

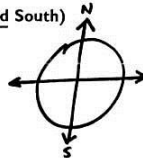
Hans Knot International Radio Report September 2014

Welcome to another edition of the report. And again it's a long edition with thanks to all contributors. This issue we start with Caroline in the past. As told before this year, 2014, is the year we celebrate the fact that Radio Caroline was raised 50 years ago as the first British Offshore Radio station. Therefore I try to relive the memories with some of the many chapters I've either written or edited through the years for several magazines and books on this subject.

Next to Radio Caroline there have been a lot of radio stations, transmitting from the international waters. Of course we all know the big ones like Radio Caroline, Radio London, Radio Veronica and Radio Northsea International - to mention a few of them. Next to the big ones, where all the 'stars' could be heard on our transistor radios, there were many more radio stations which didn't get the attention as the big brothers. In my view that's really a pity as they were - in their own category - also good stations. From the sixties I do remember a few examples of minor radio stations which really felt good in my listening ears.

Three hundred and ninety good reasons for Radio 390

(Now North and South)



Good reason No. 1. RADIO 390 NORTH, now transmitting off the Werral Peninsula, adds 17,000,000 people to the 26,000,000 covered in the original RADIO 390 SOUTH area. This gives a potential audience of 78-7% of the total population of Great Britain.

Good reason No. 2. A recent independent electronic survey into signal strength in the Southern coverage area showed that in 99 out of 112 towns where tests were carried out RADIO 390's reception was stronger than that of its main commercial competitor. In 2 other towns the results were equal. Proof positive of real potential in terms of density as well as breadth of coverage.

Good reason No. 3. RADIO 390 SOUTH has installed an FM transmitter that from August 1st will simultaneously transmit the whole of RADIO 390 SOUTH programmes. RADIO 390 SOUTH will be the

only off-shore programme available on an estimated 2,000,000 FM receivers in the RADIO 390 SOUTH area. All bonus listeners!

Good reason No. 4. RADIO 390 is proud of its slogan — "the sweet music station". Comments from listeners confirm that there is a large number of discriminating people who prefer this kind of music to non-stop pop.

Good reason No. 5. RADIO 390 is the station to reach the over 20's — the mothers and those shopping for their families — the lucrative family-purchase market.

If you think you need Good Reasons numbers 6 — 390 why Radio 390 should be on your Advertising Schedule, contact:
Neil Barker, Sales Controller,
Radio 390 (Sales) Ltd,
354, Bebbington Place, London, S.W.1.
Tel. Victoria 0412/0413



First Radio 355, a very good middle of the road music station, which was only a couple of months on the air in 1967. Then there was Radio 390, which was a very easy listening station. The station did close down in 1967 and now - 47 years later - it's still great fun to listen to the most relaxing sound Offshore Radio ever had.

The last one I like to mention is Radio City, the Tower of Power. Transmitting on '299' the station came in the news as its director - Reginald Calvert - had been shot down by a co-director of a competitive station. Lucky enough people did record enough hours to listen to Radio City, when I want to listen to good old memories. In 1978 I met Bob LeRoi, originating from Whitstable in Kent, for the very first time at the very first Radio Day at Noordwijkerhout. It was him who worked, as a 15 years old chap, for a few stints on the Shivering Sands Forts. But Bob LeRoi has also good memories to Radio Caroline. Here are some of his memories:



Hans and Bob reminiscing at Radioday 2000

'My first introduction to Radio Caroline was at the suggestion of John Birch. Birch was at a later stage not only a taxi driver but also an avid Caroline supporter who had his own informative magazine on the radio station. I'd been to visit John & his wife Anita in Greys in the county Essex on a couple of occasions and it was John he did promise to put my name forward to people within the Caroline organisation. But there was more as one day I suddenly got a call from a girl, called Jenny, from the office who sent me a simple letter; she was more concerned about astrological birth signs than expertise! This was in early 1968 and I hope to go out to the Caroline ship which was off the east coast of Britain. But I was to miss going out to the MV Mi Amigo, as both the Caroline ships were dragged away by the Wijsmuller Salvage Company tugs. This as the bills for tendering were not properly paid and so the ships disappeared into Amsterdam harbour for some years

I crossed paths again with the Caroline Organisation through Robb Eden who I'd met at the Caroline Road-shows in the seventies. He worked in the early seventies on the MEBO II for Radio Northsea International but soon after Radio Caroline came back on the air from the MV Mi Amigo he crossed ships and was to be heard on Radio Caroline. Robb asked me if I'd make some filler tapes. And so I did, which was in 1979. Andy Oldfield produced the shows that found their way out to the ship with one of the many tenders, to be used on an ad hock basis in their programming.

In the late 70's I'd got involved with local BBC Radio, working freelance at BBC Radio Medway and by 1983 I was under full contract to them. But never the less became involved with supplying the new Radio Caroline ship, the MV Ross Revenge, with Graham on the 'Henrietta'. The bosses at the BBC didn't seem worried with numerous redundant bits of kit, records and carts being given to me to 'pass' to the radio ship.

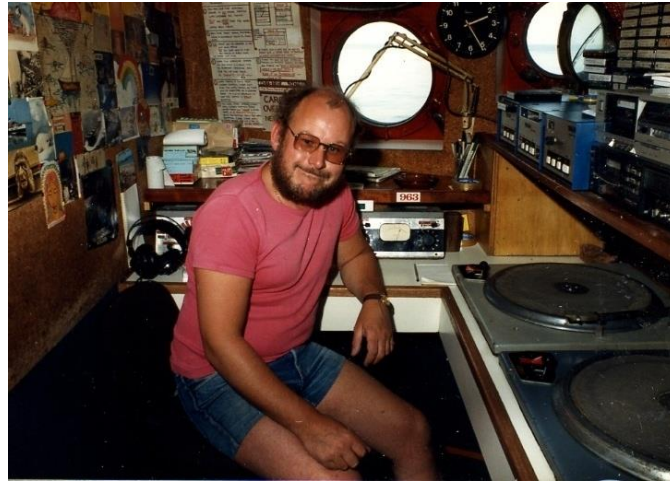
In 1985 we ran the Euro siege blockade, which was the most memorable period. It was the period that the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) put out a permanent watch on all activities in the Thames Estuary regarding the movements from ships in the neighbourhood of the MV Ross Revenge and the MV Communicator, which was at that stage the radio ship for Laser 558. Graham and I usually took precaution to weight the obvious radio related cartons with concrete to ditch overboard should we have been intercepted. Many times we found ourselves being chased all over the Thames Estuary. It was on one occasion we were told to hold off or be rammed.

We often chose periods when we knew anorak boats were around so that the 'Dioptric Surveyor' - which was the most important 'spy ship' from the DTI - efforts became diluted. They did though soon recognise the 'Henrietta', making life difficult for both Graham and me on shore, when enquiries revealed I was at the BBC and Graham was a local port officer.

