

Hans Knot's International Radio Report - June 2003 (2)



Welcome to this second edition of my international report in June. You will be astonished by reading this bulletin and think that Dutch people are really made. Last time I wrote about the fact Radio 10FM didn't get a licence from Dutch authorities. But a lot has happened since.

Bad decision by Dutch government

Just a day after sending away the last issue of this report the big news came in that not only 125.000 listeners responded to the studio of Radio10 FM for the bad decision done by Dutch government not to provide the station with a new licence. Even an industry magazine in Great Britain talked about 'Half-baked renewal scheme Dutch Government'. Also the big news came in that the station would stay on 103 FM as the big frequency. Talks between Talpa Radio International, the owners of Radio 10FM and Sky Radio had ended on Saturday afternoon the 31st of May. It was announced that Radio 10FM will be owned by Sky from June 1st and stay on the air. Tom Mulder director of Radio 10FM: "There was always a strong connection with the listeners but that those were so close to us in their hearts astonished us. Unbelievable so much mails, phone calls and faxes came in. Sometimes very emotional." With the former and the new frequencies it's possible to be received on FM in almost the whole of the Netherlands. And next to that the station will be a golden oldie station again.

Arrow on 675 AM

And on June 1st at midnight it was Arrow Classic Rock which took over the 675 kHz as the owners made a deal with the people who got the licence for the 675, Country Radio. Well I can tell you that the owners are the same and so Arrow can now be heard on 675 kHz. One of the nicest comments on internet, after Arrow came on the air

on 675 was: 'Arrow couldn't have started at a better time. I tuned into UK Caroline at 10.00 hours to hear one of their good and reliable presenters Pat Edison and there is some crap Japanese live music on, or did I hear this is cultural music. Sorry, but I'm glad I have two frequencies to listen to Arrow on. Yes Arrow is still going out on 828, as well as 675. If they broadcast the left channel on 675 and right channel on 828, I could use two radios to get stereo, then it would be better than Caroline!' It must be added that the owner of the frequency has to start his own format within 3 months after going on the air. Personally I think it will stay on as Arrow Classic Rock with some more Country Rock in the format.

Peter Philips

Last time one of the reader's questions came in regarding the present whereabouts of Peter Philips. We can answer by telling that Peter nowadays is working for BBC Radio Kent. Really within 10 minutes after sending away the report, the solution came in. He can be heard on the station under his own name: Graham Cooke. There were several people replying and so thank you all.

Caroline technicians Peter and Jaap

It was Bob Noakes who started two editions ago about Peter and Jaap, who both work as technicians on the Mi Amigo in 1973. Also Paul Rusling brought in some nice memories and it's Andy Archer who wrote in this time telling that he was in contact with Peter not too long ago. He lost his e mail address but Andy can tell us that Peter is now a lorry driver.

Andy Archer

Talking about Andy Archer, he made the decision not to work anymore every weekday. He wrote me: 'I'm taking some time off from Radio Norfolk (thirty seven years doing the same thing is a very long time). I will be covering for people on holiday, but feel that I need a break from the day to day routine.'

Ray Anderson's
Radio London
Some of the
readers were very
surprised to read
about Ray
Anderson's plan to
start Radio London
on an official
licence from the
Netherlands. We



wish Ray and his people all the success in the world but not everyone is sure he will make it: 'Thanks for the International report- another great read. Please keep your anoraky readers up to date on the latest Ray Anderson happenings. Obviously, bearing in mind he's in charge, it'll probably never make it to air! Any idea who else is involved with the project? Maybe we should start a betting syndicate on how long it'll take for it to go bankrupt.'

Well Ray, maybe you can tell our readers who are involved and when the station will come on the air.

