

Hans Knot International Radio Report May 2012

We're almost at the end of the month of April and here in Holland the weather is not the one you'll expect during this time of the year. So getting the heather on is a normal thing during the evening. However the response on last report gave me also a very warm feeling. Of course it isn't possible to mention everyone in this issue, so thank you so much for sharing your ideas, news, memories and more. Let's start with an e mail from Shaun Scannel who give you the reader some advice to subject he likes:

'Hello Hans, it's always good to receive your monthly report. Not sure if you ever covered the information from Eric G3PGM about his time on Radio Invicta on the Red Sands fort in the Thames Estuary. The story is here

<http://www.radarc.org/Newletter/winter99%20-%20PoP%20Pirates.pdf> .

I just came over it again and although I have read it before it was still good to see again. In the Radio Caroline Mailing list today, we were advised of an RNI video from 1974. RNI Story 1974 documentary recently posted to YouTube, it's been posted there before but this is the full 20 minute documentary and slightly better quality than previous uploads, includes Brian McKensie, Leo van der Goot, Jan Akkerman, Ferry Maat, Robb Eden, Robin Banks, footage of the fire and much more.' <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fwGOTSo7BvU>

Thanks Shaun, and indeed the video went around for many years in bad quality and took a long time before a better quality version became free. Shaun went on with: 'Now, I know you have an interest in amateur radio, and I was curious to see a short shot of Erwin Meister in an office sitting in front of a Collins KWM2 HF transceiver. I note there was no microphone connected or any sign of a morse key. I checked back on my own log book, and found that I had a QSO on 8 January 1971 on the 80 Metre band with HP9APU/MM Operator Joe and equipment Collins KWM2. Joe was operating from the Mebo 2. I have a note of HP9AXP/MM in the notes column of the log book, as another operator from the Mebo 2. Was the KWM2 that Joe used to QSO on 80 metres the same one that Mr Meister was in front of in 1974? Was Mr Meister a licensed radio amateur? Maybe Peter Murtha can throw some light on this. Kind regards. Shaun Scannell'.

Well Peter, as far as I know they were both licesened ham radio amateurs. I've forwarded the question to Peter and so let's hope he has an answer. Anyone who wants to share their opinion can do so by writing to HKnot@home.nl



Meister and Bollier and family 1974 Photo: Theo Dencker

This photo has been taken during the last days of RNI in 1974 showing the then families of Meister and Bollier in front of the office of Roos tender company in Scheveningen harbour. And the daughter of one of the directors is wearing a 'Radio Noordzee Hou em in de lucht' t-shirt, which was released in the Netherlands in June 1973.

Well within 14 hours, after I wrote to Peter Murpha a very long - and technical answer came from England: 'Hallo Hans, I'm afraid that the answer to your and Shaun's question, is that I really don't know. There were several Collins Receivers on the ship, and they were used to pick up News, and for measurement purposes when they were used with a General Radio Impedance Bridge. I do remember an HF antenna which was on the ship, it was a Multiband Dipole type of antenna made in large diameter aluminium tubing, and with "Traps" to resonate the antenna on 14, 21, and 28 MHz.

I also remember a multiband wire antenna which could be used on the lower frequency amateur bands, and that was a type known as a "W3DZZ". I vaguely remember the KWM2, and I think that it was up on the Bridge originally. Later it was moved to the small room up forward, just above the studios, and the room was fitted out as a Newsroom. I also remember the trouble we had in the studios with audio breakthrough on the studio equipment which was due to pick-up of the Shortwave Transmitter on the wiring. I tried making up Mains Filters to eliminate the problem, and I remember working with Chris Cary re-running all the audio cables through metal tubing which we connected to ground. We both cursed the domestic type DIN Audio Connectors which were in use, because they all had to be removed to get the cables through the tubing, and then the connections had to be re-made on the small pins inside the connectors.

The 31 metre transmitter caused the biggest problem, and it was because of the breakthrough in the Production Studio that the 31 metre transmitter remained switched off most of the time. Bollier and Meister wanted that transmitter in operation because they could receive the transmission very well in Zurich, the 49 metre transmitter was either not audible in Zurich, or very much weaker. The 31 metre transmitter was the one that they particularly wanted on the air. One of their friends, a Dr Lambert I think, came out to the ship to investigate the problem, and I remember he was furious at the number of improvised wire antennas which had been rigged on deck to connect the receivers in the News Room, which were the main source of News. He ripped them all down and declared that to be the reason for the interference, but then of course, there was a problem getting the News. It was all a very long time ago, and I am probably forgetting some of the details, but I don't remember either Meister or Bollier using the amaterradio equipment. Best Regards, Peter Murpha.'

Well thanks a lot Peter for the long and interesting answer, where many readers can learn something from. You're a star!

Next an e mail from Rob Veld in which he advise us to have a look in the next blog: <http://blog.modernmechanix.com/>

And talking about interesting internet site the monthly plug for Mary and Chris Payne and their 'news' about Big L and of course the music which was played on the station in the mid sixties: www.radiolondon.co.uk

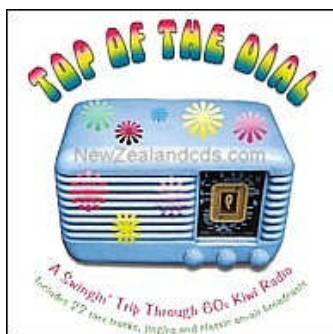
A wonderful website which is now on the air for the 14th year!

Talking about Radio London, here's a nickname heard in a program presented by Dave Cash: Tony 'the only man in the world who believes in superman' Windsor.

