

## HANS KNOT INTERNATIONAL RADIO REPORT APRIL 2013.

Dear all, as usual thanks for all the support, ideas, memories and more and I will start this time with a story written by Andy Cadier, also known as Martin Kayne. It tells his story on the Maunsell Knock John Fort in the sixties, where he worked for Radio Essex.

'My first sight of Knock John Tower was from aboard the Radio Essex tender, a fishing boat called Kestrel. This was early in 1966, the station had been on air since October the previous year during which time the fort had been adapted from an empty shell into a small local radio station. Access was via a badly leaning landing stage, largely covered in slime and seaweed, from there a rope was lowered..a loop passed around your waist you were hauled up a further 30ft to the platform. When you have no idea who is doing the pulling it could be a daunting experience for newcomers. Over the years while the fort had been unoccupied almost everything of value had been stolen, this included the original portholes, toilet and baths, light switches and numerous articles in the two generator rooms. Some heavy things like an industrial oil fired cooker and the kitchen sink remained, even though the taps and plumbing had gone. The original lifts, one in each leg, were both in the 'basement' owing to the theft of the electric motors that powered them, old doors had been placed over the opening to prevent anyone falling all the way down.

The Radio Essex fort captain Dick Palmer gave new arrivals a tour of the tower, with the original WW2 bunks and furniture (tables and benches) in the circular rooms in each leg. The walls of the accommodation rooms in the legs were clad in timber, with hooks matching those on a central pillar to support hammocks. The radio staff used the top bedroom, normally about 6 people, in the opposite leg that had a serviceable generator. Dick was a well qualified mechanic had managed to get one of the original

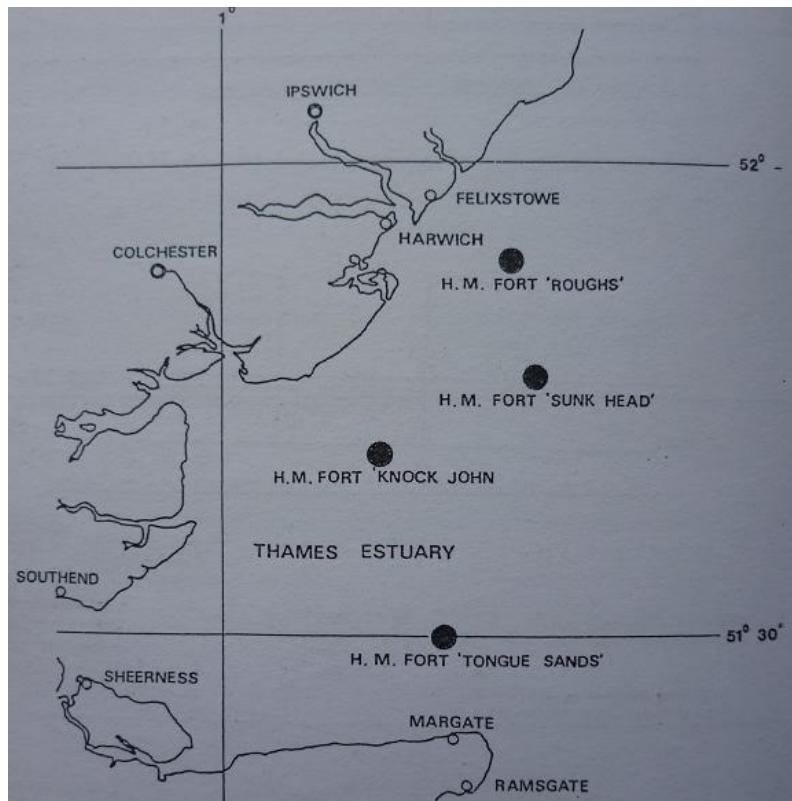
Gardener generators to work initially using components from a Bedford truck. Proper injector pumps were eventually 'found' on another maunsell fort, these were serviced and put into action on Knock John.



**Martin Kayne in the sixties; Freewave Archive**

A new replacement toilet was placed in one of the cubicles, but flushing it involved lowering a bucket over the fort's side and using the seawater to do the business. At the very bottom of each of the legs were storage rooms...thus the lifts, it was surprising to find this area had not been flooded in any way. The WW2 lifts were dual purpose, apart from being designed to carry ammunition, a cupboard could be attached to convey food to the occupants of each level, there had been insufficient space at deck level for the compliment of over 100 men to assemble there, so meals were served to the crew in the circular dormitories. The officers did have a deck level

mess, in a room that in 1966 housed the Radio Essex transmitter and technical workshop.



The fort originally had ladders running up the outside of each leg and a trapdoor at deck level, these had rusted badly over the years and became increasingly frail. I understand one fell away completely when someone tried to tie a boat to it! The fort's superstructure contained a huge water tank, still full of water and the odd dead seagull and fan room that heated air and fed it through ducting throughout the fort. This was never made to work again and even if it had would have consumed too much electricity. The control and observation rooms were completely empty, as was a radar turret at the very top. For what has become an obscure reason Radio Essex staff removed the timber observation room as they had considered the structure was de-tuning the transmitting antenna. In fact all the fort-based pirates found that the raising and lowering of the tide effected the tuning of the aerial, a problem not experienced on the ships as their height above sea level always remained the same. Another problem was Radio Essex did not use a vertical mast,

but a copper wire strung between scaffolding poles using insulators, in some respects this inhibited local reception during daylight, but after dark the skywave effect gave reception in quite unexpected places. The fuel for the generator was housed in an old aircraft fuel tank on deck, manually filled from numerous jerry-cans manhandled to an from the tender by the deejays and engineer.



