

Hans Knot International Radio Report May 2017

Welcome to this May edition of the International Radio Report. Thanks for many e mails from which a selection will be in this issue and another part in the next issue. Also thanks for sending photos and other documents. First of all the sad news, that Brian Matthew died on April 8th. A lot of fake news about him was in the newspapers some days earlier as the BBC had officially brought in the news on the 5th that he had died. Family brought the news that the information was wrong. More in the next link:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-39541162>

You've to see this trailer for the documentary made by Professor Wayne Hepler and his gang about offshore radio for the American market. Some very famous faces can be seen:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v08MsM3gWbE>

As soon as the documentary is available for the European Market I will inform you all.

Next from England it's Alan Bailey: 'Dear Hans. Thank you very much for including my 'Conversations' in your latest report. You may also be interested in the latest version with Pete Murray, who is very well known to BBC and Luxembourg audiences alike. Thank you Alan Bailey.

www.208itwasgreatradioluxembourg.co.uk



Alan Bailey 2007 collection: A.Bailey

From Alan to Andrew is just a very small step: 'Dear Hans, All good stuff yet again and was great to hear the Royal Ruler being interviewed on Saturday morning show BBC Radio 4 about his involvement with Iron Curtain countries. Keep on sailing. Andrew A. Matthews.'

Thanks a lot Andrew and I hope to publish many reports for the coming years. Next is Phil from Australia: 'Dear Sir Hans, your readers may be interested in a recent BBC Radio 4 interview with Tony Prince that was broadcast on Saturday 18th March. It can be listened to again here:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b08hl645>

The 1.5 hour program has several interesting interviews, including Jimmy Osmond talking about his career and how Tony Prince (on Caroline and Luxembourg) helped get the Osmond Brothers started in Europe. But the main part about Tony Prince, and his new book, starts at the 1:07 point in the show. Kind regards Aussie Phil (aka John Dale on 2RDJ FM, Sydney).

Radio Mi Amigo deejay Dick Verheul, who also worked for Radio Monique and Radio Caroline also died. Marc Jacobs wrote the next memories: 'My very good colleague and fellow 'sailor' of the MV Mi Amigo past away at the age of 60. He could make the funniest remarks without moving a muscle in his face. His eyes would do the talking. Dick is now reunited with his beloved wife Sylvia. Thanks mate for all you gave us.'



This picture was made by Vincent Schriel onboard the Radio Caroline vessel Ross Revenge in 2008.

Dick Verheul, real name Frans Maes, made a very interesting radio career. It was in 1974 he started to work with the illegal land based Radio Centraal in The Hague. Another year and he decided to start his own radiostation 'Radio Den Haag' and three years later, in 1978, he made his first steps on the Mi Amigo where he worked for Radio Mi Amigo.

After the station closed down in October 1978 he went back to Radio Centraal where he stayed up till 1985. In 1986 as well as in 1987 he made several shifts on the MV Ross Revenge working for Radio Monique. When there was a shortage of Caroline deejays it was easy for Dick Verheul to present some Caroline programs in English too.

Arriving back for the last time on shore he started to work for the legal local station Hofstad Radio (only on cable in those days) as well as Stadsradio Den Haag. In 2003, when Hofstad also got an official FM frequency, Dick could be heard again on free air.

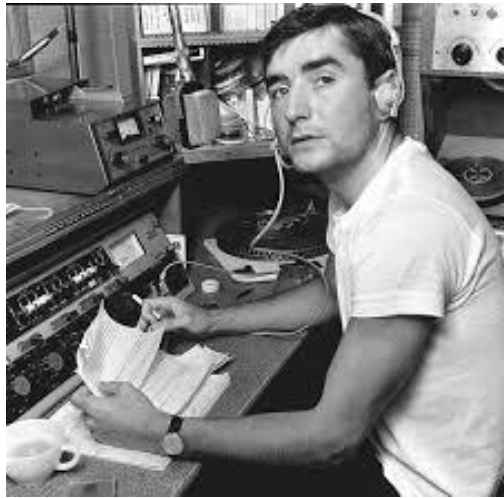
Many readers reflected on a mistake written by a photo in last report. The first one who did was Robbie Dale: 'you mention Bob Stewart and Tony Blackburn at Luxembourg, but I think that picture is of Tony Prince.'

Sure it was Tony Prince. I think I just had written the piece about Tony Blackburn in the last issue, so he had filled too much my head. Thanks Robbie and several others saw it too. So people are still spelling the report. Do you have something of interest to tell to the readers, just write me like others do too at: HKnot@home.nl

Alex Hoek has edited a beautiful new video with a special transmitted by Swiss television in 2003. There's an interview with Edwin Bollier about the early days of Radio Nordzee (Galaxy days) as well as a special

about free radio stations in Switzerland.