Then Alan Bailey: 'For those of you who remember Radio Luxembourg (208), this is to let you know I've just finished a stint at BBC Radio 2 talking about my times at that famous radio station for a forthcoming documentary to be broadcast on May 9th and 16th (part 2). Pete Murray, Tony Prince, Paul Burnett, David Jensen, Benny Brown, Mike Knight, Brian Matthew and Mark Wesley are already in the can and Noel Edmonds will be doing the links this Thursday. I also provided most of the audio. If you want to remember those sounds of yesteryear put it in your diary now. Alan'.

Thanks Alan and so it will be aired very soon. Radio Extra Gold, the internet radiostation, also has special programs this year about Radio Luxembourg, one Sunday a month. Recently Tony Prince was interviewed. For more info check: <http://www.extragold.nl/>

Next we go to Leeds: 'Hi Hans. Many thanks for another superb edition of the Radio Report, I've just read the March edition as I have just returned from a trip to Sydney Australia. It's amazing when you get talking to people regarding radio. On 2UE Radio in Sydney is John Kerr who used to be on Radio Scotland. In the March issue of the report are pictures etc of Radio Hauraki, while in Sydney I managed to find and buy a cd called 'Top Of the Dial', containing all the songs/ads and a few jingles of Radio Hauraki...a gem of a find.'



Regarding the Radio Day this year I just hope this time it will contain Radio 270 and Radio Caroline North. Two stations which I don't think have been mentioned before at the Radio Days. About time they were, as these were the stations I loved to listen to way back in the 60's. Best wishes Colin Wilkins.'

Well Colin more about the Radioday and our ideas on the program this year, you will find elsewhere in this report. And see you in November.

And in France we go to Paul 'the model man'. 'Hello, Hans. Good morning to you, from Hourtin, on a sunny Saturday. Enclosed is a photo of the model 'Jenni Baynton' under construction. I reserve for you, the 'Primeur', when this model would be achieved. Have a nice weekend. Paul Ciesilki.'



Sherri Lynn did sent the next link where attention is paid to Tom Lodge:
<http://cashboxcanada.ca/2708/tom-lodge-man-who-rocked-world>

From Amsterdam the next e mail comes from Graham Gill. 'Hi Hans it's me again. I was very saddened to receive from another old Caroline colleague, Richard Kinch, the news of the sad passing of Tom Lodge. He always ranked as one of the great broadcasters in our offshore radio time, and a wonderful guy. We were of the same age. Tom was born on 16th of April 1936 and I was born on the 15th of April 1936. May he rest in Peace. Graham'

Thanks a lot Graham, most appreciated and in the name of all my readers a congratulations to your birthday 2 weeks ago. Hopefully many more years to come! I will also try to find some time to work out more of those fantastic letters from your archive in the future.



Rob Bolland with Graham Gill wearing a very typical Graham T shirt.

Archive Graham Gill.

More about Tom Lodge comes from Mike Lane: 'Hi Hans I am attaching two versions of the obituary to Tom Lodge which appeared in today's London Times (you have probably already seen them). Just after Caroline South went aground in 1966, Caroline placed an ad for disk jockeys in the music press. I saw it and put an audition tape together and as a result was invited to an interview in Chesterfield Gardens with Tom. We had a long chat but it was clear that I was too young and Tom let me down gently. I was going under the name of Bob Lane at the time and swear that I remember Graham Spider Webb (I think) playing 'Elusive Butterfly' a day later from the Cheetah II and saying that it was by Bob Lane and quickly changing to Bob Lind. That made me think that they had maybe decided to offer me the job but seeing that I was a teenager, retreated from that! Really enjoy the monthly newsletter. Kind Regards, Mike Lane.'

Thanks Mike for this wonderful memory. A pity you didn't make it on the station. Do you want to share memories with the readers? Just send it to

HKnot@home.nl

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/culture-obituaries/tv-radio-obituaries/9169986/Tom-Lodge.html>

Next e mails have been sent by Jack Curtiss: Radio Veterans Recall Pirate "Boom-Boom" 45 years Later. The first one arrived just when last International Radio Report was send to the readers: 'April 4, 2012 will mark 45 years exactly when a promising young radio performer recently returned from working on an offshore pirate broadcasting ship met a tragic and untimely end in Roanoke, Virginia. 'Boom-Boom Brannigan' (Robert Klineman), who had worked briefly at WROV and WPXI in Roanoke, was one of a group of deejays taking turns riding a borrowed motorcycle when he was struck and killed by a driver ignoring a stop sign. He was just three months short of his 20th birthday. Next week some Boomer's former colleagues and ex-station staffers, including Radio England shipmate Jack Curtiss, will convene at the intersection of Franklin Road and Highland Avenue where the accident occurred to pay tribute to their onetime co-worker with a brief ceremony. Had he lived, Boomer would be 64 years-old today.

As Curtiss told the Radio Radio Hall of Fame in 2007, "In a way, I think Boomer's life was truly emblematic of sixties pirate radio itself... brash, cocky, bursting with adolescent energy, full of promise.. and cut short way too soon before its time." For more information, visit www.wrovhistory.com or <http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk/djsbo.htm#brannig>



Boom Boom Brannigan
Promotional Photo SRE

Next Jack Curtiss sent me a link to a newspaper where a special report was

published of a pilgrimage was made to the place where former Swinging Radio England deejay Boom Boom Brannigan died at the age of 19, 45 years ago.

<http://www.roanoke.com/news/roanoke/wb/307055>

Also he had some more photos on the pilgrimage: a few more shots... corner group IDs : John Andrews, Curtiss, Pat Garrett and Steve Nelson.

Roanoke-native Garrett was eight-years old when he heard Jack hosting 'The Enormous Jack Curtiss Show' over WROV in 1966. On the other photo pictured in his studio, longtime WROV radio personality Larry Bly, who could not make the curbside gathering due to a prior commitment. Roanoke has been known as the 'Star City of the South' since 1949, when local civic boosters erected a 100-foot neon-illuminated star atop nearby Mill Mountain overlooking the city. Eerie coincidence: on the Swinging Radio England sound-clip, that was played at the accident scene Boomer says (over the sound of a motorcycle engine) "... or I'll get on my motor and run you over..."



