

Hans Knot International Radio Report August 2012

A very good day to you, readers of the international radio report. Thanks for all who gave me input for this edition. It's summertime in Europe and so this edition will be a bit smaller one than you're used to.

There are some special happenings coming weeks which I first would like to mention. It was Ronny Forslund, who sent me on July 17th an invitation to visit Denmark: 'Hello Hans, If you haven't yet anything booked for July 31 you are very welcome to join us at the Radio Mercur Revival Day in Dragør, Denmark on July 31st. A number of former Radio Mercur staff members will be gathering at the Dragør Museum where there is a 1950s exhibition and there will be broadcasts of Radio Mercur during the day from 0600 to 2400 local time/CET (0400 to 2200 UTC/GMT). Apart from old Radio Mercur recordings there will also be live broadcasts from the museum.



Tage in studio Radio Mercur Photo: Erik Lindhardt

The programmes will be broadcast over a temporary transmitter operating on 99.4 MHz on top of the SAS Radisson Hotel in Copenhagen - one of the highest buildings in the city. It is also possible to listen via our web streams which will be announced on www.scandinavianoffshoreradio.com before we start. It would be nice if you could make it, but if not, I hope to see you at this year's Radio Day in Amsterdam. All the best to you, from Stockholm and have a great summer, Ronny Forslund.'

Of course I've answered Ronny and thanked him for the very nice invitation. As other things have been planned for July 31st, months ago, we sadly can make it this time. Maybe, if such a very nice reunion is organised it could be arranged to announce it on an earlier date. Anyway I wish you all a very good reunion over there and hope to hear more of it so we can publish it in the September edition of the report.



Next very nice invitation came from Tony O'Neill in Harwich who wrote: 'Hi Hans! How are you? Just a quickie to inform you of the event in Harwich on Thursday August 2nd - hoping you might be able to make it? Cashman's (Dave Cash) is coming too. It's for the RKS Facebook Fan Group gathering - I've booked the Electric Palace

Cinema for them and will take everyone on a tour of LV18 afterwards. Itinerary: **12pm: Electric Palace Cinema. 2pm: Tour of LV18.** It would be lovely if you could come, mate. Sorry for late notice but been a bit bonkers busy lately. Tickets on the day only - £10.00, at the Electric Palace Box Office. Numbers will be limited to 199. The event will be filmed. The day has been jointly organised by the Pharos Trust and the Keith Skues Fan Group. Keith Skues will be signing copies of his updated book 'Pop Go the Pirates' on the day. With best greetings, Tony O'Neill.'

Well another thanks to you Tony, this is most appreciated but also August 2nd has been planned for other options at a very early moment. I hope you and your team have a lot of fun and can write about it for the next report.

During June I was in contact with Jolyon Jenkins from BBC Radio, who wanted to know several things about Sealand and the Dutch people involved. This and much more resulted in a documentary which will be broadcast on Wednesday 1st August on BBC Radio 4 from 11.00 (12.00 CET). It's called 'In Living Memory'. Jolyon Jenkins explores the history of Sealand. Former pirate radio broadcaster Paddy Roy Bates and his family occupied a disused military platform in the North Sea in 1966. He declared it an independent country the following year, resisting all attempts to remove himself and his family.'

Next we go to Eric Wiltshire who wants my readership to remind that there are really problems with some of the BBC Local presenters: 'Hi Hans. Thank you for a good read. Did you know people like Roger Day are about to lose their jobs because of the BBC Cut Backs - other offshore people as well. There is a campaign on FaceBook called BBC We Say No. There are some great presenters, people like Roger Day, faxing the ace which is tragic. What I would ask is that you remind people that the BBC won't shift policy unless there's a level of embarrassment. And the way to cause

such embarrassment is to get huge numbers to join the campaign and let the main stream media know about the high numbers.

<http://www.facebook.com/bbcwesayno>

Any assistance you can give would be appreciated, thanks. I'm still doing lots of radio - albeit more production working with students a lot, which is actually quite good fun. Thank you in advance. Best regards Eric Wiltshire.'

Well dear reader it's up to you now to visit the above facebook page and sign in there!