We thought the game was up when a guy called Cosmic arrived at 4 am one morning with a van loaded with supplies, records and deejay Tom Anderson. We loaded the 'Henrietta' to the gunwales. Whilst Tom made himself scarce below, we had an impromptu visit from the local authorities, who after a cursory inspection from the quayside wished us happy fishing! This was around the time that John Tyler suggested I try the Overdrive studio. Next it was John Dwyer to set things up for me to record a programme, which I understand was transmitted later that night on Radio Caroline after my BBC programme went out on another frequency!

The 'Henrietta' was a lovely little boat and during the worst weathers I recall clinging to the foredeck ankle deep in heavy swells as we tied up to the ship. I'd made provision for a three month break from shore, Mike Barrington, Kevin Turner, Johnny Lewis and others were keen for me to do a stint, but Peter Philips was uncomfortable for

me to appear on air whilst under contract to the BBC. We operated from 1983 - 1987 taking in a just a couple South Falls Head excursions.



Bob LeRoi in Caroline studio Ross Revenge
Photo collection Bob LeRoi

Later following working many years in ILR and whilst running my own station, Peter Moore - the Caroline station manager since 1987- called out of the blue to invite me to come aboard the radio station. So in 1999 I was heard regularly on satellite. I had many ideas and was keen to increase Radio Caroline's profile. I'd commissioned the first new sung jingle package since the sixties, looked at ways the station might become profitable and at other transmission platforms. By the new Millennium having organised and hosted the Caroline Convention 2000 things came to a head. We'd got BBC 1 Television to cover the event. They even came out to the ship the following day and a substantial piece was produced much to the annoyance of factions within the highly political Caroline organisation.

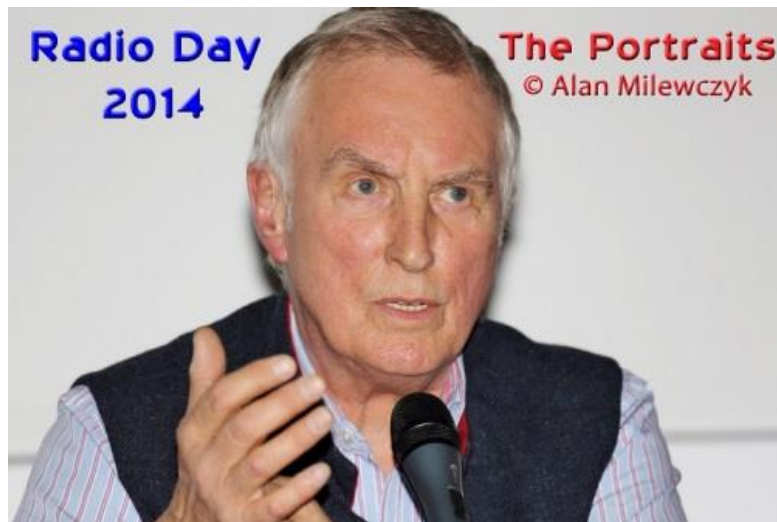
That wasn't to be the end, Sietse Brouwer of Radio Caroline Nederland asked me to start making programmes for the Dutch service. I'd worked in Holland during the 70's, love the Country and its people so it seemed a nice way of giving something back. I'd met Sietse and his pal Adrian Hondema on many occasions and soon

warmed to their team, so working with them was a delight. Like so many of these things I found that producing regular programmes demanded time I simply didn't have, so with great regret my last programme was transmitted in March 2003, just a few weeks before the station closed down.'

Thanks to Bob, who wrote his memories for the Caroline book, which was released 15 years ago. As the years went on Bob and I are still in regularly contact and Bob is involved as director in Red Sands Radio now. <http://www.redsandsradio.co.uk/>

He also has his own site about offshore radio and more at: www.bobleroi.co.uk

During the RadioDay, way back in March, it was Alan Milewczyk, who was sitting in the front row of the big hall to get as much as possible portrait photos of those who were involved in the several panels.



Well he succeeded to make more than 400 and a good selection is now in our Flickr Archive at:

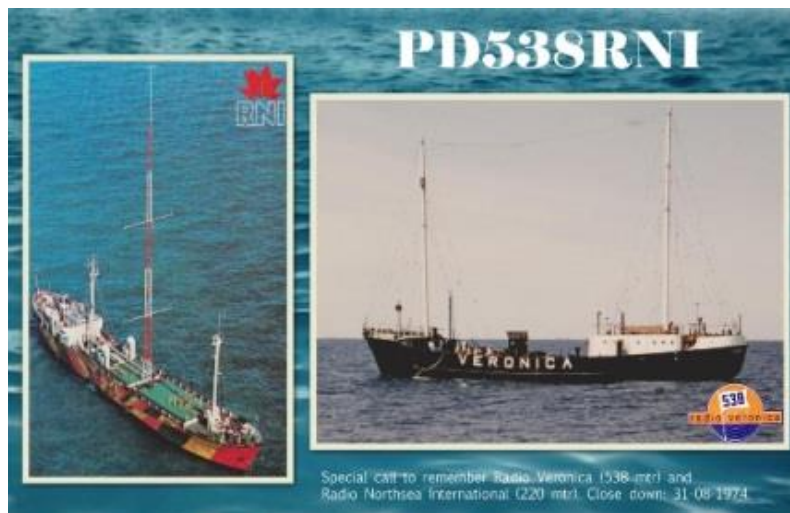
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/sets/72157646324839402/>

On August 31 it will be 40 years ago the Dutch offshore radio stations due to changes in legislation. Many fans still mourn the loss

of their beloved stations in 1974. Peter John from DX Headlines on the Mighty KBC reminisces: "I personally still remember exactly where I was when they pulled the plug on Veronica and RNI.

PDOARI Arie Rietveld from Giessenburg, The Netherlands will be operating the special callsign PD538RNI from August 28th until September 19th.

538 in the callsign stands for the last frequency the offshore radio station Veronica used, and RNI stands for Radio Northsea International, the name of the other station that had to stop now 40 years ago.



Radio Northsea International with their psychedelically painted ship the MEBO 2 seized to exist all together after their offshore days ended. The more on music with Dutch origins targeting Radio Veronica became a station in the public radio and TV system of the Netherlands, and subsequently went commercial again as soon as it was possible. Today the name Veronica is still affiliated with a commercial TV channel and Radio Veronica is also still operating."

Peter John for the DX Headlines on the Mighty KBC can be heard every week from Saturday on Sunday in Eric's show between 0000 UTC and 0200 UTC on 9.925 MHz in the 31 meter band. At the end

of August he will pay attention to the fact it's 40 years ago those two stations went off the air.

On August the 8th it was 50 years ago The Rolling Stones visited the Netherlands for the very first time and a concert was played in the Kurhaus in Scheveningen. Well just a small part of the concert as just after a few numbers the scene totally collapsed with a fighting between part of the audience and the police. It was Tineke de Nooij, from Veronica, who wrote her memories about that tragic moment way back in August 1964.

'I was sitting on the second row waiting for the concert from the Stones. Dutch group The Fouryo's were still performing. Next to me were sitting Ruud Westbroek (technician from Veronica) and Tony Vos, not much later my husband. At that stage I was 8 months pregnant from my daughter Tuffy. Presenter Jos Brink came on stage and announced: "And now boys and girls, the Rolling Stones". They played three chorus and then pleurisy started. Chandeliers came down and people jumped from the balcony. Everyone was pushing each other to find a way to the front of the stage.