Samantha Dubois

Also I got a few comments on the photo I published from Samantha Dubois, a deejay who did stints on Radio Caroline in the seventies and eighties. Not too much photos have been going around of her. One of the readers wrote: 'Liked the picture of Samantha in the Report, btw...that's only the third photo I've got of her. Gotta be some more out there somewhere.' Another person, Steve, wrote: 'I particularly liked the picture of Samantha, whom I had the pleasure of seeing on the Mi Amigo in 1976. This was the first time my friends and I had seen her and we all got very excited when we saw how good looking she was!'



Alton Andrews

In last issue we brought the news that Alton Andrews had passed away. This news came in from the BFBS news desk. A reliable source we thought. After sending away the e mail version the next mail came in: 'I'm afraid we were given erroneous information regarding the death of Alton Andrews. The news received from BFBS concerned the demise of another unfortunate person of a similar name, and not the ex-Luxembourg and Radio Caroline presenter.' So we think this is lucky for Andrew, and sorry for taking the wrong news from the BFBS. By the way congratulations to Alton and his wife for your marriage last May.

Stichting Norderney website

Next I like to invite you to have a look at two internet sites. First of all the one of the Foundation Norderney, which is run by Ad Bouman and Juul Geleick. It will be all about the rich offshore history from Radio Veronica. As both have worked there they've a lot of nice material. They've just started with the site but a lot can be expected in the future: www.norderney.nl

Radio Delmare

Another one is from Theo Van Halsema. He runs a site about his (private) life as well as his hobbies. One of them is trams and trains (as so many offshore deejays) and the other interest he has is the history of Radio Delmare. It can be found on: www.geocities.com/theovanhalsema

Nicknames

By the way, Theo brought some other nick names we did not mention before. It was the Baken 16 team on Radio Mi Amigo who gave deejay Hugo Meulenhoff the nick name 'Heerhugowaard'. This is officially a small village in Holland. Also they called him 'dubbel f' (double f). Marc Jacobs got a nick name from Ferry Eden on Radio Mi Amigo: 'Papa Jacobs' (Father Jacobs).

Communicator

Then a report from the people at Earthradio Broadcasting Systems on their website, early June: 'After our last news report regarding the new radio ship, a lot of people mailed the Earthradio News desk as regards this being the MV Communicator, sorry wrong there!, the ship that was purchased was bought outside the UK, but not unlike the Ross Revenge, and today is in a port outside the jurisdiction of the EU and the UK, it is being fitted out by people dedicated to Free Radio, and sponsored by supporters both in the Irish Republic, UK and the Netherlands. The people involved in this project hope to rename the ship MV Freedom and after some extensive work, both onboard and on the outside of the ship, they have the intention of moving it to the waters off the Irish coast where it will not be subject to the UK laws and from there with the support of Irish, Dutch and UK free radio supporters, it is intended to bring about a new awareness of free independent radio. More news as it becomes available.'

If they succeed a very good initiative, but on the other hand why should this be published on forehand? Remember certain projects in the past, which failed due to early publishing in newspapers. 'Big brother is watching you and us!', as a good friend of mine from Cambridge always says. So, with the work on the Communicator, there are two initiatives to revive the old dream. Or should I say 'Dream a little dream'.

Clive Boutell

Again this time some names to be mentioned. It was Clive Boutell who did sent in: 'Just a quick message to say how much I enjoy reading your reports. The reports are a lot more reliable than some of the other news sites on the net. Its a shame that Radio10 FM lost their medium wave tx, it was my favourite station of late playing both new and old music, something that is missing on stations here in the United Kingdom. It's good that Arrow has moved to 675 but it is not a patch on 10fm and being automated most of the time and there is

no personality in my opinion. Regards Clive Boutell.

Report on several websites

Dave Polley is one of the many new readers who come in each month: 'Hans, I must say how much I enjoyed reading your radio report this month for the first time via a link to UK Radio. I have requested the guys at UK Radio to put a permanent link to your report via their weekly newsletter which I receive and currently is not the case. Hans, should they not wish to do this can you tell me if there are any other sites where I can arrange to be put on a permanent mailing list in order to receive your reports as and when they are published. Keep publishing, as your efforts are appreciated Hans: Dave Polley. In the meantime Dave knows he's on the e mail lists. If in a case of deleting the report you can find it on several sites like www.ukradio.com or www.offshore-radio.de or www.mediapages.nl.