Former listeners to Radio Nova, a landbased radiostation in Amsterdam, will love the next internet radiostation, so Erwin Westerbeek promises in his e mail to me. Have a listen at:

<http://socialstreamingplayer.crystalmedianetworks.com//radio/wdrc>

More from Sherri who wrote: Good to see THE EMP (Rosko) where he belongs! :) (He was number one in reflections last month). I have read some of this... yet another great report!! Hope to finish reading the rest later on tonight. My bestest to you and Jana as per usual. I hope you had a great time in the UK and with the American team you were recently playing host to, as I recall. God Bless. Sherri Lynn.'

Thanks Sherri, yes the trip to the UK was successful although this time for my work at the University and no radio-related visits. The US team, headed by Wayne Hapler from Maryland, were more than a week shooting for their documentary in the Netherlands and next went to England. We had wonderful days as it clicked between the team and us. Hopefully Wayne will be sending photos and more, before I'm ending this edition of the Hans Knot International Radio Report.

Next one comes from Manchester: 'As a result of my move yesterday, I've been offline about 36 hours and reading the Radio report from Hans Knot I've just heard of the death of my first radio hero, (Umi) Tom Lodge. We will miss you so much, but I have the most wonderful memories of a real professional and a beautiful person. RIP Tom, Sail on Sailor! Alan Milewczyk.'

Well this time on page 10 of the report we have a few words about Tom Lodge by the Emperor Rosko: 'I hope he has forgiven me for getting him in so much trouble as he had to answer to the bosses when the payola records were not played. Once I sussed they arrived with the trawler I would help unload the supplies and secretly dispose of them after verifying they were either not good for our image and format or just plain crap. Tom was ordered to insert them in our shows. He never saw them for almost 6 weeks as I was tossing them in the sea. And then he would have to duck and dive when the bosses called him on shortwave to ask why the dreaded Major Minor songs were not airing. Well after awhile he figured out what I was doing and locked them up on arrival, then anyone I found in my show I tossed out the window. I was sacked three times by Philip Solomon and rehired three times by Ronan, who finally 'leased' me to French Radio Luxembourg as his pirateconsultant! Anything to get me off Phill his back and out of his hair. Tom Lodge was 100% a great PC and never lost it. Bless him. P.s. Tony Prince was very kind and accurate in his praise last month with one exception, when referring to his own imminent passing, I do not think he will be accepted, up stairs! Rosko.'



Advert for Rosko on Luxembourg

More people reflecting on the sad passing from Tom Lodge:

http://www.townvox.com/article16818999/tom_lodge_daily_telegraph.htm

with greetings from Graeme Stevenson

www.radiolondon.co.uk

http://www.radiolondon.co.uk/kneesflashes/happenings/janfebmarch12/janfeb_march1201.html#news

We now have a tribute to Tom Lodge, along with an interview from 1995 with Tom on our website. www.offshoreechos.com There are both English and French language versions.

Hello Hans, I was sorry to hear the sad news about Tom Lodge through your report that I received yesterday. He was one of the first voices I heard on the original Radio Caroline, just after it first started broadcasting off the Essex coast all those years ago. I hope to send you my top 8 D.J.'s in soon, just to add my two pennorth to the mix. Best wishes from Roger Kemp'.

We take a small trip to Kent to see what Bob Le-Roi has to mention: 'This time in 'ScrapBook' a return to the heady days of Radio London 266 with some re-discovered photographs from the Martin Stevens Archive. We've an update Caroline Curtain Call with photographs of the Ross Revenge, riding out rough seas at the South Falls Head. Our Radio Tower feature has been updated with information on the Sunk Head Fort Crew. The 'Personal Pages' takes a trip to

Thetford, home of the famous 'Dad's Army' series with a walk around town pointing out notable features and landmarks. 'One Subject One Link' has a contribution bemoaning yet more local radio networking. Finally, across in record sales six of the original Cruisin' Series LP's available to purchase. Enjoy your visits. www.bobleroi.co.uk

April 18th came the sad news that American Bandstand presentator Dick Clark died at the age of 82 after a massive heart attack. Dick, of course, did far much more than doing the Bandstand.

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

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

<http://www.t TMZ.com/2012/04/18/dick-clark-dead-heart-attack/>

<http://www.usatoday.com/life/people/obit/story/2012-04-18/dick-clark-dies-at-82/54390716/1>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/19/arts/television/dick-clark-tv-host-and-icon-of-new-years-eve-is-dead-at-82.html>



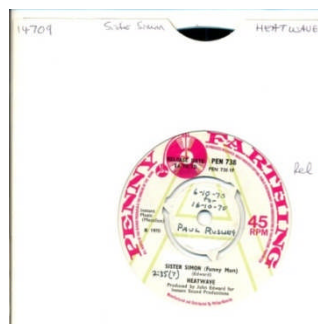
Dick Clark: Archive Soundcapes on line Journal

Now we go back to England to get an e mail from Paul Rusling: Hello Hans. Thank you for another interesting report. I am very sorry to read about those bad trips people made to visit the ships. This is something I always took care about, to make sure trips were safe and comfortable. I was lucky that in my days on the Mi Amigo we had an excellent service from Jac Vrolijk and his boats. On some days we would have as many as three tenders coming to see us, and it was

only a six miles trip. Of course, it was also possible to 'thumb a lift / hitch a ride', from a passing fishing boat as well. One day I made the mistake of getting on the wrong one, and instead of Scheveningen I ended up in Katwijk - many miles from the Caroline office in The Hague. I still go back to Katwijk, a nice old fishingtown!

