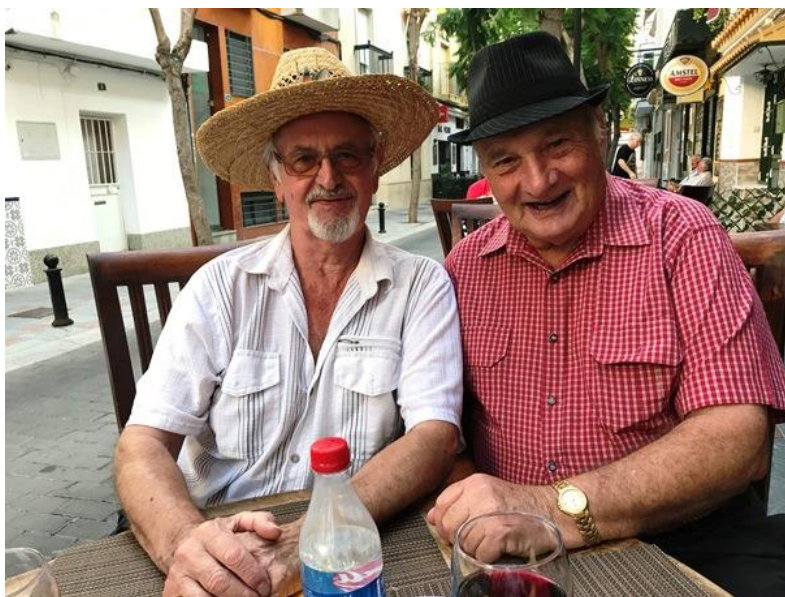


Hans Knot International Radio Report September 2017

Hi everybody, I hope you had a wonderful holiday and enjoying the time between this and last report. Jana and I went for a week to the lovely Provence of Zeeland in the South-West of the Netherlands, a village called Veere, Also we went for 6 days to England to visit London, Cambridge and Harwich. Some holiday related visits and two radio-related activities.

August 4th I wrote the next on the Facebook page for Wonderful Radio London: a lot will happen the forthcoming weeks on several radiostations but also there will be an exhibition, BBC Pirate Radio Essex in Harwich, and other activities all over the place. I can tell that there will be some get together from several people who've been in offshore radio and from the sideline active in those roaring sixties of last century. This morning a photo was with the email in my box from Norman St John who worked on several radio stations including Radio London.

'I caught up with Mark Roman in Spain after 50 years. We had a lovely dinner at Los Beechos. Cheers Norman.'



Mark Roman and Norman St. John
Photo: Collection Norman St. John

Thanks a lot for that one Norman and surely you both enjoyed to get together in Spain. In the meantime we've seen each other too but more about that further on in this edition of the International Radio Report. Of course also a big thank you for all those reflecting on the contents of last issue as well as bringing in new memories, questions and photographs. Well appreciated that we do the report together with each other every time again.

Did we have in the last issue 4 new nicknames more are coming along in this edition. It was in April 1987 that Mark Warner talked on Radio Caroline about the three stooges. Steve 'Condom' Conway we had already in the long list but new are: 'Stanley' Mark Matthews and Ton 'Noira' Anderson

Next it's Mike Terry, who I also met recently in London. He asked for some promotion for his special Facebook Group: 'Hi Hans, thank you for your report which is very interesting as always. Also thank you for all your contributions to the 'Wonderful Radio London 266 metres' Facebook group, we now have almost 1400 members and more joining which is great. Here's what its 'About':



'This group is for those who appreciate the legendary broadcaster off the English coast from December 1964 to August 1967. For many it was the greatest radio station ever. It closed on the day of the passing of The Marine, etc. Broadcasting (Offences) Act 1967. At

3pm on 14 August 1967 266 metres medium wave went dead, millions were listening, many have not forgotten. The group has no connection with any other radio station or organisation using the name Radio London, Big L or similar. Please do not criticise other stations, presenters or any individuals. It's just for fun in memory of the 1960's.

We are usually very happy to admit new members on application. The group setting is 'closed' and postings are moderated and may be removed without comment, all spam posts will be deleted and we will normally block the sender without comment. Please note that new member applications are welcome but, please, direct from the applicant so we are sure you want to join!

We would really appreciate everyone's input about the station, maybe your memories; or perhaps you are too young to remember the 1960's and you would share with us the other reasons why you joined the group. Please concentrate your comments on Radio London between 1964 to 1967 and the careers of their on-air personnel after that date (as there are many other Facebook groups for offshore and tribute stations past and present).

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/287728211787/>

Mike Terry

I was a bit in a hurry with finishing last report and took a wrong photo into the report: 'Hi Hans. Thanks for the report. I'm sure that others will point put that the picture captioned 'Mike Barrington' is actually Norman Barrington. At least you're half correct, with Barrington part. Best wishes Chris Edwards.'

And the main man Norman Barrington came in too: 'Hi Martin, greetings on an auspicious month - 50 years on. Since Mike 'Barrington' stole my surname, (which is really my real surname) there is often confusion between us. I notice you posted a photograph of me in this month's newsletter but marked it as Mike! Doh! Whilst I am delighted to see my visage, and know

that I am not forgotten, I don't like people thinking I am Mike, or Mike is me! Thanks again for your regular postings, best wishes to you, and all who remember me from watery wireless. Yours, (The real) Norman Barrington.'

I wrote back to Norman with: 'Sorry for the mistake Norman, we all have that problem as you wrote the e mail to Martin instead of to Hans. Please keep on enjoying the report greetings Hans'



Norman Barrington in 1973

Photo: Hans Knot

After my e mail Norman came back to me with some interesting facts which I want to share with the readers: 'About twenty years ago, Radio One broadcasted a weekly show, with a DJ actually calling himself 'Norman Barrington', can you believe it?

A friend heard it and told me, so I complained, and they sent a written apology, together with a tape of one of the offending shows.