New radio licences in Holland

On the subject 'new licences in Holland' I did get a lot of e mails. Most questions were the same. For instant: 'I would like to know when the new Laser and Radio London Stations, which have been announced recently, expect to be on air. A lot of us over here in England thought that they were due on air from 1 June!' Well the licences start at June 1st and run 8 years and two months. But, as you can think for yourself when a new organisation gets a licence, they're happy and must arrange a lot to start the station. Building studio's, finding backers now that finally they got the licence, putting up a commercial department and so on. Or did you think they had it ready on June 1st? So Ray Anderson's station could, for instant, have some three months before it starts. This was mentioned on Radio 1, the Dutch informative channel early June.

I will believe it only when I've heard it!

Than the next question: 'They only thing I have found are a lot of silent frequencies with the only exception being Arrow on 675. I sent an e-mail to Peter Moore and asked him if he thought he had missed out on getting Caroline back on AM with perhaps Caroline NL

on one of the frequencies.' The Dutch part of Caroline, Sietse Brouwer and his friends did go for a licence but were not awarded. A pity as they did some real good programs from their cozy studio in Harlingen. And the comments of Peter Moore, who wrote to one of our readers on the fact Ray Anderson would get the 1008 khz: 'I will believe it only when I've heard it!' Sorry Malcolm, that's a quote, which I already use for decades and so you've stolen this from me. It will cost you a good beer when we do meet up again.

Laser and London

Also there were questions why Laser got so many and Radio London (Radlon) only one frequency. This question can be answered very simply. The Dutch partner of both, Quality Radio, did write in for one high power frequency for Radlon. The 400 kW is big enough in power to cover a good part of Britain. The Laser frequencies are lower in price and lower in power. So they went for more frequencies. All those transmitters together, they can cover a good part of the Netherlands. Only the northern part will get no signal. And there's a real problem as I'm living in the top of the Netherlands, very near to the German border. So thank you Ruud Poeze and Andrew Yates not to think about me, when going for frequencies.

675 AM

Then an email from Geoff Baldwin from Romford: 'Thanks for your recent reports.! The funny thing is that I have recently been listening to Radio 10 FM more because I liked the new weekday programmes but it didn't last very long! I happened to tune into 675AM late on Saturday evening May 31st, unaware of what was happening but I thought it was strange that the music sounded more like Arrow than Radio 10. I presume that was the beginning of the handover or the first tests by Arrow on 675 kHz. However, it wasn't until Sunday morning that I really gathered what was happening and then I looked at your latest report, which partly explains it all.

How can Radio 10 just disappear overnight?

I always thought that the Radio Authority over here were an odd

bunch but they can't match what the licensing authorities in Holland have done! How can a big well-established station like Radio 10 just disappear overnight? It sounds like it's all gone money, money, money in Holland. At least they seem to give new companies a chance and even anorak types can win frequencies but can they come up with the licence money demanded? That's the question.'

You can see that this email was sent away before the news came that the Sky Group had bought Radio 10. It's of course a pity for all those listeners in the UK and Ireland, who have tuned in on a regular base in the past to Radio 10FM. And I know that the people at the station were always very happy to hear they were loved in those countries too.

Even the Offshore Stations were allowed time to close down
Then Geoff went on with: 'I presume that the people behind Arrow Classic Rock were also caught out, failing to win an FM frequency but losing 828, as well. Does this mean that the new country station will be put on the back burner or will Arrow have to vacate 675 shortly? It's good to be able to hear Arrow again properly, even in the evening (828 was useless) but it was still wrong to get rid of Radio 10 so suddenly. Even the offshore pirate stations were allowed time to close down before being taken off the air!

