

Hans Knot International Radio Report June 2013

Welcome to the June edition of the Hans Knot International Radio Reports. Also in this edition first a big thanks to all who responded on last issue. A selection of those e mails can be found back in this report. Next to that I've some fine news about forthcoming special radio programs as well a documentary, which is produced at the moment about Abe Nathan. And last but not least we've an exclusive, as in this report one of the many chapters from the new book by Emperor Rosko will be published.

But first some e mails: 'Hi Hans. Another great report. It's amazing to me people remember the names from so long ago. I was reading Ian Biggers story. It made me feel very good and if he wishes I have many recordings of the time we were anchored of Troon. All the best Ben Healy.' Thanks Ben, I've forwarded your mail to Ian and he promised to send you an answer. I hope this has arrived.



Ben Healy Photo: Archive Pirate Hall of Fame

Sad news from the Caroline family as Elija van den Berg informed me that, during a bypass operation, Caroline presenter Jim Ross died. He was only 55. Elija: 'Jim also suffered from brain tumors and it was also sad his wife left him. He was really a good friend of mine and, like me, an old hippy. I miss him!'

Next a reader who remembers Mick Luvzitt: 'Hello Hans. I was a friend of Mick Luvzit for many, many years and was also his best man at his second marriage. He was truly a great guy in my books and was sorry to hear of his passing. I live in Thailand now and I called his home just before Christmas and Chalice answered the phone crying as she saw my name come up on his phone. I said what's wrong Chalice and then I got the news. Sad but true. He had a rough time as for several years his quality of life was not good. I used to take him for drives in my Firebird with the top down and he loved that with the wind blowing around us. I miss him a great deal. If you could send me some pictures of the old days on the Caroline, it would be much appreciated. Thank you Hans. Peace. Tommy.'

Thanks Tommy well on www.hansknot.com as well as on www.soundscapes.info I've placed hundreds of photographs, so go ahead.

One of my readers who's always responding with interesting information is Ian Godfrey: 'Andy Cadier's reminiscences on Radio Essex were interesting. Although I've never seen much mention of tuning difficulties before, on either fort or ship-based stations, I wondered whether a station based on a ship would have been much better off, due to the constant rolling, affecting the angle between the sea-surface and the aerial. Admittedly, my technical knowledge is pretty limited but it would be interesting to get more information on this. I'll have to have a look for Radio Paradise. It looks interesting. I listen to a station called Ride Radio about half a dozen times a week, particularly for a show called the Hometown Countdown. This is also completely ads-free. Best wishes, Ian Godfrey.'

Of course I've send Ian's question to Andy, who answered very quickly: Hi Hans, I can only relate what Keith Robinson and Dick Dickson, the radio engineers, told me at the time. However at sea the water acts as a ground-plane. If that moves either way it will effect the aerial tuning. On Radio Essex the transmitter was tuned to a mid-tide condition, so efficiency was best then, and less good at

peak and low tide. I don't suppose the losses were much more than 10%, but using a 'washing line aerial' rather than a vertical may have added to this problem.



Dick Dickson. Photo: Freewave Archive

On Caroline North, in extreme conditions, one or both of the transmitters would sometimes cut out when waves swamped the base of the aerial and have to be manually reset. Fortunately the worst storms happened at night when the transmitters were off. Though I do hold an amateur radio license, I would suggest this query really be addressed to an experienced offshore broadcast engineer, who could perhaps offer a more comprehensive explanation. Regards Andy Cadier.'

Thanks Andy and Ian was happy receiving the answer: 'Hi Hans, many thanks for your surprisingly quick response to my query, and more to the point, the response from Andy (Martin.) My technical knowledge of radio is limited but, since the early 70s, I've been interested in things like wavelengths, heterodynes, spurious frequencies, etc. but could become more interested, given the motivation! Anybody interested in this side of radio would probably have a 'field day' with the subject of broadcasting on the high seas! The Norderney had what we used to refer to as a 'clothesline' aerial. Maybe they had tuning difficulties but I can't remember noticing. One thing I remember clearly was a splattering or spitting effect, often referred to as 'tripping.' Even as an avid Caroline listener, this would become a bit of an endurance test after a while! It was supposedly when seawater splashed over the side of the ship. This sounded quite likely, due to the low hull; maybe the reason why it never seemed to happen with any other offshore station. Best wishes, Ian Godfrey.'

And of course any of the former technicians can response to Ian and Andy by mailing at HKnot@home.nl

Well here's super news from Martin van der Ven: 'Having made new scans from old negative images I have now introduced a new series called "Revisited" containing better quality pictures from the years gone by. There are additional audio clips and even a video. You can look forward to much more during the forthcoming months. To begin with click on the links below: Driftback 20 (London, Bloomsbury Crest Hotel, 15th August 1987)

<http://www.hansknot.com/images/2013/driftback/>

A Boat Trip in November 1999: The World's Last Offshore Radio Station(s) <http://www.offshore-radio.de/israel/boattrip/>

Best wishes

Martin van der Ven

Here's one of the items we regularly have in the report: 'The T Shirt has always been a popular radio marketing tool, and Radio London was the first to get into the market with the Kenny Everett designed T Shirt. Don Stevens.'



