

Echo

March
2023



Official Newsletter of the Netherlands Society Christchurch (Inc)



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Windmill Maria on Marshland unveiling. Photo credit: Pete Knuiman

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Vacant

Editor's note

Hello dear readers,

We don't know about you, but we are still buzzing (we know it was almost a month ago) about the official unveiling of Windmill Maria on Marshland. What a great day it was. Hundreds of people came along and they all enjoyed themselves.

Pete proposed to dress up in traditional Dutch "klederdracht". What an awesome idea that was. Even though not all of us were that keen to start with, but once we were all dressed up, we really felt very special. Especially with all the attention, we got. We hope you recognise your committee members on the front page.

A special "Thank you" goes to Zealandia for their donation of the Marigolds. It made "Maria" really pop with the orange on her base.

Unfortunately, Hedwig from Lekker Dutch had hot oil over a small part of her foot but the blisters were definitely not small. Luckily, she kept herself under control and she is recovering slowly. The wind blew the table and everything on it over. "n ongeluk zit in een klein hoekje". We wish her all the best.

Pete & Dee

Editors, 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 in Word format (.doc NOT .docx). Please ensure any images are of good quality. Please send to:
editor.nsc@gmail.com

President's greeting

Hallo lezers van onze Echo,

Ik weet niet wat jullie ervan vonden, maar ik heb genoten van de officiële opening van Windmill Maria on Marshland in combinatie met de Europese markt. Wat was het een ongelooflijk mooie en gezellige dag. Het hele comité in Nederlandse klederdracht, wie had dat gedacht. Kijk op pagina's 4-6 voor een uitgebreide fotoreportage.

Het is alweer bijna april, dus de contributie rekening voor 2023 – 2024 valt binnenkort in je brievenbus of email inbox. Zoals we vorig jaar tijdens de AGM hebben besproken en overeenstemming over hebben bereikt, kan de contributie rekening voor het nieuwe contributie jaar hoger zijn dan de bijdrage die je op dit moment betaald. Ter herinnering: dit is waar we allemaal ja op hebben gezegd:

- Voor iedereen die de Echo digitaal ontvangt, gaat de contributie niet omhoog
- Voor diegenen die nu de Echo als hard kopie ontvangen, maar ervoor hebben gekozen voortaan de Echo digitaal te ontvangen (via email van Black Camel Creative), blijft de contributie ook hetzelfde
- Maar voor die leden die de Echo ook na maart 2023 via de post willen blijven ontvangen, gaat de contributie omhoog:
 - Persoonlijk lidmaatschap van \$30 naar \$48 per jaar
 - Familie lidmaatschap van \$42 naar \$60 per jaar

I will repeat the above also in English as not everyone is fluent in Dutch:

- For those members who receive the Echo digitally the subs will not increase
- For those members who currently receive the Echo as hard copy, but want to receive the Echo digitally (via email from Black Camel Creative), will continue to pay the same subs amount
- The members who want to continue to receive Echo by post after March 2023, will have to pay the increased subs amount:
 - Single member from \$30 to \$48 a year
 - Family members from \$42 to \$60 a year

De rekeningen zullen via Xero worden verstuurd. Dit maakt het voor ons ook makkelijker om bij te houden wie wel of nog niet heeft betaald. Dit houdt tevens in dat het tonen van je "membership" kaart niet langer nodig is. Voor diegenen die een "membership" kaart moeten tonen bijvoorbeeld voor de korting bij de Everglades Golfclub, kunnen natuurlijk een kaart aanvragen. Informatie hoe je dit kunt doen, zal op de rekening worden vermeld.

De Dutch Market in april zal op **2 april** plaatsvinden. Dit omdat het op 9 april Pasen is en we verwachten dat velen op vakantie zullen zijn, zeker ook de kinderen die jaarlijks deelnemen aan onze Easter Egg Hunt. Lees hierover meer op pagina 9.

