



# ECHO

Official Newsletter of the Netherlands Society  
Christchurch (Inc)



**APRIL  
2020**



## **“GAARKEUKEN”**

**DATE: APRIL 1945**  
**WHERE: SOMEWHERE IN THE WEST  
OF THE NETHERLANDS**

**Who remembers eating in these places?  
Tell me your story!**

# Netherlands Society Christchurch

( Est. March 20th, 1965 )



## EDITOR'S REPORT

Dear Readers,

My apologies for having to start this report with the dreaded C-word. Half this issue is spent on the pandemic. But it is what it is and also the NSC has to bow down to something which seems to have the whole world in its grip.

Up to writing this report I was optimistic that I could still announce the King's Day- and the 75th year Liberation celebration events in this Echo.

"Who knows," I thought "something wonderful might happen in the next month that would clear all this misery. That a miracle cure for this dreadful virus might be invented....." But no. This morning I received the message from our Consul that the King's Day celebration has been cancelled all over the world.

It looks as if we have to stay home and dance around our own living room and sing the 15 verses of " Het Wilhelmus" all on our own!



**The Royal familie also applauds the thousands of welfare workers in the Netherlands and all over the world.**

All it leaves me now is to wish that you and your family will stay protected from ill health!

We will return!!!

**Yoka**

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**(Entrance off Cashel Mall and directly**  
**behind Michael Hill Jewellers)**  
Telephone: 03 335 3272,  
Email: nl.consulate.chch@gmail.com

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members,

Corona virus...everyone talks about it and the NZ Government (like many in other countries) is doing its best to contain it.

In that same light we, the NSC committee, have decided to cancel the Easter festivities and the market. For the coming months we'll decide each time if the market and other events for the month will go ahead.

Now for something YOU could help us with.....provide us with your email address. We were lucky enough that this announcement of cancelling the Easter Market coincides with the edition of the April issue of the Echo. This way all members could still be informed about our last minute decision! It would be very helpful if every member who has an email address would provide us with that so we could inform you of urgent messages.

Another example of why it would be helpful is so we can let you know when someone has passed on and the information regarding funeral arrangements which are in place.

Recently we found out that the 'word of mouth' method is just not fast enough to reach all interested parties in time.

So, please, send us an email to [membership.nsc@gmail.com](mailto:membership.nsc@gmail.com) with the subject 'my email address' and your name or membership number. Thank you!

And remember to wash your hands for at least 20 seconds and do this often as this destroys the virus!

Regards,

**Ron**

### **CANCELLED EVENTS:**

**It is with regret that the following events  
have to be cancelled!**

**Easter Market, Sunday, 6 April**

**King's Day, at Aikman's Sports Bar, Saturday, 2 May**

**King's Day & Liberation Celebration, Sunday, 3 May**

**The committee promises that as soon as we get the  
all clear we will 'be on deck' again  
to organise a replacement event such as never  
will be forgotten!!!**

## OP REIS MET TOENAIL CULTURE ALE!



**Wies van den Berg van de Waikato Society:  
“HET GEEFT MIJ GROOT GENOEGEN.....”**

Waarschijnlijk vraagt u zich wel eens af wat uw plaatselijke toneelgroep doet met de opbrengst van uw toegangs kaartjes.

We hebben gewoon onszelf uitgenodigd om in Hamilton het mooie “Hemelse Liefde” te brengen. Mede dankzij het enthousiasme van o.a. Wies van de NZ Netherlands Society (Waikato) Inc. is dat gelukt op zaterdag, 7 maart. Onze groep, die door de som van ieders unieke ‘rol’ als een lekker lopend machientje voelt, heeft een hardstikke leuke en gezellige reis gehad. Het hippie-achtig theatertje Riverlea was al een avontuur op zich zelf, maar wat was het heerlijk om weer eens in een echt theatre te staan met professionele belichting en geluid!