You might think me crazy, but when I started out in Radio, I was determined to be the real me, and using my actual name was intended

to remind myself that I was not acting a part, so I am a bit more touchy than most. Nonetheless do say hello from me in your next report, that photo in last issue was taken at the 40th Caroline birthday. By the way. How time flies! Yours Norman.'

Philippe Derluyn is next he has some own videos as well as others videos on internet and so here are some links of interest:

Offshore Radio Tunes & Tracks compilation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lorjqWHZcTQ> (own score + re-edit video's)

MV Mi Amigo wreck in 3D =

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ChAZuY88XLY> (own score / re-edit video)

Mi Amigo 40 Baken 16 HD =

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0h3onEko_RQ (own score + zelf and promo as well as own produced video from Marc Jacobs his Baken 16 at 'Mi Amigo 40, in Ostend Belgium.

1974 09 01 MV Jeanine Radio Atlantis - Harbour Vlissingen (16:9 Widescreen edit) =

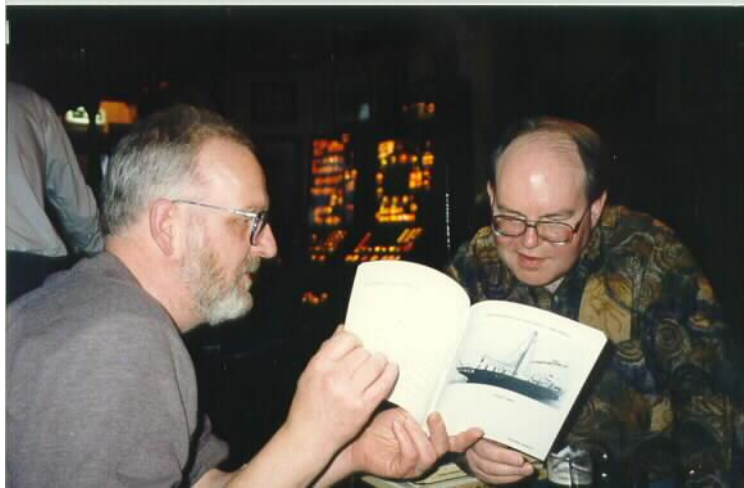
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLI2ILIKTx8> (own score of re-edit video)

The Boat That Rocked =

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AGX1caqGR1o> Compilation of several video trailers for the 2009 movie.

Good to hear from a radio friend of mine since so many decades: Andy Emmerson from Northampton: 'Hallo Hans, many thanks for a fascinating Report. Nice to see a feature on Robbie Owen. Together with a friend, who knew him well, I went to his house in Hertford one time during the 1970s. I have not met him since, although my friend

is in regular contact with him. It is amusing that although his radio station NNBC is here in Northampton. Back in 1968 I was living in a rented room in Whitstable, also known as the 'Grand Duchy'. The owner of the house told me that my room was previously used by Tom Edwards!



Hans Knot and Andy Emmerson early 1990's

Photo: Rob Olthof

You mentioned the BBC radio announcer John Snagge. As well as broadcasting on the radio, he recorded announcements that were used to tell train passengers waiting at a railway station the destination of the next train. Special 24-track tape recorders played the announcements automatically. All the best, Andy Emmerson.'

Thanks Andy and you know that you're comments are always appreciated. Take care!

Next it's Bob (Robert) Read once working for Caroline North as a technician. He wrote within 5 minutes after the report went out: 'Hans you're amazing! Keep it up; I go back more than 50 years every time you' your report lands in my e mail box. I smell the salt air of Ramsey Bay the first time I took the tender to Radio Caroline North in September of 1966. All the best from Waikiki, Bob'.



Bob Read on the Fredericia
Photo: Freewave Nostalgia Archive

A little bit touched with those kind words coming in from several readers which give me the power to go on, as long as possible. Another one came from England: 'Splendid report Hans. You are the very essence of the phrase 'history repeating itself.' It's a joy to read and remember.

John Ross-Barnard aka Pete Barraclough pronounced Barclay aka Pete Ross aka Larry Pannel. Ah Happy Daze JRB'. Thanks John Ross-Barnard. And in the meantime the two of us have met each other again to share memories and more in good old England. Always good seeing you and your wife and others on a reunion.

ITV Kate Prout on August 14th: 'Today marks the 50th anniversary of The Marine Offences Act, which banned offshore radio stations- including the likes of Radio Caroline. Pirate radio first gained popularity in the early 1960s when unlicensed stations began broadcasting music from offshore vessels - with around 22 million listeners. For more read:

<http://www.itv.com/news/anglia/update/2017-08-14/remembering-pirate-radio-50-years-on/>

Before I go on with telling more about why we went to England in mid-August some more memories and news from other people. For instant, what will happen in Felixstowe early September.

Legendary Radio Caroline, Luxembourg & Radio 1 DJ -

EMPEROR ROSKO

-Will be visiting Felixstowe as part of our Offshore Radio weekend on September 9th!
-with a parade of Mini Mokes through town-from around midday!
Stone unveiling at 2:30pm.
~details below~
Dress like a pirate!



Radio Caroline first arrived off Felixstowe in March 1964

It started a revolution in broadcasting history that began in the 'swinging 60's'

To mark this, the Felixstowe Society, with Felixstowe & Offshore Radio will be laying a commemorative stone in **Wolsey Gardens (IP11 7NT)** on **Saturday, September 9th at 2:30 p.m.**
note new time!

On Saturday 9th (9am-2pm & 3pm to 6pm) and Sunday 10th (10am-4pm)
There will be an event at the **Trinity Methodist Church Hall** (IP11 7AR) in the town centre;
📍 'Flashback 67' Exhibition
📍 Felixstowe related offshore radio history
📍 Display of vintage radios and technology
📍 Radio Caroline merchandise
📍 Special guests!
📍 Record & CD Fair on Saturday
~FREE ADMISSION~



www.facebook.com/felixstoweandoffshoreradio

So when you're in the neighbourhood of Felixstowe on September 9th, try to visit this happening and send some photos to me too!