We were wedged completely. Ruud screamed 'Look out, she's pregnant' to the front neighbour who was punching others with a boxing bracket. Straight forward he started punching everyone away from me. Paul Acket stood on the stage and saw this happen. He screamed to Tony: "Here with Tineke" and climbing over the broken chairs I reached the stage too. Paul Acket pulled me up, the wings were already closed and the Rolling Stones left the stage and I? I was standing barefoot between all the cables and ropes. Even police on horses went through the aisle. Bras were all over the floor. Where did they come from so suddenly? For ever I'm anxious for massive audiences.'

Thanks Tineke for the memories and a Dutch special, including fragments of a REM TV Noordzee special, never transmitted, can be found here: <http://members.chello.nl/d.vos35/stones.htm>

It has been a long time we heard something from PJ from Weymouth in England: 'Hi Hans, I hope all is well with you my friend, thanks for the June edition of your Report, always a pleasure to read. I recently held the 2014 Special Music Radio event at Weymouth Harbour on board the charter boat Al's Spirit. This was our 4th event; we were joined by a new presenter, Phil Rummins and regular presenters - Neon Nancy, Ian Johnstone and myself.

A wonderful time we had on board for the three day event recording programmes floating on the harbour, we were joined by a few local guests including Weymouth legend Captain Ivor and Vicki who is the bar manager at The Sailors Return pub - see picture.

As well as featuring some great music from the 1970's and 80's Offshore Radio era we were promoting 40 years of our favourite Fish & Chip shop in Weymouth - Marlboro. We were given star treatment by the Marlboro staff for our support. Well, so far this year we have been spoilt what with the Radio Caroline North RSL from Liverpool and the Radio Mi Amigo 40 programmes, well done to

everyone who has put in so much hard work. Thanks again for your Report newsletter.' Best Wishes PJ



Neon Nancy and food from Marlboro. Photos: PJ

Next it is Steve Taylor: 'Hello Hans. Good to see your site is still in full swing. I have been updating the original 1967 Radio Kaleidoscope website

www.Radiokaleidoscope.com

<http://www.bookamook.com/kaleidoscope/>

More profiles and Audio have been added/modified including the sad loss of Mike Baker, I will also be adding some more of Busters (Roland Pearson) shows from 1968 and 1969 probably next week. Maybe you could give the site a mention? Kind Regards

Real name is Steve Taylor alias's "Steve T" & "Jolly Orange" the later alias being forced upon me by the other DJ's who thought it suited me better, I could never lose the name whilst on Kaleidoscope, even Andy Archer joined in the banter!

Thanks Steve for this update and now Arne Tvedt sent the next memory without a word. It's from a radio magazine in the seventies:

**RADIO CAROLINE**

Broadcasting from the MV 'Mi Amigo' in international waters off Holland, Wavelength: 253 metres MW.

- 7:PM RADIO MI AMIGO INTERNATIONAL
Chart/pop music presented by Norman Barrington and Brian Anderson
9:PM SCHOOLS PROGRAMME
Brian Anderson or Andy Archer
11:PM ROB EDEN or MIKE HAGLER
2:AM BOB NOAKES or NORMAN BARRINGTON
4:AM SAMANTHA DUBOIS or MIKE THE POET
6:AM Closedown

Music: Entirely album track format. Each programme tends to reflect the deejays own taste. Progressive/contemporary music.

RADIO NORTHSEA

Broadcasting from the MV 'Mebo 2' in international waters off Holland, Wavelength: 220 metres MW.

- 8:PM ROGER KENT (Fridays - THE RNI TOPPERS SHOW)
10:PM BRIAN MCKENZIE (Fridays - ROCK AND ROCK SHOW)
12:MN DAFFY DON ALLEN
3:AM SKYLINE
6:AM Closedown
Saturdays
8:PM ROGER KENT
10:PM COUNTRY AND WESTERN JAMBOREE
12:MN BRIAN MCKENZIE
3:AM SKYLINE
6:AM Closedown
Supdays
8:PM HITBACK SHOW
10:PM THE REQUEST PROGRAMME
12:MN CONTEMPORARY MUSIC
2:AM SKYLINE
6:AM Closedown

Music: Chart material interspersed by album tracks and revive 45s. Few but excellent specialist programmes.

RADIO ATLANTIS

Broadcasting from the MV 'Jeanine' anchored in international waters off the coast of Belgium. Wavelength: 312 metres.

- 6:PM BLAST OFF (Except Saturday - ATLANTIS REBOUND SHOW)
9:PM ATLANTIS 1974 (Sat - ATLANTIS TOP 40)
12:MN APPOLLO 312
3:AM Closedown
6:AM SNAP CRACKLE AND POP with DAVE OWEN
8:AM Flemish programmes

Deejays: Dave Owen, Steve England, Andy Anderson, Dave Rogers and Debbie England.

Music: Top 40 Format Radio, with a few revive 45s and a lot of jingles.

The programmes schedules of the pirate stations should only be treated as a rough guide to the times of transmission and type of music. Programme and deejay changes are made at very short notice.

Next an interesting article, about the MV Courier that was used by the VOA as a floating radio station in the Mediterranean from September 1952 till May 1964. Initially they used a helium balloon antenna, as Laser 558 later did.

"The Courier relayed broadcasts from the United States in more than a dozen languages seven days per week with a signal that was

three times more powerful than a land-based signal and the most powerful transmitter ever installed on board a ship."

<http://www.startribune.com/nation/263281961.html>

with thanks to Mike Terry

<http://www.voanews.com/content/decades-after-the-cold-war-a-voa-coast-guard-partnership-is-honored/1944320.html>

Stuart Dobson sent me the next newspaper cut early June, in which the late Samantha Dubois was highlighted:

QUESTION In the Sixties there was a Radio Caroline DJ called Samantha. What became of her?

RADIO Caroline was founded in 1964 by Ronan O'Rahilly. In 1966, Postmaster General Tony Benn introduced the Marine Offences Act, proclaiming the supposedly 'pirate' off-shore radio stations illegal.

When the law became effective on August 14, 1967, the two Radio Caroline ships, MV Mi Amigo and MV Caroline, were still broadcasting 24-hour-a-day pop music from international waters, albeit illegally.

Samantha Dubois was born Ellen Kraal in the Netherlands on January 15, 1955, and raised in New Zealand, giving her a distinctive accent. Though too young to be a DJ in Radio Caroline's Sixties heyday, she joined MV Amigo in her late teens as the girlfriend of Peter Chicago, the ship's engineer and occasional presenter.

As unofficial ship's cook, she made her first broadcast on March 3, 1973, as 'Ellen the Cook'. The following year, she began working as a regular broadcaster in various late-night slots, using the name Samantha Dubois. She left the station for a time in September 1976.

The following January she was fined in a Dutch court for her involvement with Radio Caroline, but despite this, she returned to Caroline briefly in March 1977 and again in September 1978. She left the following month, married and moved to New Zealand.

