

Hans Knot International Radio Report August/September 2018

Welcome to the new edition of the International Radio Report and thanks for the many reflections and more which came in. First of all I will inform you that during this wonderful summer I've made a decision. It's 20 years ago that I started the report on a small scale, the first 3 years in Dutch and then all English. More and more readers came in during the following years with a top of more than 4000 readers worldwide. Next to the report I do a lot of writing for several magazines. Above that Paul de Haan has made a new Facebook group Marine Broadcasting, from which already more than 1000 of you are a member. In this group we publish almost on a daily routine several items about offshore radio with a lot of documents and photos never published before.

Of course working in this group takes also a lot of time and therefore I've decided to bring back the yearly issues of the report back from 9 issues to 6 a year. So feel free to become a member of the special Marine Broadcasting too, which you can find here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/263295407574312/> and ask there to become a member.

Well let's start with some e mails: Mattie from the Netherlands wrote: 'Thanks for another great radio report. A few months ago I watched Russia Today's TV station broadcasting in English. To my surprise Emperor Rosko was interviewed from his studio in LA by a presenter from Russia Today.

Rosko told about his work as a DJ and also about his Pirate Radio past. The interview lasted about 5 minutes. Maybe this is already known, if not, then an interesting news event for your Radio Report.

PS: I'm not a fan of Russia Today, Putin's propaganda station, but occasionally look for RT out of curiosity. I call it Riot TV because they often bring news when there are strikes, demonstrations, etc. somewhere in Europe and thus give the impression that things are not going very well in the EU. Nothing at all about Russia, so the name Russia Today does not cover the cargo. Align this aside and is my own opinion.

Maybe outside of this offshore article: The 1224 kHz is again used by a low power station: United AM located in Neede. Reception here in Enschede is good. In the 1990's this was the frequency of Hit Radio Veronica, at that time transmitting from the Communicator at the Houtrib harbour in the IJsselmeer. More low power AM stations now use old AM frequencies on which previously offshore stations were active. Best regards, Mattie van der Valk.'

Thanks Mattie for the information regarding Rosko and the use of the 1224 kHz.



Studio onboard the Communicator during the 1224 period.
Photo Collection Luuk Meuwisse

Talking about the L.A. Guy here's what the Emperor Rosko send me recently: 'Many thanks Hans, it is amazing how certain names (no longer active in the cells) sudden bring back a world of memories. Am I correct in thinking your now a quarterly report? Stay out of

the heat unless you're cooking in the kitchen! There was recently an interview have a nice read here: <https://www.express.co.uk/life-style/life/984287/where-are-they-now-DJ-Emperor-Rosko-bbc-radio-one-united-dj-presenter>

EMP

Thanks Rosko and I hope all is well and you still enjoying doing so many programs. Another former Caroline deejay wrote from Canada: 'Thank you! As always, a great read Hans. Enjoy your summer break and hope we'll see you again sometime. Steve and Trish Young, Victoria, BC.'

Thanks the both of you in the meantime a main part of the summer has gone and I hope you enjoyed it too. Surely we will meet up someday again and enjoy the contents of this issue too.

The next document I published late May on a few radiogroups on Facebook and added: 'This one for all my radio friends. Who does remember this leaflet, which was published by the FRA in 1970 after the jamming by the British Authorities of the transmissions from Radio Nordsee International? Tell your memories. Click to enlarge.

free radio association
239 Eastwood Road • Rayleigh • Essex • telephone Rayleigh 4259
President Sir Ian Macgarrig Br.; chairman Geoffrey Peart; general secretary Michael Tickner; treasurer Margaret Stock

FIGHT FOR FREE RADIO

FIGHT the miserable little band of Government kill-joys, who enacted a law to take away our freedom to listen to the friendly independent radio stations. By midnight on 14th August 1965, all except Radio Caroline had been forced off the air; and the vicious Marine Offences Act made it a crime to give details about Radio Caroline's programme. Who would have thought that free speech would be suppressed in Britain?

FIGHT the arrogant of the colonial type who claim that only the B.B.C. is fit to decide what the people should hear.

FIGHT the questionable device used by the Government in its efforts to silence the free-based stations. For example, when Radio City wanted help, it was refused because the station was outside British jurisdiction. But when the Government decided to close the station, it suddenly became part of Britain.

FIGHT for the many old, crippled and blind people who no longer listen to independent radio. Fight for people like this young boy, who wrote to us: "I want to do all I can to keep commercial radio from being banned, as it has been my friend for three years, and being handicapped it is one of my biggest pleasures, and will be one of my only pleasures, because in a few years' time I'll be blind."

FIGHT the pathetic notion of a state-controlled pop service. Already, you are paying £3,000,000 a year for Radio One — a single station that is supposed to replace in one go everything that 754 offshore radio stations were able to bring you. You have to take what you are given, whatever you like it or not — and pay for it!

FIGHT the crazy B.B.C. local radio scheme. Each station costs around £42,000 to set up, and then £2,000 a week to run. Again you have to pay! The B.B.C. local stations should be dematerialised.

FIGHT the timidity of a Government which delayed the Marine Offences Act until it had a majority of 97, and said nothing about its proposed legislation in its Manifesto. Its scheme was to get the whole issue over as soon as it could, so that everyone would have forgotten all about it by the next General Election.

FIGHT the lies spread by our opponents. There is no moral nor technical reason why we cannot have free enterprise radio. The fact that other countries have independent commercial radio proves that the Government is lying.

FIGHT the Government, which is trying to preserve state control over radio by enabling all competition to the B.B.C. monopoly. The Government has the same attitude towards Free Radio that the Communist Regime in Russia has towards the Free Press. The Marine Offences Act is the same in principle to an Act closing all free enterprise newspapers — and making it a crime to read any newspaper except the one published by the Government.

FIGHT for freedom of the air, as we have fought before for a free press and free speech. Remember that without these freedoms a country becomes a dictatorship. Under the Marine Offences Act, the Free Radio Association is partially silenced. This is what the Government wanted. But the Government will never silence us completely. We shall fight until we win.

FIGHT together, so that we can speak with one big voice. We have over 100,000 members. Help us to achieve our target of one million members. Associate Membership is free. Simply fill in the form below, and send it with a stamped addressed envelope to the Free Radio Association, 239 Eastwood Road, Rayleigh, Essex. If you would like to be a Full Member, please also enclose a cheque or postal order for 17/6 (made payable to FRA).

----- Please Cut Here -----

MEMBERSHIP FORM (Please use block capitals)

NAME TELEPHONE NO.

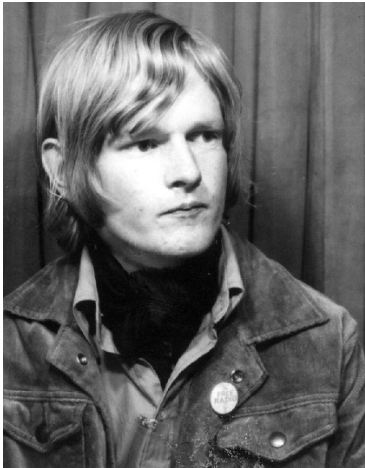
ADDRESS

Place tick here if 17/6 enclosed for Full Membership Please enrol me as a member, and send me my membership card and details of your activities. I enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

Please send me membership forms for my friends.

