

## Hans Knot International Radio Report October 2015

Well another month has gone and some time for another international radio report. Thanks again for the hundreds of e mails coming in and the interesting memories, photos and more. In one of the e mails a reader asked how many hours of work is in each issue of the report. Honestly I cannot give a true answer as is always different. Of course it depends of how long some stories are. The longer the stories - strange enough - the lesser time I have to work on the report. For instance if I publish in the report another chapter of the Caroline book there are mostly 7 up till 10 pages which have been corrected before and have one other correction before published. If there are new shorter ones more time is invested. Well while I'm writing this it's 20.15 hrs CET at September 14<sup>th</sup>. So you now know around which day of each month I'm starting to work on another issue.

Well let's start with a long e mail from François Lhote from France regarding these French programmes from early 1977 on Radio Mi Amigo. 'For some time Robert Magniez has been researching on those programmes for an article and there is still some mystery about them. Below his reflections:



François Lhote Photo collection Martin van der Ven

'We need your help as we are searching a few answers about a very particular period in Radio Mi Amigo's history: Marc Jacobs introduced on the air for the very first time a promo for the Radio Mi Amigo French programs on the 21/12/1976, 12h50 on 192m. On 22/01/77, Radio Mi Amigo started French programs dedicated to the French speaking audience in Belgium and France (very bad quality programs in fact...). And 1 week later, 29/01/1977, it went to an end...

What is still a mystery after so many years is the background of those Mi Amigo French programs. Each time we asked those questions all over the past years, we never had any answer: Who were the French djs? We know the names given on the air of the "djs" Coco, Germaine and Leon. But what about their real names? Another question is where the programs were taped?

At that time, we heard of somebody called "Mr Van Loo" in Belgium who was in charge of these French programs. Was it true? If yes, who was he, how to locate him? Or is it another guy? Who were the people involved? Where there any backers?



Patrick Valain Photo: Freewave Nostalgie

Who decided to set up those French programs? Was it the Belgium side with Patrick Valain or the Spanish side with Sylvain? Was it just an attempt to target the French speaking audience or a new commercial development in order to support French

backers/advertisers or to get French advertisers? What was the real reason to clear the French programs? What we heard along the time is that Belgian and Dutch listeners complained a lot. But programs started on 22/01/77 and finished one week later, 29/01/1977! Surprising after just two weeks! Impossible to measure the commercial impact about future advertisers in such a short time!

What is also surprising is the fact that French programs were back on Radio Mi Amigo with Denis Desrouvres a few months later at the end of 1977 and continuing regularly in 1978 till the close of the station in October that year.

Who decided to clear those French programs? French programs were scheduled earlier in mid-1976 on 259 as never used promos were taped. Same with 1st of January 1977. Why such a delay? And all other questions connected to these French programs in January 1977.'

Anyone connected to the station in those days please feel free to reflect on the questions by mailing to [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

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The much awaited for '3 Mile Limit' DVD has gone on sale and all of your followers can buy the DVD by going to this link:



<http://3milelimit.co.nz/u-k-buy-dvd>

This is a special link for U.K and Europe buyers.  
There is a special directors commentary on the movie.

The 3 Mile Limit Facebook link is:

<https://www.facebook.com/3MileLimitMovie>

In next issue we will have a review of the DVD.

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Robbie and Stella Robertson (Dale) were on a trip to Ireland in early summer. Robbie wrote: 'We went to Ireland to attend the wedding of our god-daughter Cathy Michael, wow look what we found in a 17<sup>th</sup> century Martello Tower on Howth Hill, incidentally Stella and I lived on this hill for several years before moving South to a sunnier clime. "The Ye Old Hurdy-Gurdy Museum of Vintage Radio". I highly recommend a visit to this fascinating Martello Tower on the hill in Howth, County Dublin.

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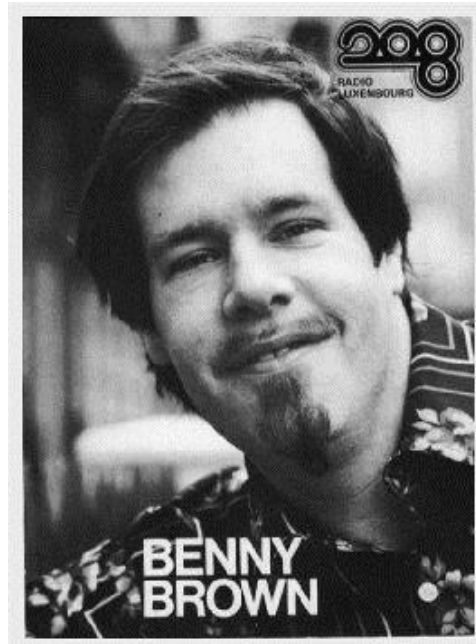
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/sets/72157656099701750>

For those of you who read the press release from RTL saying that Benny Brown had "retired", in last Hans Knot International Radio Report - here is the real story, with thanks to Mike Knight:

'What's Really Going on? It's an enigma. It's a cover-up. Some would even call it perverse. But it ends happily. For the record: Benny never missed a show. Benny never called in sick. Management was pleased that his ratings in the evening were strong and steady. His programs carried substantial advertising and dedicated sponsorship. Then, with no warning, it was announced on air that Benny had retired. But that simply wasn't true; Benny did not retire at all. Why did they say that? Duplicitous? Yet he was gone, to be replaced by computer automation.

This steaming vortex of inter-planetary funk disturbs our perceptions. Benny always said he would never retire, but then he just vanished! Are they being tricky, clever? There's a mystery here. Maybe they're trying to save money? Perhaps it was those burnt juju offerings. Maybe it's cost-cutting? Maybe it are new managerial policies? Disingenuous? The NSA again? Benny still has friends there, yet the intrigue continues.

It was all over Facebook, too. Was it official? Benny retired? Everybody knows this is laughable and impossible to believe. It's hard to accept. Not Benny. Nobody believed it, anyway. Benny Brown did not retire! And here's the proof. He's still your Guardian of the Galaxy! Your Fearless Rider of the Electro-Magnetic Spectrum! Just in case you did not get the memo, prepare yourself now for what's next, this powerful and positive revelation!



