

HANS KNOT INTERNATIONAL RADIO REPORT NOVEMBER 2010

Welcome radio friends to another edition of the International Radio Report and thanks a lot for all your e mails, news, memories as well as suggestions. We have just two other editions of the report this year and maybe a special one around Christmas. The first e mail coming in after the report was send off last month came in from Jon Myer with his monthly update with his interesting site:

'Hi, it's the end of the month and time for another update to The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame. New this month: We add another page to 'The Seventies Supplement', featuring the offshore disc-jockeys from that decade with names beginning with the letter S - including such popular broadcasters as Crispian St.John, Don Stevens, Mike Stevens and Mark Stuart. There are some new audio clips, including rare recordings of Ed Moreno on RNI and Dave Gotz on Radio Caroline. Many of you will know that Ronan O'Rahilly, the founder of Radio Caroline, has been working on a film project for many years. We have a link to a trailer for his movie. We also link to an excellent audio-visual presentation promoting the new edition of Tom Lodge's book about his time on Caroline. There is a reminder that Swinging Radio England's first senior 'boss jock' and Programme Director Ron O'Quinn is back on the European airwaves and we have another batch of City Sixty charts, this time from July/August 1966. www.offshoreradio.co.uk

On Friday October 29th in the afternoon, at 17 hrs CET, there will be a one hour special about Big L in the program 'Tineke's Pirate Club' on Radio 5 Nostalgia.

<http://radioplayer.omroep.nl/radio5>

In the show memories to the famous station from the Northsea, Big L or Wonderful Radio London, will be mixed with recordings from the station. Presenter Tineke is also known from Veronica offshore days and will interview in her program Hans Knot about his love for the station in the sixties of last century. So have fun!

I made a small mistake in last issue of the report by mentioning the last page of the 1974 story, Juul Geleick wrote on his perfect pages, so let's do it again from the very first page and yes do enjoy it.

http://norderney.nl/historie_1974_1.html

From Veronica in 1974 to RNI is a little step and Martin van der Ven did a very good job in scanning my photo albums related to the history of RNI. The photos were taken by several people between 1970 and 1974. It's now on line. <http://www.hansknot.com/images/RNI/>



The Radio Day we, Martin van der Ven, Rob Olthof and I are organising every year is coming soon. Just two weeks to go before we see a lot of you in Amsterdam. So let's go to the updated information:

For 32 years, the annual Dutch "Radio Day" has been a "must" for all (offshore) radio experts and enthusiasts. About 350 people are normally attending the event each year. This website has galleries of photos from previous events and will keep visitors up to date with news of this year's event as arrangements fall into place.

The Radio Day 2010 will take place on Saturday 13th November 2010, in the new Hotel Casa 400 in Amsterdam, Eerste Ringdijkstraat 4 (in vicinity of the old Casa 400 hotel).

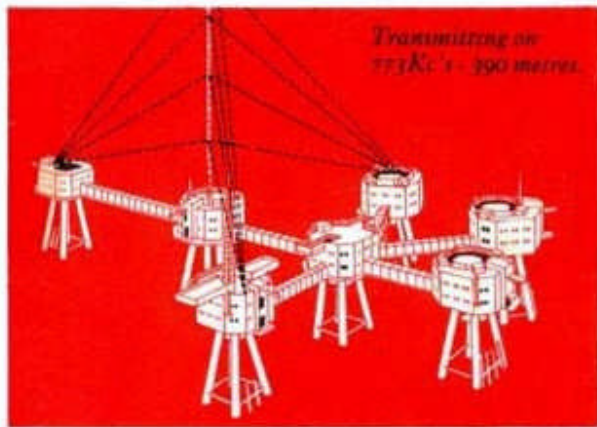


RADIO 390

[Google Maps](#)

What can you expect on this year's Radio Day in November?

First of all don't forget that this year, we will gather in the all new Hotel Casa 400 which is situated in the Eerste Ringdijkstraat 4 in Amsterdam which is only 200 metres away from the old Hotel building which most of you will know from the years gone by.



What about this year's guests? Well this year's Radio Day in Amsterdam on Saturday 13th November will have many treats for offshore radio enthusiasts. There will be a **Radio Mi Amigo panel** with Hugo Meulenhof, Ferry Eden, Will van der Steen and Bert Bennett. The discussion will be moderated by Marc Jacobs.

"My thoughts often drift back to a very happy period in my life as a broadcaster on Radio 390. We were a family out there on Red Sands Towers, a very happy family and a great team of announcers..." [Graham Gill in his new book "Way Back Home, The Graham Gill Story" which is due to come out.]

One of this year's highlights will be a "**Radio 390 Reunion**". Up to now the following people have been gladly accepting our invitation: Graham Gill, Jack McLaughlin, Brian Cullingford, Roger Scott (Arnold Layne), Mark Hammerton (Mark Sloane), John Stewart (John Aston) and Ben E. Nurdin (son of the late Sheldon Jay). Trevor Adams from Project Redsand will moderate the 390 panel.

We are planning a superb "**RNI is 40**" reunion as well and can now reveal that we are expecting the following guests: Victor Pelli, Robb Eden, Roger 'Twiggy' Day, Graham Gill, Arnold Layne (Roger Scott), Peter Chicago, Bob Noakes, Tony Berk, Jan Harteveld, Hans ten Hooge (Hogendoorn), Peter Ford, Peter Jager, Marc van Amstel, Pieter Damave and Leo van der Goot. Nico Steenbergen and Robbie Owen will chair both panels.

And we will welcome **Seve Ungermark** from Sweden who has worked for the Scandinavian offshore radio pioneer Radio Nord. He will be interviewed by Ronnie Forslund.

Last but not least **Tom Edwards** (Radio City and Radio Caroline) has told us that he will be proud to be our special guest this year. He will be in conversation with Alan Milewczyk.

This year's programme will be finished with a Radio Day Special: Herbert Visser in conversation with **Chi Coltrane**. Chi will underline the impact of offshore radio on the music industry (still to be affirmed).

Last but not least: **Extra Gold NL** will be transmitting live from this year's Radio Day. And Hans Hettelder will again showcase his superb radio ship models.

There will be interesting radio merchandising available, i.e. a webradio receiver (WR 325) costing € 42,50 (normal prize is 125,-).



So we think it is a very interesting program and we hope that the very special star quest will come and tell her memories about becoming famous through the offshore radio stations in the seventies.

Next we go to our great friend in the USA, Ron O'Quinn who wrote: 'Hans, Thank you so much for the nice exposure for Radio England Rewind. I have now added 'Offshore Music Radio' to the growing list of stations carrying the show. I have been very lucky to receive many emails from people I've never heard of welcoming me back into European radio. It's a great honour to read them all. On another subject, I am very proud of Emperor Rosko for

surrounding himself with those beautiful young ladies.....he has great taste. The girls, however, do not. I'm only teasing, Rosko.'

