

THE DOUBLE DUTCH

Issue 2023/2

April – May 2023



*It's April again – **GO ORANGE!***

COMING UP: Koningsdag/Orange Bike, Easter, AGM

DUTCH WEEK 2023

Join us for coffee mornings, Klaverjas and Sunday afternoon socials.

The committee – Het comité

Officers

President	Pierre Schmits	021 0827 2084	pierre.schmits@yahoo.com
Vice-President/ Assistant Secretary	Carolina van Rooy		carolinavanrooy@gmail.com
Secretary	Anne-Marie Knibbeler	027 951 5770	dutchclubwlg.secretary@gmail.com
Treasurer	Rita Langerak		ritalangerak68@gmail.com
Assistant Treasurer	Ann Beyk	04 567 8575	
Financial Advisor:	René van Lierop	04 977 7086/021 740930	dutchclubwlg.treasurer@gmail.com

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

Positions outside the committee

Double Dutch Editor: Martin de Jong 021 909 688 dutchclubwgn.editor@gmail.com
Facebook Administrator: Saskia Knibbeler 027 22 2287 s.knibbeler@gmail.com
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	www.dutchclubwellington.co.nz
Our club on Facebook	www.facebook.com/dutchclubwellington/
The Federation of NZ Netherlands Societies	www.dutchcommunities.co.nz
Dutch Connections community website	https://dutchnz.nz
Netherlands Embassy, Wellington	www.netherlandsworldwide.nl/countries/new-zealand
Email:	wel@minbuza.nl 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. At Island Bay Community Centre, The Parade, Island Bay. \$3.00 per person.

Waikanae coffee group: every 2nd Friday of the month, 10am. At the Baptist Church, 286 Te Moana Rd, Waikanae. \$6.00 per person.

Levin coffee morning: every last Thursday of the month, 10am. At 64 Highbury Drive, Levin (home of Ans Howes). \$5.00 per person.

Koningsdag/King's Day – Sun 30 April

including Orange Bike – Hutt Valley

Once again, Koningsdag is upon us and for the second year running, events will include the “Orange Bike Hub” linking with Orange Bike Rides happening all around the country as part of Dutch Week 2023. Come decked out in your best orange colours and enjoy good food, good drink and good company in a relaxed Dutch setting – heel gezellig!

Orange Bike Hub at Avalon Park

The Orange Bike Hub is a fun and family-friendly event promoting cycling as safe, sustainable and sociable. Next to the children's bike path area at Avalon Park, **Free Ride of Naenae** will set up a kids' confidence course (for children up to 12 years old), and free bike checks (for all ages and bikes). There'll also be bike safety and cycle promo material, courtesy of Greater Wellington.

Dress yourself and your bike in ORANGE, and be in to win prizes for Best Dressed Person and Best Dressed Bike (Two age categories: up to 12; 13+).

The ‘**Orange Mystery Trail**’ will lead from the Bike Hub to the Dutch Club, answering questions along the way about bikes, being Dutch and the Park.

TIMETABLE for Sunday 30 April:

9.30am: Registration/confirmation of entry

10am: Confidence course open

11.30: Orange Bike Parade: parade around the park, finishing at the Dutch clubrooms. (Bike parking available at the clubroom grounds.)

12.15pm: Prizegiving & speeches (clubrooms)

Register for Orange Bike Hub by 29 April to guarantee participant pack, including free Montfoort stroopwafel and drink.

Register at: tinyurl.com/orangebikehub.

Follow Dutch Club on Facebook for updates on prizes: www.facebook.com/dutchclubwellington

At the Clubrooms

The Avalon House Clubrooms will be open from 10.30 with food and drink for sale: coffee/tea, soft drinks, beer and wine. For food: kroketten, rookworsten and baked goodies.

Indoor and outdoor games will be available for a range of ages: sjoelbak, zaklopen, blik gooien, etc. Some arts and crafts will also be on sale.