Next a lot of memories came in from several people, mainly in Great Britain.

Brian Anderson: 'I was a member.....and had the fight for free radio badge and I was a member of the campaign for independent broadcasting. If only we knew then what we know now.'



Jeremy Duggan: 'I was a member and I even remember this leaflet. Somewhere I still have some FRA bits and pieces. I so believed back then that "we" would win in the end. But then in 1970 I was just 12 years old!'

Michael Terry: 'I still have some FRA badges and possibly some of their leaflets somewhere. I was a member of Broadside as well.'

Stonehouse orders: Jam pop pirates

BROADCASTS from the pop pirate radio ship North Sea International are being jammed on Government orders.

Posts and Telecommunications Minister Mr. John Stonehouse said yesterday this was being done at the request of Norway and Italy.

He added: "Listeners in Norway and Italy have been suffering interference because of the unlawful activities of the pirate, which has spoilt reception from their own stations.

COASTGUARDS

"These steps have been taken in accordance with the international radio regulations of the International Telecommunications Union. We have advised the I.T.U. accordingly and all administrations concerned.

"The pirate broadcasts are also interfering with communi-

cations between the coastguard and the Barrow light vessel and with other frequencies used by shipping services."

The ship is anchored six miles off Clacton, Essex.

Mr. Geoffrey Pearl, chairman, of the Free Radio Association, hit out at the jamming.

"We are trying to establish the location of the jamming transmitter," he said. "And we have sent a strong protest to Mr. Stonehouse."

A spokesman for the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications said they were transmitting a continuous call which was likely to continue indefinitely.

The signal, which is being broadcast from a mobile transmitter, would not affect local communications such as coastguards or light vessels.

And it was not strong enough to affect Continental stations on the same wavelength, he said.

From the OEM Archive

Paul Rusling: 'What a pity the FRA imploded with all that bitching, etc. Didn't even survive to see the Mi Amigo back at sea. (Anyone know where Geoffrey and June are?)'

Mike Barraclough: Geoffrey was on the National Council of the Society for Individual Freedom as of 2014. I seem to remember, as this came up a year or so ago on another list, finding out that he left the National Council shortly after this, he's no longer listed on their website.'

https://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Society_for_Individual_Freedom

Mark Dezzani: 'I remember it well Hans. I was only 9 years old but I called the hotline in Rayleigh and was disappointed to be told to just tell all my friends to support RNI and free radio! I was ready for action!'

Barry Bridel: 'I remember being in the FRA front room stuffing envelopes with all the goodies. I was 17 and highly pleased when Andy Archer rocked up. He said "Hello" in an inviting sort of way then invited me and others to a local Pub for a drink. I declined reluctantly because of my age.'

Cliff Stone: 'This post brings back happy memories of my friend Buster Pearson, editor of Monitor Magazine.'

Hans Knot: 'incredible if I close my eyes entering railroad station and I walk to 31 Avondale road without any problem. It's a long time ago when I was there for the last time.'

Cliff Stone: 'Went there many times, I first met Buster through a mutual love of aviation and on the sad occasion of Buster's funeral I was fortunate enough to meet and speak to Ronan O'Rahilly.'

Hans Knot: 'There are many people who did know from each other that they were too there in South Benfleet. After Buster passed away I co-wrote for Monitor too. '

Paul Vos: 'All claims of interference by RNI were made unbelievable with the jamming. If you really want to disrupt shipping radio you jam an existing signal with another. Success is guaranteed

John Adamson: 'Lived in central Scotland so listened to RNI on shortwave most of the time. Having heard the ad, I wrote to the FRA, and was so excited when a few days later the info package dropped through my letterbox. I'd never heard of Radio Veronica till I read leaflets - was amazed to find it still there on 192 with really good signal after dark. Exciting times!'

Ray Leslie Waites: 'I remember too some supporters throwing jam on the entrance door of the BBC's Broadcasting House, London as a gesture of retribution!'

Ivor Herdson: 'I remember making a trip down to Buster's house in South Benfleet on 14th June 1970 to collect Andy Archer who had no way of getting up to Hyde Park for the Rally organised, jointly, I recall by the FRA and the Campaign for Independent Broadcasting (CIB). I only had a Ford Anglia Van and poor Andy was unceremoniously transported in the back of the van! Got him to Hyde Park in the nick of time! Andy left his coat in the back of the van and I held on to it for about 20 years but alas have no idea where it is now (Sorry Andy if you wanted it back....) Great memories of great times and so pleased to still be in contact on FB with a lot of those of us that are still around! RIP Buster a great character!'

Chris Edwards: 'I was one of the 100,000 as well. What happened to the other 99,998? I suspect a couple of extra 00's got added.'

Those were just a few of many comments. Next something to listen: From the United Kingdom Nigel Lawrence KGOPL talks about ham radio in the United Kingdom and his ham radio career.

http://tedrandall.com/podcast/media/2015-07-19_nigel_mixdown-p.mp3



The LV 18 last year in Harwich

Photo: Hans Knot

The LV18 will be in Ipswich for a few weeks from September. There will be an offshore radio exhibition and they hope to run an offshore radio themed RSL with some DJ's from that era. More detail in the East Anglian Daily Times report.

<http://www.eadt.co.uk/news/historic-lightvessel-the-lv-8-coming-to-ipswich-for-an-extended-stay-later-this-year-1-5554400>

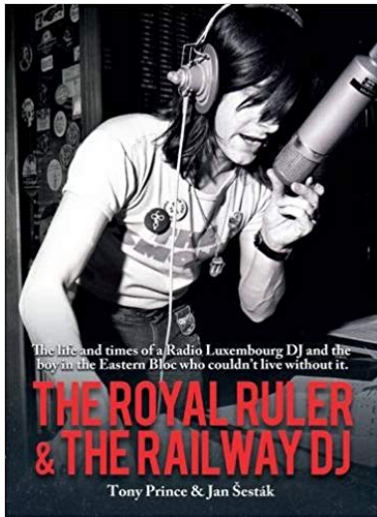
Next an e-mail from Phil Perkins 'Dear Hans, thanks very much for the explanation about Dave Cash. It is also a time when one realises that so many friends that we used to work with, on the towers and forts, sadly are no longer with us. Watching Dave Cash's ashes, buried at sea, at Harwich, really brought that fact home I wish you all the best of luck for the future and look forward to the big "catch up'.

Herman from Belgium found an interesting item on internet:

Jan Šesták was a music-obsessed mega-fan of Radio Luxembourg, tuning in every evening, despite the risks, in communist Czechoslovakia. Tony Prince was a top DJ on the Europe-wide station, which regularly reached tens of millions of listeners. This is the

story of how the two met when Prince performed in Šesták's native Brno on a 1970 tour, starting a friendship that continues to this day. It is also a story about the power of radio.