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



The curly headed kid on the third row
Archive Freewave

Next an e mail from Canada: 'Hi Hans, as always, I look forward to receiving and reading your reports. The photo of Rosko's school class provided me with an interesting challenge. Would I, or would I not recognize him? So, my guess would be the little lad, third from the left in the back row. I'll be interested to know if I'm correct.

I hope you're well Hans and thanks again for your hard work and dedication to them memories of the days gone by. Take care,
Steve Young.'

Thanks Steve and I hope you and Tricia are doing well. The next person writing in was the Emperor Rosko himself:

'Greetings Hans, Just finished this month's output and have to agree with Tony Prince about relating to the people etc., and let us wish Tony and Phil good luck with their new endeavor. My news for you will be next month. As for that sneaky photo you unearthed, all those young people and trying to spot me on the bench, eh, impossible task. Let me suggest you pick out the cutest kid and say that's him! EMP.'

I asked Rosko if he was the third from the left in the back row and as an answer he came back with: 'The best looking is me!'

That was not an honest answer as tastes are always different and reading this comment he came back with: 'I am on the bottom five in between two girls. From the right, looking at the screen I was a small meek little guy. See how any care to guess. Winner gets a Hans bow Tie!



This year it will be 50 years ago the British Government came with the Marine Offences Act etc. After it became law only Caroline went on with their programming as Caroline International. The next photo, I found years ago when asked by Graham Gill to make his cellar a bit empty and take with me all the letters he got while being a deejay in offshore radio. This photo was attached with a letter from a listener, who adored Radio Caroline. I presume late 1967 or early 1968.



Well Graham a belated happy 81 birthday to you and I hope your holiday went well. I put the photo recently on my facebook page and within hours the next answer came in from Pam-Jeanette in England: Hans, the background in the photo you posted (Graham Gill's fan mail) looks very like Ellana's sitting room. She was an avid fan and we ended up visiting her regularly.



The girl raising a glass with Ellana Sweeny is Lyn Strang of the FRA (Tracy Deram on Radio Kaleidoscope). The picture was taken about 1967, in Ellana's house in Southend. She had moved there from the countryside to be nearer to us in her old age. I have an even earlier one of her somewhere, if you are interested (and I can find it). Seeing that picture in Graham Gill's archive gave me quite a jolt last night. I lay awake for about an hour thinking about the old times. They were such fun days! Hope you are well. Regards, Pam-Jeanette Bird Gaines.'

Thanks Pam what a wonderful find and memory! I appreciate your quick answer.

THE RADIO CAROLINE STORY FROM OFFSHORE ECHO'S



Radio Caroline was the most well-known of all the offshore radio stations. Offshore Echo's looks at the story of the famous offshore station, with numerous photos, newspaper articles, official documents and audio clips from Easter Saturday 28th March 1964, through to the early hours of 5th November 1990.

The many features include the start of Radio Caroline and Atlanta, the 1967 Marine Offences Act, March 1968 - when both Caroline ships were seized and forced off the air. Continuing into the 1970's, with Caroline's return off the Dutch coast, the move back off England, persecution by the UK authorities, and Caroline's ship Mi Amigo sinking in March 1980. When Radio Caroline returned in 1983, with a brand new ship, the dramatic story continued.

Offshore Echo's with the Radio Caroline story - now complete and updated - at: www.offshoreechos.com

Next as usual the update from Jon Myer: 'Hi, I have just updated The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame.

New this month: Radio Caroline was launched at Easter 1964 and, to coincide with Easter 2017, we hear from one of the station founders, Ian Ross. He discusses the early days of Caroline in a fascinating interview carried out by Ray Clark;

Correspondent Kevin Tansey sheds some light on the background of Swinging Radio England 'Boss Jock', Tom Cooper; and there is a rundown of forthcoming radio-related events. Kind regards, Jon The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame

www.offshoreradio.co.uk

Martin van der Ven, Jan van Heeren and I went to Harlingen on April 15th for a meeting with the new team organising this year's Radioday: Sietse Brouwer, Herry Kuipers, Martin Goedhart and Geert Vogelzang. Of course photos were taken by Martin van der Ven. You will see the radioship Jenni Baynton, which can be visited during the RadioDay on May 20th, the Entrepot building were the Radioday will be held as well as many other ship in Harlingen. Photos from the meeting are also in these 103 photos long series. Further on in the report more info about the program of this year's event.



Jan, Sietse, Martin and Hans Photo: Martin van der Ven

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/albums/72157680019399602>

Next another e mail from a reader, this time from Leeuwarden, just a 30 minutes' drive for Theo Bakker when he's planning a visit to the RadioDay. Theo wrote: 'Many thanks for the report. It was very interesting to read, also a nice story about Mitch Murray presenting a

radio program on Radio Caroline, although for less than an hour. Greetings Theo.'

