

HANS KNOT INTERNATIONAL REPORT JUNE 2011

Hello everybody and welcome to the June edition of the Hans Knot International Radio Report. Two months ago we had a regular report and last month it was the excellent Andy Archer Caroline in the 70's story. So a lot of e mails and so memories came in. Part of this will be highlighted in this issue; the other part will be used in July. So let's start with the first item, which is this time, the nicknames: I found a few ones during the past two months. Phil 'the thing big enough to swing the whole Northsea' Mitchell on Radio Caroline was the first. On Laser 558 there was another nickname for John 'does the deeds' Leeds.

Next we have an e mail from far away as Australia and our former shipmate from Radio London as well as Caroline days in the sixties, Norman St. John and he reflect on the record from Sandie Shaw, shown in the April edition and which one was marked 'Caroline not for sale': 'Thank you for your latest newsletter. The reason that the records in question, and all records, in the Radio Caroline library, were stamped 'Note For Sale', is because that the major Pirate Stations were given 'Pre-Release' copies and these were not for sale, sometimes the details of the singer/songwriter were just hand written. Radio Caroline used to stamp them so that anyone would know that it was in fact a record from the Caroline library. Sometimes we would receive on the weekly tender up to 50 different records, including LP's, EP's and Singles. All records were stamped "Not For Sale". Hope this answer clears it up for you. Kind regards, Norman St. John'.



Norman St. John, Photo: collection David Kendrid

Well thanks a lot Norman, and surely we will shake hands in 5 months at the annual RadioDay in Amsterdam were Norman will be one of our guests this year. But there were more e mails coming in, regarding the 'not for sale' stamps. Here what Paul Rusling, working for Caroline in the seventies, wrote: 'I do not think the Sandie Shaw single came from the Caroline ships in the 1960s. I think it came from somewhere in the Netherlands, because

(1) the picture cover did not exist in England, they were very, very rare and I don't believe Pye produced one until much later'.

(2) the picture cover says clearly NEGRAM on it, Pye's licensee label in Netherlands.

(3) I compared the disc label to my own copy and its different to the UK pressing - the characters of the catalog number are different size.
(4) The Music Publisher is different to the UK pressing. I don't think Caroline were getting discs from the Netherlands in those days; the UK companies were supplying them direct to Caroline House. Sounds like someone trying to add value to a disc. Paul Alexander Rusling.'

Well thanks a lot Paul for your input and seeing the comments sent by Norman we have to think that we're talking about two different periods. By the way, be sure that in the sixties also records were brought on to the

ships by Wijsmuller and so it's possible Dutch pressing came aboard. Next we go to Frank in Holland who's addicted to sixties music: 'Thanks for the report Hans. It must be around two years that I passed by coincidence the record shop 'Record Friend' in the neighbourhood of the New Market in Amsterdam. I was there before and the main thing they were selling was vinyl on LP but that time there was a lot of singles for sale, mostly from the sixties. A lot of songs, played by the offshore stations, including many of them with the shown 'Caroline not for sale' stamp. I asked the shopkeeper how he got so many of those stamped singles and he told me that they came from a legacy from a person who loved the pirates. At first I thought that those came from the Caroline ships but as there were also Dutch language singles I had my doubts at that conclusion. So I think someone, who had listened a lot to the British offshore stations in the sixties, must have bought a stamp himself for his collection. '

Thanks a lot Frank and so we have three answers on the question. We're going to reflection number 4 and see what Vivien has to say on this subject: 'Thanks for all the newsletters that you send. I noticed in the April letter about Sandie Shaw's disc marked with 'Radio Caroline not for sale'. I am sure lots of people have emailed with the answer to your query about this but I will tell you my answer anyway! During the 1960s the offshore stations were given new released records by record companies hoping for the records to be played. These records were often given as prizes at disc nights/parties in London to fans that answered questions correctly or mimed well to records. Sometimes the discs would be handed over to visitors on pleasure boats going out to see Radio Caroline and London. I had many records given to me like this and they were all marked with the station name and 'not for sale'. Sometimes the DJs had written on the covers if the record was good or not. The not so good records ended up as prizes for people like me! Obviously the person trying to sell Sandie's record was a radio fan too. I thought I would send you a picture of two of the record sleeves that I kept. I gave away all of the records that I was given as prizes at Caroline disc nights or on visits to the ship, years ago, as they were rather mediocre. Except for this one by Groove Holmes - he played organ jazz. I like both sides of the disc. One of the sleeves was signed by Robbie Dale. These sleeves were actually on the Mi Amigo ship at one time! I will look forward to reading the opinions of others about the Sandie Shaw record sleeve! Best wishes from Vivien.'



Mary Payne wrote us: 'I am very sorry to have had to write it, but our Radio London tribute to major Fab Forty artist John Maus of the Walker Brothers, is now on the website.' But next to the sad news Mary and Chris are bringing a lot of other interesting things too, so see at www.radiolondon.co.uk

Well who does remember 'KC' on Laser in the eighties? Well he's back in the radio industry. He wrote me recently: 'Hi Hans ... always enjoy your newsletters ... yep still in broadcasting here is my latest bio: 'Reporter and Meteorologist Kirk Clyatt came back to broadcasting and to CBS21 in December 2010 after working for Apple, Inc. It was quite an education to become intimately familiar with Apple's amazing products, but it is great to be back home in broadcasting and in Pennsylvania. Kirk holds the seal of approval from both the American Meteorological Society (AMS) and the National Weather Association (NWA).

<http://www.whptv.com/content/bios/KirkClyatt/KirkClyattComplete.aspx>

And what about Kirk reading the news?