We zijn door de Nederlandse Ambassade in Wellington benaderd om deel te nemen aan de National Orange Bike Ride op zondag 30 april. Sam van Hout zal namens NSC de organisatie leiden. Kijk voor meer informatie op pagina 9.

Ik doe een oproep voor diegenen binnen de NSC familie, die geïnteresseerd zijn in het wel en wee van onze club. Laat je nomineren om zitting te nemen in ons comité. Er zullen misschien comité leden zijn die willen aftreden aan het eind van dit jaar. Als je meer informatie wilt, praat met een van de leden. We vergaderen één keer per maand en het comité lid kan je een idee geven wat lid zijn van ons comité inhoudt.

Hartelijke groet,

Dee



Dee Segeren

President
Netherlands Society
Christchurch (Inc.)

Windmill Maria on Marshland







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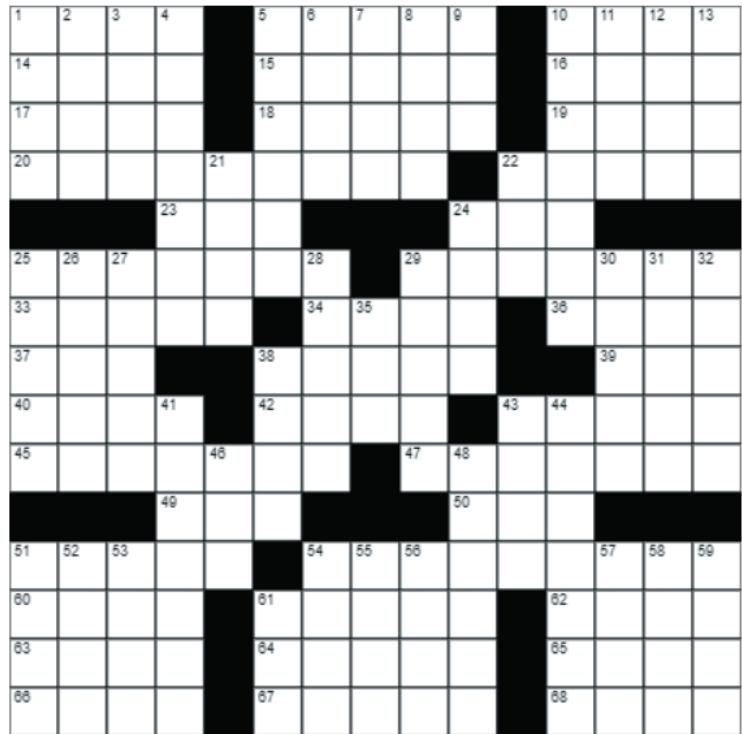
Puzzles

Across

1- Skeptic's scoff; 5- Accumulation of fluids; 10- Discontinue; 14- Method; 15- Pick up; 16- Pasternak heroine; 17- Wings; 18- Atlas feature; 19- Actor Stoltz; 20- Dedicated; 22- Pig out; 23- Intense anger; 24- Rule, for short; 25- Class where you learn ser, estar, and haber; 29- Topmost; 33- Supermodel Cheryl; 34- Blind as ___; 36- Family portrait?; 37- Calendar abbr.; 38- Shut; 39- Barely beat; 40- Control; 42- Author Hunter; 43- Anwar's successor; 45- Molasses; 47- Enticed; 49- Up to, informally; 50- Caviar; 51- Arrogant; 54- Auction space; 60- It may be happy; 61- Caper; 62- Competent; 63- Quechua speaker; 64- Guide; 65- Some digits; 66- Satirist Mort; 67- Unfolds; 68- Socialite Maxwell;