Benny Never Left! Here's the reality: In response to all this confusion, Benny has found a new home. That new home is Radio 100.7, which is on the Kirchberg, just down the Avenue JFK from his old address. We'll say it again: Benny is now live on Radio 100.7 every

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. He now starts earlier than before: now he's on at 18.30 every weekday evening with Time Out! Take your pick: listen live or listen online ([100komma7.lu](http://100komma7.lu)), but listen! It's available around the world and everywhere across the Grand Duchy. Legions of his loyal listeners are already switching to Benny on Radio 100.7! As we've all known since the beginning, regularly listening to Benny Brown makes you a better person. It always works this way. Benny Brown is still on your radio: Radio 100.7. So feel free to again plug in your mojo just like you always did.

[www.100komma7.lu](http://www.100komma7.lu)

Next it's Ingo Paternoster from Southern Germany who attends us on a new station called [NPR FM 104.1 Berlin](#). It is now on the air, carrying a wide variety of news, information, cultural and entertainment programs enjoyed by millions of listeners throughout the United States and around the world.



What is NPR? NPR (National Public Radio) is an internationally acclaimed producer and distributor of noncommercial news, talk, and entertainment programming. A privately supported, not-for-profit membership organization, NPR serves a growing audience of more than 25 million Americans each week in partnership with more than 800 independently operated, noncommercial public radio stations. Each NPR Member Station serves local listeners with a distinctive combination of national and local programming. With original online

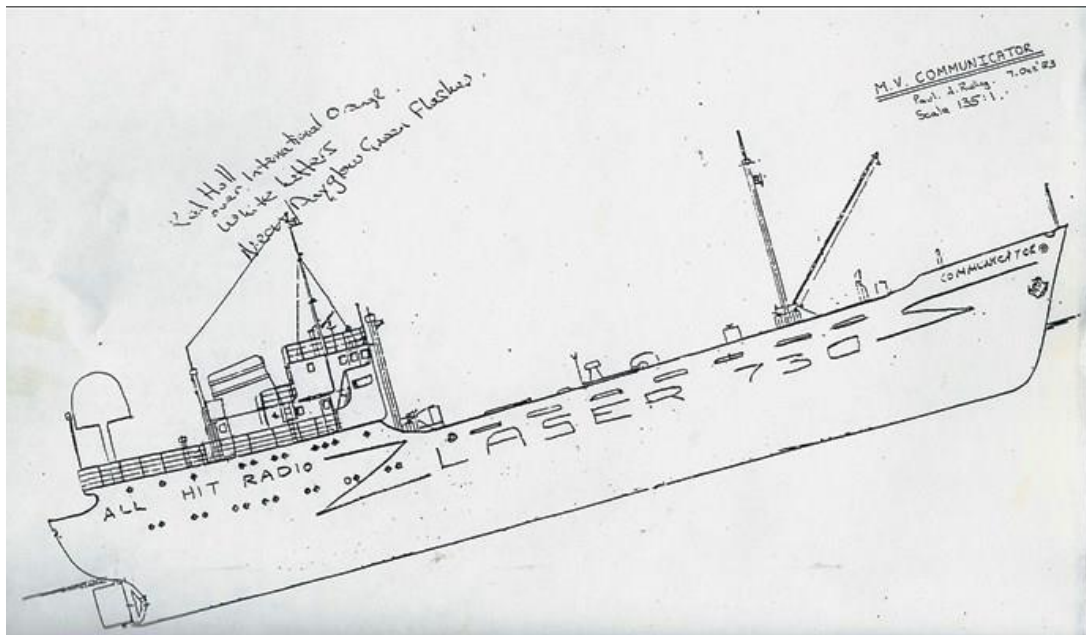
content and audio streaming, npr.org offers hourly newscasts, special features and eight years of archived audio and information.

I just learned they got in contact with Rick Demarest in 2005 about the complete idea and denied to come to Berlin, 'cause some daily hours should have been produced in Berlin.' Today I checked google for NPR Worldwide because of NPR's Prairie Home Companion show with G. Keillor - if it still aires on AFN Powernet - and I realized a wikipedia site which says NPR took over the ex VOA FM frequency in Berlin in 2006. Ciao Ingo.'

Well thanks a lot for this informative e mail, much appreciated Ingo!

As being a media historian a lot of archive material from several sources came to me during the past 4 decades. It was about 3 years ago some 400 internal documents concerning the mv Communicator and the MV Nannell were received. However, due to the fact so much material is coming in, I never had the time to go in those documents. Spend some time to dive in the documents, from which I will publish some more in the future.

First a drawing of the radio ship Communicator as done by Paul Rusling in October 1983. It was planned that the MV Communicator would carry a radio station called Laser 730. For those who followed the history of the Laser stations it was the period the station tried to transmit programmes on '730' using helium balloons to carry the antenna. However it was not a success in the winter of 1984 and we had to wait up till May that year that Laser 558 started and became very successful. However the text in the drawing was never painted on the ship. Wondering if Paul Rusling remembers making the drawing 32 years ago?



Drawing copyright Paul Rusling

Of course I contacted Paul and he reflected with: 'I do remember that, Paul Hodge and I drew it up as the colour scheme for the shipyard to paint the hull but Roy Lindau had commissioned an art studio in New York to do a more eye catching design. They were paid about \$15,000 buy their design after we sailed so it was never done. It was another waste of money. It was all so frustrating. Paul Rusling

Recently I took a book from a cupboard and saw that a photo was lying on the shelf. That one hadn't made the photo album, where it should have been together with another long series taken in Amsterdam in the late sixties of last century when a couple of former offshore deejays lived there together for a period. One of them was Alan Clark. For those who don't know him, here information from the Pirate Hall of Fame:

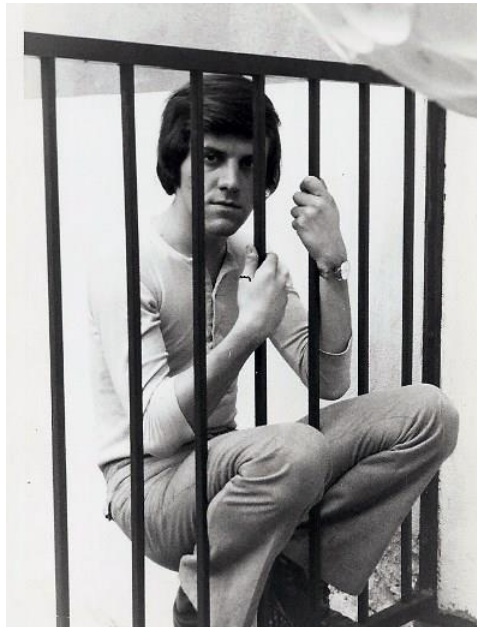
'Alan Clark was born in Wales but brought up in Croydon, south London, Alan joined Radio City in November 1965 after hearing an advertisement for disc-jockeys on the station. Radio City was one of the smaller stations, based on Shivering Sands fort in the Thames estuary and in those days station owner Reginald Calvert would often take on a new recruit for a week then pay him off with £5



"expenses". Alan was not prepared to leave it at that and pestered the management until they gave him a full-time job. He stayed with Radio City for sixteen months and became one of their most popular presenters. Along with Ian MacRae he hosted the much-loved comedy show 'The Auntie Mabel Hour' and, with Tom Edwards, shared responsibility for the 'Five By Four' Beatles and Rolling Stones request show.

