

Hans Knot International Radio Report February 2013

Hello and welcome to this month report and I hope you all had a good start of this year 2013. Thanks you for all those wonderful wishing cards we got during December and early January, which were all hanging on our living room walls for a couple of weeks. Also this month a lot of interesting material came in to spread around the world again. Let's start with a topic, which is in almost every issue of the report, radio t-shirt. The photo was taken in 1976 by Caroline deejay David Brown and is surely showing Peter Chicago with a Radio Veronica 538 t-shirt, which was released by the station in autumn of 1972, when the changed wavelength from 192 to 538 metres.



And of course there's the question who are the others on the photo. Any answers can be send to HKnot@home.nl

Next is an e mail from Colin in Leeds: 'Hi Hans. Just to say that I hope you and your wife Jana have a very good Christmas and very best wishes for the New Year. It was very good to meet up with you once again at the Radio Day and also other radio friends of mine too and the Radio Day this year was superb, it gets better every year. Sad news regarding Mick Luvzit another great DJ from Caroline

North that has been taken away from us and gone to Radio Heaven to meet up with Daffy Don Allen, Mike Ahern and all the other offshore guys too. Yep we are all getting older but still young at heart as we remember those great days of Offshore Radio never to be repeated. I'm just glad I was a teenager when it all happened and all those great songs not like the rubbish radio stations play today. That's why many people still listen to recordings of those great days of offshore radio.

Offshore radio may have gone but it will always be remembered, that's why The Radio Days are a must. Looking forward to the next one in 2014! Many best wishes Colin.'

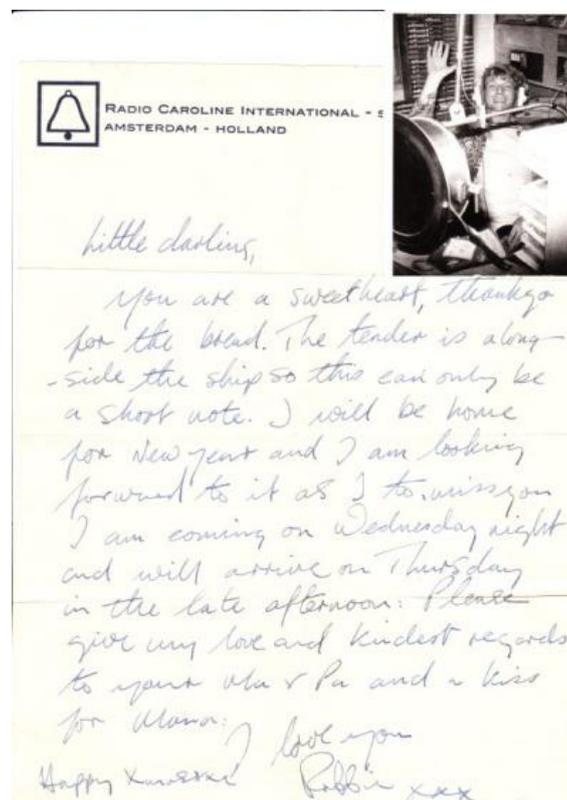
Well Colin thanks a lot for your warm words and of course it's always nice seeing you again. Together with Brian Keith Colin is one of the bravest visitors to the Radio Day, as they both joined in to the event already in the mid-eighties.

Remember that in last issue there was a rare RNI Top 40 for the first time transmitted. It was send in by one of the readers, who found out that there was a mistake made as he wrote: 'Greetings Hans, I just received and read the latest Report. Excellent as usual! Some more new information I wasn't aware of. There is a minor typing error in the RNI Top 40 which you might wish to correct. Number 33 -You keep tightening up on me. My fault, my handwriting as 16 year old could have been better! The records in those early RNI charts are special to me - not because they are great records - but because they bring back special memories of listening to Roger Day and others, often through terrible reception, and not knowing if the station would be on the air the next day. My two favorites from those days, which are rarely played, but which were played by Duncan Johnson are 'Inside' by Jethro Tull and 'Bordeaux Rose' by Fairfield Parlour. I have both on my Ipod. If you publish April 12 Nifty Fifty, could you ask anybody who has a recording of 'Open Up your Heart' by Almond Marzipan (No 24)to get in touch

with me? This record and 'Lords and Ladies' by Troy Dante, I can't find them at all on YouTube etc.'

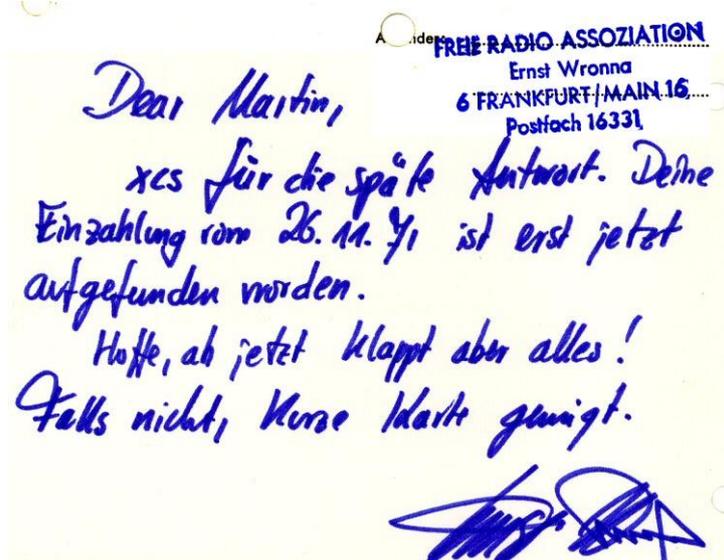
Well thanks a lot John and another issue of the RNI chart will be published in this report. And thanks to our reader Willy, who has an enormous music archive, John Hogg is already very happy for weeks as within a day after receiving his e mail we could send the wanted songs to him.

Now we go to a memory I received from Robbie Dale: 'Every picture tell a story. I thought to share this with you. We met in Amsterdam in early September 1967. I have just been rooting through some of Stella's collection of photos and letters. (With Stella's permission I might add). Sweetness and light! This was a note I wrote to Stella whilst aboard the Mi Amigo so many years ago, thanking her for sending out freshly baked Christmas bread. Our life together remains steadfast, loving and strong, after almost 48 years and facing several horrific uphill challenges together through those past years. That's my girl. For a fashion queen, She's a great baker.