Also Tony Prince reflected on Mitch Murray: 'Well done Hans. Maybe Mitch didn't recall having a bucket of water poured on him during 'Down Came the Rain' but as I recall in my book THE ROYAL RULER AND THE RAILWAY DJ, this record was part of my DJ act at the Top Rank Bristol. I mimed to it as my audience front of stage poured a watering can over me. One night the staff threw a bucket of water over me from the balcony and fused the venue lightning!'

Again someone has found our intensive radio site on internet. A person who has been in radio in the seventies: 'Hans I came on board the Voice of Peace in 1973 as a DJ just as the ship sailed from Israel to Civitavecchia and then onto Marseilles where I left. I am in touch with one other crew member from that period. If you ever have any interest and think I can add anything to your story about the VOP, please let me know. I just want to say that being on that boat is one of the highlights of my life. Best regards, Richard Schoenberger.'

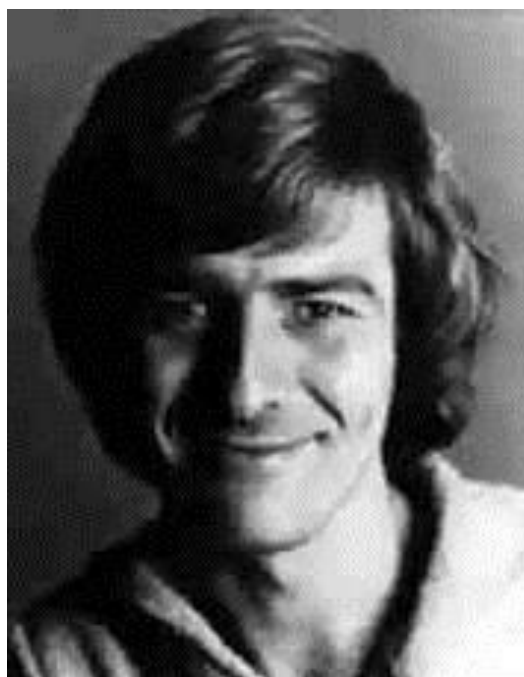
Well Richard I would love to hear your stories from that period, which was a hard one for Abe and his team so I look forward to get the memories for publishing.



Four of the VOP people on the Voice of Peace in New York 1973

Photo: Ed Simonis

Another dedicated follower of the report comes from England and she wrote: 'Thank you very much, Hans, for another excellent Report! Lots of interesting information! I saw that bit by Robb Eden about Beacon Records. I have thought of him from time to time and didn't for one moment think that he would remember me (by my original name used at the time, Brenda). I am not sure if it's he who Larry (Tremaine) said is now a Member of Parliament. Anyway, I wish him everything of the best. Take care, Hans and as always, my bestest to you and Jana. Sherri Lynn.'

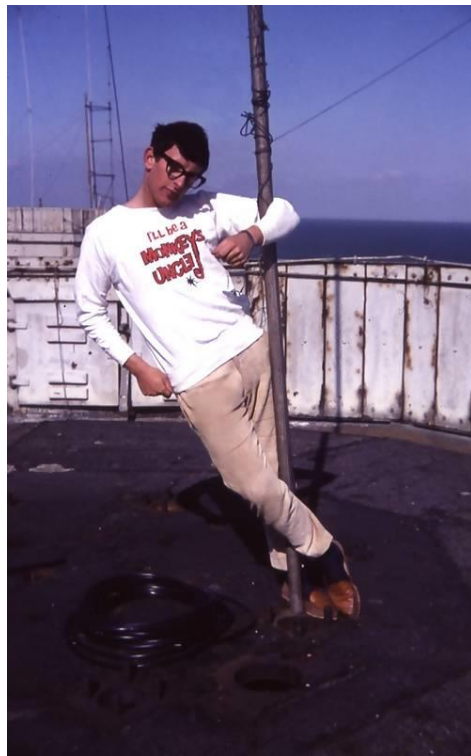


Roger Gale collection Pirate Hall of Fame

Thanks Sherri and the one who is in Parliament is Roger Gale. I think Robb Eden gets a big smile reading this. The next email comes from John Edward who worked on Radio City as Johnny Flux and on Radio London as John Edwards:

'Dear Hans, I thoroughly enjoyed your latest issue. I'm astounded that the world of pirate radio extended way beyond the usual suspects as in Big L, City, Caroline, Laser etc.; it's intriguing to hear of the rather wider world than the one I grew up with.

At the grand old age of 71, I find I am being drawn again to the radio world. I'm guessing it may be a link back to my youth when I shared a cabin with Tony Blackburn and other luminaries on Big L. Anything that brings back pleasant memories is welcome and I just wanted to take my hat off to you for doing an amazing job. Kindest Regards, Johnny Edward.'



