



# ECHO

Official Newsletter of the Netherlands Society  
Christchurch (Inc)



**FEBRUARY  
2018**



**aap, noot, mies**

**Cornelis Jetses  
1873 - 1955**

# Netherlands Society Christchurch

( Est. March 20th, 1965 )



## EDITOR'S REPORT

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'Here we are again, happy as can be' so starts a well known song. Well, I hope that you all feel the same way.

I do, we had a lovely holiday break. We had a grandson over from the Netherlands which was one of those unbelievable happy experiences in one's life. A young man, still full of ideals and promise. Such an inspiration even for 'oldies' as we are. This is my reason for being so happy and full expectations for a great 2018!

And then there was another happy occasion in my life, as editor of the Echo. While waiting for the traditional Dutch Christmas event to begin in December I had a chat with Mrs Gonnie van Elk, who is always the first to arrive as she arrives with her daughter Lilian who needs to be on deck to organise the club events.



Gonnie asked me if I believed in recycling. She then showed me a hat she had made. A lovely Christmas themed hat made out of pictures of paintings I had previously published in the Echo. These pictures had inspired Gonnie to make her new hat! Well, I would take my hat off to her for this artistic creation! (However I don't own such a lovely hat!)

So herewith a few of the things that make me happy, I hope you are also able to appreciate the little wonderful things which are happening all the time. Just keep looking for them and I am sure you will come upon them too!

**Yoka Saris**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members,

And so we have started another year. I hope you all enjoyed the festive season.

The Sinterklaas and Christmas events, organised by the NSC, were successful and well received by all those, who attended. Sinterklaas brought the good weather with him from Spain. I do hope he will do that again next year!

**2018....!** Besides how grateful I am for the things which happened last year somehow the start of this year made me think about the future ahead. I think mainly about the technologies which we hear more and more about.

For instance like having identification chips implanted in your hand so you can open doors where you are legally allowed to enter.

Or not having to worry if you have forgotten to bring your passport when you arrive at the airport for an overseas flight. Because you will have it always with **(in)** you!

There is, of course, a downside to these things for instance your employer will always be able to track your whereabouts and will be able to check on how long it took you for a lunch break or a toilet stop. And also how 'efficient' your working day was.

What about the talk of electric cars versus combustion engines and that the combustion engine is not dead yet due to the fact that it is still being further developed and made more and more economical (but....still using the fossil fuel.) Up to date the electrical car is still too expensive and can't drive very far on batteries alone (...yet)

And while we are talking about electricity, those solar panels are getting cheaper but you will need a battery with it to store the energy in the evenings to make it really efficient.

But buying those batteries will set you back quite a bit so that it is then not really so very economical (then again they are good for the environment) I wonder how economical all this will be next year...

And what do you think about getting an electric bicycle...well....as long as it does not get stolen like the lights along the Everglades driveway! But it will get you around at 30km per hour on a battery. A lot faster then I can bike on my old 'Gazelle'. But that makes me wonder how long it will take before we have to get a license to ride an E-bike.

Those have been the things I have been pondering about on New Year's eve while being fuelled by a nice glass of merlot!

Regards to all,

**Ron van Santen**





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**For advertising  
get in touch with  
Maarten Hollestelle  
Phone 0221702904**

## **FriendlySupportNetwork (FSN)**

We are a group of volunteers who give help and support to people of Dutch decent in situations of need and stress.

We visit sick people, walk with people and talk (Dutch or English) with people.

Help or support is generally of a moral rather than of a financial nature.

If you want to help as a volunteer or know of someone we can help, please contact:

Heleen van den Brink    Tel 359 5517  
Trudi van Nobelen      Tel 383 1111

## **GP's diagnosis:**



## VUURWERK (HET PLEZIER EN VERDRIET)

door Yoka Saris

Misschien heeft het iets te maken met het ouder worden maar gedurende de afgelopen feestdagen hield ik iedere keer mijn adem in bij het knallen van het vuurwerk. In het parkje vlak bij ons huis stonden Vaders en Moeders met hun kindjes en er werd gelachen, gegild en iedereen was zo gelukkig met dit spektakel. Ik moet toegeven dat de ouders het allemaal goed onder controle hadden. "Maar toch....." denk ik dan.

