

## HANS KNOT INTERNATIONAL RADIO REPORT DECEMBER 2009

I wish you a very good day to you all out there in the radio world. December is there and thanks to all for the mails with the good and also the bad news. It seems we can't have an issue without sad news. However in this biggest bumper edition of the Hans Knot International Radio Report we have lucky enough, also nice things to tell. First of all I would like thank all the wonderful people attending to our annual Radio Day in Amsterdam. It was the 32<sup>nd</sup> year in a row we organised it and again this year Martin van der Ven was responsible for the programming of the day. Well for those attending it was fantastic, following the enormous response we got. For those who were not there you can get an impression of the response as well as the many photographs and the audio files of the happening on Radio Day 2009 at [www.radioday.nl](http://www.radioday.nl) Next year the date is November 13<sup>th</sup> at the new Casa 400 Hotel, which is just 300 meters away from the old location. Martin, Jana and me visited also other radio related locations this month from which more further on in the report. From this place I would like to day also once again in name of all readers a big Happy 60th Birthday to Mary Payne the ever Miss Radio London. We enjoyed being part of the big party. See her website at [www.radiolondon.co.uk](http://www.radiolondon.co.uk)



Here the first e mail from Stuart: 'I came across these in my archives. I guess around 1970? Stuart Aitken'

Well like Radio London, Radio Caroline, the Dutch RNI and Caroline 1973 also Veronica had his own racing team. Team Radio Veronica went in action at several circuits like those at Valkenswaard and Zandvoort, where once the famous F1 races were held. Thanks a lot

to Stuart for sending these wonderful pictures.

One Moggy from Leicester wrote me for the very first time: ' Hello my friend, I am an old boy now but think back to offshore days and it makes me happy and sad too. It was so much fun in my younger days. I tune round the net now and hear some rubbish, but there are good stations. Radio Caroline I have that on a lot. I am trying to get the up and coming DJs to know about the radio history. I have photos and bits and bobs. Here one from February 1991. It was taken at Harp Largers'. The Rock Award was presented with a plaque to Walton and Frinton Lifeboat for services rendered to the Pirate Ships of the sixties. With one of the people of the Lifeboat Service you see also Ronan O'Rahilly, John Peel and Johnnie Walker. '



Well Moggy I thank you on behalf of all my readers and keep enjoying the reports in the future.

Next one comes from Phil: 'Dear Sir Hans, Greetings again from 'Aussie' Phil. It was interesting to read the discussions about old radio sets in the last newsletter. Just last week I took a quick trip home to Australia, and in a Sydney department store I found a reproduction Bush transistor radio on sale - the Bush TR130 - only \$29.00. What jumped out at me was the tuning dial, Caroline was clearly marked! (I have no idea how an Australian buyer would make any sense of the dial with all the old European stations). This set can be found on eBay too, but the dial with Caroline on it is unusual, most

have a later version with BBC Radio 1, Radio 4, etc.  
Cheers, Phil Crosby'.



Photo: Phil Crosby.

Thank you Phil. Interesting to see. So anyone who has a photo of his old radio set used during offshore days, please feel free to send it to [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

Nickname time again. I heard during an old Veronica Program from Veronica Klaas 'Paas Vaak; instead of Klaas Vaak. The Dutch word 'Pasen' is 'Easter' in English.

Next an email from Brian Scott: 'Dear Hans I currently have the greatest honour of being a DJ on the RNI Internet radio station. I'm sure you are aware that it is a very successful station run by Garry Stevens. All of the crew Dutch, English and German are very proud to keep the name and sound of this station alive. I was/we were wondering that as its RNI`S 40th birthday coming up , that we could meet up with some of the original crew .I see that you are getting something together I wonder if we could be part of it? Nigel James, Dave Mason, Hans himself and some of the others have expressed a great interest in attending a celebration of RNI. Respectfully yours Brian Scott.

Well Brian keep your eyes at our internet site [www.radioday.nl](http://www.radioday.nl) and somewhere late Winter, early Spring the first signs of the program for next years Radio Day will be there and if we have a RNI reunion feel free to come to the Radio Day, as anyone does. Brian had more to ask: 'I/we will keep in touch. I am trying to get hold of a poster of the MEBO 2 at sea for the studio, there is no luck in the UK or internet to find such one. Could you or

any of your contacts help? Best regards Graeme (Brian Scott). So if anyone has an extra copy and want to give one away please contact me at

[HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

Then it's record question from last month again: 'Dear Hans, Professor of Radio When Don Allan closed the International service of RNI; he played his Big 3 favorite funny records. The one I cannot remember the title of, had the lyrics: "You can trust shit or bust I'm going to live until I die". Do you know the title or artiste? God bless you.' Well for the guy who asked it here some answers: Colin Wilkins responded with 'Hi Hans, many thanks for the November edition of the Radio Report, very sad to hear about Mike Ahern, a very sad loss to us all. Regarding the song that someone was asking about that Don Allen played ie shit or bust, comes from a song called Berkshire Berk by Southern Comfort which is a B side the A side being Willie Hurricane and can be found on Harvest Records No HA 5035, I have this record here as I write. The other funny record of Dons was Big Fanny by Neil Ray and this is on SSS International Records No 6154002 from 1969. Best wishes Colin Wilkins Leeds.UK'.

Well wonderful that you did sent the answers Colin. Colin is I think the most regular visitor from England to our annual Radio Day through the years. Sadly we missed him this year in Amsterdam.

Alexander Landsberg from München in Germany wanted us to bring news about former radio station which is now on internet:

<http://www.laut.fm/radiobavariainternational>

And what about the next very interesting internet site which was tipped to us by Herman in Belgium <http://www.broadcasting-history.ca/>

We have to go to our regular in California, that's Rosko of course: 'Mon cher monsieur Knot. As always you are on target with all the info and I am pleased you have sorted out your email problem! Alas I can read it this time, as I had my long awaited cataract eye surgeries, which will keep me off the computer for awhile! However I have asked Jenny Aniston and Angelina Jolie to read it to me, I know this is hard to believe but my mature Brad Pitt look seems to open certain doors! I look forward to seeing it with my own eyes next month! Take care and stay afloat. EMP.' Thanks a lot Emperor

and I hope the surgery brought you enough light back in your eyes and that you will recover soon.'

Another former Caroline deejay is also reading the Hans Knot International Report already for many years. From Canada here the curly headed kid from the third row, Steve Young who wrote me and he still is so sad by the lost of Mike Ahearn. 'Here's a memory from Steve Young to the sixties. Thank you for your understanding about Mike A. He was such a lot of fun and we had many good times together, including one very interesting trip to Holland where we emceed a rock concert in a sports arena. Unfortunately I can't remember the name of the place. I just remember the antics that Mike and I got up to, meeting up with some girls who took us back to their place in Belgium, catching a train back to Amsterdam and almost getting stuck because we didn't know that they split the train in two somewhere along the line, one half went on to Amsterdam, the other to some other destination. Of course we were in the wrong section. Then, to top it all off, the promoter never paid us the fee we were promised and not even our expenses, so we felt quite "ripped-off" about that. Still, I think the fun we had together made up for it all. Mike was a great broadcaster; he was very knowledgeable about so many things and always so jovial. Well Hans, take care, Steve Young'

A very nice story to read Steve. Funny to read that a Caroline deejay was ripped off in the sixties. It happened a lot during seventies and eighties period of the station. Many deejays that weren't paid out by the responsible ones within the Caroline organisation at the time.



I don't know if this ripping off happened to John Bennet. He worked aboard the MV Ross Revenge in the eighties for Radio Caroline and wrote the next: 'Hiyas, It's known as, the past catching up with you. A former shipmate on Caroline, sent me this picture today, bless him. It shows a washing line and me. John Bennet. By the way can I share my love for Caroline North and the Mama's and Papa's with your readers?'

