

Hans Knot's International Radio Report – February 2004



Welcome to the February edition of the International Radio Report. During this month I've been away to Great Britain to do some research and also meet a lot of people, whom I know from the good old radio world. I know that I did not succeed in getting to visit everyone who has asked me to get in contact when over in England, but in only 6 days I had 11 appointments, which I thought was enough for that moment. There will be more possibilities next time over. For those who do think the letters in this e-mail are too small simply edit everything and go to Times Roman 12 and you do see it much better. I only do send it by e-mail in a small format so everything comes over as a smaller file. For some a bigger file is not accepted!

In this report first of all some information from Pirate Radio Sales, one of the companies run by David and Lyn Laine in England. They've started test transmissions with their new radio station Offshore Music Radio. More info can be found at: www.pirateradiosales.co.uk

One of the things David and Lyn asked me lately was if I had the time to do a spoken version of the International Radio Report for their magazine. As I'm very busy with a lot of other work I'm doing, I had to say no to them and they fully did understand why I haven't time to do more work. So here is the big question: who wants to do the monthly presentation of the report in English, in a one hour program which will be going out a few times on this internet radio station. If you like the idea simply write to info@pirateradiosales.co.uk

Lynn and Dave are also looking for some Dutch deejays who like to do some hours programming per month for their radio station in Dutch and in the style of Radio 10 Gold, which was so much loved in Britain before switching over to their new frequency last year. So if you're interested you can also reflect to the above e-mail address.

The date is settled for the visit to the Queen of England and then we're talking about Keith Skues, who wrote in: 'Hi Hans, Very many thanks for your generous name-check in your latest, interesting newsletter. I was very surprised to receive the award. As one newspaper said "They used to hang pirates now they are given MBEs." I go to Buckingham Palace on 10th March to receive the medal from HM The Queen. I believe photographs are taken on the day, so I will endeavor to my hands on one or two. Thanks again for your kindness. With warm regards, Keith.'

Well two in a row Keith that's name checks, you couldn't say I did forget you after March 26th 1994, the last time we had a drink together.

Last time I talked about the idea from Martin van der Ven to start with a list of female deejays. Some people sent in their update and changes to the list. It was Leen Vingerling, the former tender king from the Communicator as well as the MV Ross Revenge who told me that the English people have a problem to speak the letter r in Dutch words. Therefore in the original list the name Mayo has to be changed in Marjo, which is the wonderful woman next to Leen. Also he added that we have to see Jenny the Cook and Jenny McKenzie as the same person. A new name on the list is Annie de Reuver, a Dutch singer very popular in the fifties in the Netherlands and who died a couple of years ago. She did also radio shows. First on Radio Luxembourg and for many years on the public broadcaster TROS. She has to be added to the list as she did some shows on Radio Monique. From down yonder it's David Miller in New Zealand who wrote me that also a female deejay could be heard on Radio Hauraki. Her name was Trudy Rona. She could be listened too, only for a short time due to the fact she died after a car crash.

The next one who sent an e-mail concerning this subject was Derek May: 'Hans, excellent Newsletter, as always. Female deejays: what about Candy Calvert on Radio City - Dorothy Calvert's daughter.'

Another one which comes into my mind is Mandy, partner of Mike Raven. They presented a show together on Radio 390.'

Thanks Dave and yes I did replay an old program from the couple a few weeks ago.

From Kenny Tosh again some news: 'Hans Knot did make a mistake. Hello Hans, a little correction to your report, I m in Belfast, not Dublin! Also more on the guest front, Had some communication with a future guest, looking forward to having Nick Bailey as a guest on the Revival show, TX date to be announced later! Best wishes, Kenny.'

Thanks Kenny a good thing you did mention it, so I won't book for a Dublin plane but a Belfast plane later this year.

It s also nice every time to get e-mails from people I've never heard before. Here s such an example: 'Hans, I've been a keen fan of your Newsletter and indeed the Soundscapes on line Journal for a number of years now. I've been listening to Radio Caroline, on and off, since 1964. Along with BIG L it kept me and my friends company whilst at boarding school. When Caroline went off the air in 1968 I switched to Radio Veronica, I still love the sound of Dutch pop radio. In the 70's I returned to Caroline and listened to RNI as well as Veronica for those all too short years before the Dutch MOA. Please add me to your list of offshore fans who would like more details of the book Caroline Memories as they become available. Best Regards, John O'Sullivan.