Het deed me denken aan de ramp op 13 mei 2000 in Enschede, dat gebeurde niet tijdens een feest met vuurwerk maar gebeurde door een brand in de vuurwerk - fabriek. 23 mensen vonden de dood en bijna 1000 anderen raakten gewond.

Terwijl deze grote ramp weer door mijn hoofd ging dacht ik ook aan het ontroerende gedicht van de bekende poet Willem Wilmink, (1936 - 2003), die in Enschede geboren en gestorven is. Ik deel het graag met u:

### ENSCHEDA HUILT

**Een buurt die wel veel zorgen had,  
maar die ook vol verhalen zat,  
vol humor en gezelligheid,  
die buurt zijn we voor eeuwig kwijt.**

**Daar waar het vol van kinderen was,  
verschillend van geloof en ras,  
maar in hun spel gelijkgezind,  
loopt nu geen enkel kind.**

**In de oorlog stond de stad in brand  
op Pathmos, Zwik en Hogeland:  
meer dan een halve eeuw nadien  
kun je daarvan nog de sporen zien.**

**Nu is, in de heerlijke maand mei,  
bij volgelzang, zo vrij en blij  
de stad opnieuw iets aangedaan  
dat nooit en nooit voorbij zal gaan.**

**Arm Enschede, verberg je in  
de armen van je koningin  
en huil, want daar is reden voor  
en huil dan maar aan een stuk door.**



## COMING EVENTS IN FEBRUARY 2018



### DE KWIS!!!!!!

**Sunday afternoon, 25 February, 2 pm  
at the Everglades.**

**The Entertainment Committee has organised a Quiz Afternoon,  
Lovely prizes and afternoon tea served. (bar open)**

**\$5 per person**

**Come and show how knowledgeable you really are!**

**Lots of fun and laughter guaranteed!**

**Organise a team-table (4) and book with Annie: 383 1594 before 20 February**

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**The new chairs have arrived at the Everglades but there are  
still about 35 of the old ones left.  
Anybody interested? Please ring Ron van Santen at 027 4898369  
to arrange for collection.**

**One, two or more: 'gratis en voor niks' (free of charge).**



**THE NATIVITY SCENE AS PORTRAYED BY THE YOUNGER GENERATION  
OF THE NETHERLANDS SOCIETY CHRISTCHURCH**

(Photos Chevy de Bes)



**The smiling angel Gabrielle  
(the eldest member of the cast)**



**Even the wisest of Wise Men  
needs a little bit of motherly  
advice now and then!**



**Phew....a perfect 'delivery'!**



**And an appreciative audience**



## WILL 'THE DUTCH REACH' ALSO TO BE ADOPTED IN NEW ZEALAND?

### OPENING YOUR CAR DOOR USING 'THE DUTCH REACH' COULD SAVE CYCLISTS' LIVES.

There was a frontpage article in "The Press" this morning about this most important manoeuvre.

It is called '**The Dutch Reach**', a technique which originated 50 years ago in the Netherlands.

In this country there are currently at least 13 million bikes on the road.

This simple manoeuvre asks motorists to reach for their car-door handle using their far, rather than their near hand. This means motorists are forced to turn their body towards the door, allowing them to look in their rear view at the traffic behind them.

The idea is that they will have an extra second or two to look over their shoulder and see whether a cyclist is coming.

Opening the door with the adjacent arm also limits how far your car-door can open, preventing you from creating a fatal obstacle in the road.

Cities like Amsterdam and Copenhagen already use the method, while in the Netherlands, the Dutch Reach is taught to children in school.

Being able to perform the Dutch Reach is also a required section of the driving test in the Netherlands.



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN  
(LIEVE BIERQUE)



Lieve Bierque is well known in Christchurch as the Honorary Consul of Belgium. However, besides that is Lieve a talented painter whose work achieved critical recognition throughout Europa and New Zealand.

