

Hans Knot International Radio Report Christmas edition 2014



**Hans and Jana Knot**

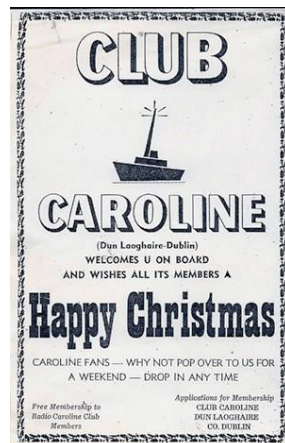
**wishing you a**

**Merry Christmas**

**and a Happy New Year**

Welcome to the December edition of the Hans Knot international radio report. I forgot to mention last time that no report would be send to the readers in late November. This due to the fact, that I'm far too busy each year during the last weeks of November and the first week of December. In that period I was visiting 20 families

who are very poor and I was visiting them as Sinterklaas, which is the Dutch version of Santa Claus. He shows up to have a nice talks with the children and parents as well as bringing a lot of presents. He is accompanied by Black Peter (Zwarte Piet) which were students from our University. So I didn't have time to do anything for a report. Anyway, thanks all for the many e mails and reflections. We now go on with this edition of the report. Here's a memory to Christmas 49 years ago!



### Freewave Archive

First a review of a new, interesting, book.

For the love of Radio 4

In our parents' house, in the fifties and sixties of the last century, we had the possibility to listen to the radio by a normal radio receiver as well versus wire broadcasting. The later one was in the barbershop owned by my parents and which was located next to the living room. On the wire radio you could choose from four different programs and under button number four for many hours a week the BBC Home Service, which became Radio 4 in 1967, could be heard. I loved to listen to it, whenever I could. Therefore it was a very surprising present that my wife Jana bought me recently a book from which I didn't hear before.



'For the love of Radio 4, an unofficial companion', written by Caroline Hodgson and Published by Summerdale in Chichester recently, brings you a lot of facts, figures, program schedules, program information, timeline of the Home Service, information how long programmes are already on the radio - from which many are for several decades. I read this book in one day. I couldn't give myself a rest to do other things.

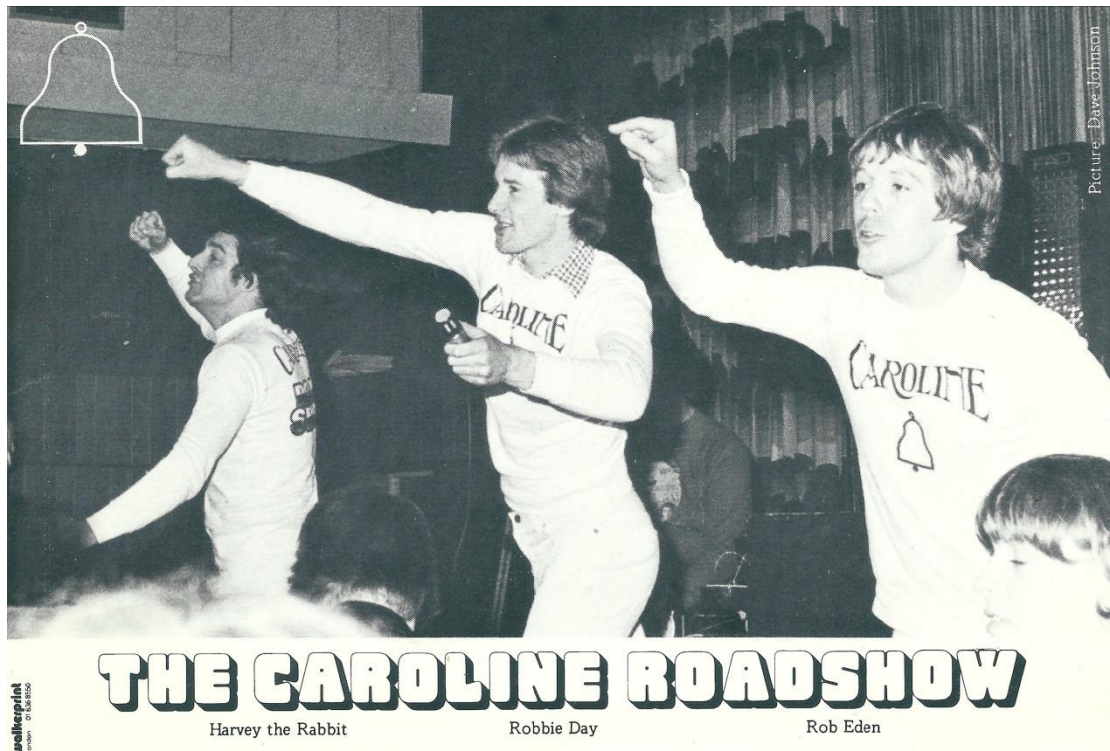
I think it's a book to be on the table from everyone who loves informative as well as entertaining radio. I would love to mention two special things I noted while reading. The author Caroline Hodgson doesn't forget to mention the influence from Radio Caroline on the BBC as she wrote: 'When Radio 4 was launched in 1967, under the auspices of Managing Director Frank Gillard, it was alongside Radio 1,2, and 3. Radio 1 was the hip and groovy new kid on the block, while Radio 2 took over from the Light Programme. Radio 4 occupied the Home Service's frequencies and, in 1970, Radio 3 incorporated the Third Programme. The whole shake-up of BBC Radio was, in part, a

response to the threat of Pirate Radio stations such as Radio Caroline, which has started broadcasting from a ship off the Essex coast in 1964. In particular, the introduction of Radio 1 symbolised the BBC's largely reluctant acknowledgement that the craze for popular music wasn't just a flash in the pan, but was here to stay.'

Another remarkable item was 'women on the radio'. It was not done that women would present a program on the radio. I always thought they brought a warm feeling through the microphone. History tells something else. The first female voice to be heard on the BBC was that of Sheila Borrett on the Home Service in 1933. Of course people complained as well as the written press. In Radio Times: 'panic among the horsehair armchairs, retired colonels muttering darkly over their muffins. In the event it was not the colonels muttering darkly over their muffins.' It seemed that mostly women complained that there was a female announcer and within three months it was decided that there had to come an end to this change in broadcasting. Anyway, 'For the love of Radio 4. An unofficial Companion', is a must for everyone who has love for radio!

