

# THE RADIO CAROLINE ROADSHOW STORY.

Ronnie Dee (2002)

**This is a story about a group of people, who fought to defend their rights, against the Marine Offences Act of 1967. A law That is a gross infringement of their civil liberty, to listen to, and promote, free from duress, any offshore radio station of their choice. A fight that would ultimately lead to a conflict with their biggest adversary of all.**

In Memory of Eric  
2002

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

*During the years I have deliberated, about whether to finally put pen to paper, and tell this story, I have to thank my wife, Christine, for being so patient, having to put up with my many indecisions. "Your not still collating are you?" was one of her favourite expressions. I spent more time collating than I did writing, because the typewriter I was going to use, to write the story on, was unfortunately, a type almost impossible to get ribbon cassettes for. I didn't want to get half way through the story, only for the thing to stop typing.*

*A big thank you to my daughter Janet, and her husband Tony, for the trouble they have taken, tracking down over the 'Inter-net', various 'snippets' of information, essential in the writing of this story. I'm especially grateful to Janet, for locating a special book, that I had searched in vain for, over the years, entitled;*

*'SOS-10 DAYS IN THE LIFE OF A LADY'.*

*This book tells the story of events on board the MV MiAmigo in 1975, only weeks prior to the occurrences written about in this story. Therefore, the book has helped in correcting any errors in the chronology, of my depiction of events. Finally to Tony and Janet, to say thanks for the old spare computer they let me have. This solved the typewriter ribbon problem, when I bought a printing machine to use with it. Getting used to the printer however, was another 'Kettle of fish'. I trashed at least two reams of paper, (1000 sheets), printing the first fifty pages of this story, apart from the cost of the ink cartridges. I even bought a book on computers called;*

*'THE COMPLETE IDIOTS GUIDE TO COMPUTER BASICS', to see what I was doing wrong. I followed one instruction on, 'Clearing Useless Files From Your Hard Disc'. I pressed some buttons, and 'right clicked' here, and 'left clicked' there, like it said. And Hey Presto.... I lost every single file. I watched as 'Deleted Files' started to eat everything. It was like watching a movie, were a 'hacker' wipes out the opposition's computer memory, and watching thousands of words disappear.*

*Sentence after sentence; file after file started disappearing, as I watched, helpless to stop it. I was lucky, when it finally stopped I still had the 'screen saver'.*

*I also wish to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to all my friends, both past and present, Especially my good Friend Carl England, without whose help, this story could not be told. Carl has been a great help with the chronology of events in the story, and also a mine of information. Filling in some missing parts of the jigsaw, where I have forgotten, due to the mists of time. many thanks to the media also, for some memorable coverage of the Radio Caroline Roadshow, over the years. Especially the reporters from the Liverpool Daily Post and Echo, with whom we struck up a friendly rapport, during the court case in 1976.*

*Thank you to all my friends, in this country, and in Holland and America, for showing their friendship and support over the years. The many Free Radio Society organisers who were behind us, in our conflict with the MOA 1967, and who wrote many affectionate column inches, about the Radio Caroline Roadshows, in their Newsmags.*

*To all the great lads, who were at the time, on board the*

*good ships MiAmigo, (Radio Caroline), and Mebo II, (RNI,-  
Radio Northsea International). Including the Dutch crew;  
Jan, the MiAmigo's first mate, later to become acting captain  
and Joop who looked after the galley, and made coffee so  
thick, the spoon could stand up in the middle of the cup. To  
RNI's Dutch DJ, Peter Timmermans, and the memory of the  
late Radio Caroline, and RNI DJ, 'Daffy' Don Allen, who  
was a great friend of Peter's. Both of whom supplied the  
Roadshow with lots of new 'jingles', and plenty of encourage-  
ment in the early days. Thank you for the inspiration.*

*And finally, to all of the other people who were involved,  
Directly, or indirectly with the Radio Caroline Roadshows,  
And whose names are vague now, or have lost touch over  
the years, I extend my most sincere thanks.*

R.D.

## MEMORIAL TO A GOOD FRIEND.

Eric Haydock  
(1970's DJ name, Eric Day / Rick Dane).

Many references are made in this story to Eric Day. They were originally memorandum notes, written some time before the story was started, in the summer of 2002. Eric died tragically, in November of that year, and is greatly missed, by all of the friends he made during the roadshow days. Whilst deeply affected by the sadness, and Profound regret at his passing, I had given the matter a lot of thought. I have decided that Eric's part in this story should still be told. I'm sure he would have wanted it to be. It wouldn't be a story without him.