers there was a ban on the programs of BBC Radio One, as this station was seen as a very bad copy of the offshore radio stations of those days. Also this station had introduced a jingle package that was produced on the basis of that of 'Wonderful Radio London'. The Dutch radio followers had the choice between Radio Veronica and Hilversum 3, although with the latter station there was also a lot of reluctance to tune in to it.

Alternatives were the broadcasts of AFN, which were broadcast via low power stations in England, the Netherlands, Belgium and sometimes with higher power in what was then West Germany. But there was another station which, although in the fade, attracted many listeners in that time with the aforementioned group. Radio Luxembourg from the Grand Duchy on 208! As soon as there was some time I tuned the radio in the evening hours to the 208 medium wave because there you could listen to the latest music, although not always complete.

Moreover, the programming was very interesting because former offshore radio deejays now earned their living at Radio Luxembourg. Some well-known names at that time were Tony Prince, Kid Jensen, Paul Burnett, who we listened to earlier from the sea. But also names


like Noel Edmonds, Alan Freeman, Jimmy Saville and David Christian came by many times.

**LOOK OUT ....**



**THE  
RADIO LUXEMBOURG ROAD SHOW  
HITS THE ROAD AGAIN**

<b>SHEFFIELD</b>	<b>TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 18</b>	<b>MARK WESLEY</b>
<b>BOURNEMOUTH</b>	<b>MONDAY SEPTEMBER 24</b>	<b>TONY PRINCE</b>
<b>SOUTHAMPTON</b>	<b>TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 25</b>	<b>TONY PRINCE</b>
<b>SWANSEA</b>	<b>TUESDAY OCTOBER 2</b>	<b>DAVE CHRISTIAN</b>
<b>PLYMOUTH</b>	<b>TUESDAY OCTOBER 9</b>	<b>PAUL BURNETT</b>
<b>CARDIFF</b>	<b>TUESDAY OCTOBER 16</b>	<b>MARK WESLEY</b>
<b>BRISTOL</b>	<b>MONDAY OCTOBER 22</b>	<b>MARK WESLEY</b>
<b>BRIGHTON</b>	<b>TUESDAY OCTOBER 23</b>	<b>MARK WESLEY</b>
<b>READING</b>	<b>TUESDAY NOVEMBER 6</b>	<b>PAUL BURNETT</b>
<b>HANLEY</b>	<b>TUESDAY NOVEMBER 13</b>	<b>DAVE CHRISTIAN</b>
<b>PRESTON</b>	<b>TUESDAY NOVEMBER 20</b>	<b>DAVE CHRISTIAN</b>
<b>LIVERPOOL</b>	<b>TUESDAY NOVEMBER 27</b>	<b>TONY PRINCE</b>
<b>DONCASTER</b>	<b>TUESDAY DECEMBER 4</b>	<b>PAUL BURNETT</b>
<b>SUNDERLAND</b>	<b>TUESDAY DECEMBER 11</b>	<b>DAVE CHRISTIAN</b>
<b>ABERDEEN</b>	<b>TUESDAY DECEMBER 18</b>	<b>PAUL BURNETT</b>
<b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	<b>TUESDAY JANUARY 8</b>	<b>TONY PRINCE</b>



We regularly ordered the magazine '208' and cut and pasted the most interesting pieces, mainly focused on the broadcasts of Radio Luxembourg, into a scrapbook. Moreover, the magazine had fun and interesting stories about the pop groups and artists who performed well at the time. In the month of February 1969 there was a poll on popularity in different categories, of which Tony Blackburn won first place in those of best deejays, followed by Stuart Henry and Kenny Everett. The special thing was that Stuart Henry, who won first place earlier, would stop his presentation in the BBC program 'Top of the Pops' in March 1969 and that in February it was already known

that Tony Blackburn would become his successor. And we also took the programs, where possible, on our reel to reel tape recorder. Strange, but also very understandable for the fans of Radio Luxembourg at that time, that more than half a century later there is a special group on Facebook of which the members exchange a lot of memories but also take the recordings of that time out of the collection to share within the group. We also recommend a visit to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Luxy208/>.

Next is Vivien Bernard: 'Hello Hans. I have just read your latest report and I was so shocked and saddened to read about the death of Tom Mulder. He was too young to die but I know he had ill health for quite a few years. We were both born in February 1947, Tom on the 16th and me on the 24th but unlike me he didn't make his 73rd birthday.

I met Tom a few times in London through a friend in 1968 and 1969. When Tom presented his first show on Radio Veronica in 1969 he played me a record. I could receive Veronica on my little transistor radio so I heard it! You put me in touch with him in for a period in 2003/4. I expect all his Dutch fans will be sad too. What a waste of a talented life.

I enjoyed watching the film about Pirate BBC Essex in 2004 in your report. I have just finished watching that and I had to email you about Tom. I hope you and Jana are in good health. All good wishes to you both from Vivien.' Thanks a lot Vivien and questions not shown here are answered in a personal e mail. Keep on the right side of a good health!