<http://www.radio.cz/en/section/special/the-music-fanatic-in-communist-czechoslovakia-and-the-radio-luxembourg-dj-an-unlikely-friendship>



And what about the next one? Action thriller writer Mark Wesley has been, at various times in his career, copy writer, jingle-maker, song writer and record producer but is best known as the legendary Radio Luxembourg DJ. Wesley started his career on the offshore radio station Radio Essex (using the name Mark West)

<https://audioboom.com/posts/6184737-legendary-radio-luxembourg-dj-mark-wesley-compares-notes-with-tre-s-very-own-legend-bill-padley>

Radio Mi Amigo International lost a few months ago presenter Wim de Groot due to the fact the decisionmakers thought he did not fit into the format. Wim can now be heard at:

<https://radioseabreeze.nl/radio>

Got an e mail from someone in the USA with a question: 'Several times I tuned into offshore radio when I worked at AFN Frankfurt 1960-1962 and during my Europe assignments for network and Boston/New York television.I Retired after 40+ years and still do

some TV. Tell me how you guys escaped the law and sent out those sounds. Regards, Dick Amaral.'

Thanks Dick and I really thought a bit what kind of ingredients I should give you, but here they come:

Ingredients of importance

- A big ship
- Tanks for water and fuel
- Big anchor and chain
- A quiet harbour to fit the equipment
- Transmitters and generators
- Reliable people to work with and who can keep their mouth shut
- Time
- A lot of money
- Advertisers
- Anchoring in international waters
- Having a proper flag
- Having a good team and radio format
- Good tendering company

But of course there is far much more to do to bring a radiostation on the air. By the way, don't think it's possible nowadays.

Recently there was a surprise for the archive in my e-mail box. A comic strip with advertising for Radio Luxembourg from *Wrill - Weekly for Youth*, volume 3, no. 137 (12 February 1948). The title of the story was *Wrill and the Spook of the lost castle*. The magazine was published by Charles Gordinne Publishers and son from Liège and consisted of 16 pages. At the time, the magazine costed 5 francs in Belgium or 25 cents in the Netherlands. Thanks to Jean Pierre Legein for discovering this story for us.



**Always be Yourself
Unless you can be a Pirate**

Then Always be a Pirate!

Free-/Pirate Radio DX/Logs/Reports/QSL Cards & More Information!
Over 280 Free-/Pirate Radio Magazines from the years 1974 - 2017
See- and Remember the many old Station Ids from that era!

Check the Links :

**<https://archive.org/details/Radio-Magazines>
and
<https://archive.org/details/Radio-Magazines2>**



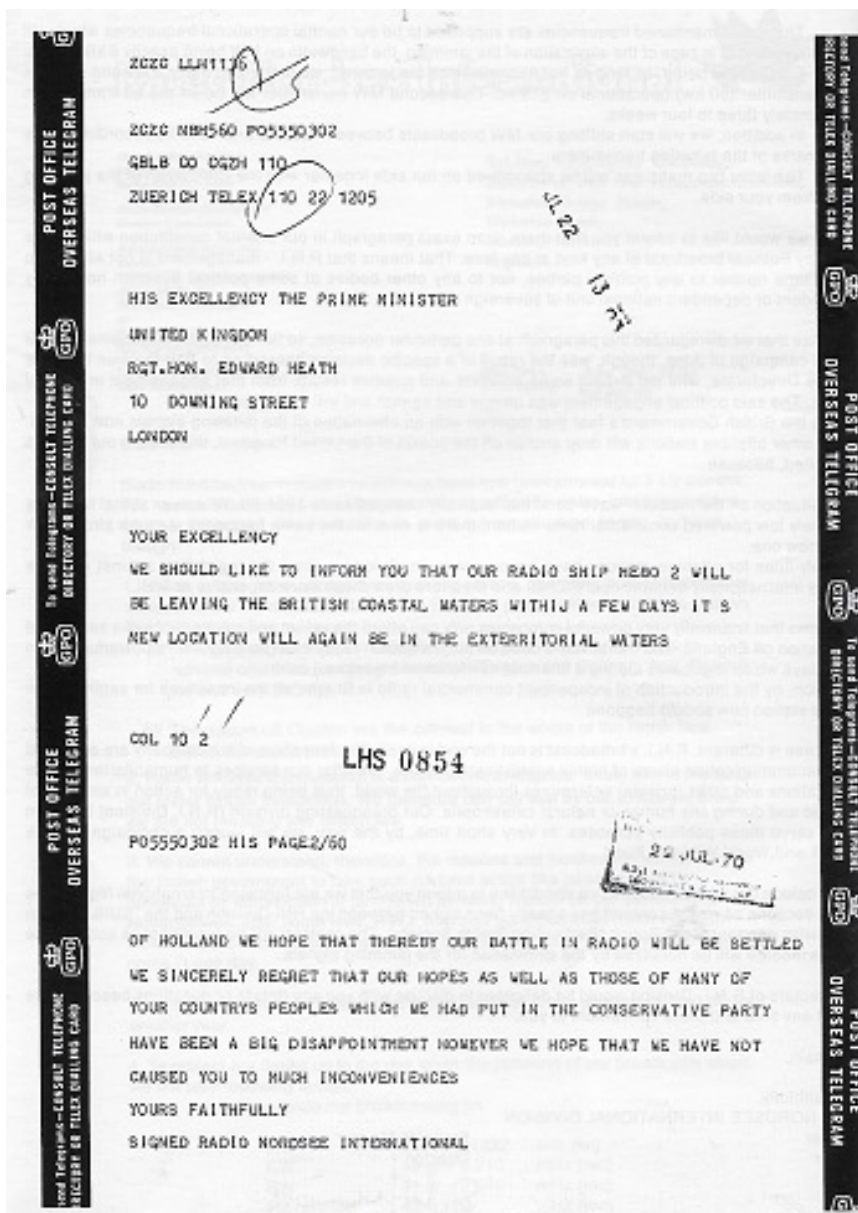
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Peter Anderson aka Albert Hall found one of my websites:

www.hansknot.com

He wrote to me with: 'Oh My God! What a website! Incredible amount on it! Guy Squint. I have looked at all the Graham Gill photos (the new of his death had reached me at the time). Bringing back incredible memories. Lots of people I recognised. Lots of people I did not. A mammoth job to name those as well!

I look forward to hearing your next update. I really need half a century to spare to read your entire website that must have taken years to build. Cheers Albert Hall.'



It must have been 2004 when I got a cd from OEM in England called the government files. After 30 years documents are free to look for and one of those I want to share. It's a Telegram from Zürich in Switzerland to the then Prime Minister Edward Heath. And surely it will be a surprise for Edwin Bollier to see this above document back.

