



Archive

2017

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## Caroline North returns for 2017

**DATELINE** London and Douglas, Isle of Man 23 January 2017



Radio Caroline North returns this weekend (28/29 January 2017) online and on Manx Radio 1368 AM for the first of our broadcasts in 2017.

We'll go back to the very early days of the station and hear how our first ship the *Fredericia* was found, along with new interviews that reveal how the finances were put in place to start the operation. And we'll hear from our founder Ronan O'Rahilly as to what he thought the station achieved.

So join us this weekend live on board the *Ross Revenge* for Radio Caroline North.

Your emails are always welcome at [memories@radiocaroline.co.uk](mailto:memories@radiocaroline.co.uk)



Radio Caroline North on AM from the Isle of Man is sponsored by Tiptree, Preserves of Distinction.

### Caroline North Schedule

#### Saturday 28th January

06:00 John Ellery

08.30 Chris Williams' Carnaby Street from Manx Radio

10:30 Kevin Turner

13:00 Chris Pearson  
15:30 Johnny Lewis  
18:00 Dave Foster  
21:00 Barry James

### **Sunday 29th January**

00:00 Andrew Austin  
03:00 Bill Rollins  
06:00 Ray Clark  
09:00 Kevin Turner  
11:30 Johnny Lewis  
14:00 Chris Pearson  
16:30 Barry James  
19:00 Dave Foster  
21:00 Close

Programmes subject to change

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## **Radio Day 2017**

**DATELINE** Amsterdam 23 January 2017



Plans are being made for the next Radio Day in 2017. It will be held at The Entrepot, Harlingen Saturday 20th May 2017.

See these pages for further information:-

<http://www.radioday.nl/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RadioDay-Harlingen-751177308383830/>

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## **Carl Conway**

**DATELINE** Dover 14th February 2017



Carl Conway, one of the first voices heard on Radio Caroline when the station launched in March 1964, has died at the age of 95.

Carl Conway was born in Ramsgate, Kent in February 1922 and, after finishing school, he turned to acting, working in local repertory theatres.

He also appeared in various television plays and films, as well as many commercials. His film appearances included *A King in New York*, *The Great Van Robbery*, *Idle on Parade*, *Nudist Paradise* and *The Safecracker*. Carl also featured in two episodes of the *Doctor Who* television series.

He joined Radio Caroline when the station was launched in March 1964, and was mainly heard on commercials and interviews recorded on land.

Carl continued acting and voice-over work for documentaries after leaving Radio Caroline before the Marine etc Broadcasting (Offences) Act came into force in August 1967.

In 1967 he hosted the BBC Light Programme series 'Swingalong'.

During the 1980s Carl presented a programme of big band music on Invicta Radio, an independent local radio station in Kent.

In recent years Carl organised film shows in care homes and community centres.

Carl died on 10th February 2017, four days after his 95th birthday, in a nursing home in Dover, Kent.

*Additional information courtesy The Pirate Radio Hall of Fame*

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## **New Danish TV Series**

**DATELINE** Denmark 23rd February 2017

'Mercur' - a new television drama series telling the story of the launch of Radio Mercur begins on Denmark's TV2 Charlie on 6th March .

The new series, which was written by Søren Frellesen and directed by Charlotte Sachs Bostrup, is in 10 episodes, each lasting 37 minutes. The programme was funded by the Danish Film Institute's public-service pool and Film Fyn.

A 5 minute trailer for 'Mercur' is available at

<http://play.tv2.dk/programmer/serier/drama/mercur/smugkig-131941/?cid=TV+2+PLAY%3Abig+tile%3A2%3ASmugkig%3A+Mercur>

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## **The Day the Music 'Almost' Died**

**DATELINE** London 2nd March 2017

Radio Caroline has announced it will be staging an event in August to mark the 50th anniversary of the introduction of the Marine etc Broadcasting (Offences) Act 1967.

The station's website says-

" Our commemoration of the important events of August 1967, will take place on August 13th at the Princes Theatre, Clacton, Essex.

As we plan the day would you like to indicate your interest in attending (although there's no obligation to do so) by leaving your details here. Remember to say if you would like to attend alone or with others."