Johnny Flux collection: Pirate Hall of Fame

Thanks a lot Johnny for the compliments but I take also my hat off for all the readers sending in material to compile such long reports. You can read more about Johnny Edward versus:

<http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk/djse2h.htm#edward>

Next one came in on March 27th: 'Today saw the 53rd anniversary of the arrival of the mv Caroline off the coast of Felixstowe, and we are delighted to mark this date by announcing that there will be a

celebration of offshore radio here in Felixstowe over the weekend of September 9th and 10th.

On Saturday 9th, there will be a stone unveiled, in recognition that Radio Caroline became Britain's first offshore radio station, whilst moored off the town. This stone is the next of a series of stones and plaques by the Felixstowe Society

<http://www.felixstowesociety.org/>, marking historic events in the Town's history, and in this instance has been prepared and paid for by the East of England Co-Operative Society

<https://www.eastofengland.coop/>

In conjunction with this, there will be a Felixstowe and Offshore Radio event at Trinity Methodist Church Hall in the town centre, featuring the 'Flashback 67' Exhibition, some of our own Felixstowe related material, a display of vintage radios and technology, Radio Caroline merchandise, and also a Record and CD Fair on the Saturday, along with some special guests!

Further details will be announced nearer the time, but put the date in your calendar and we look forward to seeing you in September!
Brian Nichols.'

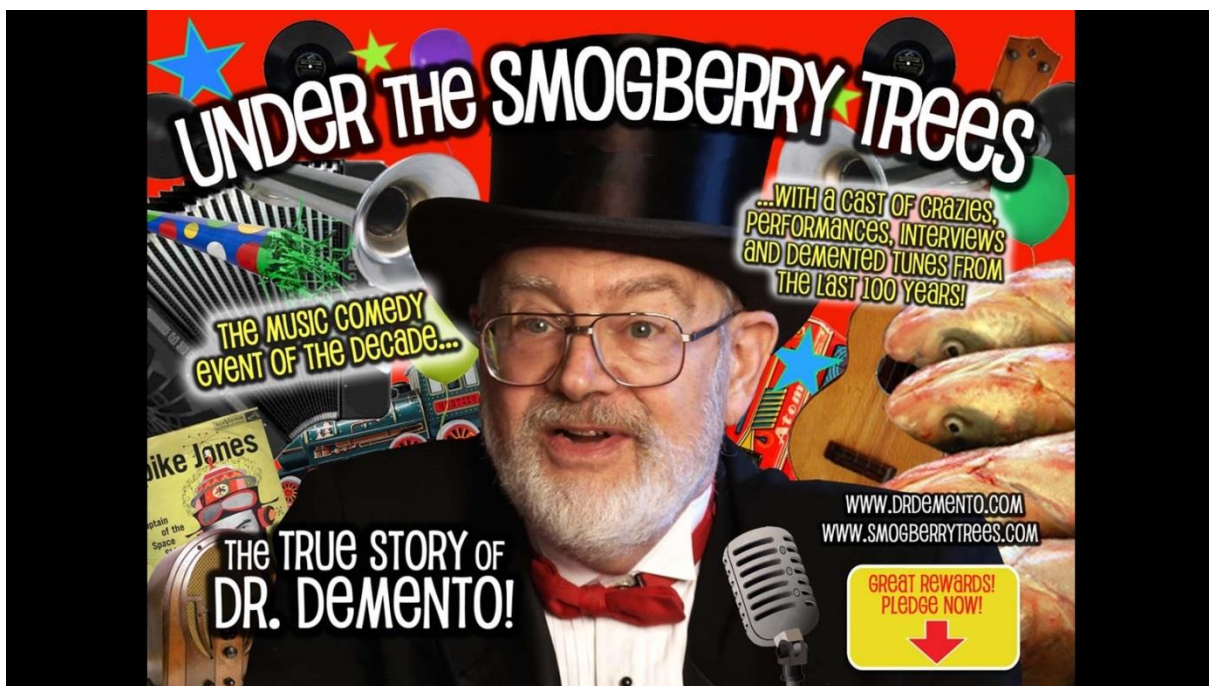
Good to hear Brian, a lot of success and get our readers informed.

For those who bought the first edition of the Paul Rusling second book about Laser and the 10 other radiostations using the MV Communicator through the years, here's an update which will be in the second edition as the information brought in the first one was far from reality:

'Dr. Demento's real name is Barret Eugene Hansen and was born on April 2nd 1941. He is a radiobroadcaster specializing in novelty song and comedy and unusual recordings from the early days of the phonographic history up till today.

Hansen created his Demento alias in 1970 while working at KPPC FM in Los Angeles. As he played on the stations songs like 'Transfusion' and 'Nervous Nervous' someone stated that he had to be demented. And from that week on his name was changed in Dr. Demento. From 1974 on his show went into syndication and Westwood One Radio Network brought the show America and AFN wide from 1978 up 2010. The show is still online every week.