Then a press report from around August 10th from the BBC: 'Johnnie celebrates the excitement and energy and ground breaking shows of the early pirate radio stations like Radio London, Radio Caroline and Radio 270.

Joined by his friends and colleagues 'Admiral' Robbie Dale (who along with Johnnie remained on board after midnight on the 14th August when the Marine Offences Bill passed into law, broadcasting illegally to an estimated European audience of 22 million), Tom Edwards (who left Caroline on the 14th), Pete Brady, Roger Twigg Day, Keith Cardboard Shoes Skues, Emperor Rosko, Paul Burnett and Tony Blackburn, who worked on both Caroline and London, Johnnie will play some of 1967's key tracks on the medium wave and pay tribute to Kenny Everett and Ed Stewart. You can hear this program up till September 14th.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b09039p2>

This is one to read with a smile, which came in from Australia: 'Hi Hans: I printed your latest newsletter and showed it to a Dutchman. He was the boyfriend of the daughter of a woman in my art class. And so he read out to me the Dutch pronunciation of all the Dutch words and personal names. Including pronouncing/voicing the `K' in your surname! Regards, Bryan in Canberra, Australia.'

Well thanks a lot Bryan and it's like Keith Skues once told his listeners many years ago: It's not Hans (K)not I'm talking about but it's just only Hans Knot to talk about. Keep enjoying the report over there.

Here's another short one but one which tells it all for reader Danny: 'Hallo Hans- sweet memories on Radio London- right on the day Monday the 14 Aug. 1967. Fifty years. On Silver Wings it still lingers on. Somewhere above the North Sea on 266 meters....Big L. The Unforgettable. Best wishes, Denny Jacobs.

For those who loved Radio Scotland the next was important mid-August:

Remembering the pirate station that was the first Radio Scotland

By Graham Stewart

Fifty years ago Scotland's own offshore pirate radio station closed down, bringing to an end a radio revolution which captured the hearts of millions.

Radio Scotland was the brainchild of Tommy Shields, a former PR man with STV who ran his own advertising agency.

In the summer of 1965, inspired by pirate pioneers such as Radio Caroline and Radio London, Shields purchased a former Irish lightship, the Comet, for £7,000 - and spent about three times as much adapting the vessel for use as a floating radio station. Read more here

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-40900666>

Here some of the personal memories written down by our reader Tim Payne in England: 'Having been born six months before Buddy Holly died I don't remember the early days of Radio Caroline, but I have vivid memories of my mum listening in the kitchen on a small radio (with a larger battery attached as those 9v pp3 types did not last long !) to Radio Caroline and many years later she told me she had a particular liking of Roger Day, she still does!

Meanwhile my Dad was a fan of Radio London and the radio in the old Rover p4 was always tuned to 266. I remember him being so angry with Harold Wilson at the time, but not as angry as I was many years later on the 19th August 1989, but that's another story. The one thing I find interesting is that one of my uncles used to listen to Caroline also and would often drive with his girlfriend in his M G A from Balham south London to Essex and join in with the Johnnie Walker light flashing. This I only learnt years later from the same girlfriend at my Uncles wake. My other Uncle preferred Radio 390. Radio Northsea was my favourite station in my teens and later on Radio Caroline, which indeed I still listen to.

The one station though to me that was really good was Laser 558, it was fast moving and the format 'never more than a minute away from music' meant that you heard it playing in shops and cafes almost everywhere.

The great thing about the Internet is that you can hear such a choice of music on a variety of stations, and also still hear your favourite DJs from those offshore days. But let's face it! nothing will ever replace the sound and listening experience of a Amplitude Modulated signal from a ship at sea. Tim Payne.'

Thanks a lot time and yes I totally agree with our love for AM Radio. It was always a real adventure to tune in to the several offshore radio stations in the sixties to late eighties of last century. Thanks for the memories and to all other readers feel free to sit down and write some line to HKnot@home.nl with your memories.

Next from London our visual handicapped radio friend for decennia, Ian, who wrote: 'Hi Hans, many thanks for the latest Report and downloads.

Over the past few weeks I've been a bit slow to reply to anything involving operation of a keyboard due, quite ironically, to a software upgrade! Rather than delivering a general improvement on the previous version, the speech software I've been using for about 3 years is now incompatible! So, I'm back below ground zero, and having to do everything the hard way, but trying different ways of getting around the problem. The other negative is that although I can transfer the downloads but can't play them!'

Well Ian hopefully in time coming the problems can be solved so you can use your computer in the way it used to be. Ian went on with:

'Reading the piece about the excitement at being able to receive stations at different locations is something that always gets the reline flowing! The mentions of RNI and Veronica immediately reminded me of getting RNI on 186 early one evening in mid-February 1970 (I kept a written record for a few weeks but this disappeared several years ago.) I was listening on a pocket tranny (Pye I think) in a place called Gobowen, almost on the Welsh border, probably at least 250 miles from the MEBO 2.

I was surprised at the strength and consistency the signal, until I read about sky/ground wave a few years later. I tuned in every day till the 1st closedown in September that year. In summer 1970 I was in Shrewsbury, a few miles further east, and was equally excited to find I could also get a strong signal during the day, on 244, this time off the Essex coast.'

Yes, you mention RNI in 1970 which is for many people a remarkable year in Offshore radio. Not only RNI on the air on different frequencies with of course the terrible jamming by the government. Also here in Groningen was reception quite well and I listened as much as possible on shortwave too. And of course we had that year also the short-lived Capital Radio from the King David as well as a temporary return from Radio Caroline from the MEBO II too. Ian also wrote some lines about what he learned on the radio about what was happening on and before August 14th this year:

'I think the MOA was commemorated reasonably well, although predictably Caroline/London orientated. Apart from this I only heard one very brief mention of Radio Scotland (I can't remember where!) I'd been listening to 5live and was about to switch off round 07.45 when suddenly the anniversary was mentioned, followed by a short interview with Tony Blackburn.

