



ECHO

Official Newsletter of the Netherlands Society
Christchurch (Inc)



**NOVEMBER
2019**



**This small squirrel, called Hannes,
shows he is supporting the Dutch farmers
and their protests in the Netherlands
last month!**

Netherlands Society Christchurch

(Est. March 20th, 1965)



EDITOR'S REPORT

Dear Readers,

Season's madness is upon us. Just let's ignore it!
Yeah....right!

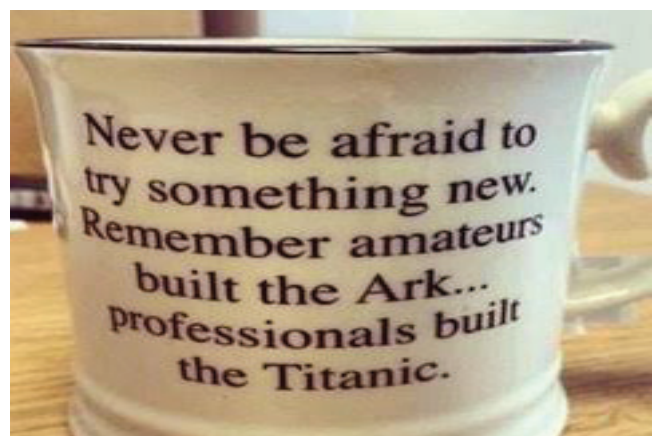
But we can do something else: Just go with the flow and enjoy everything that is about to happen to us.

- 1) Toenail Culture Ale, 1, 2 and 3 November, for information see page 4.
- 2) Neerlandia Choir to perform at the Tuahiwi Marae at a multicultural event, 9 November
- 3) DuFoMA, 10 November, hope to see you all there, for more more information see page 6.
- 4) We have started to organise St Nicholas Picnic for the children and all the rest of the family on Sunday, 1 December, at 12 pm at Spencer Park.
- 5) St Nick's birthday lunch for the senior members, Saturday, 7 December. More information in the December Echo
- 6) Neerlandia Choir Christmas Concert, Wednesday, 18 December.

And plenty more before we end 2019 but about that we tell you later!

Our secretary, Desiree, has asked me to bring to your attention once more our new postal address:

PO Box 31517, Christchurch 8640



Oh, by the way, the above reminds me to apologise for the mistake I made while introducing the songs during the Neerlandia Annual Concert:

The "Titanic" went down in 1912 and not 1934. Thank you to the person in the audience who pointed this out to me!

Yoka Saris

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi All,

Another great market was held in October. A bit quieter than the first one, but next to the returning customers there were also many new faces.

As I mentioned in my last report, we do need help from our members to keep this event going. In the long run it can't be done by the committee members alone. It was good to have two people offering their assistance, but we need more. If support is not forthcoming, I am afraid the Market won't last. The Committee has already made the decision to cancel the proposed December Market as the Committee members are too busy with other festivities during this month. Also most of us do have families we do need time to spend with, we can't be expected to just be organising events for the Society alone.

So I can't help but to repeat myself: Your help is needed if you like to see the Dutch Food Market going. Please, lend a helping hand. See any of the committee members if you can support us!

Regards,

Ron

From the Netherlands Consul in Christchurch, Mr Gerald van Looy

DUTCH PM MARK RUTTE'S VISIT TO NEW ZEALAND

From 8 until 9 October 2019 Dutch Prime Minister, Mark Rutte, paid an official visit to New Zealand. The visit revolved around the long and strong ties between the Netherlands and New Zealand. Upon arrival PM Rutte received an impressive official Powhiri-Maori welcome ceremony at the Auckland Government House. Following the ceremony, PM Rutte and PM Ardern had a bilateral meeting together with the Minister for Climate Change, James Shaw. They discussed climate cooperation and agriculture, which was a central element during the visit. They discussed the Brexit, the free trade agreement between EU-NZ and the Christchurch call on countering online terrorism. PM Rutte also met opposition leader Simon Bridges.

PM Rutte visited the Ports of Auckland together with Minister Shaw. Ports of Auckland CEO Tony Gibson talked about sustainability plans of the Ports in which Dutch companies Philips Lighting, TBA and Damen Shipyards play an important role. Together with Ports, Damen developed the first electric tugboat in the world which is to be delivered in 2021.

