

Newsletter of the New Zealand Netherlands Society (Wgtn) Incorporated

# THE DOUBLE DUTCH

Issue 2022/5 (the tulip edition)

October – November 2022



***Tulip Sunday – at the Dutch Club – with our new Ambassador!***

**COMING UP: Leidens Ontzet \* Ideas for our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Join us for coffee mornings, Klaverjas and Sunday afternoon socials.**

# The committee – Het comité

## Officers

President	Pierre Schmits	021 0827 2084	<a href="mailto:pierre.schmits@yahoo.com">pierre.schmits@yahoo.com</a>
Vice-President/ Assistant Secretary	Carolina van Rooy		<a href="mailto:carolinavanrooy@gmail.com">carolinavanrooy@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Anne-Marie Knibbeler	027 9515770	<a href="mailto:dutchclubwlg.secretary@gmail.com">dutchclubwlg.secretary@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Rita Langerak		<a href="mailto:ritalangerak68@gmail.com">ritalangerak68@gmail.com</a>
Assistant Treasurer	Ann Beyk	04 567 8575	
Financial Advisor:	René van Lierop	04 977 7086/021 740930	<a href="mailto:dutchclubwlg.treasurer@gmail.com">dutchclubwlg.treasurer@gmail.com</a>

## Other committee members

Bar Licence Holder:	René van Lierop	04 977 7086/021 740930	
Manager of bar, kitchen and other supplies; Cleaner:	Anna Heythuysen	027 563 6026	
Committee member:	Bill Wegewijs	027 390 7921	<a href="mailto:billwegewys2018@gmail.com">billwegewys2018@gmail.com</a>

## Positions outside the committee

Double Dutch Editor:	Martin de Jong	021 909 688	<a href="mailto:dutchclubwgn.editor@gmail.com">dutchclubwgn.editor@gmail.com</a>
Facebook Administrator:	Saskia Knibbeler	027 22 2287	<a href="mailto:s.knibbeler@gmail.com">s.knibbeler@gmail.com</a>
Website Administrator:	Pierre Schmits/Saskia Knibbeler		
Gardener/grounds maintenance:	Ben Lokum		

## Activities – Activiteiten

Klaverjas, Dutch Costumes	Ann Beyk	04 567 8575
Wednesday Coffee Morning	Anne-Marie Knibbeler	027 9515770
Library	Carolina van Rooy & Rita Langerak	(see above)
Friendly Support Network	Mr Bill van Waas	04 298 4244
Waikanae Coffee Morning	Mrs Henny Ekens	04 297 2918

## Links

Our club's website	<a href="http://www.dutchclubwellington.co.nz">www.dutchclubwellington.co.nz</a>
Our club on Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/dutchclubwellington/">www.facebook.com/dutchclubwellington/</a>
The Federation of NZ Netherlands Societies	<a href="http://www.dutchcommunities.co.nz">www.dutchcommunities.co.nz</a>
Dutch Connections community website	<a href="https://dutchnz.nz">https://dutchnz.nz</a>
Netherlands Embassy, Wellington	<a href="http://www.netherlandsworldwide.nl/countries/new-zealand">www.netherlandsworldwide.nl/countries/new-zealand</a>
Email:	<a href="mailto:wel@minbuza.nl">wel@minbuza.nl</a>
Ph:	04 471 6390

## What's On

### At the clubrooms:

**Coffee mornings:** 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 10-1pm.

**Sunday instuif:** Sundays 2pm - 5 pm.

**Klaverjas:** every Tuesday 10am - 2pm. Bring your own lunch.

**Spelletjes/Games afternoon:** 2nd Sunday of the month (with Sunday instuif).

### Elsewhere:

**Island Bay coffee group:** every last Wednesday of the month, 10.30am – 12 noon, Island Bay Community Centre, The Parade, Island Bay. \$3.00 per person. **(Note change to monthly only).**

**Waikanae coffee group,** every 2nd Friday of the month, 10am, Baptist Church, 286 Te Moana Rd, Waikanae.

**Levin coffee morning:** every last Thursday of the month, 10am, Levin Bridge Club.

# Final call for Leidens Ontzet tickets!

At time of writing, there were still a few seats available for our Leidens Ontzet lunch on Sunday 9 October.