I think the most interesting offering was the final hour of Pirate BBC Essex, presented by Ray Clark; focusing more on the offshore

scene since the Act, plus interviews with some of the current Ross Revenge crew members; with some interesting recollections and friendships which have developed.

Veronica 192 reran the final few hours of Big L but nothing beyond 3 pm as far as I know. By about 6 pm I was beginning to doubt I'd hear any more commemoration but tuned to 242 Radio, during an interview with Mark Wesley, followed by Mel Howard reminiscing about Radio Scotland. Presumably there was some coverage on other stations; maybe even something momentous round midnight. Since Tuesday I've tuned in a few times to a Big L pop-up stream, playing archive shows, such as TW from June 1965; all on constant repeat but great listening. Regards, Ian Godfrey.'

Well Ian good to read you've heard some of the special items on several radio stations but also others than London and Caroline were mentioned. We, Oeds Jan Koster and myself, run the 2017 version of the last Perfumed Garden in a Dutch translation of the original one on at least 20 AM and internet stations including two in Belgium and one in Germany. We got a lot of response and an idea what came from Oeds Jan in 2015 and we thought to do it on low level became but became big. We very happy we could do this for the many former fans of Radio London as well as from the late John Peel.



Our responses came from several sources and places and one came even from the Caribbean island St Maarten/St Martin which is

partly Dutch and partly French. Here's what was written about the program there:

'I really enjoyed the Perfumed Garden 2017 so far, and I did not even listen half of the full show yet, as I did not have the time. But today, while the weekend has begun, I am, as I type, listening to the remaining hours.

Very cool to hear these great songs and the translated transcriptions of what Mr. John Robert Parker Ravenscroft (John Peel) actually told the listeners during that last episode of the legendary perfumed garden radio show. It makes it even more nostalgic as the wind is howling down on the house here in the Caribbean as we are in the middle of this year's Hurricane Season.

I did not hear this particular show, as I am far too young (born in 1978), but still I am a huge fan of John Peel's work. I got to know him as the host of his Radio 1 shows with the famous 'Peel Sessions' where many great artists that were just starting were introduced to the listeners. Many of those bands later became great and very well-known acts. Also, his show on BBC Radio 4 in the 90's is something that got me even more interested in John Peel. Next to that I know his voice from the many BBC documentaries that had his voice as the voiceover.

But foremost I really love Peel for his television show Sounds of the Suburbs where he would go to all kinds of regions in the UK to visit musicians that were almost unknown back then, but later became very well-known and famous.' It did us very well to receive this and other comments on the 6 hrs program, which is due to be transmitted by some other stations too. If you're interested in your own copy don't hesitate to write to HKnot@home.nl

Just before I will come with a report on our visit to England there's time for a poem in this edition of the Hans Knot International Radio Report from Graham in England:

Hi Hans I hope you like my little poem at the 50th Anniversary of the MOA!

ODE TO CAROLINE

It happened on Good Friday

The year was sixty-four

No longer will the Beeb we said

Be such a crashing bore

We really liked our deejays

Hoping one day we'd be

Presenting our own programmes

From the middle of the sea

Then came Harold Wilson

To spoil it, that's a fact

From his seedy little office

Came the Marine Offences Act

They said there was good reason

For this this cry and hue

Ship to shore and SOS?

But blatantly untrue

We thought it all was over

Sixty-seven was the year
But Johnny Walker told us
"Caroline Stays Here"

LOVING AWARENESS

Best Wishes, Graham Jones, Ex Radio Hertford Station Manager.'

Thanks a lot Graham and really appreciated to get this poem for the report. Well Done!

Then now more about our visit, for 6 days, to England. Late last year we already knew we would partly have our holiday in England as we got an official invitation for the 50th anniversary commemoration of this historic event on board PS Tattershall Castle moored at Embankment in London. This after in autumn last year another secret newsflash was received from Mary Payne that something would happening in August.

We had to keep the invitation secret to the radio world, so only those who were invited would show up. It was the Pirate Hall of Fame and Radio London Ltd which were pleased to announce that arrangements were confirmed for the special event in the heart of London on Monday August 14th. 2017. The location, so they told us, would be a private function room, Steamers, aboard the Thames static ship Tattershall Castle, aka the Tatty.'



The organisers, Mary and Chris Payne, Jon Myer and Alan Hardy, mentioned in their letter that they were aware that at 15.00 hours on August 14th may not be the closing moment for all the offshore radio stations of the British Coasts, but that it they would be marking that time as symbolic of the death of Sixties offshore radio and of the continuation of both Carolines.

On forehand the organisers told everyone invited that there were no plans at all to open the doors for the general public and so there would be time to socialize and guests would not be asked to participate in any discussion panels such as 10 years ago with the Radio Academy event held at the Sugar Reef in the Centre of London.

A number of kind friends of the organisers were recruited to assist and they were all friendly ensuring that the event went smoothly and guests feeling fine. Badges were there for everyone attending so people who did not know each other by face could find each other. All this was promised by forehand. And it went all for more than 100% well that Black Monday 2017.

But Jana and I arrived earlier, on Thursday the 10th and we visited wonderful Cambridge for the Friday and in the evening of August 11th we were joined by Martin and Ulrike van der Ven, our friends for many, many years. After a day at Museums and a wonderful Burrough Market it was decided that Martin and I would go our own way for a main part of Sunday August 13th.

In mind that on this day, half a century ago, a lot of Caroline's deejays presented their last shows as they didn't want to go in illegality, we took the underground into Liverpool Street Station from where the trains to Harwich depart. Again there came a lot of clear memories from half a century ago when the London and Caroline deejays arrived at Liverpool station and hundreds of fans, mainly girls, were there to say a last hello to their beloved jocks.

I've done this railroad track Harwich - London around 30 times, mainly due to a yearly visit for a week with students Pedagogy in the

past 2,5 decades. Arriving in Harwich in March during the dark hours gave always a stop to change trains in Manningtree. Never knew why but on Sunday morning August 12th all became clear. Martin and I had to wait more than 30 minutes before the train to Harwich Center arrived. It was very silent on Manningtree and someone told me once there were really ghosts on this rail road station. Well we know far better now.