Down

1- Apple variety; 2- String tie; 3- Dutch cheese, wrapped in red wax; 4- Abounding; 5- In groups; 6- Fender ding; 7- Alleviate; 8- TV horse; 9- Tiny toiler; 10- Dexterity; 11- Mountain lake; 12- Not a dup.; 13- Step; 21- Coloured part of the eye; 22- Panhandle; 24- Ceremonial act; 25- Maze word; 26- Scottish musician; 27- Lofty nest; 28- Cleave in two; 29- Lacks; 30- Director Lubitsch; 31- Paris divider; 32- Halfhearted; 35- Fur scarf; 38- Unit of an insurgency; 41- Chemical-free; 43- Med. care providers; 44- Run; 46- Heston's hero, with Loren: El ___; 48- Builds; 51- Greek letters; 52- Author Jaffe; 53- "That smarts!"; 54- Use scissors; 55- Salt tree; 56- Hero; 57- Ancient Greek coin; 58- Corrida cries; 59- Small plateau; 61- Mil. address;



Sudoku easy

	7			2			4	6	
	6						8	9	
2			8				7	1	5
	8	4		9	7				
7	1							5	9
			1	3			4	8	
6	9	7			2				8
	5	8						6	
4	3			8				7	

Sudoku medium

2							6	9	
	5					3			
1	7					9	4		5
		3		2	5			1	8
				4					
7	2		3	8			5		
5		2	6					4	1
				5				7	
	6	7							3

What's On!



Dr. Ursula Rack

On 24th March Dr. Ursula Rack will give a presentation about Antarctica.

Where: NSC Clubrooms, 637 Marshland Road

When: 24 March at 6.30pm (doors open at 6pm)

Coffee and tea will be provided

Dr Rack is a polar historian with specific expertise in Antarctic explorations from around the turn of the twentieth century. Her research interests relate to the social conditions on polar expeditions, ranging from the 19th century up until the modern day.

In May 2018 Dr. Rack was appointed as the Austrian Honorary Consul for the South Island of New Zealand.

Since 2018, she is working as a lecturer for Antarctic history and expedition staff for the company Silversea. The voyages are on the west coast of the Antarctic Peninsula as well as the Malvinas/Falkland Islands and South Georgia.

We would love to see you on the 24th March so please come along and listen to Dr. Rack's Antarctic travel journeys to and experiences in this very cold part of the world.



DUTCH MARKET

12th March
10am-12.30pm

April Market:

The Dutch Market for April has been moved to the 1st Sunday of the Month:

2 April



What's On!

Easter Egg Hunt



Because this year the second Sunday in April is on Easter Sunday we have decided to bring the market one week forward to 2 April, being the first Sunday of the month.

Since the Easter Bunny always comes on the Sunday before Easter we have decided to combine the 2 events.

For the children there will be several activities to participate in and off course the Easter Bunny will visit and help the children with the egg hunt.

The market will start at the usual time of 10am.

For the children the activities start at 11am.

We expect the Easter Bunny to arrive at 12 midday to take the children to the egg hunt. After that, around 12.30 pm we will do the prizes for the colouring in competition.

The "kleurplaten" for the colouring-in will be provided on the day.

Bookings can be made by calling Annie, mob: 021-0625656

Cost per child is \$5

Orange Bike Ride



Dutch Week which will run from 27 April to 7 May and includes: the Big Dutch Day Out, Dutch Film Festival, Orange Bike Ride, Speech Competition, Vrijmarkten and several buildings around the country lit in Orange.

This year the nationwide Orange Bike Ride will take place on Sunday 30 April. We would like to encourage all participants to wear the Dutch national orange colour, dress to impress, decorate their bikes, and just have fun! It will be an open event for all of New Zealand to enjoy! (More information on Facebook and in April's Echo.)

Official ride start: is 10am Corner Ilam Road/ University Drive, but you can start every 15 minutes between 10am and 12pm.

Distance: About 4km, 15 to 60 minutes depending on your speed! There will be a prize-giving at the end for the best dressed cyclist and the best dressed bike.

Finish: Hagley Golf Club. Hand over your filled out quiz form to receive a Dutch treat and win great prizes.

Route:



STICHTING NEDERLAND ERS BUITEN NEDERLAND

Dit is de nieuwsbrief van SNBN, Stichting Nederlanders buiten Nederland. De organisatie die opkomt voor jouw situatie.