Thanks Ron and good luck to your further shows and also thanks for plugging our Radio Day. Hope to see each other again one day. Ron was mentioning Rosko and he was the next one to e mail me.

'Hello Hans, doubt I made it to the first spot but well done, I will dig something tasty up for your issue! EMP.' Lucky that he knew that he lost this time. Just on page five of the report Rosko is coming in so I wrote him back.

'Hi Rosko you lost this time. You can't be a winner all the time. The rumours are spread around that you get a high visit soon in California. Be careful for that! Greetings, Hans'.

After this answer Rosko thought I would come to his place: 'I had a feeling, I was out at the doctor and not in the studio, which is why! I have your report on auto to tell me when it comes in etc, but you were late so it got mad at you! I await your visit here in the land of heat, let me know well in advance!'

Well I think maybe next month I can tell you with photograph who was visiting the ever smiling Rosko in California and so take care EMP!'

Anyway Rosko didn't send a photograph so I digged this one from the archive, where he's once again in the middle. If you know who the others are, please let me know at HKnot@home.nl



ROSKO IN THE MIDDLE

Well it's more than a year, I think, we heard something from Mandy. I thought she went back dancing at the BBC! But suddenly I heard from her again: 'Hi Hans I do hope all is going well for you. I'm sure you must already be busy with preparations for Radio Day. Recently, while out on the Ross Revenge, I mentioned to Trevor Adams that several people have asked if I'll be over there this year and I've promised to attend. Trevor mentioned that he will be on the Radio 390 panel and asked if I'd also received an email regarding the dinner afterwards, He suggested I should contact you promptly as you were already making arrangements for the numbers. I wonder if you would possibly have a couple of places available.'

Well Mandy good to hear from you and yes Trevor is on the dinner list as well as I've reserved two places for you. For those who have not asked for a chair or have forgotten it, this years dinner reservations is now completed and so no more chairs can be reserved.

Mandy went on with: 'Alan and I went over to visit the Red Sands Forts with Robin Banks/Adcroft last year and found Trevor's update on the restoration, along with the history, quite fascinating. I hope to join in the broadcasts from there, some time in the future. The Radio Day schedule sounds really interesting this year and I have been giving it a regular mention in my programmes. I was very pleased to meet Martin Van der Ven

and Rob Olthof aboard the Lightship back in June. I do hope Martin liked the crystal cube of the Jenny Baynton. The tender visits were very popular as many people wanted the experience of visiting a Radio Ship broadcasting live at Sea. I hope we may also be able to welcome you aboard next time we are offshore. I was very grateful to Sietse Brower, for giving me the chance to "Join the ranks of offshore broadcasters" It was a wonderful experience and I thoroughly enjoyed presenting the breakfast show on Radio Seagull, working alongside such broadcasters as Stevie Gordon, Chris Kennedy, Dave Foster, Norman Barrington and Andy Brooks, Steve Conway having recently returned ashore.



STEVE GORDON 1979 Photo: Marc Jacobs

Most of my time aboard was in calm seas, but I was awoken one night by the rolling of the ship as a storm had whipped up during the night, which just added to the great atmosphere on board with everyone working so well together as a team. We received many reception reports from listeners tuning into 1602 from as far afield as Belgium and Norway, Alan and I listened on the Car Radio in Harwich on the way over and received a good signal on the return journey all the way from Harlingen past Amsterdam and down to the Hook Of Holland. Best Wishes, Mandy.'

Well Mandy thanks a lot for writing about your experiences out on the radio ship used by Radio Waddensee as well as Radio Seagull last June. During the past years I always went out with the tender but this year wasn't possible as I had an operation on my hand, just weeks before that. So next June I will be with the party again, I promise.

In last issue Alex van der Hoek made some comments about RNI and their campaign to get an official license as a public broadcaster in 1973 and 1974 and he stated that it was never granted. Well we have one reader who has a personal idea about this, Paul Rusling who wrote: 'I was surprised at the comment from Alex Van der Hoek "As we knew there never came a license for RNI" I know that the de Mol family, who operated Radio Noordzee , the Dutch version for Holland from 1971 to 1974, did certainly get an official licence, though not as a result of their Hou'm in de lucht' campaign. They won a licence for an FM package in January 1994 - with the lovely Jerney Kaagman at the helm. (I remember it very well, because on the same Friday at 5pm, I won the other one for Classic FM). It was still the same RNI to me - from de Oude Hofstede in Bussum. And of course Radio Noordzee still continues today. But many times I wish it still had Ferry Maat, Peter Holland and the other 220 guys!

Paul went on with another subject: 'I saw the small line about the You Tube clip of the end of Veronica with Chi Coltrane's song "You were My Friend", which we had as a plug record on Caroline International 389 during June 1973. Spangles was very enchanted with her and made us play it a lot. Then suddenly the disc just disappeared! It's therefore very interesting that she is playing all over the Netherlands this month and in two weeks time is appearing at one of my favourite haunts in The Hague - the Trojan Horse. And that the 'Paard's café' and 'Concert hall' have some involvement from Ad Ossendrijver (Arrow Classic Rock). It's only a couple of streets from van Hoogendorpstraat, so some good nostalgia for me again that night in the Haque - I am on my way back home to England from Berlin that night so I shall be stopping over. It will be nice to hear Chi Coltrane do her songs live. I never saw her live before. Now I shall go back to your report. Paul Rusling.'



Well Paul join us on the Radio Day for there's a good chance she will be there too! And above a picture of the front door from the Caroline Office in 1974.

We go back to last report when we showed a radio belonging to Paul Stellings David reflected on the subject batteries for the presented transistor set: 'Hi Paul, Regarding your piece in Hans' report, yes indeed, PP7 batteries, and virtually all similar old style radio batteries are still manufactured in small runs and readily available to purchase most frequently on sites like eBay, as follows...

<http://shop.ebay.co.uk/? from=R40& trksid=p3907.m570.l1313& nkw=pp7+battery& sacat=See-All-Categories>

What a lovely old radio you have there. I collect old 'trannies' too! It's amazing how valuable transistor radios are, if they have a 'piratical' feature. Recently I bought a very bog standard pocket transistor radio from the 60s fetched £65 on eBay, because it was branded "Caroline"! Best wishes, David.'

But there were other comments on the special set like the one from Ruud Poeze who wrote: 'The Pye radio from Paul Stelling is very interesting. Not only Luxembourg and Caroline are mentioned on the dial, but also Manx Radio on the Isle of Man. Where did Paul buy this one?' So Paul Stellings I hope you can give an answer to Ruud his question.

Last time I heard from Enda Caldwell was when he was touring one of the Arabic Countries, I think it was Dubai. Now a year later he wrote again: 'Hi Hans, a quick note to say thanks for another great report. I'm covering commercial production this month here at my local radio station in

Northeast Ireland LMFm. I'm working with some of the former Boyneside radio folks like Eddie Caffrey. People would remember his name as very well known in the world of AM Pirate radio in the 80's... www.lmf.mie Best regards, Enda Caldwell. '

Thanks Enda and when Eddie wants to write about his pirate experiences let him feel free to do so for the report.