Keith Skues on Manningtree, here with me on the right (Photo: Martin van der Ven).

It was our good friend Keith Skues we knew from Caroline and London days and with whom we had a great weekend way back in December 2014 in Amsterdam. And our talk went on like it was yesterday when we last met. Even Keith had arranged a radio listener from his weekly BBC show would take him from the Harwich International Station to the harbor, where we also had to go. It was good to see Keith again there as well on the Monday on the MOA 50 years event.

We went to Harwich because we were invited to come aboard the LV 18 by Tony O'Neill, the caretaker of the former Lightship - which is one of three lightships in the harbor of Harwich. After some talk

with Tony he asked another person to show us around the ship, including the bridge where the BBC Radio Essex 'studio' was built. This station had a three day long running program around '50 years Marine Offences Act', including some big names to present the special programs.



Tony O'Neill and Hans Knot (Photo Martin van der Ven)

It was former Caroline presenter Alan Turner who took the time to show us around the lightship as well as the exhibition in Ha'Penny Visitors Centre. Although the exhibition was very small there were several photos not seen before as well as interesting objects to see.



Roger Day, Alan Turner and Martin van der Ven

Photo: Hans Knot

On deck the LV 18 there was also some little chat with Roger Day, one of the presenters of BBC Radio Essex as well as with Dennis Jason and Ray Anderson in front of the exhibition centre. We can say we enjoyed some three lovely hours that Sunday afternoon, which was just the start of the festivities for us.

It was also wonderful to suddenly see Vivian Barnard on the LV18. She was already an avid Radio Caroline and Radio London follower way back in the sixties and the radio buck still got her and so she went for a couple of days to Harwich to enjoy all the activities. Also seeing her was the first time since meeting each other in 2007 for the last time in London.

For more photos of our visit to Harwich just go to:

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

After a good night sleep and a visit to an exhibition at the Portrait Gallery Martin and I once again said goodbye to our ladies Ulrike and Jana and so we were heading around 13 hrs. in the afternoon of Monday August 13th 2017 to Embankment to join around 100 others for the 'Offshore 50' party.

Not only the weather and conditions on the ship were wonderful but also it was very pleasant to see again so many of the offshore radio deejays, technicians and others involved, back. Through the decades a real friendship was made with many of them and we stayed in contact not only by e mail but also by running our special offshore internet sites as well as the International Radio Report where - as you know - many remember the good old days in own contributes. It should have been a very good feeling for the organisers that there was a very good atmosphere and a huge attendance.



Happy Mary Payne

During the first two hours it was seeing each other 'again', talking to each other as well as watching some videoclips and photos and as faster we got to 'three o'clock' the attendance walked more and more to the front stage to have a toast together.

It was Robbie Dale, former Caroline and Veronica, who did a little speech - like he did just after three o'clock 50 years ago. He reminded us on the fact that it was not all a sad thing in 1967, when most of the offshore radio stations closed down. Of course, it were both Caroline stations which went on with their programming. He also reminded us that a lot more other offshore radio stations took the airwaves after August 1967. He ended his speech to say that up till the day we were still criminals.



Robbie Dale during his speech

Photo: Martin van der Ven

But there were more speeches. Roger Day, just arriving from Harwich before 15.00 hrs., told us that many listeners to BBC Radio Essex were very enthusiastic as well as he wanted to thank one special person for the fact we're still getting together once in a while: Ronan O'Rahilly.

More speeches were from Mitch Philistin, the steward from Radio London's Galaxy, Tony Prince, Graham Webb and Graham Gill. Graham 'Spyder' Webb came all the way from Australia to join everyone in this special event. He did a marvelous speech. As Graham has severe hearing and seeing problems we thought with full respect about him coming all the way to London. He was not the only one from far away as others were coming from Australia, Canada and the USA as well from many European countries. One of them was Bud Ballou who had his 70th. birthday on August 13th and was presented with an ironic memory to the 60's as he received a framed Major Minor record.

A special word goes now to John Hatt his lovely wife Christine. She gave more than 100% attention to inform John as much as possible of all what was happening and giving him so much love and affection

now he is in a state of dementia and not to understand all directly by himself. Also, Mark Sloane gave him full attention. Next it was good to see the persons who worked hard, next to our self, to get the offshore banners high during the years. Of course, the organizing team and, amongst others, Mike Terry, Mike Barraclough, Sven Martinssen, Ben Meijering. Who had thought we all would have this celebration 50 odd years after the MOA became law? Other persons not to forget to mention are Sylvan, Jacky and Chris Dennant, who all did the best they could do.



Pete Brady and Dave Hawkins (Radio London)

Photo: Martin van der Ven

In the crowd were also a few people we never met before like Lee Groen, a Dutchman nowadays living in Belgium who promised some wonderful stories for the future. He was working in the sixties for the Wijismuller Company. Not forgetting one of the first voices to be heard on Radio London, way back in 1964. I'm talking about Pete Brady. At one stage he told me he never went to such a reunion before and he hardly recognised any of his former colleagues. Lucky for him I know a lot of them and so he could also memorize a lot.

It was also good to see George Hare and Carl Thomson back, who both were also very important for the Caroline organisation way back in the sixties. Carl thanked me for getting the Radioday Award by post some years ago as he couldn't make it to Amsterdam to receive his copy in front of the audience at Casa 400.

Another big thanks to the organizing team. Around 16 hrs. we decided to leave and go our own way. One thing is for sure: we had several parties during the past 5 decades, many organized by ourselves during 38 years of RadioDays, but this one was certainly the very last big one.

Almost 800 photos taken during this and other reminiscing parties that weekend are on our Flickr Archive:

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

Martin did the hard work to put all photos and videos we took during our radio trip in England on line and we had marvelous response from which just a few here: 'Dear Martin and Hans, what a lovely surprise to see you both on Manningtree railway station last week and the following day in London on board the 'Tattershall Castle'. It was so good of you to take the trouble to come across from Germany and Holland to see us enjoying the delights of offshore radio once again. Furthermore it was good to meet some of our devoted listeners from the watery wireless days of the 1960s.