Samantha returned to the station for a short time in 1984, broadcasting from the ship *Ross Revenge*. After leaving Caroline for the last time, she lived in The Hague before returning to New Zealand to have a child named Luke in 1991. She died from liver cancer on October 1, 1992, and is buried in North Shore Memorial Park, Auckland.

She began broadcasting on radio when there were very few female presenters, and there's no doubt she laid the groundwork for others to follow, such as Caroline Martin, who presented on Radio Caroline in the Eighties.

Jos Onions, Durham.

Pirate queen of airwaves



Daily Mail, Wednesday, June 4, 2014

Pioneer: Radio Caroline's Samantha Dubois

Wonderful that she was highlighted, 22 years after she died.

Nickname time as Leo van der Goot on RNI was mentioned 'swingende dakgoot' by Alfred Lagarde. (swinging raingutter). Another presenter

also got a nickname from Alfred Lagarde. It was Gerard Smit who became 'Opperhoofd Gerard Smit' (Chief like Chief of the Apaches).

Next e mail time again and here's Tim Payne: 'Hi Hans. I hope you are well. A bit of a 'Friday memory work out'. Do you remember the name of the guy that used to run the information line before John Burch? It was a Reigate Surrey number. 0737... If so do we know what became of him? Well Tim there is no better way than ask John Burch for the answer, and so I did.

Here is his answer: 'Hi Hans, good to hear from you. I trust you are well. His name was Chris Wheeler. Chris was a British Telecom telephone engineer and worked in a telephone exchange. He eventually married his long-time girlfriend, Teresa, and after that we lost contact with him. I'd love to know where they are now.



A photo from early nineties: Hans Knot, Paul Rusling, don't remember the lady's name, Steve Conway, John Burch and Chris Edwards in London. Photo: Rob Olthof

Incidentally the Jaybee Infoline (the successor to the CM Infoline) is not dead - just resting. I have not bothered to update it for a

couple of years because of the growth of the internet and I just don't have time, but technically it is still alive and I could update it if I felt the need. Perhaps one day! John Burch.'

Tim again: 'Thanks Hans and John I hope you and Anita are keeping well. Thanks for the boat trips that enabled us to meet our friends on the radio and for all the tender trip tapes and info lines. All the best and I guess LA. Tim Payne'.

We stay in England and heading for London to see what Dave Burke has to write: 'Hello Hans, I hope you are having a good summer and taking a well-earned break from planning any more Radio Days - although I suspect you have mixed emotions about that. There have been many people who were not there in March who have said to me that they now wish they had been! It was a great day. Anyway, all the best for now Hans. Dave Burke.'

Well thanks a lot Dave. Well no more RadioDays from Martin and me is for sure, after 38 years there's more interesting things to do but we stay in touch by report and more. Hope all is well with you and one day we meet up again in England, probably next March. Greetings, Hans

We've missed it on July 21st but maybe an Irish reader saw it. Here and e-mail from Juliana Meehan in Spain. 'Hello everyone, I was just hoping that some of you could catch Wally Meehan tonight, on a new TV station IRISH WEST TV./ OR/ Irish music lounge.' Thanks Juliana, hope all is well with the both of you and that the performance went well.

In July 2009 this was one of the mails I mentioned in the Hans Knot International Radio Report: Next it's time for an e mail from George Hare, who organised a lot for Radio Caroline in the sixties: 'Thank you for your newsletters which I always enjoy especially memories about the Caroline Jocks, engineers and the staff from

Caroline House. If my memory serves me correctly Chris Moore also had another secretary Allison Muir. I don't know if she was with him before or after Patricia Adkins.'

Thanks George for that one. Indeed Allison is to add she was also secretary to Gerry Duncan between 1964 en 1967.

Well July 2014 five years later comes another e mail, this time from Italy: Dear Mr. Knot I have just been sent your fascinating magazine about Pirate Radio (July 2009) where Colin Nicol remembered my time with Radio Caroline. I worked there while studying first at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and then at Covent Garden and left to continue my studies (and make my debut) at the Opera House in Rome. I would love to have contact with Colin, and if anyone has news, with Chris Moore and, of course, Ronan O'Rahilly. It was another world and one that taught me a great deal. Thank you for your help Patricia Adkins Chiti Presidente Fondazione Adkins Chiti: Donne in Musica. www.donneinmusica.org



I've forwarded the email to Chris Edwards of Offshore Echos Magazine and he found above photograph from Patricia in the archive.

Of course a thank you to Patricia and I've answered her questions personally as well I forwarded her mail to George Hare and Colin

Nichol, who wrote back the next day: 'Hello Hans - thank you for the message from Patricia. I had researched her whereabouts a few years ago and so knew about her activities. I always felt she would succeed and she has done so. I hope you are well - I am much the same. I don't do any radio these days - my main activity is writing and researching for a local newspaper and being involved in the politics of my home town of Fremantle. All best wishes Colin Nichol'.

And also Patricia came back with some further information about herself: 'Dear Hans, Thank you for your most welcome letter. I will certainly see what I can find from that period of my life. Thank you too for helping to put me in touch with George and Colin. I had heard from another source that Ronan had Alzheimer's with some moments of lucidity and should you have an address for him, I would like to send a newspaper article (only in Italian unfortunately), the transcription of an interview I made with Marlene Dietrich. This was my only "on air" contribution to Radio Caroline as far as I remember. One of the engineers (in Caroline House) gave me a tape which, subsequently, was turned into a CD for safe keeping. I was able to transcribe this for a "memorial" to Marlene when she died. I think that Ronan would be very amused. I tried to contact Chris Moore for years: when I left London for Rome he made me promise that if I ever got to sing 'Aida - maybe on top of an elephant' (!!) I would let him know. When I made my debut as Amneris I tried to let him know that I never made it into the chorus but as the mezzosoprano lead in the opera. Thank you for the work you have done and are doing to keep the flags flying! As a media historian you may be interested to know that our Foundation prepared a European Commission White Paper in 2008 entitled "Women and Media in Europe". It was an interesting project and eventually led to a number of important resolutions going through the EUP. At the time of writing we're preparing a presentation to the European Commission and Parliament of a Directive to defend, promote and encourage all living composers, songwriters and creators of music: Bruxelles, 5th November next. We're also completing the

research for a book about "Women in Music in Turkey" - women composers from the time of the Sultanates until the present day: this will be in Turkish, English and Italian, and follow those we've published for women composers in Spain, Cuba, Italy, Montenegro, Serbia, Costa Rica..... Thank you again and I'll let you know if I hear from anyone else- Patricia Adkins Chiti

PS I see you live in or are near Groningen: I sang with the Philharmonic Orchestra there on many occasions including Bartok's "BlueBeard's Castle", I also remember singing Sciostakovich, Tchaikowsky, some opera galas as well. For years I had a formidable agent in Holland who took care of a lot of my work. This meant that I sang with many different orchestras and toured most of Holland including the Concertgebouw Orchestra. Small world.'

