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Red Sands Radio 2007

Red Sands Radio was brainchild of Bob Le-Roi (Radio City) who with Robin Banks (Caroline & RNI) set about organising a trial broadcast on air from the 14th-23rd of July on 1278kHz. Despite sceptics it did actually broadcast from the same Fort that Radio Invicta launched from in June 1964. The concept was to both commemorate the anniversary of the last broadcast from Red Sands by Radio 390 in July 1967, & to promote the hugely popular Whitstable Oyster Festival

The antenna was designed by Peter Chicago (Caroline & RNI) & erected with Tony Pine (Radio City) & Robin Banks, transmission/processing equipment was provided by Chicago, the desk & audio gear by Dave Foster & Rob Ashard. Bob Le-Roi as Programme Director programmed the music was responsible for the image & sound of the station, its presenters & output, provided PC & associated software for studio & newsroom. Contributors were; Ian MacRae, Printz & Bob Le-Roi (Radio City) Kevin Turner, Rob Ashard, Doug Wood, Tony Christian, Dave Foster (Radio Caroline) John Ross-Barnard, John Astor, Vic Davies (Radio KING & 390) Bill Rollins (Radio Tower) Sietse Brouwer (Radio Seagull) Stephen Wright, Ray Copeland & Tony James with Chicago & Robin badgered into a Q&A session. Local bands were highlighted in the mid-morning programme & the final day included a live performance by Mandy Kewley & percussionist Animal Dave

Poor weather throughout the broadcast almost delayed the launch & limited tender visits, but having erected the antenna twice! The whole story will be told over the coming weeks Red Sands Radio began testing on at midnight on 13th July 2007

Reaction to the station was incredible, playing across the whole region in factories, offices, shops, clubs, pubs & to listeners on-line, it received 100's & 100's of text messages often jamming the line. Similarly 100's of emails arrived daily, dozens of letters of support have subsequently arrived at our office it's apparent that there's a need & potential future for Red Sands Radio whose broadcast was dedicated to the memory of Tony Allan

Bob Le-Roi – Programme Director