So the only thing he has to do with Al Yankovich is playing his music in his program.



Other sad news came in from Paul Rusling on April 15th: 'It's sad to report when one of the Radio 270 team passes on. Russel Tollerfield began his career at Radio London and worked at Radio 270 for a while in 1966 helping commission the RCA transmitter. Coming ashore he spent many years at Capital Radio in London and then Radio Victory (Ocean) on the south coast from England. Russ was also a keen radio amateur, G3SQD.' He was also the man who switched off the Radio London transmitter for the last time at 15.00 hrs. on August 14th 1967 just 9 hours before the Marine Offences Act came into effect. For more see:

<http://www.radiolondon.co.uk/rl/russtribute/russ.html>

A wonderful black in white video from 1958 about Radio Mercur is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2KDy3HJmkQ>

Next a very interesting e mail from the USA from Sigrun Müller:
'Dear Hans Knot, what an incredible and pleasant surprise to come upon your wonderful radio pages! And especially all the information on the historic AFN, which I feared wasn't really interesting anyone today anymore, how wrong I was! What times they were, no? I am also one of those hopeless cases of radio addicts, even here in the US where people can't even remotely imagine what it was like for us growing up in those years. Never owned a TV in my life and never missed it!

I am sending you images of a book I've just published here in Connecticut (New Haven), an *Ode to Jazz*, but in a certain way it is also an *Ode to AFN*, which is where my (forbidden) love of Jazz began as you can read on the back cover of the book. (The link on the website to 'Jazz' is here: <https://sigrunmueller.wordpress.com/jazz-series-2/>



Until my parents finally divorced, listening to AFN was totally clandestine at home which made it of course twice as exciting and interesting for me ... the memory of those hours spent in front of our radio in the living room is something I'll treasure forever; I don't think

the young people today - with everything imaginable at their disposal as far as entertainment is concerned - come even remotely close to the enjoyment we got then out of that magic box called 'radio'.

What I still enjoy today out of my radio is the 'surprise' of hearing tunes I love unexpectedly ... of course I could just pull out the CD or go to YouTube and hear it whenever I chose to but it isn't the same as being 'surprised' by it unexpectedly, the joy of it never wears off this way, does it?

So, all this just to send you a huge 'Thank you!' for all you are doing on behalf of us old-fashioned radio lovers ... no matter what technology will still dream up in the future, nobody will ever be able to touch my radio, it goes with me wherever I go.

Best wishes,
Sigrun Müller

www.sigrunmueller.wordpress.com

Sigrun Müller is a painter & designer, living and working in New Haven, CT. Born in Dresden, Germany, she studied foreign languages to fulfill her desire to leave Germany and see as much of the world as she possibly could. In New York - for her then the center of the world - another desire that had had to wait for years was fulfilled: she studied art ... and will never stop studying it. She hopes, however, that she won't ever be asked to have to choose between art and the other big love in her life: music.

Thanks a lot for this wonderful way of bringing your memories of radio in to this e mail. In the meantime I've made Sigrun more happier with some exclusive material from my archive.

This is a note from Mike Terry who wrote: 'Thanks to the Caroline Fans Yahoo group this is Peel's first ever radio appearance. The audio

consists of the first 25 minutes of the show where host Bill 'Hoss' Carroll introduces John Ravenscroft (Peel's real name) to talk to him about his blues record collection.



John Peel at Radio London
Photo: Freewave Archive

The audio I received mentioned the title coming from 1962. I have no idea whether that is true, as the audio does not give clues on the year, but according to Peeling Back the Years, it was 1961. A small excerpt of this was broadcast on Radio Radio'.

<http://missingepisodes.proboards.com/thread/12021/peels-first-radio-appearance-discovered>

Can be downloaded from Mediafire link on Wiki

[http://peel.wikia.com/wiki/Kat%27s_Karavan_\(1961\)](http://peel.wikia.com/wiki/Kat%27s_Karavan_(1961))

Mervyn Hagger added more information. 'Kat's Karavan was a rhythm-and-blues radio program broadcast from Dallas from 1953 to 1967 on WRR-AM. The program aired R&B music to a primarily white teenage audience with burgeoning interests in music previously off-limits to them because of contemporary race relations. In the 1950s, white-owned radio stations across the country were just beginning to dabble in play music made by African Americans. Unsure of the commercial prospects of such a venture, many radio stations were reluctant to cross racial lines in their programming.



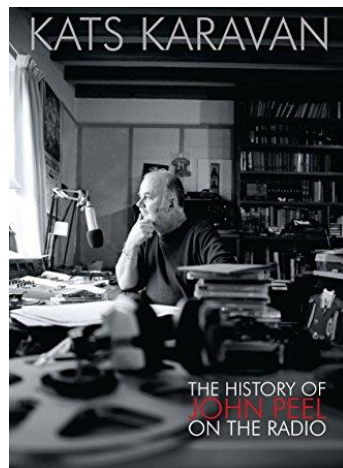
Kat's Karavan defiantly played early R&B music performed by blacks, even though the show was hosted by and aimed at whites. The show was particularly influential because of its formatting, its personalities, the large region it broadcast to, and the number of famous musicians who came of age while listening to it.