Next there is a link to a video for those who are not afraid for extreme heights. Climbing in a very high areal mast going up to 1786 feet!
<http://www.flixxy.com/tower-climbing.htm>

Have a look too at the next link as there are some new videos with historic memories to offshore days from Colin Dale, which are going back to the early sixties
www.colindaleradiosutch.com

From one Colin in England to another in Australia is just one line:
' Regarding one of your August Report, I've been meaning to mention that I was in frequent contact with Adrian Johns regarding his book: "Death of a Pirate: British Radio and the Making of the Information Age" during last year and supplied a great deal of material for him. I wonder how much of it he has used. I'll have to buy the book. Also last year, Stewart Payne in England contacted me for information. He was, until recently, a Fleet Street journalist in London. Over the years he worked as a staff news/foreign/war correspondent for the Daily Mail, Evening Standard and, most recently, the Daily Telegraph. He is now freelance. The pirate radio era has always been of great interest to him, he told me, and when the opportunity has arisen, has written articles about this period and about Radio Caroline in particular. Although only a young teenager in the mid-60s, he followed Caroline's return in the 1970s and again in the 1980s and visited its ships, Mi Amigo and Ross Revenge, many times to research stories. Along the way he got to know Ronan O'Rahilly and many of those involved in Caroline in its later years. So, that's another book to look out for. I'll have to get it to find out to what extent I have been helpful to him. A local book has been compiled that details the "largely forgotten" years of the music and artists 1950s and 1960s here in Perth and I had a part in providing material for that. I also wrote the Preface for it and will launch it in November at a function at a

riverside venue. But that's about music and artists, not radio. The attachments have information on this.

Apart from that, I have another talk coming up which I have been asked to give, on the days of pirate radio. I am asked from time to time to present these. Kind regards from a drought-stricken Western Australia - Colin Nichol'



Hi Colin thanks for the update. Great to see that after so many decades Offshore Radio still make lines between several persons. You mention Stewart well he's one of the 4000 plus readers of the report too and yes I followed his articles too trough the past. But most of all I find it very nice to see you're still active in relation to radio as well as the music scene. Keep it going Colin! Thanks a lot Hans.'

Next we go to a Dutch guy who worked on the Laissez Faire way back in 1967. ' In November I'm back on VARA Radio 1, Dutch national radio, every Wednesday night /Thursday morning from 2 till 6 a.m. filling in for Roel Koeners on 'De n8 klinkt andrs' With my zany radio cartoons, Americana and oldies music and a special about the 50's in New Orleans. Boy will I enjoy myself once more.... Just thought I'd let you know.' Harkie (Paul van Gelder)'

Well good to known Harkie, enjoy it you deserve it and we surely see each other again on this years Radio Day.



HANS KNOT EN PAUL HARKIE VAN GELDER 1999
PHOTO: ROB OLT Hof

Francois Lhote is one of the guys with a big archive and is always sharing things with friends who are interested in doing the same. So you can understand that between him and me often email traffic is going on. Recently he sent a lot of newspaper cuts and other material. There was one story from 1964 which was most interesting to read and came from the 'pencil' of Olga Franklin. She was 'hunting' for a job on an offshore radio station and thought, going out to sea, would be the best to find out if she was the perfect lady for the job. She wrote: 'I went to try to get a job as a disc jockey on board the pirate ship Radio London yesterday. But I got seasick just looking at it. So this story is a warning really to some of the 5000 young Britons who have also applied for the job, as advertised, on board the Radio London and Radio Caroline. It seemed such a chance. And not hard work, a three hour day on London and a five hour on Radio Caroline. On the train to Harwich I met lots of disc jockey recruits. One all the way from Adelaide in Australia named Brian Stone. The boat to take us seemed a bit small to me. A tiny Dutch fishing trawler, but we all jumped in. Fog soon came down and it was freezing cold. So we went below to keep warm. More new deejays down there, off to do their first job. We met Kenny Everett, only 17, for London and Paul Noble and red bearded for Radio Caroline. They gave me some of their free cigarettes. They said it was smashing being a DJ, even it wasn't for the B.B.C.

So, I was quite looking forward. Then suddenly it hit us. Everyone, except the experienced DJs, turned green. The Dutch captain came down. A bit of a gale, he said. We were out in the North Sea now. He added that the trip

would take 2,5 hours, that is, if we could get near to the pirate ships in this fog and gale. The trouble, I think, was the smell of oil from the engine. Anyway, I got as far as the deck. It was terrible, I just lay there groaning and retching and carrying on. But the crew got hold of me. I couldn't be ill that side of the ship. Because of the wind, or something. They started to march me to the other side. But it was already too late. It was freezing cold and you couldn't see a thing through the thick mist. I kept saying I wanted to die. And they said I couldn't yet, until we got to the pirate ship London. Actually I never got as far as really seeing the London - because when we reached it our little boat was thrown smack against the London's side. It went on like that for about twenty minutes or so. I was flat on my back now with my eyes shut. I thought it was the end. I don't remember much after that. When I woke up there was this chap Ben Toney, program director from the London. He was very sorry he hadn't been able to put me on the programme. He had been looking forward to 'The Olga Franklin Show' and I could choose my own sound. I knew I hadn't a chance now of being a DJ with my own 'sound' and 'personality'.

Of course the very early story in a newspaper about Radio London was reason enough to ask for comments from the 'Queen of the Galaxy' Mary Payne: 'Thanks for sharing that, Hans. I'd never seen the story before. It sounds more like Olga Franklin had gone out there more to write a piece for her Daily Mail column than to genuinely apply for a DJ job. As for meeting 'lots of DJ applicants on the train' it seems strange that Ben Toney would have taken several DJ job applicants out to the ship, but if he did, it may have been to see how well they coped with seasickness. It must have been a huge problem and it's a wonder really that anyone survived it.



BEN TONEY: PHOTO: ARCHIVE MARY PAYNE

It's rather strange that Olga keeps referring to the ships as 'The London' and 'The Caroline'.

Thanks Mary for your comments on this and also for informing us on the next sad message: 'A year after his untimely demise, a farewell ceremony for Mike Ahern was held in Harwich, the last place from which he broadcast, during Pirate BBC Essex 2009. On Wednesday, October 20th, friends gathered on the Ha'penny Pier for the scattering of Mike's ashes on the sea, followed by a reception at the Electric Palace Theatre, where tributes were read by Dave Cash and Tony Prince and friends delivered personal reminiscences. A report of Wednesday's Farewell ceremony, written by Pauline Miller, is now in 'What's Happening', accompanied by an audiofile of the tributes at the Electric Palace.oline'. She obviously was too seasick to find out the ships' names! www.radiolondon.co.uk

Wim van de Water linked me to a site about Radio New York international so let's have a look:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m4E7xpgrglo>

For those known to the Dutch language I can tell you that a visit to Wim his personal site Media Pages is also very interesting: www.mediapages.nl

Martin van der Ven did send me a link to some pages about AFN Kaiserslautern <http://www.videopark.com/ktown.htm>

Time for the monthly thoughts by Ian Godfrey: 'Hi Hans, many thanks for both the September and October Reports. Thanks also for your contribution to Veronica 192's 'Offshore Archive' week. After the spectacular offering last year, running for the whole of August, and marking the 35th anniversary of the 'Dutch MOA, I didn't expect more than a few brief mentions here and there - especially as it was merely the 36th anniversary - but was excited, and a bit surprised, by the 'top of the hour' news item, running from about the 14th. I wanted to hear as much of it as I possibly could, and this was helped by the advantages of living alone and the fact that it was three hours every evening, as opposed to about twelve hours per day last year.

