



End of year BBQ 2021.
Photo credit: Dee Segeren.

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Editor's note

Welcome to 2022.

The weather has certainly brought beautiful sunshine and let's hope that the rest of the year is magical for all of us.

I was lucky enough to finally get up to Auckland to see my son and his partner after having had six trips cancelled between August and December due to lockdowns.

We had a beautiful family Christmas day with of course too much food and lovely gift exchanges.

I got to enjoy some time up in Tawharanui Regional Park which is near Matakana, north of Auckland.

A highlight for me was having an article written about me in the Netherlands Embassy Facebook page you can find this article on pages 10 and 11.

I look forward to sharing more of your stories about life in NZ and will be in touch, but please if you have something to share do let me know.

I want to wish you all the best for everything this coming year, good health, good luck, and much happiness.



Meri Gibson

Editor, Echo

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Visit our facebook page



Want to contribute to the next issue of the Echo Newsletter?

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 ensure any images are of good quality.

Please send to: meri@calibrae.co.nz

President's greeting



Dee Segeren

President
Netherlands Society
Christchurch (Inc.)

Hallo beste mensen

Allereerst willen wij - Marjon, Miryam, Annie, Jan, Pete, Lilian, Jose, Anneke, Janice en Meri - jullie een fantastisch, voorspoedig, gezond, gezellig 2022 wensen. Dat we elkaar vaak zullen ontmoeten tijdens onze markten, uitjes en alle andere evenementen die wij organiseren.

Het is twee maanden geleden dat ik mijn report voor december's Echo schreef. Sindsdien is er een hoop gebeurd. We vierden:

- Sinterklaas voor de oudere leden. Lees hierover op pagina 6
- Sinterklaas picknick waar kinderen en ouders een gezellige tijd hadden. Kijk voor de foto collage op pagina 4
- Kerst barbeque, waar Anneke en Pete de bbq "bemande/bevrouwde" en al het andere lekkers dat ons vanuit de keuken door Annie, Lilian en Miryam werd uitgeserveerd. Kijk voor de foto collage op pagina 7.
- Neerlandia's Choir Christchurch Kerst concert in St. John's kerk met intermezzo's van Wytze Hoekstra en "The Ukeleles Of Mount Pleasant" groep

En voor diegenen die net zulke Formule 1 fanaten zijn als Pete en ik, het wereldkampioenschap van **Max Verstappen**, was ook een evenement dat we niet zomaar zullen vergeten. Wat was het een spannende laatste ronde.

Zoals ik in mijn vorige rapport al aangaf, hebben wij - NSC - COVID regels voor de toegang tot onze evenementen en clubrooms vastgesteld zoals voorgeschreven door onze regering, zodat deze zonder beperkingen door kunnen gaan en kunnen worden binnengelopen. Iedereen die onze evenementen heeft bezocht, was gevaccineerd en had zijn/haar My Vaccine Pass voor ons beschikbaar. Niemand heeft aangegeven dat men het niet eens was met de regels of deze onrechtvaardig vond ten opzichte van diegenen die (nog) niet zijn gevaccineerd. De regels zijn door iedereen die onze evenementen hebben bezocht, opgevolgd. Een fantastisch resultaat in een toch wel onzekere tijd.



Deze maand hebben Miryam en Lilian twee "timeslots" gepland voor de Nederlandse lessen. 20 februari 2pm en 24 februari 7pm. Hun uitnodiging staat op pagina 12.

Op 13 februari hopen wij jullie weer te ontmoeten tijdens onze Nederlandse markt. Het broodje kroket en ook broodje haring, staan weer op de agenda, dus dat wordt lekker smullen. Maar natuurlijk is Jacqui ook aanwezig met Nederlandse producten en slaggers vleeswaren etc.

Klootschieten op zijn NSC's. Wat dat precies betekent: We hebben de regels en parcours aangepast zodat het een familie-activiteit is. Onderhands gooien door een "poortje" dat maar 50cm hoog is, op het grasveld naast ons clubhuis. Natuurlijk zijn er prijzen te winnen 😊. Nadien genieten van een kopje soep (met ballen), een broodje kroket en toetje. Hoe en bij wie je jezelf en je familie kunt opgeven, lees je op pagina 12.