Kat's Karavan showed strong support for local music acts such as the Nightcaps, who recorded their only album (*Wine, Wine, Wine*) at the WRR studio in 1959; the single of the same name was used as a promotional vehicle for the show. This album, which also included the song 'Thunderbird', influenced upcoming local artists including Jimmie Vaughan, Stevie Ray Vaughan, and members of ZZ Top. While promoting local music, Kat's Karavan also exposed its listeners to musicians from outside Texas, including such legendary blues figures as John Lee Hooker and Muddy Waters. Thus the show intended to expand the horizons of its listeners and inform them of the musical styles being created by black musicians.

The show's disc jockeys also contributed to its success. Kat's Karavan was co-hosted by Jim Lowe, Jr., and Bill Carroll, who provided comedy for the listeners and encyclopedic knowledge of the music and the musicians. Lowe became such a well-loved figure in the Dallas area that, for forty years, he was the voice of the mechanical cowboy, Big Tex, at the State Fair of Texas. Another notable co-host of Kat's Karavan was Englishman John Peel. His work on the show in 1961 marked his early broadcast career before he returned to England to host the BBC radio program *Top Gear* (In 2009 a CD set chronicling Peel's broadcasts later

in his career was named Kats Karavan: The History of John Peel on the Radio.)

Kat's Karavan was also successful because of its unique format. Lowe and Carroll divided the show into two parts. The first began at 10:30 each weeknight and centered on R&B vocal groups, while the second began at 11:15 and focused on both electric and acoustic blues. All these blues styles influenced the development of R&B. The show informed listeners of contemporary R&B developments and their historical backgrounds. Two rare segments of a 1961 broadcast of Kat's Karavan have been discovered and donated to WRR by a private collector.



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http://blogs.dallasobserver.com/.../peeling_back_john..., accessed October 23, 2011. Kevin Walters, 'Historical 1961 WRR Broadcasts Found <http://ryono.net/xtra/oldies/1957/jimlowe.htm>, accessed October 23, 2011.

<https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/ebk03>

Jan Yahu Pawul writes from Poland that he has an interesting blog about the Emperor Rosko, 'one of the few most important deejays on planet earth': <http://emperor-rosko.blogspot.com/>

Another sad lost is to mention as Barry Everett died. Andy Archer wrote a small tribute: 'I was saddened to hear of the death of my former shipmate Barry Everett from cancer in April.'

Barry, along with Hugh Nolan (also sadly departed) came out to the Mi Amigo in 1973 to launch Radio Seagull. They had previously worked for Radio Geronimo. Barry was a delight to work with and we shared many, many laughs together.

He had an encyclopaedic knowledge of music. During the few months he was with Radio Seagull, he introduced both us and our audience to a whole new world of exciting and innovative bands and singers. Barry was one of those extraordinary people who it was a real pleasure to have known. He will be greatly missed.'



Barry Everett collection Jon Myer

Thanks a lot Andy for the warm words. And this is what the Pirate Hall of Fame has about Barry: worked in and around the music business for many years. Back in the sixties he was a drummer in blues bands Hobo James and The Farm. A sports journalist on The Romford Times / Stratford Express, he became interested in the burgeoning 'underground' press of the late sixties and contributed to some of the publications, including *Friendz*, *International Times* and *Oz*. In 1970 he was heard on the freeform hippy station from Monte Carlo, Radio Geronimo. Sadly Geronimo did not last.

Barry then travelled to New York and helped launch WPLJ-FM. In 1972 he started Revelation Records with John Coleman. They released the *Glastonbury Fayre* triple LP recording of the previous year's Glastonbury festival. In July 1973 a number of ex-Geronimo DJs, including Barry, launched Radio Seagull from the Caroline ship then anchored off Holland. Barry broadcast on Radio Seagull until September that year, then moved to America where he was heard on various radio stations (KSML, KFAT, KDKB and the syndicated *Rock Around The World* programme) returning to the UK in 1981 to work at London's legendary live music venue, Dingwalls.