Mike Grant question time: Hans I posted this on a number of offshore sites but have yet to get an answer. I'm just wondering if you might know. I listened to a lot of recordings of Radio Caroline from the 70s. On the hour there was usually an ad for The Caroline Roadshow. A guy called 'Harvey the Rabbit' always seemed to get a mention as being one of the DJs at the roadshows. I have often wondered who he is/was and does anyone have a photo? Perhaps it was a guy dressed up as a giant rabbit, or perhaps not.'

Well thanks for the question and the answer Mike is very simple. It was a person who only used 'Harvey the Rabbit' as a deejay name. Even on show cards he was portrayed.



After I answered Mike by mail he came back with: 'Ah! Thanks Hans. A 40 year mystery solved! I was never able to get along to the Caroline roadshows as they were always held in and around the South East coast and I lived way down in the South West. A major train ride away! I had often wondered who he was, now I know. Cheers!'

Martin van der Ven and I are still building at the massive photo archive on Flickr to make as much as possible photo's free to watch. For instant we have now a page of photos taken by various people at the Zeezenders 20 convention at Noordwijkerhout in 1978.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/sets/72157638088435024/>

Here is a special about the BRT Belgian Regional radio in the sixties and be sharp as after just two minutes Radio Luxembourg as well as Radio Veronica. It also gives a good look into how radio was in Belgium in the sixties

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uiKS3E2nkeM>

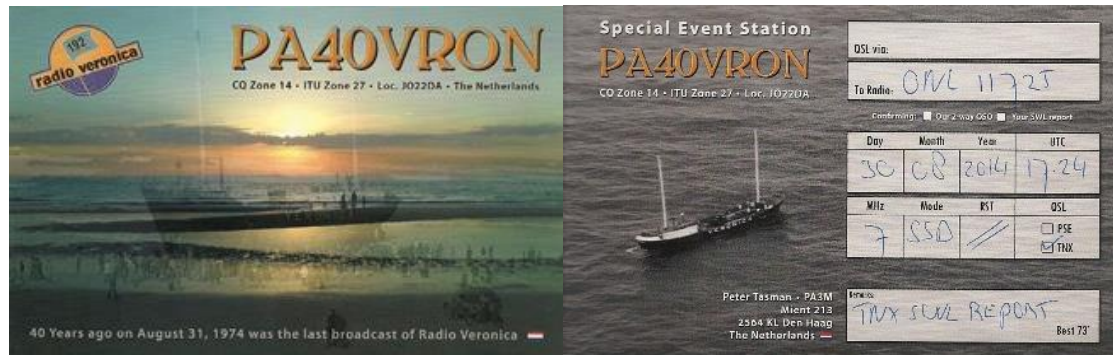


### Kaj Karlholm collection: Göran Lindemark

And I thought I knew everything about women! Göran, one of our readers in Sweden did wake me up very quickly: 'Hi Hans! In your latest Newsletter You wrote: 'I've found an update in a long forgotten list of female deejays. One, not mentioned before, is Katja Karlholm and she also has a nickname on Radio Nord: Nattkajan. I think there is a misunderstanding. There was a male deejay and newsreader on Radio Nord called Kaj Karlholm. He was often nicknamed Nattkajan. Late at night the newsmen on board the vessel Bon Jour were live DJ's as well. Kaj later became the head of the radio division at the Swedish news agency TT. Keep up the good work!

Best wishes from Göran Lindemark.' Thanks a lot for bringing me on earth again Göran and keep enjoying the radio reports.

Next we had an e mail from Ge Huijbens who wrote: 'Dear Hans, in one of your recent reports you showed us a QSL card from an amateur radiostation PD538RNI but also another amateur radio station had a special QSL card in the summer: PA40VRON Ge Huijbens.'



Very nice to see this Ge, I did not spot this amateur station late August and thanks for sharing it with our readers. Now we go to California as there's always, when the new edition of the Hans Knot International Radio Reports goes out to the readers around the world, someone very sharp to see if and so yes, how much times he was mentioned. In the replay - as always - here's the Emperor Rosko.

'Wow two mentions in one edition! No wonder I am pumped! That picture was Jimi Hendrix. I think it was retaken at the Duke of Bedfords Palace of no malice. I think Donavon was the headliner. I would say 1966- 1967. It was also very cool to read the article on my old ship when it went from the sixties into the seventies of last century (Mi Amigo). I wonder if the seventies were more fun than the sixties? Once again thanks for making history available. Emperor Rosko.'

Rosko added a recent photo from him with a lady whose name he didn't remember as he was too drunk at the time of meeting her. The only thing he remembered that she was a singer. By the way, those are his own words.



Some days later, however, he came back to me with: 'I thought that you had sent me this before and asked but her name is Sara Skeete and she is the daughter of Beveley Skeete, who is the lead singer of The Rhythm Kings! She also has a younger sister who is also a singer. She also sings back vocals with Robbie Williams and Kylie Minogue and also used to be with Cliff Richard, but assume that will probably be all over now! EMP.'

Our last issue we started with the memories from Gary Tanner who worked on the Mi Amigo in 1979, during the period the station was not on the air. Other people who worked on the station in 1979 reflected on the memories: 'Hi Hans, I hope you're well. It was lovely to read the piece from Gary Tanner. I remember him very, very well. He fitted in perfectly and was a great addition to the team. I'm afraid my best memory of him just couldn't possibly be repeated in mixed company! Best wishes, Bob Lawrence.'

And from Paul de Wit, former Caroline deejay from the Dutch Service in 1979: 'Hi Hans, funny story from Gary Tanner. I remember him very well as I was also on that barge. I remember that we couldn't find the Mi Amigo as the barge was a ship made of pure iron and also the compass was not calibrated. Long time ago and before



we finally could set sail on the barge I stayed with Robb Eden in London. With best wishes Erik de Zwart



Paul de Wit Photo: OEM Archive

Of course Erik de Zwart is his real name and since a couple of weeks he's the new director for Radio Veronica and has stated that his aim is to bring back the brutality into the programs of the station again, so former listeners will turn back to their audience. Lots of success Erik!