From England we go to Brian in Germany: 'Hello Hans , I wonder if you can help me, back in 1978, Chris Cary , was fitting out a ship to become Sunshine Radio, this was being done in Ireland. I believe that the ships destination would have been a position off the Spanish coast in the Mediterranean. I was on the London land based Pirate

Station, NLR and I met up with Chris, who was a fan of the station and lived nearby. Chris wanted us to DJ/crew it. He even had a mockup of the studio and wanted us to train on it before going out. Last we heard it had all fallen through due to a fault on the ship and no money to put it right. I think he had fallen out with his partners. Do you have any information on the ship, its name, what became of it and its equipment? Does anyone have any pictures or news cutting of the ship? If you don't know then I don't know where else to turn to. All the best and thank you for all you do. Brain Scott RNI.De.'

Well Brian not too much is known. I remember vaguely that it had something to do with the ship in danger near the Scilly Isles. Bob Noakes, who was involved and will once in the future tell more about the failed project. On the Wikipedia page regarding Chris is to read: 'In 1978 Cary went to Ireland with Robbie Robinson and DJ Roger Swann to set up Sunshine Radio with the stated objective of broadcasting to holidaymakers in Majorca. The cars they travelled in (a Lincoln Continental and a Mercedes) contained much of the broadcasting equipment that they intended to fit to an ancient wooden keeled sloop. Unfortunately the Mercedes broke down on the M1 but the Lincoln Continental made it to Larne where the "radio ship" was being prepared. DJ Roger Swann left after 10 days or so and ended up working on the Voice of Peace and the pirate radio ship didn't make further than Dublin. The final fate of the radio ship is unknown but rumor has it that some broadcasts to the Irish republic were made from the ship.' On the Convention Zeezenders 20, which was organized by Music Radio Promotions in collaboration with me and others, jingles made for the project were played.

Next more about a small photo collection which is now in our archive:  
Both Photos made by Theo van Halsema on the day of a trip in 1979.

All the other photos he made during the trip are here:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/albums/72157713163013727>



Record Mirror May 8th 1971 brought this letter from Martin Kayne, which I reposted on Facebook.

APART from its name RNI is no longer an international station, least of all a British one.

At the present time and for an initial period of six months the air time on RNI has been leased to a Dutch music publishing company, who are in fact managing the station. It is because of this, tape recorded Dutch programmes are broadcast during the day time. The Breakfast programme at present compered by Tony Allan, will be taken over by a Dutch D.J. on 1st May.

Very gradually Radio Noordzee (Dutch spelling) is becoming another Radio Veronica catering almost entirely for a Dutch market. English DJs are very popular in Holland among the teenyboppers; thus the English language programmes in the evenings.

Before knocking the 'on air staff' may I suggest that you try sitting down with a pile of foreign records that you hardly understand, some fantastic new releases for the Dutch market that have been in the British and American charts months beforehand and just see how excited you are.

The RNI announcers DO care very much, the average works 16 hours per day, with programmes production and running the news service. Future plans include a genuine international station featuring all kinds of good music, to be known as RNI World Service. At first this will be restricted to the 49 and 31 metre S.W. bands, depending on the funds available. - MARTIN KAYNE, (ex RNI dee jay), 15 Radnor Park Road, Folkestone, Kent.

Andy Cadier (aka Martin Kayne) responded: 'Phew I was certainly getting things off my chest, but it was in response to some very heavy criticism in the pages of Record Mirror. The music policy wasn't decided by the UK deejays, who were simply doing what they were told. One could hardly argue as it was the Dutch service that

was paying the bills. If you like doing radio presentation and value your job, it would have been unwise to rock the boat too much. There was also the legal case with Radio Veronica going on, which later ended up with the MEBO 2 being set alight and seriously damaged. Also crackpot rumours were still circulating suggesting RNI was an East German spy ship. With all this prevailing all the DJs were trying to make the station a success.

In 1971 most of the English Service deejays had UK passports, it was unclear if the British authorities would enforce the MOA and arrest radio staff returning to the UK. Previously with Radio Caroline in 1967/1968 they left staff alone and concentrated on obstructing incoming revenue, however. This option wasn't open to the GPO as funding for RNI was coming from the Netherlands and Switzerland. As it happened I think we were all left alone with no prosecutions, but it could have been so very different. So perhaps people will understand that the British DJs at the time were having a rough ride in more ways than one.





Tender comes near the MEBO II. Photo Carl Mitchell collection.

After the loss of the Caroline ships in March 1968 the arrival of the MEBO 2 in 1970, was for many of us a dream come true. The 1971 version was going to have to be something of a compromise if it were to address the previous funding problems. Well after a dodgy restart, it was a success, and that should surely be celebrated.

As for me I was married in March 1971 and found the job too precarious to continue with, particularly with living on the ship and in Hilversum and still needing to rent a flat in Kent in case the worst were to happen. Well it was a free radio adventure...was it not!

Thanks Andy for your reflections. Well this ends up the Hans Knot International Radio Report and I will be back quicker than you will think. Keep safe and let the memories and more come to me at [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)