<http://www.casttv.com/video/1dmi8b/kirk-clyatt-whsv-tv-3-video>

Well late March, the former REM Island platform once used in international waters, way back in 1964 as a radio and TV stations, has been restored completely and was towed late March from the North of the Province of Groningen to one of the harbours in Amsterdam. It will be re-used again including as a restaurant. Here some recent footage:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jvXnV2x8Kr0&NR=1&feature=fvwp>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01le6te9b0M&feature=rela>

Next we hear from Roger Kemp: 'Hans, I have seen some of your columns in offshore supporter's magazines and books for many years now, so I know you have a vast knowledge on offshore radio. I wonder if you may be able to help me with my quest to find out a deejay who worked on Radio Caroline back in the 60's namely Peter James. His theme tune was 'tiger rag', but I don't know who the artists were who recorded it. Would you or anyone you know happen to know have any idea on this? I'm only a fairly new person on these computers, so I'm afraid this is why it's taken me so long to ask anyone this question. My belief is that he only spent about 1 or 2 months on Radio Caroline and then went to Radio 390 for some time. Next he went to ITV as a programme director or something like that. The last I heard was that he retired to New Zealand due to bad health some time ago. I don't know if he has an e.mail address, otherwise I would write to him personally. Very best wishes to you, Roger Kemp.'



Peter James. Archive: Pirate Hall of Fame

Well Roger here is what Jon Myer from the Pirate Hall of Fame wrote about him on his sixties pages: 'Peter James Born on 18th November 1941 in Masterton, New Zealand, he was educated at St.Paul's College in Auckland. Peter's first job was as a trainee announcer on Radio 2ZC, Hawkes Bay. After working for the New Zealand Broadcasting Corporation for four years, he set sail for the UK. Within weeks of arriving, in January 1965, he was back at sea on Radio Caroline South. His stay there was short but in

September 1965 he returned to the air as an integral part of Radio 390's first team of announcers. He was soon appointed Senior Presenter and, when he became Programme Controller the following year, he left the fort to work for the station on land. When 390 closed down, he worked briefly as an announcer for Rediffusion Television before joining the BBC as a producer. He was with London's Capital Radio from its start in 1973 and, for a time, presented a classical music show. He was also Head Of Music. From Capital, he returned to the BBC as Head of the Transcription Service, making programmes to sell overseas. In 1993 he moved to Australia to run ABC Classic FM. He left in 2000 following ill health and The Pirate Radio Hall Of Fame wishes him a long and happy retirement.'

And if anyone knows more about Peter James or his themetune don't hesitate to write in at HKnot@home.nl

Next an e mail from Kevin Russel: 'Hi Hans. Just to let you know that I started my internet radio show in February. I meant to let you know sooner. The station is called Mushroom FM and can be found at: www.mushroomfm.com

There is a podcast of my last show, which you will find if you go to my presenter page. My show is called Flashback Gold and is on every Tuesday at 7 pm in the UK for two hours.

www.mushroomfm.com/kevinrussell

My show is called Flashback Gold and goes out every Tuesday evening at 7 PM in the UK for two hours. Many thanks for including me in your newsletter. Cheers Kevin Russell.' Well good luck with the station Kevin!

As promised to Sherri Lynn some news about her recent activities:

'Hi Hans: Many thanks for your wonderful report for this month. Once again, brilliant! Hans, so sorry, but no photos are available of those days when I was promoting records. However, I asked our good friend, Larry Tremaine if he has any from when we were working out of Beacon Records, owned by Milton Samuel. Larry said that he did take a lot of pictures but doesn't know where they are at present, so perhaps one day he will come across them and forward one or more to you. Meanwhile, interestingly, I am back into promoting records once again....after all these years! Amazing!

The most current is one called 'Eart Fire and Water' written by a Cornish musician, Greg Woods. I heard him speaking to Debbie McCrorry on BBC Radio Cornwell some weeks ago about this song which he was inspired to write as he was watching the devastating events of Sendai. The demo of his song was played (which I thought was really good even 'as is' ...and he invited local musicians and singers to record the song with him two days later at the Black and White Recording Studio in Redruth. I and others contacted him and the song was recorded, mixed, mastered and the artwork for the CD Cover all done by the end of that day, Friday March 18th. It was available to purchase on the Decadent Records label on Monday morning as a CD and mp3 thanks to the owner of Decadent Media Inc., Marc Hopgood, who had heard the demo when it was played on BBC Radio Cornwell Afternoon Show. He called Greg Woods, and everything was up and running by Monday. Since then it has become available on Amazon.co.uk, iTunes in many countries around the world including UK, USA, Europe, Japan, Canada, New Zealand and other outlets as Eart Fire & Water by Friends of Shelterbox.



We are getting some plays and press coverage locally and hoping soon to get the support of national and international radio stations as well as other internet and community stations globally. Util next time, have a wonderful day, week and month ahead. God bless ya!. Sherri Lynn.'

Thanks Sherri and lots of success with the record!

It doesn't happen too many times, that someone new to the addresslist has sent me twice an email with a question, within days. So here's the second one from Roger Kemp: 'Hello Hans and thank you for your April report. I have read it and found it very interesting, I am now looking through all the others

gradually starting from the first one you put on www.hansknot.com . I was looking for people names that I remember last night, and I wondered about Carl Conway, who I knew was an actor in films and T.V. programmes before joining Radio Caroline. On the site that I found about his career it said that he had died in 1992. Do you know if this is true? As I thought he was still with us. If it is true, in my opinion it is a great shame, because when I heard him on the radio it always seemed he had a reassuring tone about the way he put his self over to listeners. Once again, thanks and I will be waiting for the next report. Best wishes from Roger Kemp.



