

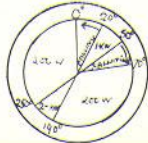
## Hans Knot International Radio Report February 2016.

Welcome everybody to the very first international radio report for 2016. Where's time going? First of all a very happy 2016 to you all and thanks a lot for all best wished received by Jana and me during the Christmas period. It was far overwhelming to receive so many wishes from all over the world. From Colombia, Suriname, Canada, USA, Singapore, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand and almost every country in Europe. We had already ordered special radio Christmas cards early November but they never reached us. When writing this, January 7<sup>th</sup>, they still haven't arrived from England and if they ever will they will be used for next Christmas.

First we go to see what was in the mailbox. Our reader Christian Bergmann from Germany went, together with his wife Martina, late October for a well-earned holiday to the isle of Mallorca. Of course he didn't forget to have a look to hear what was on the radio dial. 'There was a German radio station broadcasting on 98,5 MHz - Das Inselradio. While listening to the station we obtained a lot of interesting advises to enter some events and sightseeing respectively or to find a sunny place on the island. But we didn't enjoy the selection of music. That's why I often tuned in to another station - Radio Melodia-FM - playing a lot of good sounding melodic Rock and Pop music. The station is located in Spain, but operates a transmitter in Palma on 101,0 MHz too. In Palma and Soller we discovered the so-called Orange Express/tram. And after being back in Germany I listened to the Caroline North/Manx Radio broadcasts from the Ross Revenge.'

THE ONLY LOCAL RADIO STATION AND THE ONLY LICENSED COMMERCIAL RADIO STATION IN THE BRITISH ISLES.

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M.F. POWER PATTERN



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FROM **MANX RADIO**

FREQUENCIES : 232M (1295 KC/S) DAYLIGHT  
188M (1594 KC/S) DARKNESS  
89 MC/S V.H.F., THROUGHOUT

PRESENT HOURS OF TRANSMISSION 0700 - 2000

Thanks a lot Cristian and in the meantime we have met each other again during the Radioday in Hoek van Holland and it's always nice to see you again. Talking about Radioday in November I heard a short but special memory. It was captain Harteveld, one of the former captain's from the MEBO II from RNI, who recalled the religious programs in 1970 from Dutch evangelist Johan Maasbach 'from the Hague in Holland'.

Maasbach had hired airtime on the International Service and promised to pay his bills at the Grand Hotel at Scheveningen, where Meister and Bollier had their RNI office at the time. RNI did his job very well by transmitting all the religious programs delivered. Even I heard a program on shortwave in which Maasbach spoke to a big audience in a stadium in Iceland. An Icelandic person translated Maasbach's words sentence after sentence.



Harteveld his former captain jacket and cap now at the Museum Rock Art in Hook of Holland. Photo: Jan van Heeren.

But as RNI did the job, Maasbach didn't properly. Harteveld: "It came to a point that the Swiss directors asked me as captain for the

company and as Dutch inhabitant to take action against Maasbach his 'World Mission Radio' as he hadn't paid for the transmissions versus RNI. So one day I went to their headquarters in The Hague wearing my captain's dress. First it seemed he did not want to be at the office but when I told at the door who I was and why I came to the office I finally got into the building. Next Maasbach invited me into his office and when I told him that I came for the money he told me at once that the problem was easy to solve. There was a very big amount of envelopes lying around in the room, which were coming in from the listeners. One after another they were opened and all the money needed was coming in from gifts from the audience."

Next there's very sad news, especially for all my radio friends from the Voice of Peace days. Early in the morning of December 27th I got an e mail from Laura Carman, the daughter from Tara Carman (Jeffries) in Australia, to inform me that her mother passed away on Christmas Day. Laura: 'My mother spoke often and fondly of her days in Radio, on the boat and her journalism days. To me I always saw her as a mother and now with age I have been able to see how accomplished, respected and admired she was in her profession. Her death was very sudden, my brother and I had just arrived back on Christmas Eve for Christmas with the family and although this is not how we pictured our holidays we are so very glad that me, my father and brother were there with her when she went.'

We know Tara of course as Tara Jeffries on the VOP. Sadly she could not be in Amsterdam when we had the reunion, way back in 2006. As a memory to her I took a short piece from the Voice of Peace book, which I edited in 2006 and it's a memory from my good friend Don Stevens to Tara:

'One of the more unusual recruits to the ship, who did not arrive through Broadcast Placement Services, but from Steve Allen at UBN, was Tara Jeffries — our first female broadcaster — who arrived aboard in late Spring, mid May 1976. Tara was an accomplished broadcaster for UBN and wanted to work on an offshore radio station, but preferably a station like The Voice of

Peace, a station with a mission. For Tara this was a great adventure and an opportunity of working in a new and fresh environment with a group of idealistic young people. I mention Tara because her story is unknown, but her name is well known in association with the Peace Ship. Tara did not stay long with the station and eventually left Israel and took up a broadcast position back in England. Her departure from the station was a loss in many ways to the audience and to Abie, though at the time he could not see that.

As a young woman arriving on board a radio ship with a very strong male culture life was never going to be easy. If she had joined when Ken, Phil and Keith had been around, her time would have been easy — these were radio folk who had worked with female broadcasters before. Her easy on air manner may not have fitted in with the style of that period but she would have found the company very pleasant. As it was, she joined when the British guys were the mainstay of the ship and they brought with them the 1970's attitudes of young lads from the London of the time. Tara, who was a sincere and gentle person, had difficulty settling in almost immediately, the lads were unsure of how to deal with her; she was, after all a well-educated and well-travelled young woman, a major problem for most lads of the day.