You Martin, Hans and Rob have kept the dream alive for 50+ years with events you have held in Amsterdam. I still have the award you kindly presented to me in 2009 in pride of place in my home studio, for all to see who visit 'Skues Towers.'

I do hope we can meet again at some time in the future. I am always happy to jump on a plane and come across to either Germany or Holland. We have direct flights from Norwich to Amsterdam.

With renewed thanks to you both and for the website to view the pictures you took last week. Kind regards to you both and your lovely wives, Keith (Cardboard Shoes). '

'An amazing amount of photos. Lots of people I met (some for the first time) and many that I still failed to meet! They'll have to wait till the 60th - if they can... Regards Gerry/Guy Hamilton.'

'What an amazing historical document, Martin. I have just viewed those many, many photos that you took at the 14 August wake (50 years late!) in London. Thank you for preserving those moments. A fine album for the archive. So good to have seen you there. Very best wishes from Lorraine and myself. Greg Bance.'

Hello Martin, I looked at your photos of the meeting on the boat in London, and it was very nice to see Jerry Leighton looking in good shape. Hope you managed to get some stories about his time on board the Fredericia. After all the years he has been off the scene- he must have plenty to talk about & he is a brilliant D.J. as well. It was also nice to see Dave Lee Travis in the photos as well, as in my opinion he was treated very badly by our establishment figures compared to what others did.

All told though a really lovely set of photos and nice that so many other well-known people were there as well, including you and Hans-brilliant. Best wishes Roger Kemp.



Next it's question time from England: 'Hi from Alan Clark (Radio City) aka Chris Clark (Radio 390). You might be interested to see the English newspaper, Daily Mirror, today August 16th page 29 - That's me second from left, but I can't remember who any of the others are, either on the boat or on the tower. Any clues? With best wishes Alan Clark.'

Well no better way than asking my good friend since 1978, Bob LeRoi.

'Hi Hans and Jana, yes sorry it was only a short chat when we met, but always nice to see you guys. There were just so many people to catch up with. Long time since I had any contact with Alan, it must have been in my early BBC days so in the 1970's! Didn't see him at the gig?

Dick Palmer and he were pals for a time, but believe they've lost contact. Regarding the photograph they are Luc Dunne, Alan Clark, Paul Kramer and Eric Martin, not to be confused with our station manager Eric K Martin. With all best wishes, Bob LeRoi'.

Of course thank you Bob for giving the correct answer to the photograph and talking about photos:



Part of the former Radio Essex gang. Photo: Collection Gerry Zierler

'Sir Hans - Good to see you again in London yesterday for the UK Pirates' 50th party. I hope you enjoyed your visit and the celebrations. It was terrific to see so many old pirate friends, and even make some new ones. I took a few photographs, rather badly, but thought you guys might like to see yourselves! I've also attached two shots of some of the men from my old stations, Radios Essex and 270. See you again soon I hope. Regards Gerry Zierler.'



'50 years MOA on Deck in London. Photo: Collection Gerry Zierler

And from Australia the next one: 'Dear Hans, I thought you might like to see this: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-08-13/radio-caroline-reunite-50-years-after-broadcast-ship-shut-down/8801582>

Cheers (Aussie) Phil Crosby.' Thanks Phil as usual good to hear from you again.

Ben Meijering and his wife Inge also took a lot of photos which are here: <http://www.losgoud.nl/gallery/Offshore50>

But there were some other activities in England where we could not attend but luckily Christian Bergmann from Germany was there to report for us:

Commemorating Black Monday - 14th August 1967 - 50 years since the M.O.A. became law

Between Friday 11th and Monday 14th August various events had taken place in the U.K. to commemorate the Black Monday 14th August 1967, when the offshore stations, except Radio Caroline, closed

down. I listened to the offshore stations off the British coast (Radio Caroline and Radio London) for the very first time in 1966. Ever since I've been listening to these stations and I'm still in favour with them in 2017. That's why I decided to take part in some of these events during the extended weekend.

I arrived in Harwich Thursday 10th August. At first I visited the LV 18 at the Harwich Pier. I went on board just at the moment, when the technicians of BBC Essex started to install the equipment for the forthcoming Pirate BBC Essex broadcast, which lasted three days - Saturday 12th till Monday 14th August. Amongst others I met Tony O'Neil there. I still have strong memories of sailing with him, Pete Brady and the late Dave Cash to the LV 18 in 2004, when there was a Pirate BBC Essex broadcast too.



Installing equipment Photo: Christian Bergmann

During the following hours I had the possibility to discover a wide range of souvenirs and contemporary witnesses of the offshore radio stations under deck of the LV 18.

On 11th August I visited some offshore radio related places - Walton on the Naze, Frinton-on-Sea, Felixstowe and Clacton-on-Sea of course. Saturday 12th August I started my day trip to West Mersea to enter the tender boat Razorbill 3, which took us to the M.V. Ross

Revenge. It was a mostly fine day and during walking through the town of West Mersea I discovered cars with Radio Caroline stickers and people wearing Radio Caroline T-shirts. Within a short time I met a lot of old and new friends intending to sail to the Ross Revenge too. The time between my arrival in West Mersea and the departure of the tender boat went very fast because there were a lot of interesting talks with all those people of the great Caroline family. After 20 minutes of sail we arrived near the Ross Revenge and went on board.

The crew aboard the ship gave us a warm welcome - Paula Shaw, Johnny Lewis, Chris Williams (Manx Radio), Barry James, Kevin Turner, Nick Jackson, Chris Pearson, Dave Foster and Grant Benson. By the way Grant Benson returned to Radio Caroline after an abstinence of 33 years. He's been working in Italian radio since he left Caroline in the 1980's. In addition of the usual AM frequency of 1368 kHz by Manx Radio, Radio Caroline North could be heard in Italy on 1350 kHz too.