Radio Essex was the first English language radio station to broadcast to Britain 24 hours a day, in fact as Radio Luxembourg closed at 3am it was hoped shift workers would tune to Essex after this time. This did happen but not to a huge extent, letters from security officers and people in the transport industry who tuned their radios about at night seemed to represent the early hours audience. Radio Essex's ambition to run 24/7 did not always live up to this claim and engineering work sometimes involved a nighttime closedown. Had it not been for the military Radio Essex would clearly not have existed, the Royal Navy for the fort, the USAF for origin of the 1kW transmitter, government surplus for many electrical components and

military training for some of the staff who worked there. Also for to the MOD for deciding not to oust the pirates from the forts. When the generator was running and the music playing it was Radio Essex, however when the generator stopped you suddenly found yourself camping on a derelict military gun emplacement! However for the fort to have had a peacetime roll long after the threat of invasion back in 1940 is clearly a tribute to the designer and builder, particularly as it's still standing today.'

Well what a wonderful story with many ins and outs written down by Andy Cadier and so we must be very thankful to him for sharing this story. If you want to reflect or write your own memories down, please send them to [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

The next e mail came from Ger Sweeney with a request in February: 'I've started a new Irish programme that will be available on my website ([www.gersweeney.net](http://www.gersweeney.net)). It is also being carried by a number of radio stations across the world. More on that later. There will be a new programme every Tuesday evening at 8pm (GMT) and it will be repeated on occasions throughout the week. Anyway, any publicity you can give me would be much appreciated. Thanks:



Freelance Broadcaster Tel: Ireland +353 87 3529800 Tel: UK + 44 775 6051646 [www.gersweeney.net](http://www.gersweeney.net)

Next a special photo sent to me by Dickie Allen: 'A narrow boat spotted in 2012 on the Trent and Mersey Canal attending the Middlewich, Cheshire, UK, Boat and Folk Festival. All the best Dickie Allen.'





Next some interesting internet sites to mention:

<http://www.ontheshortwaves.com/history.html>

<http://radiomap.eu/uk/birmingham>

Next an exclusive photograph on which you will see Willem van Kooten also know as Joost den Draayer on stations like Veronica, RNI and Radio Monique, as well as Hans Blaauwbroek.



The later one is the editor of the book 'Radio Noordzee Top 50 Hitlijstenboek', which was exclusively published in the Netherlands in an edition of 125 copies. They are all numbered and in the editor's house number 1 is on the shelves, while Willem van Kooten, who invented the RNI Top 50 in 1971, has copy number 2. As I also bought a copy it's great fun to search through the RNI Playlists, which are also in the book, searching for rare titles on YouTube. And I can say that many rare tracks are listed.

Next a link to an official BBC TV program from the sixties, called Jukebox Jury:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=b3y-wNnh3g0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=b3y-wNnh3g0)

Nickname time in the report and this time we go to Radio Delmare with thanks to Jan-Fré Vos. Ronald 'het fenomeen' Van der Vlucht (phenomny), Kees 'smeerkaas' Mulder (cheese spread), Astrid 'Angel of the morning' Jager, 'Ome' John 'het vleeskanon' Anderson (meat cannon) and Eddie 'Delmare's nieuwsparel' Marel (news pearl).

Next it's time for some mails I exchanged with Graham Foy: 'Hi Hans, thank you for your informative and very interesting publication. I tend to have a quick read then when I am less rushed have a more leisurely read and dip into any associated websites that are mentioned. It's good to know that there are a lot of similar minded people out there! It brings back many, many pleasant memories. I even have some of your books (in Dutch) on Veronica, RNI at home. At times I try very hard with my rustic knowledge of the language. I try and give a monthly note on our website to point anyone in your direction, who may look at ours. However, I did miss doing this last month which was very poor of me! I've corrected it in February! This year we celebrate 28 years of our radio meetings - it's hard to believe that we were in the last peak of the offshore radio era and started off as the East Surrey Branch of the Caroline Movement in 1985. We have people like myself who still come after all these years plus others who have started to visit us in the last

few years unaware that we continue! So if anyone out there wants to see what we look like dive into the Toby Inn in Redhill on the first Tuesday of the month! We are always there from around 8.30pm.

When I was really young (born 1959) I can remember Radio London being on in my house and listening into Radio 390 at lunchtimes on a big old valve set in the dining room. We did listen to the final hour of Big L whilst on holiday in Worthing. I can also picture a newsreport, I think on ITN regarding the closures and like either sunset on the Galaxy or the ships bell being run to close the report. Mainly we listened to the Light Programme or Home Service. Five years later getting into radio as my own thing. Yes it is. Particularly if you can 'visualise' things in your mind.

I was a really shy young man back in the 70s and 80s. Ran a pirate station Jennifer 2 on 88 MHz from my bedroom circa 1976 and from 1977 really low power (about a watt) Radio Atlantis to parts of SE Surrey for an hour or two a weekend. Around 92 to 92.5 MHz, Got a 10 watt rig and switched to Bank Holidays with a school friend of mine in late 70s and early 80s as Atlantis FM 96.4 from Redhill beamed south. Had sent a fiver to EAP and Bill Rollins sent me a near full C90 cassette with Radio Atlantis jingles and a couple of tunes in excellent quality. I did a few other bits and pieces on and off. On the edges of what we call Sussex and Surrey Radio group since 1994. Did various on-air bits at Susy Radio (news, traffic and travel and ended up doing early Sunday mornings (7 to 10 am) on our RSL broadcasts.