After her arrival in New Zealand she completed teacher training at the Christchurch College of Education. After teaching 7 years at Burnside High School she is now Head of the Art Department of Christchurch Girls' High School.

Lieve is married to a New Zealander, Gavin Bonnett. Together they have created a lovely home and studio high on the hills above the sea at Sumner, where the views of sea, sky and mountain are a constant inspiration.

Lieve has just returned from Belgium where she attended the official opening of one of her exhibitions in the Gallery 'De Heerlyckheid' in Berchem.

The exhibition is aptly called "Te Waipounamu" (Waters Of Greenstone) and is, what I have received via the European - Christchurch grapevine, a great success!

Lieve about her work:

***"When I am creating prints, I'm working spontaneously building layer upon layer. I allow pieces to become their own entity. Memories and the flow of life are the base of my work. In this latest series 'Catch Me If You Can' the layers symbolise the life's experiences and continuity. Each event leaves a mark sometimes visible, sometimes hidden, but each layer has an influence on the new layers. Our life happenings influence our future. The concept of time is inseparable from memories."***

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
from the  
**ROYAL NETHERLANDS CONSULATE IN CHRISTCHURCH**

The Royal Netherlands Consulate has been moved to  
Unit 2, B-18 Studios  
18 Bernard Street  
Addington  
Christchurch 8544  
Tel: **03 335 3272**, Email: ***nl.consulate.chch@gmail.com***

The Consulate will move in April 2018 to the  
BNZ Building, Cashel Street, Christchurch  
More information will be published closer to  
this date.

## KLAVERJAS CLUB 'ONS GENOEGEN'

Het Klaverjas jaar eindigde met een lunch in de Garden Hotel & Restaurant. En volgens het commentaar was het goed geslaagd. Daarna werd er nog verder gefeest in de Everglades met versnaperingen en een glaasje wijn.

De jaarlijkse prijs uitreiking, die hier op volgende, verliep aldus:

- 1) Koos van Nieuwkerk, 111,008 punten, \$70 en een fles wijn
- 2) Arda Hogendoorn, 106,011 punten, \$65 en een fles wijn
- 3) Henk Ritstier, 105,890 punten, \$60 en een fles wijn
- 4) Hermien van Lieshout, 105,310 punten, \$55 en een fles wijn
- 5) Ans van Vuuren, 104,989 punten, \$50 en een fles wijn
- 6) Bep van Polanen, 104,610 punten, \$45 en een fles wijn
- 7) Agnes Stolp, 104,283 punten, \$40 en een fles wijn
- 8) Anna Fekkes, 103,514 punten, \$35 en een fles wijn
- 9) Truus Nijssen, 102,171 punten, \$30 en een fles wijn
- 10) Thea Beulink, 101,374 punten, \$25 en een fles wijn

De meeste pitten werden gehaald door:

- 1) Koos van Nieuwkerk, 31 pitten en een fles wijn
- 2) Hermine van Lieshout, 30 pitten en een fles wijn
- 3) Agnes Stolp, 25 pitten en een fles wijn!

De andere leden kregen allemaal een doosje chocola.

We feliciteren de winnaars en wensen iedereen, die de Echo leest, een voorspoedig Nieuw Jaar. Ook wensen we zoals gewoonlijk u allen een goede gezondheid toe en veel plezier met het spel van het leven.

### Wim

PS. Als jullie deze Echo lezen is Ons Genoegen alweer begonnen. Kom ook eens kijken, we spelen iedere dinsdag morgen vanaf half elf (weer of geen weer!)



## YOUTH OF YESTERDAY

Well here we are with another year upon us.

I hope you all had a nice holiday break and are keen to get back to the Youth Of Yesterday on Friday mornings.

We are back at the clubrooms from Friday, 2nd of February, 9.30 am until 1.30 pm.

There is a bottomless cup of coffee and a 'speculaasje' for \$2.00. You are requested to bring along your own lunch.

If you have not been before do come along and join us, we will make you very welcome.

