

## Hans Knot International Radio Report September 2013

Dear radio friends a welcome back after an absence of almost 2 months. As usual the summer break. Well I hope you had a wonderful 'summer time'. We enjoyed summer by doing two small holidays with family in Germany as well staying a week in a lovely village called 'Epe' in the Netherlands. Also many thanks for the many e mails and also to the memories you've send. Some of these will be shared in this issue. First of all let's go back to the last issue when I mentioned the death of Leon Tippler. It was, among others, Bob Lawrence, whop reflected on the sad news:

'Very sad to hear about Leon's death. I remember visiting him when I was working at BRMB (or was it Beacon?), I was used to seeing people with a studio in their bedroom, Leon had a bed in his studio complex! A very, very talented man. It was a thrill to meet him having listened to his stunning 'Nightmare Affair' shows on Radio Atlantis in 1974. It is such a shame that very few people in the radio industry got to hear what this man could do with audio, a true genius and a nice man too. Bob Lawrence.'

A second mail from Bob Lawrence had another topic and gave the answer to the question from André van Os in last issue about the damages on deck at the Mi Amigo. 'I was on board the MV Mi Amigo when Gerard van Dam brought the generator out. I remember clearly. The MV Epivan tied up alongside the port deck and used a crane to winch the generator up into the air. It then swung and hit the port side of the bridge, causing the damage. Peter Chicago saved my life that day; there were four or five of us, each guiding the swinging generator down into place on the back deck. I hadn't noticed that the steel rope, which I was holding, started to unravel, Chicago pushed me back and I let go off the rope just in time to watch it spin around and all the strands of steel flew down towards

the deck. If he hadn't have pushed me, I have no doubt that I wouldn't be here now.



Gerard van Dam and Peter Chicago. Photo: Leen Vingerling

The generator caused no end of problems and never ran properly, quite what was wrong with it I don't know; I'm not very good with engines. Best wishes Bob Lawrence.'

Well Bob thanks for your instant answer as well as the memory to Leon. I've played the shows from him from Radio Atlantis days (the ones which are left) so many times and truly he was gigantic. Greetings and take care Hans

Well with thanks to Leendert Vingerling I also received some reflections from Gerard van Dam: 'This indentation had been there all the time from the day I bought the ship at the auction in Amsterdam in 1972. I know that another dent was pushed into the

Mi Amigo, a bit higher than the other one. It was Leo who had, together with someone on board the Mi Amigo had towed a rope between the Epivan and the Caroline vessel, so both ship came nearer to each other. From experience I knew both ship had their own swell and that it was very difficult to get the generator from one to the other vessel. With the winch, the boom and a steel cable Leo and I succeeded to park the generator on the aft deck of the Mi Amigo.

As always the best navigators are on the quayside. Of course Ronan had no money but a lot of 'promises'. At one stage Leo and I decided to get away from the Mi Amigo as staying there longer with the Epivan was too irresponsible.' Thanks Gerard as well Leen and we all know that the cooperation between Delmare and Caroline was a thing of the past at that stage. And that Gerard was right with the fact that the dent was there already for many years shows the next picture taken in autumn of 1976. Marc Jacobs made the photo and sent it with the comment: 'Left on the photo it's Trevi the cook: "what kinda fucking eggs you want this morning?". On the right Leo Vooy's from Monster, our sailor and protector.'



And look who was the next one to respond? Without him the report is not complete: 'Hi Hans, good report as always. This is the summer and things are wacky in the heat 100 F in Los Angeles. 129 in the

springs! Makes people do strange things! When I next visit you I want you to recognize me, so here is a current snappie! I was amazed at the damage of my poor old ship Mi Amigo suffered! Shocking state of affairs! Hope next month to give you some fresh news. Stay well and hi to all the pals. EMP.



### The Emperor himself in Los Angeles 2013

By the way Rosko made some money in 1976. Look what a lot of gigs he had in England in those days:

*Record Mirror 6/12/75*

## Rosko gets set for Christmas

**THE EMPEROR Rosko International Roadshow** - by reputation the biggest touring light and sound disco show in the world - will play special London shows over the coming Christmas and New Year period.

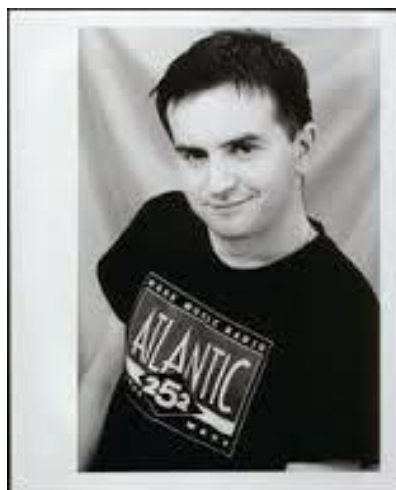
**Dates**

Dates set are the Portman Hotel on December 21 and the Cunard Hotel on New Year's Eve. Other December gigs include Southampton Guildhall (4), Maidstone Barracks (5), Cirencester Anthea's Disco (6), Portsmouth Mecca Ballroom (7), Wigan Mecca Ballroom (8), Milton Common Belfry Disco (11), Bedford Addison Centre (12), RAF Kinross (13), RAF Lossiemouth (14), Epping Country Club (17), RAF Benson Oxford (18), Gullford Civic Hall (19), Birmingham Rebecca's Club (20), St Albans Haven Hotel (21), Bristol Tiffany's Club (22), Walsall Town Hall (23), Tice Club Beckenham (24), and South Pier Pavilion, Lowestoft (27).