**QSL**  
**SUSY RADIO**  
RSL - REDHILL REIGATE SURREY  
4TH - 31ST AUGUST 2001

**531 kHz AM**

**SUSSEX SURREY RADIO GROUP**  
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TODAYS HITS AND YESTERDAY'S MEMORIES

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I had to give up assisting as needing to help my sister look after my late Dad. A right decision of course. I'm a SSRG committee member for a number of years and Susy Radio Ltd company secretary up to November 2011 when work and home commitments meant something had to give!

I have followed Offshore Radio through the 70s, 80s and just into the 90s. Had a guy Lee Jones in the year above me at school who showed me and Ricky Brown an edition of Script in 1973 so got into Land Based pirate radio as well. Joined Caroline Movement, subscribed to Monitor Magazine for a while and have Offshore Echoes going way back to 1983! Became our local CM Group co-ordinator back in the 90s (see the [www.sasradiogroup.org](http://www.sasradiogroup.org)). Also I was a long time listener to Media Network from 1982 up to its demise. I have an interest in other forms of radio. Currently I'm reading 'Hello Again...' by Simon Elmes a present from my sister Gerry. I want to get back on the radio time permitting, workload really high at the moment, tweaking website design when I can

Obviously I do our SAS newsletter (I must scan in a sample copy for you), I had a couple of articles published in Offshore Echoes, another couple in 'Radio User' (also as Graham Ford) and it was down to me and 'Oscar' as to who took over 'Off The Record'. Oscar won! He used to come to our meets but hasn't been for ages. Kindest regards Graham Foy. Coordinator SASradiogroup.'

Well Graham thanks a lot for sharing all the information about your interests with our readers and if anyone wants to do the same, it's very simple as you send it to: [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

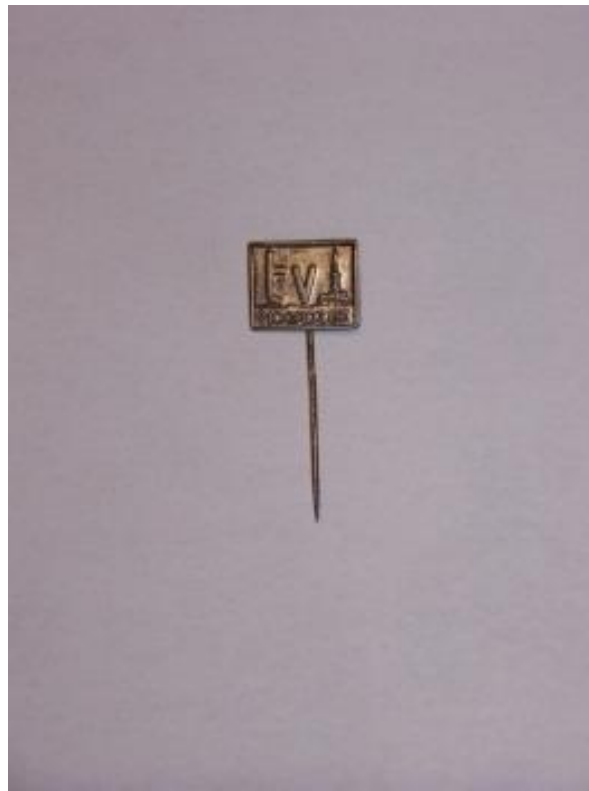
Ever thought about the translation into foreign languages of the term 'offshore radio' and more? Well Herman from Gent in Belgium did the work for you in 64 different languages, so have a look at the next site: <http://users.telenet.be/offshoreradio/uit-nederlands-naar-64-talen.html>

Anyone remembering the ill-fated project with the Manon Park? Well Martin van der Ven found some exclusive photographs from the ship, which originally was built in Groningen.

<http://members7.boardhost.com/PirateRadio/msg/1361711388.html>

<http://www.shipspotters.nl/viewtopic.php?f=17&t=933&start=0>

Next is an e mail from Wouter Verbaan, the brother of the late Hans Verbaan, well known from his Free Radio Activities in the Netherlands in the seventies: 'Thanks for the international radio report. You can see that I started reading it directly after you did sent it off to your readers. I saw the information about the special REM Island pin you've got from Andy Archer. I can tell you that there's another pin which was released by the organisation in 1964. A photograph of that one is enclosed. With best greetings, Wouter Verbaan.'



Well almost halfway into the report and so it's Emperor Rosko time: 'Hi great collector of radio news and this and that! I accept your challenge to reply to your question in last issue about the photograph showing me at a disco. The Cheetah was a night club a pal had opened in New York, and as a tribute I used it. The cat in the logo is very sexy and very female, so is a good image. And of course people always asked where is that what is that etc. Now more important was I wasted when that photo was taken? You are seeing possibly the first ever mobile music mixer designed by my good self and Orange. Back then a fledgling sound company, owned by Cliff Cooper. We had six big Matt tube amps (Huddersfield) and a rotary joystick to spin the sound around the ballrooms by hand. Hans Knot Report once again breaking new ground with the oldies but goodies. Stay well and hi to all pals who read and heed. Emperor Rosko!

Well Rosko thanks a lot for the information on that one and let's see if I've another photo from the files to add to this story.



## Rosko November 1968 in France. Archive OEM

Next The 2013 Unsigned Only Music Competition: Deadline Extended Until April 16, 2013.