Orange Bikers will parade around the Park and end up at the Clubrooms about midday, with speeches and prizegiving expected to start about 12.15pm. Special guests are being invited, but can't be confirmed as yet. Following the allocation of prizes we will sing the Wilhelmus together and then enjoy the rest of the afternoon!



From the President – Van de Voorzitter



The past two months have been relatively easy for your committee. Apart from the regular events, there was no organising to do. But that doesn't mean that we have been twiddling our thumbs. On the

contrary, we have been busy planning and preparing for the coming months and, in particular, for our anniversary year this year.

To make sure that any anniversary event(s) do not interfere with our usual events, we have laid down the dates for these events and you will find an overview of these following this column.

We would also like to hear from you about what the committee should organise to celebrate our 75th anniversary. To that end you will receive a questionnaire in which you can indicate your preferences. Please help us by completing the form and returning it to us electronically, by mail or in person, **by 25 April**.

Looking ahead, we will be celebrating Easter with a Social Sunday special, complete with an Easter display and Easter goodies. We also have an invitation for a coffee morning at the residence of our ambassador Ard van der Vorst. Read on to know more about both events.

On Sunday the 30th of April we will be celebrating Koningsdag – the Dutch King's birthday. We will do this by continuing last year's successful combination of an Orange Bike event followed by celebrations at the clubrooms.

Lastly, I would like to invite you to our **Annual General Meeting on 21st May**. Needless to say that your attendance at this event is crucial to the success of our club. That's all from me, I hope to see you at one of our events.

Pierre.

For your agenda

The following event dates have been allocated for 2023. The dates for April to July have also been added to the calendar that comes with this edition of the Double Dutch.

Sunday 09/04	Social Sunday – Easter special
Friday 21/04	Coffee morning at the Dutch Ambassador's Residence in Wadestown
Sunday 30/04	Orange Bike Hub / Koningsdag
Sunday 21/05	Annual General Meeting
Sunday 18/06	Solstice (midwinter) lunch
Sunday 17/09	Tulip Sunday
Sunday 01/10	Leiden Ontzet lunch
Sunday 03/12	Sinterklaas
Sunday 17/12	Christmas lunch
Sunday 07/01	2024 New Year's celebration

Note that these dates may be changed as we move forward. Always check the Double Dutch editions or newsletters for the correct dates of the events.



From the Secretary – Van de Secretaresse



I hope you're keeping well. It's been a quiet two months since the last Double Dutch. We postponed the first coffee morning of the year as the weather forecast was for dire weather in the region and we thought that people

would want to stay home. Since then, we've had two well-attended coffee mornings. I found it really pleasant to see everyone again after nearly three months!

You should all have received, either by mail or email, an invitation from the ambassador to a coffee morning at his residence in Wadestown, for Friday the 21st of April. RSVPs must be in by 7 April, by email to wel-rsvp@minbuza.nl. We can do this for you if you let Pierre or me know. Please be aware that there is limited parking near the residence, and that access to the house is via a long, sweeping set of stairs.

The club can help with transport. We are thinking of travelling in by train. Metlink doesn't yet have its April timetable on the website. If it's the same as for March, there'll be a train leaving Upper Hutt station at 9am and a train leaving Waikanae at 8:45am. Both arrive in Wellington at 9:45am. The club will then arrange taxis from Wellington Station to the residence (also for Wellingtonians who come to the station by bus). If you want to take advantage of this option need to contact me dutchclubwlg.secretary@gmail.com; or phone/text: 027 9515770) or Pierre (021 08272084 or pierre.schmits@yahoo.com) **before 10 April** so that we have plenty of time to work out numbers and arrangements. If you prefer to leave with Pierre from the clubrooms, let him know and please be there at 8:30am on the day.