When City closed down in February 1967 he joined Radio 390 but changed his name to Christopher Clark. Here he hosted the station's very last programme. Since the demise of the pirates Alan has worked as a journalist for Radio Netherlands, Independent Radio News, TVS and Meridian Television. He is married to Helen Clark, the former MP for Peterborough who lost her seat in the May 2005 general election. '

And here the lost and found [photo from Alan Clark, collection the late Carl Mitchell.](#)



September 23rd it's two years ago that our good friend for almost 5 decades, Rob Olthof, passed away. Of course he's in our mind a lot

and recently Ben Bode, big man behind the Paradijs project in 1981, brought back some memories.

It was August 1981 and we were on the beach of Noordwijk, ready to bring back on the Magda Maria technicians José van Groningen and Hans van Velzen. Suddenly we saw in the air a Neptune airplane flying. It was me telling Fred Bolland, who was also with us there, that it was flying really low and then another one came. I then suggested to Fred that they were exercising.

Next we saw a helicopter and suddenly our little speedboat with our boys came back on the beach. It was José van Groningen who told me to forget the whole thing as a big navy-ship was alongside our radio ship. I thought the navy would leave again, but it was so really taken by surprise. On our way to IJmuiden we had watched an extra television news program. That was really seldom in those days as during daytime no television programs were aired in the Netherlands.

Believe it or not, sometime hours later, we suddenly saw Rob Olthof standing along the quayside to sell special 'Paradijs mourning announcement cards' to those interested. I think that the printing ink was still wet. That was when happiness was still normal.'



Rob Olthof

But Ben Bode, when exchanging some e-mails with him lately, had another nice story to tell concerning the raid on the Radio Paradijs ship way back in August 1981. 'John Montanus, beter known in our offshore world as Kees Borrel, was on board the radio ship when the raid was there. He told me later that when police officers, other officials as well as marine people where on the radio ship, suddenly a whistle was blown from the marine vessel. At once the marine people jumped from the deck into their fast little speedboat and left for their own ship. Reason was that it was time for their lunch. As a joke some policemen and officials from Justice asked if they could follow as they were hungry too. They got the 'no answer'.



The Radio Paradijs ship some days before the raid

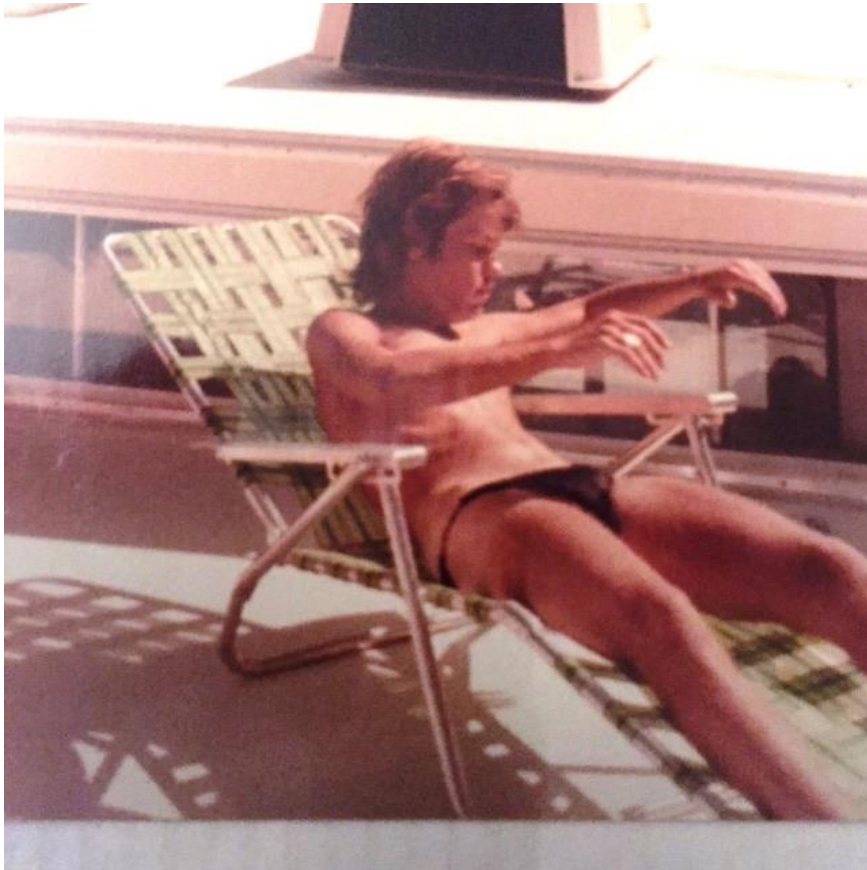
Photo collection Hans Knot

Next it was the main man, responsible for the raid, who went to the galley on the radio ship, where Kees Borrell was locked. He asked him if they were allowed to use the kitchen for preparing a lunch. The answer from Borell was 'no' as it was only allowed for crewmembers to use it. Marvelous memory.' Thanks a lot Ben for sharing these memories from more than 34 years ago.

When reminiscing with Paul Rusling lately about Radio Caroline in 1973 and the many different music variety the station played it came to classical music too. Paul: 'I think we all did the classical music shows on 259 Hans. Chicago was hosting them and put me in as I could speak German - our total library was about 20 Polydor classical albums. I got chucked off after about 3 days when Andy heard me asking for requests on the air. It was considered uncool to solicit mail in classical music shows he said! The classical shows were a bridge between Caroline easy listening (259) closing at 6pm and the Caroline Rock service with Norman Barrington and Dick Palmer starting at 9pm. So with Pop on 389 and Easy + Classical + Rock on 259 we offered 'the Four Seasons of Caroline'. A pity it did not last long. Paul Rusling.'