Due to overwhelming demand, the 2013 Unsigned Only Music Competition has extended its deadline date until April 16, 2013. The panel of judges for this year's competition consists of the top echelon of recording artists and music journalists, and they will be selecting the winners in the ten categories of popular music covered by the competition. Founders/Directors Candace Avery and Jim Morgan noted, "This years competition offers even more judges, bigger cash prizes, and another great opportunity to bridge the gap between unsigned artists and the music industry executives who could potentially influence and elevate their careers."

Designed for solo artists, bands, and singers, who are not signed to a major label record company, Unsigned Only's goal is to find an outstanding, talented performing artist: a band, singer, or solo artist, a newcomer or veteran, raw or polished - the "gem" that needs to be discovered. Unsigned Only is looking for the total package. Launched in 2011 by the founders of the International Songwriting Competition (ISC), Unsigned Only offers the Grand Prize winner \$10,000 and all First Place winners \$1000.00 in cash (plus additional prizes) as well as the unprecedented opportunity to be mentored by a group of record company presidents, A&R reps, and more. This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance for an artist to directly network with the highest level of record company professionals and get guidance, advice, feedback, and networking opportunities.

First Place and Second Place winners will also be selected in each category. Categories include: AAA (Adult Album Alternative), AC (Adult Contemporary), Christian Music, Country, Folk/Singer-Songwriter, R&B/Hip-Hop, Rock, Pop/Top 40, Teen, and Vocal



Performance. All entries must be original music except for the Vocal Performance and Teen categories, which allow original or cover songs. 2012 Grand Prize winner Lara Johnston states, "being the Grand Prize winner of Unsigned Only has been a definite high point of my career thus far. The mentoring opportunities provided by Unsigned Only are nothing short of incredible: I've had in-depth conversations and meetings with the uppermost gatekeepers and leaders of the music industry. Since winning Unsigned Only, I've garnered invaluable advice from a rich variety of perspectives, and I've had the chance to start relationships with people who can truly help me in my career. I'm excited to see where this all takes me and I would urge any aspiring artist to enter this year's competition - you never know, you might be the next Grand Prize winner!"

The judging panel is comprised of an impressive group of recording artists and top-level music journalists. Judges include: Chrissie Hynde (The Pretenders); Cyndi Lauper; Iggy Pop; Carly Simon; John Oates (Hall & Oates); Eve; 3 Doors Down; Neon Trees; Brandi Carlile; Hunter Hayes; Manchester Orchestra; Black Francis (The Pixies); Ryan Bingham; Faith Evans; David Crowder; Craig Morgan; Robert Smith (The Cure); Darryl McDaniels (Run DMC); Of Monsters and Men; Wynonna; Aaron Shust; Kirko Bangz; G. Love; Jason Gray; Dustin Lynch; The Mountain Goats; Anthony DeCurtis (Contributing Editor, Rolling Stone); Josh Jackson (Co-Founder and Editor-In-Chief, Paste Magazine); Vanessa Satten (Editor-In-Chief, XXL Magazine); Christopher Weingarten (Senior Editor, Spin); and Chris Richards (Pop Music Critic, The Washington Post).



The panel of mentors who have signed on to participate is equally impressive. Included are: Monte Lipman (President of Universal Republic Records); Pete Ganbarg (Executive VP/Head of A&R, Atlantic Records); Shawn Holiday (Senior VP of A&R, RCA Records and Sony/ATV Music Publishing); Josh Bailey (Sr. VP of A&R, Word Label Group); Kim Stephens (President, Forward Entertainment and A&R/Capitol Music Group); Allison B. Jones (VP of A&R, Big Machine Label Group); Lisa Ramsey-Perkins (Senior Director of A&R, Sony Music Nashville).

Sponsors include: D'Addario, Disc Makers, Sony Creative Software, The Music Business Registry, CAD Audio, Celebrity Access and Mrs. Fields Cookies. For more information, please contact Jim Morgan at 615.251.4441 or [cavery@unsignedonly.com](mailto:cavery@unsignedonly.com). For entry and general information, please go to <http://www.unsignedonly.com>

Next a special report by André van Os about the internet radio station Radio Paradise:

**Radio Paradise: after 12 years still going strong**



**Radio Paradise: after 13 years still going strong**

It is one of the most successful and talked about webradio stations: Radio Paradise from the little town of Paradise in California. Already in 2004 the American Time Magazine called the station 'The revolution in radio' and Radio Paradise is still 'commercial free, listener supported'. But at the same time it's a family business, operated by music compiler and DJ Bill Goldsmith and his wife Rebecca. How solid is that model? Does commercial-free radio still work, what's the example for other internet stations and what to do when they retire? International Report asked Bill and Rebecca.

Radio Paradise's founder Bill Goldsmith repeated the idea behind his station clearly two years ago, when he was a guest host at KHUM, a station in Humboldt county that has more or less the same programming philosophy (they call it 'radio without the rules'). Interviewed by Mike Dronkers, Goldsmith emphasised that it's not a new idea, just an old idea that has been almost forgotten.

"Radio Paradise is the old 1960s progressive-FM philosophy (put a DJ in a room full of records & turn him/her loose) applied to the whole universe of 21st century music," says Goldsmith: "modern & classic rock, world music, electronica, acoustic, even a smattering of jazz and classical - with a real human DJ in full control, not just an 'iPod on random play' jumble of styles. It's radio-as-art, rather than radio-as-marketing - something you just don't hear on FM anymore."

Bill Goldsmith has always been a pioneer, not only in radio itself, but also in the combination radio and internet: audio streaming, website with listener reviews and a forum with more than 135.000 registered members, integrating social media, HD slideshows to go with the music etc. He started out as a DJ straight out of high school in 1971. In the seventies he worked for stations in California and Hawaii.