Well I was very silent after reading this wonderful e mail it was really touching Robbie and thanks for sharing with my readers.

Mid-January it became known that on December 4th Roger Kirk died in Germany. Roger was one of the persons connected in the project to bring back the Galaxy to international waters in the late sixties. A fulltime German service was being planned and the studios were rebuilt for the project. However they failed as the owner of the ship had forgotten to pay for a long time the harbour costs, which brought in the authorities to chain up the ship. From that point on Roger started working as chairman for the Free Radio Association Germany.



Also during the following decennia Roger, his real name was Ernst Wronna, stayed active in the field of radio. He was for instant the main man behind Radio Victory, a shortwave pirate aiming at German listeners with strong signals using transmitters in Italy. When local and commercial radio was legalized in Germany Kirk was to be heard on countless radio stations in cities like Freiburg, Stuttgart, Ludwigshaven and Erfurt. During the last years he also was part of the German as well international staff of the internet station RNI. He was ill since August, had left the hospital for some time but did at a heart failure. Garry Stevens, director of RNI commented: 'Roger will be remembered for his deep voice, and his history of the pirates shows during his German service programs. Roger also hosted

a show on the English International service both Friday and Saturdays nights. Roger will be missed by all us who knew and worked with him. He was indeed a larger than life character both on, and off air, and a hard act to follow. R.N.I is a very sad place tonight to have been informed of this truly sad, sad news. I would like to send my deepest sympathy on behalf of Radio Northsea International to all of his family, and friends.

R.N.I will pay tribute to Roger on Sunday the 27th. of January both on our English, and German services. This date was Roger's birthday, and a great opportunity to both celebrate his life, and also show our respect to one of R.N.I's best Son's.'



Roger Kirk - Photo and illustration Martin van der Ven

After this sad news we go to Denmark: 'Hi Hans, thank you for your

very informative reports! A brief report from Denmark: An amateur theatre group on Funen in Denmark has set up a musical based on the story of Radio Mercur in the fall of 2012 - probably for the first time ever, at least in Denmark. There is a video on YouTube with highlights from the musical - of course only in Danish.

Link: <http://youtu.be/YZmTLgCchYE>

New digitalized recordings from the Scandinavian offshore radios are constantly being added to the virtual museum at Scandinavian Offshore Radio History. <http://www.scandinavianoffshoreradio.com/> Best regards from Henrik Nørgaard.' Well Henrik do enjoy the musical, what a good idea! And thanks for reminding the other link. Surely my readers will visit it.

Also a short but nice one came in from Paul in England: 'Your monthly newsletters are simply the best thing I've ever read - so informative, entertaining and educational - full of great content from eager contributors. You should at least bundle a years' worth up and sell it as a Kindle book on Amazon or something? Paul Flanagan.' Thanks Paul, well many of the old reports, back to 2004, can all be downloaded at www.hansknot.com so go ahead!

Well this next message makes me a bit proud as Rob Jones wrote to me: 'Hi there Hans, just a quick note to let you know we've added a link for your International Radio Report to the front page of Rosko's website along with a mention in the site welcome paragraph at the top left: www.emperorrosko.net Best regards, Rob Jones.

Of course a lot of thanks to you Rob as well as to Rosko. Well Rosko also has something to say:

A MESSAGE TO ALL EMPEROR ROSKO FANS AND FRIENDS:

'Many thanks to all fans and friends for your good wishes and a happy birthday. You are the best. This old soldier is ready to reload in 2013 and kick off another 12 months of music and news. Sherri

Lynn, my eyes and ears, will no doubt find a gig or two and I will be feet first in a pub near you! The Rosko book is now rescheduled for the spring sometime. Happy New Year! EMP'.

Next lines are for Alan Perry an electronics engineer by profession, with an array of radios, including expensive digital ones. : 'Hi Hans, I watched British author Ian Rankin, creator of popular Rebus detective novels and TV shows, describe on BBC news his fictional character as "a vinyl man in a digital world". This somewhat annoyed me (and I imagine many of your readers), as it implied that our generation are somehow technologically ignorant, locked into a 45rpm vinyl time warp, and our past pleasures worthless. I was however amused when he then conceded his Rebus character was popular primarily because he had the ability to solve crimes without constant use of iPads, 4G, Internet etc.,

I think it's fair to say your readers are much the same, in that we have reached an age where we could buy, and use a range of new musical and radio toys, but find much of it rather like "painting by numbers" preferring instead to talk about, listen to, and enjoy an age where human ability, rather than machine ability was celebrated. Such is the case with the pop pirates, who against the human and technological obstacles of their era gave us greater pleasure, than the push button non-entities of a structured, regulated digital radio age.

Judging by the mind numbing tuneless "music" pushed out across the endlessly problematic digital airwaves, I often wonder how many wives will turn to their partners in years to come, and lovingly say "Darling they are playing our song". Like the analogue watch that was predicted to be killed off by the digital watch, it had a human face that gives more than just the time. Politically devised, committee regulated, and professionally managed radio stations, transmit little humanity, only with individualism with its fumbling and stumbling across the airwaves, like live TV or a night at the theatre, does one

human's endeavor really lead to a pleasure being shared, as with the 60's pop pirates. Regards to all Alan Perry.' Wow Alan your comments tells it all. I absolutely agree with what you wrote. We must be thankful we were born in a period that radio really started becoming of us all and more and more groups got the change to find their place with the public. Oh! I'm glad to be part of the transistorised world!

It was Rosko who already mentioned here name: Sherri, who wrote after receiving last report: 'Hi Hans: This is super! As usual it is packed with really interesting newsy letters and great pictures of days gone by. It was a great story written by Miles Nixen about the Voice of Peace days as he remembers them. Also super picture of the wedding on board Radio Caroline (interestingly, the bouquet looks like it's in the shape of a fish) and others. Really amusing Gaffes. And it's great to see the RNI Top 40 list. And of course, many thanks once again for the spotlight on Rosko for his 70th. Very nice picture of the two of you and, may I say, a lovely picture of you, Jana and the two boys. I guess they are young men by now. So, once again, well done Hans for your incredible ability to be able to regularly output such great reports re offshore radio days and many thanks for sharing them with so many including myself! Here's wishing you, Jana and the younger members of your family an absolutely very happy new year! May it be a brilliant one for all!' Sherri Lynn'. Well Sherri thanks a lot for your kind words and my 2013 bring you too all you expect in a very good health. Of course, when talking about the little boys, Sherri commented on the nostalgic Christmas card Jana and I included last time.