A recent documentary has been made by two schoolboys from Amsterdam, Ilja Lieshout en Robin Wormhoudt Arno Hager's, son of Mr Arie Hagers at the time head of the counter-espionage department of the Internal Security Service, about espionage activities as well as Hans Hoogendoorn, who, like Hans ten Hooge, was on board the relevant 15 May 1971 when an explosion occurred in the engine room by means of arson. From that moment on history has gone down as the bomb attack on MEBO II. Both pupils think they have found evidence of the possible involvement of the BVD. Draw your own conclusion after watching the video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cclyFULIK30>



And what we got more this time from Doug Wood:

It's time to hang up the headphones! So what does an old - has been radio DJ - do when he has to hang up the headphones? I'm now at home to support Lynn 24/7. I've tried to get back my old radio family but I can count on one hand the ones that have turned up over the last few months to join me on The VOP. I'm banging my head against a brick wall and now I have a headache.

I so much want to thank the few of you who supported my efforts to make it work, (you know who you are), but it didn't so I give up. Thank you to all of you who tuned into my first radio gig on The Voice of Peace back in 1981.

Radio Nova on the Italian/French Riviera back in mid-1983. Then came the "BIG ONE" Signal from 1983 until 2014. Moorlands from 2010 to mid 2015. And finally The HitMix from late 2015 until early 2018 in many ways, and for most of the time I was there, the best one of all. So sad how that one ended. I just disappeared from that rather than take a final bow, but that was my fault.

The last nearly 40 years wasn't all as fun as it should have been, my constant fight with clinical depression, and Dyslexia have caused much frustration, and I fell over many times. But I always fought back. The Voice of Peace had a massive 50 kilowatt transmitter, Signal had 4 kilowatts and a couple of 500 watts, but since then the power levels have dropped. Now it's just piddle power, and so many stations.



VOP Seen from tender

Archive Freewave Nostalgia

It's amazing that you can now broadcast around the world for pocket money, but when you only have 20 or 30 listeners and there are fewer radio jobs about that pay money, well it's time to give up.

Example: Here in Stoke on Trent before September 1983, there was Radio Stoke (Gods waiting room) and Radio 2. Radio 1's reception was dreadful, so when Signal started it was really quite something. It meant something, you felt like you were a part of something "BIG" and Signal was on just about everywhere. I hardly hear it on anywhere now a days.

I can receive 160 stations on DAB at the top of Meir Heath. 20 years ago it would have been Radio 1 (now on FM) Radio 2, Stoke, Beacon from Wolverhampton and Signal, and Signal would have been THE ONE!!

Get on the internet, WiFi radio, even your phone, absolutely thousands of stations; they are all needles in a haystack. Teeny Tiny audiences today and anyone can do it; it's just lost it for me. I consider myself very lucky to have been in radio when it meant something, from my offshore days, to broadcasting from the hill tops.

I would say my last ten years at Signal where for the money they paid me well. But playing the same 300 songs every day, telling you when you could talk and when you couldn't and reporting to this headmaster like character once a week who talked to me like I was some school kid who didn't know what he was doing?? Well, I just couldn't fake it anymore.



It got to the point where the money didn't matter anymore and I started telling the headmaster how crap it all was, so I lost the daily

show. I was shocked when they asked me to do a show at the weekend. I took that because I was sure I wouldn't see that year out, but they keep me on for another four years.

It was becoming unbearable so I started taking the piss on air. For three weeks out of four I had to play Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody, and I would remind listeners about the other great Queen songs we didn't play, and that went for most other artists, so in December 2014 the call came, it was 'bye bye' over the phone, no thanks for the past 31 years, no leaving present, not even a card, 31 years! just evaporated over the phone.



[Doug Wood on the Voice of Peace Freewave Archive](#)

The VOP was supposed to be the dream station!! So many friends said "Yea start a station that plays all the songs we don't hear anymore" and so I did, the result is it gets a bigger audience around the world than it does in the UK, so it's not marketable. It's now up against thousands of stations like it, so it suffers, and so I'm wasting my time going live on it. I can't pull an audience anymore, I think because commercial radio squeezed the personality out of me.

I'm not even sure people want personality radio anymore, it only seems to work on Radio 2, because you can be yourself on there. But Radio 2 is out of my league. I haven't been on the telly (Not in this country) I haven't been in a film, or a pop group, so no chance.

Years ago radio mattered; because it was the only place you were going to hear the latest pop songs. Now you have mp3 players, spotify, I Tunes, YouTube, you name it, who needs radio for music?

The RADIO SHIP is a very different kettle of fish, because it's unique! it's historic. Primarily it's a Gold or Oldies station focusing on the music of the 50's 60's 70's and 80's but the magic is the thousands upon thousands of original clips and links from the Offshore Pirate Radio days of those four decades, so it does brilliantly well.

So that's my future, what ever time I have left now will be on The RADIO SHIP. I'm still adding to it's bank of memories, scrolling through the archives. You see that's where it all started for me, those magical stations off the Essex and Kent coastlines.



I was born on the north Kent coast, so that's where I'm aiming for next year. A retirement flat in somewhere like Herne Bay, or Birchington, a flat that will make life easier for my Lynn, with the sea close by, where I can sit and look out across the water where the wartime forts that the offshore stations took over still stand to this

day. But even better, my family just up the road, I have really hardly seen them over the last 40 years.

You have your time, I've had mine, and it's thanks to you that it all worked back then, but it doesn't work anymore.

Be happy, I thank you. Doug Wood.'

Thanks a lot Doug for your explanation and walking through your career. We all hope that you both have a good time together and we still can enjoy THE RADIO SHIP for a long time.

<http://www.internetradiouk.com/the-ship/>

There are a lot of buildings which have been used in the past for one of the offshore radiostations and are still there. Tjerk Oosterkamp recently travelled to Sweden and made this photograph of the former Radio Nord building. It's nowadays an hostel.



He also suddenly saw the mv Sankteriktjer the ship which was used for the Radio Nord Revival a few years back.



Cyber Rock is a new oldies station as of July 1st.
From their website:

It's all happening on Sunday July 1st when we launch our new radio station - *CYBER GOLD* in the UK and Netherlands.

Following on from our successful Sixties Sunday show on Cyber Rock, *CYBER GOLD* will travel back to the sixties and broadcast the very best 60s music from the *MV Love and Peace* "at anchor in the International waters of the North Sea"

CYBER GOLD will be available everyday from 06:00 to 18:00 on DAB+ in London and the Home Counties and in the Netherlands on AM 1602 and DAB+ The station will also be heard nationwide via online and mobiles. Evening programmes from 18:00 to 06:00 will feature progressive and alternative Rock music.

The logo for CYBER GOLD is displayed on a solid blue rectangular background. The word "CYBER" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, with a red horizontal line through the middle of the letters. Below it, the word "GOLD" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font, also with a red horizontal line through the middle of the letters.

Comments Tatiana Safonova CEO of Cyber Digital Radio:

"We are really excited about the launch of CYBER GOLD - Our marketing department has identified there is a massive potential high net worth listenership that remembers the 60s offshore radio stations fondly and love sixties music, we expect to sell out most of our commercial airtime over the summer period.