The story continues

Then I did wake up on Thursday the 5th at a few minutes to seven. I heard in the news that Sky Radio Group has decided not to buy Radio 10FM from Talpa International Radio (John de Mol), although it was decided otherwise five days ago. Talpa had announced to go to a court to try to get a licence themselves, was the reason of the Sky announcement today. When Talpa owners heard this they decided to go to court today to fight against Sky too. In the main part of Holland the FM frequencies had no longer the Radio 10 programming but a new sound called 'De Gouwe Ouwe Zender'. Some frequencies however still carried the Radio 10 program. Around half past two in the afternoon it was announced that Radio 10 would not go to court

to fight the Sky Group as both parties were sitting around the table again for further talks. The story continues.

Roger Day on Caroline

June the 5th saw a one-day return of Roger Day on Caroline's broadcasting schedule. He did a three-hour stint in the afternoon. Thinking back it was almost 30 year to date that he was on Radio Caroline 389, the period which was in my year the best of the seventies including deejays like Young Paul Alexander, Andy Archer, Steve England, Spangles Muldoon and Roger himself. But Roger probably had forgotten the short period in 1973 as he went back to the sixties and mentioned the last program he made in March 1968. Nevertheless Roger, a wonderful show. And the good news is that a week later Roger could be heard once again.

Two Offshore legends

From Ireland came mail from Pat Healy, who wrote: 'I've been reading your articles on the web for quite a while now. So I decided to drop you a line to let you know that we have two offshore legends doing the breakfast programmes on our local commercial stations here in Cork in Southern Ireland. On 96fm, which has been on the air for almost 14 years, we have ex Caroline man Nick Richards. Nick is no stranger to Cork as he was on South Coast Radio, one of the first Superpirates, in the early 80's. Tony Allan, Johnny Moss, Mark Lawrence, Don Stevens and Stevie Gordon all appeared on South Coast in 82/83. (By the way do you have any idea where Stevie Gordon is now?). Over on Red FM, on air for about 1 1/2 years we have Charlie Wolf. Charlie has been on the station since the beginning and changed from late night to the breakfast show earlier this year. Station manager Henry Condon aka Henry Owens was on Atlantic252 with Charlie and decided that the Wolfman was to be one of his first appointments at the station. At present Nick is leading in the audience stakes but Charlie is catching up all the time. You can listen live to Nick on www.96fm.ie and to Charlie on www.redfm.ie'

Thanks Pat. Well Charlie is a regular reader from the report since a few years. Nice to hear that Nick Richards is also doing very well. I think they will have a lot of new listeners on the web soon. Stevie Gordon is living and working in Norway and two years ago I had the privilege meeting him after decades. He could be heard up till earlier this year on Radio Caroline in the Netherlands.

Tony Allen

Then a review about a cd I did receive early June:

'Everybody can be a jock so I thought I want to be a jock.' On the age of 15 years Tony Allen went to the Caroline House in Chesterfields Gardens to help the girls of the Caroline Club sending out material to the members. After a few visits he became totally pissed off after asking Ronan O'Rahilly if Tony could be a deejay. Of course Ronan thought he was far too young to go out to one of the then radio ships of the station. Just a few years later a dream became reality when he went down from London to Glasgow by train. Reason: Scotland was a country with his own rights and a radio station from international waters: Radio Scotland.

He did some links in the land based studio, so he could his thing to show he was a talent. There was the start of a long career for an excellent deejay who worked on a lot of offshore radio stations. RNI, Radio Caroline, Radio Seagull, Radio Mi Amigo and even live broadcasts for the Dutch service of Radio Atlantis were a few of the stations. Of course we may not forget his work for Abe Nathan and the Voice of Peace.

There's a double cd out, produced by no one else than Bob Lawrence. Tony tells his fascinating story. Very emotional he tells about his friendship with Stuart Henry, which even got me tears in the eyes. After his Scotland period he worked on a couple of television stations as continuity announcer. And one day, when working for Grenada Television he watched the ITV news and saw an item about Radio North Sea International. It was summer 1970 and Tony new that he wouldn't be anymore in television, which he disliked anyway.