And once again the Hans Knot International Radio Report, like many times before, brought people together again after many decades. The sad thing is that another subject returning in the report is the announcement that someone passed away. Andy Archer sent me this message: 'Michael Parkin, who has died aged 82, was variously the founding manager of Radio Caroline, a Soho habitué, an exuberant gallerist and the erstwhile husband of the erotic author Molly Parkin. A commercial television and radio pioneer turned art dealer, Parkin saw himself as the Mr. Toad of London's creative circles. His trademark greeting — "Poop poop! Big Kiss!" — would announce that a party was truly under way. It was a role he embraced with relish, whether being treated to champagne by Francis Bacon in Soho's Colony Room or selling the paintings of Peter Ustinov's mother Nadia Benois. At the view for the latter Parkin insisted that Ustinov should stand in his gallery to pull in punters — the show was a sell-out.'

For the complete story go to:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/11037808/Michael-Parkin-obituary.html>

Now we go to Tjerk Oosterkamp from the Netherlands who did a special visit starting halfway June: 'Exactly as was arranged on Facebook I was standing on June 14th at 8.45 local time at the stoop of Broadcasting Building, the home of Manx Radio on Douglas Head at the south side in the Capital of the Isle of Man. Douglas, I've been there before, 4 years ago. That time I was given a round tour and saw everything within the station; transmitters and archive included. This time the reason for the visit is just one person: Chris Williams, who presents 'Carnaby Street' and which is a sixties show, which is transmitted every Saturday between 08.30 and 10.30 GMT.

Manx Radio is the oldest commercial radiostation on the British Isle and is this year 50 years of age. Raised in the same year that Radio Caroline North, from the Fredericia headed for Ramsey Bay. And do on June 14th I was at the stoop and the Carnaby Street program had already started. A very tiny lady with a soft voice, which seemed the newsreader, welcomed me and brought me into the rebuilt studio, where Chris was already in full action.

Often, when you visit a radiostation, you get a goody bag with promotional material at the end of the visit. On Manx Radio, so I learned, it was done in another way. I had just arrived and Chris gave me not one, but two. The second one is for my wife, when I would arrive home again.



Studio Manx Radio Photo; Tjerk Oosterkamp

Next it became 9 o'clock and time for the news; almost unbelievable that a very confident voice could be heard; nothing compared to the voice she had earlier, when she let me into the building. In the meantime Chris told me how he works in the studio and how he gets his accompanying voices from the computer. It's very nice to see this as you don't have an idea when you're normally listen to his program some 800 kilometers away in the Netherlands.

Of course I had a small talk with Chris about his time on Caroline, who spent some weeks onboard the Ross Revenge and worked under program director Chris Kennedy. Also Chris Williams told me that he did some programs on a few RSL's. Another thing he told me that there were some talks with Peter Moore from Caroline to see if it was possible to get the Ross Revenge to the Isle of Man to celebrate 50 years Radio Caroline. The idea was to get the Ross Revenge a place in the harbour of Douglas, just in front of Broadcasting House.

However it was far a too expensive idea, next to the towing by another vessel, this one should also be aside in the harbour, and the idea was dropped. When Chris heard from me that the Norderney has a new anchorage place and is in use again, he suddenly wanted to hear everything and started a Veronica filler on Manx Radio. Also we talked about the impounding from the Fredericia in 1968 and what happened before that. He told me that there's a captain in Peel who knew on forehand that the radio ship would be towed away, way back in March 1968. A week before this happened this guy went to the ship and stole the Caroline bell, famous from the jingle on Radio Caroline, from the bridge of the Fredericia. The bell was in a pub in Peel for many years and of course daily used for announcing the last round. The bell had a special place years ago when the exhibition took place about Radio Caroline North on the Isle of Man.

Next the bell went back to the pub but not much later the pub fell into disrepair. One day Chris saw that workers started to dismantle the pub and decided to go inside to look for the bell. However it was not there anymore. He found out that the bell is back with the widow of the mentioned captain and that she has the bell at her place in Peel. One day Chris, together with Peter Moore, visited the widow to see if something could be arranged with the Caroline organisation to give the bell a historic place. But she didn't want to know a thing about this idea.

About all this and more I talk with Chris Williams, while he presents his program, works on his e mails as well as picking' up the phone when needed. And then Chris said suddenly to me, when opening a second microphone: "Sit down behind the mike and say hello to the listeners. Yes and then fear sweat broke out. Listening to radio for me is no problem, but talk on the radio is something else. I said some words in Dutch, greeted Hans Knot although I knew he couldn't listen that day and was questioned next about the Veronica vessel. Lucky enough I succeed in telling easily what happened with the vessel. Those two hours went very quick and the next program started with Ben Hartley as the presenter.



Tjerk Oosterkamp and Chris Williams
Photo Collection Tjerk Oosterkamp

After the show Chris told me about the special program concerning Caroline's history, which would be aired a month later and gave me this tape in my hands. Then my visit to Manx Radio ended. Together we left Broadcasting Building. He stepped into his 2 seater sport car and I on my BMW Boxer Motor and waved goodbye to each other. Tjerk Oosterkamp.'

Thanks a lot Tjerk for you holiday story and I can read from above that you totally enjoyed the visit to Manx Radio.

From the Isle of Man we go Westbound to the USA: 'Yippee! Another International Radio Report from my buddy in Dutch land! Thank you sir! I always love getting these! I'll be reading it later today when I finish my chores. As always, I appreciate these! Phil in Minneapolis, USA.'

But there are more people happy, for instant Peter Soethout from the Netherlands. A long time ago he asked me if there were still copies of the 5 different books I wrote about Veronica. As the books were written in the mid-nineties of last century they're all sold out a long time. Now Peter wrote: 'Almost five month of searching, offer on internet, waiting, waiting and longer waiting I succeeded in buying all 5 copies of 'Memories to Radio Veronica' in one deal and they almost look as new. Fantastic and I can tell you that I enjoy them, those may not be missed in each radio collection.'

More emails:

Dear Hans

A splendid and a very readable radio report this month. Despite the gentle fading of ageing memories it is a joy to be reminded of one's past and the things that would remain 'un-remembered' otherwise. Happy Daze, John Ross-Barnard.'

Hi Hans, I hope you are well. Thanks for the latest report. Always it's great to read. Interesting to see amongst the video clips mentioned that there are some of my unreleased private videos ('89 raid) with the copyright marker on screen removed. There is even more of it on the internet. I have asked countless times for it to be removed but nobody does anything about it! You must have had this problem before. And it always annoys me that people sell my programmes on Caroline and other stations (other people too, of course) on CD and tape and make money from it when I get nothing. But there we are that's life! Best wishes and have a great summer, Nigel Harris.'

Thanks Nigel and yes I see the same with photos, especially from the Flickr Archive from Martin, Rob and me. More than 8000 and a lot of people pick up a photo there and put it on their own FB page without mentioning the source of maker of the photo. It's only for them a question of 'I want it, I want it and I want it for Free'.

In last issue we had the long story from Steve Young and his days with Radio Caroline in the sixties. There was a photo from the Mi Amigo which was taken by Fred Kooreman. It's interesting to see Fred has more interesting ones taken:

<http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk/list31.htm>

And the long story from Steve Young also had a capture collection Steve Young with the last photo in the story, which was taken by a former colleague of him: 'Hi Hans, Many thanks for your newsletters, I look forwards to reading them each month, always something for everyone. Especially so with your summer report 2014 with the article written by Steve Young as it contained detailed information unknown to me about the history of the Caroline ships. It brought back many wonderful memories.

