

# DE SCHAKEL

**Dutch Week 2023**

**Christchurch got a windmill**

**In Memoriam: Theo Boekel,  
The voice of Echo Radio**



# DUTCHNZ.NZ

The place to go to for the latest info of Dutch Week 2023

# Bestuursleden Federation



## President Joost de Bruin

Joost de Bruin has been the President of the Federation since 2015. He is also a member of the committee of the Dutch Club Manawatū and was involved in the establishment of the Oranjehof Dutch Connection Centre in Foxton. Joost is an Associate Professor in Media and Communication at Victoria University of Wellington. [joost.debruin@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:joost.debruin@vuw.ac.nz)

## Vice-President Christiaan Buijers

President of the Auckland Dutch Club. Born in Groningen and immigrated to NZ with his family in 1984. His dad is originally from Limburg and mum from Indonesia. He works in IT in education and runs 2 JiuJitsu clubs. [christiaan.buijers@hollandhouse.org.nz](mailto:christiaan.buijers@hollandhouse.org.nz)



## Secretary Ellen Tavenier

Ellen was born in Swifterbant (Flevoland), grew up in Hoogeveen (Drenthe). Met and married a Kiwi in the Netherlands. First arrived in NZ in 2005, then arrived again in 2011 after a 3 year US work stint in Portland, Oregon. She has been the Federation Secretary since 2016. [secretary.nznlfederation@yahoo.com](mailto:secretary.nznlfederation@yahoo.com)

## Treasurer Wies van den Berg

Wies van den Berg has been the treasurer of the Federation since 2016. She is the president of the Netherlands Society in the Waikato and has been involved with in the Waikato Dutch community since the 1990s in several different ways, starting as a committee member of the Waikato Dutch Choir. Wies teaches nursing at Wintec, is married with Peter, has three adult children and lives in Cambridge. [vandenberg@xtra.co.nz](mailto:vandenberg@xtra.co.nz) / (07) 827 9395



## Officer Communications Arjan van der Boon

Arjan van der Boon, Co-Chair of the Oranjehof Dutch Connection museum Trust. Ridder in de Order van Oranje-Nassau. Oorspronkelijk uit Oldenzaal (Twente), nu woonachtig in Foxton. Is te bereiken in Oranjehof. [arjanv@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:arjanv@horowhenua.govt.nz)

## Officer Media Ron van Santen

Ron was born in Rotterdam, arrived in NZ in 2006 through a work opportunity. Customer Service Engineer with Electronics as background. Has had several roles in the committee of the Christchurch Society up to 2021. Lives in Oxford, Canterbury with his wife Millie and their 2 Greyhounds. [ronvsanten@gmail.com](mailto:ronvsanten@gmail.com) / 027 489 8369



## Officer Grants Margaret May

Margaret May has been a member of the Dutch Club Manawatu for three years and is currently also on the board of the Windmill Trust in Foxton. [margaret@homebuildhomes.co.nz](mailto:margaret@homebuildhomes.co.nz)

## Officer Youth Malou Vermeer

Malou was born in Enschede and moved to New Zealand with her husband in 2017 for a working holiday. They decided to stay and grew two Kiwi kids here. Malou has been on the committee of the Auckland Club since 2019 and is the impact manager of a part charity – part enterprise called Make Give Live. [malou.vermeer@hollandhouse.org.nz](mailto:malou.vermeer@hollandhouse.org.nz)



# Van de voorzitter - Joost de Bruin

Van de voorzitter – Joost de Bruin

This issue of De Schakel is once again dedicated to showcasing the different events that will take place as part of Dutch Week this year. This is the third year we are organising Dutch Week, and the dates are slightly different than in previous years. This year, Dutch Week will start on Koningsdag, Thursday 27 April, and finish on Sunday 7 May. The advantage of the new dates is that we avoid ANZAC Day but include Dodenherdenking, 4 May, and Bevrijdingsdag, 5 May.



Just like the past two years, there will be a range of activities: the Dutch Week opening event at the Big Dutch Day Out, Koningsdag celebrations and parties, Orange Bike Rides, the Dutch Week Speech Competition and the Dutch Film Festival. I am very pleased that the Dutch Film Festival will be in two additional cities this year: not just Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch but also Palmerston North and Hamilton. Make sure to check [dutchnz.nz/Dutch-Week](https://dutchnz.nz/Dutch-Week) for a full list of events.

Apart from King Willem-Alexander's birthday and the start of Dutch Week, 27 April is also the date that Christiaan Buijers and I swap roles: Christiaan will become President of the Federation and I will be in the role of Vice-President until the Federation's annual meeting in October this year.