Reader Artem is one of those who are totally into shortwave radio and he asked to pay some attention to his love to this kind of radio: 'Hi Hans, thanks for your report. To know what free radiostations did for cultural revolutions (Radio Veronica, Radio Caroline and many more) and others (During World War 2 and more) is good we think. Now a organisation called 'Pirates for Peace' has got transmitters on Westbank Golan (after started that one the Arab spring began) and lots of other places on our planet, included 12 in Europe. People can get more information or offer help by writing to our email address. Also members from Russia and Ukraine make jingles and programs on lots of popular stations over there and allover Europe to get some democracy there. If you like the idea, please give it some space in your newsletter. More information can be found on our blog site www.radiorainbow.blogspot.com The main RRI site still is www.radiorainbow.tk All the best, Artem, Pirates for Peace.'

And look what we have here? Another t-shirt promoting radio:



Next one is from Martin, who once was born in Africa. 'Hello Hans, It's not International Radio Report newsworthy ... but I thought it would give you a laugh. I was born in Kenya and, at age 11, living in Eastlands, Nairobi [ca. 1960]. I owned a crystal set ~ as did my pal and next door neighbor, Howard Pettridge. When the Post Office was replacing the double-strand copper telephone lines, we relieved them of a bundle to use as aerials for our sets. We decided that 1 long wire, made by splitting the strands and joining our 2 individual single-strand aerials, would improve reception, which it did ... and more! We then discovered, as our sets were connected, using 1 headphone as a microphone [voice coil] and listening with the other, we could communicate quite clearly and therefore, 'reinvented' the telephone.

As kids, we would stay up late talking to one another, however, one night, my Dad, who was downstairs and wishing to hear the news, was tuning his Grundig radio to the BBC when he picked up a voice he recognized loud and clear between the regular stations. We had also 'reinvented' the radio transmitter. The following day, my Mother told her disbelieving boss about her 'inventive' son and, that evening, when he tuned his radio to 'our' frequency, he actually heard us in Muthaiga broadcasting from approx. 5.5 km away. We probably weren't the first, but it was a first for us. All the best to you, Martin Samuel.'

Well Martin I think this one is a lovely one for the International Report as this shows that anyone can have his or hers first experience with making radio. Anyone, who also has memories to the first experience, please let it come at HKnot@home.nl

Next we have Chris Dannatt in England: 'Hello from the UK Hans - I hope you are well! Chris Dannatt Here - owner of the 'Flashback '67' exhibition, as featured in Harwich at the BBC Pirate Essex Events in 2007 and 2009. I read with interest, the feature on the Revell Lightship kit 05202 (see below). When I was still at school in 1968-9, I bought this kit, and transformed it into a pirate radio ship complete with forward mast and rigging. Sadly the mast was destroyed during a house move, but I still have the model ship, although it is pretty beaten up! Jan Sundermann says that this model is available again, however - I have spent the afternoon looking on the 'net, but cannot find the kit anywhere. Would you be good enough to ask him where he has seen it for sale, as I wish to start again, and build another pirate ship, 44 years later! Many thanks, Chris Dannatt.'

So I took contact with Jan Sundermann in Germany and he came back with: 'Hallo Hans and hallo Chris, I really do not have the kit by myself now, I only found this mentioned article and wrote about it last month. Freddy Schorsch has one kit, and so it must have been available over the last 15 years. I also did not see it listed at the www.revell.com exchange page. Maybe you go to a model-maker-shop and try to order by the number. Good luck, Jan.'

A question, which has been asked a few times before through the years, came in from Robert Lucas. He wants to know if there's anyone in the readership who has been in contact lately with Mike Ross. He worked as a technician as well as presenter on Radio Northsea International in the seventies. A well-loved deejay, who always was very relaxing in presenting his programs. Well Robert the

last time I met Mike Ross, who did the English Language voice-over for the RNI double LP, which was released in 1973, was at the 'Driftback 20' event, way back in 1987. So 25 years ago. Mike Ross, whose own name is Colin Novelle, still lives in Great Yarmouth in Norfolk. So anyone who is in contact with him, please write me at HKnot@home.nl

One who is always in for some fun is Andrew Emmerson from Northampton who wrote: 'Here's the shortest ever BBC news broadcast! Greetings Andy.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILsPTgCc7cQ&feature=player_embedded