Tienduizenden in buitenland hebben zich geregistreerd voor historische verkiezingen

Vandaag heeft de overheid bekendgemaakt dat 37.173 Nederlanders vanuit 177 landen zich hebben geregistreerd voor de aankomende verkiezingen van het nieuwe Kiescollege Niet-Ingezetenen (en daarmee indirect voor de Eerste Kamer): "De kiezers die in het buitenland wonen kunnen stemmen voor 129 kandidaten uit 27 landen; 12 politieke partijen en 1 onafhankelijke kandidaat." Dit betekent dat het Kiescollege 25 zetels zal krijgen.

Via dit Kiescollege kunnen Nederlanders buiten Nederland dit jaar voor het eerst invloed uitoefenen op de verkiezingen voor de Eerste Kamer, net zoals Nederlanders in Nederland dat via de Provinciale Staten kunnen doen. De inschatting is dat vanaf 13 februari de stembiljetten en kandidatenlijsten worden verzonden.

'Uitstekende start'

De SNBN ziet dit als een uitstekende start, temeer:

- deze verkiezingen vanuit het niets moesten bekendgemaakt en uitgevoerd;
- hiervoor slechts drie maanden de tijd was gegund;
- veel Nederlanders zich niet hebben geregistreerd,

niet omdat ze niet mee wilden doen, maar omdat ze dachten (en deels nog denken) dat ze al geregistreerd stonden vanwege het zgn. Permanente Verkiezingsregister;

Ter vergelijking: voor de afgelopen Tweede Kamerverkiezingen stonden ruim 90.000 Nederlanders geregistreerd, maar dit is een cumulatief getal, oftewel opgebouwd op basis van meerdere verkiezingen en meerdere bekendmakingscampagnes. Dat de Nederlanders buiten Nederland deze nieuwe verkiezingen zouden "mijden", zoals Binnenlands Bestuur beweert, is op niets gebaseerd - immers mijden is het bewust niet mee willen doen. Een verzoek van ons om dit te rectificeren werd niettemin linea recta geweigerd door de hoofdredacteur: "Het artikel waar u op wijst bevat geen feitelijke onjuistheden," zo luidde het antwoord.



Donatieoproep

Ook in 2023 hebben we als stichting - los van campagnes en het aankomende verkiezingsfestival op 28 mei a.s. - natuurlijk gewoon lopende kosten voor hele praktische zaken als websitkosten, nieuwsbriefkosten et cetera. Het is daarom geweldig dat veel van jullie zo nu en dan een kleine of grote donatie doen (in valuta naar keuze!). Daardoor kunnen wij ons werk (pro bono) ongehinderd doen. Heb jij iets over voor de Stichting Nederlanders Buiten Nederland, dan is een een donatie altijd welkom en gemakkelijk online te doen.

En: Paypal werkt nu ook (via het emailadres kas@snbn.nl). Veel dank!

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Wij mogen nú al stemmen!

In tegenstelling tot Nederlanders in Nederland, mogen tienduizenden woonachtig in het buitenland vanaf vandaag al hun stem uitbrengen.

Als het goed is heb je recentelijk een mail ontvangen vanuit Den Haag met alle benodigde documenten. Dit geldt uiteraard alleen wanneer jij je had geregistreerd voor deze historische verkiezingen. Mocht je (nog) geen mail hebben gehad, dan vind je op onze website alle (algemene) documenten terug.

Ook horen wij graag wanneer je na je registratie nog steeds geen post hebt ontvangen met je (persoonlijke) briefstembewijs, of als je andere problemen hebt bij het uitbrengen van je stem. Wij verzamelen deze klachten.