Thanks a lot John well I can tell you that in the meantime your name has been added to those who where already there to get info on the book, when it will be published. So for everyone who s interested in the publication with memories on 40 years Radio Caroline can read previews on www.offshore-radio.de and can already sent me an e-mail when they re interested in buying a copy later this year:
hknot@home.nl

On Sunday February 1st, Radio Seagull started broadcasting on the Sky digital platform, EPG 913. This is the channel that is also used by Apple FM during daytime. Seagull will be on this platform every day from 19.00 - 01.00 (and not until 23.00 as was mentioned earlier), so the full 6 hours!. Here s the schedule which came in by e mail on January 28th: Monday 19.00-22.00: Stevie Gordon and 22.00-01.00: Dave Fox Tuesday 19.00-22.00: Chris Kennedy and 22.00-01.00: Carl Kingston. Wednesday 19.00-01.00: Album Zone. Thursday 19.00-22.00: Sietse Brouwer and 22.00-01.00: Andy Brooks. Friday 19.00-22.00: Garry Lee's Overflow and 22.00-01.00: Chris Bent (Toward the unknown region) Saturday 19.00-22.00: Garry Lee's Overflow which is followed from 22.00-01.00: by Chris Bent (Toward the unknown region). And finally the Sunday 19.00-22.00: Simon Clark and 22.00-01.00: Stevie Gordon. I do wish the whole team a lot of success in the time to come.

From the USA came the next e-mail: 'Hi Hans, As usual your newsletter is fascinating and I linked into the fabulous website of Jonathan Marks thanks to you. I e-mailed him with congratulations. One of my favourite broadcasters. Very sad to hear about Rob Out, though. There should be some kind of rule that Christmas Day people are exempt from dying. I do hope that 2004 has been good to you so far and will continue to do so. Thank you ever so much for the wonderful newsletter! Tom Konard/Aircheck Factory.'

Thanks Tom, who has by the way also a wonderful collection of radio recordings from the past.

Then a press report from Tim Ayriss at Word Radio Network, which is based in Vauxhall South London. Tim did sent the next news: Radio Freundes-Dienst, the Swiss-based Christian broadcaster, has launched its daily 15-minute radio show on World Radio Network's German language network, WRN Deutsch. Radio Freundes-Dienst is the radio branch of the Swiss-based international Freundes-Dienst Foundation, which is a non-denominational, not-for-profit organisation working to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ in print

and audio. Freundes-Dienst works with Christians from various denominations and all the work of the organisation is financed by voluntary donations. For the past 45 years, Radio Freundes-Dienst has been producing German language shows under the title "Licht + Leben" ("Light + Life") for transmission via international and local radio outlets. The new partnership with World Radio Network allows Freundes-Dienst programmes to be heard in top-quality audio via a range of modern and innovative distribution platforms. Besides transmission on WRN Deutsch, a seven-day archive of their programmes can also be listened via WRN's own website at www.wrn.org/listeners/stations/station.php?StationID=105

Radio Freundes-Dienst can be heard on WRN Deutsch daily at 08.15 and 16.15 hours Central European Time. WRN Deutsch is distributed via Satellite Astra 1B (analogue), Eutelsat HOT BIRD 6 (digital), via WorldSpace AfriStar, as an internet live-stream at www.wrn.org as well as via various cable outlets in the German states of Saxony and Saxony-Anhalt as well as in Geneva (Switzerland). Thanks Tim and good luck with the network. Greetings to all the other people over there, including Thomas. Hope to meet you both once again for a drink or two one day..