Next we go to Svenn Martinsen: 'Hi Hans! Here is something for you remembering what went on on 1540 kHz! Svenn, in Norway. Despite the apparent mixing between heaven and Mediterranean idyll, there are also remnants of political activism and war history along the shoreline. At Gordon Beach, a gathering place for tourists and hip Tel Avivians, is a monument set up for the Israeli military pilot and peace activist Abie Nathan. 'From somewhere in the Mediterranean: peace, love and good music', was the slogan for the radio station Kol Hashalom, Voice of Peace, which Iranian-born Nathan ran for over twenty years from a ship, five kilometers off the coast. The station mixed the latest thing in pop music with a message of peace and coexistence, and in the 70's heard over 20 million listeners from the Middle East and southern Mediterranean on radio programs that were broadcast in English, French, Hebrew and Arabic. Several international peace celebrities, like John Lennon and The Carpenters, sent recorded messages to the audience. "And right now when the sun goes down, we turn off the broadcast for 30 seconds, to commemorate all victims of violence in this region and throughout the world. We hope you join us in prayer, ended one of Nathan's most popular evening programs." He closed down the station after the Oslo accords, which he thought was the start of a Middle East characterized by peace and dialogue. Although Abie Nathan would be

wrong, the beach in Tel Aviv still is a relaxed, cosmopolitan paradise in a rough neighborhood. Even during the Lebanon war in 2006, people flocked to the sandy beaches, to forget the grim news reports for a few hours.' This was a report in Dagen Velsignet Helg on July 14th by Kristina Furnes.'

Well Svenn thanks a lot for sending this newsflash from Norway!



Abie Nathan near the Peace ship. Photo: Archive OEM.

Michael Galloway did send me an advert from a newspaper in Israel showing the deejay team from the Peace ship. He wrote: 'If you do translate the Hebrew text the names will not all be correct'. Mike was one of the former deejays of the station who came to the 2006 reunion during that's year RadioDay in Amsterdam.

התחנה הנשדרת

24 שעות ביממה

7 ימים בשבוע

תחנת השידור

הפופולרית ביותר

במזרח התיכון

קול השלום - הקול שלך!

מייק	באק	פיט	כריס	טוני	אייבי
בוז	גד	ביל			

Mike: 'The Hebrew names are not all correct I think Chris's name comes out wrong, but in English, what I do remember, is Mike (transmitter engineer), Buck (transmitter engineer), Peter Lewis (ship deejay), Chris (ship deejay), Tony (himself), Abe (Mr. Big) Boaz (deejay/continuity onshore), not known, not known, Gad Bitton (onshore deejay), Bill, (ships engineer) and finally not known.'

Well who fills the gaps and tells us who the 'unknown people' are? And of course thanks to Mike for sharing these memories with us. Next is a former offshore deejay, who worked for several stations, but we know of course him from Radio Scotland, here's Jack McLaughlin: 'Hi Hans, just a note to say that my book 'Pirate Jock' is being published in September coming. The book covers 'adventures' on four pirate stations. Radio Scotland of course, Britain Radio, 270 and finally on the Forts, on Radio 390. The publishers are Kennedy and Boyd, who published the very successful 'When Pirates Ruled the Waves'. The author of that book Paul Harris is an old mate and we sometimes meet at Dunbar, from where the Comet was launched on January 1966. Unlike Paul's book, the 380 pages are a light fictionalisation of actual events so you can believe the bits you want

to believe! I am now talking with a famous Scottish film maker about turning it into a film. 'The Boat that Rocked' was OK but this will be a different take. I hope you can give it a plug and look forward to the next RadioDay. Kind Regards Jack McLaughlin, Pirate Jock!

Well thanks a lot Jack and feel free to ask the publisher to send a review copy to my address so I can make a review, which will be published on several internet sites as well in a few magazines. See you in November and good luck'.

In last issue we found back another former RNI as well as Laser deejay, Paul May. We had some reflections on the news and the one I want to mention is that of Rick Harris, also a former colleague of Paul, who worked as Paul Dean on Laser: 'I enjoyed this month's newsletter. Here is a cool internet radio stations run by my old friend Mel Bowden in Brighton: <http://icy-e-05.sharp-stream.com/amvinylriff.mp3> If possible, please put me in touch with Paul May/Dean. Rick Harris.'