Op onze speciale Verkiezingenpagina beantwoorden wij vragen met betrekking tot deze indirecte Eerste Kamerverkiezingen voor Nederlanders buiten de landsgrenzen. Op wie mogen we eigenlijk stemmen? Wanneer moet mijn stem zijn opgestuurd en mag ik deze ook bij de ambassade afgeven? Hoe zat het überhaupt ook alweer met stemmen vanuit het buitenland?

NederlandersBuitenNederland.nl/Verkiezingen

Tip: Wil jij niet wachten tot de volgende nieuwsbrief voor belangrijk nieuws voor Nederlanders buiten Nederland? Volg ons dan op twitter of facebook. We posten ook op Instagram!



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Youth of Yesterday



Every Friday morning
9.30am - 2pm approx.

Everyone is welcome. A small charge of \$2 entry. A bottomless cup of coffee/tea with a speculaas biscuit is provided. Bring your own lunch. If you know of someone or a group who would like to come, bring them. There is plenty of room.

4 groups operating: cards - Klaverjas, adult colouring in, rummikub, golfers

Maybe you would just like to get out of the house for a coffee and chat speaking Dutch/English with a group of friends, or maybe you are a group of knitters, crochet, etc. You are most welcome. You do not have to be dutch to join in.

Phone Lilian on 381-0218 for information
lilian_van_elk@hotmail.com

New Members since August 2022



Adam Raateland	10521SIN	July 2022
Dawn Hendrikse	10522SIN	Aug 2022
Fam. Hofmans	10523FAM	Sep 2022
Jitse Krab	10524SIN	Oct 2022
Chevy & Danielle de Bes	10524FAM	Nov2022
Joseph and Anita Sopers	10525FAM	Nov 2022
Herman Jansen	10526SIN	Jan 2023
Catherine v d Meulen	10527FAM	Jan 2023
Yvonne Gray	10528SIN	Mar 2023

Visiting elderly Dutch people in the community



We used to have the Friendly Support Network (FSN) in Christchurch, but with the ladies coordinating this getting a tad older themselves and one of them moving away from Christchurch this was cancelled.

Over the last year I have had several calls from people asking if we had someone able to visit their relative in a home. Those who are visited always appreciate it, and if you are learning to speak the language, this can also be a great opportunity to practice.

There is a real need out there should anyone be interested in getting this back of the ground. We will, of course, help where we can.

Met vriendelijke groet, Kind regards,

Miryam Denny
secretary.nsc@gmail.com // 022 3623411

De Nederlandse Taal Leren



Dutch language classes commence on March 12th at 1.15pm after the Dutch Market.

Everyone is welcome, whether you are proficient or just starting out.

We ask for a small fee of \$2 per lesson to cover coffee, tea, and printing costs.

Klaverjas Club Ons Genoegen

Hier zijn we dan. De vorige maand wel geschreven en weggestuurd zonder adres, knap gedaan dom he!

Dus we beginnen weer opnieuw. Het oude jaar werd uitgeluid met het uitreiken van de jaarlijkse prijzen. De nieuwe kampioen van het jaar 2022 was Ada Hogendoorn met 106,656 punten, 2de Theo van Vuuren met 106,314 punten, 3de Koos van Nieuwkerk met 106,141 punten, 4de Anna Fekkes met 105,851 punten, 5de Wim de Winter met 103,994 punten, 6de Agnes Stolp met 102,657 punten, 7de Ans van Vuuren met 102,595 punten, 8ste Bep van Polanen met 102,268 punten, 9de Thea Beulink met 88,708 punten en 10de Truus Nijssen met 88,277 punten. We dronken allemaal een glaasje op de winnaars en genoten van de lekkere lunch. Elke speler kreeg een klein Kerst cadeautje, een doosje chocola met de beste wensen van ons allen en dit gebeurde op 13 december. Op de 20ste december speelden we voor het laatst en toen was Gertrude Steltenpool de winnaar met 5,268 punten en Bep van Polanen met 5,233 punten. We zijn weer begonnen op de 17de januari 2023 en de eerste winnaars van het nieuwejaar waren Olga Verstappen met 5,041 punten en Ada Hogendoorn met 4,975.