In the January issue there was also an item from Andy Archer who asked who is the oldest living offshore presenter. He came with the thought that it could be Tony Brandon. Well some other names came in, for instant from Paul Graham: 'Hi Hans in reply to Andy's suggestion that Tony Brandon may be the oldest living offshore jock. What about Carl Conway or Bill Hearne both well into their 80's, I think and both still alive and well I think.'



Tony Brandon Photo: Archive Freewave Media Magazine

Well let's see what the Pirate Hall of Fame has about Bill Hearne 'Another Londoner turned Canadian, like Dave Cash, Keith Hampshire, Jerry Leighton and others. Bill was born on 6th August 1927 and moved with his parents to Toronto at the age of three. He came back to London when he was 17 to attend college then returned to Canada where he became a commercial artist. He also studied broadcasting and began to work in radio. In 1964 he headed back to the UK and, after a brief spell with Radio Luxembourg, joined Caroline North in April 1965. Bill's colleague on the ship, Jim Murphy, on his [Caroline North](#) tribute site, mentions that Bill used to provide voices for Gerry Anderson's television puppets during his week ashore but we have not been able to confirm this on any of the numerous Gerry Anderson fan sites. Bill was Programme Director for the South ship until January 1966 and, in June, transferred to Radio London. He only stayed three months before returning to Caroline. It was on this second spell with the station that he became best-known as the voice of Caroline Cash Casino, a hugely successful competition which went out hourly every morning on both Caroline ships. Although the prize money pales in comparison to the figures given away now, it was the first time that thousands of pounds had been offered on the radio in the UK and Caroline House became stuffed to over-flowing with sacks of entries. It was estimated that in the first eleven weeks of Cash Casino, one million people took part in the competition. By the end of twenty-seven weeks he had four million. After the end of his time with Caroline, Bill returned to Radio Luxembourg for a while but

his later career remained a mystery until Simon Broad contacted The Pirate Radio Hall Of Fame: "A friend of mine was a graphic designer for the Open University in the mid-70s, and remembers Bill Hearne working as a technical model-maker, occasionally appearing on screen in a white coat, wheeling the said models on!"



Bill Hearne photo: Pirate Hall of Fame

And of course I exchanged some e mails with Jon from the Pirate Hall of Fame too, but first an answer from Paul Graham again: 'Hans looking in an old Caroline brochure of 1964 states Carl Conway was 35 in 1964 so Carl is perhaps 83 now. So Bill Hearne is the oldest living offshore DJ at 85!'

Here's what Jon Myer reflected on the answer: 'The ages quoted for Caroline DJs are very unreliable. I think the Press Office knocked a couple of years off most of them! Is Bill Hearne still alive?'

Well I don't know as I never was in contact with Bill Hearne, so anyone who knows please let us know at HKnot@home.nl

I did send the answer to Paul and he answered with: 'Yes this is certainly true. I lived and worked with Don Allen in 1983 on a station in Cork, Ireland and Don told me he was given a much later birth date

by Caroline. If Don was alive today I think he would be around 80. He was in his early 50's 30 years ago in Ireland.'

And then Mike Terry came in with: 'Ronny B Goode (on the We Love the Pirates Facebook group) mentions two ladies from Radio Mercur: Hannah Ralff and Lea Dahlby, both 82 years old. Will let you know if we find anyone older!'



Hannah Ralff Photo: Henning Moller

And finally on December 21st Ronny B Goode wrote: Not to forget Simon Rosenbaum from Radio Mercur, 86 years. We had the pleasure of seeing him at the Radio Mercur Revival in Denmark this summer and he is still a great entertainer.' So finishing this item with the conclusion that Simon Rosenbaum could be the oldest. If anyone has more please let me know at hknot@home.nl

In last issue we had Miles Nixen his memories about his time on the Peace Ship and here's one of his former colleagues reflecting on the story with his own memories: 'Hello Hans, another member of the VOP family joins the fold! I remember Miles from autumn 1989 and I recall the food supply problems. Mark the cook did a great job with ever-dwindling ingredients and he really kept his spirits up, which helped us all. At the time, the Hatzvi was still able to receive

tenders because they could shelter in the lee of that vessel, which was bigger than the Peace Ship.

After our enforced 'diet', I made more efforts to supplement the food supply by fishing. I was nowhere near as skilled as the Philippino crew. I remember one night; I was out on deck, on the side of the ship facing away from shore and thus in total darkness beyond our own lights. Suddenly, José climbed up the side of the ship, just like an assassin in a James Bond film, holding a big tuna. Nearly frightened the life out of me! Although I doubt that 007 could do much harm with a tuna!

Miles mentions 'an American called Mac'. That would be McLellan Hackney, who actually came to us from Leicester, England. (Dual nationality). He did the best 'Late Night Affair' programmes I ever heard. The 'English engineer' could be Oliver Lithgoe, whom I met on shore. There was a misunderstanding regarding his salary and I'm not sure if he ever went to the ship. After Miles' tale of the Peace Ship studio bin, I can offer my own. Early in my stint in 1987, I was still getting my 'sea legs' and also getting used to the rather distinctive food being served up at that time. One afternoon, on air, I began to feel rather ill. I considered going up on deck to let things out, but I thought this would make me appear incompetent. (No problem there!) Anyway, I decided to use the studio bin. This made me feel much better and I forgot all about it!

Next on air was Dave Asher. He brought with him into the studio some paperwork and a pen, which he put down on the console. At some point, the movement of the ship caused the pen to roll off and fall in the bin. Without looking, Dave reached in and discovered the remains of my lunch. With a horrified scream, Dave rushed along the corridor to the washbasins, claiming "The dirty bugger's been w****ng into the bin!" This amused the other DJs very much. Later on, Dave spoke to me about it all, very calmly.

In closing, it's sad that Miles' experiences on the Peace Ship and in Israel were not happy ones. He did catch us at a bad time, so to speak. I think he showed remarkable courage and dedication to radio to fly out and give it a go. I will say that life on the Peace Ship has given me both good and bad times, and everything in between. Also, the Israeli way of doing things regarding security can be a culture shock.