Rick Harris in a TROS radio t-shirt Photo: Leen Vingerling

So in the meantime both former deejays are in contact which each other again after more than 25 years! But I got more interesting e

mails which I've sent to Paul Dean: 'Hi Paul one of the readers read about the fact you're planning to restore your recordings so he dived into his personal archive and came with the next recordings. His name is Bas Wesseling from the Netherlands. He (and I) hope(s) that you will enjoy it. Take care and greetings Hans.'

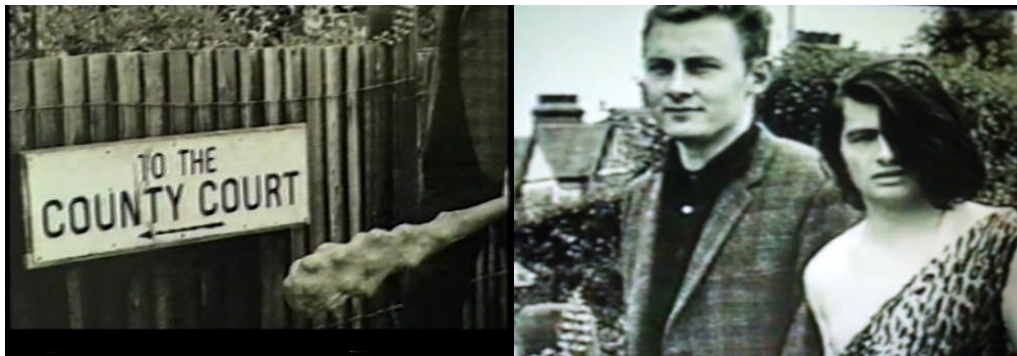
After listening to the old recordings Paul came back with: 'You people are so kind, it warms my heart. I love the people of the Netherlands when I was there for nearly two years, I now know why, pure kindest. A heart filled thanks too Bas and Hans.'

Let's now see what Jon, on the Pirate Hall of Fame, has to tell us: 'I have carried out the update to The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame. New for July: We have more photos from the collection of former Radio Caroline executive Terry Bate; we hear from King Radio DJ Jonathan Harvey; there is news of The John Peel Festival of New Music; plus a new website from former Caroline man Mick Williams, alias BBC Essex's Ray Clark; and Sweden's Radio Nord is back on the air to mark the fiftieth anniversary of its closure. I am planning to include a page about Flashback '67 next month. Does anyone have any photos or memories of this event which took place nearly 35 years ago, in August 1977? Thanks for your help, see you next month. All the best, Jon. <http://www.offshoreradio.co.uk/>

And when you've finished going through the update of the Pirate Hall of Fame don't forget to go to the wonderful internet pages from Chris and Mary Payne. Not only about their favorite station and deejays, Wonderful Radio London, but also related to the music scene of the sixties: www.radiolondon.co.uk

And again another former offshore deejay who shares memories with us, going back to 1965. Here's Colin Dale from Radio Sutch: 'Hans, I thought you might like these old photos of me and David Lord Sutch, taken outside the court house in Harlesden London NW10 1965. We were both up on a charge of drugs, sex, and rock

and roll. The judge was a guy called Henry Cecil Leon, he wrote the Brother in Law books and was related to the Cecili's, who were big in the days of Elizabeth the 1st. (Some of the Cecil's had their heads chopped off for treason.) The judge said to David, "Do you always dress like that Mr Sutch?" David said "Yes your honour", Cecil said: "Carry on then". Needless to say, we both came away with our heads in tacked. Found not guilty on all charges. Memories! Best greeting's, Colin.



Photos: Archive Colin Dale

Let's stay in England and see what Rob Chapman has to tell us: 'Hello Hans, I just enjoyed the very informative international report as always. I wonder if you can help me by placing the following information in the next report. "We recently moved house for the first time in 15 years and I have so much stuff now that something has to give. I have decided therefore to offload a significant portion of my offshore radio archive, free to anyone who wants it. This includes all my copies of Monitor, Offshore Echoes, Caroline Bulletin, Now Radio, Barry and Ruth's Anoraks UK Weekly reports, TX magazine and many other publications. It's too numerous to mention. In addition I am getting rid of my entire collection of 1960s press clippings concerning offshore radio, some internal Radio Caroline memo material, and other material which helped me when I was writing 'Selling The Sixties'. I will also be off loading a lot of my radio recordings. These are all on cassette and vary in quality from studio quality to barely listeneable. These are all free to whoever wants them. I have just two conditions. 1.) The new owner collects. I

live in Todmorden on the Lancashire/Yorkshire border. 2.) This material is strictly for non-commercial use. All pirate radio material should by its very nature be in the public domain anyway. I've derived a lot of pleasure from this material over the years and I just want it to go to a good home, where it will be equally loved and cherished. So, not to be sold on E-bay or Amazon for profit. So anyone interested please e mail me at rcscribbler@gmail.com best wishes Rob Chapman.'