Some time ago I got a request from Peter Watson with the question how he could some recordings from the sixties and seventies offshore stations and so I loaded some up for him. He came back with the next: 'Hi Hans, You are truly a good friend, sending me these downloads. Really a great surprise for me, as I didn't think I would be able to just keep listening to the old stations as if they were still here! It is great to hear RNI again, and Caroline. Also, would it be easy for you to let me know if you have an email address for either Trevor Keen, or Paula Sengers? I would dearly love to get back in touch with my old pals from Offshore Magazine days, but don't have a way to contact them. All the very best, Peter Watson.'

So if anyone has contacts with either Trevor Keen or Paula Sengers, please do get in touch with me at [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

Back to Enda Caldwell who wrote: Hi Hans, just a quick note of thanks for your continued, personal and wonderful newsletter. My very best regards from Co. Meath - home of Atlantic 252 where it must at some point be featured by you at a Radio Day sometime - a station that came after Laser 558. And I was the very last Disc Jockey on the ship! Well we weren't a ship but we had the sound as if we were coming from a ship. Best regards to you and your family, Enda Caldwell'.



<https://soundcloud.com/endacaldwell>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/endacaldwell/videos>

Well Enda feel free to add your memories on Atlantis 252 into the Hans Knot International Report.

Now we go to Bill Everatt: 'I just thought I'd let you know that our friends at Radio Hafren have had their broadcasting license renewed until 2020 by the UK licensing authority OfCom. As you covered a little while ago, Celtica Radio also broadcasts through Radio Hafrens transmitter on 756kHz AM. Since we started broadcasting with them we've had numerous QSL reports; one of the furthest being 6km South of Amsterdam! It's great news for us all, and really to get the whole story. I think it could make a great piece for your report.'

At your comment Bill As further on in the report we will highlight Hafren Radio. Bill went on with: 'As someone who is a veteran of Free Radio, having worked on a number of stations across the years, including the Irish Super-Pirate, ABC Radio from Waterford City. I recognize that Radio Hafren is a land-based station which eschews many of the values of our Offshore ancestors, and the stations that came before them. It's a company owned by genuine supporters of these values, and people who appreciate and nurture creativity. Best regards, Bill Everatt, Celtica Radio

Thanks as always Hans. I have given your report a mention on the "Wonderful Radio London 266 metres" Facebook group, we now have 555 members!

"This group is for those who appreciate the superb offshore broadcaster which was off the English coast in the mid 1960s. It was for many the greatest radio station ever. This group is by fans for fans, it has no connection with any organisation using the name Radio London, Big L or similar. Its just for fun, the group setting is "closed" however we are usually very happy to admit new members on application.'

Nick name time as Marc Jacobs got one from Paul de Wit in Caroline in 1979 which was 'Guus Flater', a cartoon character from Belgium.

No we go to Germany and question time from Gisbert Wegener in Osnabrück.

'Dear Hans, thanks for all the interesting information again. On the internet I found an article of the Radio Journal. There I read that Klaus Quirini told the managers of RNI to use Les Reeds Song Man of Action as a 'station tune' for RNI. Do you know if that is proved? Especially that Klaus Q was the 'inventor'? I'm sceptical. He promoted himself as the first Discotheque-DJ (of the world, later of Germany) in 2009, when he told the people that he started his DJ-career in September 1959 in Aachens Scotch Club, by playing the German song 'Ein Schiff wird kommen' by Lale Andersen. This cannot be true, because that song was first published in 1960. It is music from a movie with Melina Mercouri playing in Piraeus harbour in Athens.'

Gisbert went on with: 'Aachens Scotch Club isn't the first 'discotheque' in Germany either, where the music was presented from turntables. In my hometown Osnabruck we had one, that started in May 1959. That's proved by a newspaper advertisement. On Wednesday I will be in Hannover, where I will get pictures from a music-dance-club that started 1957/1958 playing records. It's not easy getting information or pictures from old dancing clubs. It took me two years to get the information about the Club in Hannover!

Is it possible to ask your readers, if somebody knows something about the very early 'discotheques'? If yes, they can send the information to my e-mail address [gisbert.wegener@t-online.de](mailto:gisbert.wegener@t-online.de). Every information is welcome, from the Netherlands or UK, too. So, I would be happy, if you could help me with my 'Quirini question' and maybe with an announcement in your forthcoming newsletter. I enclose the advertisement of the opening of the Ocambo Club in Osnabruck from May 1959.



Inside the magazine, you can read, that the music came from turntables, which gave the illusions, that the biggest orchestras of the world are playing live on stage. (He played songs from Frank Sinatra, Paul Anka, Louis Armstrong, Miriam Makeba and German artists too). It's sad that the man, who built up the Ocambo, Mr. Horst Wodowos, died in April this year. We planned to meet each other in my hometown in June. - That's live. He was a very interesting person, very engaged in music. Hope to hear from you! Greetings from Osnabrück.'

Dear Gisbert thanks a lot for the long mail and of course I will place it in next report. Well the info with Quirini was of course checked on the RNI side and those who worked together with him and also people above him clarified the info. Of course and that is part of the whole history came with less important subjects, people can misplace a year. If it was stated that RNI started in 1969 we could of course all say that this is wrong and had to be 1970. But what if I told you that I started my radio work in 1968 on low level, instead of



1969? I wonder if you or other readers would wonder this was wrong? Anyway I must say it's really interesting research you do. I know that Saturday newspapers, which are available on internet from those days can avoid a lot of info about discotheques. For instant 'Nieuwsblad van het Noorden and 1961' is a search method and then of course find the Saturday editions to look at the advertisement pages. Anyone who have more on this subject feel free to write Gisbert at [gisbert.wegener@t-online.de](mailto:gisbert.wegener@t-online.de)



# Radio Day 2014

Hotel Casa 400, Eerste Ringdijkstraat 4, Amsterdam,  
Netherlands

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

This is the preliminary schedule. The guests listed below have either been accepting the invitation or have at least confirmed that they are seriously planning to attend. And even more well known names may be expected.