Next e mail is from Wayne Hepler: 'Hello again from the States. After presenting the half-hour segment of my pirate radio documentary last year (2014), I am now distributing the feature-length film to film festivals and other sources. However, I am also seeking whatever rockers of the pirate radio era are available to me in the eastern United States, and any pirates interested in taking part of a pirate radio panel at the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) conference in Las Vegas, April 2016. Can you help? What rocker might spend an hour interview with my videographer and me, based in Baltimore- Washington DC/NYC area, to be edited into the film? Also what pirate will join me in Las Vegas next year? You can respond to [whepler@harford.edu](mailto:whepler@harford.edu). Thank you, and thank you Hans!

It started late August when suddenly an e mail came in from Michael Dean in the USA stating he would send me photos from the days he worked for Laser 558. The first one was this one featuring David Lee Stone:



The photo was shot on a boat off Cabo San Lucas in the Mexican Baja Peninsula, in the very early '80s.

Michael Dean: 'I have a photo album of shots I took while on board the Communicator from March 1984 to May of 1985. I am in my '50s now and starting to fear that those photos will never be seen by anyone but myself. I would like to start texting or e-mailing them to you if you can see that they are viewed by others who may have an interest. Always good to hear from you Hans. I much appreciate how you help in keeping Euro pirate radio alive. The memories! Those were the days!'



Laser 558's Michael Dean with a family pet while back in the States visiting his family in late summer of 1984.

In the meantime we're weeks further and around 70 photographs are already in the special Michael Dean's Photobook in the Offshore Radio Photo Archive from Martin van der Ven and Hans Knot. Go and have a look at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/albums/72157657332031559>

One of the photos sent in by Michael showed a lady with David Lee Stone. In the special Laser fan group on Facebook I asked the question if someone knew who she was. Suggestions were made but no real name came till I got an e mail from Patrick Lee Szajyessky, who wrote: 'Her name is Randy Kirshbaum and you can hear her on WCLZ and on WPOR. Also on WCLZ you can hear the great Jessie Brandon, during the weekends and on Monday mornings on WPOR too. Randi has a bio on the WCLZ site. Another photo on this Laser FB site is the Jessie Brandon photo with a lady names Melinda Bond. Her

real name is Melinda Penkava. Click on the link here and you hear a voice that exactly wasn't on Laser 558.

[http://www.ibiblio.org/wunc\\_archives/sot/?m=200510&paged=2](http://www.ibiblio.org/wunc_archives/sot/?m=200510&paged=2)

Hans, it was a pleasure to write you, I will certainly write more.  
Greetings Patrick L. Szajyessky.'



Randy Kirshbaum and David Lee Stone

Photo: Michael Dean.

Martin van der Ven made the special pages with the photos from Michael Dean and we informed Michael that the Flickrpages were ready and also put him on the list of the report and he responded with: 'Thanks for the September radio report. I read and enjoyed it all. I read a about several people I once knew and was particularly concerned to hear of Blake Williams having had a fall. I hope he has

recovered. I knew Blake in Tucson long before Laser came into our lives. I always liked him. Also I gather that he must live in New Mexico now - which is a state here in the United States that I have visited over the years and love very much. Would you please let him know I would like to be in contact with him?

In the meantime I've contacted Blake and gave him the address to respond and hopefully again two people are brought together again after many years due to the Hans Knot International Radio Report. I will come back to it later on in this issue.



**Communicator in IJmuiden. Photo: Rob Olthof**

Another edit video has been produced by Alex Hoek. Last August 17<sup>th</sup> it was 21 years ago that the MV Communicator (former radioship from Laser) and then was planned for Holland FM, came into the harbour of IJmuiden. On August 30<sup>th</sup> that year a new mast was put on the deck of the ship and it was the late Rob Olthof who made a film of this event. It has been edited now by Alex Hoek and in the audio part you will hear airchecks from Krijn Torringa, Ger Lammens with Bull Verweij, Yvonne Keeley, Frans van der Drift, Eddy Becker, Chiel Montagne and Jan Zwart. The material was given free by



Martin van der Ven to Alex van der Hoek.

<https://youtu.be/IYXpkIARtos>

Recently Radio Review already had this next memory and author Derek Lamb also like the idea to spread the story around the world versus the International Radio Report.

### **A trip on the ocean waived: an anorak's story**

With their friendly style, high levels of listener interaction and visibility from the shore, Radios Caroline and London practically begged fans to visit them. Although the trip could be made commercially, many enthusiasts made the journey into international waters independently. DJs and crews christened them 'anoraks', reflecting their practical if unstylish dress.

Checking some unrelated details in Pop went the Pirates, by Keith Skues, I discovered that one such anorak was Stephen Bamber, aka Willy, a former class mate of mine. With a little effort I tracked him down to his B and B in Derbyshire. This is how he remembers the events of Friday 17 March 1967.

"All the participants were students from colleges in St Albans. The idea of paying a visit to Radio London to promote Rag Week came from girls on typing and short hand courses at the Further Education College. They approached students at the nearby building college to provide a raft and paddlers. In short, we builders provided the graft and the girls, the glamour. Made from eight 45 gallon oil drums, the raft was probably over engineered. It was certainly too big for us to transport and we had to 'acquire' a 10 ton lorry. This was accompanied by paddlers and girls in a convoy of cars".

One of the convoy was Willy's Austin A 35 saloon, driven with sufficient dash to be stopped for speeding. "From the moment of launch, it was clear that our constructional competence was more than offset by our lack of seamanship and indeed, common sense. A

shortage of life jackets, proper paddles and an understanding that wind and tides were unfavourable were dismissed by a 'right, let's go for it' attitude".

Not surprisingly, after 45 minutes, the crew of eight had made little headway and was probably being blown further from their planned destination. Morale was undented, with banter about 'vigilance for sharks' and 'eating the cabin boy if they should become stranded'



**MV Galaxy Photo: Ton Droog**

Willy then noticed a power boat on an intercepting course. "I thought it was strange that the crewmembers were all dressed in identical oil skins; it never occurred to me that our plight had prompted the launch of the Walton on Naze lifeboat. "Our rescue was good humoured, the only admonishment I recall took the form of 'you silly buggers' from the coxswain. By then, we paddlers were only too willing to acknowledge our foolishness. I particularly remember being

given a small bottle of Guinness as we were taken below. I wonder if it was a trade sample or something similar, perhaps donated by a local benefactor in the licenced trade. The beers continued to flow as we made our way back to the shore. The life boat towed the raft as it would have been a hazard to shipping if left."