It was a very comprehensive history, covering virtually all the stations - I didn't hear any mention of KING Radio or Tower Radio/TV but this was far outweighed by snippets of information and audio-clips I'd never heard before. The key factor was the enthusiasm oozing from the presenters! I felt a distinct anti-climax on 1st September, similar but not as acute as last year. '

Well Ian good to hear you've enjoyed those programs and of course it's incredible that after more than 36 years people still pay attention to the offshore days. And above that those who are presenting those specials were partly not listening to radio at all in those days. Ian went on with:

'Over the past few days I've also spent a fair amount of time on the 'Monitor' website. I listened to some of the Atlantis special on MMR a fortnight ago and was particularly interested by the 14-15 segment on the Sunday - a combination of the final Flemish show on 18.10.73, plus parts of test transmissions on 270 metres. I was intrigued by the fact that the Flemish show was completely different from their usual format and mainly featured album-tracks I associated with Caroline at the time.

MONITOR

JOURNAL OF SOUTHEAST & DISTRICT
FREE RADIO CAMPAIGN

RADIO CITY SOUVENIR EDITION

Editorial Office:
31 Avondale Road,
Benfleet,
ESSEX.

Branch HQ:
123 High Road,
Benfleet,
Essex.

Editor: Roland C. Pearson - Sub-Editor: Pam J. Bird - European Reporter & Feature
Writer: Andy Archer.
Secretary: Lynn Strang - Treasurer: Jackie Fright

FRONT OF THE VERY FIRST ISSUE OF MONITOR

The 'Monitor' site certainly answered my queries, mentioning that, for several days, there had been difficulties getting programme tapes out to the 'Mi Amigo,' the collapse of the mast on the 1st and the resumption of transmissions three days later (which I remember fairly clearly) and that, after a temporary breakdown, the make-shift aerial also collapsed early on the 18th. I vividly remember listening to CSJ between 27 and 29th December, 1973, from the 'Jeanine,' and hearing 'Radar Love' six times on

one of those dates, and I was pretty keen to find out more about the tests on 270 and 'Monitor' certainly provided the answers. I also discovered - or possibly re-discovered - that Caroline had been logged between 17 & 17.30 on 27th March, 1964, much earlier than any other report I've seen - possibly even before it had reached its anchorage! I must have read all the above originally but, probably due to my reading difficulties, skipped over some of it. About 18 months ago there was some doubt about the viability of the 'Monitor' website but I'm glad it's still there as it really is a useful information source - and makes life much easier than sifting through the original magazines!

Good to see that the work of Buster and his friends are still appreciated after so many years Ian. And I'm glad to have been part of the team during the eighties of last century. And Ian learned more:

' Not having any background information I was surprised when I checked a couple of websites last weekend, to find that 10 Gold was set to return to AM, on 828. This seemed unbelievable and, if it wasn't for Arrow's use of the frequency on at least three occasions over the past 18 months, I probably would have thought it was a wind-up! Although I added the station to my 'favourites' a couple of years ago I haven't listened much since their playlist changes. Even though I know that 5 kW isn't going to produce a very impressive signal. I've been checking 828 two or three times each evening; although it can be quite consistent for short periods I find myself also tolerating all the noise associated with a low-powered AM signal - old habits die hard! Although the daytime power output was quoted as 20 kW reception here is virtually non-existent during the day due to the restriction of the signal westbound. When Arrow used the same power on 828 the signal was superb during the day. Best Wishes, Ian Godfrey'.

Well Ian the signal from Radio 10 is here in Groningen non audible during evenings. Daytime I've not had a change yet to tune in. I had another mail about the reception, which came from Peter Murtha (Chicago).

'It's good to have Radio Ten Gold back on Medium Wave. As you can imagine, here in Margate daytime reception is excellent, although it does disappear when the sun goes down, due to the power reduction, and the increase in interference. I look forward to seeing you soon. Best regards, Peter Murtha.

From Peter Chicago to Tom Mulder who wrote: 'When I was looking this morning, during coffee time, watched to Sky Television, an item about treatments from Al Quada in Europe, suddenly a well known voice and face could be hears and seen as official US specialist. I never knew that Charlie Wolfe had his qualities in that corner too. You're never too old to learn!'



CHARLIE IN LASER DAYS PHOTO: LEEN VINGERLING

Well Tom thanks a lot for spotting Charlie on Sky TV. Even on BBC TV he can be seen as a specialist. Well are we all not specialists in one way or another? With the photograph of Charlie, wearing a radio t-shirt from the station KEVY 1450, we have also had another regular topic in the Hans Knot International Radio Report for this month. Maybe Charlie can tell us were the station was in those days as nothing is found about it on the internet. If you've also a photo from yourself or another person wearing a radio t-shirt, please share it with us: HKnot@home.nl

Dear FRS Friend,

Following lengthy preparations the time has come to celebrate 30 years of FRS-Holland on SW. **Sunday October 31st** we kick off with the first out of a total of 3 different broadcasts. The FRS Anthology!

Factual, accurate, ups and downs...countless extracts, former presenters, listeners' contributions, a competition, fact files, the FRS Story and there will be great 80s music. Next Sunday in part 1 we will feature 1980- 1987. The first eventful 7 years. Here's the schedule:

08.52- 15.00 UTC **7600//5800 kHz**

09.00-11.00 UTC and 12.00- 16.00 UTC **6005 kHz**

That means that between 11.00-12.00 UTC there won't be any signal on 6005 kHz. As from 12.00 UTC onwards 6005 is back and will be one hour behind of 7600//5800 kHz. The October 31st broadcast will be **streamed** between 14:52- 21:00 UTC/ 15:52- 22:00 CET via <http://nednl.net:8000/frsh.m3u>

The period 1988- 2010 will be featured in part 2 (late November) and part 3 (December). We have received quite a number of contributions. If you feel you want to be part of the celebrations with your personal FRS memories: you can still do so as we can include that in one of the two broadcasts which follow after the October 31st one. Of course we have special QSL Cards for the three broadcasts. One based on the 80s, one on the 90s and one based on the 00s. Hope to have your company next Sunday...it will be an unforgettable Sunday. October 31st 2010: 30 Years of FRS-Holland on SW! 73s, on behalf of the FRS staff (Peter V., Jan van Dijk, Paul Graham, Dave Scott, Brian and Bobby Speed).