Prime Minister Rutte together with Prime Minister Ardern spoke with about 200 students at the Auckland University on climate change and transition to a low emissions economy. A live stream of the event was shown at five other universities across New Zealand, including Lincoln University. Both Prime Ministers emphasized the importance of innovation and cooperation between countries: climate change also offers economic opportunities. PM Rutte also pointed to the cycling culture in the Netherlands and the importance of cycling as a means of sustainable transport, including in countries such as New Zealand.

During dinner in an intimate restaurant at Ponsonby Road both PM's discussed foreign relations, terrorism and extremism.

At a business breakfast with the Minister of Agriculture O'Connor and various Dutch and New Zealand companies from the agri-food sector and academic institutions, it was discussed on how the sector can work towards a reduction of emissions.

The visit concluded with a meeting with a number of representatives of the Dutch community where experiences were shared about life and work in New Zealand. After a fruitful and successful visit PM



TOENAIL CULTURE ALE

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Dit mooi geschreven stuk van Haye van der Heyden vertelt over hoe het leven verder gaat na het verlies van de grote liefde. Het is afwisselend hartbrekend, opbeurend, en ook een beetje ondeugend.

Voor ons is dit aandoenlijk stuk een grote uitdaging; het geeft ons niet de dekmantel van wervelende kolder met veel show, maar we konden dit ontroerend verhaal niet weerstaan.

We denken dat iedereen zich wel kan herkennen in de vele gezichten van de liefde en we vertrouwen erop dat u een fijne avond/middag zult hebben met hapjes en drankjes.



Tickets a \$20 bestellen bij:

ADA: 3322 057, of: 0274314131

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"Leef, alsof het je laatste dag is"

"Leef, alsof de morgen niet bestaat"

"Leef, alsof het nooit echt af is"

En "leef, pak alles wat je kan" (Andre Hazes jr.)



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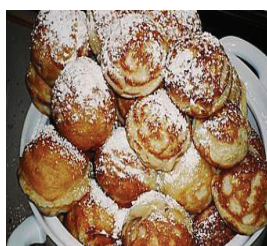
Netherlands Society Christchurch

DUTCH FOOD MARKET

637 Marshlands Road,

Sunday, 10 November 2019, 10 am – 12.30 pm

Come and enjoy that special ambience and most of all the delicious food.



Among the stallholders will be:

'Lekker Dutch' Villa 23; Karikaas; Euro Gourmet Meat;

Lilian's Rookworst à la Hema;

Milly's Poffertjes Kraam;

Tante Annie's succulent witlof;

Oma Yoka's Authentic Huzaren Slaatjes

and lovely crispy 'Kniepertjes' to die for!

For the children: Traditional Dutch games to play!

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from the 'kiwicoffee van'.



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Boodschappen doet u bij ons, kaas, hagelslag, stroop, snoep, koekjes, drop, Honig en Knorr, hebben we iets niet, dan **bestellen we het voor u!**

TAFEL BOEKEN OF IETS TE VIERN?

We are open special hours for special days for groups vanaf 6+personen

BEL ONS: 03 343 33 75

OPEN

Tuesday till Thursday 10 am - 3 pm

Friday 10 am - 5 pm

Saturday at Riccarton Bush & House

Farmers market met poffertjes en oliebollen en kroketten 9 am - 1 pm

Saturday at CAFÉ 3 pm - 5 pm

Sunday 12 pm - 3 pm

Monday we are closed

KLAVERJAS CLUB 'ONS GENOEGEN'

Het schijnt bijna een gewoonte te worden. We hebben alweer een dierbaar lid verloren aan Magere Hein. Op dinsdag, 15 oktober is Ursula Krijnen overleden. Ze sukkelde al enige jaren met haar gezondheid maar kwam er steeds weer boven op, deze keer ging dat helaas niet door. We zullen haar missen, ze had de gewoonte om heel goed op je kaarten te letten en zo deed ze je vaak de das om! Het was wel altijd leuk om met haar aan de zelfde tafel te spelen. Maar het leven gaat door en dat is natuurlijk maar goed ook!

Op zaterdag, 19 oktober speelden we ons laatste tournament voor dit jaar. Gelukkig gaat het er niet meer zo fel aan toe als vroeger, we zijn klaarblijkelijk allemaal wat gemoedelijker geworden. Met zestien spelers streefden we naar de eerste prijs:

1) Koos van Nieuwkerk, 8379 punten; 2) Ans van Vuuren, 7962 punten; 3) Emmy Nederpelt, 7882 punten.