At this event our newly arrived ambassador Ard van der Vorst will be joining our lunch. If you enjoy eating haring, hutspot, klapstuk and would like to have the opportunity to “meet and greet” Ard and his husband, contact us to see if there are still seats available. We have a strict limit of 40 guests only.

The event will start at 11:30 with a welcome drink, and food will be served at 12:30. Seats can be booked by talking to Ann Beyk at one of our regular events, or by contacting Anne-Marie Knibbeler by phone 027-9515770, or by email at [dutchclubwlg.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:dutchclubwlg.secretary@gmail.com).

Entrance fee for members is \$25 per person and \$40 for non-members. There will be no door sales and payment needs to be made before attending either by:

- Paying Ann Beyk in cash at one of our events; or
- via bank transfer (with details "Leidens Ontzet") to:  
Account name: New Zealand Netherlands Society  
Wellington Inc. Account number: 03 0525 0098055  
00



Leiden Ontzet, Holland gered!!

*Pierre*



*Ben Lokum has been keeping our tulips under his watchful care, fortunate given our surprise guest for our 'Tulip Sunday' at home on 25 September – see more on pages 6-7, and tulip pictures throughout.*

# From the President – Van de Voorzitter

Hello everybody,

We are moving into summer and let's hope that we will have as much sunshine as we had rain in the past months!

At the time of writing, I should have been in the Botanic Gardens setting up for Tulip Sunday but alas, I am not. It was a tough decision but after due debate, the committee decided not to participate this year in the Spring event. (See page 3 for more)

August and September have been quiet months which is a good thing in the lead up to end-of-year activities that are approaching rapidly.

We have started preparations for our Leidens Ontzet and additional to what we mentioned in the previous Double Dutch I can report that we have a special guest – our new Ambassador –

attending this year (see page 3). There are still a few seats for the event available so book now if you don't want to miss out on haring, hutspot and klapstuk!

Other than the dates for Sinterklaas, our Christmas lunch and the New Year's celebration, we have no further details at this stage in time. Please mark those dates in your calendar and you will receive more information via our website and a newsletter.

Talking about events, we have a special celebration coming up next year namely our club's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I have a few important questions for you regarding this, so read on later in this issue.

See you soon,

*Pierre.*

## Farewell to Bill Wegewijs – for now

It is with a mixed feeling of sadness and pleasure that I am informing you about the fact that Bill Wegewijs is not with us anymore.....don't worry, he is not dead!

Bill will be moving to Te Puke in the beautiful Bay of Plenty. He made that decision to live close to his daughter Margaret and her family who are shifting to Papamoa.

The sadness comes from the fact that we are losing a friend as a club and as a committee. Bill is a cheerful person who is always willing to help, and he has done so on many occasions in the short time that he was a member.

However, we are very happy for Bill about the fact that he can be close to his family, enjoy a new neighbourhood and still have the freedom to travel overseas which, according to his own saying, is high on his bucket list.

That he is serious about the latter is clear as he is currently in Europe travelling through France, the Netherlands and probably a few more countries.



*Bill with a friend at Staglands in March 2022*

We wish Bill good luck in his future endeavours and hope to see him often at the clubhouse whenever he is visiting our region.

*Pierre.*

# From the Secretary – Van de Secretaresse



Dear all

I'm writing this on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September. It's a miserable, rainy day and I'm glad we, as a committee, decided not to go ahead with catering for Tulip Sunday in the Botanic

Gardens. Why not? It would have been too wet and cold for standing around in the open air for our café. The Tree House has been made into a shop, the grassed area outside the Sound Shell was out of bounds and we (and others) were not allowed to use the grassed areas near the tulips. We would have had to have our café and all other food sales on the smallish parking lot outside, behind the Tree House.

Luckily, our regular coffee morning people are back from having been ill/in isolation/not able to come because of bad weather. We've had very

low to low numbers these past two months (but still 'gezellig') and I'm hopeful for a better attendance in the spring and summer months. I'm very grateful to JoAnna Eikenbroek and Rita Langerak for their assistance on the Wednesdays, and to Julie Tan for her willingness to make soup now and then.