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### **'The Pirate Radio Documentary'**

A video feature by Wayne Hepler

### **Swinging to you on 242: Radio Scotland**

Ian Biggar (moderator), Jack McLaughlin, Tony Meehan, Bryan Vaughan, Pete Bowman, John Kerr, Ben Healy, Brian Webb

### **The Sound of Young Europe: Radio NorthSea International (RNI)**

Nico Steenbergen (moderator), Ferry Maat, Hans ten Hooge, Marc van Amstel, Pieter Damave, Peter Jager, Peter Ford, Dick de Graaf, Jan Harteveld

Robbie Owen (moderator), Larry Tremaine, Victor Pelli, Andy Archer, Arnold Layne, Robb Eden, Graham Gill, Dave Gregory, Peter Chicago, Brian McKenzie

### **Easy Listening with Britain Radio and Radio 355**

John Ross-Barnard (moderator), Phil Martin, Tony Meehan, Woolf Byrne, Jack McLaughlin, Graham Gill, Dave MacKay, Mark Sloane

### **Radio Caroline: The Seventies**

Andy Archer (moderator), Johnny Jason, Stevie Gordon, Stephen Bishop (Johnny Lewis), Paul Alexander (Rusling), Robb Eden, Don Stevens, Graham Gill, Richard "Buzby" Thompson, Stuart Russel (Nigel Harris), Clive Warner, Roger Mathews, Peter Chicago, Ad Roberts, Dennis King, Eija Vandenberg, Barry Everitt

### **The Tower of Power: Radio City**

Bob Le-Roi (moderator), Woolf Byrne, Ricky Michaels, Norman St. John, Terry Dawson, Mike Hayes, Dave Gilbee, RWB, Dick Dixon, Ben Healy, Martin Green

## Radio Caroline: The Sixties

Ray Clark (moderator), Robbie Dale, Andy Archer, Keith Skues, Norman St. John, Bryan Vaughan, Gordon Cruse, Carl Thomson, Roger Scott, Mark Sloane, Ross Brown, Bud Ballou, Steve Young, Tony Prince, John Aston

## Radio Day 2014 Awards

strictly secret

## Radio Extra Gold NL

Broadcasting live from Hotel Casa 400

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Pirate Hall of Fame), Mary and Chris Payne (Radio London Ltd) and Francois Lhote (OEM/France Radio Club) will be aboard.

More details to be published during the coming months at [RadioDay.NL](http://RadioDay.NL)

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4<sup>th</sup> of July wasn't only Independence Day in the USA but also the day that 70 years ago AFN made a start with programming from the BBC premises in London:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eThz3eKaTEs&feature=youtu.be>

And London was also important for the start of commercial radio in the UK, the so-called Independent Local Radio. 40 Years ago it was there that LBC as well as Capital Radio started but there was a lot more to come. To celebrate the fact also a video was made, showing also a lot of former offshore radio deejays:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=J0A0xjWUR7o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=J0A0xjWUR7o)

It was lovely to see Ian Anderson from the Shetlands again in this video and he wrote me telling: 'Obviously I am very pleased, not just for me but all of us. Several ex-pirates on the list and recognised for that as well as what they did afterwards: myself, Philip Birch, Richard Park etc but the list covers the creation of the whole industry even the regulators like the IBA and Radio Authority. All the best Ian Anderson SIBC.

Some exclusive photos from the ship which became later the MV Magdalena for Radio Mi Amigo 272.

<http://www.shipspotting.com/gallery/photo.php?lid=1650217>

<http://www.shipspotting.com/gallery/photo.php?lid=1816195>

Dave Gregory worked on RNI and recently I was in contact with him and he wrote that he would love to come to the RadioDay too. As Martin does all the invitations I've forwarded in and this is part of the answer from David: 'If you can persuade Steve Ladd to come, that would be brilliant, as he was a good friend to me on board and it was thanks in part to him, that I got my first ever job at the Beeb! I saw him once briefly in London a couple of years after we'd left the boat, but then he headed back to Australia and we lost touch. We used to call him 'Skippy' as in the 60's Aussie kid's TV series about a tamed bush kangaroo! Bet you didn't know that! Best regards. Dave Gregory.



Dave Gregory. Photo: Pirate Hall of Fame

Well thanks Dave and we know that Steven Ladd has now a bakery together with his son in Australia and we're in contact with a friend of him, who has promised to ask Steven to contact me by e-mail so hopefully more soon. By the way, thanks for the nickname, which we didn't have so far.

As usual also a plug for [www.radiolondon.co.uk](http://www.radiolondon.co.uk) Mary Payne wrote: As a special Radio London update to commemorate August 14th, we have added two new pages of personal memorabilia that belonged to Chuck Blair, which were kindly scanned for me by the nephew of Chuck's girlfriend in 1967, the late Gill Smith. We've also added a clip of Chuck's farewell to me on his final Breakfast Show, August 14th 1967.' And of course a lot more other interesting things are there too.

In the mid-sixties David Kindred not only shot a lot of photographs on the subject offshore radio but also made an 8 mm movie featuring Radio London, Radio Caroline as well the Laissez Faire from SRE and Britain Radio. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eg98Kx0uMiE> With thanks to Martin Samuel for reminding us again.

Recently I got an e mail from Bruce Wayne, who worked on the Voice of Peace in the late eighties. He found on [www.soundscapes.info](http://www.soundscapes.info) some of the chapters of my book on Abe Nathan and the Voice of Peace and asked me if he could also get the chapter concerning his period on the ship, so I did and asked him also to write his own memories. So exclusively in the Hans Knot International Radio Report here are Wayne's memories:

'Thanks for the 1988 Chapter. It's great that people have worked together to document the comings and goings on the ship. Relatively speaking my time onboard in 1988 was just the blink of an eye but it's something I will never forget. The photo is of myself on the right and Ruven Levy on the left. It was taken in the VOP office in Tel Aviv. I appear to be 'hamming it up' with some kind of paperwork.