In the last issue I wrote about the question if Dorothy Squires was or wasn't on board the MEBO II when an interview with her was heard on RNI way back in 1970. It was Andy Archer as well Rodney Collins who both had their opinion and I can now reveal that we have the answer this time. It was Terry Williams who came with the answer:

'Dear Hans It was interesting to read about Dorothy Squires and the RNI interview. Dot was a close family friend (from long before I was even born) and as such was known to me as "Auntie Dot" even though she was not a blood relation. Dot was a great believer in Free Radio regardless of the type of music they played. I was about 14 at the time and a free radio supporter, I knew nothing of Dots interest in Free Radio until she spotted some stickers of mine (this was prior to the RNI interview). She talked of her beliefs in free radio and free

speech with me and encouraged me to keep supporting free radio. This was strange for me at the time because I was 14, and she was the same age as my grandparents!. She did go to Holland to give the interview and was intending to visit the MEBO 2. However the couple of days she had in Holland coincided with rough sea conditions and they could not take her to the ship. She recorded the interview on land. She knew her music was not the style of RNI, but it was the mere fact she could get her record played on it would upset the BBC.....She had argued over something with someone at the BBC and they refused to play her record. It was not the Payola scandal. (That was a case she did actually win and was proved innocent). Dot was a great arguer and could argue with anyone.... over anything.... and often did. However like so many famous people she suffered from what was written in the newspapers about her, which did not relate to the real Dorothy Squires. I hope this insight to Dot is of interest to you. As you can see I was 14 when the above took place I am now almost 48 and still mad on radio. Thanks for your reports, I always check your site for updates Terry Williams.'

Well we couldn't get it better, the answer on our Dorothy Squires question with thanks to Terry. And I can promise there will more about Dorothy's connections to free radio in a future issue as I will reveal the Governmental file I do have in my archive as well some other surprises on the subject, which Andrew Emmerson promised me to sent over to Holland.

From Baylef in England the next e-mail came in: 'Hello Hans and a late Happy New Year. The highlight of a day is going to The Offshore Radio Guide and finding a new report from you. Let's face it: there is not much else that appears there at the moment. I wrote to you last year and lamented the fact that I felt the Ross Revenge had become a honey pot for those living on her past glories and what I felt was a rip off for loyal fans who paid the premium rates phone charges just to hear the same old news of a lick of paint or clean of the galley. I find I now have to pay to listen to Caroline web broadcasts and they also are now begging for money to get a sky

listing. Caroline is and should be the biggest trade mark in the music business, yet it seems to lack the ability to capitalise on this. At that time of my last letter, I also suggested that the new owners of the Communicator may be onto the same gravy train. Well, I apologise to them. I note on their web site that they now make a public statement that they will not accept donations from supporters. Good for them and maybe we will yet see broadcasts from a ship at sea be it licensed ones, they seem to have achieved a lot in a very short time. I agree that too often the Dutch supporters get very bad press from many sections off the "Free Radio" movement. I can never understand why because for many years it has been their support and funds that helped to keep various stations going. I always have Arrow Classic Rock on the car radio and wish that we could have something similar based in the UK. Most so called Gold stations seem to feel they have to cater for all sections of music tastes so then dilute the style of music many of us search for. Thanks again for your dedication and interesting information. and keep up the good work. Steve Morphew (Bayleaf)'

Interesting Steve that you did mention again the fact people have to pay to listen to Radio Caroline. A lot of e mails with the same contents have been coming in since the Peter Moore letter has been published in Horizon and then brought with a wider public due to people sending their comments in newsgroups and so on. Where has the time gone we all spoke about our Fight for Freedom and a really Free Radio Caroline?

Another response on Radio Caroline comes from London: 'Dear Hans, firstly thanks for your excellent work! Yes I agree (although I give Caroline £7.50 per month) I like so many others love the station, although not uncritically. The problem of power and control, can like so many other things in life, be taken too far. Radio Caroline really was a great station. I now find myself listening to other stations as Caroline seems Oké to listen to now and then. Not most of the time as I used to listen in the past. Best wishes Sam Kelly, South East London.'

It was a very sad end of January in Rotterdam when 29 of the 140 people working for the regional radio and television station RTV Rijnmond heard they could close the door for the last time. The following day the programming of both stations had changed. In this way they hope to be in bit fresher water. Earlier in my report I did mention already about the financial problems with this station. Director Wehrmeijer hopes to save around 1,5 million Euro with this decision.

Friday evening January 30th I was listening to a lot of jingles and promos with a jingle friend . And to my surprise I heard a promo for a program on Caroline North The Midnight Special presented by Ann Shelton and so we can put her on the list of female deejays. That reminds me that somewhere I do have a list of all the special programs recorded by artists for Radio Caroline in the sixties. There must be some women on there! I keep you informed.