The account in Pop went the Pirates has the style of a newspaper report and it refers to the students planning to 'take over' Radio London. Willy is adamant that all they wanted was some publicity and had no plans for anything more ambitious. Perhaps it was best that they were unsuccessful. While DJs enjoyed the anoraks' attention, the Captain on board Radio London did not. In international waters, the rule of law was difficult to apply and there had been some hostile incidents, notably on Radio City. Perhaps to deter other adventurers of all types, he is quoted as saying, 'my crew are always on the lookout and the students would have met with immediate action had they tried to board the *Galaxy*'.



Sometimes visitors were allowed here Captain Bunninga greets a woman on the *Galaxy* (collection Bunninga)

Sadly, there is no evidence that Willy and company secured any airtime on Radio London for their Rag Week. However, the trip had a double legacy:

- the rafting continued as a race on a local lake between St Albans colleges as part of future rag weeks
- Willy received a £4 fine for speeding (ouch!)

**Derek Lamb.'**

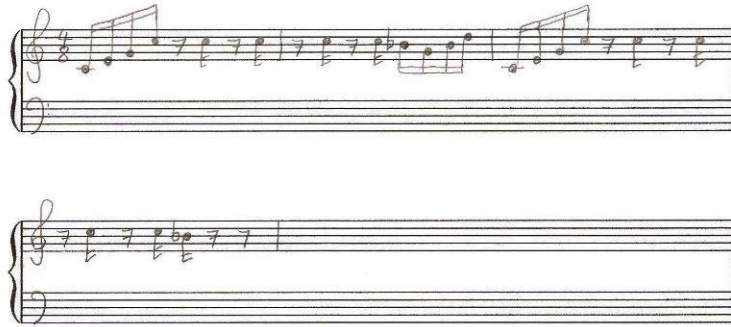
Well Derek wonderful memories and thanks for sharing this with us. Anyone who also wants to share memories, photos or anything else related to radio's history, feel free to write to [Hknot@home.nl](mailto:Hknot@home.nl)

Well next an interesting question which was first sent to the Offshore Radio-de site but Martin thought this has to be mentioned in the report as probably there would be someone who can answer the question which came in from David. J. Smith:

'I wonder if you could please help me. On some of the shortwave services coming out of Ireland in the 80s (WLR, Cruisin' Solid Gold etc.) a tune was sometimes used that I suspect may have been used on the European offshore services, similar to 'The Kid/Holiday' by Andre Brasseur and 'Soul Coaxing' Raymond Lefèvre. I know the tune and it has stuck in my mind - it's probably from the late 1960s or thereabouts and is quite upbeat. So I have written it down in music notation, scanned it and sent it as an attachment with this email.

I have tried googling 'offshore radio tunes' and similar but I have come up with nothing. Please help as I really would like to know the artist and/or title of the piece. Thank you so very much.  
Yours faithfully, David J. Smith.'

Unknown tune associated with offshore radio



Martin has put on his site an mp3 where David J Smith plays the intro himself on piano. Anyone having an idea what it is, please write to [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

<http://www.offshore-radio.de/Sounds/unknowntune.mp3>

After the close-down on August 14<sup>th</sup> 1967 Radio London's ship, the MV *Galaxy*, was removed from international waters and went to one of the harbours in Hamburg. Several plans were there to restart the station or another station. A consortium rebuilt the studios but at the end did not succeed in bringing the station on the air. Recently I started scanning all Volumes of the Pirate Radio News, which was published between 1969 and 1976 and in which I was involved. Here first a photo of the *Galaxy* in Hamburg Harbour and then a newsflash from the April 1971 edition of Pirate Radio News.

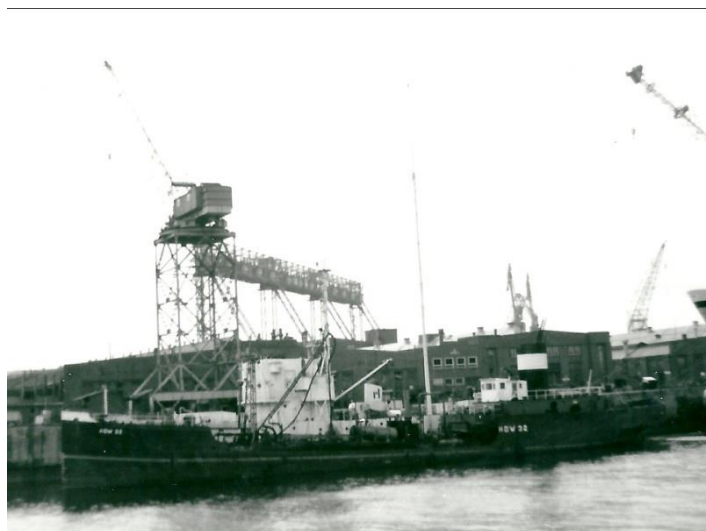


Photo: Rob Olthof

MV Galaxy

The sale of this former Radio London ship, in the district-court of Hamburg on December 2nd has been postponed after new claimants appeared. From reliable source that work is being done on the Galaxy now. Two new generators have been brought on board and men are painting the ship. The shipyard put the Galaxy on the chain because the people who are working on it, did not pay for it. The Marina people claim to have bought the ship.

According to FRA-Germany's office-court the ship is no more registered, but lying at anchor in Hamburg-Finkenwerder at the Howaldtswerke dockyard. Due to a disposal from the judge, they are not allowed to inform about the new owner. But people from Hamburg informed us, that the radioship was new painted and fitted out with a new transmitter. The owner is according to information from the "Howaldtswerke" the Greek reeder Mr. Basilios Joanou Prekezas. Rumours indicate that the ship will drop anchor soon off the German coast.

When I published above on FaceBook within minutes a response from Mike Barraclough came in: 'There's a lot of interesting information in Pirate Radio News much of which was not in the UK free radio magazines. Of course some rumours, there were so many in offshore radio, but quoted as such. I remember using the information on that Greek owner in a discussion on the Galaxy in Hamburg in the Radio London Facebook group. Ian Biggar asked me for some copies of many of the Pirate Radio News issues I had. I did not have a scanner then so took them down to a local stationer to be photocopied. He was a similar age to me so we ended up having a long conversation about

Radio Caroline and Radio London the two stations he listened to. He did not know, or if he had read it briefly in the newspapers had forgotten, that Radio Caroline had returned both in the 70's and 80's.'