An offshore radio station against Hitler:

In 1938 the "Deutsche Freiheitspartei," a small political counter movement acting against Hitler, tried their luck with offshore radio, broadcasting their appeals for resistance to the population of Germany. The daring operation lasted only for just three months and a few days. Martin van der Ven here recollects the short history of

the "Sender der Deutschen Freiheitspartei" and the people involved.
www.soundscapes.info Volume 16 open and search for the article.

Let's go back for the last time to the rare photo from 1979 which we published and a reader asking who is the guy with the blue jack on. Here's Graham Gill, who thought to have the answer: 'Hello Hans, I think the bloke standing next to Ad Roberts could be a very young Ferry Eden. In those days he had a moustache and maybe grew a beard. I'm sure it's not someone from Al Qaeda.' Well it's not Ferry and if send Graham a photo showing Ferry in 1979. It's Alex City who finally leads us to the whole series of photos which he put on internet and which are taken by Bob Bootsma:

<http://www.iradiocafe.nl/forum/thread-3687.html> but also there is no name for the blue jacket man.

http://alexcity.xs4all.nl/Bootsma_files.htm

Other sad news is that May the 10 Jos van Vliet died at the age of 67 in Roquefort les pins in France. Jos worked on the Laissez Faire for Radio Dolfijn as well as Radio 227. In 1967 he left to work for Radio Veronica as a newsreader. A pity that this work was not for long, as he had no real sea legs. But his career went on working as a promotion manager with Dutch record company CNR. For the rest of his working life he was in the music business. He left wife and three children.



Jos van Vliet Photo: Look Boden

Then next is a link to you tube where you can find the video Alex van der Hoek produced about the Veronica day, which was organised in April in Rock Art Museum: <http://youtu.be/9PEqPNoTeZc>

Radio Day 2014

Due to organisational reasons the Radio Day team has renegotiated with Hotel Casa 400 and amended the date of next year's event: The Radio Day 2014 will now definitely be held on

Saturday 22nd March 2014 from 10:30 till 18:00h CET

This is the preliminary schedule:

'The Pirate Radio Documentary' (video by Wayne Hepler)
Radio Scotland - Your Host Off The Coast
The Sound of Young Europe - Radio Nordsee International
Easy Listening with Britain Radio and Radio 355
Radio Caroline: The Seventies
The Tower of Power: Radio City
Radio Caroline: The Sixties
Radio Day 2014 Awards

More details will be published during the summer months.



Well let's see what John Myer has to tell us: 'I have just updated **The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame**. New this month:

- there is a tribute to Marion Adamson who worked for Radios Atlanta and Caroline South during the sixties and who sadly died recently;
- we have another batch of press cuttings from 1965, courtesy of correspondent Mike Lewis;
- we have the third page of our 'Eighties Supplement', featuring DJs from that era with names beginning with C - including Chuck Cannon, Susan Charles and Steve Conway;
- there is news of the digital publication of an updated edition of "Emperor Rosko's DJ Book";
- and there are a few new audio clips and press cuttings scattered throughout the website.

My grateful thanks, as always, to all the contributors. More next month. Best wishes, Jon www.offshoreradio.co.uk

Thanks Jon for this interesting update; always fun to spend some time on your internet pages. Next long time not heard from former Radio London deejay Duncan Johnson: 'I'm sending a photo taken in 2005 at the BBC's Langham Hotel of four people who turned 60 within a couple of months of each other. Greetings, Duncan.



Well thanks Duncan, good to see familiar faces. All gentlemen are readers of the Hans Knot International Radio Report, but tell me who's that lady?

Then two advices to go to internet pages send my Mike Barravclough: 'May 1st article in Londonist, with photos on a visit to Red Sands fort. "The Maunsell Forts feature prominently in Estuary, the

Museum of London Docklands' upcoming 10th anniversary exhibition, which opens on 17 May 2013."

<http://londonist.com/2013/05/the-abandoned-estuary-sea-forts-from-wwii.php?showpage=8>

Next it's time for Bob Leroi: 'Here we are they may not be as regular but they're big! With another massive update full of photographs, 'ScrapBook' pops back out to the Knock John Fort for a fascinating story from Colin Pinney who worked aboard in 1946. From one Naval Fort we hop over to The Principality of Sealand to continue our rolling feature showing the refurbishment of the Galley. We stay on the Forts for a little longer we steam across the Knock John Channel to see Shivering Sands in 2012.

You'll know the Ross Revenge has a new antenna, we have share some pictures shot in Tilbury Docks. Revisions include 'Red Relics' as more information is revealed from behind the scenes at Radio 390. And in our tribute to Eric Sullivan - Chris Gosslin and John Boulter recall times with Eric at Radio Tower.

In the 'Personal Pages' we mark the legendary actor Peter Cushing's 100th anniversary, being celebrated throughout Whitstable this weekend. With a look behind the façade of 'The Peter Cushing' pub in Whitstable.