<http://www.facebook.com/video/video.php?v=183669597678&oid=201099863848&saved>

Sloopy Radio Caroline North

Well it seems more and more Caroline deejays from the past writing in during the past month: 'Hi Hans Hope all is well and good with you. Thanks to you and Keith Hampshire my call to find Jerry King who I worked with on Caroline South during 1967 has proved fruitful! Jerry telephoned me Sunday evening from Hamilton in Canada and we picked up on our conversation(s) where we left them 42 years ago. Amazing! It is always the same with my pirate dj chums, we simply start where we finished. So thanks to you in getting us re-united. Keefers also thanks. Best wishes as always Hans. Tom Edwards.'

Well good to see Tom that you're in contact once again after more than four decades with one of your former shipmates. I know Tom Edwards will be on the Radio Day in 2010 so maybe Jerry King and Keefers can also decide to take the trip to Amsterdam in November. If so please let us know in time.

Second time nicknames in this report. From Fons in Valkenburg I learned that Marc Jacobs had given a nick name to Rob Hudson on Caroline in 1979 as he called him Rob 'rumboon' Hudson, which stands for 'brandy bean'. Also Marc nicknamed Johan Visser in Johan 'Mazda' Visser.

Steve Conway worked on Radio Caroline in the eighties and sent me a link to a story about Rick Randell at the Tampa bay com. It includes a wonderful, never seen before photograph. Of course with thanks to Steve for sending the information.

<http://www.tampabay.com/features/mus...rsburg/1053902>

Edu van der Hoeven wants to explore his own personal webiste which can be found at: <http://www.fm88-108.nl/?eu.amradio>

From three different sources the next news came in: "Hello Dear" - former BigL jock returns with his Radio 2 Xmas special: Junior Choice 2009 Christmas Day, Friday 25 December 2009, 09:00-11:00

It's back! The fast becoming traditional Christmas Day edition of Junior Choice! Ed 'Stewpot' Stewart returns in his big red suit and fake white beard (well, he claims it's fake) on Christmas morning at 0900 with a two-hour live edition of the ever-popular Junior Choice. Featuring listeners' requests and dedications, plus a few of Ed's favourites, the show is sure to bring back a sackful of childhood Christmas memories; we just need to keep Ed away from Santa's sherry and mince pies! We need your help to make the show (it wouldn't be the same without you), so please send us your Christmas memories, requests and dedications so write to: Ed Stewart Junior Choice Christmas Special BBC Radio 2 Birmingham B1 1RF You've got until 23:59 on Sunday 20 December 2009 to send in your song requests, but we'll keep taking your dedications until the end of the show. We can't guarantee that Ed will be able to play your request or give you a mention, but we will read every one. Is that Santa I can hear? No, it's some kid shouting 'Allo Darlin' <http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio2/shows/junior-choice/>

Former Radio 270 deejay asks you a very special question in the bumper December edition of the Hans Knot International Radio Report: 'BBC's Children In Need Appeal is not only a great fun happening but it delivers a great deal of money for good causes. I want to contribute this year and that's why I have signed the charity agreement with the BBC to make it formal. I intend to give all income from my Christmas song, I Fell In Love With A Snowgirl, (Then She Melted In My Arms), to Children In Need and need help to achieve a worthwhile amount of money. That's why I am appealing to most of the UK radio stations to help by airing this happy-go-lucky song. You can see the sales-page at:

<http://www.iffellinlovewithasnowgirl.com>

You can download the song (as a zip file) at:

<http://www.mike-hayes.com/snowpop/pudsey.zip>

or

<http://www.mike-hayes.com/snowpop/pudsey.mpj>

and on completion change the extension from .mpj to .mp3. (I've given it a different suffix to facilitate the download). You can see some general

information about me at:

<http://www.mike-hayes.com>

I hope you like the song and will give it some exposure. If there are any questions, contact information is below. Regards, Mike Hayes

Amsterdam +31 653 20 60 50 Skype: mikepjhayes <http://www.mike-hayes.com>

PS If you are going to air it please let me know so that I can put a link to your station sites on my site.

<http://www.ifellinlovewithasnowgirl.com/radios.html>

Well Mike I hope a lot of readers will go to download the song and give a donation to the fund.

From Amsterdam to Berlin in a second is only possible in the Hans Knot International Radio Report as here's Thomas Voelkner: 'Hello Hans, Many greetings again from Berlin. Please find enclosed a small news item about coming shortwave radio tests conducted by Hamburger Lokalradio. Maybe you'll find it interesting. Cheers, Thomas'



Hamburger Lokalradio (HLR) will conduct a series of shortwave test transmissions on a frequency of 5980 kHz in the 49-meter-band, with a power of 1 kilowatt. These transmissions will be broadcast from the Kall transmitter site that is already in use for Radio 700. Hamburger Lokalradio will transmit daily throughout December between 10.00 and 12.00 UTC. Longer broadcasting hours, 06.00-12.00 UTC, will be on December 24th, 25th, and 26th. A full programming guide will soon be published on their website: [www.hamburger-lokalradio.de](http://www.hamburger-lokalradio.de)

HLR is looking forward to receiving feedback and reception reports, either via e-mail ([redaktion@hamburger-lokalradio.de](mailto:redaktion@hamburger-lokalradio.de)) or by postal mail: Hamburger Lokalradio, c/o Michael Kittner, Max-Eichholz-Ring 18,



D-21031 Hamburg, Germany. As the station is operated on a non-commercial basis, return postage is highly appreciated.

Former Radio Luxembourg technician and producer Alan Bailey is next: 'In case you're interested, I'm on BBC Radio 2 as part of the Python Anniversary. I'll be taking part in 2 one hour stints talking about how I recorded 3 Monty Python Albums and sound effects used at the Radio Luxembourg Studios nearly 40 years ago. Part 1 goes out 10.30pm Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> of December and part 2 on the 15<sup>th</sup>.'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00p718t>

Well Alan good to know that more and more music and radio history is coming back on the radio. Lots of success!



On October 18th I got an e mail from an for me unknown woman who wrote to me that her name was Carien Schaaf and that she was born in 1973 as Caroline 'my little doll', as her father called her. Not that she ever heard this from him but just from other people. Her father died just months after her birth due to a motor accident. And the rest of Carien's youth was not the one anyone wants. She also lost contact with her mother and was brought into youth care. Nowadays she still looking for her roots and that

was the reason she wrote to me. Her father worked on Caroline in 1973 for just a short period under the name 'Peter Zonneveld'. She just has a recording on a cassette and a photograph as an only memory to her father. I could fill in just two short memories from 1973.

The first one is related to the only time I met Peter Zonneveld on the Mi Amigo, which was on February 23<sup>rd</sup> 1973. I went out to the radio ship of the Scheveningen coast with a ship from the Vrolijk Company. Other persons, next to deejays and staff, were Rob Olthof and Hans Verbaan (FRC Holland), Rob Bakker (nowadays at RTV Noord in Groningen) and Martin, a photographer from Scheveningen. Next to that I can tell you that a promotional team of the Marlboro cigarettes company was on the tender. All on deck the radio ship would be happy in the evening as they would get a warm winter jack, with the cigarette names on it. Next there were some other goodies to give away. It was the first time Steve England and I met. Later the day I visited the Caroline office at the Zeekant in Scheveningen and of that remarkable visit I will tell more in the book 'Way Back Home, The Graham Gill Story', which should be out in the forthcoming 6 months.

The second memory I've to Peter Zonneveld is the fact that I, as an avid supporter of football, I was watching the Dutch TV in early summer 1973. It were the days there were only a few television stations, we had no cable and satellite and were lucky to have a few hours a day to watch TV. It was late in the sports program that announcer Magda van Arnhem asked for attention to the people aboard the MV Mi Amigo as possibly they would be sitting in the messroom by now watching sports. "I would like to tell that deejay Peter Zonneveld from Radio Caroline has become father of a daughter today". Strange enough this came directly in my mind when receiving the email from Carien aka Caroline, Peter's daughter. Well radio friends, if you've more memories and photographs of Peter, please forward to me your memories to make Clarien a bit happier in her search to her roots.