In this Double Dutch you'll find the agenda for the upcoming AGM, which will be on 21 May. We hope

to see many of our members there. You'll also receive a questionnaire about possible celebrations of our 75th anniversary, either with this newsletter, or (if we have an email address) by email. We look forward to receiving a response before 25 April. That will give us enough time to collate the replies so we can discuss this at that AGM.

Membership fees are now due. Please pay \$45 cash to Ann Beyk or by direct credit to 03-0525-0098055-00 in the name of NZ Netherlands Society Wgtn Inc. You can vote at the AGM only if you've paid your 2023-24 membership fee.

I feel I want to say something on the death of Ans Westra. Ms Westra was often seen at the many public events that were organised in Lower Hutt. She would walk around with her camera on her stomach, unobtrusively taking photographs. Ms Westra lived near the Steiner School in Lower Hutt where I used to work, and I got to talk with her now and then when she trundled past my office. In the early years her little dog would follow her; later she walked by herself as her dog got too old to manage the steep hill. I discovered, by chance, that there was an exhibition space in Cuba Street where her work was stored, sorted and being displayed, and have been there several times. Looking at her photographs has helped me understand New Zealand and its people a bit better. Ans Westra was truly a great documentary photographer; she has enriched my life.

Best wishes to you all,

Anne-Marie



Ans Westra – a Tribute

De camera van de fotograaf, haar beeldkamer, getuig van onze menselijkheid.

The photographer's camera, her image room, witness to our humanity.

Ko te kamera a te kaitango whakaahua, ko tana ruma whakaahua, e whakaatu ana i to tatou tangata.

Anna Jacoba Westra: born Leiden, 28 April 1936, died Wellington, 26 February 2023: mother, oma, sister, friend, photographer, artist, Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

I was privileged to be present at the celebration of Ans' life at the Public Trust Hall in Wellington on Friday evening, 3 March 2023 in Wellington. Those present, a cross-section of society, there to pay tribute to a unique and talented human being.

David Alsop, gallery owner, Ans' friend and agent, was the Master of Ceremonies. He spoke with affection and admiration of Ans' immense photographic legacy: over 200 000 images donated to the National Library; a window through which future generations will reflect on their history.



Photo: Ans Westra, Self portrait, Te Kaha, 1963, courtesy of {Suite} Gallery. The {Suite} gallery at 241-243 Cuba Street, Wellington, includes a museum celebrating her work including photos, articles dating back to 1960 and over 200 books featuring her images. Ph: 04 976 7663.

Listening to David, it was evident that Ans was Dutch, driven, forthright and colourful. Strong hints of Ans' background were evident in the orange theme of the floral arrangement, the dimmed orange lighting in the elegant hall, the sumptuous image of orange tulips in the memorial booklet, and the memorable panel with the word 'Jeetje' which Ans used for her number plate.

Ans had three children from two relationships. Her elder son Erik spoke with warmth about his unconventional single mother. He always called his mother 'Ans'; apparently she saw herself more as his friend than his mother. Erik mentioned that his two younger siblings called Ans 'Mum', suggesting that she had slowly become used to the sobriquet. He spoke of how his mother often left the children to play in the car while she explored opportunities to take photos – I could not help but think some would describe Ans as a neglectful mother. Erik and others spoke about Ans' financial struggles: being a documentary journalist was not a road to riches. Yet she managed and Eric had no regrets about his childhood, recalling memories of meeting so many interesting people, now considered 'famous'. Simon Woolf, also a highly regarded photographer and Wellington personality, spoke later and thanked the children for sharing their mother, seemingly acknowledging they missed out on much that some would consider a conventional childhood.

Ans, aged 17, moved to Rotterdam in 1953 to study arts and craft teaching. Her passion, some might say obsession with photography, was sparked by her stepfather. She was inspired by an international photographic exhibition in Amsterdam: *The Family of Man* curated by Edward Steichen, director of the New York City Museum of Modern Art's Department of Photography and a

book by Johan van der Keuken, *We Zijn 17*, depicting the lives of post-war Dutch teenagers.