'One Subject One Link' starts a controversial piece on the relationship DJ/Presenters. Enjoy Your Visits.

www.bobleroi.co.uk

Checking the Project Redsands Facebook page they have just put a link up to Radio 3 breakfast April 23 Maritime Music - Nick from Halesowen on Radio 390 and the music used for the interval signal.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01829yf>

Good news for all my radio friends, especially those from the VOP days. At the moment German Eric Friedler, together with his production team, is working on a 90 minutes special on the life and work of Peace main man Abie Nathan and also the Voice of Peace. My 2006 Book on Abie Nathan is one of the sources for the documentary. The Peace Foundation started in 1969 in the Netherlands and the Peaceship was anchored at Oosterhamrikkade in Groningen, just 350 metres from my former home. There my interest in Abie and his project started. It led to the publishing of the book in 2006 as well as a big reunion in Amsterdam from many involved in the Peace ship. For this documentary Don Stevens, Robbie Owens, John McDonald and I will all travel to Germany early June for interviews. Of course I will keep you informed in the future.

Another project where I'm involved is a four hour program on RTV Noord on June 1st. That afternoon between 14 and 18 CET the station will be transmitting live from the renovated former Veronica vessel, which is anchored in the harbour of Groningen. During the program 'Café Martini', the main topic is radio. And I can tell you that I've dived into my archive and found a lot of interesting airchecks and radio related songs. The program will be presented by Eric Bats and I will be the main guest.

<http://www.rtvnoord.nl/radio/radio.asp> and click on 'Live Radio'. So June the 1st between 14 and 18 hrs CET.

Third interesting thing is that KRO Radio has planned a documentary about Sealand. Of course Radio Essex/BBMS will be featured as well the story on the Principality of Sealand, the smallest country in the world on a former marine platform in the Northsea off the Essex Coast. I wrote in 1988 a book called 'The Dream of Sealand' and so I will be also in the documentary. It will be on the air on Radio 1 Holland Doc at Sunday June 2nd.

We did not talk about Rosko yet. Since years he's the one who's always in the report and he promised me some time ago to give me something exclusive:

EMPEROR ROSKO'S DJ BOOK



**THE ORIGINAL 1976 CLASSIC
PLUS THE LONG AWAITED PART TWO!**

**THE COMPLETE ORIGINAL BOOK
THE ROSKO STORY CONTINUED
UNPUBLISHED PHOTOGRAPHS**

NEW FOREWORD BY JOHNNY BEERLING

As you see this is the cover of the new book Rosko wrote with the help of Rob Jones. It features the 1976 DJ book, a must to read for all the youngsters in my readership. You can learn a lot about how radio really used to be. And next to that several new chapters about what Rosko doing after his time in England; Rosko and his love life, Rosko going around the world and more. You can order this book as an

e read book and download it, after paying only 3.99 Pound. All info can be found at: <http://www.emperorrosko.net/>

And thanks to our friendship I've got the freedom to choose anything I wanted as a teaser for the publication in the Hans Knot International Report. So I've chosen the new chapter called:

What is a DJ?

What is a DJ? Nowadays, everybody's a DJ. Anybody can be a DJ - what a load of bollocks! It just drives me mental. I know that my peers will probably be reading this and nodding their head saying, somebody has finally said it. First of all, let's go back to the origins of being a disc jockey. Who invented it, where did the term come from? It started in radio first of all and that was long before we had radio that was just one song after another - that didn't happen until FM, so back in those days everybody played the same music (especially in Top 40), so what made the difference?

The difference was the catalyst between the songs. That would have been, hence, the DJ. They were radio announcers long before they were disc jockeys. The disc jockey came about with personality. You had to have a little gift of the gab; everybody went into a different shtick. Tony Blackburn in the UK for example, he was a personality and he is still a personality for all I know - his shtick was jokes and tight productions. Paul Burnett was hysterically funny in his own way. He got to me with his sense of humour - that man was tight. A couple of names come to mind. DLT was your standard, northern, ho-ho, jolly good chap; a tight DJ who had great ideas. Stewart Henry was a little on the loose side, but then he carried it off with his accent. In the FM style in his own inevitable way was John Peel; these guys stamped the mould. Tommy Vance for example, was the personification of your hot American jock. The Emperor Rosko was an amalgamation of about three or four different styles - all plagiarised - but then again, how does a young guy get started?



Rosko and Fans (Archive EMP)

You've got to have somebody to give you pointers so to speak, so you take from them what you hear on the air, and I took from the best. And over the years of course you lose a little bit of what you originally plagiarised and you develop your own style but that's much further down the line. I never did; I'm still plagiarising like crazy but I think I do it in a style that is not overtly offensive. So we're on this little theme of what is a DJ and everybody's a DJ. You get a kid that goes to a gymnasium at school with a couple of turntables and he's a DJ - even though he never says anything! You've got these fellas doing non-stop music and raves. They're not DJs. They don't talk; they don't control the crowd with their brain; they control the crowd emotionally through music. Now don't get me wrong; I admire all pros at all levels doing all types of things. A real DJ though is someone who speaks; controls a crowd with speech as well as music. The guys who do the trance and the raves and those type of things usually control the crowd through the expertise of mixing music and

taking it to a higher level and there's nothing wrong with that. They make far more money than us pitiful DJs.