De 24ste januari nam Lydia Verstappen de 1ste prijs mee met 5,378 punten en Gerard van Kuppevelt 2de met 5,188 punten. Op 31 januari zijn we weer begonnen te spelen voor het jaarlijkse Roster daar spelen we om de week voor en dan worden alle gehaalde punten opgeteld, zo dat we de nieuwe kampioen in kunnen luiden. Op 7 februari kwam Wim Slot als eerste uit de bus met 5,135 punten en Gerard van Kuppevelt 2de met 5,065 punten, We hopen Theo en Ans van Vuuren weer gauw te zien en ook Thea Beulink die komt altijd met Theo mee, want op latere leeftijd ben je gauw je rijbewijs kwijt. Maar ja we moeten wat te klagen hebben, hoewel het geen lolletje is want je wordt afhankelijk van het publieke transport wat soms moeilijk te bereiken is vooral als je zelf niet meer zo mobiel bent. Lang leven de oude van dagen.

Heeft U wel eens gedacht om dat kaartspel wat je vroeger nog thuis speelde, weer eens op te pakken? Kom dan eens langs en zie hoe dat gaat. Dat kan op dinsdag morgen om 10uur en als dit te vroeg voor je is, dan kun je langskomen op vrijdags. Kom gewoon binnen en ze geven je nog een kop koffie toe allemaal voor niks voor een keer, de tweede keer twee hele dollars. Het is daar heel gezellig. Waar: op de Everglades Marshland Road. Je kunt het nu niet meer missen want er staat een grote molen voor de deur. Ik hoop je te zien en wens je heel veel plezier in het spel van het leven, Wim .



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***"laat uw huis
weer stralen!"***

The mysterious art of Amsterdam's 'Unknown Sculptor'

In the heart of Amsterdam's Red Light District, in front of a magnificently imposing church, a piece of art in the road attracts just as many eyes as all the provocative scenery that surrounds it.

A bronze breast, gently caressed by an equally bronze hand, sticks out between cobblestones. The tiny sculpture raises just as many eyebrows today as it did when it appeared on a winter's night in 1993, placed by an artist whose identity remains a mystery.

The anonymous artist was active throughout the 80s and 90s, operating in the dead of night and scattering a total of six sculptures throughout Amsterdam.

Rumours about the artist's identity quickly spread, pointed fingers and all. The city council of Amsterdam, however, was able to reach the secret sculptor and struck a deal with them. The city was allowed to claim ownership of his work under one condition: It would keep the artist's identity a secret.

All the council has shared is that when he was active, the sculptor was a recreational artist, earning his pay check in the medical field. A doctor by day and an anonymous street artist by night, he bedazzled the city of Amsterdam one artwork at a time.

The artworks are simply accredited to "The Unknown Sculptor." And although Amsterdam has always been high on the lists of art connoisseurs worldwide, the story behind some of the city's most accessible artworks remains widely unknown. Here's where you can find the Unknown Sculptor's work.

'Man with Violin Case'



On Amsterdam's West Side, the Man with Violin Case continues to rush for the tram.

The first piece of work by the Unknown Sculptor appeared in 1982 in a location just outside of the realm of where a typical visitor would stray.

In "Man with Violin Case," which has also been referred to as "Man Trying to Catch Line 10," a headless man in a

raincoat and hat is carrying a violin case and running as if trying to catch the tram, which stops right in front of him. After a few years, the man disappeared. When he returned, he had been painted blue. Quelle mystery.

You'll find him if you walk just a mere 10 minutes south from Anne Frank's House. That's just outside of the Jordaan, Amsterdam's picturesque local's neighbourhood filled with smaller canals lined by crooked townhouses. And although tramline 10 is defunct, he is now aiming for line 5, for which he appears to be hurrying just as much.