Anyone interested in attending is invited to pre-register (without obligation) at:-

<http://www.radiocaroline.co.uk/#home.html>

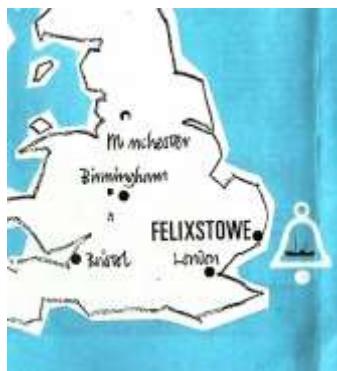


Princes Theatre, Clacton

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## Felixstowe event to honour Radio Caroline

**DATELINE** Felixstowe 27th March 2017



To mark the 53rd anniversary of the arrival of the MV *Caroline* off the coast of Felixstowe, there will be a celebration of offshore radio in the town over the weekend of 9th and 10th September 2017.

On Saturday 9th September, a stone will be unveiled, in recognition of the fact that Radio Caroline became Britain's first offshore radio station, whilst moored off the town in March 1964.

This stone is the next of a series of stones and plaques by the Felixstowe Society (<http://www.felixstowesociety.org>), marking historic events in the town's history, and in this instance has been prepared and paid for by the East of England Co-Operative Society (<https://www.eastofengland.coop>)

In conjunction with this, there will be a Felixstowe and Offshore Radio (<https://www.facebook.com/felixstoweandoffshoreradio>) event at Trinity Methodist Church Hall in the town centre, featuring the 'Flashback 67' Exhibition, some Felixstowe related material, a display of vintage radios and technology, Radio Caroline merchandise, and also a Record and CD Fair on the Saturday, along with some special guests!

Further details will be announced nearer the time, but put the date in your calendar and we look forward to seeing you in September!

Felixstowe and Offshore Radio

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## Radio Day 2017 - Book your tickets now!

**DATELINE** Amsterdam 29th March 2017



A visit to the radioDay and a tender trip to the radio Ship? Book now, only limited number of tickets left!

RadioDay 2017, May 20th in warehouse the entrepot in Harlingen, offers the opportunity to visit the live broadcasting Radio Ship *Jenni Baynton*. Tickets for the trip with our tender mv

Ome Cor are only available via presale combined with a presale ticket for the RadioDay.

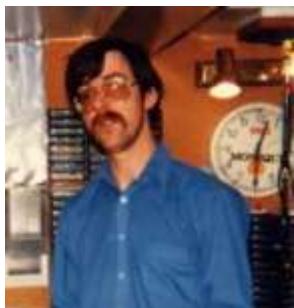
Unfortunately not every RadioDay visitor can be accommodated. The tender capacity is limited and the Radio Ship can only deal with small groups of people. Other than the abundance of RadioDay-tickets, the options to book a trip to the ship are starting to run out. So, if you consider visiting the RadioDay and make the trip to the ship as well, better book now.

Entrance for radioDay is € 15,- and additional fee for the trip is € 10,-. You can book by sending an email to [radiodagharlingen@gmail.com](mailto:radiodagharlingen@gmail.com). Please let us know how many tickets you want and leave some contact details. When your booking is in we will inform you about the ways to pay.

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## **Radio Mi Amigo and Radio Monique DJ Dick Verheul has died**

**DATELINE** The Hague, 3rd April 2017



Former Radio Mi Amigo and Radio Monique DJ, Dick Verheul (Also known as Tony Houston, real name Frans Maas) has died at the age of 60.

He first worked with the then landbased pirate station Radio Central, then joined the offshore station Radio Mi Amigo , later joining Radio Monique broadcasting from the *Ross Revenge*.

After Radio Monique closed in 1987 he re- joined Radio Central, then legally broadcasting on the Hague cable radio network. More recently he presented again at Hofstad Radio.

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# **Radio London engineer Russell Tollerfield has died**

**DATELINE** Hampshire, April 2017



Russell Tollerfield, former Radio London engineer has died at the age of 72.