Leidens Ontzet is the next event, on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> of October. I hear there are just a few places still available, so please ring Ann Beyk on (04) 567 8575 to book. Cost is \$25 for members and \$40 for non-members. See payment details on page 3 of this issue.

To those of you who are unwell, I wish you strength and, if possible, a good recovery,

Best wishes to you all,

*Anne-Marie*



# Tulip Sunday – Avalon House style

As I already alluded to in my introduction to this edition, the committee decided not to participate in the Tulip Sunday 2022 event.

The main reason for this was the weather forecast as given on Thursday 22 September (first day of spring, at least according to the vernal equinox). It mentioned heavy rain for Saturday and rain for Sunday, combined with (strong) southeasterly winds and a temperature of 12 degrees. In other words, ingredients for a cold miserable day, especially when you are outside.

We combined this with the fact that this year we were not able to use the Treehouse nor the grass area in front of the Soundshell, combined with the fact that Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> was part of a long weekend due to Monday 26<sup>th</sup> being a public holiday (Queen's Memorial Day). We concluded that pulling out was a better option than having 20 odd volunteers shivering in the stalls with very little punters to keep them busy (and warm).

This meant that for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row (the first two due to the COVID pandemic), we did not

celebrate this event at the Botanic Gardens. However, we felt that the effort of preparing for this event, and believe me it is a lot, should not outweigh the pleasure (and yes, also the revenue) of taking part.

The combination of factors also gave rise to initiating a brainstorm session with both the Botanic Gardens and the Dutch embassy on how to mitigate some of these aspects. This will happen soon to give us ample time to be (better) prepared in the coming year(s).

Instead of weathering the cold at the Botanic Gardens, we celebrated the tulips in the garden of Avalon House with a smaller, but nevertheless “gezellig”, event as can be seen from the images. A surprise visit from Ard van der Vorst, our newly arrived ambassador, gave the opportunity to “meet and greet” with those present.

Hopefully we can celebrate Tulip Sunday 2023 with the public again.

*Pierre.*





Rita Langerak shows us how to drink advocaat, Willy Muller shows us how to eat haring, and Ben Lokum shows us how to dance! Arguably. And the tulips grow on.



# Koffiemorgens galore! Round and about

In addition to our regular coffee mornings on the first and third Wednesdays at Avalon House, some club members also run coffee mornings in 'outlier posts' in three other locations. These take place in Waikanae every 2nd Friday of the month, Island Bay every last Wednesday and in Levin every last Thursday of the month. For locations, times and other details, please see the listings on page 2.

Thanks to Pieter Laterveer who provided photos from Waikanae and Island Bay groups recently. (We hope to share some from Levin at a later date). Pieter also provided the brief account of Waikanae's August gathering opposite.



*The Island Bay coffee group – no doubt after a 'gezellige koffiemorgen', and the tables had been cleared.*





Another successful Waikanae Coffee morning was well run and organised by Henny Ekens on Friday 8th of August 2022 on the beautiful sunny Kapiti coast.

A lovely coffee morning was enjoyed by 21 coffee seekers from all over the district including our President, Pierre. Very good coffee had been made by Nellij on a par with Avalon (personal opinion) Pauline was in charge of the kitchen and we were served by our 'waitress' Anns.

- Pieter Laterveer (*"helping hand"*)



# COMING UP – note them down!

While we don't have full details on upcoming events, note the dates in your calendar.

## Sinterklaas – Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December

Afternoon event in Avalon House from 13:30 to 15:30 hours. Registration via website and newsletter.

## Christmas – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December

Doors of Avalon House will be open at 11:30 for an afternoon luncheon in Christmas atmosphere. On the menu will

be seasonal European delicacies.

Registration and details will come via our website and newsletter.

## New Years – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023

The New Year will be welcomed in Avalon House with drinks, oliebollen and cheers. Starts at 2pm.

*Pierre*

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## Tuesday Klaverjas Club

Results from the last 10 weeks:

Week 24: 19 July - Julie Tan - 5202

Week 25: 26 July - Ann Bosh - 5352

Week 26: 2 August - Roel Ymker - 5221

Week 27: 9 August - Nick de Graauw - 5058

Week 28: 16 August - Ann Beyk - 5194

Week 30: 23 August - Roel Ymker - 5205

Week 31: 6 September - Julie Tan - 4788

Week 32: 13 September - Roel Ymker - 5243

Week 33: 20 September - Ann Beyk - 4722

We are sorry to lose our card member Bill Wegewijs, who went to Holland to see his sister, and coming back, he moved to Te Puke, but will come to play when he comes to see us when visiting in the Hutt area.