Well that's my offering in response to Miles' memories. All the best for 2013 to you both, Hans and Jana. Paul Fraser.'



Paul Fraser on air: Collection Hans Knot

Well Paul thanks a lot for your part of the story. Of course much appreciated and I can tell you that further on in the report there's news about a documentary in the making about Abe Nathan.

Next we have: 'The Voice of Peace at 40', written by André van Os, about nowadays Voice of Peace including a very good interview with Andy Cox:

'With the scuttling of the radioship Peace in 1993 and the death of founder and inspirator Abie Nathan in 2008, it seemed as if the

curtain had fallen for The Voice of Peace. But an enthusiastic group of former crewmembers and DJ's recreated the VoP: 'the legendary offshore station is back' and even celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. International Report spoke to Andy Cox, crewmember of yesterday's and today's VoP.

The story seems to resemble that of colleague offshore station Radio Caroline. After the broadcasts from a ship there was silence for more than a decade and then several attempts to revive the station sprung up. In the 1990's there was an online radiostation on the website www.voiceofpeace.com owned by former DJ Richard Doran Ticho. Nowadays this website is home to the VoP Network, which supports good causes, has a partnership with the new Voice of Peace and even supplies some radio programs. Since 2006 original VoP programs can also be heard on Radius 100FM (on the old FM frequency of the radioship Peace).

But The Voice of Peace as we know it now, was started by enthusiasts and former DJ's like Doug Wood, Yaniv Dayan en Tami Tzabari, who at the end of 2009 decided to revive the station. After a long period of testing via the Israeli website www.thevoiceofpeace.co.il, '1540 The Voice of Peace' commenced official programmes on 7 November 2009, with original programme names (like 'Twilight Time'), DJ's and jingles (like the classic 'From somewhere in the Mediterranean, we are The Voice of Peace', also in Hebrew, Arabic and French, on the intro of Junior Campbell's 'Help Your Fellow Man' - and of course Bill Mitchell's deepest voice in 'Peace is the word').

In memory of Abie Nathan

"When the station was originally set up we approached and received permission from Henry Eskalasi, the personal assistant to Abie Nathan and in later years, his patron," tells DJ Andy Cox via e-mail.

"He and Nathan's family have given us their blessing to continue the station in the way it was intended to be: playing quality music to the public in a professional manner, with the philosophy of spreading the message of peace where possible and keeping the memory of Abie Nathan and his good work alive."

April 2010 saw a breach between the Israeli and the English team over a difference in opinion as to how the station should sound. Andy Cox: "Eventually the two groups parted and 'The Voice of Peace' run from Israel, as now heard, was born." A British VoP continued as 'all time hits' station on www.theVoP.net with DJ's Doug Wood, Brian Matthews, Mark Stafford and Paul Douglas. Cox: "We wished them well at the time and still are in contact with many of the people involved in that group."

"The original setting up of the station was very much a bit of fun and a tribute to the original station," Andy Cox continues. "The old forum in the early days was full of entries about popping down to the engines, checking the generators, painting the boat etc. But after a while (and this is where the 'difference of opinion' came from) several of the team did not want the whole thing to be viewed by the radio world as a group of enthusiasts playing old retro music and reliving their past and memories: just a retro tribute station. They wanted the whole project to be as the original concept was: bringing quality new music and the best of the old skool music, professionally produced and played. And allowing a platform for new DJ's (both international and local) to be heard."

New audiences

So the Israeli Voice of Peace was build from scratch and soon was reinforced with DJ's from its offshore period like Andy Cox, Richard Doran Ticho, Rob Charles and John Macdonald. Veteran Mark Hanna is responsible for programming the station. And it definitely is worth

listening to. "Since that early time the station has grown from just a couple of jocks who had been on the original VoP producing 'as live'



John McDonald Archive: Hans Knot

shows and the rest of the time an automated system with no DJ, to what it is now: a wide variety of DJ's supplying shows from across the globe 24/7," says Cox.

'From somewhere in the Mediterranean' is no longer the shiny blue sea offshore Tel Aviv, but Tel Aviv itself - and actually many other places in the world. Servers stream the VoP signal 24 hours a day, with on top of the hour the old newsjingle with seagulls and the six pips. What follows then is not any longer the relayed newsbulletin of Kol Yisrael, Israeli state radio in Hebrew, but a few headlines from 'Feature Story News' in Washington (during the daytime programming on weekdays). After the Give peace a chance jingle regular programs commence, often 'voice-tracked' but also now and then live. There is a lot of room for requests and an extensive request-section on the brand new website.

"The make-up of the station and it's music is important, as we need to cater to those who remember the original station, but also need to tap into the new audiences that just were never around (or were too

young to remember it) 'back in the day'", explains Andy Cox. "We think we have it about right but understand that in this modern age of multimedia we cannot please and cater for everyone all the time. And it is important that we don't fall into that trap. We have tried to allow new talent to be heard on the station, just like the original station did, which has been welcomed by the listeners. However, like others we are always looking out for new people to join our merry flock."

Worldwide, Israeli roots

The VoP is streaming worldwide with a slogan that sums it up neatly: Remembering our past as we stream to our future, with hits from today and yesterday. But of course there is still a clear Israeli 'touch' to the whole project. Andy Cox: "We have a show on 6 out of 7 days featuring an Israeli DJ, each of whom are new to the business." (Between 15 and 17 hours, Eastern Mediterranean Time). "And during the day we play an Israeli track every hour. We have not set out not to have any Arab DJ's present shows with us, it is that we have not had anyone wanting to... yet! But we would welcome them if they were professional enough." It would honor the original VoP even more, where programs could be heard in English, Hebrew, Arabic and French. The last two are now only to be heard in jingles.

"We do not have a studio in one place to broadcast from that point. We have a mix of style of shows and a mix of playout methods. The DJ's that work with the station produce 'as live' shows for us and send them in by uploading them to our servers via FTP. The playout system is set to play the right show at the right time. We do, just like other pro stations, have some of our shows produced via automated links and where possible we encourage the DJ's to play out live. But that depends on their technical ability to link up to the network and their availability. Thankfully we have Yaniv Dayan, who is a fantastic IT bod. He works wonders with scripts that make it look so easy to keep the station on air. Dayan really has kept the whole thing on track."

Peace is the word.

But what about the cause of peace? The late Abie Nathan decided to stop broadcasting after the Oslo Peace Agreements finally promised peace in the Middle East. As we know now, very little came of that.