Het was weer een gezellige dag met een fantastische lunch, verzorgd door Ans en Theo van Vuuren. Namens allen wil ik Ans en Theo bedanken. Jullie verdienen een tien met een griffel!

Wat het jaarlijkse roster aangaat om een winnaar aan te wijzen is het nu nog wat vroeg. Mijn persoontje wordt het zeker niet, ik zal weer terug naar school moeten, denk ik zo.

De winnaars deze maand waren:

24 september: 1) Koos van Nieuwkerk, 5245 punten; 2) Ans van Vuuren, 4857 punten

8 oktober: 1) Johan Nieuwenhuizen, 5254 punten; 2) Truus Nijssen, 5158 punten

Alle winnaars: proficiat!

Beste mensen, geniet van de zon en probeer gezond te blijven en vergeet beslist niet veel plezier te hebben in het spel van het leven!

Wim



YOUTH OF YESTERDAY

Greetings everyone,

Spring is here and to see all the blossom and flowers out makes me feel good so I hope you are the same. I don't have a lot of news but do want to welcome Hanna back with us. She said she had a wonderful time with the family in the Netherlands.

Lilian van Elk has been away on another trip. India this time and I am waiting to catch up on her experience.

Two of our rummy kub players are still absent because of ill health issues. Netty de Groot and Roelie Lubbers, I just want to let you know that you are missed and hope things get better for you soon.

What lovely day we had on Friday, 4th of October, when Merle Johansen along with her family brought in the most delicious food for us all. We set the tables and gathered around to celebrate Merle's 90th birthday.

This is all for now.

Leona

**If your lips would keep from slips
Five things observe with care:
Of whom you speak, to whom you speak,
And how and when and where!
(By W E Norris, 1847 - 1925)**

NEERLANDIA CHOIR'S ANNUAL CONCERT



Although having rehearsed for months for the Annual Concert 'Neerlandia' was met with a few unexpected mishaps: One member was overseas and that together with sickness and an accident of three of the best singers left the Choir in a bit of a spot. But the musical director and the few remaining loyal members decided that the show **MUST** go on. And so it did!

Together with the colourful 'Soul Star Tribe' belly dancers the Choir managed to stage another great show. The audience was in awe and appreciated the afternoon's entertainment this brave little choir put together again once more.

The members have already started to rehearse for an exciting Christmas performance which will be held on Wednesday, 18 December, 7 pm at the Hoon Hay Presbyterian Church, 5 Downing Street, Christchurch.

Put this date in your diary as attending this concert will definitely not disappoint you!

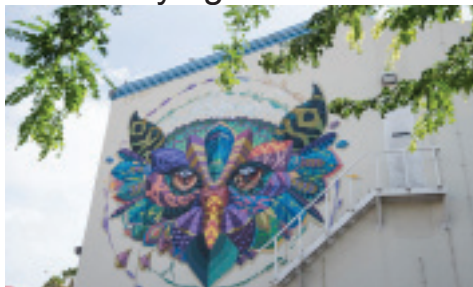


(Photos by Venetia Stoffers and Bindi Arthur)

THE NETHERLANDS & ARUBA LAND ON LONELY PLANET'S LIST OF 10 TOP DESTINATIONS

Aruba and the Netherlands are two of the best destinations to visit in 2020, according to travel guide Lonely Planet's annual list of the best countries to visit. In the top 10 countries Aruba is in fourth place and the Netherlands in seventh.

The travel guide obviously mentions Aruba's "palm-fringed and pristine beaches", but also praises the island's cultural hub of San Nicolas and its sustainability efforts. According to Lonely Planet, San Nicolas "is relishing in a colorful and creative revival, with international and local artists adorning street walls and pop-up carnival experiences extending the happy vibes beyond the annual festivities". Aruba is also a testing ground for multiple countries renewable energy solutions and is working to ban all single-use plastics and reef-destroying sunscreens next year.