Hartelijke groet,

Dee

Sinterklaas Picnic 2021

The weather forecast was all over the place for the big day of our Saint Nicolas celebration, but despite the odd spit of rain we decided to chance it and set up outside on the grass area next to the clubrooms. Lekker Dutch set up their tent with croquettes and other 'lekkernij' and the coffee-van parked up ready for action. After some dilly-dallying the weather decided to be on our side and the sun shone brightly on our festivities.

We started the children's games just after 11am. I had no idea how serious the kids were taking these and enjoyed seeing how much fun was had from the very little ones to the older kids, and yes, even the mums, dads and grandparents had a good go. Presents were won and then bartered and swapped so everyone came away happy.

And then the strangest sight seen for a long time... Sinterklaas in a golf cart! He was driven to the picnic area by what looked like an elf in a golfcart.

Sint's steamboat was set up and every child had a visit with Sinterklaas in his 'stoomboot.'





Sinterklaas afternoon tea for the young at heart



The committee got together early to decorate and set up the hall for the Saint Nicholas afternoon tea for the young at heart, sometimes also known as the 'oudjes.'

Because of Covid restrictions we had to come up with a different way for Sint to have a chat with his subjects. This was solved brilliantly by Henk and Pete who build the "Stoomboot." After afternoon tea had been served Sint arrived and every person present was invited for a chat in the stoomboot. Miryam took photos of everyone. Unfortunately, they are too many to print here, but feel free to ask her and she may be able to email you your photo. Sint had many a story to tell about the subjects in his boat and a lot of laughter ensued. I am confident that everyone enjoyed their chat with Sint.

Before Sint left, he and his 'Pieten' had a surprise for Annie, who as reported last year was appointed into the Order of Oranje-Nassau. As her orange ribbon is not that prominent, they gave her a large orange coconut style costume she can wear over her top, that will definitely stand out. To the hilarity of everyone present they proceeded to help her put it on.

Een zeer geslaagde en gezellige middag.



End of year BBQ

The Christmas BBQ almost got cancelled this year due to Covid restrictions. Luckily, we turned "Orange" (best colour in the world!) and were able to have it. Pete Knuiman and Anneke Lavery manned the BBQ. The rest of the team got the salads ready, and the ham sliced.

Because we didn't think we could go ahead we did not have a nativity play prepared with the children. This did not deter them from getting dressed up and singing us a couple of Christmas songs. After that the bigger kids headed outside with their water guns and had themselves a 'wet' afternoon.

The food as always was delicious, and it was a fun way to close of the year.



Pete and Anneke handle the BBQ with panache.
Photo by Dee Segeren.



Everyone ready to eat the delicious, yummy meat from the BBQ. Photo by Dee Segeren.



The best of family times at the Christmas BBQ.
Photo by Dee Segeren.

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*Every 2nd SUNDAY of the MONTH
Dutch Society, 637 Marshland Road
at Everglades Golfcourse

Instagram: lekkerdutchnewzealand



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email: lekkerdutchnz@gmail.com

Report from Wim de Winter on the Klaverjas Club

De feestdagen zijn weer voorbij en we hebben een heel nieuw jaar voor de boeg. De “break” van de kaart club is volgens mij goed verlopen. We speelden een paar potjes kaarten en dronken een paar glaasjes voorafgaand aan de Chinese lunch met ijs en fruit cocktail toe. Het ging er in als koek. De kampioen van het jaar 2021 was Theo van Vuuren, die nam net als vorig jaar de beker mee naar huis. Het eindresultaat voor 2021 was als volgt: 1ste Theo van Vuuren, 2de Koos van Nieuwkerk, 3de Bep van Polanen, 4de Ada Hogendoorn, 5de Anna Fekkes, 6de Ans van Vuuren, 7de Rein Bakker, 8ste Wim de Winter, 9de Truus Nijssen en 10de Thea Beulink. De winnaars ontvingen een geldprijsje. De meeste pitten van het jaar werd gewonnen door Koos van Nieuwkerk met 25 pitten, 2de Theo van Vuuren met 24 pitten en een gedeelde 3de plaats voor Bep van Polanen en Rein Bakker met 23

pitten. Ook hier ontvingen de winnaars geldprijzen. Alle leden van de Klaverjas Club kregen een doos chocolade als kerstcadeautje. Ik denk dat iedereen er blij mee was, ik vond het ook een leuk idee. Op 21 december speelden we nog voor prijzen en de winnaars waren 1ste Wim de Winter met 5,221 punten en 2de was Truus Nijssen met 5,206 punten. Op 18 januari zijn we weer begonnen en de winnaars waren: 1e Koos van Nieuwkerk met 5,446 punten en 2de Rein Bakker met 5,375 punten. Beste mensen dat is weer mijn verhaal.

