

September 1st 2002



August 31st - a day never to forget, also not after 28 years. On this day we made a beautiful trip to the Northsea, on which I will report further on in my monthly 'thing'.

As usual news from Offshore Radio Past and Present and news from radio in the Netherlands. As this was a fantastic summer month and I had duties outside the Netherlands there is not too much to report on the last topic. So the only thing to mention is that tomorrow the last broadcast of 'Achter de coulissen' (behind the curtains) will be broadcast by TROS Radio on Radio 2. This program about artists and producers within the Theatre World was on air on a weekly basis for 28 years in a row and was once the brainchild of Jan Kok, who was also presenter for the first 25 years. In the program many people made their first appearance on the radio and became big stars later on. Again a good program has to disappear in Holland from the radio.

On the site of RTE, the Irish State Broadcasting Company, we found that the main part (80%) of the shares from the TARA project (read former Atlantic 252 and Teamtalk) are now in hands of de RTE and bought from ukbetting. This means that rumors spread around that Spangles Muldoon aka Chris Cary would by the station for a restart of NOVA, are indeed rumors. Let's see what Cary, who did also a nasty criticizing on Chris and Mary Payne in an on line news group earlier this month, has in his fantasy hed next time.

And now offshore radio past and present

August the 6th we received an e mail from Roger Day in which he told going on holiday to Portugal but also that he decided to leave the Fusion Radio Group as program director. 'The last two years were very heavy but also very nice to have taken part in it. If I look back the situation, in which the three stations are at the moment, we can assure you that they in a much healthier situation than at the

time we bought them. Also I think they will come very soon at a healthy point. And when I should start a new radio station there would surely be some of the people working for Fusion to take with me.' Roger will soon announce what his next step in the radio world will be.

August the 9th is the day Graham Gill reported us that he will not be heard anymore on Radio Caroline. For one-hour program he mostly was two days underway. First going to North Holland collecting records, sleeping there. Next they to Harlingen recording one hour and then back to Amsterdam. Graham, 67 years now, thinks this is too hard for him. Also in the six months Graham worked there he only got two e-mails. When he was on Caroline satellite earlier this year, together with Tony Allan, he got around 50 emails and loads of calls only for two hours of programming.

During a nice dinner Graham also told us about his experiences when he's over in Australia, his native country. He went back a few times and always was invited by the radio station; he once worked for in the fifties and sixties, to do a program again. Graham: 'The only problem nowadays is that my listeners from those days have mostly a new address, which is the local cemetery.' But now, on the end of August, our best wishes are going to Graham Gill, who had an accident last week. He slipped away on a street and was taken to hospital where it seemed that his both knees were wounded. He now walks on sticks. When you want to send him best wishes please e mail them to hknot@home.nl and I will forward them by snail.

August 12th. While back in London for a few days I was also listening to the morning shows on BBC Radio 2 and heard Johnny Walker standing in on the breakfast show for Terry Wogan, who is away for a few weeks. In my ears it would be a good thing to have Johnny there fulltime on weekdays.

Former Caroline deejay Keith Francis has reoriented himself and can now be heard on Bridge FM on 102.1 FM in Budapest Hungary. He presents a program in the evening on weekdays.

One of the many quests on the private party of Mary and Chris Payne last week was Mike Luvzitt. Seeing him was like seeing the twin brother of Eric Wiltshire. Well Luvzitt is touring around in Great Britain and Ireland, accompanied by Kenny Tosh. Two of the stations they visited were Manx Radio and City Beat in Belfast. Well Kenny remember I sent you tapes years ago, where is the little thing in return??

Oh where is the real history, I do ask myself. Well today I read an interview with Bert van der Kamp - who is editor for OOR magazine for thirty years. He totally retells the story about who made Radio London famous from the starting day. He even knows the guy and met him several times. Yes friends this. Himself calling the best pop journalist of Holland, thinks John Peel was there from the beginning on 266. Well Mr. Ravenscroft was in the USA at that time and only started on Radio London in 1967, the year London closed down.