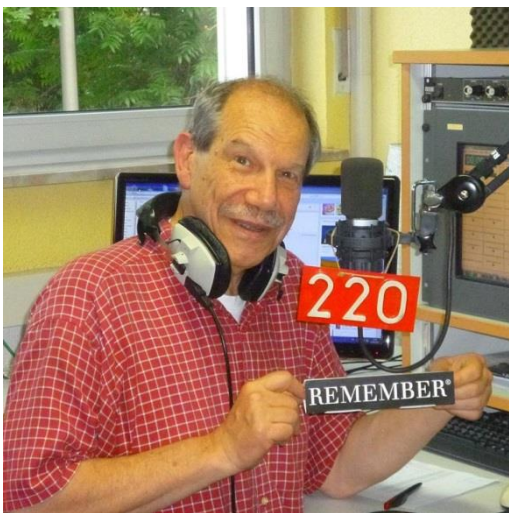
Following that he worked as a sound engineer, producer, tour manager, agent and did numerous other jobs around the London music scene, spending many years as promoter at The Borderline club. He also hosted the House of Mercy radio show which was broadcast on a number of different stations around the world. Following his marriage to musician Bex Marshall he became known as Barry Marshall-Everitt. Sadly he was diagnosed with a rare form of urethral cancer and died in April 2017.'



In Groningen during the last weeks Oeds Jan Koster and Hans Knot have been working very hard producing 'the last Perfumed Garden' revisited. This 6 hour program is the Dutch version of John Peel's

last Perfumed Garden on Radio London. The 6 hour program features the same music as Peel selected for his last program on '266'. It will be transmitted on a few Dutch local stations 50 years later than John Peel did the program on August 14th 1967. Stations interested to program it too for free can take contact with me at HKnot@home.nl

MEMORIES FROM A GERMAN ANORAK PART 1



Harald Hummel 2017

In this issue of the Hans Knot International Radio Report I bring you part 1 of a very long and interesting story how Harald Hummel from Germany is addicted to radio for decades. He followed in Germany as well as in international waters the offshore radiostations from the sixties and so on. We start with his story when he heard the news of the closedown from both Caroline stations in 1968:

'However, this change was absolutely decisive: on March 3rd, there was a sudden silence at MW 259 metres. Both Caroline ships had to stop their transmission at the same time in the early morning hours. It was no longer possible to pay the costs of continuing to operate the ships without real advertising, which were, in fact, prohibited by law. At the utilities company in Holland, considerable debts had

already arisen, so they could only hope to get their money if they brought the two ships into their possession.

Although the company brought the ships into Holland, she was unable to carry out her demands. The money was simply gone. Nobody could or would want to take another risk and free the ships. This was for me and many others the end of the most intensive and famous period of the British pirate station from March 1964 to March 1968. The 259 frequency on the mediumwave simply remained mute. A dream had died. An era of radio, that never came back, although there were other offshore stations on the air up till 1990.



Fredericia on tow. Photo collection Monitor Magazine

I was shocked and was in absolute depression. For days I tried several times to search the mediumwave for the sounds of Radio Caroline, all in vain. The music had died for ever in the way Caroline brought it to us. It was total change of pleasure and it brought me in problem with the school results too. In the math work I made it brought me at once a bad result. The time after Caroline went off the air was for me a very dark period. In retrospect, I had to realize that I had actually lived in a kind of noxious state, as far as the Radio world was concerned.

Often in life it's so that one particularly good time no longer perceives as something special and so accustomed to the fact that one regards the good, the special, and the extraordinary as something completely normal. It is only when it is over that you will realize how great the time has been, which one now painfully missed. And this is all the worse if the loss occurs suddenly and unexpectedly. I was very sad and truly on search for a substitute.

My search on the mediumwave brought me Radio Sweden, very near to the old Caroline frequency and they brought on Saturdays a pop program, The Saturday Show. In no time both presenters became very popular worldwide too as they got every week a lot of fan mail from former Caroline listeners. And that was not all as almost every week the theme tune from Radio Caroline by the Fortunes was requested. Also there were a lot of questions from the listeners about Caroline's future which were hardly to be answered as the presenters also didn't know what would happen in time to come.



Above that, Radio Sweden had a special section for pen pals in which addresses for potential friends world-wide were read on the air. The programs were on the international service from Radio Sweden which was transmitted in the shortwave bands.

For me it was the start of a very intensive period with female pen pals all over the world; something which lasted for almost five years. Versus Radio Sweden I came for instant in contact with Gan Cheong Ann in Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia. The daily run to the postbox was as replacement hype for the offshore stations.

On search for news about Caroline brought me also several memberships to several offshore newsletters with a small hope to find some news of interest about a return from Radio Caroline on the air. But nowhere something concretely could be found. The hope became smaller and smaller. It was if the past played a more important role for me than the future. In my personal Top 20 came for a while no new entries and a lot of the soul records, Caroline's deejays played during the last six months became very important too. For me this mend that I made two personal charts. I made one for the pop songs, as well one for the Soul Top 10.

Intensely playing my records as in a hit parade program I talked to myself as being Johnny Walker on Radio Caroline. During the same period I became member of the German section of the Free Radio Campaign in which a lot of other Caroline friends were found.

Radio News ist das neue Magazin der Free Radio Campaign in Germany.