In the middle Tara. Photo: Don Stevens

I spent many hours over the weeks talking to Tara, making her feel comfortable and trying to get her to settle in, but she made it clear to me that she felt she was not welcome on the vessel. To make matters worse, we had some late spring swell and the ship was riding high out of the water, and Tara suffered from bad sea sickness. She was keen to go home, things were not as she expected, and despite my urging her to stay a bit longer she made plans to leave. Steve Gordon too made every attempt to settle her in, but we both understood that she was not at ease.

When she did broadcast she adapted well to the self-operated studio and she had a wonderful microphone manner and a superb voice full of honey, as listeners to LBC would testify. In her last couple of weeks, the weather got better and Tara seemed to be okay as photos of the time testify, but, she went ashore for a break and eventually I heard she left for Britain to resume her career with independent radio.'



And the day after I sent the sad news to Don Stevens he came back with: 'Such a wonderful human, Hans, she loved radio, her heart's desire was to be a broadcaster, and, so brave, as her culture (she

told me) worked against her, Hans, for her dream. I will not elucidate more on my comments in your excellent book, Hans, but, Tara Jeffries gave hope to many women who wanted to be in radio, Tara, moving to a radio ship was brave, very brave, in the 1970's. I am heartbroken that such a wonderful woman, so brave, enterprising, a flag carrier for many women in broadcasting today, did a ground shattering role in radio, and, with little support from Laura Carman needs to know, her Mom, was a pioneer, and entered the Wild Frontier of Free Radio, made an impact, and later, in legal radio. Thank you Hans, Mi Amigo, and, The Great Maker (her affection as mine) holds her close, and smiles upon her. Thank you Hans, I appreciate you sharing this news for Tara, she deserves it.'

A total other subject brings us to former minesweepers.



**Minesweeper Hazard in Freedom Park Omaha. Collection: Freedom Park.**

Information sent by Paul de Haan: The Hazard is the sister ship from the MV Galaxy, the former radio ship from Radio London. The Hazard has a dry position in Freedom Park in Omaha Nebraska USA, yes you've read it correctly, a place on dry land. However in 2011 weather conditions were so bad that heavy flood brought the vessel

into water again. After water was dropped to a lower level the ship was on the dry field again, however with 7 degrees inclination. A local television station made the next report:

<http://www.ketv.com/news/crews-working-to-straighten-uss-hazard-after-missouri-river-flooding/33406134>

On next photo you see how the wheelhouse on the Hazard looks like: identical the one which was on the MV Galaxy. For more see also next link to internet.



Photo: Freedompark Omaha USA.

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

As a member of Anorak Nation I got the next message: 'we thought you might be interested in a new book about the history of London's unlicensed radio stations. It's already had 9 five star reviews at [Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk).

London's Pirate Pioneers tells the whole story of pirate radio in the city from 1965 to 1990. From the early hobbyist operations of the 1960s to the big commercial enterprises of the 1980s. From suburban bedrooms to open fields to urban tower blocks. From

hippies to soul boys to ravers. The book weaves together a year-by-year account of the developments in London's radio with the stories of the key stations. It explores the political, social, musical and technological changes that were to influence each stage in the pirates' evolution. There's 58 photos covering every era plus lots of flyers and promos.

For more information and where to get it visit

[www.amfm.org.uk/book](http://www.amfm.org.uk/book)

Time now to take a little trip to the west coast of the USA where for years we take a dive monthly in the big archive with pictures showing the Emperor Rosko: Here's another picture to remember the days the Emperor became a big star. Taken around the late sixties. By the way the name on the turntable has nothing to do with the radio ships from Radio Syd. Of course the Cheeta II was once the home for Radio Caroline South when the MV Mi Amigo went for repair to the harbour of Zaandam in the Netherlands.





Talking about Unique photographs: next a link to photographs, taken in 1968 when there were serious plans in Germany to bring back the MV Galaxy in international waters. These photos were taken during a press presentation:

<http://www.united-archives.com/n/search/Galaxy.info>

With thanks to Martin van der Ven.

Good news from Tony Prince as he was very active with his team editing in his studio:

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

### **History Of DJ - Part 10, 11 and 12 - Radio Luxembourg**

"Subscribe to keep up to date with the latest videos from DMC:

<http://po.st/DMCWorld>

The 10th episode in THE HISTORY OF DJ reveals the importance over 60 years of Radio Luxembourg's English Service on 208 metres on the medium wave. Covered in static and broadcasting only at night, Luxembourg was targeting the pop-starved British Isles however, most of Europe was equally deprived of pop music and so it was that kids in the Eastern block could use their radio to escape their confines.

From pre rock 'n' roll to the arrival of the world's first teenage revolution, the station is the birthplace for Presley, Beatles, Stones, Who, Zeppelin and a hand-full of DJs who were gifted with the greatest job on the greatest radio station the world has ever known.

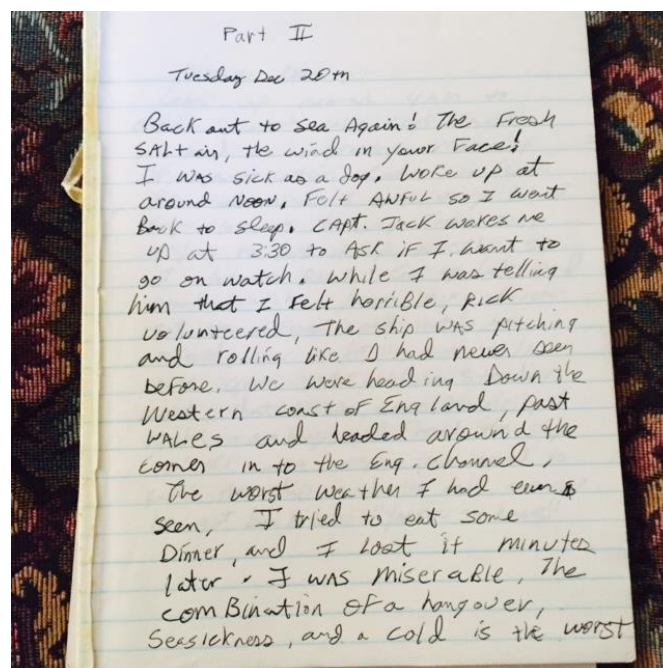
Narrated once again by DMC's Tony Prince who joined 208 after two years on the radio pirate Radio Caroline. Tony eventually became