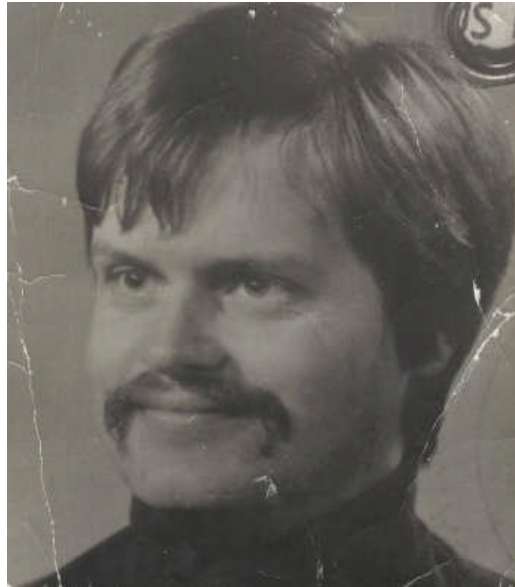
So if you've a memory please send it to [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

Meanwhile I've send the question to a few of his shipmates and got response. Here's the first one: 'Thank you for the email about Peter Zonneveld's daughter. I can't really add much more than you have written. It was me that spoke to the producer of the Sports programme on Dutch television.

We had no radio contact with the ship at the time. I knew they would be watching the sports programme on board the Mi Amigo. I seem to recall it was Robin Adcroft who made the announcement on the radio a few minutes later. Peter had a flat in the Bijlmermeer in Amsterdam. I went there one night for drinks with Tom Collins of Veronica and Bert Bennett. I think Bert knew Peter, perhaps you should send this email to him too? I'm sorry I can't give you anymore other than to say that Peter, who spoke very good English, was a nice friendly guy with a very good sense of humour. All good wishes as ever, Andy Archer.'

Thanks a lot Andy and of course the evening the e mail came in I forwarded it to Carien who replied with: 'Good morning Hans. Thanks a lot for all your doing for me. It feels very good that some people still remember my Dad Peter Zonneveld. All kind of small details I've been told are coming back but also new ones.'

That same day in the evening I had one of the regular phone calls with Graham Gill and afterwards I wrote to Carien about the talk with Graham: 'Dear Carien Graham Gill originates from Australia and is living in Amsterdam since 1967 and is now 73 of age. He knew your father from the days Peter started his radio career in Club Rich at the Amsterdam Rembrandstplein. He was contracted by Coen Bakker Impresario to play and announce records in that club together with Graham Gill. Graham told me that your late father was a very sympatic person and was advised by Graham to go for a job on Radio Caroline. When your father died Graham was in Australia for family visit and he phoned your mother when coming back from down yonder. She was a bit angry he didn't phoned earlier. But in reality Graham had not heard about the sad news as he was not in Amsterdam at that moment. You see, again a small piece of the puzzle.



### PETER ZONNEVELD (Archive Carien)

Another former shipmate of Peter Zonneveld was Robin Adcroft: 'Hello Hans Nice to hear from you and I hope that this finds you in excellent health. I spent a while last night trying to recall those now very distant memories of the Mi-Amigo during the time that Peter Zonneveld was there. It certainly took me back to the very different world it was in those days. My recollections of Peter are that of a cheerful and energetic fellow, good fun to be with. He was well respected by both the Dutch and English broadcasters on board and had a professional approach with a great on-air voice. We were very sad when Carien lost her Father and it wasn't that long after we lost Mike the Poet too in similar circumstances. Remember that we were all quite young, very care free and pretty reckless for most of the time. Those of us who survived that period in one piece are quite lucky considering the dangers that we exposed ourselves to on a daily basis. Nevertheless, most of us wouldn't have missed it for the world. I can just about remember the call we made on air announcing the birth of Carien. It would be fun to research the audio files in case there's an aircheck of the occasion which could be given to Carien. I think you're best placed for that task Hans. I'll keep my fingers crossed! My best wishes to Carien, Greetings, Robin Adcroft (Banks).'

Well a big thank you to Robin near Whitstable and hopefully we will meet up again in the not to distant future. Always nice to meet and chat about the good old days. Of course his e mail also went to Carien who responded with: '

Hello, exiting that many people still know something about my dad. Terrific! Hans. You don't know how glad you made me with all this info. Tomorrow I'm off work so I will scan photographs for you.'

From the Dutch service from Radio Caroline in 1973 I got a response from Ron Dolman who wrote: ' I know from before our days on the Mi Amigo that Peter worked first in 'Riche' at the Rembrandtsplein in Amsterdam and after that in Club Toy Toy at the Prinsengracht. He also visited sometimes the place where I worked at the Leidsedwardsstraat in Amsterdam, as this venue had a not to early closing time. When we were on the radio ship there came the baby message and it came in liked a bomb. I fell, literally, from my chair. No one expects such a message during a sports program on television. That evening we spent in a way of drunkenness. It was that evening he decided his baby girl would be named 'Caroline'. '

Thanks a lot to Ron Dolman. Here a photograph from Carien her archive showing Peter at a motor. Sadly he lost his life when getting in an accident while sitting on the motor together with a friend.



Another person who worked very close together with Peter was another Caroline deejay called Bert Bennet. He also got an email from me and reflected with: 'When I got you e mail I read it several times and still get my flesh creep. I met Peter for the first time when I worked for the Koen

Bakker management in Amsterdam. Koen was the very first manager for the Dizzy Man's Band. Also he has a sort of office for temporary employees. Deejays like Graham Gill, Henny Huisman and I worked for this office. Koen himself worked also at a record shop at the Nieuwendijk in Amsterdam and was married to Pinky. She originated from Indonesia and I think to remember she was a singer. Myself I worked for Koen Bakker at various locations like 'The Smugglers' in Bussum, but also on the isle of Texel, in Zaandam and Amsterdam. One of the clubs was the famous 'Voom Voom' where once princess Margaret from England suddenly appeared. Also I worked in the Amstelstreet in Amsterdam in a night disco. It was rare for those days, opening at 2 in the night and closing at 6 in the morning. After closing time we did take a breakfast at the other side of the street and then went to the beach of Zandvoort. This was during the summer of 1971 and I worked at that time at the Riche as stand in deejay. It was there Peter van Dijken was the number one deejay at the time. I was stand in when he had his weekly day off as well as during his holidays. In 1973 I did meet him again on Radio Caroline where we both around the same time. Andy spotted him too, I think. My wife Gerda and I stayed a few days with Peter and his then girlfriend at the flat in the Bijlmer. This was only a short period after the birth of his daughter Caroline. It was during the period the Norderney from Radio Veronica was beached at Scheveningen. At one stage I couldn't return to the Mi Amigo as the Dutch service from Caroline stopped and lost contact with Peter. I then worked for Radio Atlantis on the same ship.



Together with another fellow deejay, Joop Verhoof, I tried to trace down Peter many years later and so we only heard about this death long after he

was gone. Peter was a very good deejay for the timeslot between 9 and 12 in the morning. Oh, I remember so well that Sunday evening we were watching sports in the messroom of the MV Mi Amigo. We couldn't believe that the birth of his daughter was announced in a sports program. Peter really was drunk that very night, but I didn't see it myself. I had to go into my bunk at an early stage as I had the middle watch on deck at 3 in the morning. After that I had my program at 6 in the morning. With the very first tender Peter went of to go ashore. Andy Archer was very quick in arranging that. I do remember that it was either on Monday or Tuesday he went home. Also I do recall that directly after the announcement of the birth on television it was Peter who immediately told us that the little girl would be named 'Caroline'. Well Hans there is so much to tell to her. Did I change her nappies or was it Gerda? There is so much more to tell so you can give my contacts to her. '

Well Bert a big thank you for sharing your memories to Peter with us.'

And of course Caroline (Carien) reflected after I sent her Bert's memories with: 'What a wonderful story did Mister Bert write. I think I will mail him soon. It's all very heavy what I read in all the mails. Please thank all people who did respond to my questions.'