Now we go to the South of Limburg where Fons Winteraeken is living and he followed intensely all things which were happening during the period 1979-1980 and Radio Caroline. He wrote: 'What a beautiful story from Gary Tanner about the period between October 1978 and April 1979. I hope he can tell us farm much more about that period in the future. Also remarkable he mentioned the name 'Captain Harris' and so this captain really was onboard the MV Mi Amigo.'



As almost monthly we have our friend Ian Godfrey from London to respond to the report.

'Hi Hans, many thanks for the last report. The Gary Lee and Internet radio links look interesting. I have a problem with glare on the computer screen, which is a bit limiting, understandably much more so at this time of year but I'm hoping to get some extra lighting in the next few days which should be a great help. Having not heard anything about John Burch for about three years it was a relief to read, in the previous report that he is still in circulation!

I found the article about reception of the offshore stations particularly interesting. With the much greater potential range of a broadcast from a transmitter at sea I've always been interested to know how far reception of the offshore stations extended, particularly during the day. It's always quite satisfying to feel that the stations were very likely to have covered their target areas pretty well during the day.

Yesterday, while looking through the Newscaster section in OEM no. 176, I was quite moved to find some UK reception reports of the offshore stations from around the end of 1972. The reports of Veronica on 538 were interesting; one from Cardiff mentioning quite good reception during the day, a similar one from Castleford in Yorkshire, one from Redruth in Cornwall, saying that it was absolutely useless and another from Kent reporting quite good reception during the day but faltering round 7.30 p.m. and also saying that 538 was superior to 192. How good 'quite good' really was is impossible to know. A SINPO log would have been even more interesting. As the alternatives were roundabout zero, it was probably quite tolerable. I was listening in Southend on Sea on the momentous 30 September 1972 and my first reaction, when tuning to 538, was that it was slightly weaker than 192. I thought this was due to slightly greater bandwidth but found out soon afterwards it would

have been due to the better land coverage of lower frequencies and that 192 would have been more efficient across water.



I doubt that anyone would have received that signal anywhere near Cardiff during the day. It would be interesting to hear of reports of the 538 coverage across the UK. I was at college in Shrewsbury from 1968-1972, before the switch over and got a good fairly consistent signal on 192 after dark, with some great programming, particularly at weekends, including a lot of album tracks.

There was also a mention in the article that the Capital tests caused interference over 100 miles outside the target area and that the IBA claimed that this frequency had been allocated to them, as a temporary measure, before Veronica switched from 192. I wonder!

It was also interesting to note that in 1976 the Vanquisher would also have contravened the MOA by handing over newspapers and magazines. I made four trips to the Mi Amigo in the 70s, when the media often referred to actions that were 'likely to assist the

operations of an offshore radio station,' much more so in the mid-80s!

Due probably to the approach of winter 31 August seems much further back than a couple of months ago. I listened to Seagull and Waddenzee, on the Internet, in the last few days of August. Because of my limited technical knowledge I was a bit curious about the audio. It seemed pretty clear that it was being relayed from 1602 but there was a constant background slight hiss, sounding like a compromise between the usual fluctuations of medium wave and Internet reception! I wasn't aware of any other commemorations; a bit surprising really, being such a significant year. Presumably ExtraGold and Radio 19 had a couple of special programmes. I read yesterday about a link-up between Caroline and Manx Radio, which looks interesting.

A few weeks ago I heard a Big L recording from August 67 where the DJ, possibly Pete Drummond, thanked Johnny Moran for his help. I think I heard some time ago that he'd intended to join Big L. Was this the case? I tried to e-mail Chris/Mary Payne but didn't get very far, probably due to the limitations of my system. Regards, Ian Godfrey.'

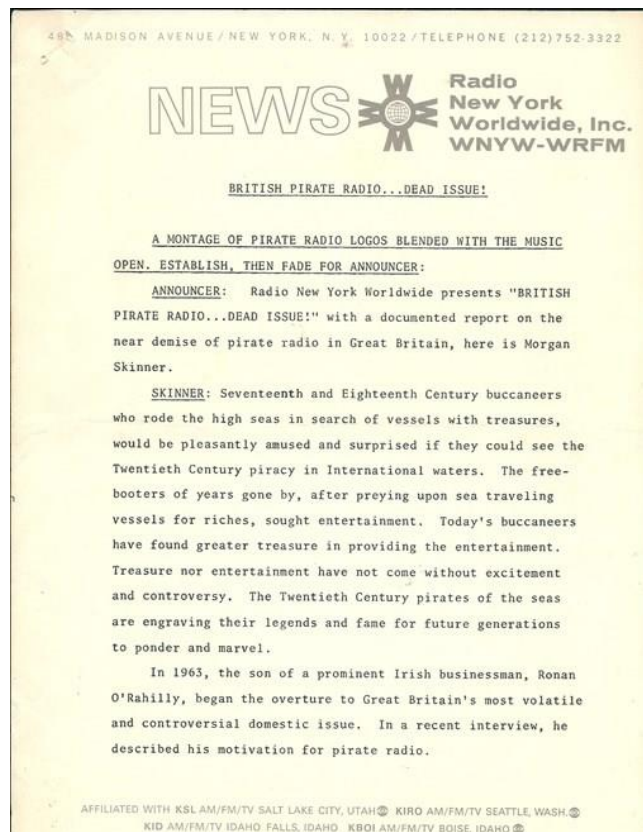
Thanks a lot Ian, regarding Johnny Moran I can tell you that he wanted to go to London in March 1966 but at the last moment decided not to go. Instead of him Chris Denning became part of the team. On the next page are some old recordings from Johnny:  
[http://www.radiorewind.co.uk/radio1/john\\_moran\\_page.htm](http://www.radiorewind.co.uk/radio1/john_moran_page.htm)  
Later more from Ian.



Interesting to see another name found with the photo we placed to issues ago with for men in a rowing vessel, being persons working on the Laissez Faire. The last name we didn't know is found too: The one sitting at front is Bob Gittus assistant radio engineer on the ship.

In the update from the Pirate Hall of Fame from November in the section sixties deejays a new name was added from a deejay who worked from July 1964 for a short period on the MV Mi Amigo on Caroline South. Although I never heard him and never heard of him before, he had a nickname: Eddie 'Tubby' Anthony.