Programme Director of the station spending no less than 16 years, 9 of which he and his family lived in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

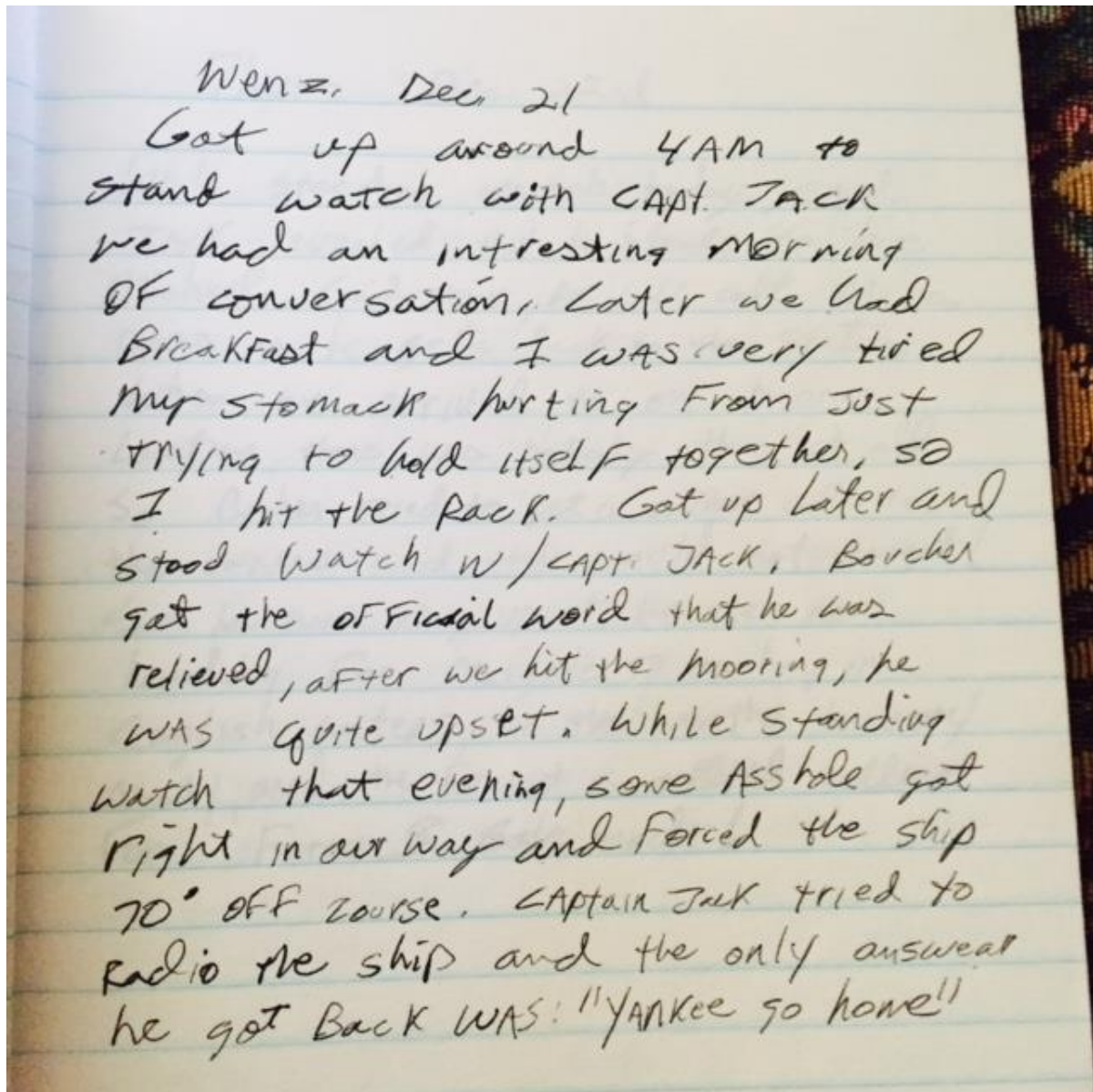
The greatest names in British radio established themselves here and it is finally revealed, that had Radio Luxembourg never existed, the Beatles would never have heard the music which inspired them to become The Quarrymen.

The DMC TV series has two more Luxembourg episodes in store as the DJs themselves visit their old hunting ground in search of the station and the unbelievable stories they will recall. For now, here's a bumper episode that still only just skims the Radio Luxembourg story."

Michael Dean, who sent a lot of photographs from his Laser days, also forwarded pages with notes from David Lee Stone: Michael: 'He kept a diary of time in Florida preparing for the trip, sailing from there to the Azores and then on to Ireland. I believe this second diary began as they were sailing from Ireland to the North Sea.' Last issue we had the cover and first page and some other pages in this issue. Click on the photos to make it larger.



The next day is a page from the dairy just a day later in December 1983.