In 1957, aged 21, Ans immigrated to Aotearoa following her father, Pieter Hein Westra, who had started a new life in Auckland. She worked in Auckland for several months, then moved to Wellington where her interest in documentary photography took over her life. Bill Nathan, past president of Ngāti Pōneke, the Wellington Māori cultural club, spoke about how Ans joined the club and respectfully documented its activities.

Most Dutch immigrants had little interest in Māori and their tikanga (culture/rituals) but Ans was fascinated. She saw Māori and their tikanga as eminently worthy of documentation. She published *Māori* in 1967, an extensive documentation of tangata (people) and tikanga. Earlier her controversial children's book *Washday at the Pa* had been published by the Education Department. This book was withdrawn after complaints that it reinforced stereotypes of Māori living happily in rural poverty. Ans and her generation of Dutch did not see or judge physical poverty in the same way as New Zealanders: poverty and poor living conditions had been normal during and after the war. *Washday at the Pa's* depiction of children is heartwarming, regardless of how the images are characterised.

Ans left a voluminous documentary record of Māori and tikanga. Many Māori appreciate the record but by the 1970s many were no longer happy with outsiders 'exploiting' their lives and culture. Ans was reluctantly forced to move onto other subjects.

Over the years, Ans travelled extensively around Aotearoa always looking for interesting and controversial subjects to photograph. She enjoyed her children and six grandchildren, had a close relationship with her half-sister, Yvonne, and had many friendships around the country. She received many awards for her contribution to the visual arts and documenting the lives of ordinary New Zealanders. Some of the more notable were: being appointed a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 1998, becoming an Arts Foundation of New Zealand icon in 2007, and receiving an honorary doctorate from Massey University in 2015.

I reflect on how I have enjoyed Ans' photos over the years. Once, while sitting on a flight I recall a feature in the inflight magazine of her photos of life in Holloway Road in Wellington. One of the children at play had been at the same little Catholic school as me and my brother in Aro Street. I regret not having met Ans.

Simon Romijn, 5 March 2023

Dutch Day 2023 at Koraunui Hub Stokes Valley – Friday 14 April

This will be the third year that we will organise a Dutch Day in the Stokes Valley Library during the autumn school holiday. On Friday 14 April, there'll be two two-hour sessions, one starting at 10am and one at 1:30pm, for children up to 12 years of age. They will have a chance to dress up in Dutch clothes, play games, eat Dutch snacks, and do some craft work. Please spread the word – and be there at the start of the session of your choice.

Children under the age of 7 must be accompanied with a parent or caregiver.

(Wanted to borrow: clogs for ages 1-6.)

Anne-Marie Knibbeler 027 9515770



Oranjehof Nieuws – ‘Smells like Roses’

From Oranjehof – the Dutch Cultural Connection Centre in Foxton – comes the following invitation to an art exhibition with a difference – you can smell it!

‘Smells like Roses – Rozengeur’ is a New Zealand-Netherlands collaboration. This art exhibition should set tongues wagging, keyboards rattling, and noses sniffing.

Māpuna Kabinet Art Gallery

Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, Foxton

Sat 1 April to Sun 2 July

Come and have a sniff at **‘Smells like Roses – Rozengeur’**. Then check out the rest of the exhibitions at Oranjehof, visit De Molen and buy hagelslag en drop, or have some kroketten in café De Molen.

Rozengeur lets you step into a surreal experience. Met geuren van een Nederlands bos, en de Noordzee ...

Let Dutch works by Claudia de Vos and Frank Bloem – and impressive installations by Raewyn Turner – introduce you to the visuals, techniques and electronics that can bring the ‘Cinderella’ of our senses to the forefront of your experience.

In the Netherlands – scented art has been explored for decades. Now we too can discover the effects that an immersive, interactive environment with a range of smells can have on one’s mind, memories and emotions.