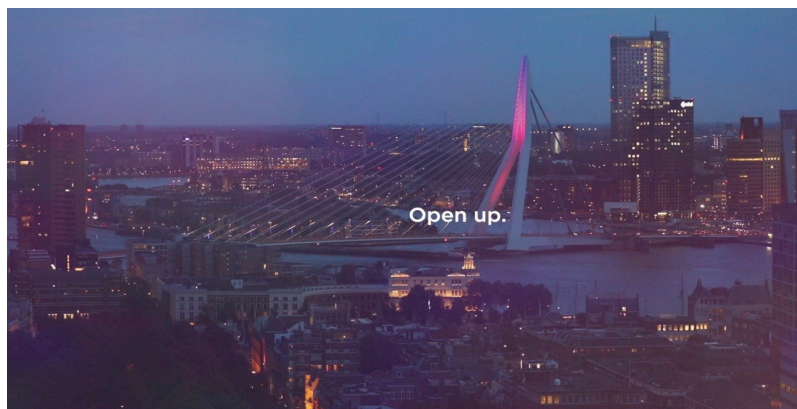
**A sample of Aruba's
street-wall art**

Next year is a good time to visit the Netherlands because 2020 will be the year of celebration for the country. Not only is it the 75th anniversary of liberation after the end of the Second World War, but the Netherlands is also hosting the Eurovision Song Contest.

April and May are the months to visit, as you can take in King's Day, Liberation Day and the Eurovision Contest, Lonely Planet says. And while "vibrant Amsterdam always deserves a visit", the travel guide urges tourists to make use of the "excellent train network and the over 35 thousand kilometers of bicycle paths to explore beyond the cities".

The Dutch tourism and congresses office NBTC is proud of the Netherlands' spot in the top 10 and pleased the Lonely Planet emphasised that the country is more than just Amsterdam, general manager Jos Vranken said to NOS. "The fact that more places are receiving attention is a step in the right direction. We would therefore like to see travel brands such as Lonely Planet playing more and more attention to the sometimes less well-known or obvious places in our country."

**"Open Up"
is the theme for the
Eurovision Contest
2020 in Rotterdam.**



FRIENDLY SUPPORT NETWORK (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:

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Nederland heeft een nieuw probleem: de onbegrijpelijke taal die gebruikt wordt door de algemene overheid om de ‘normale burger’ van zijn plichten te verwittigen :

AMBTENARENJARGON IN EEN WOORD SAMENGEVAT (door Marcel Peereboom Voller)

Dit had ze me kunnen schrijven: “Beste meneer Peereboom Voller, hoi Marcel. Hoe gaat het? Bevalt het een beetje op je nieuwe adres? We willen je even wijzen op het volgende: als je je vuilniszak in de klike of in de afvalcontainer gooit, moeten wij van de gemeente het huisvuil afvoeren. Daarom vragen wij een klein bedrag aan je dat je ons nog verschuldigd bent.

Het gaat om de periode augustus, toen je op die nieuwe fijne plek ging wonen, tot en met december. Die vijf maanden moet je nog betalen, dan ben je helemaal bij. Dank alvast!
Hartelijke groeten van je liefste pen vriendin: de gemeente Amsterdam.”

In plaats daarvan schreef het harteloze kring het volgende:

“De verordening op de heffing en de invordering van afvalstoffenheffing en reinigingsrechten ligt aan de basis van een aanslagbiljet afvalstoffenheffing. Hierin is geregeld dat de gebruiker van een woonruimte de afvalstoffenheffing verschuldigd is bij het begin van het belastingjaar.

Indien de belastingplicht in de loop van het jaar aanvangt, dan is de afvalstoffenheffing verschuldigd naar tijdsevenredigheid. Op grond hiervan is de aanslag afvalstoffenheffing berekend op basis van vijf maanden.”

Hoe wolliger de strekking, des te duidelijker de boodschap, denk ik altijd maar als ik zo’n brief vol ambtenarenjargon krijg. De boodschap is namelijk altijd in een woord samen te vatten: **BETALEN!**

Toch steekt de overheid de hand in eigen boezem en belooft beterschap. Een brigade van honderd taalexperpts wordt het land ingestuurd om rijks- en gemeenteambtenaren helder en begrijpelijk te leren schrijven zodat burgers, schuw geworden door ondoorzichtige blauwe enveloppen en raadselachtige paarse krokodillen, hun rekeningen voldoen.