Once again we're going to the wonderful pages from the Pirate Hall of Fame to see what Jon Myer wrote about Conway: 'Carl Conway Born in Ramsgate, Kent, Carl was educated at St.Lawrence College. On finishing school he became an actor, working in local rep. He also appeared in a number of television plays and films, as well as advertisements. He played alongside Charlie Chaplin in A King in New York and The Great Van Robbery, Idle on Parade, Nudist Paradise and The Safecracker as well as two BBC Doctor Who adventures. He joined Radio Caroline at its launch in March 1964 but did not care for life at sea and was mainly heard on the advertisements and interviews recorded on dry land. During the eighties he presented a programme of big band music on Invicta Radio in Kent. In October 2008, The Pirate Radio Hall Of Fame heard from the man himself. He told us that he continued acting and doing voice-over work for documentaries after Caroline's sixties closedown, as well as the Invicta programmes, but now

keeps himself busy organising film shows in old people's homes and community centres.'

Well Roger you see he's still alive and so it must be good news for you. And as we're talking about The Pirate Hall of Fame I've to congratulate him on his very recent birthday as he became 60 years of age. And many years to go Jon!

Next an urgent request from the USA written by Jacqui Tracey: 'Hello folks, I am launching a fund raising campaign for Umi Tom Lodge. Jacqui Tracy here, former Music Industry Arts student Fanshawe College year of 78/79. Just spent the last week visiting with Umi Tom Lodge in California. He has contracted cancer and he would like to go to the clinic of Dr Burzynski, which is in Texas. (see Dr. B's web site below.) This clinic has a high success rate in curing cancer with non-chemo, non-operational and no-radiation, which is his preference. He needs to stay for 4 weeks approx. and it would be ideal to gather enough funds to cover the treatment, the stay and the travel and to send a companion to help with his care. To all who receive this please give generously with your loving thoughts as well. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Please forward to all you know that would like to participate from his Radio Caroline Days and his Fanshawe College days. It is well within our realm of possibility to do this. We have the power to communicate and radiate our support and love. To make a donation go to this Paypal account. <http://umiji.org/donations> Now is the time to do this! The Umi Foundation is a non profit organization and tax receipts are available for US Donations. For those sending snail mail the address is 7919 Empire Grade Santa Cruz California 95060 With love and gratitude to you all. Jacqui Tracy <http://www.burzynskiclinic.com/travel-information.html>

News about the Red Sands Project being on air again in July: 'With more than 90% of interested listeners polled saying Red Sands Radio should be a full time entity, we're planning a come back in July 2011 giving us 5 years history and chance to build up the resources and personnel before considering a full time licence. In the delicate financial climate it's not easy to predict how much further we might take the Community station for Coastal Towns and Thames Estuary basin. Over the last four years we've had

to underwrite a significant proportion of our operating costs. The small-dedicated team behind the station is driven to continue. But we need more support and not just from wanna-be DJ/presenters: I.T sales, marketing, promotion and publicity, and financial backing. Incredibly licence fees to operate a short term costs about the same as running a Community Station for a year! You have to question if the Government actually want short-term stations or see them as just revenue spinners?

As far as listeners are concerned they make no distinction between a National, Regional, Local or Community Station, irrespective of the resources behind them. Since the demise of the 'Promise of Performance' Regional and Local stations have ditched their local identity and provide scant local information, unlike Community. Stations that are forced by their licence to provision this costly service Red Sands Radio has proved it can be successful through its own blend of music, local information, interviews and features. We're back in 2011 as part of your local Community. If you would like to support us in anyway we'd love to hear from you.

Radio Red Sands launches on 2nd July 2011 on 87.7FM and on-line at www.redsandsradio.co.uk

Red Sands Radio, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 2PF

07711 512 991

Bob Le-Roi - Founder and Programme Director

Well Bob I hope you and your team once again have a lot of success next month!



A cartoon showing Bob Le Roi

Well here's an interesting tip from Ingo Paternoster in Bavaria, Germany:

I'd like to thank former AFNer Denny McKell for the website below. It's filled with lots of AFRS material

http://www.digitaldeliftp.com/lookaround/la_networkspot_afrts.htm

The Offshore Radio Themes pages at Offshore Echo's have now been updated, with more themes added and more audio clips.

Have a look at: <http://www.offshoreechos.com/offshorethemes/index.htm>

The International Radio Festival (IRF) returns for its second year from June 9th-19th at the Papiersaal in Sihlcity, Zurich, Switzerland, bringing together 30 of the most ground breaking and forward-thinking radio stations from across all four continents to present more than 50 specially commissioned radio shows live on-air, plus a series of in-depth panel discussions featuring some of the world's most renowned radio faces. Each of the radio shows will be broadcast to a world-wide audience, giving listeners across the globe a rare opportunity to listen to how the world sounds.

As part of the programme for the festival the IRF is proud to announce that

this year their guest country will be the United Kingdom (14th and 15th June), celebrating a rich and pioneering broadcasting history with particular emphasis on the UK's long standing pirate radio tradition, which has been a breeding ground for some of the country's, and the world's, most innovative broadcasters. Celebrating the UK, there will also be guest appearances from a host of radio luminaries and icons including Tony Prince, Tony Blackburn, Emperor Rosko, Ed Stewart, and Paul Burnett, as well as Karen Pearson's radio show "Selector" produced for the British Council and heard in over 35 countries across the globe. As if that were not already enough British radio culture, the infamous co-founder of KISS FM, Normski, will kick-off every day with his breakfast show at 8am CET, broadcasting 'live' from the festivals hotel lobby, the Four Points by Sheraton. The IRF offers a unique window into how the radio industry works across the globe, so don't miss the opportunity to tune-in, or better still, visit the festival studio, open every day from 5pm 'till late, between the 9th and 19th June in Zurich, and be part of music radio history. The 2nd International Radio Festival takes place between the 9th and 19th June 2011 at the Papiersaal at Sihlcity, in Zurich, Switzerland. The International Radio Festival - Listen to how the World Sounds.

www.internationalradiofestival.com

In the New York Times early April there was an interesting article about Radio Caroline and her future:

www.nytimes.com/2011/04/04/business/media/04radio.html

Let's go to Kent and information about The Album Show with Jerry Wright on 107.8 Academy FM: 'I just had to tell you about my new show. I'm playing proper music for a change Classic Album Tracks . Classic Rock / Soul / Reggae Etc. Those forgotten Classics that most of today's radio stations have swept under the carpet and replaced it with talentless twaddle.