For Laser we had as our main tender a company with tugs and a large coaster, which we used to launch the balloons from. That tender was just a bit bigger than the Communicator, so the journey of about 3 hours from Sheerness was always very comfortable. Even their tug was very comfy too, and it had a first class captain, Phil Payne - one of the most knowledgable guys on the River Thames and also a nice person to spend a few hours with. I learned a lot from him about seamanship and navigation. We also used a barge sometimes, which would roll a lot out at sea, but still very safe and comfortable. We always had full nav aids and Solas equipment with us and were in constant contact with the shipping office and with my home in Herne Bay, so I always felt safe.

Interesting to see is the mentioning of the band Heat Wave, with a record which was produced by their manager Johnny Flux Edwards, in last report. I pulled the disc from my record library and sure enough, he is named on the label. I enclose a scan for your reference. It's interesting to see how far and wide the Monthly Report is now reaching Hans - five people have emailed me toiday to tell me they saw an old picture of me in the March Report! Finally, thank you for including that picture of me, doing the tests on 729 KHz. It was the first time we opened the microphone - the photo was taken by Blake Williams on my wife's camera. Best greetings Paul Rusling.'



Well Paul thanks a lot for sending your memories about those special boattrips from Scheveningen to the Mi Amigo and vice versa. Does remember me we shared one of the Vrolijk tenders on you very first trip out to the Mi Amigo, way back in 1973! Even Jacques Vrolijk himself joined us on that trip. Well, the report is going out to all parts of the world and more than 4500 people. It's really crazy and than to think it all started in 1969 with the Pirate Radio News.' When I did sent the above answer to Paul Rusling he came back in minutes with: 'I still have a couple of those old Pirate Radio News - very important parts of my own archive. Paul.'



What a memories! Next we go to Israel and Mike Brand: 'Hi Hans. I have a question for you. Someone wrote today on an Israeli radio forum that an Israeli radio station that goes by the name of Radio Gal (Wave) has bought a ship and will be on the air next month off the coast of Israel. The writer is usually the Forum Clown, but sometimes he has inside information, and is connected to the radio world. It is probably a hoax, and he is having a joke (April 1st is coming soon!), but I have decided to check it out. So here's a bit of background concerning the organisation. Radio Gal was a landbased pirate radio station back in the 1990's. They claimed to broadcast offshore, and even had a picture of a ship, but I never actually saw the ship anchored off the Israeli coast. They made a comeback through the Internet a while back, and about 6-8 months ago they leased airtime on the Israeli/Palestinian radio station Radio All for Peace, a station I broadcast on for three years. Because of Radio Gal, Radio All for Peace's FM frequency was closed down by the Israeli Communications Ministry, and since then they have gone back to broadcasting only through the net.

Then today, a message appears on the forum that Radio Gal's owner said on the air this morning that they have bought a ship, and will be off the Israeli coast within a month. Obviously if this is true, it's a pretty stupid thing to do - alerting authorities of such a project before the ship has even arrived off the coast. Again, I think it is an early April Fools joke, but thought I would check it

out with you. Have you heard of any activity around a ship somewhere in the world? Thanks and take care Mike Brand'.

Well Mike I did not get anything from anyone on this subject, except from you. Hopefully next month you can tell us if something has happened on the project or not. Thanks in advance.

Next a surprising e mail from one of the people, who were on one of the tendertrips, I described in last issue in 1985. 'Hello Hans, enclosed a photo of that failed trip out to the Ross Revenge. As you wrote, we departed very early in the morning from Queensborough. It was a very expensive trip as it costed a few hundred pounds. The total amount was for coming over from Holland, the B&B as well as the tendercosts and we got the breakfast with us. That guy made us sandwiches with ham, ham, ham, ham and more ham. On the photo I enclose I do recognise Henk Langerak, who was with us to write an article for the Algemeen Dagblad.



Karel Gerbers, Johan Munstra and Henk Langerak

Photo: Jilje Westerhof

It was after being on the sea for three hours that the tender did not succeeded in getting forward anymore, due to the bad weather. And that was the moment skipper Steve decided to go back to Queenborough. During that trip more than 50% of those ten persons on the tender became very seasick. Lucky enough I was not one of them due to the advice: 'Always look at the horizon.' And yes, after arriving back in the harbour, it was low tide; we had to climb the very high ladder to get on the quayside. The ladder was grown with seaweed and was very smooth. After ten minutes everyone, except Hans Knot,

was on the quay, he was still on the tender and shouting 'Sorry guys I won't make it. We advised you to get the ladder close your eyes and go up with a good feeling. We tell you when you're there and you succeeded. With best greetings, Jille Westerhof'.

Well Jille thanks a lot for remembering me on that dreadful incident! Remember earlier in this report the photos Paul from France sent showing the work on his new radioship model? Well here he's back: 'Hello, Hans and a good morning to you. This morning, I've read your latest report. So great! On you Tube I've found a song, played by the Hollies, 'Charlie and Fred' and this was the song played when the MEBO II went on fire. Also, I have another picture of the 'Jenni Baynton'. This 'lady in red' is not ready yet as she's waiting for her mast. Best wishes. Paul.'

Well halfway the report and the model is almost finished. Thanks Paul!



Next is an e mail from Colin Dale and some time ago I wished him all the best with his operation and now he's coming back with: 'Yes I'm feeling so much better after my operation last year. A lot of the guys on face book and my twitter accounts keep asking after my health. Also I had plenty of notes from friends in the Rock n Roll world. Anyway enough of that! Just thought you would like to know that I am standing for Election again (local elections in North Wales) If you remember I stood in the General Election here in Britain two years ago, against the Speaker of the House of Commons John Bercow, and got 856 votes for the Raving Loony Party. That was not the first time I have stood at a General Election Stood 10 years ago for UKIP United Kingdom Independence Party. You know those are the guys who want Britain out of Europe. We wish to stay friends with the EU, but not dominated by them.