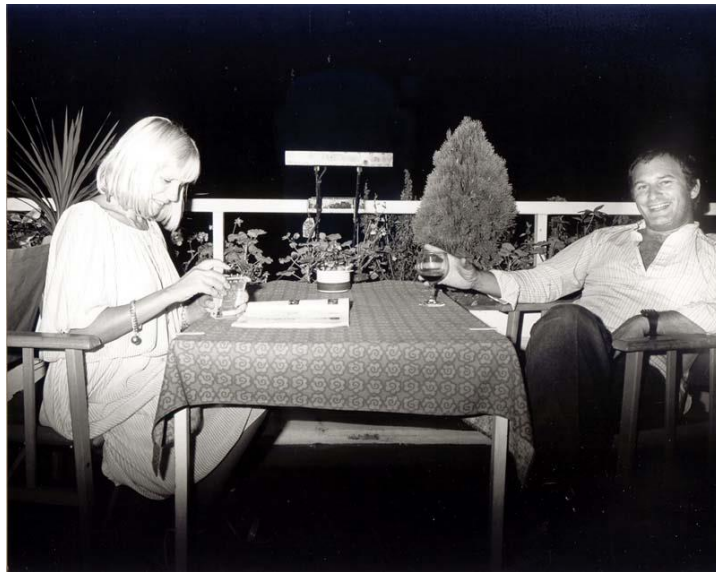
Also I think to be a DJ back then was a different thing. It's a question of when it all happened. For example, you can never be an Emperor Rosko nowadays. When I was Emperor Rosko at the height of my popularity, the time was right for that. Today the timeframe that we are living in and the economy for that matter do not permit DJs to make a lot of money and do big gigs, basically due to the fragmentation of the stations; whereas back in our day, when Radio 1 ruled and Caroline even, you just had one or two or three stations that kids, young people and their parents listened to, to a large degree, so consequently you could have a lot of star power involved.

Now you've got hundreds of stations - thousands of internet stations, and the audience has shrunk. And of course, all these stations, the big ones, the ones that have the most listeners, are owned by corporations and have rigid guidelines which restrict the personality with the exception usually of breakfast shows. Consequently we have the DJ and we have the mixologist. Let us not confuse them.

The Emperor Rosko Exported from the UK: Many people have asked me why I left Radio 1. I think I was the first voluntary person to ever say, "I'm leaving you - goodbye." They were in shock, because you only get fired; nobody ever leaves a cushy job like that. I had a lot of things going on back then and things were going very strangely in the UK. I remember there were electrical strikes going on all the time; the economy was in the toilet - not compared to today, but compared to before - and you were not allowed to take more than fifty pounds in cash out of the UK. Plus, I was having a lot of trouble with agencies and managers and all that kind of thing. The government was chasing me for VAT which I had already paid to the agency, but the agency hadn't paid the government and the VAT man didn't want to know. I said, "Why don't you go after them? They're

the ones that stole it. I paid it." All I got back was: "We don't care." or words to that effect.

At this point in time my Dad was not well. He thought it might be good to have me back home for a while, and I thought it might be interesting that I spend a bit of time with him before he passed away. Heidi, my girlfriend at the time (who I would later marry under very strange circumstances) and I had gone over to the States in '74 and '75 and each time we went (this was prior to the currency restriction), we were moving money to an account in the US. Like I said, I had an agency that was ripping me off, a manager that wasn't taking care of business and on top of that, the government was chasing me and it was time to take one step backward and start again, so we decided to leave.



Heidi and Rosko in those days: Photo Archive EMP

We were living in Caddington, Bedfordshire at the time; a very lovely little village. We sold our house for a small profit if I recall, in a very lousy market and went to Southampton to board the QE2. Now you have to understand back in 1976 the Emperor Rosko was a little more famous than he is today and garnished attention, so I was trying not to look like Emperor Rosko at all because with the government making inquiries into money and taxes and VAT and stuff like that, I

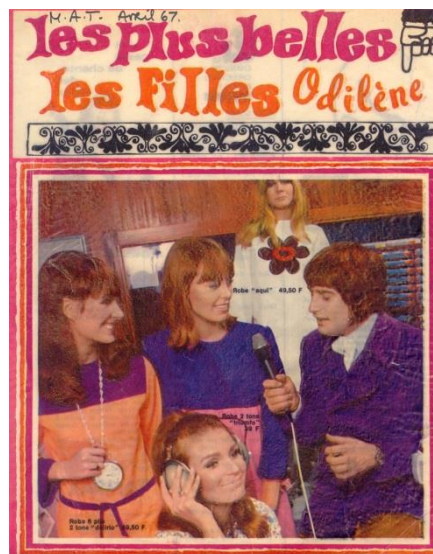
really wanted to leave as quietly as possible which is why you will find this next step hysterically funny.