In the 1980's, "radio became a hit-spewing money machine, intent on cramming as much advertising down as many throats as it possibly could," Goldsmith said to Planet Geek! in a 2004 interview. "The

1990's were even worse (...) and sent the last remaining creative spirits in radio running for the hills, the bottle, or a new career in timeshare sales."

Bill found refuge as a DJ on so called freeform radio stations like KLRB, WCAS, KFAT and KPIG. He was responsible for programming stations and once had to do so for six months without commercials. He was appalled by how it sounded -no interruptions and a continuous flow of music. So when he decided, after thirty years, to exchange terrestrial radio for online radio, he had a clear wish: no commercials on the station. He did not choose a pay-radio model either, like some satellite services did and newly founded music services like Spotify.

Already in 1995 he had the first full-time webcast: a 16kbps MP3 stream for a maximum of 50 listeners. Compare that to the best streams Radio Paradise is offering today: 192kbps MP3 and 128kbps AAC, which makes it one of the best sounding webradio stations in the world. As Bill told Planet Geek! more than eight years ago: "I was thoroughly and completely hooked on the idea of internet radio. I saw it then -as I see it now- as the natural successor to FM, with a worldwide reach and an unlimited number of channels."

In 1999 Bill married Rebecca, moved to Paradise, California and in February 2000 started his "dream project that had been bubbling around in my head for decades": Radio Paradise came online with Bill serving as DJ and music compiler, and Rebecca serving as music reviewer guru and business manager. Thirteen years later, Radio Paradise continues to be operated exclusively by this synergistic dynamic duo.





And the concept worked. In 2004, less than four years after the start of Radio Paradise, Time Magazine reported that contributions by listeners (in those days fewer than 5000 during peak times) totalled 120.000 dollar a year. That was enough to pay for the cost of stream servers, bandwidth, royalty fees to music copyright holders, income and business taxes and all other expenses. Apart from that it was enough for a "comfortable lifestyle" as Goldsmith stated back then. But it's more than eight years later now, so International Report wondered how things are going in Paradise right now.

**International Report:** Is the business model 'commercial free, listener supported' still a viable choice for internet radio stations or is Radio Paradise just a wonderful exception?

**Bill Goldsmith:** "Our business model works very well for us, and I know of a few other stations that've made it work as well. But most who've tried it have failed. It seems to work best with an audience like RP's that's looking for something that can't easily be provided by mainstream radio stations. For a more pop- or hit-oriented format -or one serving a narrow stylistic niche- it doesn't seem to work as well."

**IR:** Are the contributions from listeners these days still enough to pay expenses and make a decent living?

**BG:** "We still are able to make a living from Radio Paradise, and devote ourselves to the station full-time."

**IR:** What has been the biggest change content-wise since Radio Paradise began?

**BG:** "The changes at RP since 2000 have taken the form of a gradual evolution rather than any kind of dramatic change, so it's hard to really single anything out."

**IR:** What has been the biggest technological change since Radio Paradise began?

**BG:** "That would have to be the advent of mobile listening, along with the dramatic increase in the bandwidth available to the average Internet user, both fixed and mobile. Users of 3G cell networks today have a faster connection than even "broadband" users in 2000, and the speeds available on modern 4G networks or cable connections are in the same league as -- if not better than -- what was available to us at server farms back in 2000."



**Bill Goldsmith**

**IR:** What is your opinion of internet radio nowadays? Did the web fulfil its promise to revolutionise the radio or did old-fashioned commerce just caught up with it, doing the same as previously on FM?

**BG:** "I think that the impact of the Internet on radio programming is just beginning to be felt. What's available now is a mix of the revolutionary and the truly mundane. Most likely that's what will be available for quite some time to come."

**IR:** Have you heard about the offshore radio stations in Europe in the sixties, seventies and eighties? Most notably, have you heard of Radio Caroline and did you ever listen to it?

**BG:** "Yes! I had the chance to hear Radio Caroline during a visit to the UK in the late 1960s. It sounded very much like an American station of the same time period, but with different accents :-). That and Radio Luxembourg (which did similar programming in English in the evenings) were what everybody seemed to listen to. The BBC hadn't quite caught up with things at the time."

**IR:** How can people in the Netherlands support Radio Paradise, given the fact that, for example, sweaters and other hardware double in price because of custom duties? Is online shopping via Radio Paradise a better way?

**BG:** "The most effective way to send support to us is directly - via Paypal or with a Visa or Mastercard. We do get a small percentage on online sales via the links on our website as well."

**IR:** What are we going to do when Bill and Rebecca retire? In other words: how do you see the future of Radio Paradise?

**BG:** "We're still discussing what our exit strategy might be. Stay tuned..." [www.radioparadise.com](http://www.radioparadise.com)

Of course a big thanks to André for compiling this special report about Radio Paradise.

Next it's time for an e mail from Tim Chase: 'Hi Hans. Thanks for another fascinating Radio Report! I was particularly interested in Paul Graham's update regarding a temporary offshore radio station this summer. As you may remember, I live in Walton on the Naze, and

work at the local marina, so if all goes to plan, August could be a very busy month for the town. I'm sure there'll be a few enterprising local boatmen willing to take people out to see the ship, and run supplies etc.! I hope it all goes ahead, and no doubt we will all know more by next month's Report. Kind Regards, Tim Chase.'

Well if all goes as planned there's maybe a change to meet up around that time. Best greetings Hans.