"It's ironic that as the station has got better and better in its output, the situation in the Middle East has got worse," agrees Andy Cox, adding: "meaning that the whole need for a common denominator, music, is needed more than ever! We do not side with one group over another. We like to think of ourselves as being like Switzerland, willing to support those on any 'side' who are caught up in violence through no fault of theirs but for the fact of where they were born."

Clearly the spirit of Abie Nathan is still around. And he can even be heard: everyday as the sun sets, we hear Abie announcing the thirty second closedown of the VoP 'in memory of all the victims of violence, in this region and all over our planet'. On nowadays VoP this is not followed by silence but the famous song 'I Wish You Peace' by The Eagles is played right away.

"It is not as easy as it was in the past with the original VoP to spread the word of 'peace'," admits Andy Cox, "as we are on the internet and cannot broadcast via a popular medium like FM or be picked up without using the internet. If we were broadcasting via FM I am sure that we would be picking up listeners all the time. The format that we are using regarding program output is (as was the original) nothing the main stations in Israel are able to do. They put on lots of advertising to pay their bills - and their shareholders."

There are more 'VoP's' promoting peace, for example the American 'VoP network'. Cox: "In 2012 we teamed up with the VoP Network which is based in America, via Richard Ticho. They have a lot of contacts and work with a lot of charities and good causes around the world and we felt that it was important that we support that team. It's a symbiont relationship. Currently we focus and specialise on the broadcasting side of things (like the original station) whilst the

Network team offers support to groups that need help. Together we work well to increase the profile of each and thus help raise funds to help good causes.

There are no contacts with the other VoP stream on the Shoutcast network, the Christian <http://www.voiceofpeace.org.uk/>. "Simply because they are not VoP and not operated by any VoP members," says Cox. "We would not turn anyone away if they approached us to offer support, as it is important that everyone works together where possible to support the concept of 'peace'."



Andy Cox

Volunteers

Finally, where does the money come from to continue the whole operation? There are commercials played now and then, for example for an English teaching method for Kids and also for the famous Budweiser beer. But these are exceptions. "Apart from the odd commercial that we have produced and played for various companies, we are totally reliant on listener support and donations given by some of the team."

"All DJ's and team members on the station give their time for free. There is no pay for anyone. Anything that the station has done is via

the skills of the team members. Recently we have overhauled the station's website. We could not afford to pay several thousand Dollars for this, so we learnt what to do and with some imagination and we produced the new website, which presents our programme schedule, details of the people who work with us, our history and ways to help support us."

Cox is confident about the station's future. "We would like to expand our listener base and raise our profile even more, but we can only do this with the support of others: people who have the same believes in promoting peace as we do, by broadcasting good music, and are willing to do this by giving their time voluntarily. Not just DJ's, but others who have skills in music and program management and with advertising and promotional skills. We have a good product now and a famous name to boot. We just need the break to get us back on everyone's lips and playing on everyone's radio!"



VoP at 40

In 2013 The Voice of Peace will celebrate its 40th birthday. What are the plans? "Currently the station is planning to produce several 'specials' to give a history of the station and how it came about. Several of the DJ's are heading over to Israel to be there on May 19th to celebrate the first broadcasts 40 years ago on that day. The VoP Network is also producing 'specials' to commemorate the event. And I would like to ask anyone who was connected with the station in the past to contact us, so we can include your memories as well!" We can all look forward to that and we will cover VoP's birthday celebrations in the International Radio Report. Meanwhile: Peace is

the word. And the Voice of Peace is the station, 24 hours a day...

www.thevoiceofpeace.co.il

Thanks a lot to André van Os as well as Andy to bring this special into the 'HKIR'. When I was editing the last issue of the Hans Knot Report I was adding a photograph of a tendering to the Peace Ship showing a big parcel loaded on to the ship showing a special sticker. It was Robbie Dale who responded to that with: 'Hi Hans, what an interesting picture 'Tendering the Voice of Peace'. I noted the stickers on that parcel. Now I know from where Chris Carey (RIP) lifted the design, he had an amazing eye for good ideas. I sometimes wonder if he's in geek or radio heaven or on a lower Nova in orbit? A happy, healthy New Year to all who report and read the report no matter where they are. PS. So Rosko is younger than I, never would have thought that! 'Happy Birthday Emperor'. Robbie Dale (Admiral of the Beat Fleet BFM and Bar) Retired. Can you put a date (Circa) on that picture Hans? There was an earlier Nova in Italy, could that be the connection? Greetings, Robbie.'

Well the VOP was on air till October 1993 and I suppose this one was shot at the end of the eighties. Radio Nova Italy (Ruud Kegel was on the Radio Day last year November) had a totally other logo which was the idea of the RNI logo and then in black and red.'

Robbie came back after I shared the above information with him: 'That clears that one. Thank you, mine of information. Robbie.'

" Hi everyone! My name is Frederic Cristea. I am director of documentaries based in France and I am proud to announce to all of you that I am starting a personal documentary project about Abie Nathan and the Voice of Peace for a French television channel. What is great about this project

is that is more than just an idea: since December, A French tv channel has bought our film (the film has not been made yet, that's the way it works in France: tv channels buy first and then we start producing) and my producers will drag coproduction probably with America/ Israel and Belgium (since I am from Belgium). So it means that quite probably this film will have an International audience. The project focuses mainly on two ideas: the peace project about peace in the Middle East and the power of the Radio as a mass media, long time before Internet. We are starting the production this week, and I would like to take advantage of this newsletter to ask anybody who was familiar to the Voice of Peace of Abie Nathan to help me in this project: if you know where some archives (visual) can be found all around the world, or if you do possess any material of the VOP, or any other information, please share it with me. Also the project "Somewhere in the Mediterranean" is quite ambitious: we will use as much as we can images from the archives and "peace and love" music of the seventies. It means that the film is very, very expensive, more than what we can get from official tv broadcasting networks. So if anybody has an idea on how to drag some other partners (foundations/ ngo's, private donors, etc. etc. please let me know), I will also appreciate your help in this adventure." My email address is frederic.cristea@gmail.com and I wish you all a wonderful year 2013."