So there's Heidi and I (I'm wearing a hat and glasses and a big scarf), we're down there in a queue of two thousand people and I'm trying to disappear into the crowd. It was kind of difficult because we had our two dogs with us: a very handsome young German shepherd by the name of Ziga, who was about 130 lbs and very commanding and we also had a Doberman (also very commanding just through her waspiness), and we had to muzzle them up because they didn't like all this crowding and people - a bit like nervous horses. So we're in this line and we were seen off by my good friend Bob Ling, a former police dog trainer. Bob was kind enough to drive us to the departure and you have to picture this in your mind; it's like a giant aircraft hangar down there, there's a queue of two thousand people, maybe 500 in four lines. It looked endless. It made airport boarding look like a swift boat operation and I'm thinking to myself, we're in here for at least two hours before we get to the front of that line, it's going to be horrendous! But we're moving along, pushing the suitcases forward with our feet, dogs are along with us; you can imagine the whole thing. I'm not saying a word, I'm keeping my eyes down on the ground; I don't really want to be recognised to be honest. Then we see in the distance a couple of policemen or custom officials, or security with uniforms on. They're walking the line, and they're getting closer and closer. I'm saying to Heidi, "Oh man! We're just hours away from safe territory. What if they talk to us?"

The line is shuffling forward one foot at a time, and they're coming toward us and the guy looks at me and he goes, "Mr Pasternak?" I'm going, "Holy shit!" and I look at this guy and say, "Er, yes?" "Are you travelling alone?" "No, this is Heidi, my girlfriend." "Do you have passports?" "Yes." I give him my passport and Heidi gives him hers. They're looking at the passports and they're looking at me and I'm thinking "oh no!" He says, "Come with us." By this time we're both thinking the worst has happened - this is going to be diabolical! We

followed these two guys and they go right up the line, right by everybody and they stop at the customs guy who is checking people out of the country.

As one of the security guys hands him our passports, I'm going, "This is not good, not good, not good...". Our passports get stamped and the security guy says, "Follow me." We follow him and he takes us, not to jail, not to detention, but to a suite on the ship! I couldn't believe it. We had booked a room, but they'd upgraded us to a suite and he says, "Have a nice trip" and walks away. I'm looking at Heidi and she's looking at me and I just collapse on the bed, going, "oh...oh...oh!" Then we saw in the room there was a case of Moët Champagne from Dave and Mickie Most who owned the RAK label and had a lot of big time bands contracted to them such as Mud, Suzie Quatro etc.



French Magazine cover: Archive EMP

Growing old is a problem - you don't remember everything but I do remember that case of champagne because we broke open a bottle and started drinking it right away and I blessed them, because we had obviously played a lot of their records over the years and they were gonna miss us and they said so. We were just relaxing, waiting to get out of territorial waters and I'm saying to Heidi, "Murphy's law, Murphy's law! This is not over until the fat lady sings! We've gotta get twelve miles out!" Even though the QE2 is considered sovereign British territory I do believe.

So we're sitting there and about half an hour later there comes this knock on the door; I'm going, "Oh what now?" and I hear a voice coming from the other side of the door saying, "You are invited to the Fantail for a celebrity cocktail." I'm going, "Oh, I don't wanna go out there where I'm seen," getting a little paranoid by now, but I said, "We'd better do it and act normal." We went up and Lillian Gish was there and everybody's oohing and aahing. She and I were the two main celebs on the Fantail amongst all others, and they're pouring champagne and I'm once again debating; do I want to get in front of the camera? The natural DJ thing is self-promotion, but I'm doing the opposite because I really want to get out of there without an incident - the incident being me thrown into jail! So we compromised.

Then we heard the ship throw off its ropes and start out to sea and I said to Heidi, "I think we're a little closer to safety." So we do the departure bit - waving at the crowd and everything, the QE2 sailing out to sea. For those who live in Southampton and watch the regional telecasts, they actually took that little bit of film and edited it into their nightly intro of the news, where they have all the things that are important: people going to war; you name it - and there's this clip of the Emperor Rosko waving goodbye to the UK and people told me it ran for years.

As I have mentioned, you couldn't take any money with you, so how the hell do you emigrate to America without any money due to all the currency restrictions? I can now safely say that we had bought some diamonds and put them in a Vaseline jar, hidden at the bottom of the Vaseline. You're paranoid when you're doing things wrong; when you're breaking the law, and all the while you think they're gonna find it and confiscate it. I also remember getting a whole bunch of the highest denomination notes (fifty pound notes I think), rolling them up and putting them in the handle of my fishing rod. We knew that we couldn't make it on the allowed fifty quid - hell, you'd pay fifty quid in tips! Anyway, off to sea we went.