Come and sniff things out. Enjoy a sensuous new art experience, organised by Oranjehof. With historic roots that stretch back to the Symbolists and Surrealists.

Also, The Big Dutch Day Out is on SATURDAY 29 APRIL at Foxton from 10am to 3pm. Check out <https://dutchnz.nz/Dutch-Week> for this and for other activities during Dutch Week.



Keeping time at the Clubrooms



The fine wooden clock that now graces our clubrooms above one of the northern windows was presented to the club by Nick de Grauw, pictured with his wife Jo. Nick carved the clock out of rimu wood, along with several others over the last few years. Nick and Jo are regulars at our Tuesday Klaverjas competitions.



Thank you Nick for this timely contribution.

Souvenir Dutch teaspoons

A set of mixed souvenir-type teaspoons was recently donated to us by a couple who just called in out of the blue. They had inherited them from Dutch friends but did not have any use for them now. Almost all of the spoons have a Dutch connection, and some are quite old. If any members would like to have all or some of the spoons – or want to have a closer look, please speak to Pierre.



Easter celebration

On 9th April our Social Sunday will have an Easter theme. As per usual our clubroom will feature an Easter display and members can enjoy free coffee, Easter goodies and hot cross buns.

As always there will be a challenge for those present to win some prizes. Curious as to what these will be? Come and join us on Easter Sunday.

Pierre.



In Memoriam – Pierre Huygen, RIP

We would like to acknowledge the passing of one of our long-standing members, Pierre Huygen, who died recently while on holiday, in his 89th year. Pierre ran a travel agency in Wellington and had been a member of the Club for quite a few decades. Our sincere condolences go to his wife Heather and his children and grandchildren.

Tuesday Klaverjas Club

A slow start to the New Year, as some of our members were still on holiday.

Results to date:

7 Feb - No competition

14 Feb – Joe de Graauw 5050

21 Feb – No competition

28 Feb – Ann Bosch 5963

7 March – Julie Tan 5033

14 March – Julie Tan 5177

So come along on Tuesday – it's cards day. I will be there and the coffee is ready. See you.

Ann Beyk

Birthday Greetings ...

Belated birthday congratulations to Julie Tan (18 February) and Willy Muller (8 March). For **April**, we'd like to extend birthday greetings to Peter Vandeursen. And for **May**, congratulations to: Joop Dol, Phemia van Dyk, Rene van Lierop, Yvonne v.d. Berg, Ellen Tavenier, Anna Heythuysen and Anne-Marie Knibbeler.



And to ourselves: Happy Birthday to the NZ Wellington Society, 'born' on 14 May, 1948!

Annual General Meeting

Dear members,

Organising an AGM is part of our statutory obligations being an Incorporated Organisation and serves as a bidirectional soundboard between committee and members.

But, apart from the fact that it is a “must do”, the AGM is important for the following key reasons:

- It is a yearly gathering of the club’s interested shareholders: its members.
- It provides an opportunity for the committee to present the club’s past activities, future and financial performance.
- It provides an opportunity for the members to provide feedback, ask questions and/or raise concerns.

Apart from the points above, this year’s AGM is special as we will be presenting the results of the questionnaire on how we should go about celebrating our 75th Anniversary and you will have a chance to raise ideas or give feedback in person on these topics.

All in all, too many reasons why you should NOT miss this meeting.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS, MAKE IT HEARD!

Pierre

The committee of the New Zealand Netherlands Society Wellington Inc cordially invites its members to attend the:



Annual General Meeting

Sunday 21st May 2023

Avalon House

Doors open at 13:30, Meeting starts at 14:00 promptly.

Drinks and nibbles will be served after closure of the meeting at around 15:30.