It has been an honour and a pleasure to be your President for the past 7.5 years. I was elected at the annual meeting in Christchurch in 2015 and have had the opportunity since then to visit all Dutch clubs and many different Dutch groups all over the country. I have always tried to bring my children along with me on these trips. They are the reason of my community involvement in the first place: I want them to know that they can affiliate with different cultural groups in Aotearoa/New Zealand, speak different languages, and that typical Dutch gezelligheid and food is always around the corner.

As some of you know, I moved to the beautiful city of Whangārei a couple of years ago. In May this year, I will start my new job as Director of the Hundertwasser Art Centre with Wairau Māori Art Gallery (more information on [www.hundertwasserartcentre.co.nz](http://www.hundertwasserartcentre.co.nz)). If you happen to be visiting Northland, please don't hesitate to come over and say hallo, I may have time for a kopje koffie!

I wish Christiaan all the best, and everybody a very happy Dutch Week.

Groeten, Joost

# Federation of NZ Netherlands Societies members



## **N.Z. Netherlands Society Oranje Auckland (Inc.)**

P.O. Box 34568 - Birkenhead - Auckland 0746  
Sanne Oegema - secretary@hollandhouse.org.nz  
Ph. 020 409 35764

## **Rotorua Netherlands Society (Inc.)**

P.O. Box 1526 - Rotorua  
Jo Harvey - dutchclub.rotorua@gmail.com  
Ph. (07) 348 2280



## **N.Z. Netherlands Society Manawatu & Districts**

Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, Foxton  
Margaret May - margaret@homebuildhomes.co.nz

## **N.Z. Netherlands Society Taranaki (Inc.)**

29c Fenton Street - Stratford 4332  
Riet Weel - derekandriet@xtra.co.nz  
Ph. (06) 765 0343



## **N.Z. Netherlands Society Waikato (Inc.)**

42 Taylor Street - Cambridge 3434  
Wies van den Berg - netherlands.society.waikato@gmail.com  
Ph. (07) 827 9395

## **Netherlands Society Wellington (Inc.)**

Avalon House, 61 Taita Drive - Lower Hutt 5011  
Dawn Dorresteyn - dutchclubwlg.secretary@gmail.com  
Ph. (04) 567 3573



## **The Foxton Windmill Trust**

P.O. Box 40 - Foxton 5551  
DeMolenFoxton@xtra.co.nz

## **Oranjehof Dutch Connection Museum Trust**

P.O. Box 60423 - Titirangi - Auckland 0642



## **Dutch Retirement Village "Ons Dorp"**

36 McLeod Rd  
Henderson  
Auckland 0610

**Beschermheer van de Federatie van New Zealand Netherlands Societies Inc.  
Zijne Excellentie de Heer Ard van der Vorst, Ambassadeur.**



## Media release

Ready to Kick Off: A Nationwide Celebration of Things Dutch

Join the Colourful 'Big Dutch Day Out' – At the Start of Dutch Week

Cheerful orange festivities will take off all over the country at the end of April – just a while before the arrival of the national Dutch women's football team for the FIFA World Cup.

As part of Dutch Week, iconic buildings like the Michael Fowler Centre will bathe in an orange glow, dress-up 'Orange Bike Rides' will brighten up the streets in at least 12 towns, Dutch Clubs will host King's Day events with plenty of yummy 'kroketten' and 'koffie met speculaas', and no less than five cities will host a Dutch Film Festival.

The official opening of the annual Dutch Week will kick off on Saturday 29 April – in Foxton, where Dutch windmill De Molen stretches its blades some 35 metres into the sky.

"This will be the third time we celebrate Dutch Week in this country," says Ard van der Vorst, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. "And this time it will all happen with a sense of excitement about the Dutch women's football team – De Leeuwinnen – arriving here for the FIFA World Cup, which runs from 20 July until 20 August.

"Four years ago, the Lionesses were beaten by Team USA in the Finals. They will bring an exciting style of game to Aotearoa New Zealand. Some exciting events will be organised around the games, so keep an eye on the embassy's social media channels!"

The Oranjehof museum and windmill De Molen in Foxton, will offer kids a taste of football.

"We offer whānau a great day of old-fashioned fun here, with heaps of odd ancient Dutch games," says Arjan van der Boon, Co-Chair of the Oranjehof Dutch Connection Centre. "The kids can be active all day, and they love it!

