

HANS KNOT INTERNATIONAL RADIO REPORT AUGUST 2011

Welcome to another edition of the Hans Knot International Radio Report. It's summer, but in our part of the world it's not time for sunbathing either enjoying sitting on a terrace. This report is not edited, as normal, in Groningen but in Rostock, which is located in former Eastern Germany. Thinking about links with offshore radio and Eastern Germany, the only thing coming on my mind is the big headlines in Dutch newspaper 'Telegraaf' in the early seventies when it was mentioned that the owners of MEBO 2 Ltd, Meister and Bollier, had connection with the GDR. This information came from a publication by Paul Harris. Never afterwards it became known if, what he mentioned in his publication about these connections, this was the truth. It was all around 40 years this all happened. Caroline's history is going far more back. Within a couple of years it's half a century the station came on the air and so let's have a look at the next internet site you'll find some parts of Caroline's history in different languages:

<http://woodley.net.co.uk/index3.htm>

Doug Wood sent me, with Love and Peace to the World, the next information: 'Radio legend Ray Teret is to join the presentation team at 1540 The Voice Of Peace International. Ray started his career with the one and only Radio Caroline North, in 1964, which is where he made his name. Ray was also presenter with Piccadilly Radio Manchester, in its heyday, and was part of the team at Signal Radio Stoke on Trent in 1983. Ray has since worked on so many stations even he has lost count. Plans for the show are currently being discussed. A start date and time slot will be announced soon. Doug Wood. Programme Manager 1540 The Voice of Peace International.'

So keep informing yourself with a regular visit to:

www.1540thevoiceofpeace.co.uk

From Germany I received an e mail from a guy who has written a lot of interesting books about radio in German. Gerd Klawitter has made also

interesting photos in the seventies including on offshore radio. For his books VTH Verlag in Baden Baden is responsible www.vth.de
His photographs can partly be found at www.offshoreradio.de

Gerd wrote to me: Hello Hans! Many thanks for your latest edition of the Radio Report. I'm always surprised to see that so many new subjects in the report as well with so many details and facts. Every time an interesting read!
Gerd Klawitter.'

It will take some months before my new book is out, regarding the History of Laser 558 and on forehand I can tell you it will be published in the English language to get a very bright readership. Talking about Laser it's always good to get e mails from former deejays. Don't forget that the highly popular station started more than 25 years ago with programmes beamed at Western Europe. Here's an e mail from Paul Jackson: 'One of your best newsletters! Great reading it with my morning coffee on this Saturday morning! Thanks for that! Also nice to read Don Stevens story. He and I have gotten to know each other via Face Book over the last year. One of these days, he and I will raise a pint in toast of days gone by in pirate radio. Your commitment to recording the history of pirate radio is very much appreciated by all of us that had the privilege to participate in it over the years! Paul Jackson.'

Thanks a lot Paul and good to see that you're now in contact with Don Stevens who's also a rich history in Offshore Radio. And who knows we will be sharing a pint with the three of us one day as Don and I see each other almost on a yearly basis.

Next we go to one of the longer topics in the Hans Knot International Radio Report, which has been sent by the Celtica Radio Group, so let's see what they have for you the reader:

Celtica Radio Background and Details up to 2011

The Celtica Radio Radio story goes back to 1979 when a small group of people in the Bridgend area of South Wales wanted to set up their own wholly independent radio station. Over the following eighteen years the

evolution of the group continued, with the establishment of two hospital radio stations in Bridgend and Neath, the re-launch of broadcasting at Swansea University, and two trial broadcasts in 1997 and 1998, cumulating in a successful campaign to persuade the British Radio Authority, that the Bridgend region and community deserved its own local radio station. Leading this group of committed local radio enthusiasts and professionals was Bill Everatt.

After what turned out to be an extremely acrimonious franchise campaign, Bridge FM was awarded their license on November 4th 1999. The first meeting of those who as a result, had been dispossessed and excluded from local radio in their own area; [Comprising of nearly 90% of the on-air team of the successful and extremely popular trial broadcasts that convinced the authorities that Bridgend should have its very own radio station] was jointly chaired by Alistair Irving and Mike Lincez and took place at the offices of the SYSNET company in Bridgend on Friday the 5th of November.

Following on from that, the later inaugural meeting of Celtica Radio took place sometime in February 2000, with Jane Cullen appointed as Chair, and Dave Cook providing all of the start-up capital. Celtica Radio commenced test broadcasts on the internet at 8PM June 21st 2000. "We decided we were not going to quit. The broadcasting of radio programmes to an audience simply needs a platform. The traditional platforms had been denied us, so we looked to the Internet. It was difficult at first because we had to invent a whole new way of shoe-horning an hour of high-quality audio down a telephone line in the days before everyone had broadband."

Celtica Radio has now expanded and the original group of broadcasters has been joined by others from all over the UK and the Netherlands, using technology that makes it possible for an alternative radio service to be available to listeners in South Wales and worldwide. Including John Grearson, who has now retired, widely regarded as the father of UK land based commercial radio. The group is not member of PRS, MCPS, PPL or any of their foreign affiliates. All the music the station transmits is out of the jurisdiction of any of the above organisations. Artists who contact the station for promotional airplay will need to visit the Playlists page and agree to the terms and conditions. Playlist-wise the station has a number of big

names such as; Janis Ian, perhaps best known for the chart-topping song 'At 17', the Searchers, who were very big in the sixties and are still producing music, Yvonne Elliman and Mason Williams, composer of Classical Gas. All shows are downloadable as Free Podcasts and also available on iTunes, and the programmes are around an hour in duration.

In July 2007, Celtica Radio started being listed on the Reciva Internet Radio Network. And from September 2008 to December 2008, certain programmes were broadcast on the English Language service of Radio Waddenzee. The broadcasts were transmitted late at night and took advantage of groundwave propagation and skywave refraction off the ionosphere. These characteristics ensured that the broadcasts could be received throughout Central Europe and the East Coast of the UK on 1602 kHz Medium Wave. The station identified itself as Celtica Radio, broadcasting from the Lightship Jenni Baynton, through the transmitters of Radio Seagull.

In November 2009, Celtica Radio launched a live, streaming twenty-four hour a day service, on the Internet and on the Nokia Mobile Phone Network. On Christmas Day 2010 an obscure entry on the stations Blog:- <http://celticaradio-audio.co.uk/2010/12/25/a-christmas-miracle/> was an indication that a major event had taken place behind the scenes...

Radio Maldwyn, the local Radio station for Mid Wales, had closed down due to financial difficulties, and the company and broadcast license had been bought by supporters of Celtica Radios' business ethos and local broadcasting values. Radio Hafren, the new company, and Celtica Radio quickly established an excellent relationship and since January, Celtica started producing, deliberately un-credited, and what turned out to be, popular shows for Radio Hafren in both English and Welsh.



Studio building Radio Hafren

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 license, so we know that we've got a tried and tested product already accepted by the regulator."