Pirate Jock. Confession of a 60S DJ

By: Jack McLaughlin

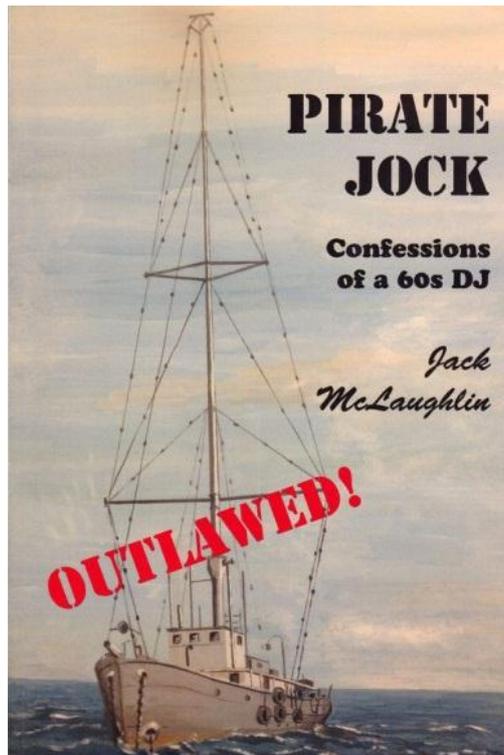
417 pages, illustrated

Publisher: Kennedy & Boyd, Kilkerran, Scotland

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<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/pirate-jock-jack-mclaughlin/1113130380>

Pirate Jock. Confession of a 60S DJ starts with how a 20 year old student is working during a summer holiday with young offenders whereby rainy days are partly filled with listening to pop music, which isn't brought the way we know so good from the pirates. But 20 years old Jack starts to earn good money when working in a brand new Bingo Hall as a caller, which gets on fire the day before opening. A heavy start of a book, in which 42 chapters brings us the fictional story of several events in the high days of the sixties of last century. Some of the names are changed to protect the real persons. The nice thing about: '**Pirate Jock. Confession of a 60S DJ**' is that it brings us first the story of how a youngster of 20 years is living in the sixties, with work, having fun with girls, boys and drinking before he heard for the first time about plans for a radio station planned for Scotland, after he had a unexpected romp! It's only on page 39 that 'radio' is really becoming a topic. Compared by other books about offshore radio Jack McLaughlin did a good thinking about how to built the story. But before radio really got the subject, good old Jack went back to his old school to be a teacher. The book, which is partly factual and partly fictional, brings in the radio at page 49 when Jack finds an advertisement where deejays are wanted. From there on the radio story really starts with meeting several people involved, including director Shields. From there on John McLaughlin ask you full attention in '**Pirate Jock. Confession of a 60S DJ**'. For those who don't know the stories behind offshore radio it's really a total eye opener and it reads like an exciting boys book.



On the other hand for those who know the history and the facts the book still swings but brings in a lot of factual questions. I'll give two examples: One of the persons related to the station is described as an Inspector Colombo type. Those two persons were not comparable at all in 1966, when the Radio Scotland started. The TV Series bringing the Inspector Colombo only started in the USA on television during 1971. Another example of historical mistake takes us back to New Year's evening when the protagonist in the book: **Pirate Jock. Confession of a 60S DJ** decides not to listen to the late evening program from Radio Scotland. No, he's going to listen to John Peel on competitor station Radio London. Really a big mistake as John Peel only arrived back in Great Britain early 1967 and had to start his radio career from that point on.

Anyway, forgetting those mistakes the **Pirate Jock. Confession of a 60S DJ by Jack McLaughlin is really a very good read.**

Next e mail is also an interesting one, also to do with ships and sailing: Hello Hans, many thanks for your continued ever-so

interesting International Radio Report. Among other things, I do blue-water sailboat deliveries. The most recent, from Marathon, Florida to Halifax, Nova Scotia. Please, forgive me if this is old news but, are you familiar with Herb Hilgenberg? Herb broadcasts semi-customized weather forecasts, based on what sailors tell him, on HF/SSB frequency 12359.0 between 1930 and 2000 UTC for which he received a medal from U.S. Navy weather forecasters.

8294.0 and 16531.0 are used as alternate frequencies, as announced from time to time, subject to propagation. I have written to Herb Hilgenberg introducing the International Radio Report and forwarding your, 'an interesting site. I will give it a mention next issue. 5 weeks earlier [in 2012], I did a sailboat delivery from Fort Lauderdale, Florida to Newport, Rhode Island. In 2011, from Fort Lauderdale to Palma de Mallorca. 2010, from Fort Lauderdale to Bermuda and back [solo] ~ sailing is solo is no fun whatsoever and, decidedly dangerous. 2009, from Antigua via the Caribbean / Atlantic / St. Lawrence / Great Lakes to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. For me, sailing is the best 'mental enema' I know! All the best,
Martin Samuel.'

Thanks Martin for this very informative contribution. Where do you more listen to when on travel on the high seas?

The next photograph is already for a long time on my computer and so it became time to write the facts to the photograph. It had all to do with Abe Nathan's Flower Trip to Egypt in 1975. Here what was reported in those days in 'Broadcast' on October 27th, 1975. 'Ex Capital Radio presenter Keith Ashton, and Simon Ward from BRBM and Radio Forth were among the willing hands that transported over 100.00 flowers as a gift of goodwill from the people of Israel to the people of Egypt. The Voice of Peace radioship sailed into Egyptian territorial waters at Port Said broadcasting its normal programme all

the way, and once again asked for permission to transit the Suez Canal. The Egyptian Authorities freaked out and sent two warships, including a missile boat to stand by alongside on a 24 hour roster for 10 days to make sure that no one went any nearer the Canal.