"There's cake-biting, stilt-walking, sack-jumping, the ever popular 'klompengooien' or clog throwing – and for the first time this year: target-kicking with a soccer ball. And every kid who gives it a go? Will get a speculaasje – a spiced windmill cookie."

With the Dutch King's Day celebrations traditionally turning the Netherlands orange – on King Willem Alexander's birthday on the 27 th of April – the Dutch community in Aotearoa first started throwing an orange glow across New Zealand in 2021.

"As a migrant community, we have traditionally been relatively invisible in New Zealand", says Dr Joost de Bruin, President of Dutch Communities NZ. "Dutch Week is about highlighting who we are. We invite all New Zealanders to participate in Dutch culture – try some new foods, ride a bike or kick a football, watch a Dutch movie, or learn a bit of our language.

"Last year we had just come out of the Covid red setting, and celebrated – with the Michael Fowler Centre and other iconic landmarks all lit up in orange. This year, we want to build on that, with people feeling more free to join in, and enjoy something different and fun."

Dutch community organisations and businesses across the country will engage in 'all things Dutch',

from Thursday 27 April to Sunday 7 May – including a speech competition for young students, and traditional games for kids. Dutch Week is open to anyone, keen to experience Dutch foods, culture and language.

“Previously, the Film Festival was only held in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch,” says Joost.

This year we have added Hamilton and Palmerston North into the mix.”

Dutch Week aims to enhance the visibility of local Dutch communities, and the contributions they make to a diverse Aotearoa. It lets people share in the strong connections between the Netherlands and New Zealand.

Under the umbrella of Dutch clubs, businesses and associations, volunteers work together to roll out a wide range of fun activities nationwide.

Dutch Week celebrations will be officially launched at the Big Dutch Day Out on Saturday 29 April, by Ambassador Ard van der Vorst, in the arts and heritage town of Foxton. Together with Horowhenua Mayor Bernie Wanden, he will oversee a kids competition to turn wooden clogs into art pieces – klompenkunst.

The brightly coloured clogs will then be arranged, as part of the country’s first ever Olfactory Art exhibition – full of scented artworks: ‘Smells like Roses – Rozengeur’. The show – a collaboration between Dutch and New Zealand artists – has received rave reviews for its innovative approach to art and its impressive installations.

“Windmill De Molen has successfully organised Foxton’s annual Big Dutch Day Out for 10 years now,” says Judy Sanson, Chair of De Molen windmill.

“And this time we’re putting on a special show. There will not only be football target shooting. But we also have some 14 traditional wooden ‘Castle Games’ that we bring out – so kids and adults can play together and test their dexterity. And then, our Odd Old Dutch Games feature clogs, stilt- walking, can-throwing, rope-skipping and jumping around in coffee sacks. With that novelty factor – it’s always heaps of fun.”

During the week, many prominent buildings around the country like the Christchurch Airport, the Palmerston North clock tower, the Foxton water tower and others will be lit up orange.

The NetherlaNZ Foundation is organising a Dutch Film Festival in five cities and is inviting everyone to view award-winning Dutch movies.

Family friendly ‘Orange Bike Rides’ across the nation will promote cycling as a sustainable, fun means of transport. A nationwide Dutch Speech Competition will challenge young students.

The Dutch Business Association will host an event on sustainable business in Auckland. And Dutch organisations in various cities will celebrate the Dutch King’s birthday with fun events.

Support for Dutch Week across Aotearoa New Zealand is provided by the Office for Ethnic Communities, the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, local councils and businesses.

For more information, visit: <https://dutchnz.nz/Dutch-Week>

For ‘Smells like Roses – Rozengeur’: <https://dutchnz.nz/geurkunst-exhibition>

Note to editors - For images, interviews or additional information:

Arjan van der Boon, Co-Chair of the Oranjehof Dutch Connection Centre, Foxton: 027 494 3658