Our aim is to make CYBER GOLD sound fresh and re-capture all the fun from what was a wonderful period in radio and music history."

<https://www.cyberradio.co.uk/cyber-news/cyber-gold-to-launch>

Very Sad message from Kay, daughter of Guy Starkey: 'It is with great sadness that I post on my Dad's behalf to say that he passed away last Thursday August 2nd. As many of you may know he had been diagnosed with kidney cancer in 2015, which later moved to his lungs as well. He never let that stop him from living his life to the full. He continued to broadcast, teach and travel the world with unbelievable resilience. Right up until June of this year he was globe trotting to Florida with me, Mona and his brother Clive, insisting on seeing every theme park and wearing the rest of us out. I hope his tenacity and overwhelming positivity can encourage others facing similar challenges. Unfortunately his most recent hospital admission was too great a challenge for his body. He was greatly loved by me and my brother as well as the rest of his family and Mona. I also know that his friends and colleagues meant a great deal to him, and he asked me to pass on his best wishes to you all. Funeral arrangements have yet to be confirmed but will be posted at a later date should any of you like to come.

May he forever rest in peace, I love you Dad,
Kay'



Guy Starkey

Here more information about his radio career from his internet site.

Guy Starkey first stepped on board the m.v. Peace when he was just 18 years old. He'd done a lot of voluntary radio work in a hospital radio station in his home town of Chester, England. This was his first big break in the industry, though, and Program Director Crispian St John wanted to hear what he sounded like on air before finding him a place in the schedule. So he was given an hour-long slot that evening during 1540 Disco. Cris met Guy on the way out of the studio, saying 'You'd better get some sleep because you're taking over the breakfast show from tomorrow, starting at 6am!'

During Guy's time on the Voice of Peace, he presented the breakfast, mid-morning, afternoon drive and classical music shows, as well as at one time a daily sponsored Beatles Hour and a daily sponsored Abba Hour. He said: 'This was a fantastic way of learning the job, but it was very, very intensive as we each had to produce and present two or three shows each per day. We also had to take turns to sit on the ship's bridge, listening to the ship-to-shore radio in case Abie called

us.' In those days there weren't any mobile phones, and not even the famous Motorola two-way radio that many of the later jocks remember very well.

Guy admitted that he found some of the very necessary but less glamorous routines on board ship a bit tiresome: 'Chipping the loose paint off the deck in blazing hot sunshine when we were stuck in Ashdod harbour for a week with generator trouble and doing a stint in the chain locker while the anchor was being pulled up from the sea bed were the worst tasks I was given!' Another 'highlight' was being thrown overboard fully clothed by some of the other jocks. 'It took five of them to overpower me!' he pointed out.

Guy left the Peace Ship to return to the UK to study for a degree just as the cockroaches looked like they were getting large enough to open the doors to the galley for themselves. The lure of the Mediterranean was so great, though, that within a year he was working at Radio Nova International, halfway up the Monte Fontane in Camposso, Italy, which broadcast all along the French Riviera in several European languages. This was during the university vacation and another year spent abroad learning French.

On graduation, Guy got a job at the British Forces Broadcasting Service in Gibraltar - he also speaks Spanish - then returned to the UK to work for a number of years in commercial radio, broadcasting on Beacon Radio 303, Marcher Sound, MFM, Radio City 96.7, City Talk 1548, Red Rose Radio, to name but a few.

More recently, Guy has been working in education, teaching radio and journalism to new generations. He has written a number of books, book chapters and journal articles, as well as being a frequent speaker at academic conferences as far afield as Poland, China and Mexico. He is now a Professor of Radio & Journalism, but he continues to broadcast on a small number of internet radio stations. He said: 'Radio has changed so much since those early beginnings on the Voice of Peace. It's just brilliant, though, that even today I can still do one of my very favourite things most days a week - broadcast

on the radio to listeners near and far. The Voice of Peace has changed a lot, so has radio, so has the world around us, and I've certainly changed a bit, too, but the basic principle hasn't changed... music makes friends and friends make peace!

Next from Australia we have Ian McRae and the sounds of today: 'Hi Hans, I've just released episode 12 of my podcast "A Radio Station Like No Other". And you'd better believe it is. The podcast features samples of some of the best of recent programs broadcast by Wilton Bay's own renegade radio station The Seventh Wave FM...uncensored.



Ian Mc Rae in Sydney Archive Ian.

First up is our usual preview of the entertainment at Bonks Brasserie and Bars...and this time it's The Leiderhosen Trio and a song supposedly based on the password to get into Oktoberfest.

The naughty boys at The Vinyl Lounge report on a better method of identifying someone than by their fingerprint. We're talking about the new science of...fartography. Brian Coleman has a parody echoing his frustrations in an Ode To The Supermarkets.

Can some dreams you have actually be memories of past lives? That question is answered by our tame psychic Kerrie Erwin. Then Woz our traffic reporter checks out Wilton Bay traffic...radio's weirdest

traffic report. My friend George the one-legged Greek has a joke with a moral.

And finally another brilliantly observant parody from Brian Coleman inspired by the recent bad behavior of our banks in a song called: "The Loan I Can't Pay Back". You can listen online or subscribe for free on iTunes (which has now been rebranded as Apple Podcasts) or Android at

<http://www.wiltonbaymedia.com/listen-or-subscribe-for-free>

Be aware some segments can be adult humour and are tagged "Explicit". Oh no! Quick! Cover your ears! Cheers, Ian MacRae

Thanks Ian and updates are always welcome.

Mike Barraclough is next and he is a regular in the Hans Knot International Radio Report. He spells the report and has always an update: 'Hello Hans, interesting report as always. Teddy Johnson, mentioned in Part Two of the Radio Luxembourg 208 feature by Philip Champion died on June 6 age 98. There's a tribute to him here which includes Teddy talking about his time on Radio Luxembourg from 1948-1950.

<https://andywalmsley.blogspot.com/2018/06/radio-lives-teddy-johnson.html>

Thanks a lot Mike and hear from you soon. Next from England the story of recent buying of an LP I produced together with Paul de Haan in 1980. 'Hi Hans, I have recently purchased a LP record on eBay with the title "De geschiedenis van het zendschip Mi Amigo." Having listening to the record I understand that it is a list of stations that did broadcast from that ship. I see that you were co-producer of that LP. The sleeve that the LP was sent in was nothing to do with the record (which I did know before I purchased it). I thought you might be interested in knowing that the sleeve is "Rosa Kings Favourite Blues", a SMC production with producer R.G. Olthof.

A very interesting record and good to have this in my collection. Best wishes, Tony Platten.'

Good to see you've this album now after 38 years of producing it. Well of course I made a photo of the original cover and sent it to Anthony.