Every week I try to scan some of the many documents I've in my archive. I've started with it many years ago. This week I found back a document which I've already since December 1967. It's the script from an American Documentary called: 'British Pirate Radio...Dead issue'. It was produced by Morgan Skinner and transmitted on Radio New York World Wide in October the same year. At the end of the program Skinner told the listeners that you could get a printed copy of the script. So I wrote to New York and the rest is history.



On our special Flickr pages

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/sets> you can also find a long series of photographs taken as there's one or more person(s) on with an offshore radio t-shirt on. The next one is from 1971, when Veronica had their action 'Veronica blijft als U dat wilt' (Veronica stays if you want it. Promotion teams were used to get to the public to get as much as adhesion cards to inform Dutch government that Dutch listeners stood behind the station. Of course it was partly paid for by advertisers, in this case a tobacco company which was still possible in those days. There are so many faces on this photo and maybe there's someone who you do remember. [Hknot@home.nl](mailto:Hknot@home.nl) for any answer. Of course you can send your personal memories, questions, photographs and much more to this e mail address.



Now Sunday Mercury with 'Meet Birmingham women who was a pirate DJ' A Birmingham singer's hopes of becoming a top pirate radio DJ were sunk when the station she worked for closed down just three weeks after her first broadcast. Prompted by the release of hit movie 'The Boat That Rocked', Jill Embury recalls how she became the first female DJ to front her own show - on the infamous Radio 390. The station didn't operate from a boat but from the former British Army Maunsell Towers, known at the Fort, located on the Red Sands sandbar in the Thames Estuary.

But Jill, who now lives in Kings Heath with husband Don, had made only three programmes when the station was forced off the air by the Government in 1967. An injunction was granted by the UK courts to silence the station after allegations that it was broadcasting illegally within British territorial waters. When the tide was in, the old network of defence towers was all at sea. But as soon as the tide went out, the towers were left standing on dry land that was officially part of the British isles.

Shortly afterwards the BBC launched pop station Radio 1 with Brummie band The Move's hit Flowers In The Rain. "My radio career lasted only three weeks," remembers Jill, who used the stage name Samantha Leigh. "I didn't even actually broadcast from the Fort - I recorded the programmes at the station's offices in London. It suited me because I was in London anyway to make records.

For the main part of the article go to

<http://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/local-news/the-boat-that-rocked-meet-birmingham-women-239751>

Next an email from a former VOP deejay: 'Hi Hans, I thought I would comment on the photos submitted by my old shipmate Martin Peters in last issue. In those days I was Benny James and can be seen grinning like a mad thing in some of the pictures. They were mad days complicated with masts coming down, a lack of supplies and pitiful wages. However it was a great adventure and I would not have missed it for anything. We had a great team and I was lucky to work with a great bunch of guys. If only I could remember some of the nights off we had in Ashdod town! I recently teamed up with Stevie Gordon again and now present Wednesday Drive on Radio Seagull using my Caroline name Steve Essex. Cheers for now, Steve Essex.

Thanks Steve for these memories and if you've any photograph to share with the readers, please feel welcome to send it to [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl) I wish you all the best with your programs on Radio Seagull.

On you tube an edition of World in Action about Caroline. This is the 1967 version and much better quality than before. There's a Lot of talking by Ronan, but also nice action shots of Robbie Dale on board as well as Robbie Dale and Johnny Walker in Amsterdam.

From the analog archives of Martin v.d Ven

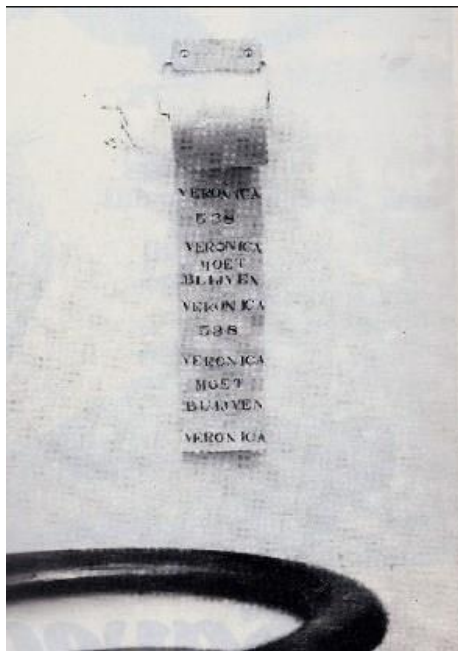


<http://www.internetradiocafe.nl/topic/37088-radiop-caroline-video-wia-december-1967/>

Does Shortwave Radio Have a Future? Hans Spoelstra informed me about this interesting article and so you can read it at:

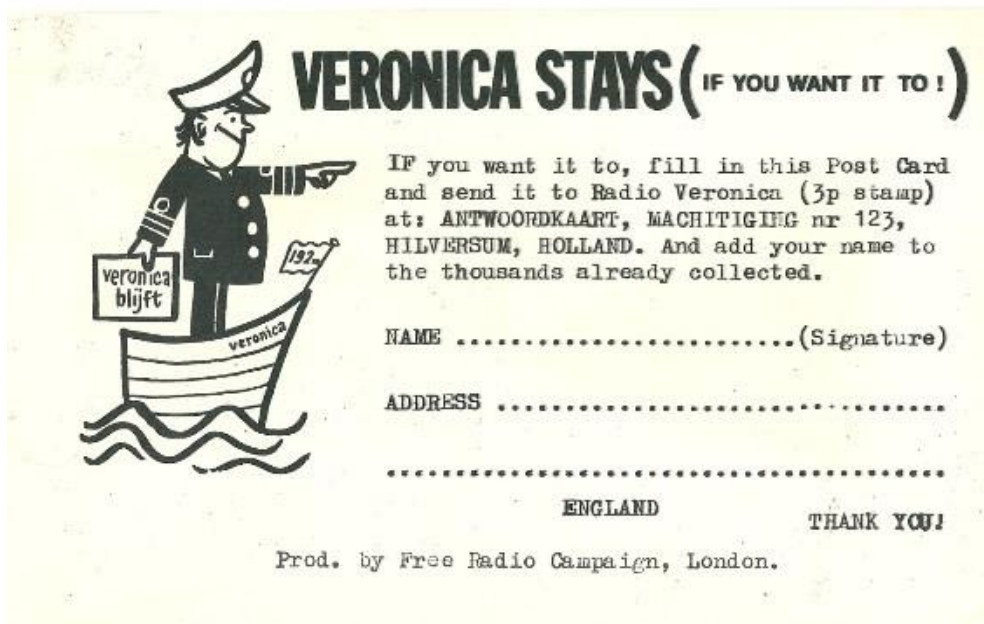
[http://swling.com/blog/2014/11/does-shortwave-radio-have-a-future/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=twitter&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+TheSwlingPost+%28The+SWLing+Post%29](http://swling.com/blog/2014/11/does-shortwave-radio-have-a-future/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=twitter&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+TheSwlingPost+%28The+SWLing+Post%29)