I was a Conservative District Councillor for 15 years, many years ago when I lived in Buckinghamshire. I was Chairman of Transport and Planning for the whole of Bucks. So you see the old Pop Pirate aint as thick as some would have people believe.

My policy will be to bring back the Cat and the Kittens. Put double yellow lines round all Council Offices, (so that they can have as much misery as the ordinary motorist) Votes for 15 year olds, that way the kids of today will be able to get rid of Politicians. (The ones, who have given the jobs to the Far East). Also free Rock Festivals for all age groups, paid for by the greedy Bankers, or as I call them 'Wankers'.

Electionday, here in North Wales, is May 3rd, so I hope you and yours will be giving me a vote. Vote Colin Dale on Radio Sutch.

www.colindaleradiosutch.com Take care of yourself, Best regards anda vote that's used is never wasted! Colin Dale.'



Colin Dale

Well Colin thanks for the information and I hope the local readers in your part of Wales will think about voting you. We now go to Cyprus. 'Hi Hans.

Thanks for the report, a great read as always. I'm still working with BFBS as Station Manager and morning host in Cyprus. I seem to recall from Amsterdam a few years ago that there was a VoP book around. Am I right or had the Stella got to me too much by that point? If I'm right, do you have any idea where I could buy a copy from? Best wishes Chris 'The Boy' Pearson.'

'Hi Chris, good to hear from you and nice that you're still active in radio. Well here is the info about the Voice of Peace book, which is still on sale. Price is 25 Euro, including package and postage. For people from the Netherlands payment

can be done at account number 4065700 or 988940301 on the name of Mediacommunicatie, Amsterdam. For ordering from outside the Netherlands you can use either 4065700 or 988940301 adding IBAN NL85INGB0004065700 BIC INGBNL2A Or you can use paypal: rob@mediacommunicatie.nl
Please inform also the author when ordering the book and giving your complete address where the book can be send to at HKnot@home.nl

Another nickname was heard by a reader and that's for a former Radio Caroline guy: Emperor 'Goldbuster' Rosko. Now we go to a trio of former Caroline deejays who got together late last year and were subject of a special over Easter 'Pirates on Parade' on the BBC. Keith Skues, Tom Edwards and Andy Archer were reminiscing about the more broadcastable of their Watery Wireless experiences. The programmes were the result of Radio Norfolk boss David Clayton inviting the three ex-renegades to a get-together last November where he recorded their chat. Tom: "We did 'yak yak yak' for about an hour and 58 minutes! As always with my dj pals of so many years, we just picked up our conversation, where we left it. Amazing!"

Tom as well as Andy Archer sent me photographs. Andy: 'Attached is a photograph of Tom Edwards, me, Keith Skues and Radio Norfolk's Editor David Clayton at the BBC recording of "Pirates on Parade". Hope all is well with you, Best wishes Andy Archer.



From the Norfolk area we go to London to see what Jon of the Pirate Hall of Fame has to tell us: 'Hi, I have updated The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame. New this

month: There is more from Pam Wood's collection of offshore memorabilia - some photos of DJ Graham Gill; Radio Caroline executive Terry Bate sends us another great photograph from his archive; we hear from one of the Caroline South "Good Guys", Garry Kemp - back on the radio at the age of 77; then congratulations to two former pirates, both nominated for forthcoming awards; there is news of a tribute to Radio England's Boom-Boom Brannigan, who died 45 years ago this month. Plus the tribute to Tom Lodge, which we posted a few days ago following the sad news of his death on 25th March and much more. Hope you enjoy it, all the best, Jon www.offshoreradio.co.uk

Take a plane and arrive with me in Germany: 'Dear Hans, maybe this German article on Spiegel Online is of interest to you and the readers of the report: <http://www.spiegel.de/netzwelt/netzpolitik/0,1518,824468,00.html>

Best greetings and thanks a lot for your great job!

Jörg-Clemens from Alsbach

Earlier on we had Graham Gill about Tom Lodge and another e mail he sent is here: 'Hi there Hans. Many thanks for forwarding link to the pictures of me from my Fan Club, which was run for many years by dear Pam. They bring back many happy memories. I heard that Pam died not long ago. I sent the usual Christmas card to her and her husband Peter, last December, but did not receive one from her. And I thought something might be wrong as she always sent one to me for more than 45 years! Greetings Graham.

This one came in versus Martin van der Ven: 'Robbie Walker-Brown on April 2, 2012, 9:53 am forum.

Had read about this gambling ship (whose final name was Star Of Scotland) & station RXKR before thanks to the Broadcasting Fleet pages

<http://www.offshore-radio.de/fleet/panama.htm>

Have now found this article about a dive on the wreck which also includes a picture of the ship in her heyday.

<http://chemistry.csudh.edu/faculty/jim/trip%20reports/Star%20of%20Scotland.html>

November 17th is again the day to go to Amsterdam for our annual Radio Day

This is the preliminary programme for 2012:

Het sluitstuk van het Nederlandstalige Radio Luxemburg
Colourful Radio Luxembourg - The Great 208
Vlaams op z'n best - Radio Mi Amigo
Europe's Best Music - Caroline 558
Boven Water (details op een later tijdstip)
Yorkshire's Part of The Beat Fleet: Radio 270
Woelige radio tijden: Een interview (details op een later
tijdstip)
The Big Wide Wonderful World of Radio Caroline North

The Radio Day 2012 will take place on Saturday 17th
November 2012, in Hotel Casa 400 in Amsterdam,
Eerste Ringdijkstraat 4. All further info on
www.radioday.nl



Each year also a special German Radio get together is organized by Jan Sundermann and his team: Radio Day Erkrath. Saturday September 1.