I can highly recommend life on that ship - mind you, when you're a star disc jockey you're treated differently I guess, and we were spoiled rotten. They were really terrific and I never had such great food, great desserts, and great times and so I can only speak for myself when I tell you that that QE2 trip was really something else. The only other one I had ever taken was when I was about ten years old with my parents (New York to Europe) and that was fabulous too, but then I was travelling with Mrs. Pasternak, wife of Joe Pasternak, and of course they looked after me because I was a spoiled brat.



Brothers and father Pasternak

Archive: EMP

Every time I have been on a ship, with the exception of course of my naval experiences, I've had a great time. We were on this ship now, heading toward New York and a new beginning, but we're trying to figure out how to get more money out of the UK because things were really hard to do back then; I mean the only way you could do it was illegally. After dinner on the first night there wasn't a lot to do on the ship; you could go to a movie, go drinking, or maybe go to the casino for a spot of legalised gambling - ooh! So that's what we did.

Let's go to the casino, see what's cookin'. And I jokingly said, "Let's see if we can make some money!"

We went down to what was a very nice, miniature casino and I gave the dealer my credit card and said, "How much can you give me off this card?" and she said, "Your limit is five hundred a day." So I said, "Okay, I'll take five hundred pounds, thank you," and she gave it to me in chips of course. Heidi and I wandered off to the roulette table and promptly lost fifty pounds, but we killed an hour and went back; I cashed-in the chips and said, "Can I cash these in?" and the dealer said, "Yes". I said, "I'd like dollars." So she gave me back four hundred and fifty pounds in dollars. I looked at Heidi and said, "I think I've got a great idea going here, we've only got another seven nights to go."

Well, good reader, you now see where I'm coming from. Every night we went to the casino, cashed five hundred on the card, lost fifty, then got the balance in dollars and left again. Man, they must have had a lot of money somewhere on that ship! So even though it was costing me fifty quid to get the money, it seemed like a good deal and we had a little fun gambling, but I could never win. Except on the very last night. On the final night, I did the same thing we'd done for the previous six or seven nights and for some reason there was an extra day on that trip. I cashed in the money, went to the roulette table, and Heidi and I got on to a hot streak! I don't know how to explain it, but in about seven or eight minutes, we're suddenly ten grand richer and I'm thinking, "This is crazy." It was going ping, ping, ping! - We couldn't lose - ping, ping, ping! And this is after every night - losing, losing, losing - suddenly there was a light switch. Well, I guess the guy watching the table didn't like the looks of what was happening, so he swapped out the croupier on us, changed it to another guy and guess what? Immediately we started losing - ping, ping, ping - down. We lost five grand in minutes. So we went from cold to hot and then back to cold and we decided to quit while we were ahead. We still had about five grand left, which we cashed in

for dollars, so not only did we have fun the whole time, we actually came out ahead, which made the whole thing worthwhile. An amazing and true story. Absolutely wonderful!

We were going to dock in New York the next day, so then it was the reverse of the getting on board, except this time, Emperor Rosko in New York was not known, so there was nobody greeting us to get us through the mess. We'd done a deal on the ship to stay at the Drake Hotel at half price because we were Cunard customers and the hotel took dogs, which was very important to us at the time. For those of you who have dogs, I don't have to explain it. If you don't and you have children, our dogs are like our children and they are treated accordingly, otherwise we don't stay with you. We got to this hotel and well, with dogs like that the hotel wanted a large deposit (because dogs like that make large deposits). I told them they didn't need to worry about that and the dogs wouldn't do anything unless provoked.

They said, "Well nevertheless we're going to need a deposit - we'll take your credit card." Immediately I am suspicious of things like that. I don't sign open credit cards to anybody and still don't. So I said, "Well what's wrong with cash?" "Nothing sir," "Fine, we can do this transaction in cash." "Yes," "Do you take cheques?" "Yes - we need a few days to clear them." "Fine." So I wrote a cheque on my California account, then gave him five thousand in cash. It wasn't even my money! And off we went to the suite upstairs where we stayed. We planned to buy a Chevrolet suburban four-wheel drive and we were going to drive to the west coast. Whenever we and the dogs would use the elevator, this great, big elevator, these double doors would open and there would be a crowd of people. When they saw the two dogs sitting there with us, we always had the elevator to ourselves. New Yorkers don't seem to like to get into locations with big dogs. I don't know what their problem is - I don't have a problem with big dogs, but there you go. They'd see these dogs and say, "We'll take the next one," and the same thing would happen going through

the swivelling doors down in the front; but they grew to love us at that hotel. We stayed there about ten days and when we left they said, "Those were the best behaved animals we've ever had." They didn't touch the deposit and they were sorry to see us go.

Funny thing, we never had room service though. Not after the first morning. When they went knock knock, we said, "Come in" and this guy came in with a whole tray of breakfast on it and the dogs went woof! The whole tray hit the ground with a huge clatter and the guy ran out of the room, which took him all of three steps, before slamming the door shut behind him. Suffice to say, the dogs had a hell of a breakfast. We didn't. So I called him in the hall. I said, "What's the matter?" and he said, "Oh! They're big dog!" I said, "They just woofed at you; they didn't do anything. If it would make you feel better, bring another breakfast and just leave it outside the door, knock on the door and leave the breakfast." And that's how we had room service from then on. I gave the guy twenty bucks and said, "This is from the dogs" and he was happy.