Ik hoop dat jullie terug kunnen kijken op een leuke kerst tijd. Ik ging op Kersdag naar Waikouaiti. Onze dochter Monica had gevraagd of ik ook kwam. Het was de moeite waard: een leuke tijd met een barbeque en naar het lokale stamcafe, waar je kunt zien wat bier drinken is en je lekker kunt eten. Het was voor herhaling vatbaar, ook al ben ik geen bier drinker. Het is leuk om te zien hoe gemoedelijk de mensen met elkaar omgaan. En natuurlijk ook de kleinkinderen. Nou ja “klein”....ze zijn 2m plus en ik sta er als een klein ventje naast. Ook weer een ervaring 😊. Wel beste mensen ik kan hier wel over doorgaan, maar dan wordt de Echo te groot, dus houd je goed van zin en heel veel plezier in het spel van het leven. Wim.

New café in Sydenham

Euro Gourmet Meats, well known for great meats and a huge range of Euro-style charcuterie, all made in-house, now has an instore café!

The Dutch Café opened last month, featuring great coffee, tasty Dutch treats (think kroketten and frikandellen) plus paninis and bagels filled to order with salad and your choice of meats from the deli. And there's even hot chips and a variety of sweet treats.

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The Dutch Café



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Introducing... Meri Gibson



The Netherlands Embassy is sharing stories of Dutch immigrants and their families living in New Zealand. They are interested in what the diaspora has to say. This article was shared on their January 2nd 2022 Facebook Page.

My parents, Cornelia Berdina van Tiel (Corrie) and Adrianus Johannes Pauwels (Jan or John) met in the Netherlands after the war. My mother was a fully qualified psychiatric and general nurse and my father was qualified in civil and mechanical engineering.

Mum had nursed many a soldier and it was no wonder that through her kind, caring, loving personality she had many proposals of marriage but it was to dad that she gave her hand.

Mum had lost her fiancé in the war and dad had been put into forced labour in Germany, it was post the devastation of the war that they both decided that there was, at that time, nothing for them in the Netherlands and they opted to immigrate to New Zealand.

Dad flew here in February 1952 and mum came by boat landing in July of the same year. As they had been engaged in the Netherlands, they were married 10 days after mum's arrival in Christchurch.

Mum and dad didn't have children straight away, but once they did come, they arrived quickly. I am one of five children; I have an older brother and three younger brothers. My oldest and youngest brother live in Christchurch as do I. One brother lives in Rotorua and another in Vietnam.

I am a mum of one, a son, and my brothers have all produced daughters. I have eight nieces and

five great nieces which in itself is interesting as my father was the only boy with six sisters.

My parents created a very good life for us in New Zealand. We attended what were then private catholic schools and my four brothers were all born in a private catholic hospital, I wasn't because at the time there was a virus outbreak in that particular hospital.

I consider myself really lucky to have been brought up in New Zealand and the opportunities that it has given me. My parents worked incredibly hard to provide the very best for all of us. I was very close to both of my parents, but especially to my dad and he always used to say "you have brains use them and always have a job". That is something that all of us have carried through all of our lives.

I have lived overseas and spent some time in the Netherlands but mostly the last 30 years have been spent in Christchurch. I returned to Christchurch to be with my dad after my dear mum (who I miss every single day) had passed away in 1986, and I just never left. Dad passed in 2003.

I've had a very interesting career. I am the Managing Director of Calibrae Ltd and work as a strategic management consultant, across many sectors. I am a professional executive who has successfully led large market driven businesses. I have particular strengths in strategy, business

development, product development, management of multiple projects, change management, innovation and multi-level stakeholder communication.

I have a passion for educational and social issues and have learnt basic Te Reo.