'We organise the annual meeting for radio makers and listeners for the 12th time in the rooms of the observatory [Sternwarte Neanderhöhe](#), Sternwartenweg, D-40699 Erkrath. The event is scheduled from 13.00 to 19.00 hours EST; entrance is from 12.00 o'clock EST. Our special guest will be Arnold Layne (Greg Bance). He is for many known of his broadcast on Radio Northsea. Have a look at his career from Radios Essex, 270 and 390 up to today. Propaganda from the high sea: Martin van der Ven goes back to the offshore station of Deutschen Freiheitspartei, a free German voice out of exile in the 1930s. Nick Barker was engineer at BFBS Cologne and London. Have a look behind the walls of that station. OffshoreRadio and ShowBiz: Chet Reuter tells the story of Radio City, whose raid and the death of Reg Calvert was a basic influence on establishing British MOA. As always the Djs of Radio Marabu and Radio Northsea International will be here on site. The location: From Düsseldorf railway station one can get there by train S 8, direction Wuppertal/Hagen. You leave at stop Hochdahl-Millrath and walk the road in direction of the train to small way, on right hand, named Hausmannsweg. After a few hundred meters you see the observatory. By car you leave Autobahn A 46 at exit Haan West to Erkrath, in the town the way is marked 'Observatorium'. For any requests please contact: e-mail: radiotag@fastmail.fm

Well we now go to Wales: 'Hi Hans. Thanks for the International Report, always a good read, and keeps me in touch with what is happening. I do talk with many former shipmates, and occasionally we meet up, but we are all living so far apart now we have come to reply upon the internet to keep in touch on a more regular basis. I've totally re-vamped my website, there are many new sections, and a lot of photos from my days in radio, most of which I have not put on-line before.

I've concentrated on the VOP initially, but I will add many more photos to the Caroline section over the next few weeks. There are also sections devoted to Euronet Satellite Radio and my radio receiver collection through the years. I'm adding some memories and thoughts to many of the photos as I remember them. If any of my old shipmates or friends would like to have a look then head over to: www.welshbrook.co.uk

And look under the 'Radio' tab on the menu. There are a number of sub-pages, so plenty to look at and read! My on-line radio stations continue to have a good audience and it's nice to see we have listeners in some of the more exotic parts of the world. It was highly amusing to see we have a regular listener to the rock station tuning in from The Vatican! Keep up the good work in chronicling the offshore radio days! Best wishes Mike Kerslake.'

Well Mike, thanks a lot for the update and it was fun seeing those VOP photos, partly again and partly new for me. Will there be special rock service on Sunday in the Cathedral in Rome?

More listening pleasure on the next stations, links sent by a few of our readers:

BrooklynFM - Classic Rock - <http://listen.radionomy.com/brooklynfm.m3u>

XeRW - Oldies Radio - <http://listen.radionomy.com/xerwradio.m3u>

4Jacks - 80's Radio - <http://listen.radionomy.com/4jacks.m3u>

Oldies Paradise is currently running experimental tests on a new streaming service. If you click on this link it will open Winamp or Windows Media Player with the Oldies Paradise stream.

<http://listen.radionomy.com/oldiesparadise> Mark Stafford

Oldies Paradise

Earlier on we had a former English language deejay who stayed in Amsterdam for many decades, here's another one - former Radio 270 deejay Mike Hayes: 'Dear Hans, yesterday evening, after enjoying the sound of Candy Dulfer and her band at the Paradiso in Amsterdam, I met her and presented her with one of my paintings as a gift. You can see the photos of the handover at http://www.mikesgallery.info/2010/08_sax.php. Just click on the thumbnail. Regards, Mike Hayes.



All change at Red Sands Radio: the radio governing body Ofcom has granted the Thames Estuary Basin and North Kent Coasts Towns radio station a licence to broadcast again this summer. But with a small move of frequency to 87.9 MHz (FM) to avoid any cross channel interference from another station some distance away. The stations senior engineer said 'the change makes no difference to listeners who will easily be able to receive the station both on FM and on-line'. Red Sands Radio in its 6th year continues to grow with support from Kent County and Local Council and its loyal band of sponsors and

advertisers. Red Sands Radio launches on Saturday 30th June 2012 on 87.9 FM and on-line. Red Sands Radio, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 2PF 07711 512 991
studio@redsandsradio.co.uk www.redsandsradio.co.uk

Thanks to Bob for the above news on Red Sands Radio. Now we stay in England and go to our regular contributor Ian Godfrey: 'Hi Hans, many thanks for the April Report. Your attempts to get to the Ross Revenge back in the 80s made interesting reading; the sort of scenarios I could easily have experienced if I'd succeeded in visiting the stations off the Dutch coast in the seventies. I had one or two anxious moments on a couple of the trips I did from Brightlingsea but the thought of having to clamber over two or three ships probably would have been beyond me! I was pretty keen to photograph all the radio-ships off the Dutch coast - particularly the MEBO 2 due to the colour scheme - but unfortunately I didn't have the right contacts until 1975!

For me the past three days have been quite eventful radio-wise. Soon after midday on Easter Saturday I had an email from Mark Stafford, saying that Oldies Paradise was testing on a new stream. As a URL was included I could easily transfer it to the radios. The timing was very appropriate, being almost exactly 48 years since the start of Caroline. The first complete record I heard was 'Getaway' by Georgie Fame, a very appropriate artist; a bit less so the title! About an hour ago I heard Mark announce the return of his Saturday 10.00-13.00 show so presumably the relaunch day will be some time this week.

Yesterday I tuned to BBC Radio Norfolk for part one of Pirates On Parade, featuring 60s recollections from Keith Skues, Tom Edwards and Andy Archer, and wasn't disappointed. Content-wise it was certainly worth waiting for, although it included material I'd heard before it was one of the most entertaining offshore-related shows I can remember, all down to the guys involved! Apart from 'The Times They Are-A Changin'' at the beginning and 'We Love The Pirate Stations' at the end, I was quite relieved that only short record clips were played, all appropriate to the narrative.