Wenz. Dec 21  
Got up around 4AM to  
stand watch with CAPT. JACK  
we had an interesting morning  
of conversation. Later we had  
Breakfast and I was very tired  
my stomach hurting from just  
trying to hold itself together, so  
I hit the rack. Got up later and  
stood watch w/ CAPT. JACK. Boucher  
got the official word that he was  
relieved, after we hit the mooring, he  
was quite upset. While standing  
watch that evening, some asshole got  
right in our way and forced the ship  
70° off course. Captain Jack tried to  
radio the ship and the only answer  
he got back was: "YANKEE GO HOME!"

With two others more to go, later in this issue of the Hans Knot International Radio Report. And if you have memories to share, photos or other things of interest, please feel free to send it to my e mail address: [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

Next to editing another episode in his series on the history of DJ's Tony Prince had also time to have a read in last issue of the report: 'Hans, a compelling report filling gaps in my experience I had lost especially my dated time on Caroline South. I always felt I'd first gone out there in December 1965 giving certain DJs Xmas relief. I

certainly recall the team at the time included Robbie Dale, Tony Blackburn, Emperor Rosko, Graham 'Spider' Webb, Norman St John and DLT. And of course I'll never ever forget climbing the mast with Tony Blackburn to put us back on air. The others who tried on that stormy day were David Lee Travis and Norman St John. TB and I made two attempts but it was Tony who went all the way. And let's not forget Rosko of course. As always, thank you. Tony Prince.'

January 9<sup>th</sup> came another message from Tony Prince, this time a very sad one and I put it first on my Facebook page: 'For my radiofriends, just 3 hours ago Tony Prince sent the very sad news about the death of Ed Stewart, who we know from Radio London and the BBC: 'I have the heartbreaking news to announce the death of a dear, dear friend and colleague, the wonderful Ed 'Stewpot' Stewart who passed away about an hour ago after being in a coma for three days. My deepest sympathy to Ellie and his children.'

Here a photo I took in 2007 during one of the reunions we had in London in the Sugar Reef:

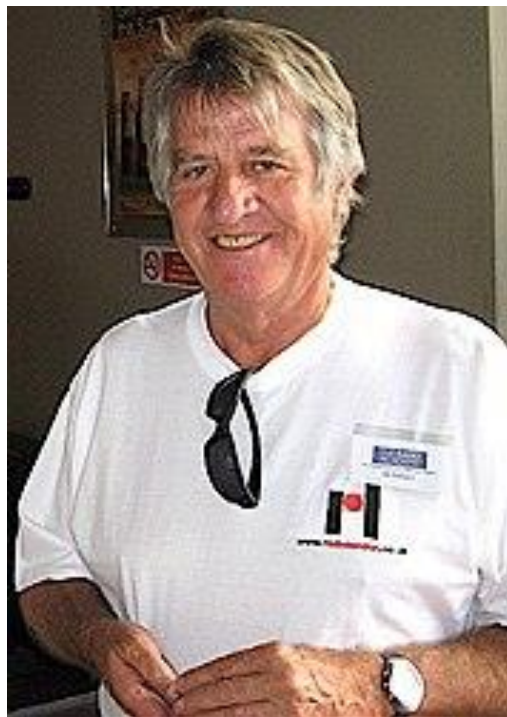


Photo: Hans Knot

I've decided not to go in any further detail about the long standing career of the late Ed Stewart. No one can do it better than Mary Payne from the Radio London site. So here's what Mary wrote as well as many former colleagues and friends as well as listeners from Stewpot. <http://www.radiolondon.co.uk/rl/edtribute/eds.html>

Like in last issue I want to make a dive into one of the many American publications I've in my archive: 1965, March 8<sup>th</sup> in the news in the USA as Broadcasting brought the next: 'Radio Caroline may move sales office to U.S. One of Britain's major unlicensed offshore commercial radio stations, Radio Caroline, is prepared to move its time sales office to New York if legislation curtails its business in London.

Meanwhile that station and Britain's other major offshore outlet, Radio London, expect to continue broadcasting regardless of any legislation aimed at forcing them off the air following the recent Council of Europe agreement to outlaw unauthorized stations. Spokesmen for both stations said that they will attempt to circumvent and not violate any laws. The Council of Europe agreement will not be fully effective until all signatory countries have enacted legislation giving force to their respective government's decision.



MV Fredericia source unknown

When this happens the two floating radio stations will not lawfully be able to obtain fuel, food, equipment, program material and other supplies from several West European countries. However, several sources for these items would still remain. Spain, which is not a signatory to the agreement, is one likely source because of its relatively convenient location. Dozens of commercial stations using 'unauthorized' frequencies operate from that country. The spokesman said program material would be available from the U.S. while United Kingdom legislation could only prevent some advertising from being placed with the stations. Probably only 100% British - owned companies would be barred from buying time. International companies could buy time through their offices outside of Britain.

This explains Caroline's readiness to move its time sales unit to New York. The British government has suggested to the Isle of Man that it stop aiding Caroline's Irish Sea transmitter ship. The government of the island off the northwest coast of England, however, has been reluctant to comply. The island, constitutionally a semi-autonomous part of the United Kingdom, is always anxious to assert its independence. The House of Keys, the island's legislature, is possibly upset at the British government's refusal to allow Radio Manx, Britain's only licensed commercial station, to operate on anything but what the station considers to be a very awkward frequency and at very low power. Word is that the island's government would be more willing to act against Caroline North, as the offshore floating station is called, if limitations on Radio Manx were less stringent.'