Jerry Wright Photo: Rob Olthof

Give your ears a treat and remember those classic tracks. I'm really looking forward to doing this and I hope you will be able to tune in from Sunday 17th April. Send in your requests in for your Favourite Album Tracks and I'll play them for you. Best to send them in advance and I'll get them together for future programmes. via the facebook wall or

classicalalbumtracks@yahoo.co.uk also welcome any of your suggestions to really make Sunday Evenings rock on the radio again!

Tune In to 107.8 Academy Fm (Thanet) Sunday 18.00 - 22.00 or

Listen Live: <http://78.129.232.99/academythanet?.wma>

<http://en-gb.facebook.com/pages/The-Album-Show-with-Jerry-Wright-on-1078-Academy-F203049543047667>

Some of the news in this issue is old, this due to the bumper Andy Archer edition it wasn't possible to bring it earlier. Sunday April 10th aty the age of 85 Philip Solomon passed away. The news was spread around by Con Cluskey, one of the members of the Bachelors. Of course this was one of the groups which were made big by entrepreneur Solomon. In the sixties Solomon also was director for Planet Productions and so part of Radio Caroline. He brought artists to fame like David McWilliams, Peter Sarstedt, The Dubliners and more versus his Major Minor Records. About his involvement with the Caroline organisation is suggest to read an article about the people within the Caroline organisation in the sixties of last century, which I wrote some years ago:

<http://www.icce.rug.nl/~soundscapes/DATABASES/CAR/car03.shtml>

Recently some memories were send to me regarding one of the failed projects whereby a radioship was ready never to be transmitting in the North Sea, as was meant to do. It was the Nanell project in the eighties of

last centuries and the memories were written by Paul Rusling, who gave permission to publish them in the report: 'It took shape during 1985. The mast was built in the Kent countryside, and was about 10 feet square across the base and in five sections went to 200 feet high. It was designed to telescope, and was built at fabricators in Kent. I made a mistake of taking along two former Caroliners, one of whom shopped us to the DTI, who turned up to arrest the mast at 4pm one Friday afternoon. The mast was only 3/4 built and the fool investigator asked the yard foreman to keep it quiet that the DTI had been and they would be back on the next Monday.



MV Nannell Archive Freewave Media Magazine

We worked overnight to complete it and at 3 am on the Sunday morning it left the yard, with a police escort, for a drive up the M20 to London, where we hid it in a scrap yard for a few weeks, before another Police Escorted trip down to Plymouth for the ferry to Santander. It was then fitted to the Nannell, which meanwhile had 'made a run for it' from Southampton, as we thought our cover had been blown. We were fitting her out in Southampton docks, with the QE2 berthed just astern of us, and fore of us was the Silver Moon - a ship that was busted a few months later running guns from Libya to the IRA in Arklow! We had her dinner on her twice. Obviously MI5's famed surveillance was not very hot at that time.

Our Chief Engineer was Joe Vogel (Mighty Joe Young of Laser fame) and when I left the project we had just recruited Stuart Vincent and Dave Richards from Caroline. The ships owners were Harvey Metals, but there were others in the syndicate too. They wanted to cut corners and pay no money - our Caroline recruits had bragged that Caroline didn't pay most

people, ran up bills and never paid and generally just blagged everyone, so one particular Harvey brother decided we should do the same. I had no time for that sort of caper and a bigger and better contract on the boil, so moved off to that. The former Caroline and Lux guy I had recruited to programme one station and who was putting up £200k also bowed out at that point - he was still owed wages by Caroline from 1967!



Part of the transmitter room Nannell
Photo: Archive Freewave Media Magazine

The transmitters on the ship were: a 10 KW Collins, which we bought from a station in Knoxville Tennessee, which was our second service, going on 801 KHz - that was WSOL, sexy smooth soul all day, and religion all night - arranged by Robbie Day of Radio Caroline fame (Paul Fairs) and a south London evangelist called Stephen (someone) and an RCA 50kW AMpliphase, which we bought from WZZD in Philadelphia, better known as WIBG, home of the good guys.

We had ordered a PAM jingles package but as far as I know these had not been delivered, and the naff ones were some demos - possibly submitted by EAP, I dont know. I can't recall hearing them. We had some good music biz plugging deals lined up, most of the stuff that Annie Challis had bagged for Radio Caroline, but which the Caroline 'anarchists' had dropped and pissed off completely. Some of them even paid upfront (and they wouldn't do that for Caroline) - both Jive and Carrere Records did, and we even had Samantha Fox at our road shows. We did about five show, I think, Samantha doing her first ever live appearances with her first single. I well remember one night in Herne Bay with a certain lady executive of Tamla Motown when we agreed a deal for around £12,000 a month for just 3 plays an hour - they were going to relaunch Motown Chartbusters in a 4 month campaign and we

were the lynch in of it. She stayed the night with one of our execs, and at breakfast the big gag, from her was that this was payola, and there should maybe be a discount on the plug prices.