So I wish the FRS-H team a lot of success and congratulations to go on for so many years. Now we go to Scotland: 'Good Afternoon Hans. Thank you for sending us the October Report. As always an interesting read and full of topic variety. My (Bill speaking) personal love affair with the offshore stations began around 1966 with Radio Scotland; I was 14 years old, and then continued on to Caroline till 1968. A brief flirtation followed with Radio Luxembourg till of course January 1970. There was no going back on land when RNI took to the air. Caroline of course came back in 1972. So apart from the terrible time between the Mi Amigo sinking and the Ross Revenge appearing in 1983 till 1990, it was a great time. Biggest thrill apart from the listening was attending Flashback in London in 1977 and going out on that long trip to the Mi Amigo that Monday. I heard your name-check on the Ron o Quinn show on Big L yesterday. That is a show that is now essential. Best wishes. Bill and Marian, Carnoustie near Dundee in Scotland.

Well Bill and Marian thanks sharing your memories and I had the luck to listen to Radio Scotland at my location in Groningen and really had fun while it was more a regional radio station than the other ones.



Next Stuart Aiken, who wrote: 'Tom Edwards sent me this; I think Keefers sent it to him? I am sure you will already have it, but just in case. Maybe you sent it to them in the first place? Best regards. Stuart

<http://www.shipthatrocked.com/radiocaroline.html>

Thanks Ian, yes I got it four or five times from different sources but it's a must to see promoting Caroline and of course Tom Lodge.

From one Ian to another Ian brings us to Ian Bigger:

'Hi Hans, I was interested to read the last report and the mention of the RNI engineers operating an amateur station from the ship. Your readers may be interested in the attached card that details some of those transmissions and call signs. It mentions Kurt and Bruno, but also another engineer called Joe who is a new name to me. I did not hear the transmission myself, but obtained the card some years later.



CONFIRMING OUR SSB, ~~AM, RTTY~~ QSO WITH 63 RAJ
 ON 3,7 MC, AT 0⁰⁰ GMT, DATE 12.4.71
 YOUR SIGNALREPORT 5,8 RST
 STATION: TRANSMITTER: HMM2
 RECEIVER: _____
 ANTENNA: W3022
 REMARKS: _____
 OPR.: ~~HP 9 APU/MM, JOE~~ PS QSL
 HP 9 AVQ/MM, KURT TX QSL
 HP 9 AXP/MM, BRUNO VY 73 *Kurt*
 QSL VIA PO BOX 1136, 8047 ZÜRICH, SWITZERLAND

Also thanks for the great RNI scans on Martin's site. I was surprised to see a photo of the MEBO II in Larnaca as I was not aware that she had berthed there. I knew she was spotted in Malta around 1982, I suppose not long before she was scuppered. Anyway, thanks again Hans, Ian Bigger.'

Well Ian that's most interesting item to share. I've also a QSL card somewhere written from onboard the MEBO II by A.J. Beirens but this one is excellent. Thanks for sharing. By the way Ian is talking about the photo albums from me, which are scanned by Martin van der Ven and can now be found at: <http://www.hansknot.com/images/RNI/index.htm>

Also thanks Ian for your remark about Malta. Larnaca was a wrong suggestion.

And now congratulations to Johnnie Walker: In its 53rd year the New York Festivals® Radio Program and Promotion Awards recognises the world's best work in radio broadcasting. Pirate Johnnie Walker was broadcast over 12 episodes on BBC Radio 2 in 2009, the series was presented and produced as though former pirate veteran DJ Johnnie Walker was broadcasting pirate radio live in the 1960s. Johnnie recreated the sounds of a bygone era, playing classic vinyl 45s and jingles from 1955-'75, capturing the vintage pirate radio sound of the time. Johnnie Walker says of the win: "It's a

tremendous thrill to be honoured in this way by the New York Festival. I never thought when defying the British Government to play the music millions wanted to hear from pirate Radio Caroline anchored off the shores of England, that one day over forty years later, a re-creation would win an Award in New York. It's a great honour." Mark Goodier, Managing Director, Wise Buddah said: "Johnnie is one of the UK's iconic broadcasters, with a passion for music and an honesty and integrity in his presentation which is rare in the showbiz world we live in. I'm delighted that the programme which delighted so many listeners in the UK received the same kind of response from judges at a respected international awards festival such as the New York Radio Awards."

Now we go to one of the former VOP people, and there were many between 1973 and 1993. But this is one of the first years John Thomson from Canada: 'Always great to read another report. I look forward to them every month. Last week when I was visiting my mother, she turned over letters I had written to the family from the Peace Ship. The letters detailed life on the ship as we sailed from New York, to Bermuda, to Spain, France and Sicily. In one of the envelopes was this picture of me at the helm of the Peace Ship, taken by Ed Simeone. The picture would have been taken in mid Atlantic on a rare day of sunshine for that voyage. My experience of sailing from New York was stormy seas and grey shies. I recently received an email from Jean Marie Portail, who joined the Peace Ship in Marseilles as cook. He included a photo of himself, Francois Bonzon Captain of the Peace Ship and Roger Bishof, who also sailed on the Peace Ship as deck hand, painter and gentleman.

Anyone who wants to write please send email to thomson.john@sympatico.ca



Peace and love to all who sailed her
John Thomson
VOP DJ and Helmsman
1973

Thanks John and it really brought tears in my eyes with the memories we have with the Peace Ship. For me going back to 1968 when the Cito was in Groningen harbour for a long time just 500 metres away from my home. I wish you have some time to write down some more memories and there must be some to be made from the letters your mother guarded for so many years. Thanks a lot.

John Lait worked on board Radio London's ship, the MV Galaxy, the Radio London ship, as an electrician. He has very kindly provided these great photos that he has kept from his days at sea. They are on Jon's site!
<http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk/album58.htm>

Paul from France has a question I can't answer so who in the readership can help us? 'Hi, Hans, thank you very much for your mails, and also for action with www.mediapages.nl Tell me, Hans, have you some details on the Galaxy. I know, that the Galaxy had 2 propellers, but I'm not sure on a detail. Had the Galaxy 2 rudders or 1 rudder? Greetings Paul.' Well Paul is the guy who is building so many replicas from the radio ships. So who knows the answer to the rudder question: HKnot@home.nl

Recently I got the chance to have a preview on the new DVD released by Offshore Echos. It's their 19th DVD in the series of looking back at offshore radios. DVD 19 tells the story of Radio Monique, Radio 558 and Radio 819, which were all sister stations from Radio Caroline, way back in the eighties of last century. Housed on board the MV Ross Revenge those three stations owners paid for fuel, water, provision and more to get Radio Caroline running properly. A very interesting DVD with lots of unique video footage shot by official television stations as well as private material. The Ross Revenge in better days as well being on drift and loosing anchor as well as the highest mast ever built on a radio ship. For more info on this DVD go to <http://www.offshoreechos.com/Main%20page.html>

By the way Francois is also very active in radio since the seventies. Next photo, taken by my brother Jelle, shows him together with Tony Allen at the Zeezenders 20 convention in Noordwijkerhout in 1978.