Het publiek, dat zelfs uit Tauranga en Auckland was gekomen, had er echt zin in en gaf ons een minutenlang staande ovatie. Om gehoor te kunnen geven aan de uitnodiging om ook in Auckland te komen, moeten we eerst nog een paar leuke optredens verzorgen voor u, ons eigen trouwe Canterbury publiek.

Namens Toenail Culture Ale: **Annekatrien**

**EN NU.....APPLAUS!!!**





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## CHRISTCHURCH TULIP QUEEN 1989

Last month we published some photos of NZ Tulip Queen competitions and asked if anybody might have information regarding these events.

Mrs Ria Verburgh called me and said that her daughter Miranda was the Christchurch Tulip Queen of 1989. Miranda is now nearly 50 years old, happily married with 2 daughters, 15 and 17 years old. Miranda Newbury is Director of Development at St Andrew's College.



**Miranda flanked by two of her colleagues.  
(After 31 years still looking like a queen!)  
(photo St Andrew's College)**




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but to be surrounded by family  
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Saturday Sunday

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boodschappen of trakteer de (klein)kinderen  
op heerlijke traditionele poffertjes of een  
knapperig kroketje.**

**info:03 343 33 75**

## KLAVERJAS CLUB 'ONS GENOEGEN'

Alweer een maand voorbij en wat voor een! 'De Virus': Als je moet doen wat de overheid je beveelt dan zou ik direct een gat moeten graven in de tuin en naast de hond gaan liggen voor gezelschap. Maar daar zal niet veel van over zijn want die ligt er al 40 jaar. Hij ging altijd voor de gezelligheid mee naar het werk, hij was al blind door cataract. Op een bepaalde dag kon ik hem niet meenemen omdat de klant ook een hond had en dat zou knokken worden. Toen ik wegreed kwam hij onder het wiel van de afgeladen trailer. Oops! Ik heb hem toen meteen in de tuin begraven.

Op 15 maart hoorden we dat er zoveel mogelijk publieke bijeenkomsten moesten worden afgelast. Ik liep hier over na te denken wat er nu met de kaart club moest gebeuren. We zijn nog maar met 19 mensen en daar moeten we zuinig op zijn. **Na met een ander comite lid te hebben gesproken hebben we besloten om het kaarten maar af te zeggen.** We hebben iedereen opgebeld en gezegd dat ze maar thuis moesten blijven en beslist geen vreemde mensen zoenen. Achttien van de negentien waren het er mee eens!

Dus zodra we groen licht krijgen van de overheid begint het kaarten weer. Je moet maar zo denken: "Als hadden geweest is, is hebben te laat!" (Met andere woorden: Niet zeuren over gedane zaken!" Jullie krijgen weer een telefoontje als het zo ver is.

**25 februari: 1) Arda Hogendoorn, 5223 punten; 2) Agnes Stolp, 5094 punten.**

**10 maart: 1) Anna Fekkes, 5391 punten; Lilly Willemsen, 5011 punten.**

Zodra ik iets beter ga kaarten win ik de prijs, vergeet dat niet!

Mensen, blijf lekker warm, neem een lepel levertraan met suiker en heel veel plezier met het spel van het leven!

**Wim**



## YOUTH OF YESTERDAY

Once again it is time to put pen to paper as they used to say, not a lot of news this month. Just to let you know we are still enjoying our Friday mornings with games and lots of talk and laughter.

I would like to say a big thank you to Wim Slot, he brings lovely fresh produce from his garden, which he sells then gives the proceeds to the YOY towards the Christmas lunch. It is much appreciated.

Hanna van der Wende has her son visiting from America, this is the first time he has been home in 10 years, so Hanna is very excited. She has been over to Cape Cod to visit the family there but it is special to have your loved one in your own home.

By the time you read this I will have been away to Invercargill to visit family and friends and to the 'open day' at the Templeton Flax Mill Working Museum at Riverton where I volunteer for the day. Last year we had over 400 people watch the demonstrations, etc. in one afternoon.