On January 31st an excellent update about the female deejays and presenters came from Juul Geleick, who worked for many years as a technician at the offshore radio station Veronica. He is care taker of the Veronica archive and sent us the next list with deejays: Ger Ann Verweij, Ageeth Scherphuis, Netty Rosenfeld, Hetty Blok, Karin Kraaykamp, Ida de Leeuw van Rees, Jacqueline Hoes, Isabelle, Dimitra and Erny Köhlers. Thanks Juul. When writing this piece for the report it suddenly came into my mind that in the team of Radio Scotland s One O clock Show also a female presenter could be heard. Her name is Moira Brioday. And if you ve one in mind please forward it too: Hknot@home.nl

Around midday the same 31st of January I did get a jpg file. It was an article which was published in local newspaper of Geelong in Australia, earlier their time, the same day. Strange to get an article which was seen for the first time just hours earlier in Australia. Great work from Tony Friend, who sent me the article as Tony Blackburn was highlighted in it. He's in Geelong. Tony was there with

six other presenters of radiostations from the UK as an initiative of Geelong Otway Tourism Victoria. Of course with the hope some free airtime will be done on their stations in the UK. In the article of course the career of Blackburn is highlighted, included his offshore days on Radio Caroline, which for him did start in 1965.

Then an question came in from Oscar who wants to know more about the AM frequencies in the Netherlands: What will happen for instance with the 1008 kHz, the frequency which was tested by Radio London in July last year. Also other frequencies, who have been given away, are not used yet. Will this be happening before June. What will happen when June arrives and nothing is on one or more frequencies? Will the investors loose their money?

I had to make a quick message then to the one and only Walter Dubateau, who did write some interesting articles on this subject for our on line journal for media and music culture, Soundscapes. www.soundscapes.info

I asked Walter if he could do a small investigation on the subject and this is what he wrote back to me: 'I thought I knew the correct answer but I ve checked with Ministry for Economic Affairs. If something will really happen with all those beautiful intentions from Ruud Poeze and Ray Anderson I cannot judge. I think all we heard doesn t give a green light for them. When the transmitters are not on the air on time, on the frequencies which have been sold by auction, the frequencies have to be given back. In the application form it was written that the financial offer had to be paid completely and that the offer, from the application form, was also irrevocable.

This means that for the 1008kHz Ray Anderson has to pay 88.008 Euro. Ruud Poeze, with all his frequencies, has to pay a total amount of 232.918 Euro to the Ministry. I sincerely hope that Ruud Poeze has made a good deal with Radio10 Gold with renting them the 1395 kHz and that the money will cover his total costs. In short a very

expensive business for those who have filled in such an application form requesting for a frequency but not using it.'

Thanks a lot Walter for the answers.

Those who do read the International Radio Report already for many years, may remember that once I did ask the reader if they knew anything about the soundtrack of the movie *Gold*, in which a part of the music was done by the late Irish singer David McWilliams. It was recorded in 1972 and heavily highlighted on Radio Caroline in a promo spot. Within a month I did have a cd at home on which the very rare Soundtrack was.

It's Oeds Jan Koster from the Netherlands who's also looking for a very rare soundtrack and maybe one of the readers can help him. It's a German/British co production and the movie is called *Mord und Totschlag* (A degree of murder). The movie features Anita Pallenberg, Hans Peter Hallwachs, Manfred Fishbeck, Werner Enke and many more. The music from the movie features: Jimmy Page, Nicky Hopkins and Brian Jones.

So if you do have this soundtrack or knowing how to get a copy, please make contact with the editor of this International Radio Report.

I always try to write pieces for the report every three days and today it's Tuesday February 2nd. Rink Hof has sent in a very fine update for the female presenters list: Radio Atlantis, Mona. Radio Caroline: Debbie England. Radio City: Peggy Knight and Janice Nicholls. Radio Hauraki Lynn McNamara. Radio Mercur Birgit David, Gitte Muller, Hannah Ralf, Helle Schmidt and Jytte Weiss. Radio Noordzee (RTV REM Island) Sonja van Proosdij, Radio Sutch: Tamara Harrison and Radio 390 Samantha Leigh. Many thanks Rink.