Every night we would walk in Central Park which normal people do not do once the sun goes down, as it's full of strange people and druggies and all that kind of thing. Our biggest problem though was all the broken glass which littered the park and caused the dogs to constantly cut their feet due to chasing squirrels. It was nice to go at night because there's nobody else there except a few weirdoes. My favourite weirdo was one foggy night, maybe night seven, I think. We were walking; we'd always walk at one or two in the morning, and we had the dogs on leashes because we couldn't see them; it was so foggy you could only see twenty feet in front of you. The dogs started to growl - that low growl that says "we don't like what's coming". So I said to Heidi, "This is an ominous sign," and as we approached this bench, the growls got louder, the mist suddenly cleared and it was just like out of a Halloween horror story: this bearded guy is standing on the bench, with his arms outstretched like Jesus Christ, dressed in a white veil-type material. His eyes

were closed and he was completely stoned; totally zoned-out somewhere - I don't know where, but it's one of these things you'd have to see to appreciate, folks. Suffice to say we got past him and he never moved despite the sound of death from those two dogs. And that was our experience in New York.

The car arrived with extra air-conditioning and all started-up with the best you could get. We had a load of suitcases. It was September or October and we were starting to get into the winter season. We were going to travel through Maine; up to Toronto, Canada to see some relatives; then make a beeline right through the middle of America and head for the west coast!

So there you are exclusive a chapter from the new book from the Emperor Rosko. How to obtain your own copy? Go to:

www.emperorrosko.net



Sometimes I forget to mark the documents I got. So recently I got a series of beautiful photos from a reader, taken in 1973 on the Northsea, featuring Radio Caroline. I think it must have been the month of June they were taken. This is one of the photographs. And in cooperation with Paul Rusling and Andy Archer here's the line-up from those on the photo: Joop Verhoof, Leo de Later, Jaap de Haan, Henk Meeuwis, Jimmy Houlihan, Norman Barrington, Paul Rusling, Peter Chicago and Michael Wall-Garland.

Well if you did send me the photo, please inform me so I can do a proper archiving of all those who were in the set.

It was Ron O'Quinn who send the next interesting article about the future of radio:

Harris survey: 6 in 10 predict demise of terrestrial radio within 5 years

- By Karl Henkel
- The Detroit News

Nearly 60 percent of Americans predict the death of terrestrial radio will happen within five years, according to results from a Harris Interactive survey released Tuesday. Market research firm Harris, on behalf of Stitcher, an on-demand Internet radio service, surveyed 2,066 U.S. adults last month, and found that most adults are choosing on-demand media sources such as Pandora and TuneIn over terrestrial radio options, citing the ability to avoid commercial advertisements as a heavy influence. "We're relying on our smartphones and mobile technology now more than ever," said Noah Shanok, CEO of Stitcher, in a statement. "We're a nation on the go, and we want access to our favorite radio shows and music at a time that's convenient for us. With the latest advancements in streaming technology, apps like Stitcher put entertainment right at your fingertips." The survey found that students may be leading the shift to on demand and streaming media. More than 71 percent of U.S. adults who are students predict Americans will be primarily listening to streaming radio over AM/FM radio within five years. Those ages 18 to 34 are twice as likely as those ages 35 to 54 to listen to music via on-demand sources, the Harris poll showed. Ed Cohen vice president of measurement innovation at marketing research firm Arbitron Inc., in an interview with The Detroit News last month, said

that 90 percent of adults ages 25 to 54 listen to the radio weekly, and it's still the top choice among drivers for in-car entertainment. "There's a share of the pie for all types of radio platforms, but you really can't replace what radio offers at the local level," said Kim Myers, senior manager of media relations for Arbitron, in a telephone interview. Arbitron data from March shows that approximately 242.8 million Americans listen to terrestrial on an average weekly basis, up 1.6 million from the same month a year ago.

Radio stations have moved quickly to offer online and smartphone streams of their terrestrial content. But even some in the terrestrial radio business have decided to take their careers to on-demand media sources. Pat DeLuca, who hosted a popular morning show in Canton, Ohio, for six years, recently started his own group of streaming media stations. "Everybody that I've talked to about this and everybody who knows that we're doing this agree that this is the new way," DeLuca said in a 2012 interview with the Vindicator newspaper of Youngstown, Ohio. "That's not in dispute. This is the way that everything is going." From The Detroit News:

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130514/ENT10/305140422#ixzz2TYAjZ66d>

Ever heard about the Norwegian singer Bertine Zetlitz? Well she recorded a song in the late nineties called: 'Apples & Diamonds'.