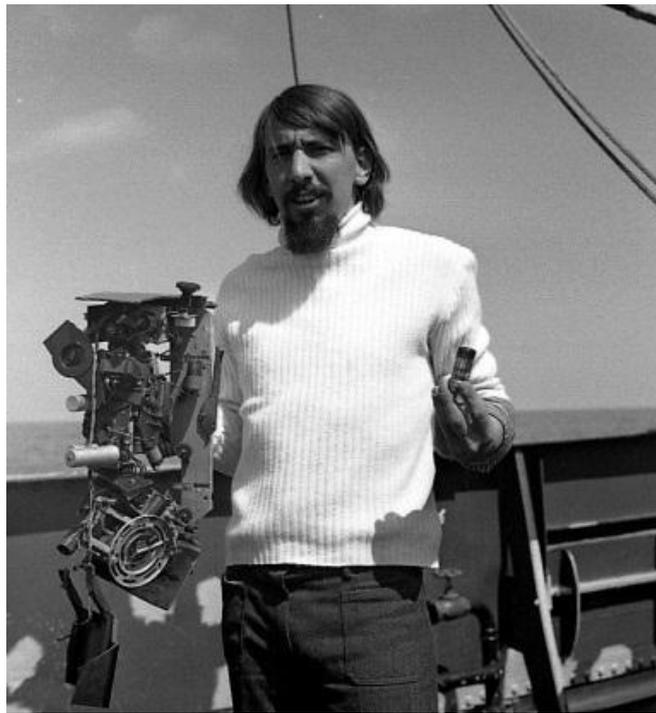
Photo: Collection Don Stevens

The flowers were delivered, however, by Abe Nathan, who left at sunrise one morning in a small dinghy. He managed to make the coast where he was arrested, blindfolded so as not to see Egyptian military installations, he was then sent to Cairo for trial and deported to home on the next flight out. To encourage the ship back to Israel the Egyptians circled the ship daily, threw grenades in the water, and nearly rammed the Peace Ship twice and on two occasions, machine gunned across the bows of the 560 ton m.v. Peace. Her mission accomplished, the Peace Ship returned North and continued normal broadcasting.'

Very sad news again as on December 30th Arend Langenberg died at the age of 63. Arend started his radio career in 1970 as newsreader on Radio Veronica. Next to that he presented, irregular, some programs live from the radio ship Norderney. In 1973 he left Veronica for another job as newsreader at Dutch Official Press Organisation ANP. From there on he left to work for stations like

Radio 538 and Sky Radio. Also he was for many years the voice over in a very popular Crime program on TROS TV, one of the public broadcasters in the Netherlands.

It was 2008 when it became known that he had cancer at the rectum. After a long period of chemo as well as radiotherapy he restarted working. Some months ago the health problems restarted and sadly Arend Langenberg died.



Arend Langenberg 1972

Copyright Photo: Ruud Doets/ Foundation Norderney.

It was Andy Archer who wanted to share his memories with us: 'I was so sad to learn of Arend's death from cancer just after Christmas. He was one of the great characters of offshore radio and certainly one of the best newsreaders. It was always a joy to be welcomed on board the Norderney back in 1973/74 by Arend Langenberg when we would often pay a visit from the Mi Amigo for early evening drinks. Arend was an Anglophile and a wonderful raconteur. In impeccable English, he would regale us for hours with his tales of his time in London including the occasion when he drove

his car through the gates of Buckingham Palace and told a duty policeman that he was a member of the Dutch Royal family and had forgotten to bring his invitation to the Queen's garden party. To his utter surprise, he was granted entry and won the bet he had with a friend who believed he wouldn't succeed! His passing is a sad loss to the world of broadcasting. Andy Archer.'

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Next we have Bob LeRoi from Essex to inform us about his internet pages: 'It's certainly been awhile but we're back with a 'big one' to make up for lost time and to round off 2012. 'ScrapBook' has our alternative tribute to Roy Bates the man behind Radio Essex/Britain's Better Music Station (BBMS) and the Principality of Sealand. In commemoration of Roy we also bring you 'Roy's Domain' the continuation of our rolling features on Sealand, this time with refurbishment photographs of the deckhouse row.

We also mark the passing of Eric Sullivan the Managing Director of the ill-fated mid 1960's Radio Tower Project. There are some excellent photographs of Red Sands with stories from the past 12 months. Since our last publication we've made revisions, added lots of new material, all listed on the 'Home Page'. Across in the 'Personal Pages' serving Naval gunner Tom Hempson shares his photographs and memories of HMS Fort Knock John during WWII.

Local history is there with photographs from the Victoria Garage, Whitstable archive celebrating 60 years trading in 2013.' One Subject One Link' has a contribution complaining about repetition and content on ILR & BBC stations. Finally, in record sales we've found a copy of the rare 'Remember the Pirates' album. Thank you for your interest, contributions and support during 2012, we wish you a very tremendous New Year. www.bobleroi.co.uk

Next there is news from the internet radio station Britain Radio.

'Also on behalf of Garry Stevens some facts about Britain Radio, the easy listening station broadcasting on internet as a tribute to the offshore version in 1966/67 Britain Radio from the Olga Patricia. Nowadays there is on internet a great choice in oldies and album stations, RNI, Veronica 192, Caroline to name a few. But as we anoraks grow a bit older you might want to listen to the great names from the 50s, 60s and 70s easy listening, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Andy Williams, Peggy Lee, Dusty Springfield, Ray Conniff, Percy Faith, Mantovani, Russ Conway and we might even throw in some easy Motown tunes. Beatles and Stones for example: when I am 64 and Ruby Tuesday. We promise we won't play Beatles when I am 64 followed by Stones I can't get no satisfaction, and that's for more than one reason. Your report is read by many, many people with a radio heart in the right place and we would like to invite presenters with interest in 50's-60's and 70's easy listening to join Britain Radio for a weekly 1 or 2 hour programme, if possible in English.

Please contact Britain Radio at 355@dr.com.

This is the website for Britain Radio <http://www.355.vze.com/>

By the way.....we are also looking for deckhands, cooks and diesel generator engineers. Thanks Hans and to all of your readers happy reading and listening to Britain Radio. Paul de Haan.'

Well Paul I hope some of the readers will claim a place in the program staff of Britain Radio. Paul de Haan, by the way, can be heard every Sunday morning at 11 CET.

Next one brings in Ian Godfrey: 'Hi Hans, many thanks for the Christmas/New Year Report. A possible debatable point - in the email on reminiscences of the Voice of Peace - is the involvement of the presenter in a music show. I've always preferred a small amount of general chat between records - a good example of this being Andy Archer. Offshore Radio Sounds continues to keep me occupied -

particularly in the evenings - with the emphasis over the past two or three weeks being on Caroline in the 70s. Even with digital remastering the audio quality covers quite a wide range, many being surprisingly good. Some recordings are slightly off-channel and have side-band whistle. Others are real classics, such as a couple of Johnny Jason shows I heard last week, which featured artists such as John Martin and the Jess Roden Band, probably never heard anywhere else these days. The station is well worth a listen as the pluses far out-weigh the minuses.