Cheer Sheridan (Keith) Street

And more photos from Sheridan Street can be found here:

<http://www.hs0zee.com/H50ZEE/Caroline%20South/DJ%27s/DJ%27s.htm>

Steve Young appears in quite a few other photos on my online album.
<http://www.hs0zee.com/H50ZEE/Caroline%20South/Caroline.htm#Album>

Here's a list of the Caroline Sure Shots from the period 1979-1980
<http://www.hitnoteringen.nl/start/radio-caroline/radio-caroline-sureshot/>

It reminds me that a question came in from a reader in Belgium who asked if ever the Sex Pistols were played on Caroline. Myself listened a lot to the station in the mentioned period but can't remember. Who has the answer?

Some interesting things on the internet again:

Documentary from 1996 75 years of Radio In New Zealand.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=6DV4jw5_rsc

Former Caroline radio DJ and transmitter engineer Steve Satan tells of his days working for next to nothing on Radio Caroline pirate radio ship Ross Revenge in the 1980s. He also takes us back to the 1960s and even further when pirate radio forced the BBC to abandon the 'Light Programme' and play their music on a new station Radio 1. Is there still a need for pirate stations as the mainstream media is so anodyne? And he makes a very historical mistake talking about the MV Mi Amigo being the first Caroline radioship.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6ErZ1GxMpQ>

Bryan from Canberra from Australia wrote: 'In Manchester, I was in a ham radio club. And the old guy in charge, demanded to know if any of the youngsters listened to pirate stations. We should tell them off, he insisted! Everyone else paid radio licence fees. And those stations should also, he opined. Instead of circumventing the rules. And I remembered staying with Uncle Bill in Plymouth, UK. He was a very conservative guy: ex Royal Navy, and a Freemason too! Anyhow, he argued with me about Radio 1. It was outrageous, he reckoned, that young people should get their own radio station. Rather, he insisted on one-size-fits-all. Oldies' classical music etc. should be good enough for us too! Bryan in Canberra, Australian Capital Territory.' Thanks a lot Bryan, lucky all the memories stayed and there is a lot recorded in those days,



NEW 'PIRATE RADIO MUSEUM' IN CLACTON-ON-SEA

Clacton has a new visitor attraction situated on the seafront. It is the new 'Pirate Radio Museum' where a special exhibition called 'Anarchy on the Airwaves' - reflecting the story of pirate radio through the 1960s, 70s and 80s. It's a rich story involving many colourful characters like Screaming Lord Sutch. International businessmen, DJ's, Pop Stars and involves shipwrecks, sieges, raids, government jamming, rescues, a firebomb and even murder! But it was a radio phenomenon that attracted 25 million listeners and turned British Broadcasting on its head. Leading to the establishing of the BBC's Radios 1, 2, 3 and 4 and a network of local commercial radio stations.

The 'Pirate Radio Museum is open from 10.00 to 17.00 - 7 days a week. Admission to the Museum is Free. The 'Anarchy on the Airwaves' Exhibition is £5 for adults, £2.50 for children 8 - 16 and free to under 8 year olds if accompanied by a full paying adult. Also included are original 'Pirate Radio' artefacts, studio equipment and our amazing 'Yellow Submarine' retro fun studio. Visitors can relive this magical era - see where the stations broadcast from, the DJs on air, the conditions they operated in, the highs...the lows, the ups... the downs.

For further information, comment, interviews contact Ray Anderson on 01255 424776 or 07774801945. Find us in The Atlanta Building, right next to Clacton Pier. The Pirate Radio Museum First Floor The Atlanta Building Lower Promenade Clacton-on-Sea CO15'

Well Ray good luck with the museum and hopefully a lot of readers will find their way to Clacton! I will try to do so too one day!

Next congratulations to Ian Davidson (Ian Damon on Radio London) who wrote: 'It was 60 years ago today that I did my first broadcast on 2RG Griffith N.S.W. Australia, A station that is still broadcasting on AM. Have a look on his internetsite, where he tells about his career and brings a lot of unique photographs:

<http://idthewombat.co.uk/wp/>

Next a most wonderful docudrama about Radio Hauraki, called Pirates of the airwaves. This is the one we all waited for!

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=212xOrNN0IA>

On July 31st I and other got the next cryptic message: 'Goodbye Tilbury. The Ross Revenge is on the move to a new home that will be revealed in due course. We are heading down the River Thames and if you want to see her underway, we should be passing Southend at approx. 17.00. Be seeing you.'

Of course there was the question where the Ross Revenge was towed too.



Ross leaving Tillbury Harbour Photo: Ray Clark

On you tube the next day some video shots were posted:

<https://www.facebook.com/NorthfleetHarbour>

August 1st brought the next news: 'The MV Ross Revenge is now at her new home, moored on the River Blackwater near Bradwell. She laid up at anchor at 02.45 with the tug Avenger alongside. At approx. 07.00 she was moved a short distance up river to the moorings. The mooring work is nearing completion (10.25) and the Avenger (towing vessel) just departed, bound for Estonia.'

Ray Clark also informed me by e mail: She is back to Bradwell - in fact further downstream than in the 90's - but a much better vantage point and closer to the marina for transport - can also be

seen from Tollesbury and Mersea on north bank - but easiest and best view would be Bradwell waterside



Thristlet Creek on the River Blackwater Photo: Ray Clark

Wonderful picture Ray and thanks for the others too, well appreciated that you informed us.

Regular readers know that my long time radio friend Ian Godfrey returns to the report with comments at least eight times a year. He's also one of about 40 people who are sharing recordings with each other: 'Hi Hans, Many thanks for the latest Report and downloads (or is it uploads - an indication of the limits of my technical knowledge!) I listened to two of them and part of a third yesterday evening; all very interesting for a variety of reasons. I listened to a lot of Veronica in their final week but don't remember hearing this show, Rob Out from 26.08.74. I don't think I was aware at the time how generally good the station was. My earliest

impression was that each presenter had their own individual style and all sounded enthusiastic about every record they played. The present Veronica 192 can be relied on for good offshore commemorations but it was clear that Veronica was pretty keen 40 years ago! With a short clip of the original Radio Noordzee; segments of Muziek Express and music from 1964; possibly connected with the release of 10 Years of Offshore Radio.'

Well Ian just during the last week of Veronica this way of presentation was done. Bringing back the music from the period they were on air from international waters as well as bringing in former presenters and their memories. Next Ian went on by reflecting on another recording I sent him from Media Network from 1987.

'I'm pretty sure I haven't heard Radio Netherland's commemoration from August 87, including your input. The fact that even though Monique was nearly twice as far away from Groningen as the Dutch Radio 2 it was putting out a stronger signal. Soon after Caroline's relaunch in 1972 I heard about the advantage of broadcasting at sea but have never known how well stations such as Radio Monique and Radio Mi Amigo actually penetrated Holland and Belgium. I've always felt that it's a case of finding a channel somewhere in the middle of the band giving good sea and land coverage. More information on coverage of different frequencies in Holland would be interesting.'