On April 23rd 2011, Celtica Radio started broadcasting through the transmitters of Radio Hafren on 756 kHz Medium Wave. The broadcasts are for two hours per night, every night from Midnight to 2AM local time. Distance or DX listeners who provide a reception report are sent by return of post a QSL card.

Medium Wave Programme Schedule

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
23:00 UTC	The Fred Stacey Show	MU Top 40 Lite	Dave Cooks Zoo	The Dark Wave Hour	Celtica Plus	Automatic Rock Show	Underground Edition
Midnight UTC	Monday Morning *The Dark Wave Hour	Tuesday Morning *Various Monthly Shows	Wednesday Morning *Automatic Rock Show	Thursday Morning *Underground Edition	Friday Morning *The Fred Stacey Show	Saturday Morning *MU Top 40 Lite	Sunday Morning *Dave Cooks Zoo

*Indicates repeat

Personnel: Chairman - Rev. Keith Berry-Davies. An ordained Minister, 'The Rev' has broadcast on many radio stations around the world. Keith invites you to consider thought provoking spiritual matters in Footsteps. You can also read Keith's Pause for Thought page by [clicking here](#)



Keith

Like many of our staff, Keith started on Hospital Radio, but in 1966 as he had a big paper round! Keith is also a member of the Sealed Knot English Civil War re-enactment society. More details can be found at www.thesealedknot.org.uk.

Dave Carrington, a(nother) Yorkshire man, is a broadcasting virgin and newcomer to the Celtica Radio Team. An aeronautical engineer by degree with an impressive collection of paper clips, Dave has been writing since the late 70s and is currently working on his autobiography. "The first page is the most difficult and so I'll write that later", he explained. In accordance with the Celtica Radio ethos, Dave suggested a programme exclusively to give writers, who had been denied a platform for having their work heard elsewhere, an opportunity to have their compositions broadcast globally. As a result, his show *Squaring the Circle*, was born.

Founding Director is Dave Cook and he is a veteran in more ways than one - Secret Squirrel has got nothing on this 'Cooky.' Cooky originally hails from Yorkshire, and is on, in his words 'missionary work!' Cooky has also presented and co-produced programmes and commercials for other radio networks in the United Kingdom too. Fresh from the room with springy walls, you never know what he is going to say next what's more, neither does he! Hear Cooky rant and rave in Dave Cook's Zoo! in the Archive Section.

Managing Director is Bill Everatt. Bill has worked on many radio stations, and is one of the most well-known voices in South Wales. He shares engineering duties, a contribution to the Web design and commercial production with Ed Risby, plus is responsible for Managing Celtica Radio too. Bill is a recognised expert in Information Technology, and a member of the British Computer Society. At the beginning of 2009, he made his debut in the United States of America narrating a series of dramatic Sci-Fi and Mystery television and related audio programmes. These shows, which are currently in production, are produced by associates of the creators of *Battlestar Galactica* and *Quantum Leap*. You can listen to Bill podcasted and On-Demand on The Underground Edition.



Ed Risby

Writer and former news broadcaster Andrew John, has worked in commercial radio in the English Midlands and Wales and now contributes regular material to Celtica. Andrew is the Celtica Radio Reviews Editor and also provides input into the station's Underground Edition programme as well as currently presenting the New Music Radio Show. Andrew is a licentiate of the Guildhall School of Music.

Nick K is a child of the 1960's, and is married with 7 cats and 2 dogs. He first came into contact with radio in 2004 and has been doing various things since then, from building radio schedules to producing and presenting radio programmes. At the moment, Nick is part of the Saturday live crew with our friends at Radio Waddensee, a Dutch radio station which broadcasts from one of the last Radio Ships in the world. Nick also fiddles around with their

website! Listen to Nick present some great alternative music on The Darkwave Hour.



Nick Ketelaar

Next more about Jack Knowlson: Injecting new life into an old Celtica favourite, the Automatic Rock Show, I'm having more fun with this show than I've had for years. I hope you can find the time to give it a listen. Unlike global warming and the price of petrol where we all see where its going, most mainstream commercial radio has yet to wake up to the declining audience and revenue day by day and an equally grim future. Little wonder when Accountants rather than Entertainers run Radio stations and computers rather than people choose the songs.

Company Secretary is Ed Risby. Ed has worked as a mobile and club DJ for 12 years and has a varied career in broadcasting.

Listen to Ed his Continental Breakfast. Also his busy schedule takes in coordinating the Celtica Radio Road show and maintaining the Outside Broadcast Unit. Ed has numerous hobbies, including maintaining his beloved Motor Boat the Afeica II, as well as being a recognised expert in Electronics. Being a member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers, he shares commercial production, engineering and web design duties. These interests keep him well occupied with being webmaster for other websites as well as being our own Company Secretary.

Fred Stacey originally hails from Newport in South Wales and started in the entertainment industry in 1977 as an assistant stage manager. He has worked with many well-known UK acts of the day and has appeared in films and TV programs. Fred, also works in the Health Service, plus began his own mobile disco in 1998. He first had a taster of broadcasting when he went with a presenter friend to the studios of a Scottish radio station - Radio North Angus, and 'she let me have a go!' From then on, Fred was hooked. After a course at the Radio School - here he is at Celtica Radio.



Fred Stacey

Jordan Thomas has been a member of Celtica Radio since 2003, and now supplies us with the MU Top 40 Lite from studios in London.

Q1. What is the music unleashed top 40? - The 'music unleashed top 40' is a weekly community show based on downloads and plays of independent\DIY artists' music by the tourdates community.

Q2. Who produces the show? - The show is produced by Tourdates and presented by Jordan Thomas and Murray Golding.

Q3. How do songs get in the chart? - Independent\unsigned\DIY artists create a profile on Tourdates and our music loving community play and download the songs. The 40 most popular songs are included in the chart.

Jon the Dentist is a true legend of the dance music scene. Formerly a producer of some note, having released chart singles with labels like: Sony and Tidy Trax. Jon is now concentrating on his deejaying and events company. Though retired from globetrotting, and a fierce schedule he no longer wants due to family commitments, he can still be found spinning at the odd gig. He has also written an autobiography that lifts the lid, candidly, on the DJ lifestyle and club scene he pioneered in the 1990's. Download it and read it on your pc, Kindle or Apple App! <http://www.amazon.co.uk> His show on Celtica promises nothing less than the finest in upfront dance music.

The programmes are produced by Celtica Radio either at the station, based in Bridgend, or at the individual members' studios, in the case of Nick K, created in the Netherlands and delivered to Celtica Radio for final checking and networking. This is carried out at the stations 'Main Mission' studio. The programmes are then sent to Radio Hafren via data link, and are physically broadcast from their studios in Newtown Powys. The transmitter is sited at Newtown in Powys and has recently been upgraded from 650 Watt to One Kilowatt.