I am involved with several private companies, having a strong connection with the property sector and sit on many boards across community, not for profit and private companies and am a trustee of several trusts.

In the mid-late 90's I contributed to magazines such as She, More, Grace, The New Zealand Woman's Weekly and The Money Line offering my unique pearls of financial and personal wisdom. I drew on my extensive experience in the business sector and my financial ability to focus my articles on prudent fiscal management and making the best decisions about money on a day-to-day basis.

I was the Project Manager for the "Going to Hospital" Booklet, which was distributed via the Canterbury District Health Board and the Pegasus Health GP network to children.

In 2006 I published a book "Each Day is Blessed", a personal account of growing up in New Zealand as the child of an immigrant family.

I have had a great deal of community involvement dating right back to when I first started working, when I worked with support networks in the community, co-ordinated a programme of service clubs with Civil Defence, taught first aid and carried out 200 hours of voluntary ambulance service. I am a qualified first aider and also qualified USA Red Cross.

I am the proud mum of Jordan, a men's/unisex clothing designer (with his own store). Jordan lives and works in Auckland, but his brand is gaining international recognition and it looks like 2022 is going to be a big year for him as he taps into being represented in the Japanese, USA, UK and other European markets. I am very, very proud of all he has achieved.

I am a competitive dragon boater having represented New Zealand at the World Nations Championships in Thailand in 2019 and also my club at the Club Crew World Championships in Adelaide in 2016 and Hungary in 2018. Unfortunately, the 2020 championship was cancelled. I am the President of the International Breast Cancer Paddlers Commission, a global organisation with approx. 10,000 global members across 6 continents and 33 countries.

I really enjoy exploring nature and in my spare time I like to walk, read, travel, work on interior design, do movie reviews for a radio station and walk my pup Rosie on the beach. My daily mantra is to live each day to the maximum, whilst being incredibly grateful for every single moment.

There were many comments on the article and one asked if I could speak Dutch. The answer to that is that until I was five years old, I was bi-lingual, but then realised that not everyone spoke Dutch, so asked my parents to only speak English, consequently I can understand but cannot speak Dutch well and am therefore looking forward to the Dutch language classes to be held soon. Read more about this on page 12.



Meri's New Zealand team competes in the world event in Florence, Italy.



Meri and her son Jordan on a product buying/selling trip to New York.



Meri and her team at the opening ceremony of the world championships in Szeged, Hungary.

What's On!



Important: Please check Traffic Light settings for each event.

Dutch Language Classes/ Nederlandse Les



Sunday 20 February, 2pm
Thursday 24 February, 7pm

We are finally kicking off our Dutch language classes, starting with two “meet and greet” sessions in February. We have two wonderful teachers willing to help us.

Several people have already registered their interest in joining and we understand some are still on holiday and may not be able to make it to one of the February sessions.

These sessions are for us to get together over a coffee and a nibble and see what people are expecting and what we can offer. We hope to see many of you there, including those willing to help with Dutch conversation.

The initial sessions are scheduled for Sunday afternoon 20 February at 2pm and Thursday evening 24 February at 7pm. Coffee and nibbles will be provided.

Klootschieten



**Klootschieten op zijn NSC's op
zondag 27 februari 2022**

Wat dat precies betekent: We hebben de regels en parcours aangepast zodat het een familie-activiteit is. De bedoeling is om in zo min mogelijk worpen het parcours af te leggen. Je mag alleen onderhands gooien door een “poortje” van ongeveer 50cm hoog. We doen dit op het grasveld naast ons clubhuis.

Natuurlijk zijn er prijzen te winnen. Nadien genieten van een kopje soep (met ballen), een broodje kroket en toetje.

Je kunt je opgeven bij Annie. Bel haar mobiel 021 062 5656 of thuis 03 383 1594

Doe dit voor 23 februari.
Aanvang: 11am

De kosten zijn:

- Voor leden \$ 10.00/pp en niet-leden prijs als je je op de dag aanmeld
- Voor niet-leden \$15.00/pp
- Kinderen tot 10 jaar gratis



Dutch Market

Sunday 13 February 2022
10am-12.30pm

Poffertjes, een broodje kroket, witlof, kaas, broodje haring en allerlei lekkere Nederlandse etenswaren.