Do you remember the rare photograph of a tender alongside the MV Mi Amigo in the last issue of the report? Well someone aboard the radio ship in 1979 was Paul de Wit, later becoming famous under his own name Erik de Zwart. He wrote: 'Always interesting to read your radio report and this time I can finally add something of interest. The photograph showing the tender 'Z69' must have been taken in the Summer of 1979. Myself was responsible for the talks with the skipper to get some good fuel onboard the MV Mi Amigo as we were totally out of it. Danny Vuylsteke, responsible for organising the tenders, had given me a few hundred guilders to buy fuel in case of emergency. As I learned later the skipper got in high trouble with Belgian Justice.'

I went back in an e mail to Erik: 'Thanks for writing Erik, Colleagues from you in those days couldn't remember the tender, except Marc Jacobs, who told me that probably the 'Z69' was only used once as a tender. What I learnt is that the skipper finally was caught by the authorities for smuggling drugs and that he killed himself when he was put up in jail.'

And Erik remembered more in his second e mail: 'The fact that the tender came alongside the MV Mi Amigo was almost a very dangerous happening as one of the deckhands jumped overboard the tender to swim in our direction, while the 'Z69' came nearer and nearer to the radio ship. He didn't realise that the current was so strong in that part of the Thames Estuary, really 12 meter pro second. Lucky for him we could put a line out in time from the afterdeck. Next the



'Z69' banged heavily against the MV Mi Amigo and the transmitting mast was heavily shaking. It was the only time I felt myself scared on the Mi Amigo. Closing together with Peter Chicago's the holes in the ship was always some fun. First presenting a program up till nine in the morning and then doing a second job as construction worker!



[Paul de Wit on Caroline 1979 Archive: Freewave Media Magazine](#)

Another reflection on the same subject came from Fons Winteraeken in the Netherlands who has documented a lot about Radio Caroline and the Mi Amigo during the period April 1979 up till March 1980. He wrote: 'Probably the 'Z69' has tendered the Mi Amigo only one time in June 1979. Paul de Wit did his second stint on the ship from Wednesday May 30<sup>th</sup> up till June 28<sup>th</sup>. During his two other stints it was spring and autumn, no time to do a proper swim in the Northsea.'

What's the name of the game with: 'Hans'? Well the next Hans has a second name called Backus and comes from Oberrod in Germany. He wrote that the very first photo in the last issue, indeed the one with Tony Allen featuring a radio t shirt, was a very well-known to him as he has taken this one in 1979 on July 28th. 'I went together with my friends Hans Koopman and Theo Tromp to the Mi Amigo. It's 34 years ago and it's like it was yesterday. The photo was taken when leaving the Mi Amigo. On the photo from left to right are Tony Allen, Marc Jacobs, Peter Chicago, the fourth person I don't remember

anymore, Tom Hardy and Steven Bishop (better known as Johnny Lewis in later days). It was a wonderful sunny day and we were all shocked in what a bad condition the Mi Amigo already was at that moment. It might be a wonder that this rusty ship stayed afloat so long. Every month I'm very surprised that there's so much to read in your report and in that way 'offshore radio' is for us all still alive. It was a wonderful time and after that period nothing else than nonsense on the radio can be heard! '

Next a link to an internetpage with a lot of offshore info in Dutch:  
<http://www.radio19.fm/nieuws.php?cat=8&id=600>

From Germany we take the plane to Leeds and find Colin Wilkins:

'Hi Hans. Many thanks once again for another superb radio report, always makes interesting reading. Regarding the movie regarding Radio Hauraki, I am sad to say that two of the Hauraki guys have passed away in the last two weeks. One is Kevin Black who died of a Heart Attack aged 69 and also Ross Goodwin. No details yet regarding how old he was or how. I will let you know once I have heard any more. Colin Wilkins.' thanks for sharing this sad news Colin.

Next could be found in the 'Weekend Herald': 'New Zealand Herald News Broadcasting legend Kevin Black, who endeared himself to tens of thousands of listeners with his madcap antics on Radio Hauraki in the 1980s and died this week of a suspected heart attack aged 69, will be farewelled at a requiem mass at St Patrick's Cathedral in central Auckland at 1.30pm on Monday. His former friends and colleagues share some of their fondest memories of Blackie with the Weekend Herald.

**Tony Astle, Proprietor of Antoine's Restaurant, Parnell:** "He was larger than life, one of life's characters - you got what you saw, straight down the line. He was one of our longest, shall we say, sitting customers - he had an amazing constitution and it didn't matter what he did, we forgave him every time. We loved him as a

customer and as a friend and it's all a bit of a shock for us. He will never be forgotten and he holds many records." Mr Astle, who knew Black in Wellington before establishing Antoine's in 1973, recalled sharing a regular radio spot on which the DJ would call him for recipes. "I was called Hints with Mint - he used to wake me up in the morning and we'd talk absolute crap. Every Friday we'd do recipes that were absolute hogwash."

**Alan Whetton, Former All Black - co-hosted breakfast show with Black on Solid Gold FM for several years until their mutual retirement from broadcasting in 2009** "I finished at the same time as him because we were a little team. I had the latest part of his career - only for two or three years, but what a two or three years they were. He was such a funny guy - anyone who said they couldn't get on with Kevin Black, well, you're in another world. I just loved him to bits and he was an extremely generous man with his time, especially for a rugby jock like me. He just took the piss out of me all the time, saying I was just hopeless and soft and how could I be a rugby player, I was too good-looking? He wanted to rough me up to make me look more menacing."