'The Little Woodcutter'

In 1989, a tree in the middle of the bustling city centre suddenly had a visitor: "Het Boomzagertje," or "The Little Woodcutter." This little guy, who can be a little difficult to spot, is not far from Museumplein, which houses some of the most well-known and prestigious art in the world.

The woodcutter was placed in the night of then-Queen Beatrix's birthday. Begging for any of this to make sense, Amsterdammers jumped to the conclusion it was actually Her Majesty herself who had been behind these artworks.



The Little Woodcutter is easy to overlook, sawing away on one of the tree's branches.

Featuring a saw and a beret, the Little Woodcutter is barely noticeably in the hustle and bustle of the city, hiding away between the leaves in the spring and summer. But while everyone is mingling with a Rembrandt, Van Gogh or Vermeer, around the corner he quietly goes about his business.

'The Violinist'

In the bend of the Amstel River is a round building that oozes grandeur: the Stopera. It houses both Amsterdam's city hall and the National Opera & Ballet. Inside the former, right next to the entrance, appears to be a bronze violinist breaking through the floor and striking his instrument as if he were delighting all those strolling along the water with a ditty.

"The Violinist" is the only indoor piece by the Unknown Sculptor. The sculpture was initially intended to be placed in the sea, rising and disappearing from between the waves. It found its way to the city hall in 1991 and hasn't left since.



Right next to the entrance of Amsterdam's city hall, The Violinist has been playing since 1991.

Sharing a wall with the National Opera & Ballet suits the diligent musician well. Just outside, Waterlooplein is the home of the oldest flea market in the country.

'The Breast Plate'

"The Breast Plate" is still the most magnetic of the Unknown Sculptor's works, attracting glances from most who pass by. It can be found in front of the Oude Kerk, which straightforwardly translates to the Old Church; consecrated in 1306, it is Amsterdam's oldest building.

After the sculpture appeared in February 1993, the city quickly removed it. Within a week it had appeared and disappeared again. Residents of the neighbourhood made complaints about the bronze piece of art. It was a noise nuisance, with people stepping on it or hitting it with stones. It was inappropriate, next to the church. It was plain sexist.



In the heart of the Red Light District, tucked away between the cobblestones, lies the mysteriously placed bronze breast plate.

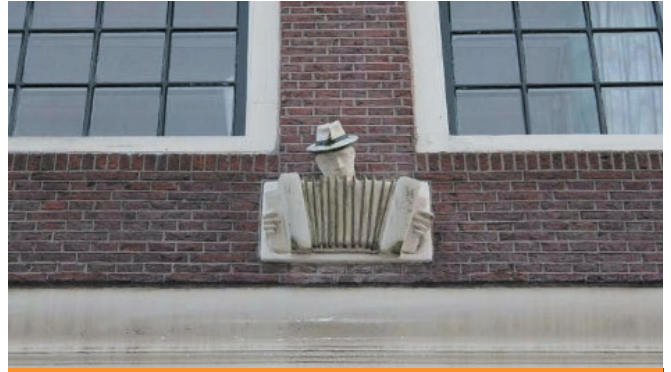
The plate made its reappearance, however, once again on request of the Amsterdammers. This is actually quite the piece of art, the consensus was.

The plate is seducing as ever, befitting its neighbourhood. Except taking a closer look at this breast doesn't cost you a penny.

'The Accordion Player'

In Amsterdam's Jordaan neighbourhood, the anonymous artist struck again on an unassuming residential street. "The Accordion Player" (1994) is attached to the facade

of a townhouse, in the style of what the Dutch call a "gable stone."



The Accordion Player, a piece seen on the façade of a house in the Jordaan area.

Amsterdam is scattered with old gable stones, which originally served more of a practical purpose than the decorative one they do today. Street numbers were an unknown concept in Amsterdam until the 18th century. Before that, a gable stone would give a clue as to what kind of people lived in the house, or identify the business located there. Whether "The Accordion Player" is a nod to Amsterdam practices of yore, or merely an ornamental piece is unknown, but the musician is well worth a visit.