Our best wishes from us all.

See you on Tuesday.

*Ann Beyk*

## Birthday Greetings ...

Congratulations to our members due to celebrate birthdays in the coming months:

**October:** Bert ten Broeke, Bill Wegewijs, Joost de Bruin, Riekie van Dorresteijn.

**November:** Harry v.d. Gulik, Chris Veenswijk, Bill van Waas, Pierre Schmits and Jan Bakker.



# More of our prize tulips!



# Celebrating our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

As many of you know, our club was founded in 1948, on May 14th. This means that next year, in 2023, the New Zealand Netherlands Society Wellington Inc. will be 75 years young.

**We can't let this milestone go unnoticed but.....what to do?**

**That is where you come in!**

Please let your committee know about any ideas or suggestions that you might have about an event worthy of a 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

You can think big or small, near or far, expensive or cheap, winter or summer, morning, afternoon or evening, all ideas will be considered.

Ever wanted to do something with fellow members but weren't sure if it could be done? Now is the time to speak up. We look forward to your suggestions.

*Het Comité.*





# News from the Embassy

Volume 1, Issue 7

September 2022

## Important dates

### Pop Up Consular Desks

Followed by meet and greet drinks with the Ambassador. Information will follow soon for registration. Keep an eye out on our social media.

[Auckland](#), Holland House  
11 & 12 October 2022

[Christchurch](#), Netherlands  
Society Christchurch  
15 November 2022

## Tip of the month

You can now follow us on:

### Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/netherlandsembassyinnewzealand>

### Twitter

<https://twitter.com/NLembassyinNZ>

### LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/embassy-of-the-netherlands-in-new-zealand>

and on

### Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/netherlandsembassy-wellington>

for the latest news and events.

## Ard van der Vorst says “Hello”

Despite some classic Wellington weather during my first two weeks, I look forward to getting out and about, meeting with all the fellow Dutchies in Aotearoa New Zealand. Coming originally from Brabant I can deal with some wind and rain. Together with my husband we like to travel and enjoy some ‘gezelligheid’.

I am grateful to my predecessors Ambassadors Mira Woldberg and Rob Zaagman for their work and contributions and I will continue to move forward in strengthening the relations between both our countries. We are blessed and at your disposal with a professional Embassy staff in Wellington and the Honorary Consuls Sake Hitman in Auckland and Geordie Hooft in Christchurch. Also, I would like to pay tribute to all the dedicated volunteers of the Dutch clubs and organizations all around the country working effortlessly to showcase Dutch culture and hospitality. Thank you!



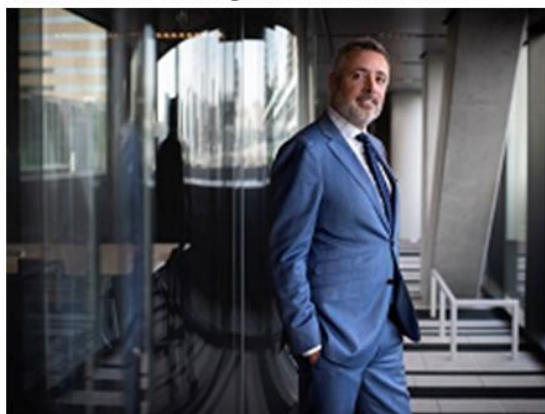
Being in New Zealand is not completely new to me. Part of my family came in the fifties and nineties to settle in your beautiful country. Leaving the Netherlands for an unknown destination was not an easy decision but offered an opportunity for a better life. After arriving, and over years of hard work, faith and dedication, their story is now a part of the overall journey to success that Dutch communities have had in New Zealand. Recently, new groups of Dutch immigrants have arrived. Many of them choosing New Zealand as their base for a more sustainable lifestyle. Along with them they have brought innovation and creativity to New Zealand, bringing a new perspective on Dutch-Kiwi collaboration with a common goal of working towards a world that works for everyone and includes all.