He did phone his friend Graham Gill and he could sleep for a while on his floor in Amsterdam. From there on he tried to get a job on Radio Northsea International.

On RNI in 1971 Tony made real good programs and even did announcements in very good Dutch and on this cd he reveals how he learned the Dutch language. Also he declares how he made Bolland and Bolland to break the chart for the first time. And not forgetting the big thing when Tony was the one who opened RNI 2, on the former Radio Veronica frequency '192', when Veronica switched frequencies to 538 metres. Wonderful stories.

I've mentioned earlier the stories Ed Simeone told about the Voice of Peace going from the USA to Cadiz in Spain. But hearing Tony Allan, how he parked the ship as the captain was drunk, was fascinating. Of course he got on talking about the problems in Spain with the police. They were looking for guns on the Voice of Peace. There was also a story, which even I didn't know, on the money which came in from the Mafia from Messsina in Italy. Then followed by his memories about the time off the Israelis coast. He did went back a couple of times to Radio Caroline. I do remember he came back the very first time in October 1973. It was Dennis King who did drove him from Schiphol Airport to the Van Hoogendorpstraat. I was there on that very day and it was emotional to see how the Caroline people were happy that their lost son was back.

That was also the very first time I did met Tony and it would not be the last time. It should go too far to tell you in advance on all the subjects producer Bob Lawrence was talking with Tony. Of course there was the subject of Loving Awareness. We all know that for a lot of people LA had become a habit, but talking 12 minutes long on the idea is a bit too long. Good it was also to hear how Tony Allan talked about the fact he's gay and that he was the very first deejay on the world he talked freely about the fact he's gay. And he gives also some comments how the jingles 'Tony Allan is gay' were produced.

One part of his career was producing jingles and commercials, as well as doing radio programs on several Irish stations; so this part of his life is not forgotten.

Truly I must confess that I've listened to the cd's twice, in instant replay, and there's only one other thing I had problems with. There was too much music in the background during the interview. Maybe this due to the fact I'm getting older and so the music irritates more than before. For the rest Tony and Bob Lawrence have made an excellent thing.

The Tony Allan story is available on two cd roms and can be ordered for 21 Pounds or 30 Euro's by sending a cheque or money to The Radio Production Company, PO Box 113, Sheerness, ME12, 2TD United Kingdom.

It is a great shame about 10FM

Nice to see also people from England are reading the report on a Dutch site, the one from Wim van de Water. Here's what Peter Halls wrote to us: 'Another great news letter! It is a great shame about 10FM it always sounded like "time warp radio" in other words the Veronica style of programming, and the other offshore Dutch stations. I look forward to finding your next newsletter on Media Pages NL.



Johnny Walker

Then, on June 5th a very sad mail came in concerning Johnny Walker and was sent out by the BBC: 'Johnnie Walker, who presents the drive time show on BBC Radio 2, revealed his audience today that he has cancer. Johnnie said: Five weeks ago I was diagnosed with

cancer in the form of a malignant tumour in my colon. Obviously at the time this was a great shock but I have now come to terms with it and I am determined to face the challenge and do all that's

necessary to try and get well. Sadly it's an all too familiar situation for so many people these days and I'm beginning to truly understand the difficult times sufferers and their families face. Normally this is something one would like to keep private but with the need to take some time off from my Radio 2 show and the effort involved in making excuses for my absence, I decided it would be much easier for me to just be honest about the situation.'

We all have proud memories on Johnny, who I followed since his early shows in the sixties. I did meet him last summer in London and he was in wonderful shape then, so lucky with his new woman in live. They married a couple of weeks ago and I hope Johnny will recover completely. We will cross fingers for you Johnny!

Listen to a [Johnny Walker jingle](#) from Swinging Radio England!