The annual German Radio Day was held in June this year and again the weather was very good as a part of this day is outside talking with each other about, yes radio in all kind of forms. Martin van der Ven wrote that there were around 50 people attending from which about 25% came from the Netherlands, including Jan van Heeren, Herbie the Fish (Herbert Visser), Rina and Dick de Graaf, Vincent Schriel. Interviews were made with several people including Wim de Groot and Ferry Eden about Mi Amigo 272 and Ad Roland. He was the person who made local radio big in Germany and had also an offshore radio past. He was talking for more than 90 minutes on stage about radio in best colours.

Photos taken on that special day are now online, made by a few people.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/offshoreradio/sets/72157695490874772>

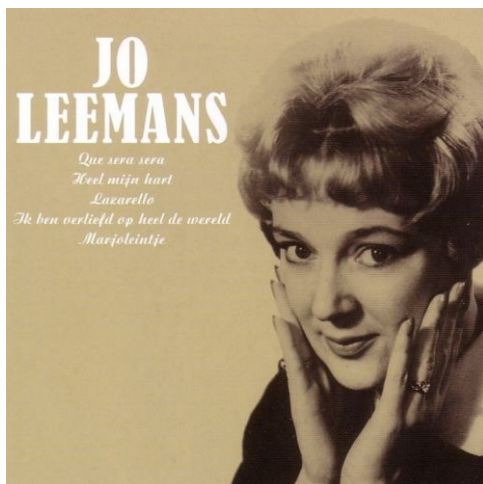
xx

And again here's another part of this wonderful series about Radio Luxembourg.

RADIO LUXEMBOURG 208 2.7.1951-31.12.2015

Philip Champion

From Sunday December 5th 1953 without prior publicity a Benelux Service with programmes in Dutch started. A 1954 schedule gives four programmes from 0830 - 1400. They were of two hours, 30 minutes, an hour then two hours at the end. They also later went out from 0630 (Sundays 0700) -1400. Most were sponsored. Some of the presenters were already known as singers like the Belgian Louis Neefs, actors/actresses or TV hosts. They tended to be in their 20s, 30s or early 40s. In fact, Jo Leemans was known as the Flemish Doris Day in the 1950s.



Programmes at first were recorded on disc in Brussels and later on reel to reel tape and the reels sent to Luxembourg. Later, in 1959

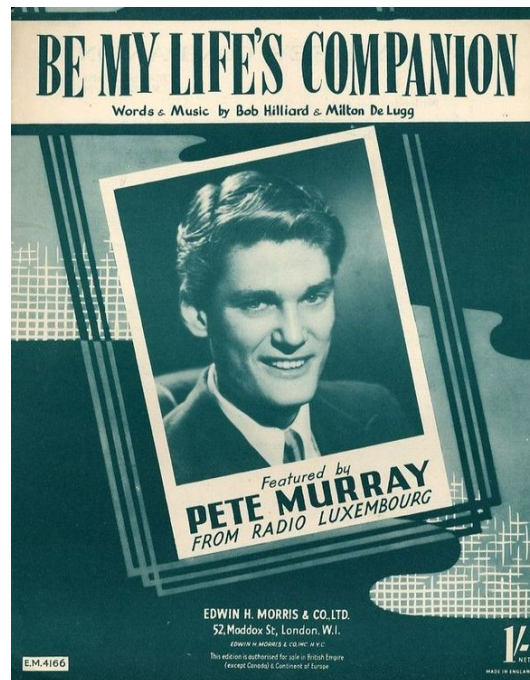
the RTT (Belgian Post Office) allowed a land-line and so shows were done live from Brussels. Some were also presented live from Hilversum in the Netherlands between 0900-1200 announcing it was from Amsterdam. The 208 daytime signal was good in the southern Netherlands but also the well-populated Randstad area covering Rotterdam, Den Haag, Utrecht and Amsterdam. The years 1953 to 1965 were said to be the golden years of the Benelux Service.

In 1954 CLR was renamed CLT ('Telediffusion' now being the third word) when it started construction of a TV transmitter and studios.

The MW transmitter moved to a new site in Marnach in the north-east of Luxembourg, high up in the mountains 30 miles from the studios and two miles from the German border. Even in the 1970s and 1980s djs opening up the English Service would talk of the powerful transmitters in Marnach. This was built to improve the reach of 208 into the British Isles and to allow better daytime reception in West Germany, especially the Rhine/Ruhr area which was West Germany's most populated region. The day antenna consisted of three 105 m masts in the shape of an isosceles triangle. The night time antenna was a 60 m high mast plus a 65 m high reflector tower.

When the site first went into service in December 1955 two 100 kW transmitters in parallel were used. The directional antenna could point N/NE to Germany daytimes and W/NW at 324° to Britain at night. Power went up to 350 kW in 1956 when one 150 kW MW transmitter was moved from Junglinster to Marnach to provide better reception in England and Scotland. Pete Murray, who was at Luxembourg for six years, said that the move to 208 made him stay. "The move to Medium Wave resulted in us getting a tremendous amount of mail from listeners and it greatly increased our advertising revenue. And for the first time, DJs became stars." Broadcasting hours were an hour earlier (in UK time) for the winter as opposed to the summer to get the maximum benefit from the

skywave signal covering the British Isles, with reception strongest in northern England.



By restricting transmissions to evenings and nights sales reps were able to sell most of the available airtime for spot commercials and sponsored programmes. The early evening advertising rate was reduced in the summer due to the poor daylight signal. An idea of 208's influence was that around 1955 several records banned by the BBC for religious reasons became hits -and they were only played on RL. A notable event was when Paul Anka's "Diana" was the first record to reach No.1 in Britain before doing so in the U.S.A.. One of the reasons was that the 208 deejays played records they liked rather than what had already been hits abroad. Radio Luxembourg was always the first place for British listeners to hear American records.

With the new transmission facility a big change could happen: the start of the German Service. On July 15th 1957 33 year old Peter Perleberg (real name Pierre Nilles) announced that from that day on 'RTL Radio Luxemburg' a light music request programme would air

daily 2-4 pm. There were just 60 records at the start. Such was the very positive response that by November it was extended to 2-6 pm. The target area was covered by state radio WDR which of course could not carry commercials for businesses wanting to advertise. Its programmes were said to be stuffy and boring. Music tended to be Schlager or regional dance orchestras. Luxembourg started out as a housewives' choice station -giving people what they wanted: German records, French chansons, English and American records and Italian songs. The informal speech of the presenters plus their personal and laid back style was uncharted territory in German radio. The Service rapidly became popular and was known as 'Luxis' just as in Britain we referred to 'Luxy.'