I arrived in Israel in December 1987 just as the first Intifada or uprising of the Palestinian people commenced. I was 20 years old and knew nothing about the politics of this region. I'd gone there to work on a Moshav, which I soon learnt was nothing like a Kibbutz. I worked from dawn till dusk picking tomatoes. My first association with the Voice of Peace was as a listener while sweating it out in the desert. My boss had the radio on loud all day on the tractor and I started to think that floating around at sea playing music would be a much better idea than working all day for next to no pay on a tomato farm. I had a few years announcing experience in Australia and was not that fond of hard physical work.

I knew nothing about VOP and had no idea about how I could even make contact with this ship 'somewhere in the Mediterranean'. A few weeks later I had quit the Moshav and made some good friends in Jerusalem, who as Israeli's, knew all about the Voice of Peace and Abie Nathan. I kept listening to VOP and one day while stacking boxes in a warehouse near Jericho I heard an announcement on the air that VOP was looking for a cook. I called the office and when it became apparent they were really after somebody who had experience running a kitchen, I mentioned that I had two years broadcasting experience working in regional Australia and maybe I could work as a DJ. The response was delivered in a style I became familiar with, always direct but understated.....'so arrrr maybe you come to Tel Aviv now? We have a boat going out to the ship today, so arrrr maybe you come now?

Within two hours I was on the Egged bus from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv. This was a time pre mobile phones so how Ruven found me at the bus terminal in Tel Aviv I can't recall but it all happened very quickly. I was driven around in a van we collected some boxes of food then got on the tender vessel. I was out on the ship before dark and on-air pretty much straight away. I don't even recall having to do any audition. For some reason I thought I couldn't use my real name. Somebody told me that what we were doing was illegal so it would be best to use another name. After being referred to by the English as 'Bruce' I went with that. I think there's a Monty Python sketch that involved Australians all being called Bruce. So I became Bruce Wayne.



Ruven Levy and Bruce Wayne

I remember most of the people who were on the ship at the time but for some reason I have very vivid memories of Max the Irish cook, who used to refer to me as 'Convict Bollocks'. I think Max was from a Catholic background but was contemplating Judaism. His cooking was a bit up and down. No matter what food was served John McDonald would always smother it in HP Sauce. To this day I am

unable to eat potato salad because of my time on VOP. I was very sea sick the first day and I recall throwing up over the ship with nothing but potato salad in my stomach. Now whenever I even see potato salad I associate it with that day and the smell of diesel fumes that I breathed in while hanging off the side of the ship vomiting. The seas were high (although the Captain disagreed) so I spent that night above deck in the TV lounge. I remember the rocking of the ship from side to side was so extreme that at one stage we tilted so far that I was sure the tilt-back would see us topple over.

Like all the jocks out there I did a variety of different shifts from the Country Music show to the Kazakh hour. I recall the International Top 40 was the most desirable of all the gigs, outside of breakfast. Kenny Page had that one sewn up. The hardest part was keeping the needle on the records. In hindsight it was an extremely enviable lifestyle. Living on a boat anchored in the blue waters of the Mediterranean, doing a few hours work a day and getting meals provided. My contemporaries were Kenny, John, Ian Hudson, Steve Crombie, Michael O'Sullivan and Martin Murphy. Pita Bread came on when I went off. Steve Crombie had an unmistakable stutter. He told me that the reason he was on the ship was to try and rid himself of it. His back-announce of Phil Collins hit Su Su Sudio is still one of the great jokes of all time. Steve also used to like to pretend he was broadcasting in a different costume each day. For example he'd say he was wearing his fireman's outfit or his bus driver's uniform.

Abie enjoyed being in control and issued edicts about certain songs being played. For example Gerry Rafferty's Baker Street had to be played at a certain time every day. Abie's reading of the Desiderata was another constant. It was played every day at Sunset. My mate Pita Bread and I returned to Australia to continue our broadcasting careers. I added 'international radio experience' to my resume, rather than just 'picking tomatoes'.



I feel extremely privileged to have been a part of the Voice of Peace. It's only in hindsight that I have come to appreciate its importance and place not only in the world of broadcasting but on a larger scale as a symbol in the region. Such a shame the actual vessel could not have been preserved. Internet radio and streaming has changed everything and we will never see anything like the Voice of Peace again. 'Bruce' Wayne (Shields).'

KC (Kirk Clyatt) from Laser Hot Hits has been making some news on the other side of the Atlantic. He's now a weather forecaster at a local TV station in Pennsylvania, and was unfortunately mugged some weeks ago. Seems to have recovered sufficiently to report his own story on the local news:

[http://www.mediabistro.com/tvspy/harrisburg-reporter-attacked-during-early-morning-run\\_b96573](http://www.mediabistro.com/tvspy/harrisburg-reporter-attacked-during-early-morning-run_b96573)

Well I did wish him well: 'Hi KC well the news spread around so in the Netherlands at 15.00 hrs we heard the bad news of the attack at you. I hope police gets enough evidence to get those youngsters. Well the make-up department did very well this time! Take care and greetings. Hans.'

He came back with: Lol, Hans, I have still lots of scabs on other parts of my body, at least good for conversation starters. Thanks for thinking of me, I'll be OK, but with alter my runs in the future. I hope one day to be back in the Netherlands, thanks so much for your continued support and interest! Kirk.'