Part Two was just as entertaining. I was interested to note that it wasn't until about 12.25 today that Ronan O'Rahilly was mentioned and there was very little reference of the City drama. It seemed that they could have continued for hours so the omissions were probably due to editing. At 13.00 on Sunday the following presenter said that he listened to Radio Caroline and Radio Mi Amigo in the 70s and that they were the reason why he wanted to get into radio. Since Pirate BBC Essex it's seemed pretty clear that several BBC presenters were influenced in a similar way.

Technically I found both programmes a bit irritating. There was a persistent knocking noise, which sounded as though someone was cracking an egg every ten seconds! This also affected the programmes either side of the shows. It's now Tuesday and a friend has just told me that the BBC had a lot of complaints about this. It is often the case that, although there is an obvious keenness to air shows like this, anything about offshore radio is often hampered by technical problems. Hopefully everything will be sorted out if the shows are sent round the network. On Friday afternoon I watched a programme I'd recorded about five weeks ago. It was the second in a series about class but although there was much mention of the sort of radio that the BBC was offering from the end of World War 2 and into the early 50s. There was no mentioning of the offshore stations when they covered the 60s - just the usual fare of satirical radio programmes, such as 'That Was The Week That Was', 'Carnaby Street', the Beatles and films such as 'Cathy Come Home'. For a few seconds a radio was shown, a Bush I think, and not directly related to the programme at that point. That was the closest it got to offshore radio!



I usually find this sort of programme highly interesting but for an offshore anorak a bit disappointing. I suspect it's more likely to be a conscious decision not to make any reference, rather than due to a scant knowledge of this subject. Being such a significant part of 60s culture. I'm sure that the inclusion of the offshore stations in such programmes would add great excitement for viewers generally. Best Wishes, Ian Godfrey.'

Well Ian as usual it was very interesting to read your monthly ramblings and keep them coming! As soon as the report is ready I will take some time to listen to this special program from Eastern on BBC Radio Norfolk.

Alex Berrevoets from Belgium mentioned that he found an internet site where you can watch Veronica's very first television program from 1976, called 'Veronica aan land'. You can find it in the so called European Television Archive. www.euscreen.eu

Next is Bryan in Australia: 'Thank you once again for your your wonderful contribution to radio history! I am again reading through my e-mail In-box in a batch. My recumbent tricycle was involved in a traffic incident with a car. So I am convalescing from a cut to the elbow, and bruised muscles. I loved the stories of the lives of the RNI crew! That had been my favourite station. Then I was a student of physical science at a Catholic grammar school in Manchester, UK. One of our group was the Liverpool DJ who was arrested for displaying Caroline car stickers on the windows of his van. Best wishes, Bryan in Canberra, Australian Capital Territory.'

Thanks a lot Bryan and hopefully you will recover soon after you had this accident. Well you have time to read back old issues for the report, which brings some light in long days I suppose! For other readers, there's a massive archive of old Hans Knot International Radio Reports. Just go to www.hansknot.com and in the above line click on 'International Radio Report' and take a long and deep dive in old issues of the report.

Graham Jones want to share a photo with you the reader: We had a reunion in August 2010 and made a presentation to Robbie Owen (ex Voice Of Peace) for his services to our station (pic attached). It was a great nostalgic occasion bringing back memories of Free Radio as well as our own hospital efforts. Best wishes, Graham Jones Founder and former station manager Radio Hertford.



A 37 minute documentary on Skyline Radio, SE London from 1983 is uploaded to YouTube by Kenny Myers. Skyline was one of the first stations to exploit the fact that the authorities could not confiscate any transmitting equipment without a court order. They broadcast 7 days a week from 1983 to 1985.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CdHRIS27p6Y>

Next one with a 'political' message comes from Dee: 'Hi Hans. I look forward to receiving your monthly email, the highlight of the month for me. A little "Where are they now?" item for you. Kevin Stewart (David Brown of Caroline in the 70s) just a few hours ago, on April 18th, got elected as a States Deputy (island government minister) in Guernsey. He founded the island's commercial station, Island FM, some years ago. After a lengthy stint in the UK with the Tindle Radio group, he returned to Guernsey, but this time with the BBC local station. Maybe some readers know of other ex-pirates who opted for unusual career changes. Best regards, Dee Coombes.'

Well Kevin thanks a lot for this information and for more on David Brown his career go to: <http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk/djs7b.htm#dbrown>

And as we talked about a Caroline deejay from the seventies living in Guernsey it remembered me of a photograph in my collection on which the Ross Revenge, when it was a fishingtrawler, is leaving St. Peters Port on the isle of Guernsey.



Photo: Freewave Media Magazine Archive

And just as promised Paul Ciesielski sent me, before sending my report away, some photos from the complete model, from which one I will publish.

More info on several models and how to obtain your own copy please write to

Paul at: paulciesielski@live.fr



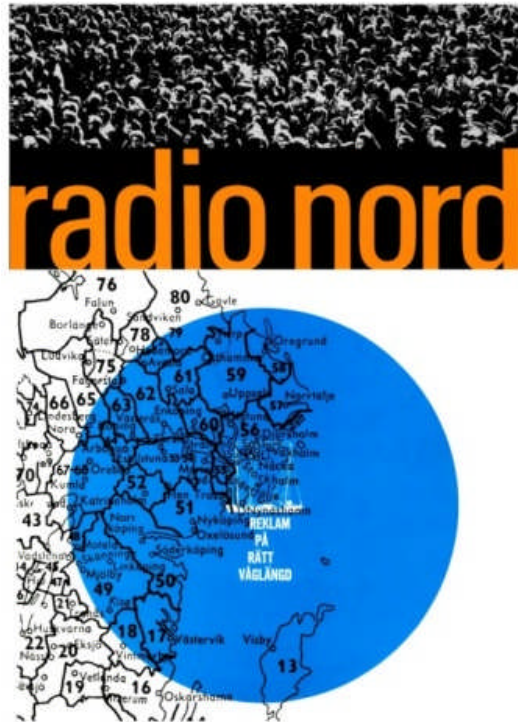
<http://ilovezeezenders.tk> Is a new internetsite with personal memories from Robert Simonis and Luca Simonis. Including video snaps from visits to the Ross Revenge as well as the Norderney, former Veronica's vessel in Antwerp.