Bye for now,

**Leona**

**At the time of this Echo going to print  
Leona has informed the Editor that the YOY Friday gathering  
will be suspended until further notice!**

**TO SPEAK KINDLY DOES NOT HURT THE TONGUE**  
(English proverb)



## **“I wish Van Gogh had come from my country.”**

**(The story of an Englishman making his home in the Netherlands and much more)**

Originally from the United Kingdom, Tim Butler moved to the Netherlands because he really liked the art. He thinks Dutch pastries are underrated and knows you can find better Van Gogh's than you can see in the Van Gogh Museum. It was for Van Gogh that I came here originally. My entrance to Van Gogh was through 'The Letters Of Vincent van Gogh', a collection of 903 which he either sent or received.

Whenever you tell people you're going to Amsterdam, they assume it's for the sex or the drugs, but for me, I moved for the art. I was working in Waterstones in London and it was just after 9/11 that I decided I wanted to do something quite big in my life. I got rid of where I was living and all my possessions and made some money and I figured that when the money ran out I would come back. My first stop was Amsterdam, it was a good place to start. I'd met my partner here after I'd been here for a couple of days. That was something neither of us were looking for. And 17 years later, I'm still here.

How do you describe yourself? An expat; lovepat; immigrant, international; etc - and why?" - I'm probably a bit of all those things. It depends on who I am talking to how I would define myself. I always felt that I was not really at home in my home country. England is a strange country to live in. I felt that I belonged somewhere else. I wanted to be somewhere where I felt I wasn't answerable to people. I first worked in Berlin and then I came to the Netherlands in 2003 and I've never once been homesick.

How long to plan to stay and why? - I don't really plan on moving. You can never say never, I guess, but I certainly couldn't see myself going back to the UK. England's changed and I've changed and I don't think we'd get on very well anymore. I'm married to a Dutch citizen, I pay taxes here, I've got a mortgage here and I've been here for 17 years.

Do you speak Dutch and how did you learn? - Well, I'm not really conversational, I have to say. I did make a huge attempt when I came here, but it's a difficult language to learn and I tried several different courses and several different methods but I want to speak a language the way I speak my own. I want to discuss all the complex issues immediately and that is not a great approach.

What is your favourite Dutch food and why? - I quite like what the Dutch do with apple pie. It's always so packed with big chunks of apples. I really like what the Dutch do with desserts in general, I've got a bit of a sweet tooth. But I'm very particular. Dutch pastries are very underrated. I like all of the stamppots and the hutspot and all that sort of food as well.

How Dutch have you become and why? - Funnily, I always say not at all. My partner always says not at all. My colleagues and my friends here say not at all. But as soon as I go back to England people immediately point out that I've become very Dutch. I'm probably a lot more opinionated than I used to be. Or rather that I voice it more than I used to. It is a bit of loosening up of that straight-laced way that English people are. I've loosened up more generally about things. I think they are occasionally horrified, back home, if you want an opinion, you're going to get it. As an Englishman, I know that you really have to pry an opinion out of people and even then, they will always give you the polite choice over the truth. But the directness can be a massive coverup for rudeness.

Which three Dutch people (dead or alive) would you most like to meet and why? - Vincent van Gogh, without a doubt. His letters are a magnificent piece of literature for a start and you get a real insight into what drove him and what it was he wanted to try and do. This idea of the tortured genius who killed himself because he couldn't cope, it's only a part of the story really. I was amazed to find that his real reason for wanting to do it at all was because he wanted to console people. I might even be more interested in meeting Theo van Gogh, Vincent's brother. Much less of his correspondence survives. I would like to ask him what it was that made him support Vincent completely and really be out there on a limb, thinking it was worthwhile doing it. He must have had such an eye and it wasn't just brotherly love because Vincent was difficult and very ungrateful most of the time.