I later heard about the stupid trip with the Nannell across the Bay of Biscay with no mast stays. Idiomatic! That lovely tower just toppled over the side into the sea. I don't know much about what happened when they sat off North Foreland for a few months (were they near the Aardappel bank?) as we spent the next 9 months in Freeport, Grand Bahama. (It's a hard life this radio lark, isn't it!) Paul Rusling.'

Well Paul thanks about sharing and hopeful one day you'll find time to write one more book on all your involvements in several radio projects through the past decades. Talking about the Aardappel bank, which is situated on the North Sea near the Belgium/Holland coast, I can tell you that there was in 1979 a radio ship breaking her anchor and running on that bank. One of the deejays at that time on Radio Mi Amigo 272, transmitting from the MV Magdalena, was Eric Mess. It's sad to report that Eric died on May 13th in England. He was only 53 years of age. Eric also worked for Radio Caroline in 1979/1980 under the name Tom van der Velde.



Captain and deejays on Magdalena
On the left Eric Mess. Photo: Freewave Archive.

Let's go back to the last issue of the International Report, which brought us part 2 of Andy Archer's wonderful written memories. Again several people reflected including Paul Rusling, who also worked on Caroline during a short period in 1983. 'Just had an anorak heaven hour, reading Part 2 of Andy

Archer's story. So many wonderful memories flooding back, loads of japes, laughs a plenty. What fabulous times Caroline gave us, in those days certainly. I can't accept that at least some of those days will never return - they told us that in 1968, in 1980, and still some miseries claims we have heard the last of offshore radio. I don't think so (but maybe not as we know it).

I really do recommend Andy's story, and am especially looking forward to Kate Cary's book, which is complete and ready to roll soon, and of course the long-awaited memoirs of old Twiglet (Roger Day). Kate figures strongly in Andy's story - one of the Caroline unsung heroes. What a groovy chick!

Marc Jacobs, known from Mi Amigo and Caroline days wrote: 'Just read the first part of Andy Archer's story. I did download the full story. Those stories about a lack of money and more are so well known to me. You can say that it happened to the Caroline decades all the time, over and over again. It's a wonder Caroline did transmit so long from international waters. Andy's story is reading like a 'boys book'.'

Clive Warner is another deejay who worked for Radio Caroline and after reading Andy's story he wrote to me: 'Quite amazing story, really. It explains a lot as to why the ship was like it was when I arrived. Is there a next part, or is that it? OK. I was laughing out loud during parts of that. Especially about the girl who couldn't get an 'organism'! Clive Warner.'

Thanks a lot Clive, and maybe there will be more in the future on RNI and City days, the both stations where Andy Archer also worked for. Anyone who also wants to share his or her memories with us please contact me at HKnot@home.nl

Next one from Belgium, from a guy called 'Klaas', who was once a deejay on Radio Monique from the Ross Revenge under the deejay name 'Bart Steenman': 'Hello Hans, a nice story from Andy Archer. I've read it completely and gives a good picture on what happened when Caroline was organised from the Netherlands. I think we have to emphasize that during certain periods, also in the eighties with Radio Monique, the people within the Caroline organisation had to be very thankful to the Dutch people who brought in the money to run Caroline, something important which has mostly

not appeared in several publications. Even nowadays still Dutch people are working as a volunteer on the Ross Revenge, doing maintenance.'



Bart Steenman on deck Ross Revenge
Photo: Collection Bart Steenman

Roger Stafford sent me, late April, a link to an article about a part of Zimbabwe where, since the eighties, no state radio or television could be seen. People listened, if they had a radio with shortwave, to stations like the BBC World Service and Radio Netherlands. Read in the article, after clicking below, how the people did solve the problem and getting a radio station of their own. <http://mg.co.za/article/2011-04-18-live-from-zimbabwe/>

Next from Scotland here's a link sent in by Graeme Stevenson: 'This programme might interest you, touches briefly on 16" BBC Transcription discs, fascinating what recorded material generally they have there, link to two hour programme at end of blog, Jarvis is shown round by Nigel Griffith who gives the history of the Gramophone Library, how it is catalogued and much more. Extracts played include something from the BBC 50 Years of Broadcasting 1972 LP.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/jarviscocker/2011/04/arvis-at-the-bbc-archives.shtml>

In April, again on a nice Saturday, the annual Veronica day was held in Hotel Lapershoek in Hilversum, organised by Juul Geleick and Ad Bouman. On such a day a lot of people are seeing each other to talk about Veronica and other

related things. And so it could happen that I was reminiscing with Juul Geleick about the REM Island. This structure was used in 1964 as base for the Radio and Television Noordzee off the Dutch coast near Noordwijk. From this organisation later, in 1966, the TROS was born, a public broadcaster. Juul worked after his Veronica period a long time for the TROS and told me he had visited early this century, together with some colleagues, the island.



Juul in special survival outfit (collection Geleick)

For that occasion the organisation had ordered 50 copies of a special 'Zuid Wester' cap, which were given to those who joined me at the REM Island. De TROS heeft er slechts 50 van laten maken. It was April 29th 2004 and we got together at the FC Katwijk football ground. An helicopter from Belgium took us to the REM Island and we all had to be dressed with a survival outfit. It could happen that the helicopter could collapse in the sea (!) It was exactly a 5 minutes flight and we were welcomed on the platform by mister Guus, who was the administrator on the REM Island. He would stay on the platform till the day it was taken away some years later. On April 29th 2004 we had a meeting of the enterprise council and a nice dinner there.'

Thanks Juul for the information and as we do publish a lot of radio t-shirts in the report, this time this special cap, only made in a circulation of fifty copies.