Radio News ist ein Magazin in deutscher Sprache mit Informationen vom Rundfunk im In- und Ausland. Es enthält Informationen und Hintergrundberichte aus allen Bereichen des Rundfunks. Das Spektrum der Berichterstattung reicht von Offshore-Stationen über kommerzielles Radio bis hin zum öffentlich rechtlichen Rundfunk.

Radio News ist ein Magazin mit Fotos, mit Radioprogrammen, mit Tonbandtips und Informationen über Landpiraten.

Radio News erscheint sechsmal im Jahr im Offsetdruck und wird allen Mitgliedern der Free Radio Campaign Germany gegen einen Jahresbeitrag von 10,--DM kostenfrei zugestellt.

Radio News gibt's auch als Probeheft gegen Einsendung von 1,50 DM oder zwei internationalen Antwortscheinen bei der Free Radio Campaign Germany, Postfach 420 224 in 1 Berlin 42.

Also nicht zögern, am besten noch heute 1,50 DM in Briefmarken oder zwei internationale Antwortscheine an die Free Radio Campaign, Postfach 420 224 in 1 Berlin 42 schicken und die neueste Ausgabe der Radio News bestellen.

In Germany we not only had a newsletter. My radio friend Manfred got the idea to start a tape service in which recordings as well as news - if there was any real news available was shared. Of course I liked the idea and found myself back as member on the list. On the tapes were programs from several so called 'would be deejays'. I was dissatisfied by hearing those recordings. Maybe a bit frustrated too. Not only from the music played but also from the deejays and the quality of the recordings. I could do it myself much better.

After receiving the second tape, which was not better than the first one, I recorded my own 'Johnny Walker' show and sent this tape with the other to the next address on the list. Of course in the days to come I was wondering who would respond on my show. Just after a week response came in from the main man in Burbach-Wahlbach with the question: 'how do you dare to use the address-list for own purposes, without asking on forehand?' More angry words followed and at the end of the letter there was the question: 'When you are interested to produce your own radio show for our next round tape feel free to do so and we will be happy too. That was something I didn't expect anymore as I was from that moment officially part of the team and hundreds of people could hear my radio show from that moment on. But something went really wrong with the round tape as several people forgot to send the tape they had listened to, to the next member.'

I just have to remind that Harald was on a beach holiday in 1968. Together with his parents and his sister he went for three weeks to Wyk on the island Föhr. The most important thing for him during the holiday was that he could hear without any problem Radio Veronica. The signal stayed clearly the same and the way this signal went directly over sea trough almost a flat country made it all possible. The summer hit of 1968 was 'Do it again' from the Beachboys, which stayed at number one for many weeks. The year 1968 ended with a big fight for houses in Frankfurt but Harald didn't catch this, either in school they talked about it. Up it went to the next year, 1969.

Harald again: 'The time after both Caroline vessels were towed away seemed very long and also the time school was not fascinating at all. Time went by and still there was a small hope there would be better days. Listening to Radio One, the all-day pop station from the BBC, was also not interesting to me. Although they brought in a lot of former offshore deejays it was a bad replacement. The Caroline deejays that went on after the MOA were punished by the BBC and were at least for a year not allowed making programmes for the BEEB.

Suddenly Robbie Dale could be heard again. After the *Mi Amigo* was towed in he stayed in the Netherlands where he also learned a bit the Dutch language and he got a contract presenting programs with Radio Veronica, the only offshore station which was on the air at the time. But it had not the glitz of live radio from the Northsea as only the news broadcasts were read live from the *Norderney*, Veronica's radio vessel. The programs were recorded in Hilversum and transmitted on 192 metres a week later.'



Robbie Dale presented a late night program in which Harald Hummel liked the way he mixed up the English and Dutch language. By listening more and more to Radio Veronica he became a big fan of the station and also learned Dutch. He also learned to love the programs from Joost de Draaier and Jan van Veen and saw climbing Lex Harding to the number one position in the deejay chart. He listened to Rob Out, although without knowing he became the new program director at Radio Veronica. Other presenters like Tom Collins, Tineke and Hans Mondt were of lesser interest for Harald. One other name to mention was Klaas Vaak, who presented, amongst other programs, Radio Drama. This was a late

night program which he could receive quite well after the daily close down of the transmitter in Beromünster, which used the same frequency as Radio Veronica. By listening a lot to Veronica he became a Holland fan as many other offshore radio listeners, even in Great Britain. A lot of other interesting things would happen for Harold and his radio friends. So, stay tuned for another episode of Harold Hummel's radio stories in next issue of the Hans Knot International Radio Report.

Well this is the end of the International Radio Report for this month. The next edition will be published half way the month of June as I've a lot of other interesting historic work to do. Please keep sending your memories, photos, questions and more to HKnot@home.nl

Best greetings Hans Knot