Russell was the engineer who, nearly 50 years ago, switched off the Radio London transmitter when the station closed at 3.00pm on 14th August 1967.

Russell had begun his career working for the BBC as a sound engineer and joined Radio London in 1965.

After Radio London closed in August 1967 Russell moved to Canada, but later returned to Britain where he worked for London ILR station, Capital Radio and later the Plymouth ILR station, Radio Victory (and its successor, Ocean Sound). He also provided his technical expertise to the annual Isle of Wight RSL station - Cowes Radio.

A tribute page to Russell is available  
at <http://www.radiolondon.co.uk/rl/russtribute/russ.html>

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## **Laser Tribute Station**

**DATELINE** Yorkshire, April 2017



World Of Radio has announced plans to re-create 1980's offshore station Laser 558/Laser Hot Hits - legally from a ship which will sail from port to port around the UK.

Laser's phenomenal success as a radio brand has never waned. Since Laser closed after a ferocious winter storm in 1987, others have used the name for occasional broadcasts all over Europe.

Now a group of radio experts and businessmen are re launching Laser with full time radio and TV broadcasts from a ship equipped with state-of-the-art studios. It will sail from port to port and be available for visits and performances. Singers and artists will record and film on

board and some will perform live for invited audiences.

The project is legal, it's safe to visit and will be appearing at dozens of ports around the UK with events and exhibitions open to the public.

As well as the broadcast facilities the ship will also have a recording studio and performance area built into the hold. The public will be given tours of the facilities during the day and it will be the venue for parties and other functions in the evening, with a full restaurant and other hospitality facilities.

The radio stations will be a Laser Gold format, and a Laser Today stream, plus a TV station called Channel 558 featuring the best music videos ever.

Full details can be found at <http://worldofradio.co.uk/LaserReturns.html>

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## **UKIP Offshore Radio Station Plan dropped**

**DATELINE** Clacton, Essex, 24th April 2017



An article in the *Daily Telegraph* on 21st April reported that a potential candidate for the General Election on 8th June will start his own offshore radio station to publicise his campaign.

The article quoted former DJ Andy Wignmore saying "We already have a trawler donated free and so all we need now is a speed boat to get the DJs out to the ship!" Mr Wignmore claims they already have a great cast of DJs awaiting, including Nigel Farage and Mike Read. "It will not be called UKIP FM, but Clacton is already well known as the home of pirate radio."

Arron Banks (pictured) who funded UKIP's referendum campaign to the tune of £1 million last year was planning to stand for election as the town's MP after incumbent Douglas Carswell said he was standing down.

However, after meeting with the local UKIP branch on 24th April, Mr Banks suddenly said that he wouldn't be taking part after all and his plans to float an offshore radio station off Clacton during the General Election have now been abandoned.

**NOTE:** Such a station would have contravened the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006 (the Marine etc Broadcasting (Offences) Act 1967), the Broadcasting Act 1991 and the Representation of the People Act 1949, (which regulates pre-election publicity).

Read the *Daily Telegraph* article at <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/04/21/ukips-arron-banks-set-pirate-radio-station-fishing-trawler-essex/>

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## Pirate BBC Essex 2017

**DATELINE** Harwich, Essex, May 2017



BBC Essex and the Pharos Trust have confirmed that the *LV18* will again be the host for Pirate BBC Essex broadcasts in August.

The station will operate from 12th to 14th August 2017 and will mark (on 14th August) the 50th anniversary of the introduction of the Marine etc Broadcasting (Offences) Act which closed most of the 1960's British offshore radio stations.

Former Radio Caroline South and Radio London DJ, Keith Skues will present his Sunday late show from the *LV18*, with other Saturday/Sunday shows to be confirmed.

On Monday 14th August Pirate BBC Essex programmes will be broadcast from 9am – 3pm live from the *LV18* on all BBC Essex frequencies (for the first time!) including presenters Johnnie Walker (Radio England, Radio Caroline South), Roger 'Twiggy' Day (Radio England, Radio Caroline South, RNI), Tom Edwards (Radio City, Radio Caroline South) and Norman St John (Radio London). Other surprise offshore radio guests are also expected !