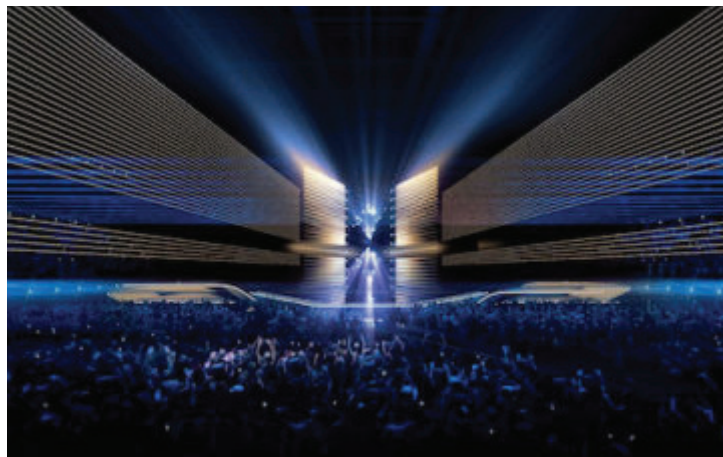
And I'd probably like to have a word with some of the people involved in Anne Frank, particularly her mother, Edith Frank. We learn an enormous amount when we read her (Anne's) diary but we don't get what other people thought about her. I'm always interested in hearing what we don't hear. I like the story of the bit players but not just the star.

What is your top tourist tip? - Get out of the Kalverstraat and the Leidseplein as soon as possible. I say that but my shop, Waterstones, is in the Kalverstraat, so come here first and then get out of Amsterdam. There's so much more to do here than the tourist thing. Go a bit further afield and go to the Kroller-Muller Museum. It's got better Van Gogh's than the Van Gogh Museum. I've been urging people to come to see the art because you simply cannot get it if you don't stand in front of it. You've got to actually get there and see the depth of the painting.

Tell us something you found surprising about the Netherlands? - How welcoming it was. If I can be very critical about the Dutch, it's because they've taught me it's okay to do that. But obviously there's another side to it that's a big part of why I am here. The Dutch tolerance thing is slightly more legendary than factual, but it's a good reputation to have.

If you just had 24 hours left in the Netherlands, what would you do? - Try and find out how I could extend my stay. Otherwise, I'd probably find a bar where I was permitted to smoke, get extremely drunk and write some elegies from my time here.

*(Tim Butler runs Poetry at Waterstones, a series of events about English-language poets. He was speaking to Molly Quell, who is an American journalist, living in the Netherlands)*



## EUROVISIE SONGFESTIVAL 2020 GEANNULEERD

Het Eurovisie Songfestival 2020 zou de 65ste editie van dit evenement worden. Nederland werd aangewezen als gastland nadat Duncan Laurence de voorgaande editie won met het nummer **"Arcade"**.

Helaas is het evenement dat zou plaats vinden op 12, 14 and 16 mei in Rotterdam Ahoy door de Corona crisis geannuleerd.

De Nederlands gekozen kandidaat dit jaar is Jeangu Macrooy. Zijn bijdragen zou het lied **"Grow"** zijn geweest. Maar nu moet er een ander lied gekozen worden voor het Festival in 2021. Deze regel geldt voor alle kandidaten.

## **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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## **TRAVEL ADVISE**

### **FROM THE NETHERLANDS EMBASSY regarding Covid-19 docx**

From now on, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs advice all Dutch people to stop traveling abroad, unless strictly necessary. This is not because of health aspects, but because of the impact that government measures can have on Dutch travelers.

Holiday trips abroad are not recommended. This means that for all countries from now on, traveling alone only if strictly necessary.