Judy Sanson, Chair of De Molen: 0274 973 976



# Opening and Big Dutch Day Out in Foxton

## Official Programme: Big Dutch Day Out, Sat 29 April

- 10.00am Stage Outside**
  - Ambassador + Mayor: OFFICIAL START of Big Dutch Day Out + Dutch Week
  - Mana Whenua: Mihi / Ambassadeur: toespraak / Mayor speaks
  - Street Organ 'De Lieve Stem' Plays 'Daar bij die Molen': sing-along
- **10.15am Park 'n Paddock:**
  - Clog Art / Castle Games / 5 Oud-Hollandse Spelen / Voetbal shoot
  - Street organ De Lieve Stem / Gypsy music / Vrijmarkt + Koekhappen + Face Painting
  - Kids: 'Klompengooien' / 'Zaklopen' / 'Steltlopen' / 'Blikkengooien' / 'Touwtje Springen'
- **10.30am Māpuna Kabinet art gallery**
  - Arjan / Yolande: Introduce 'Rozengeur - Smells like Roses' art exhibition
  - Unveiling Draaiorgel - Street Organ: De Papegaai plays 'Ik hou van Holland'
- **12.00am Gallery (closed): Judges: Local Artists + MPs**
  - Clogs brought in / Judges create verdict Klompenkunst / Clogs set around Art Works
- **1.00pm Gallery opens: Prize-Givings:**
  - De Molen '20th Birthday' art + Shops 'Klompenkunst' art
  - Speakers: Molen + VIPs
- **3.00pm Big Dutch Day Out closes**

Saturday 29 April, 2022 - 10.00am to 3.00pm

Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom / Te Awahou Riverside Cultural Park

92 Main Street, Foxton



**Oranjarahof**  
Dutch Connection Centre

# Vrij markten / Flea markets

## Koningsdag Vrijmarkt Auckland

Zaterdag 29 April 10-12 uur



The Auckland Dutch Club will celebrate the birthday of King Willem Alexander with the so-called traditional Dutch 'VRIJMARKT'; a flea market.

Kids with a Dutch connection will sell their toys, books, clothes, games etc. in Holland House.

Everyone is welcome. Invite your family, friends and neighbours.

The kitchen will be open for coffee, tea, juice, croquettes (kroketten) and beef bites (bitterballen). Eftpos will be available.

Holland House, 123 Rockfield Road, Penrose.

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## Koningsdag Vrijmarkt Christchurch

Sunday 30 April, 10.30am

Luncheon and vrijmarkt for the children plus games and bring your decorated bike or scooter.

Wear orange. Children can win prizes with their decorated bikes.

Games: • Spijkerpoepen • Ballen gooien • Blikken lopen • Sjoelen • Jeu de Boule • Koning prikken

Stalls: Lekker Dutch, coffee Van, suikerspin.

Luncheon at 12 midday.

Menu: • Pea soup and tomato soup  
Broodje kroket • Tompouce (custard square)

Cost \$20 for members. Children under 8 free.  
Non-members \$25

Children will all receive an ice block.



Lunch Bookings before 21 April to Annie: Mob: 021 062 5656 or Ph: 383 1594



# Speech Competition

The third annual Dutch Week Speech Competition is approaching fast!

Dutch and Dutch heritage students in Years 9-13 are encouraged to participate in this rewarding competition.

The winner wins a trip to Wellington to spend a day as a youth ambassador, accompanying the Ambassador, as well as other fantastic prizes. You don't want to miss this unique experience.

The theme for this year's competition is "New Zealand: My Dutch Past. My Dutch Future." (Re)connect with your Dutch whakapapa and celebrate your cultural roots.

Deliver the speech in either Dutch or English – whatever you're most comfortable with. Please note the following speech duration requirements:

For students in Years 9-11, speeches must be between 2 and 3 minutes long.

For students in Years 12-13, speeches must be between 3 and 4 minutes long.

The finals of the competition will be a hybrid event hosted at St Peter's in Cambridge on the evening of May 5th. As we have entries from all over New Zealand the actual delivery of speeches will be live via Zoom,

To enter, submit a pre-entry video of your speech by 11:59 pm on April 30th. Upload your video at <https://forms.gle/9ZD8kfUMWwsABQpY6>



## Turning NZ Orange

Prominent sites to go and check out.