There will also be a unique link up with Radio Caroline aboard the *Ross Revenge* during the afternoon of Monday 14th August.

Other activities will include:

An Offshore Radio Exhibition on Ha'penny Pier open to the public from Saturday 12th to Monday 14th August.

***The Boat That Rocked*** film showing at Electric Palace Cinema during the evening of Sunday 13th August introduced by former offshore broadcasters.

Further information is available at:-

<http://www.lv18radio.uk/2017/05/pirate-bbc-essex-2017/>

and

<https://www.facebook.com/BBCEssex/videos/1287391011316343/>

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# **Radio Caroline Awarded AM licence**

**DATELINE** London, 19th May 2017



Ofcom has today announced the award of five new community radio licences for medium wave (AM) services.

The new stations will serve communities in Glasgow, West Leicestershire, Suffolk and northern parts of Essex, Yeovil and south Somerset, and Leicester.

Community radio services are provided on a not-for-profit basis, focusing on the delivery of specific social benefits to a particular geographical community, or a community of interest.

Licences have been awarded to (four others including):-

Radio Caroline (Radio Caroline AM Broadcasting Ltd)

Contact name: Peter Moore

Email: caroline\_pirate@btconnect.com

Website: [www.radiocaroline.co.uk](http://www.radiocaroline.co.uk)

Radio Caroline will broadcast a wide range of album music from the 1960s to the present day. It is for people aged 45+ in Suffolk and northern parts of Essex.

## **Note about Community Radio Licences**

Community radio, which offers thousands of volunteers the chance to get involved in broadcasting across the UK, is ten years old.

The last decade has seen the number of community radio stations increase from just a handful to more than 250 stations, each reflecting the local needs and interests of its audience.

In April, Ofcom announced the conclusions of its review of community radio: future licensing and technical policy.

Ofcom will amend its technical policy, to remove references to set coverage areas for community radio stations. We will adopt a more flexible approach, and applications will be considered for wider areas where applicants can clearly demonstrate the proposed coverage area will better serve its target community, where it is technically possible.

Ofcom will also consider requests to improve coverage within existing licensed areas. This can help a station overcome poor coverage due to interference or local terrain issues.

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## **Information from the Radio Caroline web site**



We are pleased to announce that Ofcom have just informed us that our application for an AM licence has been approved and that a licence will be awarded

Further details will be sent to us by Ofcom in due course. Power levels and frequency are yet to be decided.

This is the end of – or a further step in – a process started by Bob Lawrence in 2010 and enthusiastically supported by Tracey Crouch MP.(Tracey Crouch MP with Bob Lawrence pictured left).

We thank them both and further thank the many other people who have helped along the way.

There are many preparations to be made and these may take some time. We will make further announcements in the future.

The basis of our application was that our traditional heartland was Essex and Suffolk, where the signal from our ships made first landfall and that we wished to entertain on AM, an audience that we have not been able to serve in this way since 1990.

We said that this audience may hear music radio of a style they remember and in some cases presented by the same people they remember.

That in essence is what we intend to do.

<http://www.radiocaroline.co.uk/#home.html>

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# Felixstowe commemorates Radio Caroline

**DATELINE** Felixstowe, 29th May 2017



**Radio  
Caroline**  
first arrived off  
**Felixstowe**  
in March 1964

It started a revolution in broadcasting history  
that began in the swinging 60's

To mark this, the Felixstowe Society, in conjunction with  
Felixstowe & Offshore Radio will be laying a  
commemorative stone in Wolsey Gardens (10.15am)  
on Saturday, September 9th (more to be confirmed)

On Saturday 9th (10am-4pm) and Sunday 10th (10am-4pm)  
There will be an event at the  
**Trinity Methodist Church Hall** (10.15am)  
in the town centre.

- Flashback 67' Exhibition
- Felixstowe related offshore radio history
- Display of vintage radios and technology
- Radio Caroline merchandise
- Special guests
- Record & CD Fair on Saturday  
—FREE ADMISSION—

[www.facebook.com/felixstoweandoffshoreradio](http://www.facebook.com/felixstoweandoffshoreradio)

Radio Caroline first anchored off Felixstowe in March 1964 and to mark this event the Felixstowe Society, in conjunction with Felixstowe and Offshore Radio will be laying a commemorative stone in Wolsey Gardens, Felixstowe on Saturday 9th September 2017.