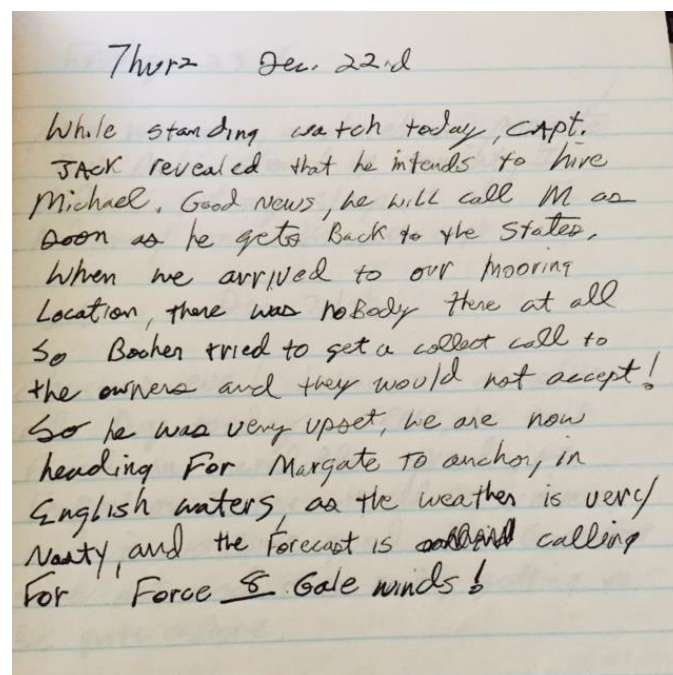
I know it's almost at the end of January but most of the e mails came in during or before the Christmas period:

'Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year Hans, just in time for my egg, El Reporto has arrived. Great memories of what gave us backbone back in the days, my expression which seemed to miss the scrutiny of your good self was. "We are Caroline your all day on and off

station. If we go off, do not change the dial, we will magically reappear right here! Sometime! The truth to be told, it kind of added to the mystic of pirate radio, the opposite of the perfectionist BBC. Regards to happy new year to all your readers! Emperor Rosko.'

Thanks Mister Pasternak and your regular photo is elsewhere in the report. From the USA we go to England again: 'A brilliant read Hans. The 390 tie up with Cheeta caused me to be fired by Ted Albeury when I asked for a mere £2.00 extra per week for all the broadcasting staff given the extra advertising revenue that 'we' would generate from the duplicated 390 South tapes when rebroadcast on 390 North. Did Ted ever actually go out to the forts or the Laissez Faire himself or, like his brilliant books, were the journeys all fantasy? Happy Daze John Ross-Barnard'.

Well thanks a lot John and your question can be answered by one of the guys who worked for Radio 390. So who's next? Earlier on in the report I promised some more pages from the David Lee Stone diary:



Thurs Dec. 22nd

While standing watch today, Capt. JACK revealed that he intends to hire Michael. Good news, he will call M as soon as he gets back to the States. When we arrived to our mooring location, there was nobody there at all so Becker tried to get a collect call to the owners and they would not accept! So he was very upset, we are now heading for Margate to anchor, in English waters, as the weather is very nasty, and the forecast is ~~said~~ calling for Force 5 Gale winds!

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>

Here we are, anchored in Margate,  
Paul Rushing showed up tonight, I  
did not get any sleep at all. I  
had many long talks with Capt. Jack,

SAT. Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>

Christmas eve! Listening to CAROLINE  
all Day to-day. CRAIG, the cook  
Fixed an incredible spread, we  
Feasted on Turkey with all the trimmings  
and it was quite good. The Generator  
gave out and it is really getting to  
be quite a bore.

Sun —                      Wen 2

SOS !                      Meeting with Paul

All these were December 1983 memories from the late Dave Lee Travis courtesy of Michael Dean. Andy reflections are welcome at [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

Next it's time for an e mail from one of the former VOP deejays, Paul Fraser.

'Hi Hans it was interesting to read about the short wave transmissions from the Voice of Peace. I think I can add to the history. When I was on board between 1992 and '93, Radha told me that a short wave transmitter had been built from parts of the old valve medium wave transmitter. This would have been sometime



between January 1990 and June 1992. The output power was some hundreds of watts; I forget the exact figure. Reception reports came from Europe and India (at least). Unfortunately, the signal interfered with Israeli Army tank radios. The authorities ordered the transmitter to be shut down.

I believe there was a transmitter engineer called Al Muick on board within this period. Maybe he built the short wave transmitter. Interestingly, there were unintentional short wave transmissions from the VOP for many years. The valve medium wave transmitter sent out a signal on the 2nd harmonic of 1540kHz, namely 3.080MHz. I've been told that this was known in the sw listening hobby.

The solid-state medium wave transmitter, installed in 1987, had good output filtering, so no accidental short wave! Also, it was on the channel of 1539 kHz, so no heterodyne either. Best Wishes for 2016. Paul Fraser.'



Tendering the Peace ship. Photo: Archive Hans Knot

Next we go to Asia and Alan Milewczyk: 'Hi Hans Scary how time flies by, we're only a week away from Christmas and only two weeks left of this year before the dial clicks over to 2016. I can recall so clearly listening to Caroline South on New Year's Eve 1966 when the clock switched over to 1967! It's difficult to believe how quickly time has gone since those heady days of the sixties!

Thanks for another year of reports and another year of friendship. It's always lovely to read your monthly report. This month I particularly enjoyed the 'Cheeta II' feature. Even though I was in NW England, I recall those days very clearly as a listener - I was overjoyed Caroline was back on the air in whatever form and even more so when the 'Mi Amigo' came back on air and there was a handover period to get listeners to switch over to 259. That was the time that Caroline South really came into its own, with a more powerful transmitter, a better frequency, a new jingle package (which I still love to this day) and a really good sound to provide a more successful rival to Big L. Happy days!

Sorry to hear about 'Baby' Bob Stewart's accident recently, I do hope he's on the mend, it's so sad when a thoughtless idiot causes others harm. I was touched to hear of your Sinterklaas charity involvement in the Netherlands. Poverty is a blight on humanity and, of course, it exists in all countries, even in the so-called 'developed world' such as the Netherlands and the UK - I was brought up in poverty but managed through education to find a way through it, although I was always mindful that most of us are only 'a few pay cheques away from the breadline'.