A short flashback at 1973 Veronica, the station which had then since more than a year their own magazine, asked the readers in those days to make their own cartoon or photo in which they showed their interest in the station. The best photographs, so the editorial staff of the magazine decided, would get a place in one of the forthcoming editions. It was Mister J. van der Meer from Hoogmade who thought it was the best way to make a photo in the smallest room in his house. Also he made special toilet paper to show that he wanted Veronica to stay on the air.



In the meantime, a year earlier, the Veronica team started the action 'Veronica blijft als U dat wilt'. Everywhere you could get

special cards on which you could write your name and address as well as your signature. You had to send it to a special address and in the end all cards would be delivered in The Hague, where the Dutch government settled. More than 2 million cards, details obtained from Veronica sources, were signed and sent in. Even in London one of the Free Radio Organisations, The FRC, helped with this action.



Next a link to a few crystal clear clips from Radio Luxembourg's English Service on the FM locally:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dZzl2DWh3Pw>

Recently Radio World had a nice story on the TM Jingle Company, which you can find here:

<http://www.radioworld.com/TabId/64/Default.aspx?ArticleId=273073>

Recently we found a music track used often by Mike Lennox on Radio London and send of course it too to Mary Payne. She came back to us with: 'Well done on finding the music! Now all we need to do is find Mike Lennox. Nobody has heard from him for ages; he seems to have disappeared completely. Mary Payne.'

So anyone who was in contact during the past years and has details about Mike Lennox please be in contact at [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

By the way, don't forget to look at the recent updates on the site from Mary and Chris Payne: <http://www.radiolondon.co.uk/>

Next a internetblog where you can spend many hours [London Records Soul](http://londonrecordsoul.wordpress.com/) Discovering the soul, rhythm, and blues records issued on the UK's London label, 1954-1976 Paul Bailey didn't an excellent job you can spend hours there <https://londonrecordssoul.wordpress.com/>



Here a link to a story of Marion Adamson from Australia who was in the early days of offshore radio involved

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M\\_NKHVrZ\\_BA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M_NKHVrZ_BA)

A nice video about the program Carnaby Street on Manx Radio partly coming from the Ross Revenge at the River Blackwater some weeks ago:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=It2ZKjyFrIA>

Also on the isle of Man is Louise Quirk still living. Remember her from RNI in the seventies?:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ngCM8QOYvOk>

And Alan Turner was recently also interviewed about 50 years Radio Caroline:

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

Here's a video shot by the late Rob Olthof, when he was visiting the Ross Revenge and Communicator in the summer of 1985. Surely Peter Chicago will remember that suddenly the transmitter went off the air due to the fact Rob wanted to see the transmitter from the inside and unlocked the door of the transmitter.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9omd\\_mvSyQ&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9omd_mvSyQ&feature=youtu.be)

Alex van der Hoek edited a video from years ago. Radio 192 AM 1332 Scheveningen 2002. It was on the air from the mv Minerva off the Scheveningen coast. The recordings were from Rob Olthof and Alex has made a nice report of the video. We see a much younger Adje Bouman, Thimon Schellevis, Martin van der Ven, Hans Knot, Bart van Leeuwen Rob van Dam, Ferry Maat, Michael Bakker, Ron Bisschop, Chiel Montagne, Marc van Amstel, Walter Galle, Jaap Jansen etc, etc. From the analogue archive of Martin v.d Ven

<http://www.internetradiocafe.nl/topic/37208-radio-192-am-1332-scheveningen-2002/>

[http://youtu.be/\\_3dBdHUPiBQ](http://youtu.be/_3dBdHUPiBQ) Another video on the same subject has been made by Jan Hariot and is here

<http://youtu.be/eH1RMHpQPbU>

Also it was good to hear again from Vivien Barnard: 'I hope all is well with you Hans. I do appreciate receiving the newsletters that you send and to know that other people remember the wonderful days of pirate radio, especially Radio Caroline which was my favourite.

Alas, I think that there will not be any more reunions in Harwich, Walton or London now the 50th anniversary is over.

I went to most of the meetings for Pirate BBC Essex and the one at Sugar Reef wine bar in London. It was wonderful meeting up with DJs again that I first met during the 1960s when visiting the Mi

Amigo off the coast of Walton on the Naze in Essex and attending disc nights in London.

I remember meeting you Hans at the Sugar Reef and taking a photo of you. I cannot believe that it was 7 years ago! Doesn't time fly by quickly these days? I have recently bought Keith Skues new book featuring photos taken by David Kindred - "Pirate Radio, An Illustrated History" which brings back great memories of the pirate days. Another excellent book by Keith Skues and the photos are brilliant! Bye for now Hans, please keep up the good work! Regards from Vivien Barnard.