I've always a piece of paper by hand, so if something comes in mind I can write it down. During the last days other women, ever active in

Offshore Radio, came up in my mind: REM Radio TV Noordzee: Hetty Bennink and Marianne Bierenbroodspot. Radio Veronica: Pia Beck. Radio Syd: Briit Wadner and her daughter Conny.

Dutch Union of Commercial Radio stations (VCR) and her members have made a lawsuit against the NOS and the NPS (Dutch National Public Broadcasters). This due to the fact those two have decided to take over the ill fated Colorful Radio from the Dutch Radio Group (NRG). In this way the commercial radiostation Colorful Radio, will be run by two Public Broadcasters. As this is really unfair in the eyes of the VCR the case will go to court.

In Holland prospective Public Broadcasting Societies have to get at least 50.000 paying members on March the 1st to get a so called Aspirant licence in 2005. It became known last weekend that MAX, a broadcasting society specially for the elderly people, had 50.500+ members. So they can get a licence when a special committee has gone through their application as well as their membership list. Some other groups are also very busy. De Nieuwe Omroep (The New Broadcaster) says that they have 47.560 members and hope to have enough on March 1st too. Very recently some other groups have announced to go for their own licence. Among them is the MON, The Montagne Omroep Organisatie. It is lead by former Veronica and TROS deejay Chiel Montagne, who became very famous in the seventies and eighties of last century for promoting the Dutch language songs. There s a real revival lately for Dutch language music and so Chiel tried to jump into this hole. A special concert with a lot of artist will be held soon to get, hopefully enough members.

Before I forget, take you diary and note on the page of October 2nd: Radio Day in Amsterdam. In the next issue I will tell you where to go. Also I hope to give more information on the program. As told before I decided to stop, after 25 years, with doing the interviews. Organising the day I will remain doing together with Rob Olthof of SMC, but the interviews programming will be from now in the good hands of our friend Martin van der Ven. He has the idea to change

every time the interviewer and the interviewed people. So more next time.

Let's not forget our friends in Harlingen. Here's what Andy Sennit wrote about them today on the site of Radio Netherlands: "Radio Seagull hopes to start medium wave in April. Dutch commercial broadcaster Radio Seagull is hoping to begin its medium wave service on 1602 kHz in April, but from the Friesian coastal town of Harlingen rather than the provincial capital, Leeuwarden. Harlingen is where Radio Seagull's studios are located. Programme Director Sietse Brouwer, in an interview with public broadcaster VPRO, explained that in order to finance the operation, Radio Seagull wants to run a Dutch-language tourist station called Radio Waddenzee on the frequency in the summer months. Radio Waddenzee, aimed at the water sports enthusiasts who flock to the area every summer, would broadcast at 0500-1700 UTC daily between the 1st of May and 1st of October. Brouwer told the VPRO Radio "We're idealistic, but we're not crazy." Income from advertising on Radio Waddenzee would finance the running costs of Radio Seagull for the rest of the year. Radio Seagull has requested permission from the Dutch Radio Communications Agency to move the location of its transmitter, as the signal from a 1 kW transmitter in Leeuwarden would not be sufficient to cover the tourist area around the West Frisian islands. Radio Seagull, whose regular programming is in English, has also started broadcasting to the UK every evening at 1900-0500 UTC on the Sky Digital platform as of 1 February. Programming on this service is different from Radio Seagull's Internet feed." Thanks Andy and to Sietse: Try to feed not only the transmitters but also us with information. I told you before to be keen in all cases and make a list of people to sent reports all of the time.

Then another e mail came in, this time from Don Stevens: 'Good day folks, Whilst on the MV Mi Amigo in Feb,1975 a young Dutch couple in a yacht, having some trouble making England in stormy weather pulled alongside the ship. Captain Wilhelm took them aboard and the female, Anka, ended up in our recording studio making jingles for all

the crew. She certainly made a voice over for Peter van Dam, Rob Ronder too I think, one for me, and a bunch of 'Caroline 259' voice overs in English, but with a sweet Dutch accent. As Music Director on the Voice of Peace in May, 1976, I welcomed aboard the Peace Ship, Tara Jeffries, a young broadcaster of Indian ancestry who came to us via UBN, the biscuit radio station in London. She did a three month tour of duty, and left in August, 1976 to take up a position with LBC London. I am told by LBC she is now in Australia, maybe in radio. Hope this news input is of use to you, Peace and Long Life, Don Stevens.'