Here in the Philippines, people find it hard to believe when I tell them of the homeless sleeping the streets in the UK, a top 10 world economy. Although the Philippines is poor, there is a strong sense of family and community and people help each other, something that's largely disappeared in the western world. We grow some vegetables here and if we have a surplus, or if we have left overs of a cooked

meal, we 'share our blessings' with our neighbours, as they do with us, a wonderful Filipino tradition. Philippines Alan M.'

Thanks a lot Alan for your memories, good thoughts and more. It's always nice to hear from you and sharing our thoughts in personal e-mails. Have a good time over there and best greetings to all.

The Cheeta story from last issue brought a lot of memories back for some of the readers as here's another reflection from John Roberts:

'Hi Hans, thanks again for an interesting read. The part about the Cheeta brought back memories. I arrived aboard the ship and found that the 10 KW Continental transmitter was in place in the hold and the power from the installed generator was available. The big problem was there was no antenna. I was the only engineer present and I obtained a roll of heavy stranded copper antenna wire, lucky to have this on board, and measured out a quarter wavelength at the transmitter frequency cutting it at this point. One end of the wire I connected to the antenna terminal on top of the transmitter. Now the ship did not have much high superstructure nor was it big enough or long enough to accommodate the length of the wire, so it zig zagged here and there and finished up not more than 10 metres above the deck.

It was the best that could be done. Three insulators were on the end and on turning on the transmitter produced an arc known as 'corona' when output (audio) was applied from the studio. At least we were on the air. Well it didn't last long as the insulators didn't stand the strain and fractured letting the wire fall down. I had a solution in mind and went to the person in charge of the galley and obtained a large metal mixing bowl. This was installed at the insulators to spread the very high voltage at the antenna tip. This was an effective solution to the arcing problem. However nothing could make an efficient antenna system on such a ship without a high mast of some sort and so only low signal levels were available from the Cheeta.

After the Cheeta I went to the Mi amigo after she came out of Zaandam dry dock. I did work on the ship in dry dock for a couple of weeks. On board, when at sea, the gear was being readied for operation. During this time I had the transmitter on air and put out test transmissions playing music of Radio 390 kind. Instrumentals and so on. I announced the test. This came to an end when the HT transformer failed in the transmitter. At great expense the company flew a new one from the US and we installed it. I got the blame for this and didn't get to return to Caroline.

The person in charge of Tech matters knew little about tech matters and was an Austrian named Paul. When I left on the tender I waved goodbye to Norman St. John who I met again in Australia some 40 years ago now. So from there I got a job at Britain Radio/Radio England. Here I was rewarded with experience on two 50 KW Continental transmitters and early automation.



Transmitter room Laissez Faire Photo: John Roberts

Eighteen inch spools of pre-recorded music with cue tones. This was MOR stuff for Britain Radio. I set this up and it was used for overnight programming. The combiner for the two high power transmitters was huge and up on deck in a walk in room. The coax cables were pressurised nitrogen about 3 inch diameter. The antenna system was sensitive as the rolling ship changed matching enough to let very high voltages appear in the output stage and arcing over was a problem. Of all the main ships North Caroline was the best in this regard with a nice folded unipolar to get the input impedance raised up. I worked on North Caroline before going to Zaandam.



John Roberts on the Ampex on Caroline North Photo collection John Roberts

The schedule of work on all the ships was two weeks on board and a week on shore all weeks being paid for. One morning on my way to Harwich to go to Britain Radio and Swinging Radio England I had a car accident and had to return home to Cambridge. The company took the view that I was neglectful in not turning up for work and I lost that job. So it was on to Radio London where I worked for a short time before migrating to Australia. I became Chief Engineer for Radio 4CA Cairns for over 21 years and retired at 60 years. I then worked part time for Radio 4KZ Innisfail for a further 5 years. Then I obtained a 2Kw narrowcast licence and opened my own station 'Radio Cool', which played all old music. I sold out to a guy who wanted

a country western station. It carries on today as KIK-FM and is now owned by my old boss Radio 4KZ. Best Regards John Roberts VK4TL (also ex GW3IVS, G3IVS, VS6CW, VQ4GX, VQ3GX, VQ1SSB ex operator of ZB2A and NS1B on Britain Radio/Radio England). John Roberts VK4TL'

Thanks a lot John for this very nice and technical update. Surely a lot of your former colleagues on Big L and Caroline as well on the Laissez Faire will read it with a lot of interest. Anyone who wants to reflect on above simply writes to [HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

It's a few years back that I was arranged by a lady from Amsterdam's Housing Corporation 'De Key'. They wanted to rebuild the former REM Island and part of the project was to install an exhibition on the history of the REM project in 1964. Talks took place in Groningen as here a huge documentation on the REM is in the archive. Part of it was taken to Amsterdam to further research. Just a few months before the REM restaurant was opened in Amsterdam harbour I got my archive pieces back with the message that an exhibition was too expensive to arrange.

Last year in spring I got again from the organisation the question if working together was possible. This time they wanted several blown up photographs as a permanent exhibition. I did a lot of scan work to get the best there is from the many photos I've. Sent it again to Amsterdam and weeks later got again a phone call in which was told that the idea couldn't be realised as money was short. After the first talks I already told the late Rob Olthof that I thought the project bringing back the REM platform was too prestigious. And guess what was in the newspapers on January 13<sup>th</sup>? Yes if you have enough money there's the possibility to buy the REM platform.