Congratulations again to Tony and the crew for there's big news from Harwich harbour authorities:

http://www.harwichandmanningtreestandard.co.uk/news/8434318.Harwich_Lightship_berth_gets_the_go_ahead/?ref=mr

[http://www.gazettenews.co.uk/archive/2010/10/07/Gazette+News+\(ev_gazette_news\)/8435114.Lightship_is_granted_a_berth_at_Harwich/](http://www.gazettenews.co.uk/archive/2010/10/07/Gazette+News+(ev_gazette_news)/8435114.Lightship_is_granted_a_berth_at_Harwich/)

Going to Australia is the next thing as I was, on regular base, in contact with Colin Nichol during the last weeks: 'After so long a silence Hans, you are hearing from me on almost a daily basis, just now! I've just a news bulletin about that original radio pirate, Ken Evans. He fell at his home a few months ago and is still recovering in a Sydney clinic from a hip replacement. I only just heard - I had been trying to get him at home by phone without success. In the end, I contacted Bryan Vaughan / Dermot Hoy in Sydney and he checked and discovered what had happened. Ken should be home in a couple of weeks. I've know Ken for 47 years - he was 83 last 12th of April. Dermot has known him longer; they worked together at Radio 2GB in Sydney before going, separately, to the UK. Both Dermot and I got into Radio Atlanta and subsequently Radio Caroline, through Ken. I spoke to Ken this morning and will phone him regularly. Regards Colin Nichol.'

Well Colin I hope you can give Ken all best wishes and a speedy recovery from this side of the world. Hans.'



KEN EVANS IN 2007 PHOTO: COLIN NICHOL

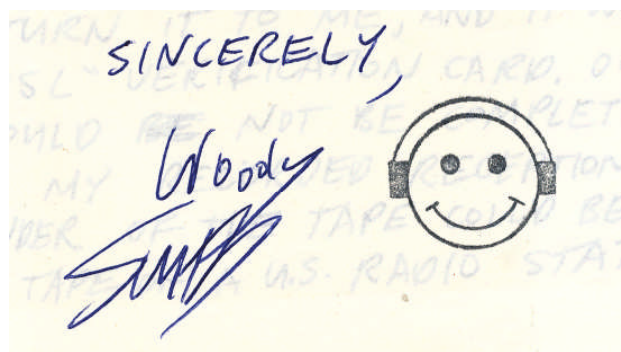
Memories from the Graham Gill Archive part 13

It was a difficult decision to write the chapter with the number '13' and so it took some time before the next part was ready for publication. Also this time I took a dive in the enormous amount of letters, which Graham Gill still has after 35 years, stored in his cellar. Letters sent in by listeners, which came in when working for Radio Northsea International, Radio Caroline and Radio Netherlands World Service.

Let's go back to January 29th 1976 when a letter was written by Woody Smith, who lived in Knoxville, Tennessee USA. It was personally send to Graham Gill at the Radio Netherlands address in Hilversum. Woody heard Graham on the happy station and remembered that he was heard too on RNI, some two years earlier. 'I'm writing to you because you used to be a disc jockey on Radio Nordsee International. I used to listen to RNI quite often and since they were one of my favorite stations you can imagine how frustrating it was when RNI closed down on August 31st 1974.'

Remarkable of course that even people in the USA were frustrated that the offshore stations off the Dutch coast were forced to close down due to

decisions made in Dutch Government. But the avid RNI listener in Knoxville had more problems: 'Even before I could get a QSL Verification from them. And this is why I am writing to you. Since you used to be on RNI you would be recognised as a valid verification signer. So here is my idea. Before RNI signed off, I recorded portions of their programs (approximately April or March 1974). In fact I think the recordings are off your own show. Anyway, I have a blank Jackie Nordsee Card and I would appreciate it if I could send you a tape with a recording of my reception of RNI. Then you could listen to the tape, which would be the proof that I actually heard RNI.'



I think the reader already understands that this American guy is trying to get Graham to swindle with the golden rule to be honest in sending in QSL verifications: 'Afterwards you could autograph my 'Jackie Nordsee Card and return it to me and it would be a valid QSL Verification Card. Of course, the tape would not be completely filled up with my recorded reception report, the remainder of the tape could be filled with a recording of a US radio station, or radio shows from the '30's' or '40's.'

It must be known to the guy that Graham had very good memories to the radio from that part of last century. Also he told in his letter that he had send at least four or five reception reports directly to RNI in Hilversum as well as to the Zurich office: 'I never got an answer, I suppose they were too busy preparing to close-down, and other problems. Any way, good luck in your job with Radio Nederland and I hope to be hearing from you, sincerely Woody'.

Well I can tell you that Woody never got an answer as up till this year no one, except me, knew the contents of the letter, as it was never opened until I found the envelope.

Also people got sometimes frustrated not getting an answer back from one of the deejay team and so they wrote to another guy, from whom they thought was reliable. There is, for instance, the letter from Derek Arnot in Dunfermline in Scotland who wrote in July 1973: 'I've listened to RNI since 1970, writing mainly to Dave Rogers, but last November I wrote to Daffy Don Allen, but I never got any reply. So I have turned to you, in the hope that you can get me a QSL card and give me some more information. I listen in Scotland on my 5 valve receiver using a frame aerial and reception is good with no interference and SINPO of 3-4, 4,5,5,4. Sometimes with morse interference. I usually have you on from 8.00 - 8.30 am, 1-1.15 pm and 7 pm - 2 am.'

So you can see that this person in Scotland listened to his favorite station in three different parts of the day. Personally I tried to listen from 6 in the morning till 7 and in the weekends at a longer stint in the morning. The weekends also kept me during day time on '220' as well as on shortwave on the Sunday mornings to hear 'A.J. Beirens' and his DX programs. Week nights the radio was both on RNI or Radio Luxembourg and from 1973 also on Radio Caroline. Derek Arnot wrote in his letter which signal was the best to listen too but on the other hand made it impossible for him: 'FM listening is the best but of course it is impossible to hear RNI in Scotland on FM. I think this is the best time also to ask some questions. Can you tell me what happened to Caroline, as it went off suddenly? What are the plans if next year the Dutch Government tempts to close down the station?'

After those questions Derek asked a request played in the program. This was circled in red so I suppose Graham only played the record and of course did not answer the question concerning the competitor Radio Caroline. The next one I took out of the boxes is a postcard Graham got onboard the MEBO II at the end of July 1973 and was send from the Grand Duchy were listener Allan Krautwald was doing his holiday: 'I'm sitting at the moment in the park that surrounds 208 studios. I've just said hello to one of the former RNI deejays, Mark Wesley. Could you please play a record for me and all my pen pals and friends on a Friday or Saturday evening? Also I would be pleased if you could write and tell me all about RNI's future?' And I can show you that the other side of the holiday card was also interesting.