Well Ian maybe this question is to answer by some of our former technicians in offshore radio, who are readers too! So gentlemen, give your view at HKnot@home.nl

Ian went further on with: 'When Buster was asked how he felt about the idea of Caroline broadcasting on land his response was immediate - that he hoped would never happen, as it just wouldn't have sounded the same. I think many of us feel roughly the same. Imagining Caroline as part of contemporary British radio sends a bit of a shiver down my spine! When listening to recordings of stations such as

Atlantis I sometimes wonder how it would have sounded if they'd been given a licence to broadcast from Belgium. I presume that technically Internet radio is still improving but one thing I find frustrating, particularly over the past couple of weeks with a station called The Radio Ship, is an intermittent series of bleeps, often resulting in a repeat of some of the audio and gaps, all of which would cause people to switch off. After about 10 days of this I assumed that the station had been left on automation. I haven't been able to find an e-mail address for them; the only way of contacting them seems to be via Facebook , something I haven't signed up to. I don't know what causes this problem but listener loyalty can't be that easy with problems like this! Oldies Paradise suffered the same problem a few months ago.

On a completely different tack I'll be making another trip to Holland in the next few weeks - to the Dutch railway museum in Utrecht. If any other readers are interested in going I'd be happy to meet up with them. iangodfrey110@googlemail.com
Best wishes, Ian Godfrey.'

Well Ian thanks a lot for your input and hopefully one of the readers likes to contact you to join in the visit to the railway museum in Utrecht.



Of course we have to see what Jon Myer wrote this time: 'I have just updated The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame. New this month: At the time of writing, Radio Caroline's mv Ross Revenge is under tow to a new position. Thanks to Ray Clark, we have a photo of the ship on its journey, taken earlier today; At the end of August 1974 the Dutch government legislated to close the offshore stations then operating off its coast. It was the end of an era. Forty years later we look back to that time with the ninth and final part of 'The RNI Story and we remember the mv Mi Amigo sailing back to the UK in part five of 'Caroline in the 70s'; we have more photos from RNI's Paul May; there is news of two new books on offshore radio; Radio Seagull returns to sea; a new offshore radio museum opens; and Kenny Everett is honoured on London's South Bank.

www.offshoreradio.co.uk

Werner Tschoepe was asked by Horst van Gelderen to digitalise some of his 8 mm material, which Horst shot during his last trip to Scheveningen, before RNI and Veronica closed down off the Dutch coast. So recordings from 1974. It's now ready and on You Tube:

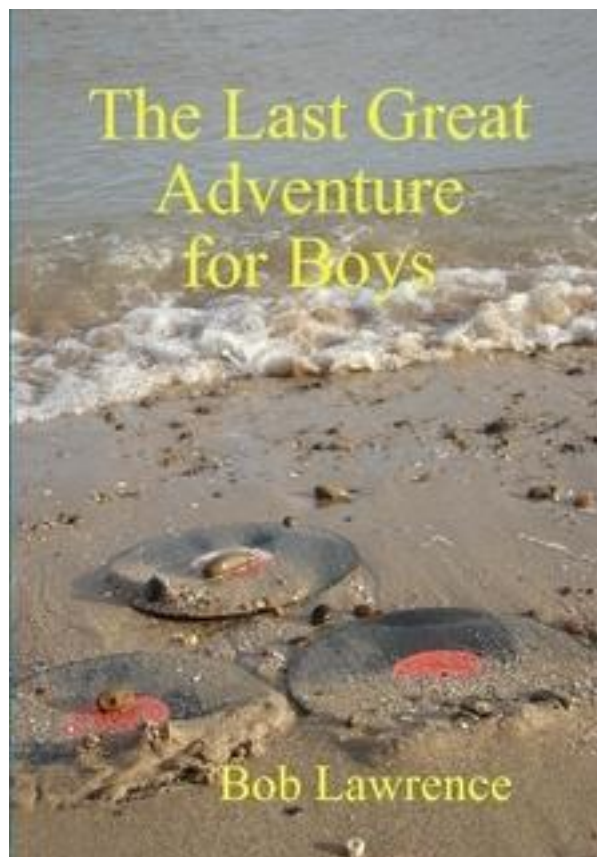
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1HWNlj7Gos&feature=youtu.be>

And as promised earlier in the report, when someone asked about the information line from John Burch, we go back to him for two exclusive reviews on new books:

Review: The last great adventure for boys

'I am one who purchased a pre-production copy of the book from Bob Lawrence at Rochester. It is well worth a read. Bob has very cleverly used the novel style to tell his story and thereby manages to avoid any legal challenges! I had great fun translating the names used into the book - There are some obvious ones, for example Mathew Rogers and Russell Stewart. Bob Lawrence tells his own story using the guise of Tom Richards. Then less obvious ones such as Pete who sounds remarkably similar to a certain Robbie Day. Chris equates to Brian Martin while John Bryant is for all the world Tom Hardy and Jan the Dutchman has all the hallmarks of that true Dutch master presenter

Marc Jacobs, while Harpo equates to Otto and Cock to Kees Borrell. On land, some of you will realise the identity of 'Olga'. Others are described by their familiar names such as Robb Eden, Rusty and "the Old Man". I'll leave you to work out the identity of Hagar, Terry, Ed, Jimmy, Paul, Gerald (the Captain), Gordon, Jim, Peter Evans and Gilbert. Some are composite characters and I have to say I found the description of a certain Brendan, the Generator Engineer who is apparently a railway enthusiast very amusing!



There are also characters such as Detective Sargents Andrew Stevenson and Colin Masters, Detective Constable Brian Harrison and Constable Kevin Wright as well as Osbourne from the DTI. For those of you who came close to such figures of authority you can work those out for yourself! Amusingly one of the tenders is called the "Fortunate Woman" a clear play on the name Lucky Lady that many will remember from trips to and from Brightlingsea in years gone by (does the Lucky Lady still exist I wonder?).

It starts off as a very interesting read and if you know the 'real' story you'll appreciate that Bob has told this very much as a representation of what actually happened. The plot develops and we can see much of the real background to the Delmare and Mi Amigo 272 episodes developing as twists in the tale. I very much enjoyed the book, but the pre-production run was produced with pages printed in very small type size and with extensive page margins making it a little difficult to read sometimes for my tired old eyes. Nonetheless it was a 'can't put down read' for me. The story came to an unexpected conclusion rather suddenly (I won't spoil the plot here) and that was, for me, a bit of a shame. Nonetheless please don't be put off. If you read this as if Bob is telling 'his' story (which I suspect is what he really intends), then it gives you a fascinating insight into his time on the Mi Amigo and how he saw things through his, then, much younger eyes.