When you do listen to the song names like 'Dusty Springfield' and 'the Classic IV' spring into mind. Also the song has something to do with Radio Caroline. Well have a listen and watch at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=loDOM7r4s0w>

And then I want to interest you in an article which was in the third week of May in the Independent. A very interesting story about the Principality of Sealand.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/this-britain/notes-from-a-small-island-is-sealand-an-independent-micronation-or-an-illegal-fortress-8617991.html>

Don't forget to take a visit at the site of Mary and Chris Payne where they bring updates on their beloved Radio London as well as related things. Recently they had news about their visit to Lanzerot, where they had lunch with Stella and Robbie Dale, news about some of former offshore deejays, who got award at the yearly Sony Festival. Also, among others, the news about a new book on Kenny Everett, this will be published in September: www.radiolondon.co.uk

André van Os was one of the many listeners who tuned in to the celebrations regarding 40 years Voice of Peace: 'The 40th birthday of the Voice of Peace was celebrated in style on Sunday May 19th with a day filled with special live broadcasts. Deejays, who have worked aboard the MV Peace in the period the station was on the air off the coast of Israel (1973-1993) brought back a lot of memories and played special airchecks. It was May 19th the Voice of Peace was on the air for the very first time and the programming at May 19th 2013 was as following:

08.00 Rob Charles
10.00 Mark Hanna
12.00 Alan Roberts
14.00 Chris Williams
16.00 Guy Starkey
18.00 Geoff Tracy
19.00 Andy Cox
20.00 Shelley Sherman
21.00 Richard Ticho
23.00 Brendan Mee
00.00 Carl Kingston

Very surprising were the guest appearances of Geoff Tracy, Brendan Mee and Carl Kingston. All the others still work for the nowadays Voice of Peace, that is on the air since a couple of years in internet.
www.thevoiceofpeace.co.il

Most of the deejays played songs from the years they were onboard the ship. One of the highlights for me was the morning show with Mark Hanna. He did, during his program, homages to countless amount of deejays who worked on the VOP. When reading their names he played again and again 'Thank you for being a friend', song by Andrew Gold. For the complete list of 250 deejays I advise you to visit one of Hans Knot internet pages at: www.soundscape.info



Furthermore airchecks were heard from as well as attention was paid to the very good work of the station's founder Abie Nathan. We heard the voices of Don Stevens, Alan Roberts, Kas Collins (Van Iersel), Guy Starkey, Kevin Turner, Ken Dicken and Carl Kingston. Also very interesting was the story behind the VOP jingles and a wonderful BBC report from 1992 about the station as well Abie. Alan Roberts told about the voyage with the Peace Ship through the Suez Channel to Eilat and Akaba. He did a mention that the station was sometime to easy listening programmed, which he still regrets. We

heard Abie back another moment as well we got a round tour on the MV Peace. Ticho mentioned that the transmitter was given as a gift to PLO -leader Arafat.

There are plans to bring the whole day programming soon at 'The Audio and Visual Page' on their website. The birthday party was well listened. Technical man behind the project, Yaniv Dyan, mentioned half way the day that already half a million streams were requested by listeners from 87 several countries and that hundreds of e mails were received, even from listeners in Egypt and Pakistan. Eight streams were there bringing the programs to the main server. Studios were used in England, Eire, USA, Italy, Switzerland and of course in Israel.'

Thanks to André, most appreciated and more on another special further on in the Hans Knot International Radio Report.

I had a smile on my face receiving an e mail from a person who wrote me twice he has nothing with the past. Now he promotes an internet page full of memories: 'An elaborate new website on Radio Luxembourg, and sanctioned by the RTL Group:

www.radioluxembourg.co.uk

Benny Brown.' Well Benny thanks a lot for that one.

As promised another celebration in Israel, here's what Noam Tal wrote me: 'Dear Hans on Sunday the 19th of May we celebrated 40 years for the first broadcast of the voice of peace with former VOP DJ's, friends and some visitors. The day started at 7:00 with Tim Shepherd until 9:00 followed by Yakir Aviv (1975 VOP DJ) 9:00-11:00, Mike Brand 11:00-13:00, Linda Mason 13:00-15:00, Gil Katzir (15:00-17:00) and John McDonald until 19:00.

I brought a Reel player to the studio and we played some of the jingles directly from the original VOP Master tape so it was analogue like in the old days. We also played 30 rare recordings from the VOP

some of them were played for the first time after 30-40 years (for example Uri Aloni from June 1973).

All the programs are now in the Radius Archive:

<http://www.100fm.co.il/programs/Audio.aspx?c41t4nzVQ=EE>

I was told that several other Israeli radio stations like IBA 88FM had special programs but did not hear it myself. With best regards
Noam Tal.'



Left to right: Tim, Keren (Radius producer) Sasha (technical stuff) Noam (holding some of the original cartridge tapes) and Mike brand. everybody with original tapes from the VOP. Photo archive Noam Tal

And at the moment I was finishing this report the Postman was at the door bringing my daily post. Interesting to see the book: 'The DJ from The Boat That Rocked My World', by Kate Carry arrived. So surely a review will be in the July edition of the report.

Well thank you all for the support and let the memories flow into my e mail box. Take care and best greetings Hans.