This year it's 40 odd years ago Capital Radio made the first steps in London as an Independent Local Radio station. In 1974, a year later, a Capital 'one year old' record was produced. Let's go to that record with two links sent in by Herman Content from Gent in Belgium

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

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PCjIj4bDfQO>

Next year two new books will be published. At the moment I'm working on one of them regarding the REM Island project. In 1964 on the REM platform, in international waters off Noordwijk RTV Noordzee came on the air as a commercial radio and tv station. The later was very uncommon in those days and Dutch government decided to enter the platform and closed the station. Up till today all the Television equipment is still stored. We used it partly for the exhibition Arno Weltens and I organised at the Dutch Broadcasting Museum in 1994. Here a photograph showing part of the equipment as well as the owner Arie Swaneveld and Rob Olthof from the Foundation for Media Communication.



Another nickname for Rob Hudson on Radio Caroline in 1979 as Marc Jacobs announced him as newsreader: 'Maestro Robertos Huupsonos'

Radio as an object now with the next e mail from Kees de Kok: 'It becomes more and more quitter on the AM-band. When I'm on holiday in the Provence of Friesland I sometimes listened to Radio Waddenzee, which has now gone. On shortwave already a longer time lesser stations can be received. Just before going to Germany for an holiday I bought a news radio, A Sony DAB+ radio and while in Southern Germany (Bavaria and Baden Wurtemberg) it was easy to receive a lot of those stations. I think it were around 60 different

ones. I think I'm getting old. By the way, the Sony Company published information that this is a radio with retro design.



Do you remember collecting stamps, pins, sugarsackets, chewinggumcartoons and more? Well I didn't. In the sixties, before I started to write about the subject radio in 1969, I tried to collect all kind of material connected to radio. And yes there were the t-shirts (still are) the radio pins and mugs and so on. But also photographs, you could get writing to one or more of your favourite deejays.

Here's a memory to the first offshore deejay, who made it also on British Television in February 1964. He worked for several offshore radio stations like Caroline, Atlanta, KING, Radio 390 and RNI. This photo is from the time he worked on the sister stations Radio England and Britain Radio.



RADIO ENGLAND - BRITAIN RADIO  
DISC JOCKEY

ED MORENO

Birthday: 19th June, 1933  
Nationality: American  
Hair: Brown  
Eyes: Brown  
Height: 6' 0 1/2"  
Weight: 190 lbs  
Home Town: Chase City, Virginia  
Education: Columbia University, New York, Medical School  
Started in Radio: 1951  
Radio Experience: Stations in U.S., Japan, Australia, England TV, Pioneer "Pirate" Caroline, City, Invicta  
Army Experience: 2 years U.S.A.F. Served with A.F.N. Stuttgart  
Former Occupation: Medical Student (6th yr.)  
Musical Instruments: Harmonica  
Favourite Artists: Struisand, Williams, Bennett  
Favourite Hobbies: Flying (holds a private plane licence)  
Languages: None  
Favourite Author: Various depending on mood  
Favourite Colour: Green  
Favourite Pastime: Flying  
Favourite Food: Chinese  
Favourite Music: Mood

*Ed Moreno is proud of having been the first "pirate" DJ to appear on British television, the first time was in "Thank Your Lucky Stars" February 1964.*

Third time in de report nickname time as Colin 'Lentil Burger' Mueslibar was one used on Caroline in the late eighties of last century. The very long list with all nicknames is on [www.hansknot.com](http://www.hansknot.com) and when you're missing yourself simply write to: Hknot@home.nl

Put some old photographs on facebook page, including one of Bob Stewart, who came back with his opinion: 'Not one of my favorite pictures. It was taken outside of 38 Hertford in London. Not my choice of clothes either. I was doing some public relations / disco type stuff. GM Alan Keen, (one of the nicest people) told his PA, a former fashion model to take me to either Kings rd or Carnaby St & get me into some ''hipper'' clothes. Very kind but it meant I ended up in this "leaping knome" - Jethro tull outfit. A nasty suede thing that I gave away as soon as I landed back in Lux. I really didn't enjoy PA gig's at all. At one stage I managed to stay in Lux for 20 months straight. I would have been more than happy to never have gone back to Britain.'



Well Bob sometimes people have to know who the persons behind the mike are and so have to listen to the PR people.

Next two photos of Will Proudfoot, who died recently at the age of 91.



Proudfoot was the main man behind 60's offshore radiostation Radio 270 and on the Pirate Hall of Fame Jon Myer has written an excellent obituary about him: [www.offshoreradio.co.uk](http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk)

Sunday 4 August was the final broadcast of The David Jacobs Collection on BBC Radio 2 as David steps down from his weekly show.

At the age of 87, he has decided that now is the right time for him to step back from regular presenting duties for health reasons but he is planning to return to the airwaves later in the year with occasional specials. David has hosted the programme, which airs on Sunday nights from 11pm to 12midnight, since 1998. He will be recording a special sign-off show to be broadcast on Sunday 4 August (11pm-12midnight).

David Jacobs said: "Over the past two years Radio 2 has given me time to be treated for liver cancer and Parkinson's Disease. My Producer, Alan Boyd, has been a tower of strength in so many ways and I thank him profusely. We shared a love of so many records and wonderful music. I will not stop collecting but my sadness will be that I cannot share them with all my loyal listeners. But rest assured, I will be back from time to time."

Bob Shennan, Controller of Radio 2, 6 Music and Asian Network, said: "It's a word that is overused, but David Jacobs is truly a unique broadcaster. He has been an integral part of the BBC for so many years and is loved by his listeners and Radio 2 colleagues alike. Since 1998 he has embodied the sound of Sunday evenings and I am already looking forward to his special programmes later in the year."

Born in 1926, David joined the Royal Navy after leaving school. It

was during this time that he made his first broadcast on a programme called Navy Mixture. When demobilised after the war, he joined the BBC as an announcer and newsreader. In a long and illustrious broadcasting career, he has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades including the rare honour of being admitted to Radio Academy Hall of Fame in 2005. And in 1996 David was honoured with a CBE.