Once a working-class neighbourhood, the streets surrounding "The Accordion Player" are now filled with restaurants, independent shops and quaint canals - a neighbourhood beloved by visitors and locals alike.

'Three Dandies in Conversation'

In Amsterdam's Oud-West you will find De Hallen, an old tram depot turned cultural hub that is full of impressive architecture and young entrepreneurs. The indoor food market Foodhallen is next to the movie theater Filmhallen.



Placed in 1995, Three Dandies in Conversation is the newest sculpture of the bunch.

Not too far from De Hallen, in the middle of bustling street market the Ten Katemarkt, there's "Three Dandies in Conversation." Three bronze sculptures of men with infant's bodies sit on high steel chairs, right next to a stand selling top-notch Gouda and Edam. One of the figures features a top hat, and his chair is slightly elevated. What the gentlemen are deliberating is left to the imagination.

"Three Dandies in Conversation" appeared on the street in 1995, making it the last of the Unknown Sculptor's Amsterdam artworks.

Len Nieuwdorp

On 1st February Len (Leonard Jan) Nieuwdorp passed away, aged 91 years. The funeral service was celebrated on Wednesday February 15th.

Len was NSC's secretary for a total of 24 years. He was also part of the Neerlandia Choir, who participated in his funeral service celebration.

Below is the speech his wife Hennie read at the funeral:

Thank you all for your attendance here to-day, which Len, I am sure, would appreciate very much.

A few days before he died Len asked me to tell you about his experiences over the years and how his life unfolded.

I'll just give you a short summary of the Indonesian part of the Nieuwdorp family.

Around 1870 two Nieuwdorp brothers from the Dutch province of Zeeland decided to migrate to Indonesia together where they started a tea plantation which was very successful. One brother married a girl whose mother was Indonesian and the father was from Sweden (Tönjes). They had one daughter and 2 sons, the oldest of which was Len's father, (Johan). When Johan was in his twenties he decided to migrate to South Africa where he married Netty Nienhuis who came from Bloemendaal in Holland. They had 2 sons, 1st Len and 10 years later, Julian. Their parents wanted a good education for the boys and they enrolled them at the Christian Brothers College which was the best school in Cape Town.

In the meantime, in Indonesia Len's grandfather (one of the 2 Zeeland brothers) died because of health problems with the tropical climate. His widow then married the second brother and when he passed away she decided to move to The Netherlands mainly also for the cooler climate. So the tea plantation got sold and she bought a mansion in The Hague next to the Russian Embassy.

After the second world war Len and his parents and brother Julian also decided to move from South

Africa to The Netherlands where I met Len and we got married. Our 70th wedding anniversary would have been this year. We had a son, Frans, and a daughter, Yvonne.

Len worked in Insurance all his life, in Cape Town, in The Hague and in Christchurch.

Despite struggling with depression since he was a teenager, he was determined not to let his life to be ruled by it. I certainly have always admired him for that. He managed to hold down good jobs and have a successful life.

Len also did a lot of voluntary work and was secretary of the Netherlands Society for 24 years.

In 1976 he started Transcendental Meditation and together with his Christian faith it brought him great happiness.

He had many interests and hobbies: Jazz music (he formed a little Jazz club with friends), also Golf and later mini-golf, he loved being in the Neerlandia Choir and all the socials of the society.

He was a keen gardener and he also loved animals (he taught our budgie to talk and I am sure the bird talked with his South African accent.)

Other hobbies: Playing Bridge, lately mostly Rummikub which he played in several clubs: In the Everglades, St. Christopher's club and also in the Eastgate club. I certainly also have to mention the many fantastic holidays we have had over the years. For many years we went to a different area in New Zealand over the Christmas period and of course travelling to Holland (8 times) and to England.

The last 2 years have not been easy for us but especially for Len. Lately he was in a lot of pain. He could not walk anymore and needed help just to sit up in bed. It is a consolation for us knowing that he is not suffering any more.

Rest in peace Len.

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