What a cheerful atmosphere aboard the ship during the Radio Caroline North live broadcasts! Barry James and Johnny Lewis guided us to all parts of the ship. We were very impressed by the good condition of the Ross Revenge. It was reached a remarkable advance by comparison with my last visit of the Ross Revenge in 2014, when the ship was lying in the harbour of Tilbury.

After spending a fantastic time aboard the Ross Revenge, the tender took us back to West Mersea in the afternoon.

The Radio Caroline Party in the Princes Theatre under the slogan 'Radio Caroline The Day The Music 'Almost' Died' took place in Clacton-on-Sea on Sunday 13th August.



Photo: Christian Bergmann

Ray Clark opened up the programme and led us from part to part. At first Roger 'Twiggy' Day remembered the DJs and offshore personalities who sadly passed away in recent decades. Alan Turner remembered his days on Radio Caroline North off the Isle of Man. Just after this part Susan Calvert - the daughter of Reginald Calvert - talked about the mysterious circumstances of her father's death. He was shot by Oliver Smedley in June 1966.

Excerpts from the film 'Death of a Pirate' were shown during the interview. Filmmaker Nigel Pearson from Los Angeles gave an update concerning his new documentary about Radio Caroline and showed us some trailers for the very first time. Video messages with greetings to the participants of the party in Clacton reached us by Emperor Rosko and Tony Blackburn. Station Manager Peter Moore reported about the latest developments concerning Radio Caroline.

- Radio Caroline obtained an AM licence for Suffolk and the northern parts of Essex. The frequency will be 648 kHz.

- The internet streams of Radio Caroline to North America in both US Eastern and Pacific Standard times are very successful and a large increase of listeners will be expected.
- Chinese radio people showed serious interest in relationships with Radio Caroline.
- 1st June 2017 was the official date that the Ross Revenge joined the National Historic Ships Register.
- Chris Williams by Manx Radio announced - despite the former plans to close the 1368AM transmitter for good, because the equipment is at end of life - the transmitter will get an overhaul in the forthcoming months and can be used for further Radio Caroline North broadcasts. There's a huge response from the listeners concerning the Radio Caroline North broadcasts. These plans are in accordance with the government of the Isle of Man.

Up next we watched the video 'The Great Tilbury Escape' - telling the story of the restoration and voyage of the Ross Revenge from Tilbury to the Blackwater estuary. Afterwards former Caroline presenter Nick Richards told us details of his last hours aboard the M.V. Mi Amigo, before it sunk on March 20th 1980. Finally we watched the movie '3 Mile Limit'. The movie tells the story of New Zealand's one and only offshore station Radio Hauraki. Radio Hauraki, which was broadcasting off the coast of New Zealand, during 1111 days (between 1966 and 1970), and became legal in 1970.

During the various parts of the event there was space to talk with old and new friends of offshore radio. In the evening Rich Clifford & His Band and The Fortunes rounded off an interesting and rich in variety day.

Monday 14th August it was exactly 50 years ago since the M.O.A. became law, but Radio Caroline announced it will continue. I went again to Harwich this very day. Hundreds of people were at the Pier to be part of the last hours of the Pirate BBC Essex live broadcast

from the LV 18. Via loudspeakers and video screen it was possible to listen and to watch the DJs in the studio during their shows. The last shows were presented by Roger 'Twiggy' Day, Norman St. John, Tom Edwards and Johnnie Walker. A few times the DJs came out of the studio to talk with each other or with the listeners respectively. A very emotional moment for me was the appearance of Roger 'Twiggy' Day on deck singing 'We shall overcome' with us.



Photo: Christian Bergmann

At 11 am there was a sad moment for all, when Johnnie Walker was scattering the ashes of the late radio legend Dave Cash into the water. Johnnie and Dave's widow Sarah were aboard the Lifeboat Albert Brown nearby the LV 18.

At 3 pm Johnnie Walker closed down Pirate BBC Essex. After that Ray Clark announced, "... welcome, this is Radio Caroline, Pirate BBC Essex and Manx Radio ...". For the very first time in history there was a memorial link up live with Radio Caroline from the Ross Revenge, Pirate BBC Essex and of course Manx Radio. Ray Clark told about the history of Radio Caroline and the other offshore stations and some of the Radio Caroline/Manx Radio DJs were interviewed by him.

Shortly after I boarded the ferry to Hoek van Holland I tuned in to BBC Radio 2 where 'Johnnie Walker Meets... the Pirates' - a suited finalisation of my worthwhile journey. Christian Bergmann'.

Thanks a lot Christian and good to read you had also some wonderful days not too far away from each other that weekend in the middle of August. Changing subject now as we go to Henk Kruize in the Netherlands: 'Hello Hans, in addition to radio on the programmatic side, I have been very interested in the technical side of radio since ten years ago. It's visible versus a large collection of radios and everything that surrounds them.

For years the 'Radio Bulletin' published by 'The Muziek Circle' was one of my most beloved magazines, and in the years past 1948 to 1973 I've had almost all the expenses. Today it's a little rainy day and a good day to spend some time relaxing by spending some old expenses in the background, on one of my 4 ReVoxen, a nice old Caroline program from 1990.

In Radio Bulletin a beautiful photo of Wim Steentjes was published in January 1967, who won the competition for the month of December 1966. And of course, you know, Wim Steentjes is of course Wil van der Steen from Radio Atlantis as well as Mi Amigo days.

I sound nice to share this photo with your readers (more than excellent!) radio report. You can also recognize Wil, though unclear, in the pictures made on the REM island when the 'Puzzle Club' of Dr. Blan, who set up the contests for Radio Bulletin, visited REM Island. These photos are found in the October 1964 Radio Bulletin. Pictures are small and give some scanning problems.

And now that we talk about TV North Sea, I also send you to share i a beautiful brochure of RCA TV channels in the late 1950s. These include the two TV stations used on board the REM island.