David was voted Britain's Top Disc Jockey for six years, both for the BBC and Radio Luxembourg. He was the Variety Club of Great Britain TV Personality of the Year in 1960 and BBC Radio Personality of the Year in 1975. In 1984, he received the Sony Gold Award for his outstanding contribution to radio over the years and was subsequently admitted to the Sony Hall of Fame. He has also received the Richard Martin Award for exceptional service in the cause of animal welfare and is well known for his devotion to charitable causes.



David in earlier days of his career

His many radio credits include Housewives Choice, Pick Of The Pops, Any Questions Any Answers? (Ran for 17 years), Melodies For You (ran for 12 years), Journey Into Space, and a daily lunchtime programme on Radio 2.

His numerous television credits include Juke Box Jury, Saturday Night With David Jacobs, Come Dancing, What's My Line?, and Eurovision Song Contest. David is also the author of Jacobs Ladder, the best-seller Caroline, and Any Questions? with Michael Bowen. Finally, here is something that might interest you or your contacts. I have not had time to listen to it but I am told it is quite good as an introduction to the subject. (Source BBC)

There's another internet site, which was sent by Andrew Emmerson, I want to mention:

<http://media.nationalarchives.gov.uk/index.php/the-secret-listeners/>

Surprise, surprise a new song from the guys who hit the chart on Caroline in the mid sixties with a song like pictures of mastic man. Now again Caroline is in their newest and she loves rock and roll. Coincidence?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUe7sFYvrw8>

I placed this comment already on Facebook and Simon Burnett, from Caroline in the seventies, commented with: 'They always had a thing for us. They grew up with us. "Rock 'n Roll" "Waiting all the time to find, radio plays on Caroline.'

Well here's fascinating news as we've started to open the photoarchives. Rob Olthof, Martin van der Ven and Hans Knot have



made, during the decades, thousands of photographs. The first twelve albums have now been opened, featuring some 550 photos from the offshore radio scene and we certainly will bring more for the future. Thanks for Martin for doing a hell of a job.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/sets/>

And now from the archives we go back to January 1977 and see what was published in Monitor Magazine about a court case:

#### SAMANTHA'S COURT ORDEAL

The second Wednesday in January was an atrabilious day for Dutch Justice as well as for SAMANTHA. We asked her to tell the story herself of what happened when she was summonsed to appear before the Magistrates accused of broadcasting on Radio Caroline; so here in Samantha's own words, is the account of her experiences:

"I went to court on the 12th of January in Amsterdam. I didn't have a lawyer because it is too expensive for me to pay. There were 3 witnesses in the court to testify against me, ex-crewmen, Gunter the cook, Derek the generator engineer & Jan the sailor. The Dutch court is really Micky Mouse. I am very ashamed of being of Dutch nationality. Why do I say that? Well, firstly there wasn't a jury. I pleaded not guilty. So the court called one of the witnesses, in that case it was Jan the sailor. The court asked him if he recognized me as being Samantha alias Ellen Kraal broadcasting illegally on board the ship called Mi Amigo. Well much to my surprise Jan denied everything. He said that he never knew me. If that had happened in an English court the second witness would be called up. But the Dutch wankers just warned Jan that he was committing perjury and he could get up to 6 months imprisonment for going back on his word. I was found guilty and given 3 weeks suspended sentence plus a 200 pounds fine. The 3 weeks suspended sentence is for 2 years, so if I get caught within the 2 years I go to jail for 3 weeks. Actually I'm going back to the ship. I haven't paid the fine, and I'm not planning to either which means 40 days imprisonment. The only reason why I was taken to court is because of the 3 above-mentioned people signing a statement under oath that they were with me on the ship, and saw me broadcasting in English".

Samantha certainly has the courage of her convictions, and we all wish her many more years afloat. Perhaps if there was more of her buccaneering spirit around the outlook for offshore radio would be a brighter one!



I think this photo must have been taken around that time with from left to right: Rob Olthof, Samantha and Theo Tromp

Enda Caldwell was one of the many reporting the sad loss of Bob Gallico: 'He was an adopted Irish - US Radio and Theatre, Film and even TV Legend! His Career spanned over six decades. He passed away on Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, in Salem, Mass. His heart was still here in Ireland and he, and Radio Nova and Energy 103 which he was an integral part of will be remembered here as the station that changed the face of Irish Radio. A raw, unedited, uncensored lookback at his life we recorded together in May of 2009 is available here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/home/Bob%20Gallico%20Interview%20Audio>

Now we go to John at the Pirate Hall of Fame: 'Hi, I have just updated [The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame](#). New this month:

- 30 years after Radio Caroline returned to the air from the mv *Ross Revenge*, we look back at some of the press coverage from that momentous occasion;
- going back further, we have three pages of fascinating pirate radio press cuttings from 1967, courtesy of correspondent Mike Lewis. They include coverage of the battle for Roughs Tower, Johnnie Walker "kidnapping" The Dales and a series from the Daily Sketch about life on board the *Mi Amigo*;
- there is the latest page of our 'Eighties Supplement' featuring DJs from that decade with names beginning with D such as Jeff Davis and Paul Dean of Laser-558, Mike Dixon and John Dwyer of Radio Caroline;
- and since the last monthly update, I have also posted a tribute to Wilf Proudfoot, the former boss of Radio 270, who died on 19th July at the grand age of 91.

[www.offshoreradio.co.uk](http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk)

As promised earlier in the report time for an article written by André van Os.