Thanks Don. Indeed we did remember Tara as I have some recordings of her in my archive. And she was already on my list. Nice to hear the other story and good you did remember her name. Why, after so many years do you remember a name of a girl which was just passing by. She must have been impressive. A pity for her she will not be mentioned as she was not doing a program.

On February 13th I was listening to Radio 2 and it was great to hear Sally Traffic mentioning that Johnny Walker will be back into Radio from March the first. Great to hear this Johnny and hope you have recovered completely. I did listen to the station while over in England together



with my good friend Rob Olthof. We did some research for a forthcoming publication as well seeing radio stations and meeting good old friends. We should have met Tony Allan, too. On last Monday (the 9th) we had a phone call with him asking to meet up. He told to be in Whitstable on Wednesday but a pity he had to go into hospital again. May I ask you to have Tony in your thoughts the coming time. A pity as it is still not going too well with him. Take care

Tony.

On the other hand we did meet some nice friends including Andrew Emmerson, Dave Burke, Bob LeRoi (still shining as ever), Johnny Lewis, Elja van de Berg, Bob Mathews, Dave Forster, Clive Smith (thanks for the round up at Leister Squares head office) and many more. A pity we didn't make it to the Thursday's evening party and so we missed John Myer and Duncan Johnson. But who knows another time. And we did visit Peter Moore.

Peter Moore still is organising Radio Caroline and he did some very good things since 1987 for the organisation. Last meeting we had with him in December brought the idea to make a new publication for Radio Caroline. The idea was a photo book but soon I realised, with my background as historian, that such a publication was not a good idea. I brought this information to Peter and decided to write to 60 former Caroline people to add some chapters to my own ones. Up till now 23 have been received (yes within 2 months with a lot of thanks to all who did take part).



One of the things I asked in my report (just let them coming in) was to ask the readers on their comments on the organisation. Some are happy but a lot are dissatisfied with the organisation as it is run nowadays. Many people think it's just a thing too nothing with only a few

hundred listeners. As a good journalist I've given one chapter, which is called Is the Caroline management still reliable to Caroline's manager. Of course I did give him the opportunity to reflect on all is told in this chapter. Coming back to him four days later he told us that he didn't want to be involved in the book anymore. On the

question why he told us that he didn't know what was more in the book. Well what a good historian has to do is to research and bring the good as well as the bad things. The publisher of the book first decided to give a part of the revenue to the Caroline organisation. In the past SMC, the Foundation of Media Communication, which had published many books on the history of Radio, has given many donations for the good sake of Caroline. But as Moore now thinks he doesn't want to be involved anymore the money will go into the research fund, from which more publications will be financed. Maybe Peter Moore will come to mind and so he can have another chance. Will keep you informed.

A question coming in from one of our readers was Where has Dixie Peach gone . The last thing we know since last week that he was a record plugger in the early nineties of last century. Who does know more about this terrific good former Caroline deejay from 1983?

But there is also some positive news from Caroline. Let s go to an e-mail coming in from Steve Szmidt: 'At the weekend Studio 1 from Radio Caroline in Maidstone was open again for business, complete with new CD and Mini Disc Players donated by Radio Caroline Sales. A few weeks ago the console in this studio blew up and had to be sent away to be repaired. Meanwhile presenters have had to struggle in Studio 2 with an upside down mixer and faulty CD players etc! This morning (9th) Nigel Harris returned to do the breakfast show after a couple of weeks of doing some paid DJ work for his former employer, the Kent Messenger Group, and local radio station CTFM, or as it is now known KMFM Canterbury. Whilst Nigel was away, the breakfast show was done by various presenters, including JP, Rob Leighton and Pat Edison.