**Barry Jenkin, Aka Dr Rock - former Radio Hauraki DJ** "I never ever heard Blackie lose his temper - I'm not even sure he had one. I've got a fairly short fuse but Blackie, whatever happened he just let it roll over him. He just went through life with a sort of equanimity if you like. He was just a joker - if Blackie was in the room there'd be a lot of laughing - that was a given. He was an entertainer, funny as a fight. He was a great guy and it's been a hell of a shock."

**Phil Yule, Former Radio Hauraki breakfast show producer from the mid-1980s with Black, aka Boy Bob:** "If we came up with a good idea, he could take that and go anywhere with it. He would ring people up and have them on, but it was all fun - there was no meanness at all. It was quite kind of ironic that his heart got him because he had a lovely, big heart. He seemed like a tough street guy

but he was a lovely, gracious guy. One time he rang up a hair salon pretending his home-dyed hair had gone wrong - it was all henna-coloured but when he tried to wash it out it had all gone green and orange. You were thinking it was the hair on his head but it slowly evolved that it wasn't the hair on his head - the woman at the other end [of the phone line] just cackled her head off."



View on the Deck Hauraki's Tiri 2.

Photo: collection Adrian Blackburn

**Phil Gifford, Broadcaster aka Loosehead Len - sports-casted for Black at Hauraki in the 1980s:** "One of the great charms of Kevin Black was that he always had time for everybody and he actually enjoyed it. It wasn't a chore. If he hadn't been in radio he would have made an amazing barman - he was everybody's friend. "He always seemed on the verge of a party and if you had the stamina to tag along with him you were going to be part of that as well." Gifford



revealed he did not tag along as often as radio listeners may have been led to believe "because I didn't have the constitution that Kevvy had" but recalled one outing which began at the former Gluepot pub in Ponsonby before gravitating over several hours to an upmarket club in High Street. "There didn't seem to be a person we came across who Kevin not only knew but was mates with and had a joke with."

Well here's another link which brings you offshore radio of the USA coast from the MV Sarah: <http://theradiokitchen.net/the-ship-that-came-in-on-four-radio-bands/>

And a link in which is shown how to pay attention to Ham Radio to the next generation, with thanks to John Piek.

[http://feedproxy.google.com/~r/essexhampodcast/~5/tIWeh1DtxVY/essexham\\_foundationtraining2013.mp4](http://feedproxy.google.com/~r/essexhampodcast/~5/tIWeh1DtxVY/essexham_foundationtraining2013.mp4)

Photo time and Andy Cadier, who's name was written down by me and others so many time in the wrong way. Well here's a photo recently shot in Brighton. 'I half expected to see Roger Day and Andy Archer to appear in the doorway!' Regards Andy (Cadier.)



Next an e mail from a reader who heard a former Caroline deejay singing on the radio recently: 'Hi Hans I heard on Oldies station CKOC, Ontario, Canada a record by ex-Caroline jock Keith "Keepers" Hampshire so emailed the presenter to tell him I used to listen to Keith on Radio Caroline in the 60s, here is his reply: Thanks Mike, Yes, Keith has quite a history as both a radio deejay, jingle single and the hitmaker of three hits in the early 70's. We play both 'Daytime Nighttime' and 'The First Cut Is The Deepest' by Keith. Thanks for listening to Oldies 1150 CKOC. Have a great day, Ted Yates Morning Show Host/Brand Director/Music Director Astral Radio Hamilton, Ontario.'

Well Keith Hampshire shall be surprised to read the above e mail as he's a reader of the Hans Knot International Report too. Anyone who wants to share information to the next issue, simply write to [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

Halfway March the next news came in at the desk: 'UK Government reports indicate an intention to abandon AM broadcast radio for emergency communications and to phase-out AM broadcasting from 2016. The report Impact of a Radio Switchover on the Government's Emergency Communications Policy says: 'The coverage of AM services are near universal across the UK, delivered by a small number of transmitters which could more easily be restored in the in the event of a national disaster. However, while AM services are universally available, the number of households which both have access to and choose to access such services is on the decline. The declining value of the AM platform is best displayed in the case of the National Attack Warning System (NAWS).

The use of the BBC Radio 4 LW frequency to broadcast emergency information nationally in the case of a nuclear attack or similar disaster was formalised through the NAWS arrangements between the BBC and the Cabinet Office. However, as a result of the limitations of this system in the present day, from the falling

numbers of LW receivers in homes, to the delay incurred from having to restore transmitters following an attack, the Cabinet Office has since cancelled their NAWS arrangements with the BBC.

While a radio switchover will result in the closure of AM services, which had historically been important to the Government's protocols in this area, the diminishing value of this platform means it is increasingly less relevant as a universal communication platform.

Impact of a Radio Switchover on the Government's Emergency Communications Policy

<https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/>

A separate paper Switchover Communications Plan indicates that the radio switchover will commence in 2016.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/136359/Switchover\\_Communications\\_plan.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/136359/Switchover_Communications_plan.pdf)

Digital Radio Action Plan reports 2013

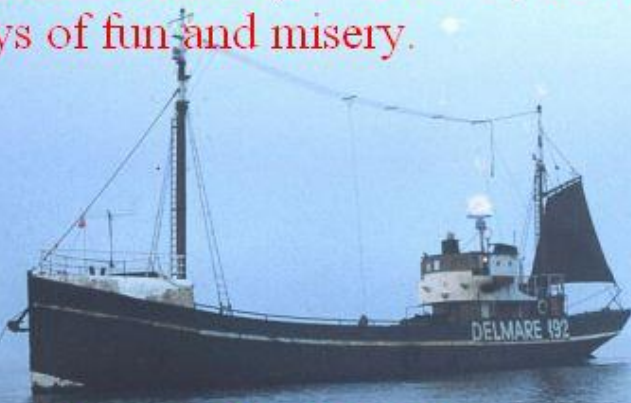
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/digital-radio-action-plan-reports-2013>

[http://www.southgatearc.org/news/march2013/am\\_radio\\_on\\_the\\_way\\_out\\_in\\_the\\_uk.htm](http://www.southgatearc.org/news/march2013/am_radio_on_the_way_out_in_the_uk.htm)

With thanks for sharing the information to Mike Terry

Nickname time again and one which was given by Kenny Everett on Radio London to his then program director: Tony 'King on the radio' Windsor.