Well thanks Mike for bringing back those memories to Pirate Radio News, it's there where it all began for me in the late sixties. Anyway all issues of 7 years of Pirate Radio News are now scanned and Mike as well as Ian has their own complete copies.

Interesting surf tip comes from Herman in Belgium

<http://shortwavearchive.com/archive/znhedn44134tqrcsssvmfeddeoqhzh> 73 Herman

Next is Jon: I have just updated The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame. New this month: There is another page in the ever-growing 'Eighties Supplement', this time featuring DJs from that era with names beginning with Q and R; one of those eighties DJs, Radio Caroline's Nick Richards, kindly shares some photos from his time on the mv Ross Revenge; there is news of the latest episode of Tony Prince's History Of DJ, featuring the Radio London story; we hear about the Radio Caroline "Buoy-O-Boy" buoyancy jacket; there is more information about the last Radio 270 Top 40; and we discover that the Radio London Elva racing car, which was driven by Keith St.John during the sixties, is back on the British racing circuit.

My thanks, as ever, to all the contributors - especially to George Hare for the treasured Buoy-O-Boy! All the best, Jon

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

Former Mi Amigo 272 deejay Wim de Groot recently went to Belgium where he had a wonderful time during the Mi Amigo reunion. Here's a recent photo from him presenting a Mi Amigo program. For all info about the reunion have a look at: [www.miamigo40.be](http://www.miamigo40.be)



**Wim de Groot on air 2015**  
**Photo Collection Wim de Groot**

Within my readership are several people who reflect on the international radio report frequently. One of them is a reader in England, called PJ. He loves radio and was in the team which was involved for many years with an offshore radio club which has held events on board a charter boat at Weymouth Harbour. But his love for Radio Caroline is still growing. During the past summer months he has been very busy to build his own studio. His great dream was to make the studio so if it was one of the original Caroline studios. The studio is based on the 1970's Caroline studio with a few new ideas. Also the artwork within his studio was aimed to be as the one in the Caroline studio on the Mi Amigo. PJ hopes to use the studio for a planned Internet station called Radio Mary and various offshore radio style programmes will be included.





### Photo collection PJ.

As told before I recently finished a project by scanning all the old issues of the Pirate Radio News, an offshore magazine which came out between 1969 and 1975 and from which I was the Final Editor for more than 4 years. In the December issue from 1972 we had a form to fill for the readers, which were all around the world. Even in Japan and USA were readers. Well it was a kind of a poll. Not too much of the questions to answer 43 years later!

INFORMATION LEAFLET

please let us know something more about your interests:

1. Did you listen this year to any off-shore broadcasting station? yes/no
2. If yes, how many percent of the time to Radio North Sea Intern.? ..... %  
and: how many percent of the time to Radio Veronica? ..... %
3. Did you ever received a testtransmission on 259 mtr.? yes/no  
If yes, when did you hear these tests for the first time? ..  
Have you expected that these transmissions come from the 'Mi-Amigo'? yes/no  
Have you heard about the broken antenna-mast of the Mi-Amigo? yes/no
4. How do you like the change of frequency by Radio Veronica?  
Is the reception of Radio Veronica on 538 mtr. better for you? yes/no  
What is your opinion about the new program of Radio Veronica? .....
5. Do you like the new program-style of Radio North Sea International? yes/no  
Did you like the old style of R.N.I. till Autumn 1972? yes/no  
R.N.I. tried for a moment only Dutch programs. How do you like that?.....  
Have you perhaps written about that to the direction of R.N.I.? yes/no  
How do you think about the non-stop-music-program in the morning? .....
6. Do you listen to the world-service of R.N.I. on Sunday? yes/no  
Do you like that all-English program? yes/no  
How is the reception of the 49u.transmitter for you? .....
7. What is your opinion about the DX-program of A.J. Beirens? .....
8. How is the reception of the 220 mtr. transmitting of R.N.I.  
Can you hear the difference between the real and reserve one? yes/no
9. Have you heard the joke of R.N.I. on the 192 mtr. on 30-9-1972? yes/no
10. Is it necessary that Pirate Radio News get broadcasting time on one of the offshore radio stations? yes/no  
Do you like to hear old recordings of old offshore stations? yes/no
11. You've heard already something about the preparations for some records about the history of R.N.I. Do you want to buy them? yes/no
12. What's your opinion about the tape-service of P.R.N.? .....  
and: the same about the book-service of Pirate Radio News? .....
13. What do you think about the articles in P.R.N.? .....
14. Do you like more photographs in our bulletin? yes/no
15. We try to bring you the news as fast as possible. Some times it's better to move the publishing dates, in order to distribute the news very fast to you. Is that alright for you? yes/no

Give your real opinion about the quality of Pirate Radio News, and tell us all wishes and comments:

Please give all answers and send this leaflet to: P.R.N., P.O.Box 625, Amsterdam  
H O L L  
Thanks!

Now we go to England for another e mail, this time from Graham Jones: 'Hi Hans, thanks a lot for the Radio Report. I'm wondering if any readers might know where I can get a decent copy of "Ten Years Of Offshore Radio"? I bought the original in the seventies but lost it! Hope you may be able to help. Regards, Graham Jones, Ex Radio Hertford.'

When answering Graham I also wrote that there was a follow up to the double LP called another 10 years of Offshore Radio. So anyone who has a copy for Graham of one of those two double LP's can reflect to him at: [ghj@talktalk.net](mailto:ghj@talktalk.net)

A short but nice one without any question came in from the USA: 'Once again, thank you very much Mr. K! I love those newsletters!'

It's almost like being there back in the days. Phil in Minneapolis, USA!

Talking about the USA you will remember that almost monthly during the past decade and more there's one American reader who always responds. Also he's in this issue again. Here's Rosko from California: 'Dear Hans, welcome back! Full of many subject as always! Wow! I would like to say hi to all the Hans Fans in Thailand where we now also appear on The Fab 103fm! There are a lot of expats and radio fans out there. I dare say some will contact me via the H.K I.R.!

As for my 1 night's performance in Ibiza with Lord Princely! I was there for 3 days I think. Time flies on the island and it was all part of a gig/tour in Cannes and London too, so I made it a round Euro type thing. I must admit we manage to grab space a lot in the Hans Knot International report, blessings abound! In closing I see Brenda Pidducts (Sherri Lynn) name appear out of the blue, the hottest promo girl to get past the guards at Egton House Radio One London! I will see if I can dig up a photo. Hans they all come back via your report!