Well Rob I surely know several of my readers will get in contact to make use of this generous offer. Good luck for the future and have a nice time in the new house.

Now time for an e mail from a Spanish lady, Patricia Sousa, who is very busy with a forthcoming art project to be held in Rotterdam in August: 'Dear Hans, it would be great to pay some attention to the show at your international radio report. The exhibition will take place at the Witte Slagerij art space. <http://dewitteslagerij.nl/> It will happen during the last two weeks of August, though the exact dates are still about to be confirmed by the board. It will be a solo show where I will present a visual installation and a performance work. I will keep you informed in the meantime. All my best, Patricia.'



Well the exhibition will include work from Pieter Damave, former RNI technician and also the above photograph will be visualized. The guy with the glasses and long hair went to the beach on April 4th 1973 and is no one else as your editor of the Hans Knot International Radio Report.



This is the preliminary programme for 17th November 2012:

11:00	Welcome
11:15 - 11:55	Het REM-eiland - een avontuur op poten Sonja van Proosdij in gesprek met Jan Parent
12:00 - 13:00	Radio Mi Amigo - Vlaams op z'n best: Walter Galle in gesprek met Norbert De Vereniging Voor Vrije Radio: Een terugblik met Walter Galle, Frans Schuurbijs en Jean-Luc Bostyn
13:05 - 13:55	Europe's Best Music - Caroline 558 Peter Philips - Mark Matthews - John Dwyer - Peter Chicago - Johnny Lewis - Chris Kennedy - Richard Staines (Steve Silby)

	Moderator: Steve Conway
13:55 - 14:15	Yet to be announced
14:15 - 14:35	Break/Pauze
14:35 - 15:25	Yorkshire's Part of The Beat Fleet: Radio 270 Roger Scott - Mike Hayes - John Aston - Pete Bowman - Guy Hamilton Moderator: Bob Preedy
15:30 - 16:10	Rob Hudson op uw radio - Ruud Hendriks' woelige tijden Rob van Dam (Marc Jacobs) in gesprek met Ruud Hendriks
16:15 - 16:55	De Meurders Methode Bert van der Laan in gesprek met Felix Meurders over zijn radiocarrière
17:00 - 17:50	The Big Wide Wonderful World of Radio Caroline North Ray Teret - John Aston - Mark Sloane - Roger Scott - Alan Turner - Wally Meehan - Andy Wint Moderator: Paul Rowley
17:50	Wally Meehan singing "The Ballad of Radio Caroline"
18:00	Farewell
ExtraGold NL broadcasting live from the event via the Internet	

For more information go to: RadioDay.NL

The Radio Day 2012 will take place on Saturday 17th November 2012 in Hotel Casa 400 in Amsterdam, Eerste Ringdijkstraat 4.



[Google Maps](#)

Doors will be open from 10:30h CET. The Radio Day will take place from 11:00 to 18:00h CET. Admission is € 14,-. There's no need to order a ticket in advance.

In the past, several people have attended the Radio Day without paying the entrance fee. Please understand that the organising team has to pay quite an amount of money for preparing the event and for hiring the conference room. That is why we will present every visitor with a wristband which has to be worn clearly visible. Additionally a colourful paper sticker should be worn on your sweater or jacket which could be provided with your name (in doing so other radio colleagues and friends will appreciate identifying you). Our friendly helpers will exercise regular controls. Thank you for your understanding.