There will also be an event at Trinity Methodist Church Hall in the town centre with the 'Flashback 67' Exhibition, items of offshore radio memorabilia, Radio Caroline merchandise as well as special guests and a record and CD Fair.

For more information visit:

[www.facebook.com/felixstoweandoffshoreradio](http://www.facebook.com/felixstoweandoffshoreradio)

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# Proposal for Irish pirate museum

**DATELINE** Dublin, 29th May 2017

The Irish Broadcasting Hall of Fame is exploring the possibility of establishing a Museum/Gallery/Exhibition to record the history of (land-based) pirate radio in Ireland.

A meeting to discuss this proposal will be held on Wednesday 7th June 2017 at Brannigans Pub, Dublin starting at 7.00pm.

For more information contact [irishbroadcastinghalloffame@gmail.com](mailto:irishbroadcastinghalloffame@gmail.com)

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# **Dave Gilbee (MacKay) dies**

**DATELINE** 30th May 2017



Former Radio City, Radio 390, Britain Radio and Radio 355 presenter David Gilbee, (Dave Mackay) has died at the age of 75.

David was born in Ilford, Essex, on 8th September 1941 and educated at Warwick public school.

He worked as an air traffic controller at Gatwick Airport but as the result of a chance encounter with Eric K Martin, Radio City's station manager he was invited to present a few programmes.

He used his real name of Dave Gilbee and combined his shifts at Gatwick with trips out to Shivering Sands Fort, although he never actually joined Radio City full-time.

Dave applied to other offshore stations and was accepted by Britain Radio in August 1966, changing his on-air name to Dave MacKay when he joined the station.

When Britain Radio became Radio 355 in March 1967 Dave stayed with the station and remained as a presenter until Radio 355 closed at the beginning of August 1967.

Following the offshore station's closure, Dave and fellow Radio 355 presenter Tony Monson started a mobile disco businesses and in 1971 they opened a record and hi-fi shop in Brighton, Sussex.

Dave broadcast on BBC Radio Brighton and was also heard on Essex Radio, BBC Essex, Melody Radio and Primetime Radio.

*(Additional information courtesy Pirate Radio Hall of Fame)*

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# Pioneer DJ Mike Allen dies

**DATELINE** Portsmouth, 26th May 2017



Mike Allen, a pioneering DJ with Britain's second offshore radio station, Radio Atlanta, has died at the age of 86.

Mike was born Alan Zeffertt on 15th May 1931 in Portsmouth and was a songwriter and record producer for Merit Music - which was run by Allan Crawford the founder of Project Atlanta (Radio Atlanta).

Both he and fellow songwriter Tony Day joined Radio Atlanta in June 1964 as DJs. Alan Zeffertt used on-air name, Mike Allen and Tony Day became Eddie Anthony.

When Radio Atlanta merged with Radio Caroline in July 1964 Mike stayed with the station, presenting a specialist jazz programme - 'Downbeat', as well as his usual daily shows.

He was one of the Caroline "Good Guys" during 1965 but left the station in October that same year.. However he continued to be heard for a time on pre-recorded interviews and shows which were taped on land.

Mike later presented a series ('Triple Crowns') for the BBC Light Programme and continued composing and writing articles on jazz.

After moving back to his home town of Portsmouth he joined BBC Radio Solent and wrote articles for the local evening paper.

Mike had battled with Parkinson's Disease for some years and died on 26th May 2017, shortly after his 86th birthday.

*(Additional information courtesy Pirate Radio Hall of Fame)*

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## **Ross Revenge added to National Historic Vessels Register**

**DATELINE** London, 1st June 2017



Radio Caroline's last ship, *Ross Revenge*, has been accepted on to the UK's National Register of Historic Vessels.

The addition of the ship to the Register recognises the significance of her roles, first in the fishing industry and later as an offshore radio broadcasting vessel.