#### **For travel advice:**

- We would advice all Dutch travelers in NZ to consider whether your stay is strictly necessary and whether you have possibilities to leave the country. Please contact your airline or travel organisation about the options and use the options.
- Register yourself with the BZ information service.  
**<https://www.nederlandwereldwijd.nl/landen/nieuw-zeeland/actueel/nieuws/2020/02/25/registeren-bij-de-ambassade>** This is to ensure where necessary that we can send mass communication via text.
- If you cannot leave ensure you have a location where you can stay longer, where applicable in coordination with your travel organisation.
- Please check with your airline if they are still flying and if there are any restrictions.
- Transit via Australia is still possible
- Check Schiphol airport website for airlines who cancelled flights into the Netherlands.  
**[www.schiphol.nl](http://www.schiphol.nl)**
- Check RIVM website on the latest news on coronavirus in the Netherlands. **[www.rivm.nl](http://www.rivm.nl)**
- Check **[www.government.nl](http://www.government.nl)** for the latest information in the Netherlands, including border restrictions.
- NZ is code orange so only travel when absolutely necessary. Refer travelers wanting to travel to NZ to travel advice published on our FB.
- For travelers in NZ please refer to the website **[www.health.govt.nz](http://www.health.govt.nz)** for the latest information in NZ, including guidelines on self-isolation
- Any traveler who arrives in NZ will need to self-isolate, if Dutch travelers ask questions about the necessity please inform them that self-isolation is compulsory and they need to follow the guidelines on **[www.health.govt.nz](http://www.health.govt.nz)**
- All Dutch travelers should contact Immigration NZ if they are nearing the end of the visa validity. We are not able to assist with organising their visas. Please also bear in mind that their main hub for visitor visa in Beijing is closed and delays are likely so people will need to contact Immigration in time.
- We will update FB with latest information when available.

- We are receiving a lot of concern from Dutch travelers about the closure of the Schengen area, this is **NOT** in place as yet, people are still able to travel to the Netherlands. However this may change and travellers should monitor the Embassy website for updates.

### Dutch Residents in New Zealand

- All Dutch travelers and/or Dutch residents in NZ should register with the BZ information service <https://www.nederlandwereldwijd.nl/nieuw-zeeland/actueel/nieuws/2020/02/25/registeren-bij-de-ambassade>  
This is to ensure where necessary that we can send mass communication via text.

## CORONAVIRUS NOTICE: Help us protect our team.

Our team's health is our top priority at this time, so we kindly ask you:

- Not to enter the Consulate Offices or have face to face meetings with any of our team, for a period of 14 days from your arrival date if you have re-entered New Zealand following international travel. For the sake of clarity this includes Australia.
- Not to enter our Offices if you have been potentially exposed through close contact with a person in self-isolation for 14 days (this is defined as face-to-face contact closer than 1 metre for more than 15 minutes).
- Not to enter our premises if you have any symptoms of COVID-19 or Flu and cold symptoms.
- We are happy to arrange means of contact using phone or skype if required.

**On behalf of the Netherlands Consulate, thank you.**

**Protect yourself and others against COVID-19**

**Cover your coughs or sneezes with tissues or your elbow**

**Put your used tissue in the rubbish bin or in a plastic bag**

**Wash and dry your hands often, especially after coughing or sneezing – use soap or hand sanitiser**

**Stay away from others if you're unwell**

**COVID-19 HEALTH ADVICE**  
0800 358 5453  
For international SIMs call +64 9 358 5463

health.govt.nz/COVID-19  
Protect your family/whānau from COVID-19 (coronavirus)  
New Zealand Government

February 2020 | HP7328

**We gaan weer beginnen met 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, 4 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 maart kwam Rudi van den Brink als eerste met de juiste oplossing.**

**ZWEEDS**

**31**

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## NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

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For more info contact the membership secretary, ph: 027 4898369 or email secretary.nsc@gmail.com

Application form:



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

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	Gerard van Kuppevelt	03 312 6966	
	Mart de Rouw	389 9373	
Website	Ron van Santen	027 4898369	Webmaster@nsc.org.nz
Affiliated Clubs	Yoka Saris	384 9570	Committee.nsc@gmail.com
Distributor Echo Newsletter	Yoka Saris	„	<b><u>yokasaris@gmail.com</u></b>

## Affiliated and other clubs

Hall Hire	Dee Segeren	027 3566650
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'	<b><i>Non operational, anyone keen to start this group again? Ring/email us!</i></b>	
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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We reserve the right to reject, abridge or edit letters for linguistic, spelling, style and other literary errors.