Hans, have a nice day ahead and maybe another tip for the radio report readers: every Wednesday evening from 20:00 to 22:00 at Studio040 my 'Hitmuseum' with fun music from the 50s to 60s and sometimes also a nice link to the sea stations. www.studio040.nl and click live listen. Greetings from Geldrop Henk Kruize'.

Well Henk thanks a lot for sharing this info and for those interested in the RCA brochure just sent an e mail to Hknot@home.nl



Wil Steentjes receiving his radio in 1967 donated by Amroh (Photo Radio Bulletin)



The Royal Family request the pleasure of your company as they celebrate the Principality of Sealand's 50th Anniversary.

Join us, Hans Knot, in celebration as we host a meal for our 50th Anniversary of Independence. This special event will take place on the 2nd of September 2017 from 7pm, at The Boat Yard Restaurant in Leigh-on-sea, SS9 2EN, Essex, UK.

Join Prince Michael and the Sealand family, for an evening of fine food and entertainment.

On September 2nd there is a special event in Leigh-on-Sea, for which I was invited. However due to the fact there were already commitments during that period and we visited England during mid-August for some festivities we had to make the decision not to go to England for the second time within a month. I wish the family Bates all the best and enjoy the evening together with all your guests.



Prince Michael and his lady at the Offshore 50 event. Photo: Hans Knot

Now a step to the USA: 'Hans, thanks so much for your always entertaining report—especially during summer, when I hope you are on holiday more than once. Here is a small update on my own 'crew': Everett Glovier and Zach Myers are working with a third partner in their very successful, if blossoming, production company, now doing small films for actors in New York City, as well as in the Baltimore area. After editing the film they shot with me in 2012, they continue to expand their company and revenue, and Everett recently provided me with two Blu-rays of the final edits (?) of '*Taking Back the Airwaves: The Story of the Radio Pirates*' that aired on Maryland Public Television in the Washington, D.C. area this past winter.

I await word from a surprisingly slow representative of the online documentary DVD Company that has agreed to distribute the film I presented at Hans and Martin's last Radio Day NL in 2014. (I keep writing—and waiting.) Once I know more, I'll pass it along. In the meantime, many happy returns to all the pirates, who still entertain us today around the world, online and on the air. It has been my pleasure to get to know you. Professor Wayne Hepler, Documentary film-maker Baltimore, Maryland-USA.'

Thanks a lot Wayne and hopefully the distributor will be awake soon so we can get more details how to order this wonderful documentary soon. Best wishes and it was great meeting you and your wife as well as the crew too. Where has the time gone since you were in Groningen?

Finishing with an e mail from Steve about what he and his team have done around August 1th: 'Please find attached a press release about the event. Keep up the good work, Steve.'

Radio Kaleidoscope



It was reported that one of the most advanced pirate radio broadcasts ever made took place at Southend-on-Sea. 12-14 August 2017

Radio Kaleidoscope a station from the 60's celebrated its 50th Year anniversary by beaming signals across Essex and South London from a total of 15 x Pop-Up Radio Stations (PURS).

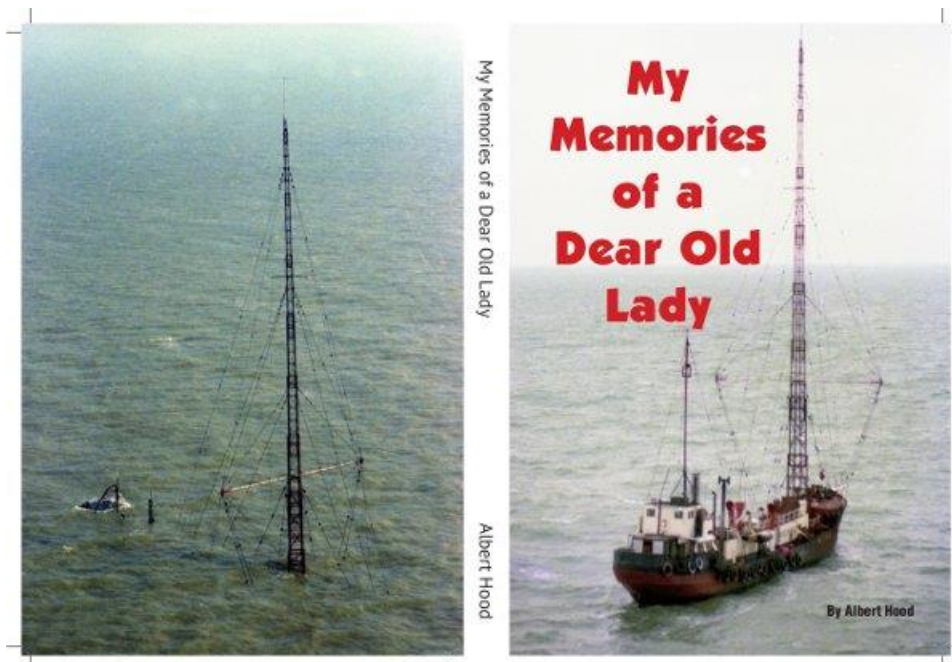
All of the 13 Essex based PURS used the same 96.0 FM Channel without interference!! Each radio station was strategically placed between "Horndon on the hill" and "Southend-on-Sea" (including the Pier), all within a 15 mile window.

Disk Jockeys heard:

Andy Archer
Andy Bowman (Buster)
Admiral Johnny Benbow
Bernard Anthony (Mike Baker)
Kathy Jenette
MR "H"
Jolly Orange
Kizy
Stevie T
Woodja

24 x PURS had been set up and equiped for this broadcast but only 15 were actually used.

As you see the report is almost filled so in next issue we will see the next episode in the Harald Hummel Story. We will have a review about the publication 'My memories of a dear old lady' written by Albert Hood.



<http://rcsocietysales.co.uk/read.html>

Also there will be a long story written by one of the persons who was in the Nannell project, Mr. Harvey from Australia. So

there's another month to wait before more interesting topics are to be read in another long edition of the Hans Knot International Radio Report. If you want to share something with others just write to HKnot@home.nl