### **Auckland:**

Sky Tower

### **Christchurch:**

Airport exterior walls and Tower /

Art Gallery / Canterbury Museum

### **Foxton:**

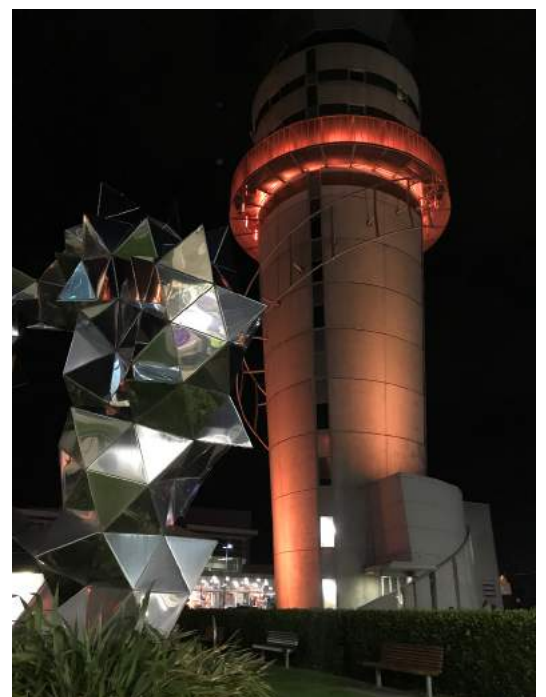
Windmill De Molen / Water Tower

### **Palmerston North:**

Clock Tower on the Square

### **Wellington:**

Fountain Oriental Bay / Michael Fowler Centre



# Auckland King's Day Party, 30 April



## Koningsdag feest, Auckland

If you've ever been to the Netherlands during King's Day (or previously Queen's Day), you know that this is a party you don't want to miss.

Celebrate, enjoy a cold one, and have a great time with fellow Dutchies.

Make sure you arrive early because space is limited!

**When:** Sunday 30 April from 5 pm til 10 pm

**Where:** Cafe 39 in Ponsonby, Auckland

**How much:** Free, but space is limited!

# Christchurch King's Day Party, 5th May

Koningsdag en Bevrijdingsfeest Christchurch.

Change of venue from previous years, it's now across the street of Aikmans

Now at Brigittes Cafe, Merivale

Friday 5th of May, 7pm.

As the tickets are limited to 100, better to get them asap and not hope on getting a ticket at the door.

email [frank@jjsteel.co.nz](mailto:frank@jjsteel.co.nz)

PLEASE! Wear something Orange!!!



# Big Dutch Day Out, Saturday 29 April, while you're there, Check this out!!

## Smells like roses - Rozengeur

### A Dutch New Zealand Olfactory art collaboration

Art/Olfaction: Raewyn Turner & Brian Harris, Claudia de Vos, Caro Verbeek, and Frank Bloem

Gallery: Mapuna Cabinet Art Gallery - Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, Foxton

Here's what's on display at the Olfactory Art Exhibition:

**Raewyn Turner & Brian Harris** exhibit three major Olfactory Art installations;

**Downwind** - 20 pods that sense human presence, and respond by breathing smells on people as they approach

**Towards the Mean** - 23 cans with fragrant soil, placed on a finely balanced moving bar installation. A reference to an Expectations Augmented Phillips Curve that describes a balance of wages, inflation and unemployment. The bar moves as the public take out a spoonful of soil to have a smell (consumption).

**Waiting Room** - Referring to COVID's parosmia and its distortion of smells, the work reflects on inertia and waiting, punctuated by ticking of kinetic pendulums - measured by the chaotic motion of a double pendulum clock, infused with fragrances and rose petals.

**Claudia de Vos** exhibits scented video-scaped and Olfactory art;

**Mosmeisje / Moss girl** - An atmospheric video-scape that evokes a virtual brain shower. Plus a photographic composition on a velvet tapestry, in relief, with an integrated fragrance system. Scent: (prime note) oakmoss (evernia prunastri), with an aphrodisiac 'animal musk' component.

**A single Pine** | Olfactory tapestry - A photographic image on cloth, with the integrated natural scent of pine (essential oil Pinus sylvestris).

**Gaia** - An atmospheric video-scape, a virtual brain shower, combined with the scent of Pine (essential oil Pinus sylvestris).

**Frank Bloem** brings in one of his Snifferoo projects;

**Embassie of the North Sea** - 40 Scents from in and around the North Sea were collected and created for the Embassy of the North Sea. Frank worked for a year on scents like wood, cockle, crab, sea lettuce, sun lotion, and lemonade.

# Film festival



## De Veroordeling

The Judgement / De Veroordeling (Biography - Crime -Drama)

A Dutch TV journalist finds himself challenging the police, courts and media as he attempts to uncover the truth about the controversial Deventer murder case.

- **Auckland: The Vic, Devonport – Saturday 29 April, 7:30 pm**
- **Christchurch: Lumiere Cinemas – Saturday 29 April, 7:30 pm**
- **Hamilton/Cambridge: Tivoli Cinema in Cambridge - Tuesday 2 May**
- **Palmerston North: Vocal Point - Tuesday 2 May**
- **Wellington: The Embassy, Event Cinemas - Saturday 29 April**

## Pink Moon

Pink Moon (Comedy-Drama)

When a young woman receives the absurd news from her father that he's had enough of life and wants it to come to an end, she is forced to search for a way to deal with his last wish.