Anyone who has more memories on Peter Zonneveld, please send them to [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)



Little Caroline in 1973 together with Peter Zonneveld. (archive Carien)

Time to change subject and so we go updating, with Bob LeRoi: 'Welcome to the second for the moment bi-monthly updates and it's another big one. November's 'ScrapBook' has us back out to the Shivering Sand Towers with more recently discovered material & news of a long lost 'Fort Friend'. It was very sad to learn of the death of Mike Ahearne. In tribute we've opened a page that colleagues, listeners and friends can add a few words of remembrance, so do send yours. The 'Personal Pages' has a Whitstable Harbour Celebration with pictures of Melanie Roberts Birthday Party at The Harbour Garden Café. Plus the CSMA autumn classic and cherished motoring Russet Car Run. 'One Subject One Link' has a compilation of your messages & feelings on Kent TV. Finally, you'll find tabs for our newly opened Holiday Home by the sea. Enjoy Your Visits [www.bobleroi.co.uk](http://www.bobleroi.co.uk)

Also Jon at the Pirate Hall of Fame had his November update: 'Last time the PRHoF reported on the world premiere of two plays written by Susan Moore, the older daughter of Reg and Dorothy Calvert. School of Rock & Roll and Death of Pirate Radio are about her parents, their lives and careers discovering and managing pop groups, promoting gigs and operating Radio City. Susan has very kindly sent us the theatre programme from that premiere - <http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk/odds54.htm> Staying with a theatrical theme, we hear about a DJ from the early days of offshore radio who went on to play Adam Adamant's arch-enemy on that fondly-remembered sixties TV series -

<http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk/djsd.htm#ducrow>

I have added the tenth page of the steadily expanding Seventies Supplement, covering the DJs of that decade with names beginning with the letter M - <http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk/djs7m.htm> Since last month I have added a tribute to a great broadcaster, Radio Caroline's Mike Ahern, who sadly died on Monday 5th October. The tribute has now been updated <http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk/mikea.htm> And, finally, I was delighted to see, on Bob LeRoi's web site, that he has heard from the elusive Chris Cross, formerly of Radio City - <http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk/djsco.htm#cross> My grateful thanks, as ever, to all who have helped or contributed.

With kind regards, Jon Myer [www.offshoreradio.co.uk](http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk)

Fons from Valkenburg is very active in relistening old Caroline programs and scoring nick names. Stephen Bishop, aka Johnny Lewis, who got a Radio Award in Amsterdam this year, was also mentioned 'the fat man' and also



Fons heard that Hugo de Groot thanked at the start of his program his colleague Will 'falderah' Luikinga.

Do you know what a 'tompouche' is? A typical Dutch pastry. During one week in November Dutch Sky Radio brought 101.000 of those pastries to several companies and factories. This as a lot of companies have, during time of recession, not too much money to do something more to their workers. Sky Radio thought that giving out 101.000 pastries would bring that 'feel good moment'. And the pastries were brought in by a special car.



Next an e mail which was sent by Alan Bailey and which originally written by a certain Chantelle Johnson: ' I am hoping you can help me, my father won Singer of the Year, on Radio Luxembourg, I believe in 1960, Tony (Anthony) Johnson. My father sadly passed away about five years ago and I believe that there was an article in Titbits about this, but cannot seem to find it anywhere. Is there any information, photos, music files, archives etc that you have on this as I would love to hear/see more of it. I miss my dad greatly and anything that you have on this would really be a fantastic treasure. Chantelle Johnson.'

Alan wrote back to her: 'Dear Chantelle Thank you for your enquiry. Unfortunately I've searched through my files and can find no mention of your Father. Tit-Bits closed many years ago so I doubt records exist of that publication. I was involved quite a lot with 'Radio Star of the Year' and I've attached a menu for 1959 which lists finalists for that year but as I say no mention of your Father. I've taken the liberty of forwarding your email to Hans Knot in the Netherlands who has a vast knowledge of Radio stations of the period and he may well include your request in his Monthly Internet Radio Publication. Sorry I could not have been more help and of course for the sad loss of your Dad. Kind Regards, Alan Bailey.'

Well I must say sorry too as I even don't know the name or recall the event so if anyone knows more please let us know at [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

Time for one of our regulars in the report, Ian Godfrey: 'In the fifteen months I've used the Internet changes in website configuration is something I've experienced every two or three months, particularly since Easter for some reason. I discovered that I couldn't get any of 'Pirate BBC Essex' and am still not confident that I've solved the problem. At the beginning of this month I discovered that the BBC had altered the streaming for local radio but accessed it via IPlayer, only missing about five minutes but, after getting a very helpful email from Roberts Radio. I found it back on the Internet radio a fortnight later, as though nothing had happened! 2NG has also altered its streaming and hopefully they'll also reappear in a similar way! I've also found some website changes quite refreshing, e.g., Radio Nederland Media Pages which I find much easier to work through and, after coming to the conclusion that transferring Radio North Sea to my radio wasn't achievable I succeeded in doing so a few days ago - I think I must have omitted 'org' the last time I tried!

A show I look forward to every Sunday is 'Stafford's World' on Radio Caroline, where a specific year is featured at least two weeks a month, the remainder being 'flashback' shows dealing with particular decades; next Sunday's being devoted to the 60s and 70s. As 'Pirate Radio Skues' follows on quite neatly I am often listening for seven hours continuously! Very Best Wishes, Ian Godfrey.'

Well really interesting someone still listening to the radio 7 hours in a row! Good to hear that some of the internet problems were solved, including with the help of radio friends. Take care! Remember that a lady called Mandy asked around three years ago that she wanted to take part in the radio industry? Mandy is her name and in the meantime she's a regular on some stations as well as visiting the annual Radio Day. At the end of October she wrote a long e mail to tell about what happened through the past year.

'Hello Hans I have been meaning to write for some time now but have been constantly busy with my Radio programmes and although delighted by the amount of response I've received from listeners, I can hardly believe how quickly time has flown by this year. I am looking forward to attending Radio

Day, representing Radio Seagull and Caroline for my work aboard the Ross Revenge. Exciting things have been happening on both stations this year. I recently had the pleasure of interviewing Keith Skues, for my programme, at the last Radio Caroline Southampton meeting. The evening was a great success and as usual, expertly organised by Roland Beaney. I spoke to Keith about your very interesting and informative review of "Pop Went The Pirates II", which proved very helpful during my interview, in which we also spoke, about Radio Day, So it will be a pleasure to meet up again at the event and I am looking forward to his interview with Tom Mulder.

Ray Robinson was also visiting the meeting from California and Keith Skues speech and this interview can be found in it's full entirety on his very useful site.." AZ Anorak" along with my Radio Seagull "Keith Skues special" dated Friday 30th October 09. I will be traveling over with a Radio Colleague Paul Dennis and meeting up with several friends, including fellow DJ Chris Kennedy and Elija, who will be traveling over with Peter Chicago. I have been asked to take a group of visitors out to visit the Jenni Baynton on the Sunday and will be joined by Charles J. van Doornewaard and Theo Bakker. Charles runs his own Offshore archive Internet radio station Radio City. Below is the link to the station:

<http://www.xs4all.tv/play.aspx?alias=RadioCity&.asx>

I hope you enjoyed your visit to the lightship at sea earlier in the year. Hopefully I will also be out there next year to greet everyone. I was one of three Seagull presenters on the Marathon broadcast celebrating World sustainability day, which was celebrated all over the world. Radio Seagull and Radio Waddenzee teamed up with the new global organisation "People4Earth". In Western Europe the launch was kicked off on a global scale on board our radio ship at 00:00 Wednesday(09-09-09) we commenced the 24 hour Marathon, Played live music and interviewed dozens of people during the programmes, it was a challenge as we were rather exhausted after the journey but thoroughly enjoyable and a great success.