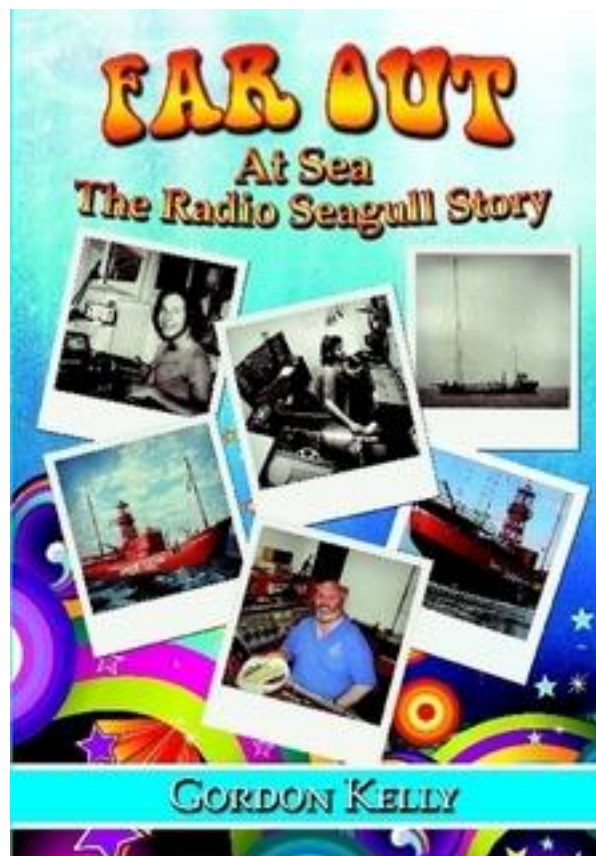
I have always been a fan of Bob's style and was an avid listener to Richard Thompson's programmes on Caroline so it's great to re-live that time. It is an interesting different angle from which to write the story and avoids some of the problems others may have had in wanting to tell what actually happened without getting themselves into deep water.

No self-respecting late 70's Caroline fan should be without this one - it certainly has a well-deserved place on my bookshelf and as a pre-production signed copy perhaps it is now a collector's. Perhaps it also contains some things that won't appear in the final version! I look forward to further reviews.' John Burch.

Wonderful John and here the internet site where you can order your own book or kindle copy: <http://thelastgreatadventureforboys.co.uk/>

John Burch is the guest reviewer in this edition of the Hans Knot International Radio Report and so he reviewed another book:

'I've just finished reading the Seagull book and found this equally interesting. It is fantastic value for money and one of the most interesting publications recently - I hope it helps to raise some cash for the station. The book was delivered very promptly indeed and it soon proved to be another 'can't put down' read. One shortcoming is that there is no background to the author, Gordon Kelly. I believe he is also the author of, but under the name Gordon Bathgate of "Voices from the Ether: the History of Radio" and "Aberdeen Calling." My book came in a package with an Aberdeen postmark. I believe he is the same person as Radio Seagull's Glen Bathgate. Upon reading his profile on the Radio Seagull web site, this has to be the same person. There are a couple of photos of him too.



This book has certainly informed me about things I did not know. The first chapter tells the short story of Radio Geronimo and sets the

scene in International Waters off the Dutch coast ahead of the return of the Mi Amigo. The second chapter tells the story of the return of the Mi Amigo after it had been acquired at auction and is a quite detailed account of the return of Caroline and the short Radio Atlantis period on the Mi Amigo. Then we take a look at the early years of the Mi Amigo in chapter 3 which again includes some interesting facts that many will not have heard before, including much about her pre-radio ship days. Chapter 4 is the story of the start of the 1970's Seagull.

Chapter 5 continues this story, but deals with the arrival of Tack's Radio Mi Amigo on the ship. Chapter 6 deals with the remainder of the 1970's on the Mi Amigo and this includes detailed accounts from the crew about the final hours of the radio ship, much of which I have not read before. The lengthy chapter 7 tells the tale of the birth of the new Radio Seagull. It also includes pen pictures of the staff who has worked for the new station (and some who worked for the old). Chapter 8 deals with the Jenni Baynton herself and in addition to a history we are treated to a guided tour of the ship explaining exactly how it functions. Finally chapter 9 is a look to the future and considers how this operation can continue. I for one hope they can and if by purchasing this 166 page book I have helped then so much the better.

The story is in many places told through the eyes of the people who contributed to the tale and is all the more valuable for this. There are also a couple of useful tables giving dates etc. It is described as being lavishly illustrated which is perhaps a little over the top as it includes 47 grainy monochrome images, many of the early one you'll have seen before. Three have been repeated in colour on the cover - but it's the text, not the pictures, that make this book and at such a ridiculously cheap price you can't go wrong. Get a copy now - you won't be disappointed!

<http://www.radioseagull.com/webstore/foas.html>

Thanks a lot to John Burch for his reviews. And talking about books:

During the past 5 decades a lot of books and photobooks related to the subject Offshore Radio have been written and published in several countries. Many people have collected books, mostly selected to one or more radio stations, others have a big collection. That means that also books were bought with just a few chapters related to Offshore radio. The idea to come to an Offshore Radio Library came from Mike Leonard, who has started recently with his museum on internet on: <http://www.offshoreradiomuseum.co.uk/>

At one stage he started to scan a few books on this subject for his museum and asked me if I had the time to scan the covers of the books I've on the subject. Well let's go for a nostalgic trip through my bookshelves. I hope you will find that there's one or more publications not listed and so feel free to send a scan by e mail, so the library can grow. Also you find all covers from more than 170 books on our flickr archive at

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/sets/72157646109784139/>

Hans Knot and Martin van der Ven

Also there was a trip from England to the Netherlands and Belgium with the Marco Polo. On one of the newsgroups brought this excellent report from Chris Mannion:

<http://members7.boardhost.com/PirateRadio/msg/1408405961.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/christopher.mannion>

I finished this edition of the report on August 17th and just before closing the next e mail came in: 'While keyboarding this contribution I see through the window in the family room of our (the ABCD family) B&B hotel in Clacton-on-Sea several windmills of Gunfleet Sands. When it's clear enough from certain points of the sea front Gunfleet Tower, where as you and many others know in late 1974 an effort was made to get Radio Atlantis back on the air, can be seen.

At noon my last show on Radio Mi Amigo 106.8 from the LV18 at Harwich. It's so good to meet old friends from earlier broadcasts on and near the former lightship. Yesterday while on air with The Floating Dutchman Show Dave Rodgers, who many will remember of RNI, turned up in the studio and I shared that with the listeners. In the evening Dave did a great show with Tony Currie who you can see left on the photo (2x Tony thanks to Neon Nancy) besides Tony O'Neill of the Pharos Trust. Many have already visited the LV18 www.lv18.org and on this final day it will become busy again with visitors. Yesterday one of them told me he will visit the Jenni Baynton when offshore. So, later this month I will see him on the Waddenzee. The organisers and all the others involved with Radio Mi Amigo did a great job while not always really easy circumstances. Thank you all Mi Amigos! Best wishes to you and the readers of your great report, Bart Serlie.'



And here a final update from Martin van der Ven: Radio Seagull and Radio Waddenzee broadcasting offshore from the former lightvessel Jenni Baynton (LV 8): 299 pictures and 11 videos taken on Saturday 23rd August 2014

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/sets/72157646796008771/>

Well a nice way to close this edition and of course everyone can share memories, photos and more. Just mail me at HKnot@home.nl.
Till next time with all best wishes from Groningen in the Netherlands.