Kingdom of the Netherlands

News from the Embassy

Volume 1, Issue 3

January 2022

Important dates

Pop Up consular desks

Auckland

22 & 23 February
Holland House

Christchurch

19 April
Netherlands Society

Hamilton

15 June
Zenders

Tip of the month

Follow us on Facebook for the latest news:
Embassy of the Netherlands in New Zealand



23 April - 1 May 2022

The program for the Dutch week is starting to take form!

Saturday 23 April	Opening and Big Dutch Day Out Foxton
	Official Opening Film festival Auckland, Christchurch & Wellington t.b.c.
Monday 25 April	ANZAC DAY
Tuesday 26 April	DBA event in Auckland t.b.c.
Wednesday 27 April	Kingsday Start orange lights around the country
Thursday 28 April	Film festival Auckland, Christchurch & Wellington t.b.c.
Friday 29 April	Speech competition Dutch Language Day
Saturday 30 April	Nationwide Orange Bike Ride Vrijmarkten and Kingsday celebrations
Sunday 1 May	Closing Film festival Auckland, Christchurch & Wellington t.b.c. Commemoration of end of WW2 Auckland

The program is subject to change. More information to follow

Meet the team!

We would like to introduce you to the consular team at the Embassy.

Hanneke Koolen, Senior Consular Officer, our longest running consular team member, she joined the team in 2015.

Petra Verdoorn, Senior Consular Officer has been with the team for 5,5 years

Jaco van der Walt, Senior Consular Officer, who joined us in 2019.

Maartje Thorns is our Operational Manager & Head of Consular Affairs, she has been at the Embassy for almost 11 years

We are here to help and we look forward meeting you either at the Embassy or at one of our Pop Up Consular desks.

Activating your DigiD

Did you know that your DigiD activation code can now be collected via a video call with a 24/7 Netherlands Worldwide staff member. This means that you don't need to travel to a DigiD collection point. You need the activation code to activate your DigiD.

Visit our website for more information

www.netherlandsworldwide.nl/living-working/digid/collecting-your-digid-activation-code-via-video-call



Fitnessen

Waarom zou ik in Godsnaam gaan fitnessen?????

Als je weet dat:

De uitvinder van de loopband stierf op 54-jarige leeftijd

De uitvinder van gymnastiek stierf op 57-jarige leeftijd

De wereldkampioen bodybuilding stierf op 41-jarige leeftijd

De beste voetballer ter wereld, Maradona, stierf op 60-jarige leeftijd

MAAR.....:

De uitvinder van het merk Nutella stierf op 88-jarige leeftijd

De sigarettenmaker Winston stierf op 102-jarige leeftijd

De uitvinder van opium stierf op 116-jarige leeftijd bij een aardbeving

De uitvinder van Hennessey Liquor stierf op 98-jarige leeftijd

Hoe kwamen artsen tot de conclusie dat lichaamsbeweging het leven langer maakt?

Het konijn springt altijd op en neer, maar het leeft maar 2 jaar, en de schildpad, die helemaal niet traint, leeft 400 jaar

Dus rust, ontspan, blijf koel, eet, drink en geniet van je leven 😊



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Clubs are available for hire.

**The course is open every day except Saturday from
12noon to 4pm.**

**New members are very welcome. Membership
details are available at clubrooms - 03 3238641
(entrance from back car park)**

or from Secretary

**Miles Ruddenklau
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Youth of Yesterday 2022

I wish you all a better and happy New Year.

Our year ended with a free 2 course luncheon (that sounds posh!) and chocolates for the members. A long table was set up. Annie, Pete and myself had decorated the Christmas tree for the overall members, so we the YOY benefitted from that.

The main bulk of the food was sourced from Hard Wok Express 124 Opawa Road. There were also some salads made for those that do not like Chinese. Dessert, wine, juice, etc, was available. Hard Wok Express do a wonderful job for me as they work outside of their working day and allow me to pick up at a time that I can get to the Everglades in time for lunch. Everyone seems happy with it.