From November 2nd, Radio Seagull will broadcast a daily two hour show on 558 AM in London. Radio Seagull has teamed up with Spectrum Radio in London. The first project was the re-broadcast of the Radio Veronica close down August 31st in 1974, On 558 Radio Seagull will endeavour to

provide quality radio and especially for the Dutch and Flemish people who live or visit the capital. So for all who live in the coverage area and can't forget the days they tuned into an offshore station on 558, happy days are here again!' Mandy Marton.



Keith Skues and Mandy Marton (collection Mandy Marton).

As of 28 October 2009, the satellite frequency of Radio Caroline has changed. This will only affect those who have manually tuned in on a non-Sky receiver, not Sky itself where the channel remains 0199. These are the details: Satellite: Eurobird 1 28.5 degrees East Transponder Frequency: 11224 GHz Polarisation: Vertical Symbol Rate: 27.5

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It was in the mid eighties that people who bought the book 'Last of the pirates' by Bob Noakes could read the following introduction:

#### INTRODUCTION

Ursula had spent the 'sixties in South Africa and had never heard of Radio Caroline. It was a warm spring Sunday afternoon and as we sat in the garden

with a pot of coffee I told her something of what it had been. Radio Caroline was run by a group of young people who showed the world that a radio station did not have to be a colossal organisation with a staff of thousands. They broadcast from a ship called the *Mi Amigo*, anchored just far enough outside British territorial waters to avoid the law, staffed by a few dedicated souls who worked hard for what they believed. Britain had never heard the like of it before. Unlike the civil servants and the BBC who spoke down to you, the new school of broadcasters who made Radio Caroline famous sounded friendly, warm, humorous and as tangible as the boy next door. They were never dry, were fun to listen to, and dared to say things once in a while that made one pause to think. They stole radio from the hierarchy and turned it into something to which the man in the street could relate, all the time waving two fingers at Authority. Above all they gave the people what they wanted, so little wonder that they soon had an audience of millions.

After a difficult start they made money, too, and soon there were more than a dozen offshore stations operating from ships or marine structures around the British coast. The 'bulge' generation had at last an outlet for its new styles in music and new recording artists, record producers and companies were for the first time able to promote their products on the air. The offshore stations broke the broadcasting monopoly and dared exciting, new things. By no coincidence the 'sixties were the most significant years of the century for Britain's music industry. The nation became musically aware, sales of portable radios almost doubled in two years and everyone had a good time except for Mr. Authority who tore at his hair. For something powerful, big and influential had been usurped from the government's hands. As long ago as 1920 when the Marconi Company made their first experimental broadcasts from Writtle in Essex to be received hundreds of miles away, the government had realised that radio was here to stay and its potential enormous. Within two years all broadcasting in the United Kingdom was tinder government control. Almost without exception all over the world as soon as radio began the new stations were nationalised or simply seized by alarmed governments who feared that the voice which controlled the populace might one day come from a loudspeaker and not from them.

These fears were nor entirely unfounded, but most governments over-reacted. Unless one chose to listen to a foreign station, everything one

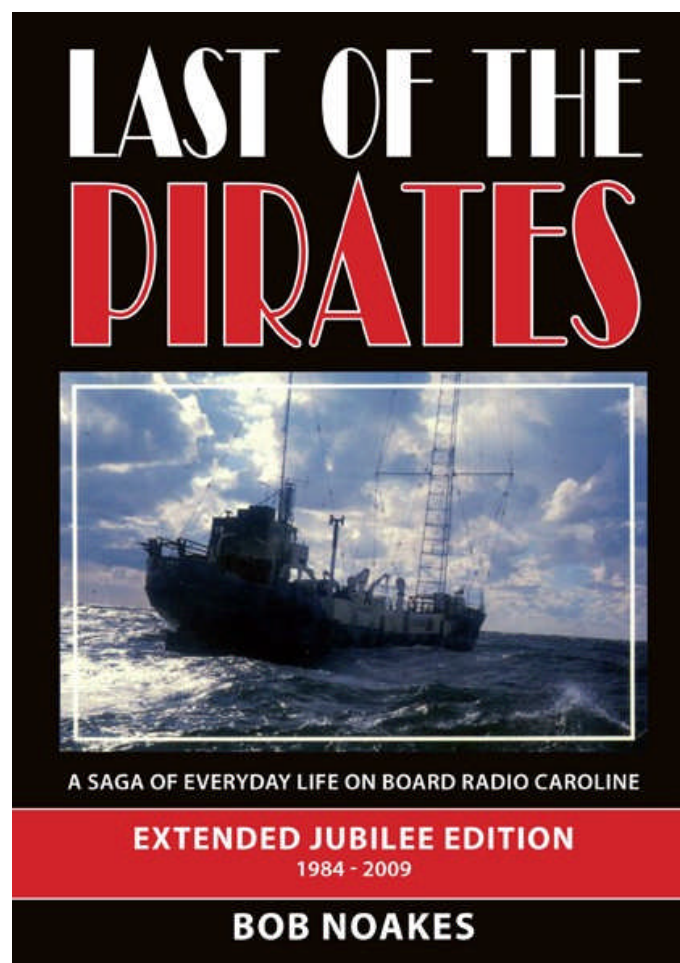
heard was ultimately controlled by the government and if they didn't like the look of you, you wouldn't get near a microphone. After forty years of state control radio had become stale and dusty with little new to offer. But the swinging 'sixties had arrived, the economy was good and the vociferous 'bulge' generation with its new trends, fashions and ethics had something to say and wanted to make itself heard. Even had it recognised the need, state-controlled radio would have been unable to meet the challenge. So independent, offshore radio was born. Before long the BBC was fighting a losing battle for audiences as the popularity of the new stations increased. The Post Office was powerless to intervene and the government becoming very uneasy for, in an era of growing alternative cultures, student demonstrations, ban-the-bomb marches and general iconoclasm, the new radio stations might be used for subversive ends if the 'wrong' person were to find himself behind the microphone. Or perhaps he might tell the public the whole truth for once...

But I did not want to spoil our afternoon talking about politics. It was a day of rest, the weather was beautiful and my neighbour Ursula was pouring some more coffee. I kept to the facts. Rightly or wrongly, the British government legislated to close the offshore stations and all but Caroline threw the main switch for the last time in August 1967. Caroline moved office to the safety of Amsterdam, continued a few months more then vanished from the ether as abruptly as it had appeared. That was why, six years later, we could not understand how we could be sitting in our back garden at Addiscombe, listening to a battered old radio which played. Radio Caroline. We assumed it was a joke. Probably we were listening to a bunch of teenagers in the next street who had managed to throw a small transmitter together. But they played good music so we kept on listening. Once an hour an announcer with a distinct London accent announced the station and said that we were listening to a test transmission.

They were on the air again the following day, and the day after. Our curiosity increased. One evening after work Ursula told me that the station had announced that official programmes would start the following Monday on their two wavelengths of 259 and 389 metres. 259 had been Radio Caroline's wavelength in the 'sixties, but 389 was new to me. A quick tune around the dial confirmed that the same music was being transmitted on 389 and we began to wonder. It was unlikely that a bunch of local teenagers had got that

together. When the station finally requested reception reports and gave an address in the Netherlands we realised that it was not a joke after all.

That made it all the more exciting to listen. Not only had a long-lost phoenix risen from the ashes: it had grown another leg as well. I was intrigued as to how this new Radio Caroline functioned, what it was all about and how it had reappeared after so many years. Yet nobody could then have told me that I was to find these things out for myself: I was soon to become an integral part of the organisation.



Now 25 years later there is more to tell as the Jubilee version of 'Last of the Pirates' is out now:

INTRODUCTION  
to the extended Jubilee Edition

*When Last of the Pirates - a saga of everyday life on board Radio Caroline* was first published a quarter of a century ago, many people were surprised by it, and some even shocked. For the first time, the inside story behind Radio Caroline had been put into print, often stripped of its romantic veneer to reveal a startling and pithy tale, switching continually between astronomic uppers and devastating downers.