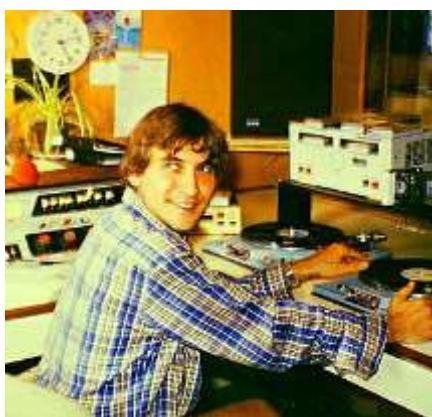
You can view the entry at -

<http://www.nationalhistoricships.org.uk/register/3487/ross-revenge>

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## **Laser and Caroline Engineer and DJ Blake Williams has Died**

**DATELINE** 26th June 2017



Former Laser and Radio Caroline engineer and DJ, Blake Williams passed away on 25th June 2017 following a bad asthma attack which caused severe brain damage.

Blake joined Laser from the very early days - he was due to start work with the station in

November 1983 as Chef Engineer, but was unable to make the transatlantic voyage on the *Communicator*, which had sailed from Port Everglades on 18th November.

He then flew to Dublin and joined the *Communicator* at the quayside in New Ross in early December 1983 - and he didn't leave the ship at all until April 1984.

While on board the *Communicator* he led the test transmissions on 729 AM - the other voices heard were Johnny Lewis and Paul Rusling on the formal test announcements.

However, he was concerned at the way the crew were being treated and had some disagreements with Roy Lindau, Laser's Manager in New York. As a result, he left for a few weeks holiday ashore and during his break in the UK he was hired by Radio Caroline which broadcast from the *Ross Revenge*, anchored just to the north of the *Communicator*.

He joined Radio Caroline at the end of May 1984 and was soon adding considerable enthusiasm and professionalism to the station's 'on air' sound. Blake was made Programme Organiser and hosted many shows himself.

After leaving Radio Caroline on 17th July 1984, he returned home to the United States. As well as doing voiceover work, he was involved with KRSI Radio, Saipan, spent four years with KKLD Cloud 95 in Tucson Arizona, as well as 103.7 The Oasis in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Blake was also the driving force behind Albuquerque 'local' station KXNM. The station is also known as X-88.7 and Blake was Programming and Operations Director. Despite an horrific riding accident in 2015 he oversaw the installation of a new Nautel transmitter at the station last autumn.

Blake also hosted programmes at KKLD (the Cloud 95) and on a smooth jazz station KOAZ, The Oasis in Albuquerque and in Santa Fe.

Blake also produced "Sounds of Enchantment" programmes every week for Replay Radio, an online station broadcast from Kent.

As well as his radio work Blake also made a small career in films and some of his appearances can often still be seen on the cinema screen as well as television.

A tribute page to Blake is available at <http://worldofradio.co.uk/Blaker.html>

*Thanks to Paul Rusling for providing information for his article.*

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## **Former RNI DJ Mike Ross has died**

**DATELINE** 26th June 2017



Former Radio Northsea International (RNI) DJ Mike Ross has died at the age of 70 following a short illness.

Mike's real name was Colin Novelle and he was born in London on 17th March 1947. He worked as a disco DJ before joining RNI in September 1970, but the station closed (for the first time) a few weeks later and Mike returned to club work.

When RNI returned to the air in 1971 he re-joined in May of that year and remained with the station until January 1974.

As well as working on air Mike was also involved in the technical engineering side of RNI.

After leaving RNI Mike worked variously as a DJ in nightclubs, for the Ministry of Defence and for Texas Instruments. He then purchased and managed a hotel in Great Yarmouth.

Mike died on 25th June 2017 - he had been suffering from throat cancer.

*(Additional information courtesy the Pirate Radio Hall of Fame)*

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## **Former Radio Atlantis DJ and engineer Andy Anderson has died**

**DATELINE** 5th July 2017



*Photo: Bob le Roi*

Former Radio Atlantis DJ and engineer, Andy Anderson has died at the age of 64.