- **Auckland: The Vic, Devonport - Sunday 7 May, 6 pm**
- **Christchurch: Lumiere Cinemas - Sunday 7 May, 6 pm**
- **Hamilton/Cambridge: Tivoli Cinema in Cambridge - Wednesday 3 May**
- **Palmerston North: Vocal Point - Sunday 7 May**
- **Wellington: The Embassy, Event Cinemas - Sunday 7 May**

**Check [Dutchnz.nz](https://dutchnz.nz) for links to ticket sales**

**WAT ALS **FAKE NEWS**  
JE LEVEN VERWOEST**

DE BIND PRESENTEERT  
**VERDOORDELING**

**FEDJA VAN HUËT**

**LIES VISSCHEDIJK**

**YORICK VAN WAGENINGEN**



**HÉT VERHAAL OVER DE DEVENTER MOORDZAAK**

WAT ALS FAKE NEWS JE LEVEN VERWOEST. HET COMPLEET VERHAAL  
FEDJA VAN HUËT YORICK VAN WAGENINGEN LIES VISSCHEDIJK  
WAT ALS FAKE NEWS JE LEVEN VERWOEST. HET COMPLEET VERHAAL  
WAT ALS FAKE NEWS JE LEVEN VERWOEST. HET COMPLEET VERHAAL  
WAT ALS FAKE NEWS JE LEVEN VERWOEST. HET COMPLEET VERHAAL



When a young woman receives the absurd news from her father that he's had enough of life and wants it to come to an end, she is forced to search for a way to deal with his last wish.

# **DUTCH WEEK** Orange Bike Ride 30 April 2023

Orange Bike Rides will take place in the following locations;

- Auckland
- Blenheim
- Christchurch
- Dunedin
- Hamilton
- The Hutt
- Kapiti Coast
- New Plymouth
- Palmerston North
- Rotorua
- Wellington



For more (and up to date) Information and how to register check [DutchNZ.NZ](https://DutchNZ.NZ)



# Sustainable Urban Transport

## Business Networking Event

**3 May - 5:30 to 8:00pm**

**RSVP Required, *book your seat.***

Getting around Auckland is a challenge. No one likes to sit in traffic for hours on end, wasting precious time while emitting emissions that are bad for the environment. Surely, there must be a better, more sustainable way to get from A to B.

We've put together a panel of experts to understand what's happening with sustainable transportation within the Auckland region.

Discover the innovative sustainable urban transport projects various groups are working on that will reduce our carbon footprint while optimising commutes.

A business networking event wouldn't be complete without opportunities to network. Throughout the evening, there'll be plenty of time to connect with like-minded people.

Join us at the Dutch Business Association's upcoming business networking event on the 3rd of May.

### **Speakers:**

Kathryn King, Urban Mobility Manager at Waka Kotahi

Hamish Speakman, Senior Travel Demand Planner at Auckland Transport

Cleve Cameron, Founder and Managing Director at Big Street Bikers

Fiáin d'Leafy, Chief Biking Officer at Bike Auckland

Further information on the **Dutch Business Association** site.

(<https://dutchbusinessassociation.co.nz/2023/04/10/sustainable-urban-transport-3-may>)





# Dutch War Memorial Service



## Dutch War Memorial Service

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2:00pm**

You are invited to attend the Dutch War Memorial Service (Dodenherdenking) at the Parnell Rose Gardens at the Dutch Monument.

Dove-Myer Robinson Park, Parnell

*We invite you for an afternoon tea at the Rosepark Hotel, 92-102 Gladstone Road (opposite Dove-Myer Robinson park) after the service.*

Information: Lucy Powell, 09 625 2455,

[powell@kc.net.nz](mailto:powell@kc.net.nz)

### ***About the war memorial in Parnell, Auckland;***

In August 1960 the Netherlands Veterans League announced plans to erect a war memorial to the 38,000 Dutch servicemen and resistance fighters who had died in the Second World War, the Indonesian war of independence, and the Korean War. The site chosen was Campbell's Point, overlooking Judges Bay, Parnell. The memorial was financed by donations from the Dutch community in New Zealand and was largely built using voluntary labour. It was unveiled on 26 April 1963 by Mr K.W. Fraser, immediate past-President of the Returned Services' Association and patron of the Netherlands Veterans League.

The memorial consisted of a substantial seat made from Roman bricks and slabs of aggregated concrete set in a small raised court. This was bordered at the rear by an ornamental wall planted with black tulips and alongside by a wrought-iron fence inset with the badges of Dutch service units. Plans for a statue by sculptor Peter Van Raalte of three figures symbolizing Occupation, Remembrance and Liberation were not realized.