Since the Radio Caroline I described no longer exists, to the present-day reader the story may seem far-fetched and fantastic, but one must bear in mind that it takes place in a different world altogether: in the early 'seventies there were no gsm telephones, no internet, no satellite television and no breakfast programmes. £25 a week, or two hundred guilders, was a sensible wage. There were no personal computers, so most people read books (sometimes even for pleasure!) There were but a handful of radio stations to listen to, but most of those closed down at around midnight. Life was a good deal slower and much simpler than it is today, yet it was within that historical framework that Radio Caroline pioneered a new form of broadcasting and ultimately became responsible for a revolution in European radio. This is their story from 1973 onwards. The text of the first edition has scarcely been altered, save for the correction of some minor faults, as the author has never intended to rewrite the work or alter the atmosphere of the day which it evokes. It remains a historical document written in the spirit of the period described.

What have been added are a number of anecdotes, some inside information never before published and an epilogue which dovetails into the original story and brings it into the context of the twenty-first century, together with an analytical thesis on music radio then and now.'

**LAST OF THE PIRATES EXTENDED JUBILEE EDITION IS NOW  
AVAIABLE AT: Mediacommunicatie Amsterdam € 19,95 for people inside  
Holland. Bank 4065700. For those outside Holland the price is Euro 24,95  
Mediacommunicatie Amsterdam, Banknumber 4065700  
IBAN NL85INGB0004065700 BIC INGBNL2A**

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Now we have news from Tom Edwards: 'Hi Hans. I hope you're well and good.



David Clayton, the boss man at BBC Radio Norfolk has just told me that "Edwards The Confessor" tx'd back in August this year is being repeated on Christmas Eve at 1800hrs. It's a programme in which I talked honestly about my life and times. The good bad and at times very ugly things will be told. A lot of folk missed it the first time around so maybe they can put the date in their diaries. Tom Edwards.'

Sadly once again we have to mention the death of one of the former shipmates. From the seventies period at the Mi Amigo Hugh Nolan passed away and Ian Anderson tells you more.

### **Obituary Hugh Nolan 1944-2009**

Hugh Nolan was born in Australia in 1944 and came to the UK when he was nine. He studied at Kings College in Wimbledon, but, in true rock and roll style he was expelled for smoking in the toilets. On finishing his education Hugh Nolan was a junior journalist in local newspapers. He then became the editor of the Scene page of the pop music paper Disc. In 1969 he worked for a time with the music management and promotion company Blackhill Enterprises. He was a record album reviewer with International Times (It) and he maintained close connections with the Friends underground and music newspaper, which had been formed by former staff members after Rolling Stone Magazine, closed its UK edition.

Hugh Nolan became involved in radio in 1969 through Bill Hayes of Opus newsletter. In early August 1969 Bill Hayes produced the first (and never broadcast) Radio Andorra tape in his front room in Muswell Hill in London. Jumbo Blimp Works was formed in October 1969 by Hugh Nolan, Geoffrey Bass and Terry Yason with financial backing from Tony Secunda and Jimmy Miller of Ringmaker Music with the aim of producing alternative radio programmes and to charter air-time on Radio Andorra.

Hugh Nolan became the one constant, from August 1969 until October 1970, in the Radio Andorra and Radio Monte Carlo programmes under the names of Jumbo Blimp Works, Radio 428, Radio Rupert, Radio 205 and Radio Geronimo. Various people dropped by the wayside in those 15 months. At this time Hugh and his wife Jackie lived in Manchester Street in west London. A son named Benjamin was born in November 1969, joining a son Marcus born in

1963, and the family eventually moved to Denning Road in Hampstead. But by 1971 Hugh Nolan and his wife Jackie had broken up. Jackie Benjamin and Marcus eventually moved to Devon. Hugh went off to Afghanistan for a time. He was not to reappear on the airwaves until the summer of 1973, when Ronan O'Rahilly, the owner of Radio Caroline, and Andy Archer, the programme director, decided to launch the Radio Seagull as a progressive music radio experiment. Hugh and former Radio Geronimo colleague Barry Everitt were approached to take part and they went out to the radioship *Mi Amigo*, which was then off Scheveningen, in the Netherlands, with the record collection from Radio Geronimo.



The late Hugh Nolan  
Freewave Archive

Hugh Nolan stayed on board the *Mi Amigo* for one stint, from 11 August 1973 until 24 August 1973. An article, in the *Observer* newspaper, named Hugh the best DJ on radio, but he refused to go back on board, despite the persuasive attempts of Ronan O'Rahilly. He said that he was never paid for his two week stint on board. In late October 1973 the *Geronimo* record collection was piled up separately in the downstairs record library *Mi Amigo*. But the records were never returned, despite attempts to do so, around about 1977. Some were believed to have been stolen and others went down with the sinking of the *Mi Amigo* in 1980.

Between August 1973 and 1975, Hugh Nolan moved north to Scotland, settling in the Black Isle for about five years, leaving behind journalism and

radio, and taking a job with the Forestry Commission. Debbie, who had been the girlfriend of Barry Everitt, joined Hugh and Debbie and Barry's son Blue took the surname Nolan. Hugh and Debbie had a daughter called Mauve in 1976. At the end of 1976 Hugh visited Shetland briefly, looking for work in the emerging oil and gas industry, and he stayed in the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen. However at that time work was being processed outside Shetland. Hugh, Debbie, Blue and Mauve Nolan eventually moved to Shetland in 1980, where Hugh worked for the oilfield services company Schlumberger. They stayed in a converted church at Strom and then in new oil worker housing in Hillswick and they made many friends. Barry Everitt even paid a visit to Shetland and saw his son. The Nolan family left Shetland in 1985. In recent years Hugh Nolan had been a journalist in Vietnam. When he became ill on returning to Australia, his daughter Mauve went to Australia to look after him. Hugh Nolan died in Australia on November 3rd 2009 after a long illness at the age of 65. Ian Anderson 4 November 2009' (thanks a lot Ian)

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I enclose details of the PBBCE Easter 2009 DVD - ready at last! DVD released Monday 5 October 2009. Title: 'THE BOAT THAT DOCKED'. Subtitled: 'Pirates Ahoy' - Pirate BBC Essex Easter 2009. Running time is 106 minutes. Format: DVD Available by post only from: THE BOAT THAT DOCKED DVD, THE HIGH LIGHTHOUSE, HARWICH, ESSEX, CO12 3HH Great Britain. PRICE: £15.00 incl. P+P CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: NVWTM. More info see newsflash on [www.offshore-radio.de](http://www.offshore-radio.de)

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A pity that the next e mail came in just days before the Radio Day and the Laser reunion but another former Laser deejay has been found back: 'Hi, This is Chuck Cannon from Laser 558 in 1985. I'm now in Savannah, GA and can be heard on my station - <http://www.savannahscoololdies.com/> I do a live morning show from 9am - 12 Noon EST. Best Always, Chuck Cannon

Remember last issue we talked about the numbers to the office, given out from various radio ships in the seventies and eighties. Well here is one of the former deejays who does remember it: 'Hi Hans I know someone who might have a copy of the list. He was our daily CB contact on land in the 80's.

I will ask. One thing I can tell you though is that the numbers actually changed daily, as you always had to add today's date to the number. This was meant to make the system more secure. In practice though in typical Caroline fashion it tended to result in cock-ups as some people didn't add up correctly, or they got the date wrong. So a request for toilet paper would sometimes result in light bulbs being sent out! Best Regards Kevin Turner, nowadays Peter MacFarlane Presentation Editor BFBS2

Time for Thomas Whetston who wrote: Some of the new things posted on my website include some of the dry audio Wolfman used for his show (Thanks Wolfwoman!). Also there's AFN-TV with a documentary about their early history. Charlie Tuna, jingles a return to Thailand. Some weeks ago AFN did a talk show about how they're programming now. Things have changed/things haven't changed. We've just finished the most successful month in it's history. I've said that before but more and more people pick up a memory.