Photo: Juul Geleick

For photos of the Veronica day in Hilversum go to: <http://www.offshore-radio.de/images4/veronicadag2011/index.htm>

It was reader J Broekema who gave us an interesting link regarding RNI: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kaTQOneyhxE>

Celtic Voices is an online radio station established in the year 2000. It has crossed the digital divide and is now broadcasting its programmes on the medium wave. Bridgend based Celtica Radio is syndicating its programmes on Mid Wales' new local radio station, Radio Hafren. The On-Line broadcaster, known internationally as a champion for new and independent musicians is now taking to the Mid-Wales airwaves during the hours of darkness from twelve midnight. The stations Managing Director, William Everatt, said: "A couple of years ago we experimented with transmitting on the Medium Wave using the facilities of a supportive mainland European Broadcaster. The transmissions took advantage of the atmospheric effects that the Medium Wave or AM band is subject to late at night. These characteristics ensured that the broadcasts could be received throughout most of Central Europe and the East Coast of the UK."

"I'm so very grateful to Radio Hafren for giving us this opportunity and the owners themselves for supporting us. We've spent eleven long years working to get our shows broadcast on UK radio. Not only will it bring our programmes to a whole new audience of late night listeners in Mid Wales and

further afield. But as our material is syndicated during the hours of darkness, we will no doubt pick up what are known as DX, or distance, listeners as well." All the shows will also be available on-line to download or to listen again for one week to one month after the initial broadcast. Thomas Pain, joint owner of Radio Hafren said: "We've had an excellent relationship with Celtica Radio since January, and like us they have the same business ethos and local broadcasting values. Plus they have already produced popular shows for us in both English and Welsh. Indeed, the programmes produced by Celtica actually assisted in the transferring by Ofcom of our broadcast licence, so we know that we've got a tried and tested product already accepted by the regulator."

www.radiohafren.co.uk/contact.html

[Celtica Radio - www.celticaradio.com](http://www.celticaradio.com)



The Radio Day 2011 will take place on Saturday 12th November 2011, in Hotel Casa 400 in Amsterdam, Eerste Ringdijkstraat 4. Doors will be open from 10:30h CET. The Radio Day will take place from 11:00 to 17:30h CET. Admission is € 14,-. There's no need to order a ticket in advance.

Preliminary programme:

11:00 Opening

11:15 The Story of Radio Netherlands' "Media Network": A dialogue between Jonathan Marks and Andy Sennitt

12:05 Presentation of the new Laser 558 book written by Hans Knot

12:15 The Gerard van Dam Interview (part of a new video)

12:30 Radio Delmare adventure (under reserve)

13:30 The forgotten stations from former wartime defense forts: A panel with Paul Freeman (Radio Essex), Colin Dale (Radio Sutch), Guy Hamilton (Essex), Bill Rollins (Tower), Michael Bates (Sealand), John Stewart (KING, Essex) and John Ross-Barnard (Invicta, KING)

14:30 'Op volle kracht: Herinneringen aan Radio Veronica' Memories to the early days of Radio Veronica as an offshore station (names to be mentioned soon).

15:30 Get Your Kicks On 266 - Radio London Memories

16:30 The Radio Day 2011 Awards - presented by Robbie Dale and Hans Knot:

"An Outstanding Contribution to Offshore Radio" (3), "Offshore Radio Top Technical Support" (1), "Offshore Radio Writers and Historians" (1), "The Radio Anoraks Award" (1)
17:30 Farewell

For more information and updates check: www.radioday.nl



Next e mail comes from Chris Faulkner: 'Hi Hans. I hope you have a relaxing time at Knot Towers! Secondly, the attached photo was posted on the Ships Nostalgia Website asking for information about it along with the line "Seen in Venezuelan waters (off the coast of Margarita Island). Looking at the masts, could this be an offshore signal transmitter vessel?" To me, she doesn't look too much like a radio ship, (although the masts are quite tall) but maybe someone out there will know better? Would you please include it in your next bulletin? Cheers. Chris Faulkner. '



Well Chris almost a flat sea and a very nice ship. I hope I don't dream tonight.

From Ingo Paternoster the next news: The Rick Dees in the Morning Show started up again in L.A. on May 4th. Clear Channel is bringing Dees and his team back to Los Angeles on Rythmic AC 92.3-FM. Dees said "I am proud to be welcomed back into the number one radio market in the world, playing

some of the best music ever recorded and especially getting the opportunity to reunite with a long list of Clear Channel friends." Clear Channel Los Angeles Market Manager Greg Ashlock said, "Rick is synonymous with radio in Los Angeles and this genre of music is perfect for him as he introduced many of these artists that ultimately paralleled his career path of popularity."

Jan van Heeren is regular on the net spotting special things related to offshore radio and this time he comes with a photograph of a mini Radio Caroline racing care from 1965:

http://cgi.ebay.nl/RADIO-CAROLINE-FJ-RACING-CAR-SHOW-1965-/380334257831?pt=UK_Sports_Memorabilia_ET&hash=item588db036a7#ht_500wt_922

Bas Wesseling from Noordwijk reflected on the news that in November the new Laser 558 book will be published and so I exchanged some e-mails with him about his all time favorite station Laser 558: 'It's amazing that after more than 25 years the station is still on my mind almost daily. For instant listening to the old AM programs. In 1984 and 1985 I was newspaperboy in the morning and in my cycle bag was, next to the newspapers, a transistor which was tuned in to Laser so I could listen to Ric Harris. Lucky enough I'm not the only one who is a 'Laser Lover'. On you tube I found a short movie from someone who had rebuilt the Communicator on scale complete with a mini AM transmitter.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CiMkg3GBwn8&feature=youtube_gdata_playlist

I think for the third time in this report attention to the REM island. This photo has been taken last month by Lion Keezer. With thanks of course.