My work will very much focus on the Netherlands and New Zealand partnership on Climate Action. Our Embassy-team is here to learn from the achievements of New Zealand. We also would like to hear from you what you think the Dutch can do better in our collaboration with New Zealand. Obviously, we will continue to promote related trade and investments, building on scientific and research co-operation in the Agriculture and Water management. You can follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn for news updates on our work and the progress we make.

Looking very much forward to meeting you all in the coming weeks and months.

Yours / Hartelijke groet,

Ard M.M. van der Vorst  
Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



## Advertise with us!

If you want to advertise, please contact the secretary. Six issues are published each year.

### Advertising rates (excl GST):

A4 (full page): \$150/year or \$45/once

A5 (half page): \$100/year or \$25/once

A6 (quarter page): \$60/year or \$15/once

## Avalon House Hire

If you want to hire space at Avalon House, please contact the Club secretary. **(NB: New fees below).**

### Hire fees (excl GST):

Half-day (4 hours)	\$50
Full day (9am – 5 pm)	\$90
Evening (5-10pm)	\$60
Bond	\$100
Cleaning (if required)	\$50



*We may not have Twitter, but who needs it when our Ambassador is promoting for us – and all the other Dutch clubs and organisations around the country.*

*We thank Harbour City Funeral Home for generously printing The Double Dutch in full colour for us.*

# ABOUT FUNERALS

Informative  
FREE guide

This beautifully designed booklet contains answers to all the immediate questions family and friends will want to know at the time of a funeral. Colour photographs throughout, make this an easy to read comprehensive booklet, as the perfect guide to pre-planning a funeral. Included are sections for recording personal details and funeral preferences that can be retained for future use, making funeral planning easy for your loved ones. Call us now for a **FREE** copy of this guide, while stocks are available.



Call Danny Langstraat on

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# Het Laatste Woord: Van de Redacteur

Being of both Dutch and English descent, I could not let this issue go without acknowledging the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, the Head of State for Aotearoa New Zealand for 70 years. I am no royalist, but for people of my generation, she was always there. And for those who know their history – there is a strong Dutch connection with the British Crown.

It was all tied up with the religious wars and conflict of the Reformation, when the British Parliament invited the then Prince William III of the Netherlands, and his English wife Mary (daughter of James II of England) to become king and queen of England in 1689. They were both Protestants, and ruled as joint monarchs of England, Mary until her death in 1694, and William continuing until 1702. A lot of politics involved. Read more at: <https://www.royal.uk/william-and-mary>

In addition, Queen Elizabeth II was a 5th cousin twice removed from the present Dutch King Willem-Alexander. I am not wishing a short reign for the new King Charles III (!), but I am kind of looking forward to the day when there may be a "William" on both sides of the North Sea.



Turning to other 'Willems', I'd like to thank Willem Knibbeler for the excellent photos of Tulip Sunday – except the cover photo, which came to us via the Embassy. Also thanks to Pierre for the wonderful tulip photos interspersed throughout the pages, and of course, his many written contributions.

Finally, acknowledging the in-between season we are in, and autumn in the Netherlands, I'd like to leave you with a poem which I wrote in 2012, reflecting on my/our place here.

## Transplanted

*Second November, nineteen fifty-four  
my father arrived at Whenuapai –  
a 'good land'.*

*I saw him last in January.*

*When he phoned in early Feb, we spoke Dutch.*

*On a Sunday afternoon Mum called –*

*I would speak to him no more.*

*In October, my wife and I kicked autumn leaves  
at Queenswood and Amsterdam.*

*Red, golden, yellow, brown –  
drifted like snow.*

*On second November*

*I stood in his old kerk*

*at Teteringen.*

*Prayed for his soul*

*while his father and mother lay outside.*

*On the last day of the year,*

*I transplanted the evergreen*

*totara near the house, to the native bush.*

*'King of the forest',*

*it was more suited there.*

- Martin de Jong

**Sender:**

**New Zealand Netherlands Society (Wellington) Inc.  
61 Taita Drive, Avalon  
Lower Hutt 5011**

**Next Double Dutch: December-January. Deadline: 23 November**

*(Contributions to the Editor at [dutchclubwgn.editor@gmail.com](mailto:dutchclubwgn.editor@gmail.com); or post to the address below)*

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