Andy Anderson (Andy Gennell-Smith) was born in July 1952 and, until December 1973, he ran a disco equipment business in Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Then, shortly before Christmas 1973 he joined Radio Atlantis as a DJ and engineer and stayed with the station until it closed in August 1974.

After Radio Atlantis closed, he returned to his equipment firm and was also involved in the unsuccessful Radio Dolphin project on Gunfleet Lighthouse (for which he was prosecuted under the Marine etc Broadcasting (Offences) Act 1967).

In June 1976 Andy joined Beacon Radio in Wolverhampton, later moving to Radio 210 in Reading and Essex Radio in Southend (where he was Chief Engineer). He was also involved, on the technical side, with a number of other ILR stations as well as helping to establish the national commercial radio stations - Classic FM and Virgin Radio.

In 1983 Andy set up a company called Broadcast Designs making radio broadcast equipment under the trade name 'Soundtch', which became Alice Soundtech in 1987.

*(Additional information courtesy the Pirate Radio Hall of Fame)*

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# **First English language offshore radio DJ Paul Hollingdale has died**

**DATELINE** Brighton , 5th July 2017



Paul Hollingdale one of the first voices heard on the offshore station CNBC (the English language test transmissions from Radio Veronica), in 1961 has died at the age of 79.

However, Paul was probably better known for his career with the BBC and commercial radio - his was the first voice heard when BBC Radio 2 opened on 30th September 1967 (opposite Tony Blackburn opening Radio 1 on the same date).

Paul, who was born in March 1938, began his career in entertainment at the age of nine when he was an 'extra' in the Richard Attenborough film *Brighton Rock*.

His radio career began on the British Forces Network (BFN) - later known as BFBS - in Germany in 1958 and the following year he presented the BBC Light Programme's forces request show *Two Way Family Favourites* from Cologne.

In 1960 he returned to the UK , but found difficulty in securing a job (only the BBC and Radio Luxembourg were broadcasting then).

However, through a former BFN colleague, Doug Stanley, he became involved with the short-lived offshore station, CNBC.

After CNBC failed to progress beyond the test transmission stage Paul worked for Radio Luxembourg, initially presenting sponsored shows taped in London and later moving to the Grand Duchy to become one of their resident DJs.

From 1967 Paul was one of the regular presenters of BBC Radio 2's Breakfast Special programme, but he left the station in January 1970.

During the next few years he worked as a freelance presenter for BBC Radio Brighton and became manager for local singer/songwriter Johnny Wakelin.

In March 1976 Paul joined Radio 210 in Reading and in 1979 he opened Blue Danube Radio, an English-language station in Vienna which he stayed with until its closure in 2000.

Paul also broadcast on a number of other commercial stations: London's LBC, Chiltern Radio, and Radio Luxembourg and was involved with the launch of Britain's first country music station Country 1035 in 1994.

More recently Paul had lived in Vienna where he worked as a broadcaster and film commentator for the ORF and other stations, but sadly died in Brighton on 5th July 2017.

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# Felixstowe commemorates Radio Caroline

**DATELINE** Felixstowe, 25th July 2017



Six former Radio Caroline and other offshore presenters will be joining a special celebration this autumn to commemorate the pirate station's early years on the airwaves off Suffolk.

Organisers of the event have released more details of the weekend at Felixstowe.

The highlight of the celebration will take place on Saturday, September 9th at 5.30pm when the Felixstowe Society and Felixstowe and Offshore Radio Facebook group will be unveiling a commemorative stone at the clifftop viewing area.

Brian Nichols, of the radio group, said: "We hope to have in attendance Alan 'Neddy' Turner, one of the few people remaining who worked on board the MV *Caroline* whilst she was anchored off Felixstowe in 1964, together with Radio Caroline and BBC Essex presenter Ray Clark, who will be representing the station."

"The mayor, Nick Barber, and other councillors, along with representatives of the Felixstowe Society, and East of England Co-operative Society will also be in attendance."

The plaque is part of a series put in place by the Felixstowe Society, marking historic events in the town's history, and in this instance has been prepared and paid for by the Co-op.