Hanna has been travelling again, this time to Auckland and then on a cruise around New Zealand ports and Sydney. This was to celebrate her cousin Jenny's 80th birthday.

I have not been away but have had a very busy time with visits from family and friends. I have loved every moment of the time we spent together.

Hope this find you all in good health!

Kind regards,

**Leona**

**HE WHO PLANTS KINDNESS GATHERS LOVE**

## DUTCH POPULATION HITS RECORD 17.2 MILLION

The population of the Netherlands is 17,182,462, according to recent figures by the Dutch Central Bureau of Statistics.

The population of the Netherlands once again saw a relatively substantial growth in 2017. Just as in 2016, approximately 100 thousand new residents were added on balance, mainly as a result of foreign migration. This has brought the total to nearly 17.2 million registered inhabitants, according to the latest estimates by Statistics Netherlands (CBS).

Foreign migration accounts for more than four-fifths of this population growth. Although not all data over 2017 has been progressed, CBS projects that approximately 82 thousand more people settled in the Netherlands than left the country. This number is similar to 2016, with immigration slightly higher (233 thousand) but emigration slightly lower (152 thousand) than the previous year. The composition of migration flows did change, however.

### Population expected to grow further.

CBS expects the population of the Netherlands to grow further in the coming years, both in terms of natural growth and migration. In five years from now, i.e. in January 2023, the Netherlands will have 17.5 million inhabitants according the CBS forecast. However, this is subject to a margin of uncertainty: there is a possibility that the Dutch population will be slightly lower or higher that time.

## DEADLY GALES HALT TRAINS AND FLIGHTS ACROSS NORTH-WEST EUROPE

(European Affairs correspondent Jon Henley)

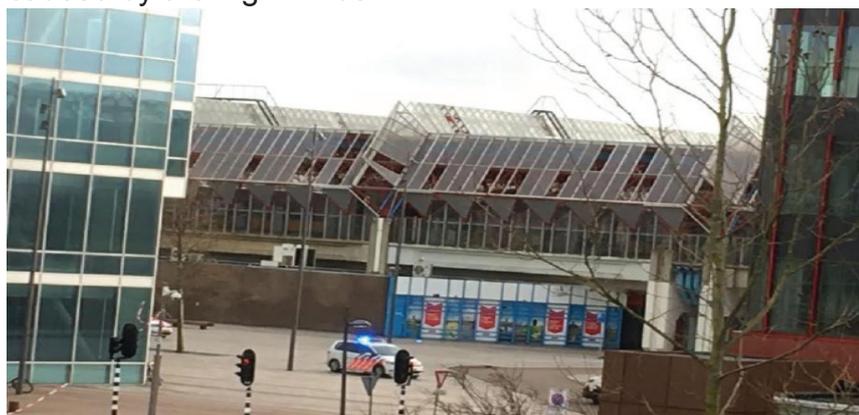
### Storm lashes Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and parts of the United Kingdom, uprooting power lines and trees and killing at least 9 people.

Violent gales battered north-west Europe, killing nine people, toppling trees and trucks, bringing power lines down, grounding aircraft and halting road and rail traffic across the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany.

All long-distance train services were cancelled in Germany after the Netherlands bore the early brunt of the second major winter storm this month, with Schiphol airport in Amsterdam suspending all traffic for two hours and closing two of its three departure halls as tiles flew off the terminal building.

More than 260 flights were cancelled as winds of up to 140km/h prompted the Dutch weather service to issue a nation wide red alert, the highest alarm level. Services resumed later but with severe delays.

A 62 year-old man was killed in the central village of Olst when he was hit by a falling branch as he got out of his lorry to remove debris from the road, while another 62 year-old died in the eastern city of Enschede after a tree fell on his car and a 66 year-old died in a fall believed to have been caused by the high winds.



**Severe storm damage to Almere Railway Station**



### Bad weather trouble on the Brienoord Brug

In Rotterdam, shipping containers were toppled and roofs ripped off homes. Europe's busiest cargo port was 'virtually unreachable from the north' because of traffic hold-ups and three of the main motorways into the city, the national traffic service VID said. At least 25 large freight trucks had been knocked on their sides by the winds, causing huge traffic jams on six of the country's main roads.