But there were also letters in which listeners asked for advice concerning buying a new radio. For instant one from Jürgen Beier, from Vrailing in Germany: 'My name is Jürgen Baier and I live in a small village near the Bavarian capital Munich. Though the reception is often very bad, Radio Northsea is my favourite station when I want to listen to good music. Now I have the intention to buy a shortwave receiver. But I don't know very much about these things. I haven't listened to shortwave for a long time and I don't want to rely only on the seller in the shop. To get some good advice and get in contact with other good DX'ers or DX-clubs I would like it, if some DX-ers dropped me a line what in their opinions is a good but not the most expensive receiver. If this call is not possible on your radioshow, could you write me then how to get contact with DX'ers?' Jürgen really had some problems as reception was bad and had also a lot of interference on the 220 metres. Therefore he asked the next question to Graham: 'Is it permitted to transmit on the Morse code on your frequency? It is very disturbing! By the way can you transmissions be heard in the United States?'

Even if the program was received on a transistor radio versus AM, listeners to the Graham Gill show soon found out that he had a very good voice and so special request came in like the one from Bob Glen in Bishop Auckland in Co Durham: 'Dear Mr. Gill, I am writing to you on behalf of the S.W. Durham Hospitals Radio Network, with whom I am programme director/ disc-jockey. The reason I am writing to you is to see if it would be at all possible for you to record a few jingles which could be used on our programmes. As our network runs sole on voluntary contributions, I am afraid I could not offer you any payment. If you are willing to do these recording for me, please let me know and I will forward you a tape and details of wording. Please keep up the tremendous programmes with RNI. Yours faithfully, Bob Glen.' Well let's

hope our reader Bob Glen is the same person and if he remembers the letter from 37 years ago.

RNI's and Caroline programmes were popular in Ireland as many letters came from that area like the one from David Gardiner in Dublin. He wrote to Graham Gill when the later one worked for Caroline and had organised that he could be longer ashore and record his programs in a record shop in Amsterdam: 'I've been a regular listener to your show on Caroline, before that on RNI, so I thought it was about time that I dropped you a line, to say how much I enjoy them. I hope the Northsea is behaving itself and that you have know plenty of Guinness aboard, after Ronan O'Rahilly Irelands best export! I was in Yorkshire recently, but unfortunately I could not get down to Stonehenge, but I hear it's still going strong.'

In those days regular remarks were made in the programs as there were empty shelves in the storeroom aboard the MV Mi Amigo. Sometimes a tender came to completely fresh up the storage and Graham tells in his book 'Way back home, the Graham Gill story', that you can tell whatever you want about Ronan but that he knew what his responsibilities were concerning Guinness beer. Also the Caroline Midsummer Festival in Stonehenge was promoted a lot in the programmes, reason for David to mention it in his letter. He went on with: 'I've read your life story recently in Monitor Magazine and it was interesting to see that you worked with Alan Freeman in Australia. Normally I prefer 'live' to taped radio programs, but I really enjoyed your show from 'the record world' in Amsterdam. I think because it gives you greater freedom to interview people.'



RONAN AND GRAHAM LONDON 2003

PHOTO: MARTIN VAN DER VEN

David Gardiner closed his letter to Graham stating that he had an International Reply Coupon enclosed and so he hoped that Graham would find some minutes to write him a letter. Well, I will give Graham the letter next time I see him and ask him to reply as the International Reply Coupon is still in the letter. Next time more on the Graham Gill archive.

Earlier on we had Ian Biggar and here he is once again: 'Hi Hans, Well your RNI photograph has sparked a flame of investigation as I think we really need to have an idea of the final year or so of the MEBO 2 or Al Fatah. I wrote to Robin who was involved in removing the transmitters from the MEBO 2 in (he thinks) 1981. As far as he is aware these transmitters were never used by the Libyan's from land. However I noticed in a Hans report from 2007 you mentioned that at least two of the old transmitters were still in use. Do you have any further information about that? The last report I have of transmissions being logged from the Al Fatah was in the summer of 1980 on 41 metres. So can we assume that all broadcasts had finished by the end of 1980? I have seen it written that the ships were sunk by the Libyan's in 1984, but I think it was as early as 1981. The Caroline Movement magazine from December 1981 carries a report that the ship was "damaged" in the Mediterranean. That was supposed to have come from official sources. I wonder was that when the ship was disposed off? I have written to Lloyds to get some details of the last year or so of the ship, then hopefully we can build a clearer picture of her end. Regards Ian Bigger.'

Thanks Ian I heard it one day in a DX program that the transmitters were partly in use on land. My book the 'History of RNI' in Dutch brings, in the end of the story, the fact I got a telex just days before the book was published (1987), in which Bollier stated that the ships were both dismantled in 1981 and then ordered to be sunken to get no one else on the ship. Afterwards the ships were target points for the Libyan Army. The exact day of the very last transmission from the MEBO II is January 11th 1979. I've no time at the moment to translate the chapter on the time in The Middle East but that was the very last day the station was on the air from the MEBO II. I hope your questions are answered properly.

Then an e mail from Germany: 'I saw, that you are based in Groningen. Have you heard about the exhibition concerning the alternative Discotheques of the Seventies at Schlossmuseum in Jever (Oost Friesland)? This exhibition started in 2007 and is still running with more than 100.000 visitors over the years. You can hear top 100 underground hits from the seventies (including Dutch bands like Alquin, Golden Earring, Cuby and the Blizzards or Livin Blues). There is an original dance floor of the Seventies to be seen including an original psychedelic light show. For more information watch www.schlossmuseum.de Hope to hear from you soon! Gisbert Wegener from Osnabrück/Germany.'

Well thanks a lot Gisbert for sharing the information about the exhibition. Surely some of the readers will try to get a ticket for it.

Next a internet address to watch and hear a very special commercial for Honda Cars. A must to watch. With thanks to Erika Boers.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjyWP2LfbyQ>

Tim Tausendfreund wrote me to show me how to collect records. Paul Mawhinney was born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA. Over the years he has amassed what has become the world's largest record collection. Due to health issues and a struggling record industry Paul is being forced to sell his collection. This is the story of a man and his records. I hope you enjoy it.