The bronze dedicatory plaque installed beside the memorial seat read: "The Netherlands community / in / New Zealand / dedicates this seat to / the sacred memory of / 38,000 Netherlands servicemen / resistance fighters and seamen / who laid down their lives for / the freedom of their country / for the Allied cause / and for the restoration of order and peace. // Western war theatres / 1940 - 1945 // Eastern war theatres / 1941 - 1945 // Indonesia 1945 - 1950 // Korea / 1951 - 1953 / 'While a bright future beckoned / they freely gave their lives / and fondest hopes for us and / our Allies that we might / learn from them the courage in / peace to spend our lives / making a better world for others.'"

## A Windmill called Maria

Yoka Saris

Last November I had a meeting with Frank van Schaijik, a man well known throughout the Dutch community in Canterbury. I got to know Frank in the year 2000 during the organisation of "Het Nederlandse Straatje" in the Arts Centre to celebrate the year 2000.

A small group of the Dutch community planned to create a lifelike facade of Amsterdam houses. A young architect was found to draw the plans. A lot of timber and other materials were needed plus many volunteers to build the facade. Frank, as CEO of John Jones Steel Ltd., offered us storage space; the materials and best of all space at the JJS plant every Saturday for our volunteers to create the houses. But that was not all: After a day of hard work Frank made sure the men could sit down and have a relaxing social hour by providing them with something to eat and drink!



A choir from the Netherlands was invited to entertain during this Millennial Festival and other entertainment. So to realise the finances the committee organised a fundraising dinner with a famous Dutch-New Zealand speaker.

Frank, beside everything else, became also the sponsor of this dinner.

End result: A huge success for Christchurch and another feather in the cap of the Christchurch Dutch community.

This is in short to show you what kind of man Frank is. Not only in the public arena but also behind the scenes we can call on him at anytime to help and support us when needed.

A couple of years ago Frank told me he had found 'something' in his friends, Mr and Mrs Newman, backyard. It was big and Mrs Newman was not overly happy with having a Lyttelton 'retired' lighthouse laying in her garden. She told her husband: "That thing goes or I will!"

Frank came immediately to the rescue as a knight in shining armour to save Mr and Mrs Newman's marriage. He invited us to come and have a look as it might be something the Club would like to have. The 'thing' reminded Frank of the body of a Dutch windmill. And all of us, who came to watch, had to agree. So the Shag Reef Range 2 Lighthouse arrived at Marshlands Road.

Not for very long though because after Architect Marijn van Herel designed a replica of a 'ronde bovenkruier met stelling molen' the 'thing' was transported to the JJS plant to be reinforced and turned into a real look-alike Dutch windmill.

Calder Stewart Industries provided the reinforcement steel and Firth Concrete laid the concrete foundation at the ground of the Dutch Society. Staff members at JJS, William van Schaijik and Kelly Garland and many others are putting in a lot of hours to create a worthy memorial to the many Dutch migrants who made their home in Canterbury.

The windmill is getting nearing completion and is already getting many favourable comments of the Christchurch public when they see the more than eleven metres high replica standing proud at the Netherlands Society on Marshlands Road.

Frank will dedicate the windmill to his parents, who came to New Zealand in 1952 and were, just like their son, known for their support of new immigrants from the Netherlands. Many a young person got his first job at John Jones Steel Ltd.

As is tradition the windmill will get a name and what is more beautiful, thought Frank, than to call it after his Mother.

The plan therefore is that the windmill when inaugurated in February will be known as

### **The Windmill Maria On Marshlands.**



To see this amazing transformation for yourself, have a look at this 12-meter-tall windmill at the Netherlands Society Christchurch grounds, 637 Marshland Road, Christchurch.

*(Editor: The above article was received before the inauguration of the Windmill last February.)*

## IN MEMORIAM

**THEO BOEKEL**

**10-05-1946 – 07-04-2023**

*Yoka Saris*

It is well over 30 years ago I got to know Theo because we both made a Dutch language radio programme. Theo in Christchurch and I in Wellington. When I moved to Christchurch I joined Theo in Fisher Avenue to assist him there to make the programme. So I have come to know Theo quite well. Although a very private kind of person I have always been amazed by his sincere interest in everyone in the Dutch community.

Theo lived a very busy and interesting life. Born in a little village in West Friesland called Zuidewind, where his parents had a bakery. At an early age Theo ran a discoteque called the "Black Sheep", in Enkhuizen which was very popular by the youth of the late 50's. After that he went to work in Italy for a year and a half as a professional radio electrician.