First DX Reception Report: Sunday May 08, 2011 6:43 pm - Paul Osborn, South of Amsterdam. The Celtica Radio broadcasts at the announced times on 756 were really rather clear in their reception at a point some 16 km south of Amsterdam. Not sure where the 747 transmitter is, but, where ever, its signal is very crisp with next to no leakage onto 756.'

So there you have all information on this station. If you want to highlight your station in the monthly Hans Knot International Radio Report feel free to do so at no cost at all. Just send your information to HKnot@home.nl



The *preliminary* schedule for Saturday 12th November 2011

11:00	Opening
11:15	<u>The Story of Radio Netherlands' "Media Network"</u> A dialogue between Jonathan Marks and Andy Sennitt
12:05	Josje de Munck being presented with the prime copy of the <u>Laser 558 book</u> written by Hans Knot
12:15	Het <u>Gerard van Dam</u> interview (delen van de nieuwe video "Actum Agere")
12:30	<u>Het Radio Delmare avontuur</u> (onder voorbehoud)
13:30	<u>The forgotten stations from former wartime defence forts</u> A panel with Paul Freeman (Radio Essex), Colin Dale (Radio Sutch), Guy Hamilton (Essex), Bill Rollins (Tower), John Stewart (KING, Essex) and Dick Dixon [Dickason] (Sutch, Essex). Moderator: John Ross-Barnard (Invicta, KING)
14:30	<u>Op volle kracht: Herinneringen aan Radio Veronica</u> Een panel met o.a. Klaas Vaak, Tineke, Ad Bouman, Harry Knipschild, Jan van Veen, Bert Alting en Jan Herrmann. Gespreksleider: Juul Geleick
15:30	<u>Get Your Kicks On 266 - Radio London Memories</u> A panel with Ian Damon, Graham Gill, Dave Hawkins, Norman St. John, Ed Stewart and Ron Buninga. Moderator: Ray Clark
16:30	<u>The Radio Day 2011 Awards - presented by Robbie Dale and Hans Knot</u> An Outstanding Contribution to Offshore Radio" (3 winners), "Offshore Radio Top Technical Support" (1), "Offshore Radio Writers and Historians" (1), "The Radio Anoraks Award" (1)
17:30	Farewell
Radio Mi Amigo 107.1 FM will be broadcasting live from the Casa 400 hotel.	



More info to be found at
www.radioday.nl



Next again an e mail from Edward Waterston who suddenly met someone who knows Ronan O'Rahilly for many decades: 'The other day I was a guest at a wedding at the Duke of Rutland's stately home, Belvoir Castle, where I bumped into the suave figure of Harvey Proctor, a minor player and broadcaster in the history of pirate radio. As the twenty year old chairman-elect of York University Conservative Association, he arranged a number of unique and controversial political broadcasts by Radio 270 in the early months of 1967. His contribution was, in common with the others, transmitted in the very early hours, after normal broadcasting. It was a speech on *Government and the Individual*. Harvey went on to become the colourful Conservative MP for Billericay, in Essex, before resigning just before the 1987 general election. He then opened two shirt shops. A long term friend of the Duke's, he is now his personal secretary, having moved to a house on the estate with his partner, the art dealer Terry Woods, about eight years ago. I'm not sure if he qualifies for the Pirate Radio Hall of Fame - or Infamy - but he did broadcast from MV Oceaan 7. Regards Edward Waterson.

Thanks a lot Edward and later in the report another person related to Ronan O'Rahilly will be brought in by one of my readers. Next we go to Bryan in Canberra, Australia. In last issue there was the long story from Don Stevens and we had some reflections on this including the one from Bryan: 'Hi Hans. I either hadn't known, or had forgotten, the trouble that Radio Caroline had been in! I had thought of these stations as institutions. Though my pare. Thanks for the yarns. I had trouble believing that one ship could host so much misbehaviour! I was at the Stonehenge midsummer festival mentioned.



The University of Southampton Students' Union sent a minibus full the night before. And I remember the music festival. I avidly listened to BBC entertainment, I was addicted to RNI! I was quite close to the stone circle. This was fenced off from us. Inside, Druids conducted a ceremony. Police were separating one from the other. Some distance away, beside a wood, was a stage and crowd. We could hear the music. The Students' Union arranged social events. I went to Stonehenge two years running. I thought that the music event was irreverent, seeing as how this was a mystical Pagan holy ceremony! But I was impressed at how many differently-interested people had arrived. I was more concerned with what was going on in and around the stone circle. I did not meet people from Caroline; I was not near the stage. That was away from what I considered the main event at the Stone Age monument. The Police were in evidence, mainly at the road. I think

they wanted to prevent damage to the ancient monument. Bryan in Canberra, Australia.'



Simon Barrett at the 1974 Festival



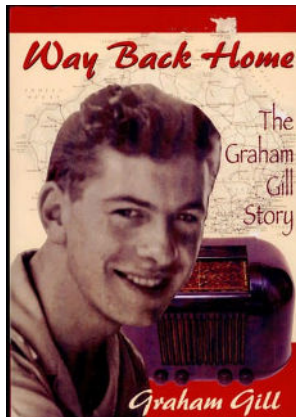
Way back home, The Graham Gill story

Graham Gill has certainly been an offshore radio icon for several decades, and every visitor of the annual Radio Days in Amsterdam is looking forward to hear him singing his evergreen "Way Back Home". Being a bit too young I unfortunately missed his programmes on Radio London, Swinging Radio England, Britain Radio and Radio 390 off the British coast during the 1960s. But as a 17-year-old teenager I first heard Graham on RNI on his regular late night programmes and his Sunday evening's RNI Request Show during the early summer of 1973. His distinctive voice fascinated and meant a sort of RNI landmark to me. I was a bit astonished when he left RNI in June 1974 to rejoin Radio Caroline which played quite different, more adult orientated rock music. But Graham certainly didn't disappoint his listeners as he had no problems to adept with the hippy culture onboard the MV Mi Amigo which he left only 11 weeks later, when the Dutch marine offences bill came into force. It took me another 22 years to get to know Graham personally. I first met him during the 1996 Radio Day in Haarlem. But in 2002, I came to know him even better. We met in Harlingen at the opening of Sietse Brouwer's Dutch Radio Caroline and we jointly attended the fabulous offshore radio reunion in London in August of the same year. Some weeks later, I was entitled to have an interview with Graham at the German

Radio Day in Erkrath where he described his fascinating radio career in great detail. In the meantime, we had become friends and built confidence. In the years to come, Graham took an active part in the Erkrath Radio Day on a regular basis and he didn't miss an Amsterdam Radio Day anymore.