Remember Doug Wood? Well he wrote about one of the projects he's working for: 'Hi Hans. The Voice of Peace International has now switched to a new website at www.1540thevoiceofpeace.co.uk the new site is bigger, brighter, and much more interactive. The VOP International will continue to promote Love and Peace, including the concept of Loving Awareness. Streaming online at 128 kbps. The music policy is Big Hits, and lots of them. both old and new, but no Rap. Our roots remain firmly in the spirit of offshore radio. The Voice of Peace International is now supported by a small amount of advertising on air, as well as website ads. Our income is spent on the day to day running costs, as well as investment in new broadcast equipment. Our hope is that eventually our income will exceed running costs so that we can make donations to worthy causes, something which we did last year. Doug Wood. Programme Manager.'

Thanks a lot Doug and of course a lot of success. Next is a lady writing in, called Lauren Love:

'Hello there, after much research, I have come across your e-mail address several times now and was wondering whether you can help me with something. I am writing to you on behalf of my partner (Joel Duncan) who has recently found out that Gerry Duncan (radio producer of Radio Caroline many years ago) was in fact, his brother. We are trying to find out more about him as both of his parents have now passed away and we were hoping that maybe you would have a few photos or information about him.'



Publicity Photo Caroline Organisation

If not, do you have any contacts you think could help me!? I really hope to hear back from you. Kind regards, Lauren Love.'

Lauren thanks for you e mail. The only information I've of Gerry is the one I've added in a personal mail to you. During first years of Radio Caroline in the sixties he was working there, but then left the organisation. I must say I never met him as I was starting working as radio historian way back in 1969 and wrote the history on the first years after diving in archives as well as meeting many people from the past. But that's exclusive Gerry - amongst others. A pity I can't help you more at the moment. But when you've searched on the net for my name you've probably seen that I've an international radio report every month which is send to some 4000 people around the world so I will pay attention to the question and maybe some will have more memories to Garry I will add you to the list of people who get the report so you can follow it.

Here's what I found on the Pirate Hall of Fame: Gerry Duncan (or Jerry Duncan) was heard occasionally on Radio Caroline during the early days of the station but was mainly employed behind the scenes as a producer, making taped programmes on land and recording commercials. He was also responsible for Caroline's "sound of the nation" jingle package. Born in 1937 in London, he served in the RAF before finding work as assistant to film director Lewis Gilbert. Gerry worked on a couple of major films, Light Up

The Sky and Sink The Bismark, before moving into television in 1960 as a cameraman with ATV. He joined Radio Caroline four years later and stayed until January 1967. He died during the seventies.

And talking about the Pirate Hall of Fame it's update time again:

'I have carried out this month's update to The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame a little earlier than usual. In May 1971, forty years ago, there was a firebomb attack on Radio Northsea International's ship, the mv Mebo II.

In part seven of The RNI Story we relive that night with dramatic audio clips and seven pages of contemporary press reports. We also pay tribute to Philip Solomon, an influential director of Radio Caroline during the sixties, who died a few weeks ago. My thanks, as always, to everyone who has contributed. Best wishes, Jon, The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame

<http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk/>

From one to another update we go to Whitstable in Kent:

'Welcome to the early summer update.' ScrapBook' has Red Sands Radio - Part 16 with a visit to the Red Sands Fort by some notable household names. There's a batch of photographs of Radio Caroline's 'Ross Revenge' in her last few months at sea off the South Falls Head in the early 1990's. 'One Subject One Link' looks at a land-based pirate station 'Funky FM'.

No bids so far in the 'Dutch' on-line auction for the single 'The King is Dead' by Radio Monique's Eddie Ouwens recorded under the name Danny Mirror, so we'll leave it a little longer with No Reserve. You'll also find more titles in the 'CD Rack' & Record Store'. And the Sailing Season's open with dates for trips into the Thames Estuary. Enjoy your visits.

www.bobleroi.co.uk

From Norway I got the next e-mail from Sven Martinsen, in which information he got from Ronny Forslund : 'I just got the confirmation from the PTS (The Swedish Post and Telecom Agency) that we may also use 603 kHz which is the original Radio Nord channel. In 1962 it was 602 kHz but the frequency plan was changed in 1978. We are licensed to broadcast with 2,5 kW on 603 kHz from Sala and 1512 kHz from Kvarnberget. The latter frequency will be used for maximum ground wave towards Stockholm. So far the SW frequencies have not been decided. Do spread the message in any forum you like and why not invite your friends to join this group? At the moment Blogger is down but more information will be published continuously

on www.radionordrevival.blogspot.com They plan to broadcast from the the museum ship, the former icebreaker St Erik.'

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_Sankt_Erik

The revival will be held from 27th to 29th May 2011 and Martin van der Ven sent us some more links. Have fun in the weekend!

<http://radiohistoria.jvnf.org/en/endex.htm>

<http://www.radionordrevival.blogspot.com/>

http://jvnf.org/radio/Radio_Nord_Revival.m3u

A historic lightship has finally made its way to its new Harwich home. The LV18, owned by the Pharos Trust, arrived at the Ha'Penny Pier, after almost two years of work making it into a tourist attraction. The lightship was, during the past decade, several times used for RSL broadcasts as well as BBC Radio Essex.



Photo: Pharos Trust

On July 28th 1966 viewers to the French Television saw a marvelous special in black and white about offshore radio with for us some rare recordings.

Here you can find it:

www.ina.fr/video/CPF07011433/pop-pirate.fr.html

PJ of Special Music Radio did sent the next report about a trip on a boat, playing around, thinking to be a pirate radio station, recording some shows, which will be aired later: 'After months of planning, scripting new promos and

jingles and editing, the Special Music Radio Event 2011 took place on May 13th. We arrived on Wednesday afternoon at various times, booked into Boaters Guest House which is between the seafront and harbour. The SMR this year was Neon Nancy, Mandy Marton, Pete Bryant, Paul Dennis and I. We had a special guest, a much loved Weymouth resident Ivor, known by some as Ivor the Sailor and to SMR as Captain Ivor.