<http://www.parool.nl/parool/nl/4/AMSTERDAM/article/detail/4223730/2016/01/13/Voormalig-zendplatform-REM-eiland-te-koop-gezet.dhtml>

Next e mail time from Paramaribo in Surinam, where former newsreader and deejay Gerard Smit from RNI days is living: 'It's so that I show too less attention to the fact that I always get your international radio report, which everytime makes me happy. It's like so many other things that we accept that it's there. But there will come a day that no one takes the time to report on the history, that's for sure. On the other hand I'm very happy to have been a part of the free radio movement on the radio and now in reading the reports. Offshore radio a strange but unique phenomenon.'

Thanks Gerard and I hope you're still happy in that part of mother earth. From Sweden the next information from Ingemar: 'Sweden Calling DX-ers was a weekly programme on Radio Sweden International. It was introduced by Arne Skoog in 1948, and through decades hosted by George Wood. Eventually it became the world's oldest of its kind, later renamed MediaScan, with its final broadcast on July 17, 2001. During the British offshore radio era, SCDX-ers also had the courage - in spite of what can be assumed a more 'appropriate' procedure of a loyal EBU member - to give detailed reports about the developments on this radio scene. Here's an outdraw of these reports from Sweden Calling DX-ers through the years 1964 -1970. <http://www.radiohistoria.jvnf.org/sr/scdx.htm>

Thanks Ingemar and yes I remember too listening a lot to this special program in the past. We have e mails from all parts of the world. Here one from the Shetland Islands were a former RNI and Caroline deejay is living and running his own radiostation: 'All the best for Christmas and new year from Ian Anderson. An officer at Shetland Coastguard for the last 21 years, Dave Phillips, popped along us at SIBC to say goodbye, as he is now moving on, and showed us some of his photos that he had been promising to show for years.

As a young person in the early 1970s he lived in the Netherlands for a time where he listened to Veronica, RNI and the Mi Amigo stations. He then served in the UK Royal Engineers including in Germany, with diving training in Kiel in 1984-1985. This was done at the 'blown up'

submarine/U boat shelters, with the half sunken *Galaxy* nearby.

They would board one structure they called the 'Crazy House', entering by the windows at waterline level and climbing to the top. They were going to explore the submerged lower decks of the *Galaxy* but never did. Ian Anderson.'

Thanks a lot Ian for this memory and sharing the photos with me. Have a good time over there!

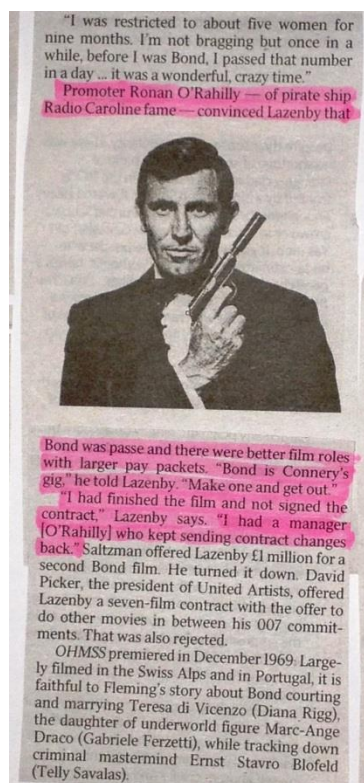
Here's one of the pictures Ian send me:



Photo: Dave Phillips



And from the Shetlands to Australia is just a short step in the Hans Knot International Radio Report: 'Dear Sir Hans, I thought you might be interested to know that Ronan's name got a mention in a national weekend newspaper here in Australia. I have attached a shortened version of the article, with the section about Ronan O'Rahilly highlighted. His reputation lives on! I am constantly surprised that there hasn't been a modern documentary made about Mr O'Rahilly. He really did change the face of British broadcasting, as well as leading an unusual and enigmatic life. I have suggested twice to the BBC Radio 4 program - Desert Island Discs - that they have him on their show. It would make fascinating radio, and I wonder what 8 records would be on his list? Surely Caroline (The Fortunes), and a Georgie Fame number. Kind regards, (Aussie) Phil Crosby, Perth, Western Australia.



Then someone sent an e mail and just wanted to inform me that the logo from Radio 270 was later copied for use on a cover of a single by the bazooka company. Thanks Jan van Heeren for sending it.



Almost on a yearly basis I get an e mail on December 23<sup>rd</sup> from Amsterdam where Peter van den Berg is living. As far as I know he's the most fanatic Big L lover we have in the Netherlands. 'Today it's 51 years ago that Radio London came on the air. Congratulations. Did you already arrange a ticket for Frinton on August 14<sup>th</sup> 2017? Yes by coincidence it's on a Monday! Attached is a photograph of one of my best friends.



50 years ago Radio Scotland started on January 1st. Here an article in The National Scot written by Stefan Schmid

<http://www.thenational.scot/culture/profile-pirate-radio-scotland.11662>



**MV Comet archive National Scot.**

December 25<sup>th</sup> was a sad day at BBC Radio Guernsey as the staff remembered friend and colleague Jon Myers, who died on Christmas Day. 'Jon was a great character, generous, helpful and hilarious and kind. He was an old school journalist and a great story teller with a distinctive voice. He started his career at Radio Caroline as Jon Tyler. Jon was heavily involved in the Caroline Overdrive 963Khz overnight service in 1986 and early 1987, which for me personally, because of the music, the fun and style of broadcasting, was the period during Caroline's history that I look back on most fondly. For one example, listen to the Christmas Day 1986 broadcast with Mark Matthews. He worked in Guernsey in the 1990s and recently made a return to the island as our breakfast newsreader. He also worked at

5live and BBC Sport, where he was able to combine his broadcasting talents with his love of horse racing.'