The three 208 Services



There were now three Services filling the 208 schedule. What were they like? The day started with the Benelux Service. A Sunday schedule reproduced by Hans Knot on www.soundscapes.info shows lots of 10 or 15 minute long shows. One of the longest was a lunchtime half hour by Stan Haag, later to join Radio Veronica, and who was very popular with his 'talk to the listener' presented style. There was a mix of young and more mature male and female djs, unlike the more male-dominated UK. Once a week Stan travelled from his Hilversum home to Brussels to record his seven hours per week. Hans Knot wrote that 208 offered an exciting alternative to

the sluggish Hilversum programmes. No doubt the Belgian (Flemish) State broadcasts were no better. The range of popular presenters played pop music as well as Dutch-language light pop. In fact, for many Dutch at the time 208 was really the only opportunity to enjoy American pop. The Benelux Service also featured quizzes and competitions; one competition was pre-recorded at diverse locations around Belgium. On Sunday mornings though airtime was sold to Johan Maasbach and the Seventh Day Adventists for their religious programmes.



Stan Haag photo collection Soundscapes

Next was the **German Service**. Just 13 days after opening it had its first female dj: Elisabeth. Over the years there would be quite a number more. She was the secretary for the English Service who was asked to make a few announcements on the German afternoon show and the audience loved it. When she was off ill another secretary, Annemarie, filled in just temporarily and she was so popular she stayed too. They were the first of a number of female djs on Luxembourg. The 12,000 listeners to the four hour afternoon show became 12 million in three years. The Service expanded from being a housewives' choice to airing the first German language chart show at 1700 on Easter Sunday April 6th 1958. This revolutionary show was "Die Hitparade" with Chief Announcer 37 year old Camillo. This was incredibly well supported with an initial 4,000 letters leading to a peak of 60,000. Even into the 1960s this was the show talked about

at school the next day. It was the first weekly sales chart as until 1967 the German trade music charts just came out fortnightly. He also spoke to motorists, a sector completely ignored by the public broadcasters.



He was the voice of the German Service, Camillo.

By the 1960s it would have invented game shows for German audiences and by the mid-60s was calling itself 'RTL.' It was soon called the 'hitmaker' and was a trendsetter in music. In 1965 CBS in Frankfurt sponsored two weekly 15 minute show to air their Tamla Motown label records.

There had been some changes to the **English Service** but it still had an air of informality, unlike the BBC. It widened its range of popular programming in direct competition to the BBC Light Programme. Being seen as a friendly station from the very beginning it attracted listeners. This was helped by the preponderance of big names who appeared regularly on the air- more regularly than on other stations- plus the long list of celebrity actors and singers who guested on its programmes. Back in the early to mid-1950s it had been a general entertainment station with pop, easy listening, jazz, panel shows like

"Twenty Questions", novelty ones like "The Answer Man" on three evenings a week (he answered any question), quiz shows, recordings of live variety acts, comedy and serials. There were shows like "Opportunity Knocks", "Double Your Money" and "Take Your Pick" but these and others soon migrated to TV when ITV started in 1955. Listeners could tune in each weekday to 15 minute serials of "Dan Dare -Pilot of the Future" at 1915, "Perry Mason" at 2130 or on Wednesdays 2030 listen to "Dr. Kildare" starring Lew Ayres and produced by MGM in Hollywood. There was even "Music from the Ballet" Thursdays 2000-2030 followed for the next half hour with "Movie Magazine" by Wilfrid Thomas.

In between these recorded programmes the djs acted more as continuity announcers and sometimes presented a record programme. There were still recordings made of singers like Pearl Carr and the late Teddy Johnson (yes, the former dj),



[Pearl and Teddy Soundscapes archive](#)

Alma Cogan, Frankie Vaughan, Cliff Richard, Billy Fury, Marty Wilde, Adam Faith and The Roulettes and Mark Wynter. In fact an Anne Shelton show from 1961 featured Ronnie Aldrich and his orchestra

plus pop duo the Brook Brothers known then for their hit "Warpaint". Luxy issued a press release in 1957 saying that their audiences had kept up since ITV started -but a lot of their advertisers switched to ITV. As some shows too went off to ITV there was more emphasis on getting programmes sponsored by record companies- something the station would be known for (or notorious for!) for years. One surprise when researching this article was to find that Keith Fordyce introduced the "Power Play" in 1957. This new release which they thought would do well was played hourly each day until a new one the following week. He and other Luxembourg-resident djs Barry Aldiss and Don Moss played it.



Don Moss photo archive Radio Rewind

This was a decade ahead of Radio Veronica's "Alarmschijf" and the reintroduction of 208's own "Powerplay." A schedule from October 1957 shows that Luxy was on 1900-2400 but extended to 0030 on Saturday night.

By 1959 the English 208 was geared towards a more youthful audience. For youngsters of the mid/late 1950s and 1960s the BBC was for their parents. Radio Luxembourg was where you could hear pop music each evening. For some it had the feeling of (teenage) rebellion. Mary Wingert put her memories on the radiolondon.co.uk

website. She got her first transistor radio around 1961. "Luxy aired an assortment of charts with names like Transatlantic Tops, Pop Pools Top Twenty, England's Top Three, America's Top Three and America's Decca Group Top Ten. It was hard to keep up!" A transistor radio was the gadget to have - tuned into Luxy. "Once a trannie had been acquired, it was obligatory for my friend and me to wander around in the evenings, radio on the arm. We were only young kids, but thought we were the bees' knees with our trannies (sometimes one each) turned up to full volume."



Lou van Burg Photo: Soundscapes Archive

Improved reception for all 208 services came with the Marnach transmitter power increase to 600 kW on January 1st 1960. On Wednesdays from July 5th 1961 Lou van Burg from the Benelux service ran the after midnight 'Internationales' show where he announced in German, French and English with a number of other male and female djs appearing on it. He chose records by Dutch, British, German, Swiss and Scandinavian singers or groups. In the autumn of 1962 deejay Camillo from the German Service presented it. It went out on 208, 49.26m SW and VHF. An October 1961 schedule shows the English Service was on nightly 1900-0300. By 1963 208 and 49.26m in English were joined by "our German listeners" on 97 VHF at 2100.

Did the record companies really have a stranglehold on the English Service? A common view is that all 208's programmes were

sponsored by the big record companies. A look at the schedules for a Thursday to Saturday in January 1961 shows this is only partly true. Out of 54 programmes the totals were: record companies 24 (just 44%), newspapers 1, petrol 2, pools 1, soft drinks/tea 2, cosmetics 1, personal healthcare 6, religious 5 and not sponsored 12 (22%).

One of the better known 208 deejays was Barry Aldiss. This Australian broadcast on RL from 1957-66 for his first stint. He was the "Top Twenty" host from 1959-66. He started with the No. 1 as that is what the sponsor wanted. With needing to play 20 records, include sponsor's advertisements and deejay announcements in between this meant that just the first two minutes of a record were played.



Barry Aldiss, collection Dick Offringa

Yet it was very popular. Barry himself had a good, rather energetic delivery in all his shows; he was at home announcing the 60s hits. He became Chief Announcer. His mother used to listen in Australia via short wave when conditions allowed. A tape of a 1965 "Top Twenty" showed Barry using rhymes, as some American djs did: "It's great to have had your company, whether at home or on the highway, Thanks for tuning my way." Another was "The same time next week, we'll take a peek, at pops a-plenty, In Top Twenty." He left to go freelance in London, becoming a newsreader and sometime dj with the BBC for Radios 1 and 2 and later having a popular Sunday breakfast show on Radio 2. He returned to the Grand Duchy in 1975.