The Dutch national railways service NS, halted all trains for most of the morning except for local services in the south of the country and warned that 'a large number of breakdowns' meant normal service could take hours to restore. Neighbouring Belgium halted the high-speed Thalys services to the Netherlands and Germany.

Six people were also killed in Germany, where gusts of wind reached up to 130km/h. They included a 59-year-old man hit by a falling tree in Emmerich near the Dutch border, a 68-year-old lorry driver died in a storm-related accident in Lippstadt and two firefighters, one of them a 28-year-old, who died after a tree fell on him while he was trying to help a woman trapped in her car.

More than 40 people were injured in weather-related traffic accidents in North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW), the country's most populous state, police said. Up to 100,000 were left without electricity and flights were cancelled at Dusseldorf and Cologne-Bonn airports.

The Belgian port Ghent was temporarily closed and a woman was killed near Brussels when her car was crushed by a falling tree. Trams were suspended in the Belgian capital for several hours and the city's major parks closed for fear of falling trees.

Parts of the United Kingdom were also hit by gale-force wind gusts of up to 110 km/h and thousands of homes in south-east England were without electricity. Overhead power lines supplying trains were damaged and trees brought crashing on to tracks, causing severe delays for thousands of commuters.

**Also Amsterdam got its share of misery through the January storm**





## **Van Dam's Cafe & Shop**

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## NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Are you or a friend considering becoming a member of the Society?

For more info contact the membership secretary, ph: 027 4898369 or email [secretary.nsc@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.nsc@gmail.com)

Application form:



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Age Group: *(Please add in the number applicable to each category)*

0-16 yrs \_\_\_\_\_ 17-29 yrs \_\_\_\_\_ 30-49 yrs \_\_\_\_\_ 50 yrs + \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle appropriate membership:

Family membership \$36.00  
*(includes children up to 16yrs of age)*

Single membership \$24.00

Post Application to: Ron van Santen  
 PO Box 1211, Christchurch 8140 or  
 email application to: [secretary.nsc@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.nsc@gmail.com)

Membership fees can be paid **after** receiving the  
 confirmation letter from the treasurer.  
 Subscription year starts 1<sup>st</sup> April

VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: NETHERLANDS SOCIETY CHRISTCHURCH NZ

## Committee Members

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	Jose Nijstad	337 6151	
	Isabel van de Berg	337 1694	
	James Frapwell	352 8581	
	Jan Hollestelle	022 6775024	
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## Affiliated and other clubs

Bridge club	Riet Willems	358 2783	
Costume and Hall hire	Annie van der Dussen	383 1594	
Friendly Support Network	Heleen van den Brink	359 5517	
Klaverjas Club Ons Genoegen	Wim de Winter	352 5317	
Neerlandia Choir Christchurch	Yoka Saris, secretary	384 9570	
Petanque Club	Pieter Wever	260 0812	
Toenail Culture Ale	Annie van der Dussen	383 1594	
Walking Club 'De Landlopers'	Joop Stokvis	322 8228	
Youth of Yesterday	Leona Smid	03 313 5305	
.Radio With Pictures (Echo)	Theo Boekel	03 318 1191	email radio@echo.org.nz

### Echo Material for the next issue of the Echo has to be in by the 20th of each month.

Although handwritten material is acceptable if clearly readable,  
the editor will be very happy with typewritten articles.

You would, however, really make my day with your contributions as  
an attachment to email or with an email.

**Please send to: yokasaris@gmail.com or**

**Yoka Saris, 4 Highbank Lane, Mt Pleasant, Christchurch 8081.**

### DISCLAIMER

The views and opinions expressed within the Echo are those of the individual author or other information  
source and do not

necessarily represent the opinion of the Netherlands Society or the Editor.

All contributions are proofread for style and grammar.

We reserve the right to reject, abridge or edit letters for linguistic, spelling, style and other literary errors.