Fred Bolland

Two other persons who have serious problems with their health, or must I write with their hearts, are Fred Bolland and Eric Wiltshire. Fred went to the background during the past years but he was an organiser in the Dutch Offshore scene since decades. In the late seventies he was responsible with some other people for the tendering of the Mi Amigo, he was the man who tried to bring Radio Monique on the air from the MV Magdalena and later on was responsible for Radio Monique from the Ross Revenge. He went to hospital at June 13th and let's hope he will come out in a better condition. He was suffering problems during the past few years. Then Eric Wiltshire, who did some very good things in radio in the past decade but also dissatisfied some people with his stories on the return of Radio Luxembourg., Nevertheless the few times I did meet and work with him were very nice memories and Eric from all the readers a good health is wished for the future.

Peter and Jaap

June 5th the two men from the Hague, Peter and Jaap, were traced. They've been found back with thanks to Ron van Dijken, Peter's

brother. After leaving Caroline Peter started a driving school, which he did for 10 years. Then we became a trolley driver, which he still does. Jaap had a special garage in Scheveningen, which he sold a couple of month ago. There's a big chance to see them - together with Archer, Noakes and Rusling - at the radio day in Amsterdam in October.

It's great having Arrow on 675

On June 6th Mick C wrote in from England: 'I have just read that the city government in Heinenoord has decided that the antenna which supplies the signal for 828 kHz is to cease. I know you have a different system in Holland for the operation of transmitters. If it is true that 828 kHz will cease within 6 months why has the new Laser Radio acquired it with an operating licence for 8 years. Also, there is a lot of doubt over here in the UK over whether these new stations, meaning Radio London as well as Laser, will actually get on-air and if they do what sort of reception coverage will they have. I personally hope they are successful. I think these stations will give UK stations a big wake up call. Lastly. It's great having Arrow on 675 kHz with a much better signal.'

Thanks Mick. Well probably they will find another transmitter site to place the antenna. And for the rest of the station I just can tell you that they've time till June 1st next year to come on the air. Of course they've all to buy a building, transmitters, studio equipment, selling advertisements, finding the real backers and even buying toilet paper. So wait and we will hear. And if not they will lose their licence next June.

Radio 10 FM back on 1395 AM

In the evening of the 6th I heard that talks between Talpa Radio International (read Radio 10FM) and Sky Radio Group are definitely off. No more future for Radio 10 to use the new frequency for the Gouwe Ouwe Zender. This is like a day to day report. So sorry for Tom Mulder and his club. During the day another frequency, one of the many Quality Radio got, is testing with Radio 10 programs.

Another deal has been made with owner Ruud Poeze and so from June 7th at 6th in the morning Radio 10 is back on AM 1395 kHz. And I can finally inform that the station closed down at 20.00 hrs Dutch time on AM as reception will then almost impossible. The power is lowered earlier in the evening due to an international agreement. An high power Albanian station uses the frequency during evening and night.

Also it can be revealed that the court case from Talpa Radio International - owner of Radio 10FM- against the Dutch Ministry of Economy, which was responsible for the sale of the frequencies, will take place on June 25th. We're crossing our fingers for Talpa as well as the team of Tom Mulder at 10FM.

Peter Quinn

June 7th we learned about another former Caroline deejay from the eighties. We did think Peter Quinn was still working on Arrow FM. But versus our good friend Martin van der Ven I did learn that this is old information. Peter got in touch and wrote: 'I am at the moment operating an internet radio station: www.radio4living.com. So go and have a listen.

Radio ship

From Sweden the news of a radio ship, called St. Paul: 'here is the radio ship, planned as a community radio of 500watts on the am-band. A legal radio station. A flagpole (none metallic) of 10 meters will carry the special designed antenna. Music and old time radio 1900-1969. Even tests in DRM, 100-500 watts, of course on another frequency. Future plans is a commercial licence of 2-5 kW with a special glass fibre antenna, am or drm. Don't forget to sponsor us by your commercial's in our programs. Roy: www.amradio.se

The ship, which will be used, is in the harbour of Malmö and a pity for St Paul Rusling the tx has such a low power.