<http://vimeo.com/1546186>

It's nickname time again. In his very first show on RNI, way back in 1974, Roger Kent gave himself a nickname by calling himself Roger 'the worst deejay in the world' Kent. On the same station it was Tony Allen who, one day in his Graveyard show, mentioned that after his show it would be Gerard 'Zabedy' Smit. Finally I listened to some old programs from Radio Atlanta transmitted in May 1964. Deejay Bob Scott mentioned himself Little Fat Boy Scott



As you see above it's t-shirt time again and this is a very new one released by Radio Rainbow. <http://radiorainbow.blogspot.com/>

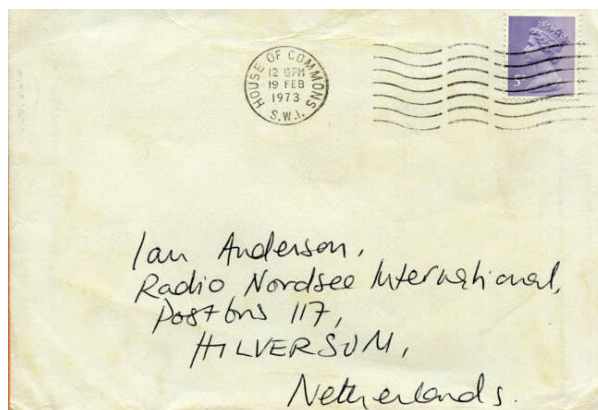
If you've also a photo of a radio t-shirt don't hesitate to send it to me at Hknot@home.nl

The next could be heard on BBC Three Counties Radio on October 19th: 'Dave Lee Travis, the former BBC Radio 1 DJ and BBC Three Counties Radio presenter, is to be inducted into the Radio Academy's Hall of Fame. David 'Kid' Jensen, Radio 2's "Whispering" Bob Harris and Nicholas Parsons are also to be honoured. The Radio Academy is a registered charity dedicated to the encouragement and promotion of excellence in UK broadcasting and audio production. Travis, also known as DLT, started his career at Radio Caroline before joining Radio 1 in 1968. The DJ hosted the station's breakfast show from 1978 to 1980 before famously resigning on air in 1993. Travis was famously the victim of a Gotcha by Noel Edmonds on the TV show Noel's House Party. His radio quiz was unknowingly hijacked by two fake pub quiz teams which gave absurd answers to every question. Travis had his "revenge" the following week when, by arrangement with the Noel's House Party production team, he hijacked Noel Edmonds's show live on air, culminating in Edmonds ending up in the Great House's infamous green gunge tank. Dave Lee Travis told BBC Three Counties he was thrilled to receive the award but not too sure why! "I'm possibly getting this accolade because I'm still alive!" joked the presenter, once nicknamed "the Hairy Cornflake". "I suppose people look at the length of time that you've been in the industry and what you've done with that time, and if they decide that it was reasonably good, they think maybe we ought to stick his name

somewhere!" Well Dave Lee Travis a big congratulations from me too!

It's time for another contribution from Ian Anderson, former Caroline and RNI deejay in the seventies of last century:

The RNI "spy" letter. In the middle of February 1973 I was sent a letter addressed to RNI which caused a bit of a short-lived panic on board the Mebo II and at the RNI headquarters at Oud-Bussum, where all the mail was sorted into that for the headquarters and that for the ship. At that time the mail arrived on board the Mebo II in plastic drums after which it was again sorted into piles for each DJ. This took place in the corridor outside the newsroom on the DJs accommodation deck. On this day I was handed one of my letters and asked, "what did this mean?" I had to look at the envelope for a few seconds before it clicked what was up. The letter had a date stamp "House of Commons", indicating that it had come from the UK parliament building. (See the picture of letter). It seems someone, possibly at Oud-Bussum, thought that if I was getting a letter from the House of Commons I must be some kind of spy for the British government! In fact the letter was from a friend from our days as students in Edinburgh, Sue Newson-Smith, who worked as a journalist at News Point, the House of Commons news agency, in 1973. Her father was Baronet Newson-Smith and her grand-father, Sir Frank Newson-Smith, was Lord Mayor of London in 1943. Ian Anderson, October 2010.'



One reader sends this item. There's a new video about the Communicator available on internet, which was taken just a day it left the Netherlands for England.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q3s04n-LNZs&feature=player_embedded

or on

www.laser558.nl

The next message came in from three different sources: 'The original, not the Swinging Radio England, Boom Boon Brannigan died. Every radio market with a big top-40 station in the sixties had its breakout star - and in Albany, New York, there was none bigger than 'Boom Boom Brannigan', who spun the tunes on WPTR (1540) beginning in 1961 and stayed there well into the seventies, propelling WPTR into the heat of a top-40 battle with archrival WTRY. Before his Albany stardom, Brannigan had been up and down the Thruway, working under his real name, Joseph Motto, at stations in Utica (WTLB) and Syracuse (WNDR) and as "Ronnie Victor" at Buffalo's WBNY. After leaving WPTR in 1974, Brannigan also worked at WABY (1400) for a time, and he came back to WPTR in the early years of the 21st century when the station flipped to an oldies format in an attempt to recapture the old magic. In the meantime, he'd become a station owner, putting WMVI (1170 Mechanicville) on the air in 1979, and later selling it, buying it back and selling it again. Brannigan, whose real name was Joseph Motto, had been in poor health for the last few years; he died in Albany, at age 82. While Brannigan was spinning the tunes at WPTR, Martin Beck was moving from the presidency of the Katz Radio rep firm into his own prominence as a station owner. Beck left Katz in 1968 to join forces with his brother-in-law George Ross under the "Beck-Ross Communications" banner, a name that would soon become prominent in the region. Beck-Ross bought its first station in 1970, flipping the former WPAC-FM (106.1 Patchogue) into WBLI. It became the cornerstone of an ownership group that eventually grew to 28 stations, including WHCN in Hartford and WSNE in Providence, before selling out to Capstar (one of the antecedents of today's Clear Channel) in 1995. Three years later, Beck and his son-in-law Jim Champlin returned to ownership, investing in WSYB/WZRT in Rutland, Vermont. Beck held many of the industry's top leadership posts, including serving as president of the New York State Broadcasters Association and chairman of the NAB Radio Board; he was named to the NYSBA's hall of fame in 2005 and won the NAB's National Radio Award in 1992. Beck died on Thursday October 21st at the age of 93.'

Well surprise as another e mail was booming in from Rosko: 'Hi Hans, I promised you a new photo, never before used anywhere! California's first

pirate! It looks as if I will be near you next spring, gigs and some radio projects. Your report, as the world's biggest DJ facebook is the best way to tell all my pals. Who wish to buy me a beer that I will be in the neighborhood! Stay out of trouble and see you soon. EMP.



Sorry I was late! Things are crazy here, insane elections on all levels etc, local-state -federal. Radio, gigs, and shows. I thought the pirate picture would get ya!

Well thanks Rosko two this two 'world firsts' the photo as well as the news about the gigs, forthcoming spring, in Europe. Keep us informed about that!

Call sign Amateur radio time and this time we hear from Bob Noakes, who phoned me recently and told me that he was a licensed amateur already in 1965. Although the law forbids a license not to be given before the age of 16 he got his one when he was 15. First he had a license number in the G8 series later on in the G3 series. Bob worked on several ships including the MEBO II, the Peace Ship and the Mi Amigo as a technician and presenter and gave his license one day away to an Irish Radio Club.

Well again this was a very long report. And look out for December as we have a special Christmas present for you all! And as always keep the news, memories, photographs and more coming at HKnot@home.nl

Greetings Hans Knot