**Sherri Lynn left, two other promotion ladies and Rosko outside Radio  
One building. Collection: Sherri Lynn**

I better fess up regarding your mentioning last month of Barry St John as long as we are dishing! She was one of the finest soul singers I heard back in those days. I was her producer for some tracks. She disappeared one day so I also would like to hear of her location. Have a good month! EMP.'

Thanks Emperor Rosko and good luck in Thailand were indeed some readers are living. Nice photo with 'Brenda' and the others. I bet you had some fun over there near BBC Broadcast House in London. And now we talked about the ladies I can tell you I had one other reflecting on Barry St. John compared to you Rosko:

'Hi Hans, Unfortunately I can't help with any recent news on Barry St John as requested on your Radio report, but I remember buying the record 'Cry Like a Baby' when it came out. Just have a look at the attachment to see who the producer was! Regards Tomasz Wislocki'



**Barry St. John – Cry Like A Baby / Long And Lonely Night**

Label: Major Minor – MM 587  
Format: Vinyl, 7"  
Country: UK  
Released: 1968  
Genre: Funk / Soul  
Style:

**Tracklist**

A1	Cry Like A Baby
B2	Long And Lonely Night

**Credits**

Producer – Mike Pasternak

Now news from my radio friends for many decades: François Lhote and Chris Edwards from Offshore Echos:

RADIO RAIDED 19<sup>th</sup> of August 1989. The Radio Caroline story from Offshore Echo's continues with new pages on the devastating raid by

Dutch and British authorities in August 1989, which put the station off the air. However less than six weeks later and with help from listeners and supporters Caroline was back on the air. The comprehensive Radio Caroline story features the start of Caroline at Easter 1964, through the merger with Radio Atlanta, the 1967 MOA, seizure in March 1968 and the return in the 1970's. After a spell off the Dutch coast, Caroline returned to the UK and persecution by the British authorities, but it wasn't the government that silenced Caroline, it was Mother Nature, when Caroline's ship sank during storms in March 1980.

In 1983 Caroline returned with a new ship and a renaissance of interest and popularity for offshore radio, when she was joined by Laser 558. The Radio Caroline story from Offshore Echo's is complete with hundreds of photo's, news cuttings, and documents, audio and video clips. Just visit [www.offshoreechos.com](http://www.offshoreechos.com)

Also out now Offshore Echo's magazine 181 with Calvert cover up, Sonja van Proosdijk interview, the strange spooky Sonovox, Radio Mercur story and new 2015/6 catalogue. For more visit: [www.offshoreechos.com](http://www.offshoreechos.com)

Last month I told you already some facts and figures about the RSL Radio Mi Amigo, which was held from the Lightship LV18 in Harwich harbour. Then an overview was given by someone from the organisation and in this issue it's time for a nice reflection written by Norah Barnes:

Radio Mi Amigo RSL, July/August 2015  
**By Norah Barnes**

'The RSL from the LV18 in Harwich was to run for 9 days from July 25th with many well-known DJs taking part. A great deal of hard work was put into the event by Tony Currie of Radiosix who did all the voice-overs for the commercials and sourced equipment for the

studio, as well as doing live shows and operating the desk for some of the presenters. Tony O'Neal, the curator of the LV18, also put in some sterling work on the project, which coincided with Harwich's Sea Festival, which took place on Sunday 26th July.

When Tony Currie arrived at the LV18 very early on the Saturday morning he found the studio flooded to a depth of about two inches. Once the water was mopped up Tony started his show, but the heat from the radio equipment and the damp floor caused a sauna effect and a fog in the studio. Before long one CD player failed and then the other, the final straw being that Tony's Laptop computer also failed. It was a good thing that there were twin turntables in the studio and plenty of vinyl available! After the show Tony had to find replacement CD players, so it was not a good start to the RSL!

I was in Harwich for the first weekend of broadcasting, which was exciting as Alan 'Neddy' Turner, Roger Day and Tony Prince were to do shows from the ship on the Saturday. The only downside of it was that it rained most of the weekend! I spent some time in the studio on the bridge during the broadcasts and it was an honour and a pleasure to watch the "greats" of radio doing what they do best!



Norah Barnes and Tony Prince  
Photo: collection Norah Barnes

Also broadcasting and taking lots of photos was the 'Radio Caroline Stow-away' Sylvan Mason, a lovely lady with some interesting memories. We sat in on Tony Prince's 'Beatles Special' show on the Saturday night and as the weather had improved afterwards we, Tony Prince, Tony Currie, Sylvan Mason, and I, adjourned to the Pier Hotel and sat outside chatting and enjoying each other's company and a well-earned drink. During Tony's show, without any warning, he had me read out a commercial for the Pier Hotel, which was very unexpected! However the two Tony's seemed to think I did OK!

On the Sunday the Harwich Sea Festival was in full swing with stalls and kiddies rides on the Harbour road, and a Record Fair on the LV18, but again the weather was very wet, but it did not seem to dampen anyone's spirit and all seemed to enjoy the day.

I have heard that there are plans to do the same again next year, but to turn it into a 'mini Radio Day', with events at the Electric Palace as well as on the LV18, which would be welcomed by Off Shore Radio fans. Let's hope the Pharos Trust, Tony O'Neal and Tony Currie can get it organised!

Thanks a lot Norah for this wonderful impression and who know we do meet each other next year over there. Now it's time for an e mail from one of the technicians at RTV Noord, the regional radio- and television station for the Province of Groningen. He, as many other people from the Netherlands and also listeners in England were very upset on the fact Dutch government decided to close down their most important AM transmitter and so making an end to the Am listening for a wonderful station called Radio 5 Nostalgia, which now can be listened to on cable, internet, Dab plus and more:

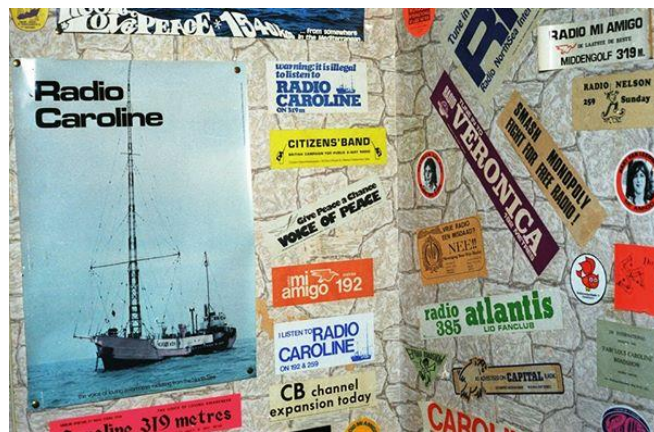
'Hello Hans, I said goodbye this weekend with mixed feelings to the good old mediumwave. After Monday the '747 Kcs' will be forever silenced in the Netherlands. Transmitter mast at Flevoland

transmitter site can be demolished, as well as my loyal Philips transistor radio. In the future we have to do it without the fading and the warm sound of AM but instead of it with DAB+.'