## **RADIO HAFREN STILL GOING STRONG ON AM**

Is it still possible to use an AM frequency commercially? In the Netherlands the possibilities were recently debated following the close-down of Radio Waddenzee. Although Radio Seagull is now using its 1602 AM frequency, it seems clear that there aren't enough advertisers for a radio station that uses primarily AM. On the other side of the Northsea the situation is quite different. Take Radio Hafren in Wales: their broadcasting license for the 756 kHz AM is renewed until 2020. International Report spoke with Hafren's Alistair Tyne.

Radio Hafren is a local commercial radio station, serving Mid Wales and the English border counties and broadcasting on 756 kHz (397 metres). (It's 'AM radio for mid Wales and the borders', as their slogan goes). It all began with Radio Maldwyn -The Magic 756- which began broadcasting in July 1993. It had live programs during daytime, and the Supergold service from the Chiltern Radio Network overnight. Maldwyn originally was a local community co-operative, but became a Limited Company in the late 1990s. In November 2010 the station was closed down by its owners.

### **Extensive range**

Radio Hafren was officially launched on Christmas Day 2010 after its bid to take over the licence of the failed Radio Maldwyn was accepted. Based in Newtown, Powys, in the primarily rural setting of Mid Wales, the station has an extensive broadcasting range. The transmitter is located just to the south east of Newtown in Powys, and can be seen clearly as you travel towards Newtown from the east, the view of the transmitter to the east is obscured by trees. The transmitter is a 1kW Eddystone 6038, which was originally used

by the BBC for their Radio Shropshire AM service. The mast is a guyed radiator.

Alistair Tyne of Radio Hafren: "Our licensed area is officially the old county of Montgomeryshire (this equates roughly to the northern half of the current county of Powys)." In this area with a population of about 68.000 people, Radio Hafren reaches 32.000 to 36.000 listeners each week. But as Tyne adds: "In reality our signal can be received across most of Mid Wales. During the daytime it isn't unusual for our service to be heard in North West England, The Midlands and parts of Gloucestershire, but unfortunately by dusk our signal is swamped by Deutschland Funk (DLF)." When conditions are good, the signal even flies across the water. The station had a QSL report from six kilometres south of Amsterdam.



Hafren Studio

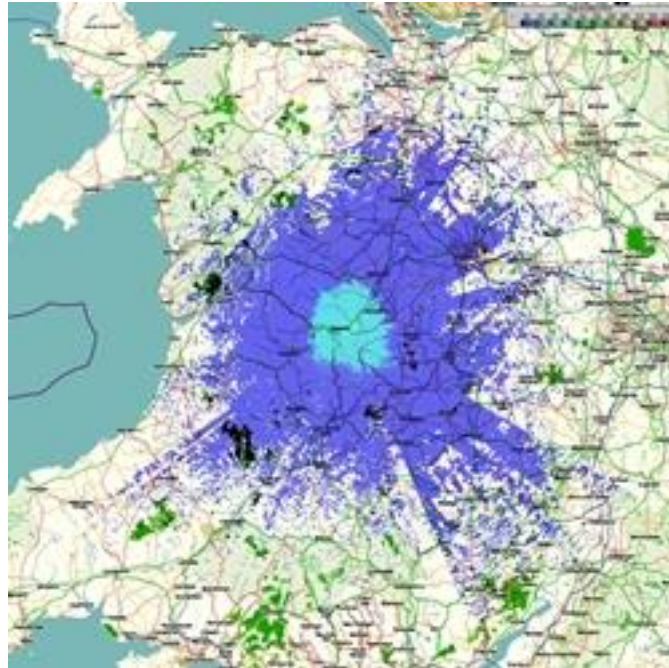
### **AM for a rural area**

Radio Hafren has its broadcasting license renewed until 2020, so it looks as if they still believe in the good old Medium Wave. "Our AM

frequency is essential to our ability to cover our licensed area," says Alistair Tyne. "in order to cover our current AM area, we would need approximately 7 FM transmitters, and even then there would be large areas that would be left without coverage due to the terrain. We believe that the best approach for Radio Hafren in the longer term is to simulcast on both AM and FM, using FM to cover the largest population centers and AM for wider rural area that we cover. We have now been allocated an FM frequency which we are slowly working towards using."

That's also necessary because of Hafren's competitors. Tyne: "Our competition for listeners comes predominantly from the BBC, who offer their full range of FM stations across most of our area, along with their BBC Wales service on Medium Wave with a very similar coverage pattern to our own. From a commercial perspective our only competitor is Real Radio Wales who have an FM service from several transmitters in our coverage area." Unlike in the Netherlands, the internet here is not a dominant factor yet. "Due to the very rural area we are based in, internet connection speeds for a lot of our listenership are very poor, meaning that at present for most internet radio isn't a viable alternative."

How does Radio Hafren see the role of AM broadcasting between now and 2020? Alistair Tyne: "I believe that the number of AM stations in the UK broadcasting on AM services will continue to decline, the BBC have already trailed switching off a number of AM local stations and I believe as the BBC faces further budget cuts, they will take the easy option of withdrawing AM services. I also believe that these frequencies are unlikely to be reused."



Hafren 200 km coverage

#### Radio Caroline on AM?

Radio Hafren is not just a local commercial station but sees itself routed in the impressive history of commercial radio in the country. Tyne: "Commercial radio in the UK especially does owe a debt to the former pirate stations, whose very existence provided a very popular alternative to the BBC, and also proved that there was both a desire amongst the public and a market for a wider range of services than where being offered by the legitimate broadcasters of the day. This ultimately gave the government no alternative but to act and introduce commercial broadcasting."