During his programme Nigel announced that tomorrow (Tuesday 10th February) Johnny Lewis is returning to the Radio Caroline airwaves at 11.00 hours. He also mentioned that today John Patrick was going into hospital. Let's hope that everything goes well for John and he makes a speedy recovery, so that we can hear him back on the old

girl in the near future. At the weekend Roger Day did his normal Saturday programme, followed by the return of the "Cabin Boy" Ryan Woodman, who has also been doing some work on the same local radio station as Nigel. Mark Stafford was unable to do his programme on Sunday due to problems with his washing machine etc! Roger Day stood in for Mark, which sort of makes up for the fact that he will not be on air next Saturday (14th), because he will be up in Manchester. During his programme Roger asked listeners if they would be interested in getting out his old disco equipment to do a Roger "Twiggy" Day Road show. What do you think? Roger would like Caroline to do something for Caroline's actual 40th Birthday on the 28th March, so if he for example organised a road show for Saturday the 27th, going into Sunday 28th March, how many fans/supporters/listeners of the station would support this. Proceeds could go to the EPG fund.. Email Roger at RTD259@aol.com and let him know what you think. This is just an idea at the moment. It has been announced that the Ross will be open on the 28th February from 10.00 hours. People interested in going out to the ship should contact Vaughan of Caroline Sales on his mobile, number 07890 279049, but only in the evenings or at the weekends. Finally, tickets for the 40th Anniversary gig featuring the Fortunes, to be held at the Riga Music Bar at Southend on Sunday 11th April 2004 will be limited to 240, so if you want to go, contact Vaughan on the above number or Riga Steve and/or John Patrick at the radio station. It is also hoped that Georgie Fame will also be there, along with Caroline DJ's from the past and present. Tickets will cost about 15 Pounds. LA, Steve Szmidt.'

A response came in to our last issue on the subject Radio London, sent in by London's director Chris Payne and I can tell you truly he is right with his comment: "With regard to comments made in your last newsletter by Gerald Gray, the Directors of Radio London, Chris and Mary Payne, would like to point out that Radio London is not a 'fan club' but a fully-trading, professional limited company, currently providing engineering services to the broadcasting industry. However, we do continue to provide the free service of the offshore

radio site which we established in 1999."

Thanks Chris and greetings from Jana (down yonder in New Zealand at the moment) and me to Mary and you, too. We do have some fund memories to share!

It's time for a press release with great news for Anoraks in April as days from the past will be coming back with a lot of memories:

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Pirate Radio off the Essex Coast: BBC ESSEX GOES PIRATE (click [HERE](#) for the Press Release)

So that s very nice news. Get your recorders radio, take some vintage reel to reel tape and get it on for the memories when Caroline is 50 years of age in ten years time.

Near Manchester Jan (no not only a Dutch name) is living. He does write in on a regularly basis and this time he wrote: 'Hi Hans, I have a question for you or any of the readers who read the offshore radio pages. Has anyone heard of the name Karel Van Raan as it's bugging certain people as this person has e-mail Mike Brand's old home e-mail address and we are all curious about it as none of us know who he is? We also think that this person had something to do with last windup over Caroline s return etc and the Mr. Fox episode!, can you throw any light on the subject please. Many thanks and best regards! Jan

Well get the answers coming in for Jan?

And another former Caroline deejay wants to be famous again as this one also rolled into my e-mail box during the week I was over in England: Former Radio Caroline deejay, Steve Satan, is to front an Radio Caroline RSL from a boat which will be moored in Bristol City docks , the station will be on air for four weeks from February 29th and will transmit on the FM band at a frequency of 87.7 , Steve himself was a popular figure and presenter on the Radio Caroline ship during the former pop pirates days at sea. According to reports that

we received last night , the RSL seemingly has the blessing of management, who run Radio Caroline (which is currently broadcasting on Sky and Worldspace) and saying that it would be good for the station this is of course combined with the news yesterday (Wednesday) that BBC Radio Essex would be transmitting a special from onboard the LVI8 .

Well closing this report on February 18th just after midnight. Have to be up early as Dutch national Radio 2 is expecting me early in the morning in their program between 8 and 9 talking about a research which has been done, and from which the results were published yesterday. The popularity of radio in the sixties in the Netherlands. Veronica at 1, Hilversum 3 at two, Luxembourg at 3 and Caroline on 4. Will be happy fun.

As always keep the news and memories flow in at Hknot@home.nl

And if you do have fond memories on Radio Caroline's history they re also welcome. Keep enjoying our on line journal for media and music history www.soundscapes.info

Ger Tillekens had promised to bring some excellent new stories on the site soon.

Till next month all the best greetings from Groningen town

Hans Knot