Radio Delmare (1978-1979) 100 days on the air, 100 days of fun and misery.



€ 17,00

The story of Radio Delmare can be read in the new book "Het absolute einde" (The absolute end) order now at: <http://mediacommunicatie.nl/>

Another link is for people searching for knowledge of rare music:

<http://www.discogs.com/>

Also it was Edu van der Hoeven who did sent two links for sharing:

[www.fm88-108.nl/radio/?eu-nederland-am](http://www.fm88-108.nl/radio/?eu-nederland-am)

[offshore&search=the+voice+uk](http://www.fm88-108.nl/radio/?eu-offshore&search=the+voice+uk)

[www.fm88-108.nl/radio/?eu-nederland-am-offshore&search=the+voice+is](http://www.fm88-108.nl/radio/?eu-nederland-am-offshore&search=the+voice+is)

Colin Nichol shared the next news with us about Marion Adamson (Marion Cochrane as was), who worked for the Caroline Organisation in the sixties: 'Hi all, your prayers and good wishes must be working. Marion is coming round the corner, not quite there yet, but a distinct improvement on last Thursday. For the first time readers, Marion was admitted to Nowra Private Hospital last Thursday in a very weak state; due as the doctors tell me, to excessive Prednisone use; confused and indecisive, due to long time Targin (aka oxycontin, aka "hilly-billy heroin"). When I left her tonight Marion was quite lucid, normal colour, and could even raise a smile. She promised to eat all including the protein supplements and go to the gym. The latter is a complete anathema for Marion. Exercise and Marion don't go



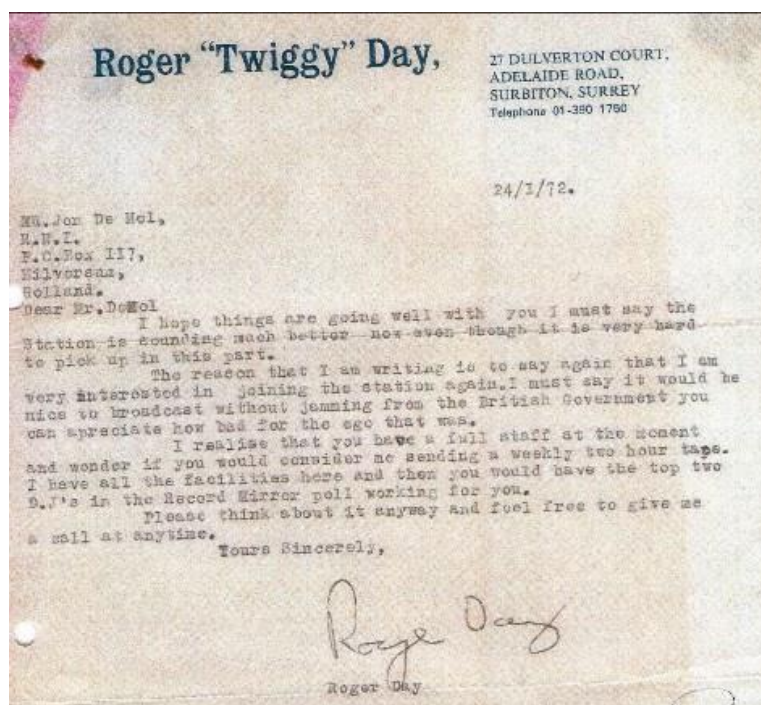
together.' Thanks to Colin as well as Jon on the Pirate Hall of Fame as he has a special page on Marion and the time on Caroline:

<http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk/album84.htm>

Also don't forget to take a look on the recent news brought to you by Mary and Chris Payne on [www.radiolondon.co.uk](http://www.radiolondon.co.uk)

On Facebook last week the following message from Roger Day could be found: 'I have had many requests from other stations to do shows for them (unpaid of course) but with my own project I really don't have the time. So here is the deal you can re-broadcast my stuff after transmission. It's just now called The Roger Day Radio Show so no problem with branding (oh I hate that word) . I get more listeners and you get me.' <http://www.rogerday.co.uk/>

It brought me back to good old memories and the days Twiggy was on offshore radio on SRE, Caroline, RNI as well as on Caroline 389 in 1973. Somewhere in between in early 1972 he wanted to go back to the MEBO II, something many people never heard of. Thanks to Paul May, at that time program director on RNI, and his friend Eddie Barnes, who scanned the letter, we can now show you that Roger Day tried to get a job on Radio Northsea International in 1972.





Well let's hope many internet radio stations will have some space to relay the weekday shows from Roger Day from now on.

Sad news is the passing away of Angela Bond, once the first female producer for the BBC and of course the woman next to Kenny Everett his programs:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/culture-obituaries/tv-radio-obituaries/9951389/Angela-Bond.html>

Well that's all for this month's edition of the Hans Knot International Radio Report. And as the winter still is here in this part of the world we wish you all a Merry Easter.