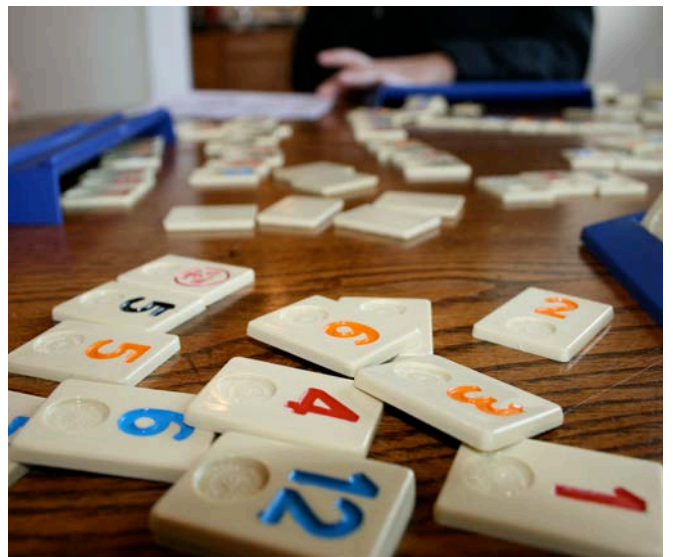
I would like to give a big, big thank you to all the members for the lovely basket of goodies and if that was not enough, I was also given a voucher which I used at Christmas. I felt very spoilt. I hope to see you all back and wish all those that are not well my very best wishes.

At the luncheon I had helpers in the kitchen, Francine and Annie. Also, the many offers of help from others.

We have 2 free soups in the middle of the year of which Hannah provides one.

To all those and Jose who also filled in for me when I was away and helped in the kitchen, a very big thank you.

Hoping you all enjoyed your break and had a great Christmas.



**Every Friday morning
9.30am - 2pm approx.**

**3 groups operating: cards, adult
colouring in, rummicub.**

Maybe you would just like to get out of the house for a coffee and chat speaking Dutch with a group of friends, or maybe you are a group of knitters, crochet, etc. You are most welcome. We have plenty of space.

Phone Lilian on 381-0218 for info.



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Hall Hire

At the end of November, we had planned a party at home in the garden. The weather forecast was beautiful the days before but, on the day, itself wasn't looking so good.

What to do with our party only two days away? We started to make alternative plans and were looking for a hall or similar to hire.

We tried the Everglades and yes it was still available on such a short notice.

In the eve before our party, we met Dee and Pete by the Everglades and they gave us all the instructions about the hall, kitchen, sounds etc.

We got the key at the same time and could start decorating the hall and put our food in the two big fridges. We had to give the key back the day after the party but not until noon, so we had plenty of time to clean everything up the next day.

Everything what you might need is there.

For anyone who would like to host a party we recommend the Everglades. It is also ideal for parking and special for the members at much reduced price.

Thanks Dee and Pete for helping us out, it was the best decision we had made and we had a lovely party.

Thanks again Fons and Ellis



Fons and Ellis Sanders party at the Everglades club rooms.

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www.peteknuiman.co.nz

New members welcome!

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

For more info contact the Membership Secretary: 022 362 3411, secretary.nsc@gmail.com

Post this application to: Miryam Denny, PO Box 35177, Christchurch 8640

Or, email application to: secretary.nsc@gmail.com



Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Post Code: _____

City: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

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

☐ 0-16yrs _____ ☐ 17-29yrs _____ ☐ 30-49yrs _____ ☐ 50+yrs _____

Membership: ☐ \$30 - Single membership

☐ \$42 - Family membership (includes children up to 16yrs of age)

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NSC Committee Members

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Marjon Stegehuis – 027 341 9016
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Annie van der Dussen – 021 0625656
Jan Hollestelle – 022 677 5024
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Lilian van Elk – 027 751 9338
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Anneke Lavery – 027 209 2443
Janice Geerlofs – 027 696 7522
Meri Gibson – 027 227 3979

Affiliated and Other Clubs

Hall Hire – Dee Segeren, 027 356 6650
Costume Hire – Marina Wijlaars, (03) 323 4465
Klaverjas Club Ons Genoegen – Wim de Winter, (03) 352 5317
Neerlandia Choir Christchurch – Annie van der Dussen, 021 062 5656
Toenail Culture Ale – Annie van der Dussen, 021 062 5656
Walking Club 'De Landlopers' – Joop Stokvis, 021 0813 3480
Youth of Yesterday – Lilian van Elk, 027 751 9338

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