So it would be lovely to see you all at the New Casa 400 venue in Amsterdam November 17th. And one of the guys who will be there is Peter Phillips, aka Mister World Service. First time I heard him it amazed me he had such a wonderful voice. He will be one of the guests in the Caroline panel, talking about the '558' period. And of course for him it will be also seeing back a lot of former Caroline

colleagues back for almost a quarter of a century. Often I think why it is that so many people, all over our world, are remembering radio activity which is older than 22 years! And next to that 22 years this year are also events in Danmark and Belgium going back even half a century and remembering Radio Mercur as well as Radio Antwerpen, which broadcasted programs off the Belgium coast from the MV Uilenspiegel. Why is that, what feelings do you have about it? Please give your own reflections to me at HKnot@home.nl



Peter Philips in the Caroline Studio Photo: Leen Vingerling

Video uploaded to YouTube showing John Ross-Barnard launching Red Sands Radio 2012 from Whitstable, they are using Garrard 301 turntables and replica Radio 390 studio.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=htLX8jZmiRw>

For anyone interested, here is a look back at RFE's first broadcast. July 4, 1950. To those who celebrate the Fourth of July, have fun. <http://coldwarradios.blogspot.de/2012/07/urgent-whisper-from-barbara-radio-free.html> greetings, Ingo Paternoster

Some interesting photos from RNI's MEBO II can be found here: <http://www.shipspotters.nl/viewtopic.php?f=17&t=933&start=0>

In last issue I mentioned some nicknames from which one was not totally correct. Lucky enough Mandy Raven, widow from Mike Raven, did sent me a short e mail stating: 'Mike actually said 'Mike Raven the oldest living teenager in captivity` Mandy Raven.'

Thanks a lot for that Mandy. Here an interesting photo which was recently sent to me from the Offshore Echos Magazine Archive.



Mandy and Mike Raven

John Piek asked me if I know the next podcast. It's a weekly podcast about USA shortwave pirates. Go to the site and look in the index for pirates week info. <http://www.rfprograms.com/>

For example this one:

http://feedproxy.google.com/~r/PiratesWeek/~5/grd_N3ml2oo/PW070112.mp3

Bob Le Roi next about Redsands Radio: 'Hello Hans. Just grabbing a moment in between the madness of Red Sands Radio, we're doing really people like what we're doing which shows in numbers on social network sites exceeding the other so called local stations. The station website is updated as we go through each day with fresh items, photographs depicting items covered, guests and the area. Since we have found another Radio 390 turntable and also have the one from the library. The Radio 390 Xylophone has been presented to the station, so we're bringing quite a lot of the old station back together. I have at last taken a photograph of the Radio 390 Xylophone held by Sian which in the Radio 390 Two feature:
<http://www.redsandsradio.co.uk/>

<http://www.redsandsradio.co.uk/showblog/red-sands-radio-390-two>

Thanks a lot for the update Bob and hope, when the RSL is finished, you can look back on a successful other period and maybe the big step to a full license can be made.

Now new things from our Thomas Whetston in the USA!

AFKN Ed Autry 1986

AFKN Pictures from 1973

AFN 30th anniversary booklet

SCN-FM Automation tape

AFNs Clark Taylor's new radio station

AFPN Hitmakers is up to 1966

Charlie Tuna 1978

Personal Album WWII with Dick Haymes

Larry Scott Gold Country

The Offshore Radio Years revisited Volume 1 is available in Europe for £22.00 including postage and packing from:

Website www.offshoreechos.com

Post Offshore Echo's, PO Box 1514, London W7 2LL, England.

Next a photo taken in 1966 when the Dutch Beat Group Q65 went out in a rubber boat to bring their new single to the deejays on Radio City. Who ever heard the song played on the station? One I recall having played a lot on Caroline in the sixties is the group from Delft in the Netherlands, the Shoes and 'Farewell in the rain'. Who does remember more titles like that? All write in at HKnot@home.nl



Some news from Kent as former Caroline, Voice of Peace and Laser deejay (many more other landbased radiostations excluded in the rundown) has moved to another radio station: 'Hi Hans, I've left KMFM Thanet for Academy FM. I don't think you get it on the

internet in Holland for PRS reasons. I'm on a brand new station that transmits to the same area on FM 107.8 called Academy FM click www.academyfmthanet.com I'm on drive time Monday to Friday 2 till 6 in the afternoon. See you in Amsterdam. Regards Johnny Lewis.

Well finishing this edition of the Hans Knot International Radio Report with another nickname. It was used by Crispian St. John on RNI who mentioned his colleague Jan van Veen: Jan van 'modder' Veen (mud).

Well thanks all who reflected in this edition of the report and for more memories, photos and ideas, just write me at HKnot@home.nl