14.8 On many radio station attention was paid today to the fact it was on this day in 1967 many British Offshore radio stations left the airways as a the next day the MOB became law. On Blast 1386 AM the breakfast show saw John Ashton and Tom Collins reminiscing. On BFBS 2 it was Dave Windsor who did a very good oldies show remembering the offshore stations, a programme which was transmitted worldwide.

18.8 Some deejays from Radio Caroline got together today for the Walk the Plank Contest. Even Dave Forster fell in the water near the Ross Revenge. The contest is a yearly thing organized by the Monster Looney Party and all the money, which is coming in, is for charity.

About a month World Space has a test tape of Radio Caroline. Well during a trip to London we informed with several special shops to buy such a radio. Never heard of was the answer. Nowhere I saw promotion for Caroline on posters. And believe it or not 50 people

have taken a subscription for Caroline when it's on air 24 hours a day on World Space. Later in this month a few newspaper articles appeared in which Moore was interviewed. In one of them no mention of World Space, no mention of the fact Caroline is still on satellite. Only that the station will be back soon on a sophisticated way. Well tune in to 259,199,319, 558 or??? Moore needs a publicity manager who asked the newspapers to show the article before it's published.

Also today on Caroline a really good program of Mark Stafford who did recall the MOA with nice records and air checks. Two days later, on the 20th, Mike Hayes could be heard on Radio Caroline Holland. From today every Tuesday Mike, who now lives in Holland and hadn't made radio since 35 years, can be heard between 16 and 19 hrs.

From Monday September 2nd Peter van Dam will be back on the radio on weekdays. This will happen on Radio Royaal in Hamont Achel in Belgium. He will present the breakfast show. He started his career on Radio 199 as Peter Brian way back in 1972. Other offshore stations he worked for were Atlantis, Caroline and Mi Amigo.

26.8 Start of the week of the offshore radio stations on Radio 192. Due to the fact the Download group and Hans Knot offered the station a lot of nostalgic recordings for this special event some very exclusive old radio programs could be heard on the station. Also former deejays from offshore days were quest to do it once more again. Today is was Joost den Draayer who asked himself why the hell we do remember it after 28 years!

While typing the report I'm listening to Hans ten Hooge and his Driemaster. Well Hans, well done again. You still can do it with also thanks to Pieter Damave for the technical part. Good to see you back this month. But there where more quest programs during the week. Later, on the last day, we went out to the harbor of Scheveningen to get on board the Marina ship, which was hired by Radio 192 to get back to see to transmit a nostalgic day of memories with presenters from the past, guest from the past as well as anoraks. A choppy sea

but all nice people to meet again.

Well a rundown of some of the people from past and present in offshore world which we met today: Chris Visser, Harm Koenders, Dick Offringa (ja), Marc van Amstel, Hans Hogendoorn, Dick Verheul, Marc Jacobs, Carl de Jong (Teekamp), Ferry Maat, Pieter Damave, Ad Bouman, Rob Olthof, Johan Visser, Michael Bakker, Kees Borrell, Chiel Montagne, Will Luikinga, Wim van de Water, Jan van Heeren, Hans Koopman (worked to sell airtime on Radio Noordzee), Jean Luc Bostyn and friends from Flandres, Bart van Leeuwen, Martin van der Ven and last but not least and always sympathetic Edo Peters.

Also the oldies cd, which we reviewed earlier on this side, got his premier on the radio as well as many former deejays sweeping away bottles in the North sea in which were letters for people to get a free copy of the Radio 192 CD. All in all a beautiful month to remember the good old days and to see back some very good old friends. Only one big question remains: Where was Juultje Geleick???

And as always don't forget to visit our site on a regular base. New articles can be found almost weekly

www.soundscapes.info

With nice greetings from Groningen in Holland, we'll meet again next month

Hans Knot