Laten we elkaar niet voor de gek houden. Het lijkt een welwillende actie van de overheid om middels deze “Direct Duidelijk Brigade” dichter bij de burger te komen, maar de onderliggende gedachte is toch dat de mensen netjes op tijd hun blauwe enveloppe openen. En daarin staat dan, hopelijk in volstrekt heldere taal, die ene onvermijdelijke boodschap: **BETALEN!**

Ach, de Begrijpelijke Overheid....Het is een ideaal dat al decennialang wordt nagestreefd. ‘Schrijf normaal, zet jezelf niet voor joker’ was een cursus die in begin jaren negentig Haagse gemeenteambtenaren moest verleiden klare taal te gebruiken. In 2005 lanceerde GroenLinks de campagne ‘Heerlijk Helder Hollands’. In 2008 moesten de vijftig meest gebruikte overheidsformulieren begrijpelijker worden, maar gezien bovenstaand voorbeeld is autoritair taalgebruik hardnekkig. Het zit in het DNA van de schrijvende ambtenaar.

Dat ze het niet leuker kunnen maken, dat snap ik. Maar makkelijker, dat zou toch niet zo moeilijk moeten zijn? Als de drie miljoen euro die is uitgetrokken voor deze campagne op een of andere manier toch weer wordt verrekend met de burger - wie zegt dat dit niet gebeurt? - dan volstaat een blauw enveloppe met daarin een boodschap die direct duidelijk is: **BETALEN!**

THE NETHERLANDS' SEA DEFENCE GETS 547m EUROS MAKEOVER TO WEATHER CLIMATE CHANGE.



De Afsluitdijk - one of the low-lying Netherlands' key sea defences - has been taking a battering for 87 years. With climate change bringing powerful storms and rising sealevels, the dyke is now getting a 547m Euro makeover.

The 32 km Afsluitdijk, a narrow strip of man-made land lies between the shallow Wadden Sea and Het IJsselmeer inland sea, also serves as a motorway linking the provinces of North Holland and Friesland.

Using a 300m wave tank nicknamed 'the flume', engineers in the city of Delft, better known for the famous painter Johannes Vermeer and delicate blue and white pottery, are pounding a scale model of the dyke with waves that should occur only once every 10,000 years as part of the redesign process.

Boris Teunis, an expert on emergency water management with the Dutch Water Agency Rijkswaterstaat, says there is no time to waste.

"If you look at the sealevel rise, it's already going on at a constant base since the beginning of the 21st century, like two millimetres a year. So, that is expected to continue and what we are worrying about is if it will accelerate, the increase of the sea-level rise," he said.

The Dutch government this year established a 'knowledge program on rising sea levels' that aims to feed expertise into the ongoing programme building and maintaining water defences. It has earmarked 18 billion Euros for innovation and maintenance in water defence for the period 2020 -2033.

The investment does have some return, however - it is estimated that water sector exports were worth 7.6 billion Euros to other low-lying countries and cities around the world.

Teunis added: "We (the Dutch) have the safest delta in the world. What will happen in the future, is difficult to say. That's what we are currently working on, to get as much knowledge as possible about developments in the future and then take steps to prepare ourselves for these situations."

Meanwhile, construction work to strengthen the Afsluitdijk has begun. It includes laying thousands of custom-made concrete blocks and raising it in parts and is expected to continue till 2023.

Gezellig even puzzelen!

Goed voor de brein en ook even checken hoe het met uw Nederlands gesteld is.

Bent U klaar stuur de oplossing naar:

Puzzle Freak, 5 Highbank Lane, Christchurch 8081

of email yokasaris@gmail.com

De eerste correcte oplossing die we ontvangen wordt beloond met een leuk prijsje!

In de maand oktober kwam Betty van Boven als eerste met het antwoord PIKEREN.

ZWEEDS

108

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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

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 + _____

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Single membership \$24.00

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

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Affiliated Clubs	Yoka Saris	384 9570	Committee.nsc@gmail.com
Distributor Echo Newsletter	Yoka Saris	„	<u>yokasaris@gmail.com</u>

Affiliated and other clubs

Hall Hire	Annie van der Dussen	383 1594
Bridge club	Riet Willems	358 2783
Costume Hire	Marina Wijlaars	323 4465
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'	<i>Non operational, anyone keen to start this group again? Ring/email us!</i>	
Youth of Yesterday	Leona Smid	03 313 5305
Radio With Pictures (Echo)	Theo Boekel	03 318 1191
	email radio@echo.org.nz	

**FEDERATION OF NEW
ZEALAND NETHERLANDS
SOCIETIES:
dutchcommunities.co.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.**

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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.