You're cordially invited. <http://afrtsarchive.blogspot.com>  
If you enjoy it, tell a friend. Thomas Whetston

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The Loving Awareness CD is now digitalised with bonus tracks.  
Interested? Remit € 6,-- of 6 pounds sterling to Mediacommunicatie  
Amsterdam Banknumber 4065700 IBAN NL85INGB0004065700  
BIC INGBNL2A

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Sloopy John B is next: Dear Hans,

[http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=201099863848&v=app\\_2392950137#/video/video.php?v=166400632678&oid=201099863848](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=201099863848&v=app_2392950137#/video/video.php?v=166400632678&oid=201099863848)

This is the link for the cine film video, now on my Facebook site, Radio Caroline North Fun and Free. I've called the clip- "Caroline On Camera". Many thanks for your kind permission. Best wishes. John Sloopy Radio Caroline North.

It features a montage of all kind of 8 mm material which I did get years ago from a former Caroline crewmember. The material was in not to good condition at that stage and I decided to put it partly onto video. Many years

later the material from Jan Andriessen and the editing and sound of this special Caroline North movie by Hans Knot is now on internet on the above mentioned site. Do enjoy it.



Hans Knot interviewing Jan Andriessen way back in 1995 (Photo Rob Olthof)

Now we go to Ipswich: 'Dear Hans, many thanks for your e-mail containing your latest radio report. I used to regularly read these about 5 years ago, but due to a number of reasons I had got out of the habit of this more recently. So it was very pleasing to receive this e-mail containing your latest report, as this has provided a great opportunity to revive an old habit! I would be grateful if all future reports could be sent to this e-mail address please. Incidentally I noticed in this latest report mention of the Belgian Stream, which is now once again active with archive recordings of pirate radio stations. Just out of interest, do you know if the stream is permanently re-instated, or is it just a temporary service once again? Finally, I enjoyed the tributes to Mike Ahern. Although at 22 I'm too young to remember him in his Pirate Heyday, I did enjoy hearing his Programmes on Pirate BBC Essex in more recent years, and was shocked to learn of his death only a matter of months after this years broadcast. Long may he rest in peace! Kind Regards Chris Brisland,'

Thanks Chris well the stream, or any stream, could be temporary. You really have to ask the persons who are behind a stream what their planning is.

Richard Hagan is the next one: 'Hi, It's so amazing to see these web sites and articles about Radio Caroline. I didn't know that it had so much impact over there in Europe. My interest in Radio Caroline is because my late brother worked as a D.J. calling himself Jonathan Day. I see references to him at several sites. His real name is Bruce Hagan. We'd love to get any information about the days that he worked on Radio Caroline (MV Mi Amigo - I guess). Thanks.'

Of course I was surprised to read that Richard talked about his late brother and so learned about the death of Jonathan Day. I asked Richard for more information: 'Hi, in short: He died on September 7th, 1998 in a boating accident in New York Harbor (Labor Day). He was pleasure sailing with his wife, daughter and a friend from Dateline. He was a diabetic and had not taken his insulin that day. It was what appeared to be a beautiful summer day when an extremely unusual, powerful and fast moving squall swept across the harbor (this type of storm almost never happens in the North East U.S.). Anyway, his boat flipped, then sank. Due to his diabetic condition, he was not able to tread water for very long. His wife, daughter and friend survived, being picked up by a passing boat. There is an annual Reggatta held, in his honor, at the boating club that he attended:

[http://www.myc.org/Racing/Special%20Races/Hagan\\_Memorial.htm](http://www.myc.org/Racing/Special%20Races/Hagan_Memorial.htm)

Also, if you have any other information about his days working on Radio Caroline please let me know. Thanks, Richard Hagan.



KENNY PAGE, JONATHAN DAY AND TOM ANDERSON

So the big question if anyone of the readers do have memories about Jonathan Day. This can be from listeners as well as deejays who have worked together with him. Please send them forward to [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

Fons van Winteraeken earlier mentioned nicknames and this time he recalls that some of the crewmembers on Radio Mi Amigo could be heard in a program on Christmas Day 1979. One of them was Captain Harris, who spoke broken Flemish and greeted all known people ashore. It seemed that he only was a short time on the ship as for instant Marc Jacobs never heard of him. But we now know for sure he was on the ship as Fons has found a photo of Captain Harris on Wout van der Meer personal pages. Wout was working as Peter de Vries on Caroline in 1979/1980. Peter wrote: 'The man with the beard is captain Harris, as we named him. Later on the went with the fishing trawler Hossana for a trip back from the Mi Amigo. However the Hossana didn't arrive in Belgium and no one ever heard anything back from Harris or the other crewmembers.'



Captain Harris Photo: Wout van der Meer

Another photo was send to me by Bill Pryor: 'Hi Hans enclosed is a picture of Radio Sunshine! AKA Mebo 111/LV 18. The ship was painted up as Radio Sunshine for the movie The Boat That Rocked, but the whole section showing this station was cut out of the film (shame). But you can see it if you purchase the DVD of the movie, this section was left in on the DVD. I will let

you have my memories of the 60's stations at some point. Regards Bill Pryor  
Keep up the good work.



Photo: Bill Pryor

The boat that rocked finally is in the USA cinemas in a shorter version and again it hit the newspapers for instant with a story in Vancouver Sun. it includes many quotes from Colin Dale, ex Radio Sutch.

<http://www.vancouversun.com/entertainment/Pirates+ruled+airwaves+changed+England+forever/2206980/story.html>

Also there was an article featuring Keefers:

Canadian DJ and real-life pirate radio veteran Keith Hampshire talks about illegal pop broadcasts

<http://www.edmontonsun.com/entertainment/movies/2009/11/12/11717996-sun.html>

Here's the link to Cashbox and an article about Tom Lodge.

<http://www.cashboxcanada.ca/archives/oct9.html>

Scroll down to the bottom for the article and then back to the top and on the left is the cover of the magazine. Click on the cover picture to enlarge it and there is: "Tom Lodge and Radio Caroline"



<http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/news/la-et-pirate13-2009nov13,0,7027482.story?>

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=1203...>

Someone just mentioned Colin Dale but he also wrote himself: 'Hi Hans, breaking news as I'm starting up soon Radio Sutch. After 45 years it will come back. Keep in touch: [www.colindaleradiosutch.com](http://www.colindaleradiosutch.com)

During typing the report I was partly listening this morning to the Voice of Peace. No not the old recordings but live from the internet. Here's the exclusive story about the return of the station, some three weeks ago. It's written by Doug Wood:

<http://www.thevoiceofpeace.co.il/>

#### The Voice of Peace To Return

The Voice of Peace was the brainchild of peace campaigner Abie Nathan. The station broadcast from the Peace Ship, an old converted Dutch coaster, formerly named the Cito, from 1973 till 1993, Abie then closed the station down, removed most of the equipment, then sailed this dear old ship some 15 miles out to sea and put her to rest, she sank to the bottom of the Mediterranean on which she sat for over 20 years, entertaining, and sending her message of peace to the much troubled Middle East countries. She rode out many storms, with her dedicated crew, all risking their lives in the name of peace. I served my time on The VOP from October 1981 until April 1983, would I do it again? You bet, I loved it; It was one of the most exciting and rewarding times of my life. When I first got the job, all I was concerned about was, I was on a real radio station, it could have been anywhere in the world, but it was special because it was a pirate radio ship, and I had always dreamed of this since hearing Radio Caroline for the first time, this was Heaven.

Following a few shore leaves in Israel, I became more, and more fascinated in this plucky little country's people, and its fight for survival, I read about its rebirth and the heartache so many of its people went through to have a

place they could call home, and their hopes of just being left alone to live in peace in their own little corner of planet Earth. The Voice of Peace did its bit to try and bring the people of the region together, and find a way through their differences. By 1993, with the ship nearing the end of its serviceable life, Abie felt the ship had done all she could do and the station was closed. The closure of The Voice of Peace left a big whole in so many of its listeners' lives, the station had brought so many people together, and a spirit had been born.