But also from England I got several e mails from readers complaining about the fact that Radio 5 Nostalgia can't be heard any more on their beloved radio set. But there was also one I want to share with you as mediumwave lovers: 'Hi Hans - Being that you live in the Netherlands, I thought you would be interested to see two videos I've made of my vintage radio's picking up the closure of Radio 5 Nostalgia on 401 meters, 747 K/cs MW, thus showing how reception of this wavelength comes across here in Ipswich UK. The videos are right here Regards Chris Brisland

[https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wireless-of-the-Week/226227664055040?hc\\_location=ufi](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wireless-of-the-Week/226227664055040?hc_location=ufi)

Recently I posted a photo on Facebook which I took in the eighties of last century and asked the question where this wonderwall was.



A lot of reflections came in and a few of them will follow here:

Tim Payne: Reminds me a bit of the fridge door on the Ross Revenge.

David Harris: looked like a cupboard in my bedroom



Jeremy Duggan: I still have that poster somewhere. Did have nearly all the car stickers as well, except VoP and Veronica. Sadly, foolishly threw them away in a downsize house move some years ago.

Steve Rowlandson: At a CB Club, North London?

Colin Pidduck: I'll take a guess Hans. On board Veronica while she was at birth in Leeuwarden. However, I'm not usually lucky when it comes to this kind of exercise! And some days later: After reading the latest International Report, it might have been in your room/office which you are about to vacate at University.

Robert Clancy from Guernsey: Looks like Buster Pearson's Monitor Office main wall in South Benfleet Essex

Mel Rose: Its' in the place where the mock-up of Radio Veronica is based. (Museum Rock Art).

Peter Herring; No you all have it wrong, it was in one corner of the House Of Commons!

Paul Rusling: The stickers tell me 1970s, so I will guess it was a display stand at ZeeZenders 20 in Noordwijkerhout in July 1978? (I can remember that as it was part of my honeymoon trip!)

Alan Racheter: Reckon this is the Radio Kaleidoscope studio in Essex.

Ron Prosser: it was in Buster Pearson's House.

Well three correct answers as it was a wall in Buster Pearson's House at the well-known 31 Avondale road in South Benfleet. It was also the place where some of the Radio Kaleidoscope programs were recorded for some time. A house, which was demolished some years ago.

Mike Barraclough did sent a link where more about Radio Kaleidoscope can be find:

<http://www.bookamook.com/kaleidoscope/profiles/andy-archer/>

Next site was set up by a man who was a radio freak as well as a DX'er and when he died the task to keep the site constantly updated his widow stepped in. Wonderful work at:

<http://mediumwave.info/news.html>

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This year's Radio Day will be held on **Saturday 14th November**. The 2015 location for this event is **Museum RockArt in Hoek van Holland**. On that day, the doors of the museum will open at 11:00 and close at 18:00.

The structure of the annual event has changed. It has been decided to hold a National Radio Day followed by a large International Radio Day on a rotating basis (including the Awards Ceremony).

This year, a National Radio Day will be held, focused on the Netherlands and Belgium and thus slightly more limited in scope than in previous years. The interior of Museum RockArt will play an important role. Central item is the restored Radio Veronica studio. Seven well-known radio DJs are asked to present their shows live from the studio forming a kind of window programming. On the half hour the programmes are interrupted for interviews on stage.

The line-up for the day (conditional) is Wim de Groot, Ferry Eden, Ad Roberts, Elly van Amstel, Ronald van der Vlucht and Wim de Valk.

They will try to relive the following offshore radio stations: Mi Amigo 272, Radio Monique, Radio 819, and Radio Delmare.

During the program also attention will be paid to Hilversum 3 /Radio 3 /3FM, which celebrates 50 years on the air in October, as well as to some radio related books, which will be published around the Radioday. Former Monique deejay Jan Veldkamp will be doing some of the interviews.

11:00-12:00 Wim de Groot (Mi Amigo 272)  
12:00-13:00 Ad Roberts (Monique)  
13:00-14:00 Ronald Bakker (Delmare)  
14:00-15:00 Presentation book 50 years Hilversum3/Radio 3 and 3FM Arjan Snijders  
15:00-16:00 Wim de Valk (Monique)  
16:00-17:00 Elly van Amstel (Radio 819)  
17:00-18:00 Ferry Eden

That means that seven topics will be discussed during that day. The items to be included will be announced later, but in any case, attention will be given to the offshore station Radio Monique and the 50th anniversary of Hilversum 3 / Radio3 / 3FM.

The Radio Day 2015 is made possible by the Internet Radiocafé and Radiotrefpunt.nl

There will be regular updates on [www.radioday.nl](http://www.radioday.nl)

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We finish our report with an e mail from Ria Lameijer who reflected on Robbie Dales memories on the history the Dutch 'pop station' Hilversum 3. 'It was nice to read the story about Robbie Dale. I remember his programs on Hilversum 3 vaguely. I remember seeing him regularly on television in those days but did not remember to

know that it was his own show. Although I remember him from the commercials he made for 'Aqua Manda ....for your naked skin'. Didn't know he had roots in the Netherlands as he is married to a Dutch lady. He hasn't changed too much, a bit more rounder but I bet that, would I met him on the road that I would had recognised him.

By the way I'm wondering if I still can buy a tiny bottle of Aqua Manda. Maybe it now smells terrible but surely a jump back into the sixties!

Well Ria have a look at:

<http://www.thewomensroomblog.com/2013/10/14/the-return-of-aqua-manda-and-an-afternoon-spent-with-the-rebel-cake-and-perfume-club/>

So already page 36 of this issue of the Hans Knot International Radio Report and so time to finish it. Going back to the question which I started the report with: 'How much time does the making of an issue take?' Well this time it took some 8 days as it is today September 22<sup>nd</sup> around 21.30 in the evening that I've finished. But I didn't count the hours. Take care and let your memories come in. Greetings, Hans Knot.