Before Nancy arrived, I took Paul and Mandy to the harbour and for a couple of pints and a meal in The Ship Inn, which has had quite a make over inside and out, although now a very modern and stylish looking pub now, it has retained all its lovely Nautical items. It was nice to get to know each other and have a good chat about the following day and maybe how we could later that evening all get together and work out a schedule for the programmes.

Pete Bryant was doing his own thing exploring the harbour and the pubs. After about an hour or so, it was time to go and met Nancy, when she arrived, it was lovely to see her again as we've not met up since the last event back in 2007. Once Nancy had checked into her room at Boaters, we went back to the harbour and enjoyed a lovely meal upstairs in The George Inn which has a lovely view of the harbour. I had the Crispy Belly Pork, Mash and gravey, it was lovely....Nancy being an American had a T Bone Steak!



P.J. Special Music Radio

We then met up at The Ship Inn and everyone got on well and the conversations flowed as did the beers! I decided to phone my friend Ivor and

ask if he was available to take part in the event, Ivor was delighted to hear from me and was only across the harbour town bridge, he said he could take part and would join us in The Ship. Everyone loved Ivor as soon as they met him; he is a real character and a true man of the sea.

The following morning we met in the Dinning Room of Boaters at 8:30 Am for a slap up full English breakfast. Boaters is owned and run by Lynda and Gary who I have known for many years, they used to own Whitecliffs Guest House at the other end of the town. We made our way to Als Spirit and started loading the Special Music Radio studio equipment on board. To be honest, I was so excited Paul Dennis had to take over with setting up the studio audio leads! I went off with Nancy to get some cold drinks for everyone.

When we got back, I gave the Test Programme to my friend Walter - Pete Bryant is his on air name. Walter is a lovely person and he was so helpful in helping me get to Weymouth with the studio equipment and thought a Test programme would be a good idea for Walter and as he brought lots of 1960s cds, we agreed on making the Test programme a 1960s music programme and he was more than happy to go along with that idea.



Nancy on SMR

Mandy was given the honour of the first proper programme. She did two hours and did a great job; it was lovely to see Nancy being interviewed by Mandy. They had both worked on former Lightships the LV18 and LV8, so

they had lots in common. Although they are two very different ladies, one from Atlanta, Georgia and one from Bromley, Kent, but both very talented. They got on very well and both knew Paul Dennis and myself. Ivor was amazed as he watched how it all works, just as I would be if he was showing me how to operate a boat I'm sure. Mandy had a quick interview with Ivor which went well.

As it became hour two, Mandy was really getting into her programme and like myself, enjoying seeing the passing boats on the harbour. Paul Dennis who I got on with very well took over and sounded really professional indeed as did Mandy; I was thinking how the hell do I follow this. We were moored up outside the Harbour Master office rather than its normal mooring as there isn't an electric connection there and Adrians Generator has been playing up, anyway, halfway through Pauls programme, Adrian came into the wheelhouse and said, we had to move, as there was a boat coming which needed our mooring. He said we had to unplug and strap down the studio equipment and gather up anything like cds that could fall. He said once we start the boats engine we could run off of that, so Paul then got his show up and running after a short break in transmission so to speak.

As Spirit then started pulling away from the harbour wall and started to turn towards the sea, I thought - where are we heading, Paul said - We are going Offshore PJ! Everyone was cracking up laughing, it was a surprise by the Skipper Adrian and I guess everyone was in on it! Paul Dennis loved it, as he was announcing we were moving location, the sound of the engine and the anchor chain could be heard being pulled up!

Paul continued to present his programme as we were heading out to sea as we were all doubled up laughing, it seemed so rebellious, I thought if dear old Dave The Fish was looking down at us he would of been laughing his head off and saying Oh Wot!. After Paul finished the second half of his programme, Nancy took over with her big bag of cds and within minutes she was operating and presenting like she had been doing it every day. Nancy was brought up on great American Rock music stations and sure knows how to present. I first heard Nancy on the LV18 presenting for the Radio Mi Amigo RSL from Harwich Harbour in 2002. At that point I would never of dreamt Nancy would of been presenting for Special Music Radio.....and from Weymouth Bay!

Nancy did two hours, Captain Ivor was busy on the back deck and caught a fish! I forgot to mention, during Pauls programme, Mandy did a back deck link up with the studio and interviewed the crew including myself. Nancy was enjoying being Offshore and messed about with a Pirates hat and eye patch and looked every bit a true lady Pirate. I did the last programme (this ended in disaster....more on this later). By this time, we were all feeling very hungry and tired as most of us had not eaten since breakfast time. I mentioned something about I think Im starting to fade away. I played The Fish Laugh jingle, which seemed to be a fitting tribute to Dave as we were coming from the sea and I knew he would loved that.

I was feeling so hungry that I thjought I was going to faint, so Paul Dennis stepped in to finish the programme. He did this as we headed into the harbour and he rounded the programme off just before we came along side. We tied up back in the same mooring and dismantled the studio and offloaded the studio and all our bags. Now the disaster bit, somewhere between the harbour and the guest house, the minidisc containing my programme somehow was lost. So it seems we will never get to hear how it came out which is a crying shame as it had its moments. But at least we still have the other programmes to look forward to. It's planned to put them out on Radio Samantha on May 29th and repeat them of course in weeks and months to come on the station.'

Well that rounds up this month's edition of the report. If you've any memory to share don't hesitate to mention it to me at: HKnot@home.nl
With best wishes and till next time, Hans Knot.