So what can I say about his long awaited book? You might think of me as a bit prejudiced. Nevertheless let me suggest that you will be pleasantly surprised when reading Graham's memoirs. It's the story of his life with most of his entire intriguing radio career which began in his native country Australia where he received a full-scale training as a radio broadcaster. Graham had been lucky to gain important experience during his 14 years in Australian radio when he came to the UK in 1966. You may look forward to take part in many details of these years which formed the character of the young Australian who later had no problems to become acquainted with all these strange new radio stations broadcasting from ships and military forts in the North Sea. Graham particularises many interesting anecdotes concerning countless personalities he dealt with during all those years in on- and offshore radio. At first appearance, it might be a bit unexpected that he paints a rosy picture of the conditions on Red Sands Fort (home of Radio 390). But this very happy period of his life had to do with the strong feeling of a happy family that the great team of announcers was producing. 7 years later, history repeated itself under totally different conditions on the MV Mi Amigo where the "Caroline family" received him with open arms. On every occasion you share Graham's desire for gaining new experiences and getting to know interesting and warm-hearted people. And he did succeed ever so often! I am sure you will be excellently entertained by this capturing biography.

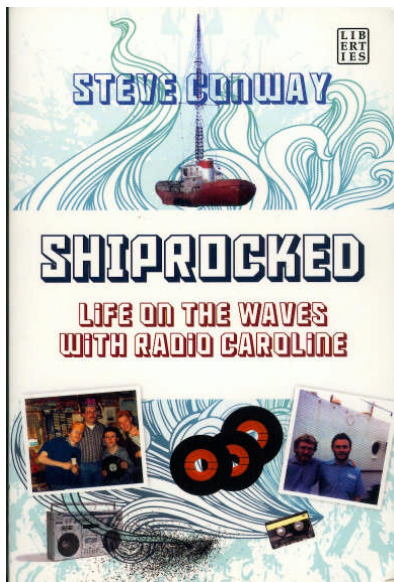
Dr. Martin van der Ven



Way Back Home, the Graham Gill story, is now obtainable from the Foundation of Mediacommunication for the price in Europe including postage and packing

€ 19,95 and outside Europe € 23,95

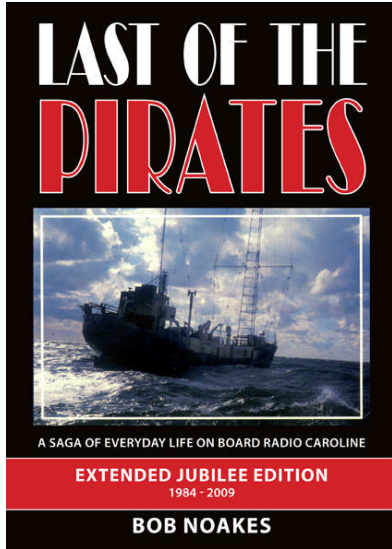
Shiprocked



This book tells the story of Steve Conway on board the Ross Revenge.

The book cost € 14,50

Last of the Pirates, by Bob Noakes. His hilarious events on board the Mi Amigo and Mebo II



Price € 19,95

Account number in the Netherlands 4065700 Mediacommunicatie Amsterdam

Orders from outside the Netherlands

IBAN: NL85INGB0004065700

BIC INGBNL2A

or: paypal: rob@mediacommunicatie.nl

Next to AFN/AFRTS blogger Thom Whetston: 'Before the update, remember next year is the 70th anniversary of the network. I'm putting together a special, totally for fun. If you'd like to say happy birthday and when and where you were, maybe share a memory it's welcome. Just drop me a note. LaRita Shelby sent in some great shows to share with us. This week we tape a look at 1991, with Charlie Tuna, Gene Price and Harry

Newman. The AFPN 19 years of Hit Music continues with 1957. Bob Crosby plays some swinging tunes from 1945. What would you like to hear? If you enjoy it, please tell a friend.

Thom Whetston

AFKN 1976-77

SCN 1980-83

<http://afrtsarchive.blogspot.com>

Let's go to Jon and his August update:

- We have a great page of photos taken on Radio 390 in 1967 by broadcaster *Graham Gill*;
- there is a script from a Radio 390 country music programme, also from *Graham's* collection;
- there are pictures of a recent mini-reunion of some of Radio Caroline's 'Class Of '74' DJs;
- news of a book, written by former Radio Invicta DJ *Bob Graham*. He tells us there is a chapter set on the station;
- there is another chance to see the plays that *Susan Moore*, the elder daughter of *Reg and Dorothy Calvert*, has written about her parents, the owners of Radio City;
- and, as the 44th anniversary of the closure of Radio London approaches, news of a tribute being broadcast on Dutch national radio.

My thanks as always to everyone who has contributed, especially to *Hans Knot*, who provided much of the above.

Back next month.