The weekend will include a exhibition in Trinity Methodist Church Hall, Orwell Road, on September 9th from 9am to 5pm and September 10th from 10am to 4pm, with a Flashback to '67 display, a show of vintage radios and technology, a record and CD fair on the Saturday, and Radio Caroline merchandise.

Presenters joining the events over the weekend will be Johnny Lewis, who worked for Caroline on board the *Mi Amigo* in the late 1970s and the *Ross Revenge* in the 1980s; Bill Rollins, who worked on Tower Radio and behind the scenes for Caroline in the 1970s and 1980s; engineer Michael Barrington; American DJ Chuck Reynolds; presenter and engineer Martin Fisher, who has been with the station from the 1970s to the present; and Ray Anderson, a presenter on Radio Atlantis in 1974, and the man behind Laser Hot Hits in the 1980s.

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## **Radio Caroline starts official AM broadcasts**

**DATELINE** London, 18th December 2017



Radio Caroline's AM transmitter site at Orfordness

Weather and technology permitting, Radio Caroline programmes on 648Khz AM will commence (originating from the *Ross Revenge*) at 7.00am on Friday 22nd December.

The changed schedule for the day will be :

7.00am Johnny Lewis

9.00am Top Fifteen

10.00am Ray Clark – with the official launch at midday.

2.00pm Kevin Turner

5.00pm Resume normal programmes

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## **Radio Caroline 80s DJ Jerry Jones has died**

**DATELINE** 21st December 2017

Former 1980's Radio Caroline presenter Jerry Jones has died.

Jerry worked in radio all his life, and even set up a radio station at his school. Jerry joined Radio Caroline on the *Ross Revenge* in October 1989, initially using the name Jerry Jackson. He also worked (as Jerry Scott) on Radio Jackie, Breeze AM and BBC Radio York, and was part of the launch team at Minster FM (York) in 1992 before launching Yorkshire Coast Radio. He also applied for a community radio licence for

Scarborough.

David Boulton, former colleague at Yorkshire Coast Radio said:-

"What can I say. Jerry was an inspiration to me growing up from the same part of south London. He was my boss at YCR Scarborough when I was networked from Minster. We worked hand in hand together building YCR Bridlington from scratch, and we had a blast being the only 2 daytime jocks on there. I had the pleasure of working again with him at BBC Radio York, and most recently Coast & County. I'm truly gutted, and was going to try to arrange a time to come and see him next week. My love to all the family. I can never remember an angry word, only a love for life, and a true love for radio. G'night Captain, wherever you are, crank it up to 11 xx"

Bob Dunn, a friend from Radio Jackie wrote:-

"Jerry started in 1976 on Radio Jackie without a licence at the time. We spent lots of time getting soaked from the rain as we broadcast from the fields of Southwest London and more often spent our Sunday afternoons in a police cell when things went wrong. A great great mate and broadcaster we survived using our wit and what we learned on the streets. .... What a Effin Legend. Ta ta mate."

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## **60s DJ and Newsreader John Hatt has died**

**DATELINE** 29th December 2017



1960's offshore radio DJ and newsreader John Hatt has died at the age of 74 after a short illness

John Hatt was born in March 1943 in Maidenhead, Berkshire, and worked on a number of 1960s offshore stations under a variety of names. He was first heard in 1965 on KIN G Radio (as John Stewart) and he stayed with this station when it became Radio 390 in September 1965, changing his name to Chris Stewart to comply with Equity (the actors' union) requirements.

In November 1965 he moved to Radio Essex where he replaced Vince Allen as Programme Controller. John moved to Radio Caroline North as a newsreader in May 1966, where he changed his name once again to John Aston.

After a short time selling airtime for Radio England and a stay on Radio Caroline South he joined Radio 270, where he was known as "Action" John Aston.

In April 1967 John moved again, this time to newly launched middle-of-the-road station, Radio 355.

Following his offshore radio days John worked in the film industry, producing special effects and was also heard regularly on Blast 1386, Thames Valley University Reading Campus Radio.

In 2014 he was presented with an award for his outstanding contribution to offshore radio at the Amsterdam Radio Day.

*(Additional material courtesy the Pirate Radio Hall of Fame)*

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