Jim Murphy

Sunday June 8th brought an update for Mary and Chris Payne's site

on internet. And for the people who liked the late Big Jim Murphy they had great news. Mary and Chris did send an email to tell the news: 'Many people will remember the website launched by the late Caroline North DJ, Jim Murphy, which contained fascinating photos taken aboard the Fredericia, including many from the private collection of the late Don Allen. Sadly the site had become inaccessible some time ago, probably since Jim became ill and was no longer able to work on it. Sadly, Jim died in 2000. Kenny Tosh, the custodian of Don Allen's photographs, had been actively involved with the launch of Jim's site. However, Kenny was unable to access the missing web files and it seemed Jim's site might be lost for ever. Radio London Ltd, the organisers of the last year's successful 35th Anniversary Offshore Reunion, are pleased to announce that, after extensive work by Chris Payne, the files have been recovered and restored. Jim's original site is now available via the Radio London website. Apart from a few minor repairs, the website is exactly as Jim left it, with the addition of some photographs which he never managed to finish placing on the site.' You can find the site from Chris and Mary on: www.radiolondon.co.uk.

Paul and Mark de Haan

And another wonderful update can be found on www.marine-broadcaster.com. This is the site of Paul and Mark de Haan and, like me, they come from Groningen. In the update photos from several trips made in the seventies by one of the German Anoraks. Also a lot of exclusive photo's of the Communicator, mostly not seen before. Finally in the second update of this site this year there's a story from yours truly in which I tell that there are far much more offshore links to Groningen than the Voice of Peace and King David. Go and see and read it.

My good friend Paul de Haan wrote an article about the circumstances on the MV Communicator. Since the cabins have been broken away some years ago there are problems with asbestos on the ship. The Labour Inspection has made an official report about the danger on the ship. In the Dutch News Group Paul made a warning for

the anoraks who would probably go out and work to restore the ship into a museum or something else. Most of the people in the news group are 50+ and still some are super anoraks (thanks Andy for providing us with this marvellous word). So those are free to go to work on the ship but a warning from Paul for asbestos was on the right place. I did answer that I did totally agree. Some 'watchers' thought we went too far with the warning and even someone wrote if there was a company behind the MV Communicator the attorney would do his work.

I know for sure there's a 'world' of free speech, free talking and writing and warning in the Netherlands. So please, new owners of the Communicator, be careful with the rules for asbestos. It's very dangerous to work with the material without knowing how the official rules are to take it from the ship. Many people have died due to ill fated care taking. We all would love to have a radio ship back on international waters but please without health problems.

Trains

Enough about ships. I want to finish this report by writing about trains and other driving material. It seems that a lot of deejays are also addicted to train spotting or tram history. In my archive are also some exclusive videos about trains and trams. This week it was revealed by The Radio Magazine that Virgin Trains has signed a deal with SAGA 105.7 FM, which is the regional station in the Midlands. They will sponsor the breakfast show, presented by Les Ross for the coming six months. Ross is a train enthusiast himself and even an engine, The 86259 Les Ross, is named after him.

In my memory I went back to the two deejays from offshore days who were or are still addicted to the train hobby. Boom Boom Brannigan, who was deejay on Swinging Radio England came originally from America and his model trains were sent over by plane and in one of the holds of the MV Laissez Faire he played many hours with his trains in international waters. When Tom Mulder, aka Klaas Vaak was 25 years in radio artists, colleagues and radio friends were invited to

celebrate this. It's ten years ago that first, early in the morning, Tom Mulder was the driver of a tram, which went through Amsterdam. A youth dream finally came reality. But that wasn't all for in the afternoon we went with a very old train through the Province of North Holland. Great memories and when Tom was 30 years in business I did know what to give him: a videotape with exclusive material from my own train archive.

So 10 pages are filled again and so it's time to sent them to all our e mail readers. As normal I hope you've enjoyed this report and keep sending your news, memories, questions or other things to my e mail address: HKnot@home.nl

In July we will back with the next report. Keep on loving radio!