Another station I've added to my list recently is Easy Rock Paradise, on one of the Oldies Paradise streams. A feature of both stations is the tendency towards tracks from the early-70s, something which appeals to me as it reminds me of RNI at that particular time.' Well thanks a lot Ian for your look into todays radio and let your remarks coming!

Radio Northsea International Top 40 March 22nd 1970

John Hogg and Jan Kellock were both responsible for writing down the next 40 songs which were in the RNI Top 40 dated March 22nd 1970.

- | | | |
|----|---------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Andy Williams | Can't help falling in love |
| 2 | Picketywitch | That same old feeling |
| 3 | Elvis Presley | Don't cry daddy |
| 4 | Bob and Marcia | Young, gifted and black |
| 5 | Tremeloes | By the way |
| 6 | Simon and Garfunkel | Bridge over troubled water |
| 7 | Clodagh Rogers | Everybody goes home the
the party is over |
| 8 | Harmony Grass | Cecelia |
| 9 | Gene Pitney | A street called hope |
| 10 | Beatles | Let it be |
| 11 | Jackie Lemmox | How the web was woven |

12	Dave Clark Five	Everybody get together
13	Dusty and Tom Springfield	Morning please don't come
14	Radha Krishna Temple	Govindham
15	Thelma Houston	Save the country
16	Street People	Jennifer Tomkins
17	Jimmy Ruffin	Farewell is a lonely sound
18	Box Tops	You keep tighten in upon me
19	Faces	Flying
20	Move	Brontosaurus
21	Dream Police	I'll be home in a day or so
22	Band	Rag, mama, rag
23	Blue Mink	Good morning freedom
24	White Plains	My baby loves love
25	The Who	The seeker
26	Kenny Roger's First Edition	Something's burning
27	Creedence Clearwater Revival	Travelling Band
28	Sly and the family Stone	Thank you
29	Bee Gees	Io Io
30	Boris Gardner	Elizabethan Reggae
31	Dave Dee	My woman's man
32	Troy Dante	Lords and Ladies
33	Cliff Richard and Hank Marvin	Joy of living
34	Status Quo	Down the dust pipe
35	Equals	Soul Brother Clifford
36	Plastic Ono Band	Instant Karma
37	Jackie de Shannon	What the world needs now
38	Brotherhood of Man	United we stand
39	Tokens	Don't worry baby
40	Shocking Blue	Mighty Joe

Still one more 'hit-list' to go from the duo and if you've written down a chart during offshore days, make it free for publication in the report too. Send it to HKnot@home.nl

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Here's information from the Pirate Hall of Fame:

New this month: As the rest of the world begins 2013, The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame enters the Nineteen-Eighties! The Eighties Supplement starts with a page on DJs from that decade with names beginning with A. We will be adding more as the months go by. Please get in touch if you spot any mistakes or omissions. Also we're going back to the seventies, correspondent Onno van Buuren has sent some fantastic photos of assorted Radio Caroline DJs from April 1974; we haven't forgotten the sixties either - check out the brand new 60s timeline; and, since the last full update, I have added a tribute to Radio Caroline's Mick Luvzit who sadly passed away on 8th December.

More than 134,000 people visited The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame during 2012. That's over 20,000 up on last year. It is immensely gratifying that so many people are still interested in the site and in the subject of watery wireless more than twenty years after the final offshore broadcast. My grateful thanks to everyone who has contributed. Have a very happy new year. All the best, Jon Myer.'

www.offshoreradio.co.uk

Some months ago I published a photograph showing Dutch Beat Group Q 65 in a rubber rowing boat near Shivering Sands, then the home from Radio City. Around Christmas it was Jan van Heeren who wrote that some publicity photos from Q65 were on the web and we were wondering when those were taken. This with the publicity stint with Q65 and Radio City in mind. Juul Geleick, from the Foundation Norderney, also had not seen the photo earlier and suggested me to contact Jan van Veen, who worked in the mid-sixties already with Veronica. His conclusion was that he thought the same as me and that the photo, taken on Piccadilly Circus in the heart of London, was from the same week as the visit to Radio City took place, just to promote their album, which was also released in England on Decca.



After so many decades the British offshore stations closed down in 1967 still recordings are bringing surprises. I got recently from the USA a recording from 390 where it was mentioned in the file that it was presented by Edward Cole. However after a few minutes a special about Nat King Cole started, which was presented by Alan Dell, a name which is never mentioned when talking about the presentation team from Radio 390. So I have send the recording to Jon at the Pirate Hall of Fame, who wrote back to me: 'How strange. I had never heard of Alan Dell doing programs for Radio 390. Is it possible that the programme was not originally produced for 390? I believe Alan Dell presented EMI-sponsored programmes for Radio Luxembourg. All the music on that programme came from an EMI album called 'The Unforgettable Nat King Cole'. Is it possible that EMI made a programme, fronted by Alan Dell, to promote their compilation and Radio 390, along with other stations worldwide, were sent a copy? It is only a theory. What a shame that neither Edward Cole nor Alan Dell are around to ask! Jon' Anyone in the readership who can tell more, please reflect at HKnot@home.nl

Next we go to Northampton and my good friend for many decades, Andy Emmerson: 'Hallo Hans, first of all, I wish all the best you you and Jana for the new year. Not sure whether this would interest you but I found it really, really good.

<http://www.polskieradio.pl/68/2055/video/652120>

It's a 50 minute documentary all about radio jamming in the Cold War. It brings back lots of memories. Enjoy (I hope), Andy Emmerson.'

Well surely it did Andy and I really advice each reader to the report to take some rest and view the special documentary as mentioned above.

Before ending, don't forget to have your regular look on the website from Chris and Mary Payne as there's always interesting items to read at: www.radiolondon.co.uk

Well ending this issue of the Hans Knot International Report with a special photograph, taken in the late sixties at the so called 'correspondence department' of the Electricity Company EGD.



It was long before the computers were overruling the typewriters. It was send in by Ria Lameijer- Koper who is sitting behind the desk. You can see that on the window are two copies of the Veronica Top 40. Behind the window is a balcony and then invisible another window, whereby it can be mentioned that the chef of the department had lesser view on Ria's desk, due to the fact the Veronica Top 40 were hanging there.

Well, all the best to you for the coming weeks and I will be back in late February. In the meantime let all your news, memories and more coming in at HKnot@home.nl