Ian MacRea 110 edition of his special newsletter 'All about Radio' was received on April 22nd and has the next subjects:

- Radio station fails in effort to silence ex-hosts
- Receptionist cancels 'One Direction' date after death threats
- Internet radio legal in Swaziland
- Radio station buys seahorse Cheeto
- Radio DJ in trouble for sex joke
- Former satellite radio worker embezzles more than \$900,000
- Radio show on Apple's Chinese workers retracted

Subscription only ian@allaboutradio.net

This year it's fifty years ago that, on June 30th 1962, the Swedish listeners had to say goodbye to their offshore radio station Radio Nord. Half a century later still the station is mentioned now and then in the world of radio. In cooperation between Offshore Echos en the Freewave Media Magazine during the past centuries a massive archive of documents has been built. From the archive this time a very exclusive memory to Radio Nord. In the report you only see on of the documents. When you go to www.hansknot.com the rest of this publication can be found.



Around April 20th in several newsgroups and internet pages were rumours about the future of the Norderney, the former Radio Veronica vessel in Antwerp; Radio Netherlands Worldwide even brought the news on their pages, including an update on April 25th: 'The former radio ship of Radio Veronica, the Norderney, has been seized by the port authorities in Antwerp because of non-payment of harbour fees. The Norderney has been located in Antwerp since 3 May, 2001. For some years it was used as a restaurant. For the last two years the ship has been boarded up to deter souvenir hunters. Over the past few years, several attempts were made to bring the Norderney back to the Netherlands. There was also an attempt to move the ship to Spain. All the attempts failed due to the unavailability of environmental licences and the asking price of the current owners.'

- Update: Co-owner Wout van der Meer told Dutch media analyst Hans Knot that the reported seizure was "all nonsense; the harbour fees have been paid until the end of April". Antwerp port authorities have also denied that the MV Norderney was seized.'

Now we go to Phil Champion in England: 'Thanks for mentioning my Radio Mercur article (Part 1) in 'Radio Review', a few months back. The second part features in 'Radio Review' issue 212. Like the first one it is 7½ pages long including the photos. Coming soon is my article on Mercur's short-lived competitor DCR

(Danmarks Commercielle Radio.) Anyone who wants to buy of the magazine with its mix of current news and historical articles should contact the editor, Geoff Baldwin at PO Box RM7 8AY, Romford, Essex. Geoff has several special subscription offers available until May 31st: 5 issues for £20 (roughly 30% saving off normal subscription), 10 issues for £30 (saving 45%) and 15 issues (saves 50%!) Cheque/postal order should be payable to 'G.J.Baldwin' and nothing else. Regards, Philip Champion.'

And to finish off this report, as promised, we have news from Wayne Hepler, who was in Europe to produce a documentary about radio:

'Greetings from across the pond and the professor who led the video documentary team in March, thanks largely to Hans Knot, whose name I now pronounce correctly! Over 20 years ago, the seed of this project was planted by a professor who told me in graduate studies that the Dutch incorporated their illegal broadcasters into their present system. I was fascinated: a country that takes "crooks" and puts them on the air! How American! What I learned was that the supposed crooks were actually skilled professionals who changed the course of broadcast history, both on mainland Europe and in the UK, and I am lucky to have met many from both locations.



Ross Revenge in Tillbury Photo: Wayne Hepler

I won't bore readers with a long travelogue, but hopefully you find it interesting that the likes of Hans Hogendoorn, Tineke, Herbert Visser, Ad Bouman, Jaap Schut, Dr. Huub Wijfjes, and of course, Hans Knot, interviewed on behalf of the Dutch nation (we narrowly missed Golden Earring back stage). The English included Tony Prince, Alan Beech, Mandy Marton, Peter Moore, Johnny Walker, and Keith Skues. It was Alan Beech who served as host for a tour of the

surviving Radio Caroline in the Thames Estuary, where much restoration continues. All of this was video taped by two very skilled college students from my home employer of Harford Community College north of Baltimore, Maryland: Everett Glovier and Zach Myers. My wife, Donna, dared to deal with the details of continuity and logging of content for the massive editing to come.



One of the former Veronica studio's housed at the Rock Art Museum
Photo: Wayne Hepler

In the end, I hope to present an hour-long--or more--documentary of both the European and U.S. "pirates" (a term I don't embrace). It is the U.S. operators who are now heavily persecuted by American regulators and who will interview in silhouette to protect their identities in various locations around the States. I know at least some of you know Allan Weiner (pending) and Commander Bunny, among other pirates or former pirates, and there will be more American interviews where they came from. Someone please fund a return trip for my colleagues and me next year to present the video and meet more of you. It has been a unique learning and cultural experience. "Hans was an excellent host, topped only by his wonderful wife, Jana." Regards from the U.S! Professor Wayne Hepler'



Hans and Jana Knot Photo: Wayne Hepler

Thanks a lot Wayne for this report on your experiences in Western Europe. It was great working together with you till now on this project and of course also thanks to everyone who cooperated in their best way to get you and your team a good idea about their 'pirate' experiences. And yes we would love to see the documentary when it's finished. Give our regards to the whole team. It was something we won't have missed!

Finally I can't wait till it becomes June 5th as this will be the official release date for the new Beachboys Album. Their single will be called 'That's why God made the radio':

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OGke6pnT1d0&feature=branded>

Well, as always, if you've something to share simply contact me at HKnot@home.nl Till next month I wish you all the best, greetings Hans