All the best,

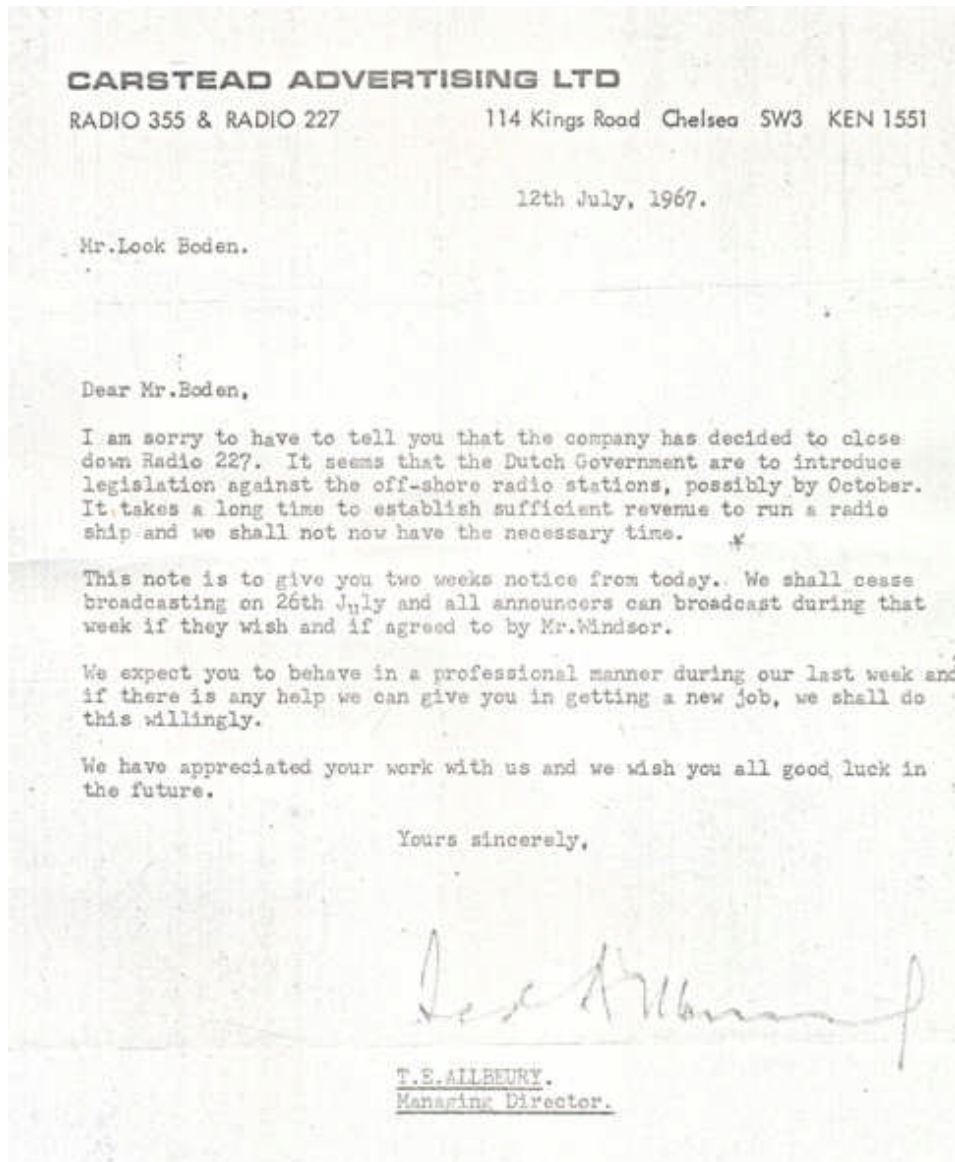
Jon

The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame

www.offshoreradio.co.uk

Don't forget to also find the updates from *Mary and Chris Payne* at www.radiolondon.co.uk and *Bob LeRoi* at www.boboleroi.co.uk

When trying to get some space at his house former Radio 227 deejay Look Boden found back this most interesting letter from July 1967:



Thanks Look for sharing it with my readers. After so many decades it must have been a thrill for you to read this back. Anyone to share memories from the past too, please send it to HKnot@home.nl

But more interesting things showed up lately. Many newspaper cuts were sent by Francois from France, including one from a German magazine. Beneath photos were found in this German article showing Caroline North's



Jim Gordon in his cabin and live on air. Must have been frustrating to be on a radioship for several weeks and sleeping in a cabin like Jim's one!

Let's go on with some other e mails: 'Hi Hans, I've just come back off holiday and am catching up all my emails! And the report is another fantastic selection of first hand stories and pictures - it's brilliant! You should collate these into a book and sell them - these are priceless memories you have here Thanks again for including me on the mailing list. Paul Fraser.'

Well Paul good to see you enjoyed the report. Hopefully it was the same concerning your holiday. Now we go to a small reunion, which took place early July: 'On Saturday July 2nd Robb Eden, Robin Adcroft, Johnnie Jason and Andy Archer met up for a mini reunion of the Class of 74 at The Plough in the Gloucestershire village of Ford. They were joined by Elija van den Berg and Robb Eden's wife Nikki. In what turned out to be a very anoraky evening fuelled by bottles of Verve Cliquot, they linked up with Graham Gill in Amsterdam. Andy Archer.'



Johnny Jason, Andy Archer, Robb Eden and Robin Adcroft Photo: Elija van den Berg

Thanks to both Elija van den Berg and Andy Archer for sending the photos as well as the information. Surely you all enjoyed this little reunion as well as dived into the memories from about 37 years ago! But there were more reunions: Sunday the 3rd of July saw the reunion of old Radio 192 deejays and listeners. They gathered at Museum RockArt at Hoek van Holland. A short film impression of that day was made by Alex van den Hoek and can be found at:

<http://youtu.be/ZyzUcyNbDUs?hd=1>

Every month Martin van der Ven at www.offshoreradio.de and I are very surprised that so many new readers show up for our pages. Also in the month of July several e mails from - up till now - unknown people came in and we chose the next to publish in the report: 'Hi there, I just found the website about Radio Nordsee International. That brings back so many memories for me. I used to listen to it on my small transistor radio in north Donegal (Ireland, near Malin Head) where I could pick it up loud and clear. I loved the music. What I remember is that for whatever reasons, certain songs and albums would be played over and over again. I remember hearing David McWilliams, Sutherland Brothers & Quiver (Beat of the Street), Barclay James Harvest (Everyone is Everybody Else) and more. Along with the

programmes provided both on Radio Luxembourg and on the for BBC by John Peel, they were my favourite night time listening and it was on these programmes that every artist and group that I still love today, I was introduced to! However in North Donegal I could not easily pick up Luxembourg or the BBC so RNI was my salvation! I would listen to Luxembourg and the BBC at school in Belfast, but could not pick up RNI so well there. Regards Marianne Ashcroft.'

Well Marianne good to see you've found something back from the radio in the past and your memories are still there of this wonderful station. Surely this must be a fine read for all those RNI deejays from the past, who are a reader of the monthly Hans Knot International Radio Report. For more on RNI and his history I can advise you to visit the online Journal for Media and Music Culture at www.soundscapes.info

Martin van der Ven also informed me about a very special site on internet regarding important speeches from American History:

<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/top100speechesall.html>

Let's go to the USA: 'Hi Hans, I hope you are well. I'm sure you are fine. Not much going on in the States these days, but I had an interesting experience in Manhattan last month. I was attending a cocktail party there and met Mr. Anthony Haden-Guest who happens to be a friend of Ronan's from the Chelsea Arts Club. Anthony is a writer, art critic and cartoonist for several leading publications, in New York and in London. After a long conversation about London and New York, somehow, the topic came up about art and the Chelsea Arts Club. Then we go on to Ronan and Radio Caroline. I told him of my times on the Ross Revenge and some of the memories of working there and dodging around the DTI in the eighties. Anthony had followed pirate radio a bit and although I would not consider him and Anorak. At the end of a great evening he took a cocktail napkin and drew a nice caricature of Ronan playing pool at CAC. "Plots....Plots....Plots!" Best regards, John Ford (Caroline in the Eighties).'



PS if you would like to see more of Anthony's wonderful cartoons, and portraits, his new book is 'In the Mean Time' available from his website.' Thanks a lot John for this remarkable story and this unique cartoon. Please if you've more memories to the days of Caroline in the eighties; feel free to share them with our readers.

This month there was also a special 'offshore' broadcast which commenced on July 23rd start from the Scotia 2 anchored off the coast of North East Scotland, specifically the fishing port of Peterhead. The whole project was designed to celebrate the 50th Scottish Week and the 21st Anniversary of the first broadcasts (as a RSL then on 192mtrs) of Waves Radio who are the people behind the broadcasts. The station was on air as usual on 101.2 FM and on the local DAB multiplex as well as on line. Playing a lot of the old hits and jingles, they sailed out to anchorage playing "The Black Bear", Radio Scotland Theme. Talking to STV Local, Waves Radio owner Kenny King said it had always been his "dream" to broadcast live from the sea. The self-professed radio fanatic said that the historic event had taken months to plan, but it had been a 'fantastic experience' for himself and his team.