**John Myers (Tyler) on Radio Caroline. Photo: Richard Jackson**

Next it's Jon at the Pirate Hall of Fame. New this month: the penultimate page of the 'Eighties Supplement', featuring DJs from that decade with names beginning with the letters S to V. They include such offshore favourites as Caroline's Kevin Turner and Laser's David Lee Stone. My thanks to everyone who has supported or contributed to **The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame** during 2015. I wish you all a very happy new year. Best wishes, Jon

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

It's a pleasure now to give the report for some pages to Norah Barnes who wrote her story about a reunion which took place on January 17<sup>th</sup> in London.

## 'The Great British Radio Reunion'

at The Jazz Cafe, Camden London.

By Norah Barnes.

'The Great British Radio Reunion was organised by Alex Dyke in conjunction with the Nordoff-Robbins (music transforming lives) charity. Please check out their website: <http://www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk/> The event was due to start at 2:00pm but we were still waiting outside at 2:30 due to the security checks as we entered the venue, but I did think the security was a little strange, the woman in front of me had her bag searched and half a packet of Maltesers were confiscated. In my bag I had three packs of Nero Carmel (Dutch) Waffles, but as they were sealed they were taken away and I was told I could collect them on the way out - which I did! How dangerous could these things be? I could have understood it if food had been available inside the venue, but it wasn't!

Once inside the Jazz Cafe it was quite dark, but the first person I spotted that I knew was Peter Antony from Radio Luxembourg and Radio Caroline, along with Enda Caldwell. As the venue was "standing only" it made sense to me to find a seat on the balcony from which to view the stage show. Alex Dyke opened the proceedings by welcoming everyone and giving a quick rundown of the afternoon and evening events. First of all it was Mike Read's Pop Quiz, but as he had been grabbed by a documentary team for interviews, Tom Stroud stepped in to host the quiz. The two teams included Jona Lewie, Sally Geeson, Eddie Lundon, Carol Decker, Dave Bartram and Stephanie de Sykes.



**Roger Day. Photo: Norah Barnes**

Roger 'Twiggy' Day was on stage next to talk about his time at various and many radio stations, but had to leave early to get to Tunbridge Wells in time to do his "50 Shades of Day" show on BBC Radio Kent. The music kicked off with Clem Curtis of the Foundations re-creating their hit song "Baby Now That I've Found You." Next came David "Kid" Jensen's "Big Interview" with Mike Fry of ABC, unfortunately there was a lot of noise/talking in the room and it was difficult to hear some of Mike's replies, but David did his best to keep the audience interested and quiet.

Next on stage was Clive Jackson of Dr. and the Medics and naturally his song was: "Spirit in the Sky" and then, appropriately, there was a tribute to the late Ed "Stewpot" Stewart by Paul Burnett and Andy Peebles. Mike Knight who was station manager at Radio Luxembourg travelled all the way from the Grand Duchy with a broken ankle, and appeared on stage on crutches, but nothing was going to stop him from attending the Radio Reunion!



Norah Barnes and Mike Knight. Photo: Collection Norah Barnes

Tony Prince came on stage to chat to the audience and music continued with Linda Lewis, The Flirtations and Tina Charles. Mike Read, Charlie Wolf, and Johnnie Walker came on stage to chat with Alex Dyke, as did Peter Antony who really "told it as it is" about how bad national radio is now with "celebrities" being employed as DJs or presenters on BBC Radio 2. Well done Peter Antony! Also making an appearance were Enda Caldwell, Shaun Tilley, Mike Hollis, Bob Christie, Adrian Juste, Greg Edwards and probably many more that I missed!

More music was provided by Nathan Moore of Brother Beyond, Jimmy Helms, Owen Paul and Angie Brown who really rocked the place with a very energetic rap number! The final two artists were Graham Fenton, lead singer of Matchbox, who of course did "Rock-a-Billy Rebel" and Ray Dorset, lead singer of Mungo Jerry. Both gave fantastic performances without backing tracks, Graham had a great guitarist to accompany him and Ray played guitar and of course sang "In the Summertime".

By 8:00pm it was all over, the audience left and some of us stayed in the hospitality bar to chat, but were soon ousted by the security men who were wanting to close up! Undeterred, Tony Prince rounded up the Troops and we all went off to the Good Fare Italian restaurant just up the road from the Jazz Cafe, where we had a meal and caused a riot! Singing and dancing to the background music and generally having a good time, until once again we had to leave so that they could close the restaurant - last out again! Tony and some others went on to find some more night life, but some of us decided it was time for home, just around midnight!

To sum it all up, it was a great day packed with nostalgia from the music and the performers and of course with all the well known DJs who took time to come and talk to everyone. Surprisingly few off-shore or current Radio Caroline DJs made an appearance at the event and I wonder why. It was a Charity event and everyone who took part came freely. What great entertainment and fun for just the price of a ticket, £25.00 well worth it and the travel to the venue. Let's hope that Alex Dyke will be encouraged to organise such an occasion again in the not too distant future.'

Thanks a lot Norah for bringing us your impressions of this special day in London. More photos taken by Norah Barnes that day in London are on line:

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

Next it's Chris Brisland: 'Hi folks just to let you know that next weekend, Radio Caroline will be once again teaming up with Manx Radio to run another Caroline North tribute. Medium-wave and online, full details here: <http://www.radiocaroline.co.uk/#home.html>

This ends up this issue of the report and in the next issue I will review the special documentary on the Who, 'Lambert and Stamp', which is now out on DVD. Also we have the last part of the Radio Syd story, the period the station was active in Gambia. Till then all the



best and let your memories, photos, questions and more coming in at  
[HKnot@home.nl](mailto:HKnot@home.nl)

Best greetings Hans Knot