Robbie Dale and Vivien Barnard 2007 Photo: Hans Knot

In the month that Father Christmas gives away a lot also some information about the good work from Mike Hayes, former Radio 270 deejay: 'Hi Hans, I'm trying to raise some money for the cancer funds and wondered if you'd mail your list about it. I know I'm not as famous as Geldorf but I'm using my songs as a "collection plate". All will be clear if you visit: [www.ifellinlovewithasnowgirl.com](http://www.ifellinlovewithasnowgirl.com)

They did their best for my daughter so maybe this way I can do a bit in return. All the best and thanks. Mike

[www.mikesgallery.info](http://www.mikesgallery.info)

[www.mike-hayes.com](http://www.mike-hayes.com)

Skype: mikepjhayes

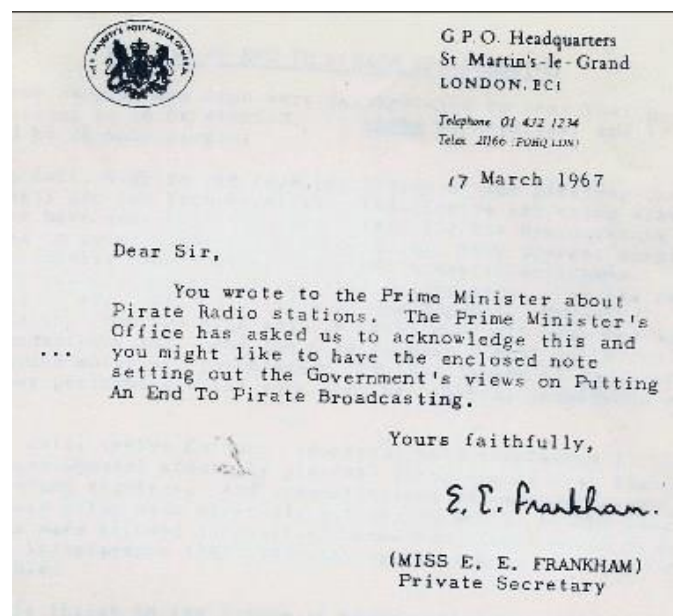
The Pirate Memories blog has got a new look. "This trip through the 1980s free radio scene has featured a selection of nearly 130 stations. Most came from shortwave but also featured are some medium wave (from London and the Netherlands) and FM (or VHF as it was called then) from the London/North Surrey area." Audio, information and verification cards. With thanks to Mike Barraclough.



[Pirate Memories](http://piratememories.blogspot.com)

[piratememories.blogspot.com](http://piratememories.blogspot.com)

Many offshore radio stations asked their listeners in 1967 to write an official complaint to the British Prime Minister as the Government had strong plans to putting an end to Pirate Broadcasting. A difficult task was there for Miss E. E. Frankham to answer all those letters.



When reading back the official note from the British Government it seems they wanted to start very friendly: 'Many people have been

very disappointed to hear that pirate broadcasting is to be stopped. It seems so harmless and is enjoyed by so many people.

In fact, despite the repeated claims of the pirates, their broadcasts are far from harmless. The pirates are using wavelengths which have undertaken to leave clear for the broadcasting services in other countries. By so doing, they prevent people in those countries from hearing their own domestic programmes. They also represent a danger - slight but ever-present - to the radio services on which safety of life at sea depends. Moreover, broadcasting from the high sea is forbidden, all over the world, by international law. And the pirates make almost unlimited use of recorded material, threatening the livelihoods of the musicians and other performers whose work they use without permission or payment.'

Don't forget that the official note was written months before the Marine Offences Act became a law and so a lot of lies are written down in those days. But they had more to write as it went on with: 'To date, twelve European countries have complained to the Postmaster general about the pirates' interferences with their broadcasting services. And communications between ships and the shore have often been seriously interfered with. If the pirate stations were allowed to continue unchecked, there would soon be so much interference that broadcasting as we know it would become impossible.'

Already millions had proved that 'broadcasting as we know' was not their favourite way of broadcasting and that's why they turned their tranny to their favourite offshore radio station(s). Of course it was a real threat for the BBC that more and more people were lost in listening figures and so the note went on with: 'This threat to the future of broadcasting has caused the maritime countries of the Council of Europe to agree to legislate on common lines to deal with it. The Bill, which is being considered by Parliament, carries out our obligations under the European Agreement.'

Many people feel that an easy solution would be to 'bring the pirates ashore', that is, to license them to operate on land. That is not just possible. There are no unused wavelengths on which powerful stations like the pirate stations could operate without causing interference. In any case, if they operated within the control of the copyright law, they could not transmit the sort of programmes that they have been transmitting. The Government's plans for the future of sound broadcasting which have recently been announced are designed to match our broadcasting services more closely to our needs without interfering with other's people rights.

But the most pressing need is to silence the pirate stations, which are flouting international regulations, earning us such a bad name abroad, endangering shipping and threatening to make broadcasting end in chaos, not only in Britain buty over most of Europe.'

Well you can decide for yourself how many nonsense is told in above statement. Did you ever sent a complaint to the GPO or any of the other British authorities? What do you think about the above document from 47 years ago? Just write in at [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

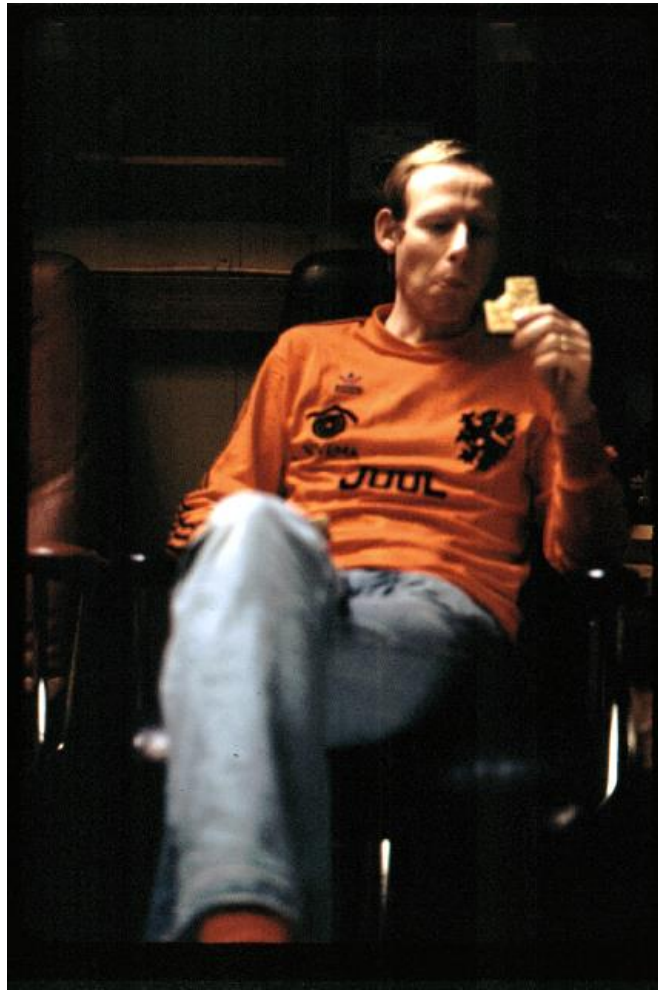
Geoff West brother of the late Liz West has made a small but interesting video featuring the ladies from Laser 558. Have a listen at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L-VRS9tPsUo>

Here's another video he made about Laser 558, first transmitted on NBC Television: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kXqCprRRQPo>

Let's go to: 't shirt time'. Normally we show someone in a radio related t shirt. This time a radio man in a music related t shirt. The photo has been taken by Lex Harding in 1971 on board the Norderney, Veronica's radio vessel in those days. It's technician Juul Geleick. If he's happy with the served dry crackers is the question.