He said: "Back in the 1960's there was no commercial radio and when pirate radio took to the airwaves, like Radio Caroline, I loved it. In 1967, when the government closed them down I realised I had to be involved with something like that, I couldn't get enough of it, and for me it was something that was natural as I taught myself everything I know. It's a very special event for me as it brings together everything - and is almost like we have come full circle. We used to broadcast from a tiny hut on the Lido and from where we are now in Peterhead Bay, you can see the spot where we began so it is very poignant. We are the first radio station to broadcast live from the sea since the Radio Scotland's last broadcast in 1967, so we have been using some of their music to reminisce and take people back. It's a fantastic thing to have been able to achieve as it's a passion of mine, and something that will remain a part of history."

Waves Radio, which is now based at the town's Blackhouse Industrial Estate, originally broadcast from the Lido in a modest hut for 14 years. From its humble beginnings, the radio station has since received worldwide interest after taking to the Scottish waters to go live on air. Kenny added: "It's completely different buzz broadcasting from the boat, it's fantastic. I feel like I'm on a holiday! We are popular anyway, but have had so much more interest since starting this project, people from all over the world have been contacting me about it and have been listening to our broadcasts on the web - and that is a great feeling as it must mean that we are doing something right!" The team also attempted to broadcast live from the vessel in Fraserburgh but couldn't travel due to bad weather conditions. Kenny said: "It would have been great to go to Fraserburgh as well but the weather was atrocious so we just couldn't get out on the boat. We have great support in the Broch and a lot of our listeners are there which we greatly appreciate."

The Scotia W vessel, which the radio team were staying in for the duration of the broadcast, is currently undergoing a major renovation project and is due to be used for commercial and business trips in the near future - boasting an onboard chef and six state-of-the-art cabins. Kenny said that being able to use this particular boat made the broadcast even more special.

He added: "This boat is completely kitted out with everything you could need and it's fantastic. It's like two projects meeting in the middle - we couldn't thank the boat's owner, Alex Wood, enough for how much he has helped us."

He is a great guy to work with and has completely refurbished this boat and it's beautiful inside.



Part of the Radio Waves Offshore team. Photo: Dionne Abolghassem

"I have a good team of people who have helped me a great deal along the way - without them this wouldn't have been possible. I now have a team of about a dozen people who work with me at the station, and they all do a great job. I'd especially like to thank Steven Mclean, our engineer who is a huge help. We had all our equipment sent up from London - it's my passion so this project had to be done right and I'm very proud with the way it has turned out." He also wished to thank Overtun Garage in Dyce for its help sponsoring the event, and Rodgers Electrical. All sponsorship money left over from the event will be used for the radio station's charity 'Wavettes' - set up in a bid to donate any money from fundraising to Cancer Research's Relay For Life charity.

Kenny said: "People often ask me if I'm going to write a book as this radio station has come a long way, and they'd like to hear all the stories I have. I'm not sure about that one, but I'm delighted with how far we've come - although I do sometimes wonder where the years have gone!" To find out more about the Scotia W boat:

<http://local.stv.tv/peterhead/news/21505-all-aboard-waves-radio-takes-to-the-sea-for-special-anniversary-broadcast/>

With thanks to John Bennet and Mike Terry

Next an update regarding Tom Lodge his illness:

'Hello Hans. Just keeping you informed regarding Tom. We need to keep this info front and center still for a bit. We've raised over half still have a ways to go. Thanks for any help you can offer. Sincerely Willow Jacqui Tracy. Umi Tom lodge has contracted cancer and he would like to follow the treatment methods offered by the Budwig Clinic in Spain, which may be done at home. This clinic has a high success rate in curing cancer with non-chemo, non-operational, and non-radiation, which is his preference. Here is a link to their site <http://www.budwigcenter.com/>

The Budwig Clinic's total fee is approximately \$20,000.00. Umi can receive this treatment at Stillpoint and also with daily supervision from the doctors in Spain. It is urgent to quickly gather enough funds to cover this treatment from the Budwig Center. Donations to date - \$12,200. Expenses to date - 9,700. Projected need for the coming months - \$7,800 additional.

Please give generously with your loving thoughts as well.

To make a donation go to this Paypal account. <http://umiji.org/donations>

Tax receipts are available for U.S. donations. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! Jacqui Tracy

Then some news about a television program: 'Radio Neptune 1. The Royal, ITV, a light hearted series about a Yorkshire Cottage Hospital in the sixties, had an offshore radio storyline. Set against the colourful tapestry of the swinging sixties, the final series of 'The Royal' continued with more conflict and jeopardy at St Aidan's Royal Free Hospital. In the episode, 'Dead Air', regular cast members Robert Daws, Amy Robbins, Linda Armstrong, Michelle Hardwick, Glynis Barber, Gareth Hale and Wendy Craig were joined by guest star Prunella Scales. Lizzie (Hardwick) and Carol (Diana May) giving Faye (Lauren Drummond) a makeover in readiness for a girls' night out aboard the pirate radio ship Neptune. Lizzie promised theatre technician Alun (Andy Wear) that she would help boost his dream of becoming a rock star by getting star DJ Lenny Lomax (Guy Burnet) to play his 7" single. While on the Neptune, the girls found themselves unwittingly embroiled in a siege when the skipper stealed the radio station's transmitter and an innocent victim on board ended up getting shot. Luckily, Lizzie managed to fix the radio and sended out an SOS, and Dr Ormerod (Daws) and Dr Ellis (Neil McDermott) headed out to the boat to rescue the injured captives. Elsewhere, Dr Ormerod and Dr Weatherill (Robbins) had to deal with a case of a Girl Guide leader who mysteriously recovered from a stroke. The visit by the nurses at

the Royal to get Alan (one of the porters) record played, ended up with the crew mutineering with goods, and the only DJ shooting the tender captain. Radio Neptune/Dead Air, The Royal, ITV on ITV Player until the end of the series is also available on Virgin Media.

Next a message which came in on July 15th: 'A quick email to let you know that LV18's official opening in her new permanent berth will be next Saturday 16th July, on Harwich Quay. BBC Essex will be broadcasting 'live' from the ship - Steve's Summer Saturday Show 1.00pm - 4.00pm.



LV 18 in Harwich harbour

A full report on the happenings in Harwich harbour, complete with wonderful photos, can be found on www.radiolondon.co.uk

Brian Keith already ages living in Holland, visits his mother on a regular basis and was also in the mail recently: 'Hello Hans, I hope all is well with you. The RadioDay comes nearer and nearer! I've visited again my mother recently and as usual I've listened to Magic 999 in Preston. During that period I heard one Tuesday evening the song 'Pilot of the airways' by Charlie Dore. Next the deejay announced: "Not a great hit but a good record that still gets played a lot on many radio stations. Actually this was the last record to be played on

Radio Caroline at sea before the station went off the air in 1990". I didn't know that, did you? It put me on thinking what happened during the last day on the air from international waters. I tried to listen to the radio that evening, November 4th 1990, but the reception was so bad that I turned off the radio. Maybe one can tell me what really happened and who was the last deejay on the station as an offshore station.'