One report says that he was asked to do so to help revitalise 208 which was on the slide. Though then in his 40s his good delivery fitted in well with the younger deejays and the music. Barry was particularly popular in Scandinavia where he did appearances for 208 in the mid-1960s. He was at Luxy until he died suddenly in 1982, aged just 52. (to be continued).

Yes, wonderful and well documented story by Phil Champion with far much more in the next editions of the Hans Knot International Report.

Now an article I wrote early July for a magazine and I thought to share it here too: 'It was 14 years since Tony Allen died at the age of 54 on Monday, July 9th. At the end of June 2004, I was informed that Tony was being taken to a hospice, the Marie Currie Hospice in Hampstead. At that time, it was no longer possible to care for Tony at his home. It had been known for 3 years that Tony had throat cancer. Initially he was expected to die at the beginning of 2002, but his strong character kept him alive longer than expected. In the early hours of the morning Tony got into a coma and died in peace.

For those of you who didn't know Tony Allen: he was a very professional presenter with a very wide experience in music, production and voice over work. For those who worked with him since 1967, Tony was not always the same man as he sounded on the radio. He could be very difficult for his colleagues and crewmembers of the ships on which he has worked over the years. There are many stories about his misconduct. In 1972 I met him for the first time and since then I have met him on several occasions.



Tony Allan archive Soundscapes

Luckily I can tell you that I've never had the bad experiences with Tony, about which others have spoken a lot. He always had a willing ear and seemed to have a good nature. Together we have shared many memories. He started his career at the age of 17 on board the MV Comet of Radio Scotland. He tried to board the MV Mi Amigo in 1967, after the Marine Offences Act came into force. The director of Radio Caroline, however, did not think it a good idea to put a young boy on a ship in international waters for a longer period of time.

Tony had to wait until 1971 before he could resume his career as a radio deejay at sea on board MEBO II, Radio Northsea International's radio ship. Perhaps the most legendary program I remember was on September 30th, 1972, when Tony officially opened RNI2, a radio station that was in the air for less than two days. Radio Veronica, moved to 538 meters and as soon as the old 192-channel Radio Veronica left the ether, another strong signal came on the 192. It was RNI2, a toy station of Radio Northsea International, with the aim of introducing itself to the listeners of Veronica and hopefully winning them over to RNI in the future. In partly perfect Dutch, Tony Allen presented this opening with great joy.

After his RNI days, Tony went to the Voice of Peace, Abe Nathan's dream station. Together with a team of technicians, there was a period of long and hard work in New York, where the VOP MV Cito was technically installed. Then came the journey to Europe and difficult times in Spain and France. It took months before the station finally reached the international waters off the Israeli coast and Tony opened it. He stayed on board the ship for a long time, with a break in 1976 when he went to work for Radio Seagull and Radio Caroline for a short period of time and could be heard in Western Europe.

When I first researched for my book on The Voice of Peace in the 1990s, I interviewed many former people who had worked for the Voice of Peace and almost every time people started talking enthusiastically about how Tony could convey his experience to them. He was a very creative person, not only for the listener, but also to share it with his colleagues. When he was back in Europe in the mid-seventies at the MV Mi Amigo, he even presented many programmes in his romantic Dutch when tapes from sister stations such as Radio Atlantis and Radio Mi Amigo were missing. For Tony, non-stop music was a taboo subject. He could also be heard on Radio Caroline in the period 1979/1980.



Tony Allan during seventies on Caroline Photo: Martin Stevens

In the 1980s, Tony worked for Scottish Television and some Irish commercial radio stations, such as Radio Nova, Sunshine Radio and South Coast Radio. With his beautiful voice he could be heard simultaneously on the Irish Public Radio RTE as voice over. In the nineties he could be heard again for a day at the RSL in London harbour in 1995. The Ross Revenge was anchored in the Docklands and one day when I went onto the ship to do my own program, I saw Tony for the first time in years. He was in a very bad mood when the then programme director Johnny Reece told him to leave the ship and never come back.

Tony had lost his good temperament after making a program and gave acidic comments on younger deejays. It would take years before

Tony was invited again to do programmes on the satellite version of Radio Caroline. It was a pity that his voice was already in poor condition, but his experience could still be heard in the way he presented and made his own musical choice.



The last time I met Tony with Elja van den Berg and Robin Banks

After it became known that Tony had cancer, I was lucky to meet him again in November 2002. It was a surprise because I was officially going to meet Robin Banks at Piccadilly Circus at two o'clock on a Saturday afternoon to go to a pub together to catch up. He was stuck in traffic and Tony Allen suddenly stood there doing his arms around me as a warm greeting. What followed was another afternoon full of joy, a good beer and many memories. I will always keep in mind memories I have shared with Tony. And they often come back in memory even now, 14 years after his death.

I published this article in our new Facebook group Marine Broadcasters, where not only Anoraks are member but also a lot of former offshore radio people from all decades there were stations on the air. Several comments were made after I put the article in the group on July 6th.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/263295407574312/permalink/279240182646501/?comment_id=279708165933036&reply_comment_id=279831209254065¬if_id=1530959366067201¬if_t=group_comment_reply

I always made a notice when I heard a nickname and I can tell you that Tony had far much more nicknames through the decades.

Here's my rundown: Tony 'The Bird Brain' Brendon

Tony 'Doris' Allan

Tony 'Mink' Allan

Tony 'Mrs.' Allan

Tony 'The outrageous Mr.' Allan

Tony Allan 'the man with the crystal ball'

Tony 'the mighty mouse' Allan

Tony 'Yahoo' Allen

Tony 'your mighty mouse on the wireless' Allan.

Well let's see what Jon at the Pirate Hall of Fame has to tell us:

'I have just updated [The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame](#).

New in July:

- More RNI charts from 1970;
- a 'Pop Pirates' board game;
- and, after more than half a century, we hear from Caroline South's 'host with the most', the mysterious DJ Kilroy.

New in August:

- at the end of June a bunch of the guys who worked on Radio Caroline in the late seventies gathered for a reunion. We have exclusive photos;
- ex-Radio Monique DJ Bart Steenman recently visited his former home, the mv Ross Revenge, and made a video in which he chatted to his old Radio Caroline colleague Nick Richards. We link to the video;
- and we have some historical documents relating to the launch of Radio Atlanta in 1964.

My thanks, as always, to the contributors. Best wishes,

Jon [The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame](#)

www.offshoreradio.co.uk

Of course you've to read the latest update from Mary and Chris Payne too on their Radio London memories site:

<http://www.radiolondon.co.uk/kneesflashes/happenings/2012julyon/july2012.html#news>

In the meantime I wish you all the very best and till somewhere in two months' time. All news, memories, photos and more to

HKnot@home.nl