Since leaving the ship all those years ago I have never managed to get it out of my system, all the treasured memories, and the connection I made with so many wonderful people from this beautiful country have stayed with me. Then only last year a very dear friend of mine, that I had always kept touch with in Israel, told me of a station in Tel Aviv that did VOP shows for an hour or so a day to keep its memory alive, and that I should go to their forum and make myself known to the listeners that went there, so I did. I gave my name, and the dates I was on the station, and asked "does anyone remember me?" the response was mind blowing, after some 25 years dozens of people answered back, it brought tears to my eyes, and rekindled the wonderful memories of the happiest 18 months of my life, I had found many dear friends once again, I was overjoyed.

I now started listening to the VOP shows, normally just an hour a day, and chatting on the forum with my re-found friends. Within a couple of weeks I got an E-Mail from the station's boss asking me if I would like to sit in for one of the DJ's while he was on vacation. Well I couldn't resist, so I did two weeks of that, which was so much fun, however this wonderful time was tarnished by the sad death of Abie Nathan during those two weeks. A couple of weeks after that, I was offered a weekly two hour show, again I couldn't refuse, so I had a think about what we could do, I decided we would raise the Peace Ship from the deep, and present "The Peace Ship Show". Now to raise the Peace Ship for real was totally out of the question of course and so we would take the magic of radio, being theatre of the mind to the extreme, and do it in our minds, I mean the Peace Ship was very rarely seen by the public anyway, so you could only believe it was there! So what's the difference? Within a few weeks we were on the air, from the ship, with a crazy crew, who all joined in with the show, and what fun we had, and the

listeners, who I named Vopers, seemed to like it. Soon we were switched to a primetime slot and I got thinking we are here for a long time, it was great.

During a chance meeting with Yaniv, a visiting Voper to the UK, we discussed the idea of launching a 24/7 VOP, I couldn't see how this could be done from the UK, but after a relatively short chat with my new friend Yaniv, I decided that we had a chance so put the idea to Tami Tzabari an Israeli friend of mine going back some 27 years. Tami was very involved with the existing VOP forum, if Tami was with us, she and Yaniv could work together on the Israel side, the office, and if I could get my computer wizard of a friend Paul Douglas, on the ship with myself and a crew of Ex VOP jocks, we could, with the aid of a very clever play-out system, re-create the sound of The Voice of Peace on the internet, and I think in all fairness "re-create the sound of The Voice of Peace" is the correct terminology, with respect to the original station. Within six weeks we had a fantastic website, with photos, and a forum, and all sorts of things going on VOP related, and the test transmission on the 1540 button, streaming our audio at 128 kilobits, the ship was always on 1540 AM, so we had to have a 1540 button.

The next job was to recruit as many of the original VOP jocks as possible to try and recreate that real VOP sound, so I contacted the people I knew and had worked with first, there were also other presenters I had in mind who I knew would sound good on the station, but most however will be ex VOP jocks. Other presenters both ex and new have offered their services since the word got out, and contacted us through our website. So are these guys giving up their day job and coming to work full time for the Voice of Peace? If only, I smell another Big L scenario! No that just won't work, although never say never. So the idea is to automate most of our output although many of the jocks are asking to do "recorded as live" shows and even "LIVE" which if the jock has a fully operational studio and can web cast live we can do it. I have already done many hours live during the test transmission to establish a connection with the audience, and that has been amazing. I've also been very naughty and have an FM relay of the web stream running from a small 500 milliwatt transmitter from .. let's call it the ship, so I can monitor the stream when I am on board!

Thanks to our very dedicated team, our running cost are very low, it would

be nice in time to cover those costs, and should any profit be made in the future, I really want to see the station give help, as it always did, to worthwhile causes in Israel. The station will be none religious, and none political, saying that, it's not easy to avoid politics completely, it has to be said the Israeli Government were always very tolerant of the Voice of Peace, they turned a blind eye, in fact they totally ignored the fact that the ship often sat inside territorial waters, and even broadcast on occasions from port when we used to go to refuel and take on water. In January 1983, following a storm, we lost our main anchor, so went off the air. We managed to avoid beaching the ship when our backup anchor finally held. The following morning we were less than a mile from the beach and bouncing around like a cork, Abie called me on the ship to shore, yes that was allowed also, he asked if everyone was ok on board, which most of us were, so he said, "go on the air and tell the story of the previous night" I said "we are only a mile from the beach" he said that didn't matter, so on the air we went, and we stayed in that position until a new anchor arrived, about 3 days later, with no sign of the authorities. If that had been Radio Caroline sitting a mile off Frinton, the police would have been all over the ship. Our website now comes out of Jerusalem, the original office was in Frug Street Tel Aviv for the best part of 20 years, so yes, I see us as an Israeli station, and the ship is still somewhere in the Mediterranean.



Former VOP Office building Photo Archive Hans Knot

We will, as before, be a top 40 station, playing the current hits and great hits from the past 50 years. Many of the old favourite shows will be back like Twilight Time, Country Call, The International Top 40, Beatles hour, Morning Music, Afternoon Delight, Siesta, Breakfast, with an original VOP breakfast show DJ, we hope Graham Day, Drive Time will be presented by our chief radio engineer, Paul Douglas. We also will continue with our message of Peace, from the people of Israel to the world, they just want to be left alone to live peacefully and securely, just like the rest of us. I want to recreate that great offshore radio feel, so we will be coming from the Peace Ship. We will do our bit; so you just use your imagination.

Doug Wood. Programme Manager.

<http://www.thevoiceofpeace.co.il/>

Glenn Arnold is the next one: 'Hi Hans, I've just read the report from Radio Day 2009, seen the pictures etc and am glad that everybody had a wonderful time. I am so very disappointed that I could not be there myself to meet my Laser heroes in person because of my work, believe me I tried to move heaven and earth to be there but it wasn't to be! Was it really 25 years ago? I was surprised to see some remains of the Communicator still in existence; I'd gladly exchange a bar of gold for some of those souvenirs if I had one! I did e-mail the guy who was apparently the 'owner' of the Communicator at the time of her scrappage about the possibility of buying a few small pieces as a keepsake but he never replied. Oh well, maybe one day I'll get lucky! Best Wishes to all for Christmas and the New Year, Glenn Arnold.

Lucky enough a lot of recordings have been saved Glenn, so I don't think you need an anchor from the Communicator in your loft or backroom!

Message from Michael Bates from Sealand: 'For a limited period of time only. To celebrate 30 years of our victory over the Dutch and German terrorist invasion of the Principality of Sealand. The Principality of Sealand will be offering from our website [www.sealandgov.org](http://www.sealandgov.org) "Individual Noble Titles" Lord, Lady, Baron and Baroness in recognition of support. During the invasion I (Prince Michael of Sealand) was held prisoner for some four days until I was landed illegally on the Dutch coast. We then launched a counter attack sliding down ropes from a helicopter 100 foot above the

raging North Sea and recaptured our fortress island. Also in appreciation for their services to the Principality of Sealand honorary titles are being issued to a select group of supporters, including Danny Wallace, Ben Fogle, Terry Wogan, George Stroumboulopoulos and Jeremy Clarkson. Michael Bates at Sealand.'

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of November we heard that Tom Merriman, the founder of TM Studios who wrote and recorded the first radio jingle ever recorded in Dallas (for KLIF, the station that inspired Big L) has died aged 85. He had been inducted into the Texas Radio Hall of Fame just one week earlier. The tribute website says. More on the Radio London website:

<http://www.radiolondon.co.uk/kneesflashes/happenings/octnovdec09/octnovdec01.html>

Well that rounds up this bumper edition from the Hans Knot International Radio Report for the month of December 2009. I think the longest I have ever published. Anyway keep the news and memories coming at [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl) and I hope you will all have a wonderful December month with all the Christmas warmth you can give to one other. Around the New Year I will be back with another issue. All the best, Hans Knot.