Thanks a lot Brian and it will be good to see you again on the RadioDay. Together with Colin Wilkins from Leeds you're certainly the visitor with the most RadioDays in the Netherlands on your account. About 'Pilot to the airwaves' I can advise you to have a look in our big 'Zeezenderdiscografie', section 5 at www.soundscapes.info as it's there for many years. And talking about the last days on the Ross Revenge as an offshore radio station, probably Steve Conway can give an answer to it in the next issue of the Hans Knot International Radio Report.

Then some news from Stuart Aiken: 'Hello Hans, on 8th July, Ron O'Quinn came to stay with me near Stamford in Lincolnshire, and we organised a seminar at the Stamford Arts Centre on the subject 'The Do's and the Don'ts in Radio'. There were only 15 places planned, so all were quickly sold out. It was very nice that the two main presenters from Rutland Radio, (Rob Persani and Sam Kirk) part of the Lincs fm group, also attended, and a good time was had by all during the 5 hour session. Nice also that a contemporary of Ron's from the original pirate days was in attendance - Jim Richman, who was for a short time a DJ on Radio Caroline North, from the MV Fredericia. In the evening, we all went to a Hog roast in my village. Publicity for the seminar was limited, as we did not want Steve England to find out that Ron O'Quinn was in the UK.

On the Sunday, Ron and I headed off to the Cavern Club in Liverpool, to attend a surprise 60th birthday party, and retirement celebration from his jingle company S2Blue, for Steve England. Steve's son Simon has now taken the helm at S2Blue. Steve's wife Barbara, and their family had managed to keep this event completely secret from Steve for over three months! It was a fabulous event, and over 20 people crossed over from America (including original PAMS people), to mark the occasion. Rick Randall and his wife Joy were amongst the many guests, and it was very nice to meet them again.



S2Blue jingle
Singer Sarah Doggett and Ron O'Quinn
Photo: Stuart Aiken

There's only one guy in our offshore radio world to find exclusive things on internet and that is Jan van Heeren from the Netherlands: 'Hello Hans, on eBay this time if found a very expensive single for sale covering the soundtrack of the Big L Movie from 1967:

http://cgi.ebay.nl/Radio-London-Film-Soundtrack-7-Sgl-1967-John-Peel-/360369542198?pt=UK_Records&hash=item53e7b2d436#ht_500wt_922

Do have also a look at the 1965 footage found recently on the web by Martin van der Ven

<http://www.ina.fr/recherche/recherche?search=%22radio+caroline%22&vue=Video>

July 15th two fires at two locations brought the Netherlands in severe problems when we talk about radio FM reception. As I wasn't in the

Netherlands at the time several SMS messages were received by followers but let's see what Andy Sennit reported on the problems on July 16th: 'The fire in the Lopik transmission tower in IJsselstein yesterday is thought to have been caused by overheated cables, according to the director of owner NOVEC in an interview with NOS. "We have concluded that a number of cables become overheated and partially burned. We now assume that was the cause, but the experts have yet to confirm it," said Jan Willem Tom. It is hoped to bring the Lopik facility back into service by the end of the weekend. NOVEC cannot say anything yet about the cause of the fire and partial collapse of the tower in Hoogersmilde. The police must first complete their investigation before the company is allowed access to the tower. However, there is not thought to be a link between the two fires, merely a bizarre coincidence. "The towers have been there for more than fifty years, so it's strange that suddenly there's a fire in two of them on the same day. The first thing you think is that there must be a link between the two fires, but so far we have no evidence to suggest it," said the director. Both masts were undergoing maintenance when the fires broke out. IJsselstein was under routine maintenance and at Hoogersmilde cables were being replaced. Earlier today a report showed that in 2007 management was alerted to security and safety risks at the sites. NOVEC has today carried out checks on all the masts in the Netherlands - some 50 in total. Meanwhile, NOVEC has received permission to construct a temporary mast on land belonging to the Ministry of Defence in Assen. The mast will be around 100 metres high, and should be able to take over 'a substantial part' of the functions of the collapsed mast at Smilde. Construction of the mast will commence either on Sunday or on Monday morning'

Thanks Andy for the report. Not only the public broadcasters had no FM signal anymore in the main parts of the Netherlands but also many of the commercial stations failed to bring their programs that way into their listenership. Now two weeks after the fires a temporary aerial mast has been put up in Assen, near to Hoogersmilde. Radio 1 was transmitted after the breakdown on the Radio 5 AM frequency and talks are currently held with British authorities to use temporary an AM frequency in Britain too. More about the fires can be seen on next videos on internet:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oLYdNnA3XUU>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aeiMCKMK_3o

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5YidSZrHkzg>

<http://www.kilroynews.net/special/2011-07/20110715.htm>

When talking about Brian Keith some minutes ago, I also mentioned Colin Wilkins. And guess what? Just a few hours after Brian wrote in there was an e mail from Colin: 'Hi Hans, many thanks for another superb July Report, as always very good reading indeed. One thing I would like to ask is a jingle I have been after for the last 40 odd years is one that was played on Radio 270 just before the news. It was sung and went: 'The Music you like is the music you choose and you can hear it after we bring you the news.' Do you happen to have this in your collection, if not is there any one who reads your report has this in their collection and would be willing to let me have a copy. Now that the 14th of August is near again I wonder how many radio stations will do any special programmes to remember this sad day in the history of Offshore Radio. Hope all ok with you Hans and hope to see you at the RadioDay in November. Best wishes, Colin Wilkins.

Well Colin good to hear from you once again. For me, with my extensive audio archive, it's very difficult to search for a certain jingle as I've listed all radio stations but not the jingles used. So maybe there's a reader in the Yorkshire area who has listened to the station too and can reflect on your question by answering at: HKnot@home.nl

And by the way it will also be good seeing you again in Amsterdam in November. And talking about August 14th I can tell you that in the Netherlands there will be a special on Radio One: Of course it will take some weeks but put it in your agenda or on your calendar as on Sunday August 14th between 10 and 12 in the morning (CET) VPRO radio will be broadcasting their weekly historic program OVT on Dutch Radio 1. One of the items that day will be Radio London. Already on August 14th 1968 it was the same public broadcaster, VPRO, who did a complete relay of the last hour of Big L. Peter Flik was responsible for that one. Now, decades later, they will highlight the station loved by some many millions of people in the sixties of last century, which broadcast from December 1964 up till 15 August 1967. And they've invited one of the biggest fans from the station to talk about the past. No one else than Veronica's Klaas Vaak (aka Tom Mulder) will be the special guest in the program.

<http://www.publiekeomroep.nl/radio>

Click on Radio 1 to get a signal

Next it's nickname time again in the report: On Radio Veronica it was programme director Rob Out who told deejay Klaas Vaak in May 1971 that he pronounced the time signal several times wrong and so Klaas Vaak decided to give Rob Out a nickname: Rob 'Tijdman' Out.

Then a very warm e mail from Spain: 'Hello Hans and Jana. I hope you are well. Sometime in the near future you must visit us here in Spain as our guests. Keep up the good work Hans, Best wishes from Wally Meehan from Caroline North.'