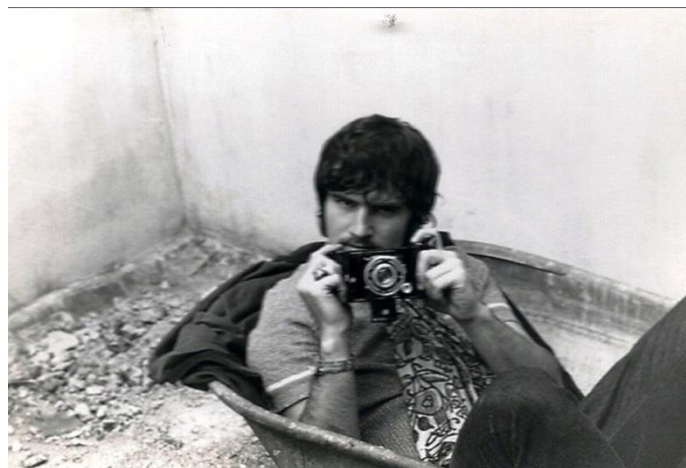


By the way, Bovema was one of the important record companies in the Netherlands in those days.



Martin van der Ven and I have updated our photo archive on Flickr several times during the past weeks. I decided to have some hours free to scan on high quality all the photographs which I have in my archive from the late Carl Mitchell. You can find them here:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/sets/72157649068706517/>



Carl Mitchell at the Prinsengracht Amsterdam  
Photo Collection Hans Knot

As promised more from Ian Godfrey: 'Hi Hans, I recently bought *Pirate Radio - An Illustrated History* but so far have only flicked through it. Although the photograph reproduction and content is very good I was slightly disappointed at the lack of colour shots; probably only a minor point as I'm sure the text will compensate pretty well.

This year really has been momentous as far as offshore radio commemorations are concerned, at least 80% of it, unsurprisingly, Caroline-related. The Caroline North RSL was far better than I could have imagined; really worth waiting for and captured the spirit of the original station very well. The other really significant event of the year was the Radio Day. I felt I wanted to travel over with somebody but when the chances of this seemed to be virtually zero I really felt I'd be quite content to stay at home and start reading Ray Clarke's book, which I'd just collected from the local WH Smiths. I suddenly became determined to make it alone, particularly as the Eurostar journey seemed pretty straightforward. The book certainly is a great read but I'm convinced I made the right choice!

All credit to Manx Radio for the tie-up with Caroline last week but I'm still a bit mystified that it took place as late as mid-November, six-months after Manx Radio's 50th anniversary. Maybe it was the nearest available date. I listened to some of Carnaby Street on the 15th but completely forgot about the other programs running from 17th-20th; too many other distractions during the week. I think I read something a few weeks ago about a possible Big L commemoration. Hopefully there will be something.

I tuned into (199) The Radio Ship this morning and heard a fascinating recording of part of Caroline en route to the Isle of Man. It was presented by Gerry late, from 10-11.00. The music played was very much easy listening. There was a distinct hiss throughout, easy to tolerate as the quality was very good for a 50-year-old recording and the fact that it was such a momentous occasion.

I suddenly wondered whether Caroline immediately adopted a top 40 format when they reached Ramsey Bay or did the format gradually evolve into Top 40? I don't remember reading anything about this and wonder if you have any information on this. As the recording quality was fairly consistently good throughout the journey I also wondered whether a group of people had agreed to record the station from strategic points round the coast.'



Hi Ian I can tell you that almost the whole trip was recorded and I think someone on the ship recorded it. These were found after Buster Pearson died in his loft, with many other good recordings.

Next copies were taken copies by me. And they went into the circuit at a later stage. Caroline had no Top 40 format from the beginning and changed more and more late 1964 to a Top 40 (Top 50) format to make more listeners.'

From Ian Godfrey we go to John Myer: 'Hi, I have just updated The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame. New this month:

- We mark Big L's fiftieth anniversary with the six-part Radio London Story;
- we add four more Radio 270 charts from 48 years ago;
- more pages from the scrapbook kept by former Radio Caroline North chief engineer, Manfred Sommer;
- the late Kenny Everett would have been 70 on Christmas Day - we celebrate his offshore career;
- and there is a 1944 British Pathé newsreel clip about the Thames forts, later occupied by offshore radio stations.

My grateful thanks to everyone, who has contributed. I'll be back with the next update on New Year's Eve but, in the meantime, I hope you have a fantastic Christmas. Best wishes, Jon

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

Next a series of photos taken by Paul Flanagan from the Ross Revenge some years ago:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/sets/72157649106219039/>

Another Paul is Paul de Haan in the Netherlands:

'Hi Hans, interesting reading was the story in last report from Robbie Dale and his Irish station Sunshine Radio way back in the 80's. He refers to Eamonn Cooke as a rival who indeed cut downs his precious aerial tower.

Eamonn Cooke the "crook". More right here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQL8A8rEdg0>

A great site for many hours of recordings from all of the Irish pirates can be found here:

[http://www.dxarchive.com/ireland\\_irish\\_era\\_home\\_page.html](http://www.dxarchive.com/ireland_irish_era_home_page.html)

Most of them were around between 1981 and Dec 1988, as off Jan 1 1989 they were illegal and most stations closed down. This also might explain why some of the ex 70's ex Caroline deejays were never heard on the Ross Revenge, they worked for the Irish stations. More interesting stuff right here about Nova's famous newsreader, the late Bob Gallico.