He returned to Zuidewind but wanted to see more of the world so he moved to Wales. It is there he met his wife and they emigrated to New Zealand. After their daughter Delyth was born they decided to go back to England. But Theo was not happy, he missed New Zealand so he returned and he lived in Sumner, where he met Ray, the love of his life. Raymond and Theo lived together for 40 years. There we were donated by the Dutch Broadcasting Corporation a gigantic satellite dish, more than 4 meters high, to receive the Dutch news direct.

From there Theo and Ray moved to the Old West Coast Road. Here Theo built a very modern radiostation in a sea-container where he received all kind of interesting people for interviews. As the Dutch Radio in NZ was going through tough financial times we decided to go national. So Theo's Echo Radio programme could be heard from 9 stations throughout New Zealand. Going by the letters and phonecalls from Dutch people all over this weekly programme was very much appreciated.

But then BVN television came to New Zealand and Echo Radio was no longer in such demand. So Theo started 'Radio With Pictures'. Everytime something special happened we went to film it and put it on the website [echo.org.nz/](http://echo.org.nz/) Facebook. These videos can be found on the internet and it amazes me how often people still look at these videos. One of them is called "Theo Bakker, een Urker visser in New Zealand" This is one of the best and has been seen by many people all over the world. In between all this Theo was also President of the Netherlands Society Christchurch for some years. He also assisted the Toenail Culture Ale group with sound and other matters for many years.

The last ten years Theo suffered from bad health and had to take a step back from interviewing, producing and filming. But whenever we visited him in his little 'paradise' on the Old West Coast Road he still remained the softly spoken, perfect host and was forever interested in the goings on of the "Dutch Downunder". We wish Raymond; daughter Delyth; brother André and granddaughter Mireille strength to carry their loss. Martin and I are proud to have been his friend and assistant for so many years.

Thank you Theo, you will never be forgotten.

# Theo Boekel and Echo Radio

Echo Radio was a non-profit voluntary organisation providing an information service to the Dutch community in New Zealand. Its broadcasts included news from the Netherlands as well as community news from the different regions in New Zealand.

Echo Radio provided a unique service in New Zealand, as the only Dutch-language program in the New Zealand broadcast media. Its first broadcast aired on 8 March 1988 and it continued to be on air for over twenty-four years.

In November 2012 Echo Radio's last broadcast via Access Radio (Plains FM) could be heard.



Dutch-born Theo van Boekel presented and produced the programs.

Here his response to the question:

*What were some of the highlights you experienced with Echo Radio?*

One particularly situation comes to mind and that is the local RSA (Returned and Services' Association) Bridge of Remembrance service, about 15 years ago. Echo Radio did a live broadcast to Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington Dunedin and Christchurch. In those days we had limited equipment for outside broadcasting,

So what we used was one of the very first mobile telephones with a microphone connector.

The program was an hour long, but the service was about 20 minutes so the remainder of the program had been pre-recorded and had already been sent out to the radio stations. After the service I went back to the car and tried the different radio stations.

When I heard they were all playing the program and everything had worked perfectly,

I remember thinking: ***'this is marvellous, this is what radio is all about'.***

**Theodorus Adrianus Boekel (Theo)**



On April 13 the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 Multicultural Community Engagement program officially kicked off at Eden Park, Auckland / Tāmaki Makaurau!

The FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 will kick off in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand in July this year. 32 teams will compete across 9 host cities.

Let's celebrate this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and support women's football and diversity in Aotearoa New Zealand. **Tickets are now on sale. Don't miss out. [bit.ly/FIFAWWC23](https://bit.ly/FIFAWWC23)**



Here you can find the Match schedule for the FIFA Women's World Cup in NZ / AU 2023.



# World Wide Web and Beyond

<b>Netherlands Embassy NZ</b>	<a href="http://www.netherlandsworldwide.nl/countries/new-zealand">www.netherlandsworldwide.nl/countries/new-zealand</a>
<b>Federation website</b>	<a href="http://www.DutchCommunities.co.nz">www.DutchCommunities.co.nz</a>
<b>Federation Facebook:</b>	<a href="https://facebook.com/DutchCommunitiesNZ">facebook.com/DutchCommunitiesNZ</a>
<b>The Foxton Windmill Trust</b>	<a href="http://www.foxtonwindmill.co.nz">www.foxtonwindmill.co.nz</a>
<b>NZ website:</b>	<a href="http://www.Dutchnz.nz">www.Dutchnz.nz</a>
<b>SNBN:</b>	<a href="http://www.nederlandersbuitennederland.nl">www.nederlandersbuitennederland.nl</a>
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