Which leads us to the other famous broadcaster Radio Caroline, and their campaign to get an AM license from OfCom, as well. Can Peter Moore's team learn anything from Hafren or is Caroline's application an entirely different matter? "We are aware of the Radio Caroline campaign for an AM frequency and it heartens us that there are still those that believe that AM broadcasting still has its place," says Tyne. "However I fear that they will for many reasons have an uphill struggle in trying to get an AM frequency. We are of the

understanding that it is Ofcom policy to issue no new licences for AM stations, this is in part due to government policy bias towards digital broadcasting in the long term. However, Ofcom is canvassing for expressions of interest for low power community stations on AM and there is also 'discussion' over the use of 648kHz in the future. They at least in part acknowledge that this frequency is not suited to low power community operation because of the size of the masts required." Therefore, Tyne thinks that an expression of interest, backed up with a suitable business plan for a more 'commercial' use of this frequency, might stand a chance.

Radio Hafren can be heard almost 24 hours a day on Medium Wave and online, bringing locally focused programs with local and national news, sport, weather, traffic and travel, what's on guides and community information. Besides mainstream pop music from the past and the present, Hafren offers specialist shows, including an hour each week of Welsh language music. Between Midnight and 2am, the output switches to a selection of programs featuring new and unsigned artists from the internet only station Celtica Radio ('the Alternative Radio Station for independent artists'), ran by Bill Everatt and his team.



Hafren AM Transmitter

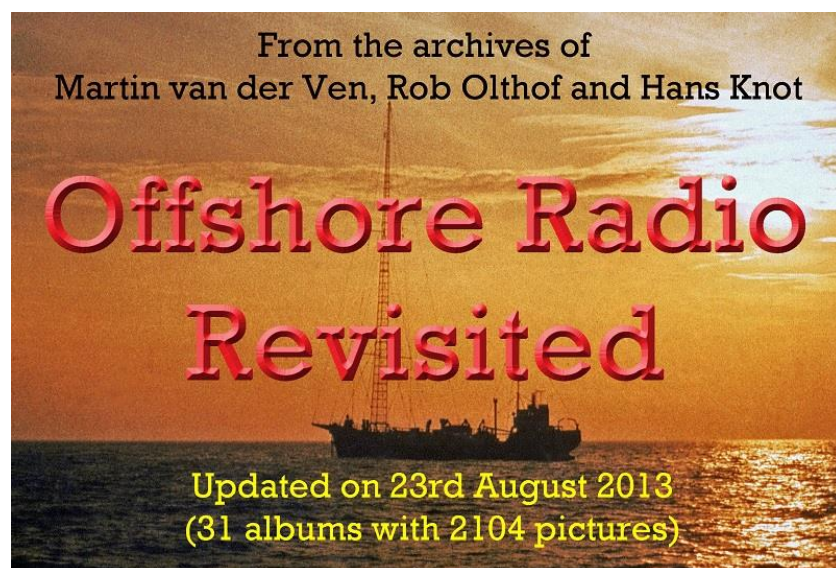
[www.radiohafren.co.uk](http://www.radiohafren.co.uk)

[www.celticaradio.com](http://www.celticaradio.com)

André van Os,  
August 2013

Well André thanks a lot for this interesting article and lucky the AM is not empty yet. Anyone who also want to sent an own insight into the radio industry from past or present, feel free to write it and send it to [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

And that's exactly what was done by Nick Martin: 'Hi Hans I just found your newsletter linked from Emporer Rosko's site (after reading an article about him in the Express). Anyway I just wanted to let you know about a new online publication called Asia Radio Today. We launched last month with an ambition to cover radio news from Asia, an industry which is currently underserved by any publication. The website is [www.asiaradiotoday.com](http://www.asiaradiotoday.com) and we have regular newsletter that we send out and a digital magazine launching next month. It would be great if you could mention us in your newsletter and help us spread the word. Perhaps there would be opportunities to work together in the future. If we can return the favour, please let me know. Best Nick Martin.'





<http://www.offshore-radio.de/>

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

Next one of the readers in Scotland: 'Hello Hans, I hope that you are well. I have been to see Johnnie Walker at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe where he does early evening shows, "Johnnie Walker's Guest Night". He started on 1st August and has his last show is on 25th August. Last night (13th) his guest was his old adversary, Tony Benn. A report is in the Independent newspaper today:-

<http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/news/johnnie-walker-confronts-tony-benn-over-rocking-the-boat-how-dj-and-former-postmaster-general-faced-off-over-pirate-radio-50-years-on-8760228.html>



A few times Johnny Walker tried to pin down Tony Benn over why he disliked the pirates so much, but got the usual "interference", "paid no royalties", etc. answers and "foreign countries threatened to jam BBC Radio 4", an excuse that I haven't heard before (Radio 4 did not exist back then!). I managed to take a clandestine photo of their first ever meeting, shaking hands, and have attached it with this email!

In the Netherlands a state funded broadcasting system was founded first in the twenties of last century; a commercial radio and

television system was only granted in 1989. Due to the economic situation Dutch government has decided that the public broadcasters in the Netherlands have to economize and will get a lot of money lesser from the Dutch government. As a result the expectancy is that only 10 Public Broadcasters, who share airtime on 6 radio networks and 3 television networks, will keep their head above water. Also several public broadcasters have decided to merge. For instant the AVRO, which is this year 90 years old as well as the TROS (next year 40 years old) will closely work together on production and transmitting soon. On the information station Radio 1 the more expensive documentary programs will be lost and instead they will bring more repeats of earlier broadcasts. Dutch government has decided that up till 2017 600 million Euro's will go lesser to the Public Broadcasters. As a result a big demonstration will be held organised by the public broadcasters on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October. Many people working for the stations as well as artists are expected to go to The Hague, the governmental centre in the Netherlands, to show they fear for far lesser quality in programming. Special spots are produced to get attention from the listeners to go to the demonstration too.

Well that ends up another edition of the Hans Knot International Report and so I say goodbye till the end of next month with best greetings from the Netherlands. Hans Knot.