Well Wally the invitation is most appreciated. This year our holiday target was biking in the hillsides of the Pfalz in Germany and more targets are settled for the years to come. Whenever we visit Spain we will try to show up at your place too. Keep enjoying the report with best wishes!

Now over to René in the Netherlands: 'Much sooner then I imagined I was able to present my fourth offshore miniature. And this time it is not a ship but an island: the REM Island. In the early sixties it not only housed a radio station (the first Radio Northsea) but also a television station. You guessed it: TV Northsea. After only four months the government invaded the island in December 1964 to shut down the stations. The REM Island still exists: nowadays it is a restaurant in one of Amsterdam's harbors.



Furthermore the Poll on [Radioships.com](http://www.Radioships.com) to choose the fifth miniature has a clear frontrunner: the Ross Revenge now has more than 50% from the votes and is far ahead of legends such as Radio Veronica's first vessel Borkum Riff and Laser's Communicator. René / the captain.' Of course more info about the REM island miniature can be found at www.Radioships.com

From the Netherlands we go to France where currently Mike Hayes, former Radio 270 deejay from the sixties is staying. He wrote: 'Dear Hans, you just might like to see how I performed at the July 14 celebrations in our French village. go to [http://www.mike-hayes.com/July 14th France concert/](http://www.mike-hayes.com/July_14th_France_concert/)

Well really a reincarnation from Elvis the Pelvis? Anyone to share his or her memories or nowadays whereabouts, please feel free to send it to HKnot@home.nl

T shirt time again and this time I've chosen a photo from the collection from Rob Olthof. The photo was taken in the eighties of last century and the shirt is showing the Radio Hofstad Logo. An illegal, commercial radio station, having her roots in the Hague Holland. And to make it complete: the man pointing at the shirt is no one else than Frans Nienhuis, once presenter with Radio Veronica.



Photo: Rob Olthof

Once more we go back to the radio happening early last month in Switzerland. Larry Tremaine has put beautiful photographs on line and wrote: Please enjoy and needless to say that we had a great time entertaining the world! I Hope they invite us back for a second bite of the big apple. I'm enjoying the sun and the beach in LA at the moment.

[http://s615.photobucket.com/albums/tt239/art90210free/?albumview=slide show](http://s615.photobucket.com/albums/tt239/art90210free/?albumview=slide%20show)

As you can see Larry Tremaine and friends had the time of our life. My girlfriend Dona said, it was like a fraternity reunion. The boys of summer were back in town. When I arrived at the hotel on Monday most of the guys were in the bar and when I walked in, they started chanting: 'Larry, Larry, Larry, Larry' ands it made me feel great and it was better every day. The International Radio Festival was a success and the launch is on. Please put in a mention for Mark Dessanni, living in a village called Seborga, Italy, on top of a mountain overlooking Nice, Monte Carlo, San Remo, the whole Mediteranian coast. That was a great host to me and was the video lead at the festival as well as supporting the behind the scenes needs of DJ's. He does interviews for TV and radio groups. What a really nice guy and loves what you are doing and supports radio.

Sorry you were not at the festival, everybody talked about you and missed your being there to watch the greats of the '60's come back to life and put on great shows. I had the best time and got great comments from all over the world. Now I may have to go back into rock n roll radio and bring back the real oldies. At one point I gave out a toll free number for people to call, it was information in America! Nobody showed any signs of age! Everyone was 20 all over again.

As you can see in the photos, Edwin Bollier (owner of RNI) surprised everyone. He asked me if I could come to lunch and bring my girlfriend. I said I would call after the DJ meeting on the 14th. When I called him and said we were ready, he asked, how many DJ's from the Pirates are there. I said seven and they have some personal friends with them. He said: 'Please bring them to my hotel and office so I can meet them.' Wow, I could not believe that he would allow all these people to come. He not only had us to the office, he made bar-b-Q lunch at his penthouse. Needless to say, this was a highlight of the week. He also came on the 15th to talk on my show,

what a guy! Urs Emmeniger also came to the show; he was the Swiss director on Radio Northsea before me. We even had 'Goldielocks', the new morning girl on BBC2 4 AM, cute as a button and great on the air, a breath of fresh air on the radio. Greetings, from LA, Larry Tremaine.'

Well thanks a lot Larry for not only sharing your report and happiness but also the photographs and who knows our roads will cross one day in Amsterdam at one of our Radio Days. Now from California we go over to Hanwell in Western London and read some sad news about one of the correspondences of the Radio Report, Ian Godfrey. It's our long term radio friend Chris Edwards writing to me: 'I had a phone call the other day from Ian Godfrey, who is an avid reader, and correspondent of your radio reports. He asked me to contact you, as he doesn't have computer access at the moment. Ian, who has visual difficulties and mobility problems, is currently in hospital, suffering from more issues with mobility. It seems likely that he may have to move from his current home; to somewhere he can have more specialist care. I don't know how long Ian will be in hospital, he's been there about 5 or 6 weeks now. Will try and visit him soon, and print off some of your reports to take to him. Best wishes, Chris'.

Many thanks Chris for sending me the information regarding Ian and when you do visit him please give him all my best wishes and hopefully a quick leaving from the hospital to his home or a newer home. Very thankfully to you that you want to print out a report or two for him. Most appreciated and take care!

I know the weekend ending July has passed but this message came in just before finishing the report: 'Dutch regional commercial broadcaster Radio Marina will be on the air this weekend with a test transmission from the radio ship Jenni Baynton in Harlingen. The news and oldies station wants to see how much of the licensed coverage area it can achieve on its medium wave frequency. According to owner Willem Rense Post this test is a step in the right direction: "The Radiocommunications Agency, the government organization that manages Dutch terrestrial frequencies, indicated several months ago some flexibility in dealing with requests to for re-coordination of transmission sites for medium wave broadcasting, so there is a glimmer of light at last on the horizon. " Radio Marina 1485AM says it will not be just another non-stop music station. As well as presented music programmes it

will also focus in short blocks on various locations around the IJsselmeer. Mr Post said "We want to provide regional news firsthand, through a network of local ambassadors, so as a listener you get a good picture of what's going on in the region." The test transmission will take place from Saturday 30 July at 0600 UTC till Sunday 31 July at 1600 UTC on medium wave 1485 kHz and on the Internet at www.radiomarina.nl.

Andy Sennitt adds: 'Radio Marina holds licences, issued in March 2008, to broadcast from The Hague and from Tilburg on 1485 kHz, both with a power of 1 kW.

<http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/>

Well that ends up this bumper edition of the Hans Knot International Radio Report edited in Rostock this time and I must tell you that another connection came up regarding former German Democratic Republic and offshore radio. It's a guy called Werner Schneider who was and is and offshore fanatic. During the DDR days he already send me every year around Christmas his special year calendar on which is mentioned that he's an avid offshore fan. And after all these years he still does! Greetings and till next month, when we have another special in the report.

Greetings Hans Knot