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/breakingnews/ireland/radio-nova-host-bob-gallico-passes-away-602655.html>

You Tube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-59Hs2GqS8>

Robbie Dale on You tube 2.30 minutes into this special on future Irish commercial radio.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N1hPiL3dFaU>

Here's even more: <http://www.nettv.ie/the-irish-era-of-pirate-radio-in-ireland-massive-and-unique-historical-documentary-made-by-miles-johnston/>

And here's the whole

story <http://thatsireland.wordpress.com/2007/06/05/thats-pirate-radio-part-1-radio-dublin-253/>

Greetings, Paul de Haan.'

Well Paul most appreciated and I think my readers will have a lot of pleasure with the material which appeared after you intensive search.

Next another former Caroline deejay, Tony Prince: Hi Hans, I hope you will bring this episode to the attention of your fans.'

<http://www.dmcworld.tv/historyofdj/>

This is a historic documentary as a lot can be told about 'the deejays history'. Recently Tony and his team finished part 4 and he did

comment on Facebook too: 'I hope you enjoyed Part 4 (USA Rock 'n' Roll DJ's) of our History of DJ documentary. Over the next few weeks I'll be building the story of Radio Luxembourg before and after the pirates for the next episode. I'm looking for early short, punchy airchecks of the DJs down the years making entertaining comments or introducing their shows. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated and if you can e-mail me your suggested clips, photos or links to [tony@dmcworld.com](mailto:tony@dmcworld.com) or message me on FB, I and Luxy fans everywhere, will be indebted. I've already got plenty of material including our hilarious tour around Luxembourg a few years ago. I'm particularly looking for audio/visual of the 50's/early 60's presenters. In all my searching I've only been able to find two photos of Horace Batchelor! Many thanks. Tony Prince.



Now we go to the Bob LeRoi update and there are some wonderful things to see: 'Apologies with demands on our time it's been awhile! But hopefully you saw the daily features on the Red Sands Radio Website and social media.

A Santa's Sack of an update making up for lost time: 'ScrapBook' has an unexpected welcome feature with more information coming aboard in Tower Radio-Part 6. Radio Sutch made an entry 50 years ago, we have a slightly different tribute celebrating the pioneering enterprise in Radio Sutch and City Pictures - Part 17.

Remaining on Shivering Sands since there's no consolidated list of staff we've begun a rolling feature: Radio Sutch and City Roll Call. And there's a brilliant new original Radio City Forts print available to buy on-line. The final 'ScrapBook' feature's on the Grain Tower Battery.

Over in the 'Personal Pages' we have a local feature on the World's only free standing clock tower at Herne Bay and for our motoring buffs the Whitstable Classic Music & Motor Show 2014.

'One Subject One Link' looks at producer liaison and to wrap up we've added more information, pictures and audio throughout the site with links to the revisions and the Red Sands Radio Christmas Card. Thank you for your support, have a lovely Christmas and Happy New Year:

Bob LeRoi [www.bobleroi.co.uk](http://www.bobleroi.co.uk)

**OFFSHORE RADIO**  
Museum

**PRESS  
RELEASE**

**MUSEUM DEVELOPMENTS IN 2015**

The Offshore Radio Museum has announced some exciting development plans for 2015. Museum Director, Mike Leonard said: "When we opened in March 2014 we had the basic structure of the Museum in place and since then we have been busy adding more content to the Galleries. Our first focus has been the British offshore stations of the 1960's where we have added lots more information, pictures, memorabilia, press cuttings, audio and video clips. We still have a huge archive of material to sort through and add to the Museum, so the process of upgrading all the other Galleries to the same stage will be on-going throughout 2015."

Even more expansion of the Museum is also planned for 2015, including the opening of at least two new Galleries before the end of March, with more to follow later in the year. Visitors will also start to notice improvements to the navigation links helping them to move around the Museum and a more concise presentation of stories in the Museum News Room.

Mike continued "As well as these developments we are also launching two new initiatives to enhance *The Mast* cyber cafe on the Ground Floor. Visitors can already take a break from the Galleries in *The Mast* and (while they have a cup of coffee) share their memories via our email or Facebook links, but we are planning to introduce some more interactive facilities.

We will be launching *Anorak* - a 'swap, sell and wants' newsheet which offshore radio fans can use to advertise items they might want to swap, sell or would like to add to their collection. Also we will be launching our Partner Sites initiative - featuring links to other offshore radio related sites who have helped the Museum with information or by allowing the use of pictures and audio clips. The links to these sites will be available in *The Mast* from the Extras Menu Board."



Visitor numbers to the Museum have been very encouraging since its launch and we are anticipating that we will exceed our first year target estimate. Visitors are always encouraged to return on a regular basis because so much material is being added all the time - our Facebook page carries first news of the latest additions and updates - so 'like' us and be first to receive these information alerts. Enjoy your visits in 2015 - [www.offshoreradiomuseum.co.uk](http://www.offshoreradiomuseum.co.uk)  
Remember - we are open 24/7 and admission is free!

For further enquiries about the Offshore Radio Museum Email [orm@offshoreradiomuseum.co.uk](mailto:orm@offshoreradiomuseum.co.uk)

We had a wonderful first weekend of December with nice weather and including taking Keith Skues on a nostalgic trip through offshore memories in Amsterdam. On the photo Hans and Jana Knot, Ulrike van der Ven, Keith Skues and Martin van der Ven. Next to the Veronica ship also the former REM Island was visited. Photo taken by someone passing by!



For the complete photo series go to

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/sets/72157649260266917/>

More interesting stories here:

<http://www.redbullmusicacademy.com/magazine/keith-skues-essay>

Nickname 'Klaas with the K from Klaas Vaak (Veronica) I think he listened a but to 'Nikita the K'.

Finally an e mail from the people at Radio Rainbow: 'Hi there!

This year we DO NOT send a season greetings card to you. What we want you to do and tell you is in this song we get from Pirates for Peace, the organisation that makes the difference, which we want you to listen to and look at, and play, forward and promote, at this link;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bGG8fwcOL6o&feature=youtu.be>

Well that's all folks, have a good Christmas and a wonderful 2015 and I will be back somewhere in 2015! Hans Knot.