**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 2.00PM SUNDAY, 21 MAY 2023
IN AVALON HOUSE, 61 TAITA DRIVE, AVALON, LOWER HUTT**

AGENDA

Clubrooms will open at 1:30pm for a prompt start of the meeting at 2pm

- 1) Welcome by the President
- 2) Opening of Meeting
- 3) Present and Apologies
- 4) Minutes of Annual General Meeting held 22ⁿd May 2022
- 5) Matters arising from the minutes
- 6) Remits
- 7) President's Report
- 8) Financial Report
- 9) Nominations for Committee.
 - a) In writing.
 - b) From the floor
- 10) Appointment of an Auditor
- 11) General Business
 - a) 75th Anniversary ideas, proposals, approvals

Drinks and nibbles to follow.

(Minutes of the 2022 AGM have been sent with this newsletter;
paper copies will also be available at the meeting)



News from the Embassy

Volume 2, Issue 2

March 2023



www.dutchnz.nz

Tip from us

For all your questions relating to any Dutch government organisation, call our 24/7 contact center:

0800-388-243

Or visit:

www.netherlandsworldwide.nl

Embassy closure

7 April-Good Friday

10 April-Easter

25 April-ANZAC Day

Message from the Ambassador

Are you also counting down to Dutch Week, 27 April – 7 May 2023? Check out your local Dutch clubs and www.dutchnz.nz to see what they are organising!

I am grateful to all the volunteers that are putting together bike rides, speech competitions, business events, flea markets, film festival, lighting up buildings in orange, and organising King's Day parties! Again this year the Federation of New Zealand Netherlands Societies received a grant from the Ministry for Ethnic Communities in support of the associated Dutch societies and the activities organised in Dutch week.



I had the opportunity to meet the Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Minister for Diversity, Inclusion and Ethnic Communities recently thanking her for her continued support for the Dutch societies and cherishing our Dutch heritage. We looked back on the hard work the first immigrants had to endure

and the severe impact of the assimilation process the Dutch had to deal with after arrival, recognising the valuable contribution immigration brought to New Zealand, including those of Dutch heritage.

Within New Zealand, but also in its partnership with the Netherlands, the Minister and our Embassy team look forward to strengthening the Dutch organisations, especially in relation to newcomers with a different ethnic background, assisting and supporting them in cultivating their culture, and sharing the lessons learned on how to organise and move forward successfully.

Last but not least, I want reach out to those that are affected by the floods in January, followed by the impact of the Cyclone. Our hearts and thoughts are with you all. Please, reach out if you have suggestions on how we as a community can support you in overcoming these tragic events.

Ambassador Ard van der Vorst

FIFA Women's World Cup 2023

In July and August we welcome the Oranje Leeuwinnen to Dunedin and Wellington for the FIFA Women's World Cup.



Matches played in New Zealand:

NL vs Portugal, 23 July in Dunedin

NL vs USA, 27 July in Wellington

NL vs Vietnam, 1 August in Dunedin

Get your tickets from www.fifa.com

There will be events and fan zones all over the country during matches and if we have enough orange supporters there will be orange marches to the matches. Let us know if you want to join, email the embassy at wel-rsvp@minbuza.nl Let's support the Leeuwinnen and paint New Zealand Orange!

Passport application desk now open in Auckland!

On 1 March the embassy team celebrated the official opening of the Dutch passport and ID card application desk at our external service provider, VFS Global, in Auckland.



Appointments can be booked here: www.netherlandsworldwide.nl/passport-id-card/abroad/apply-new-zealand

Please note that VFS Global charges a service fee, however, this is cheaper than a trip to Wellington!

Successful voter turnout

Thank you for sending your voting papers to the embassy. We received a good number of votes, which were sent to The Hague.



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.

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

De vrije wil bestaat niet

(titel van een boek geschreven door Victor Lamme)

Mijn gedachten wisselen en wisselen;
ontspruiten pijlsnel aan mijn hersenpan,
waar vreemde krachten schijnen te
bedisselen

wat nu volgt ... en wat dan, en wat dan.

Ik krijg geen kans mij baas te tonen.

Zij volgen niet de wegen van mijn wil.

Zij lijke mij te honen,

omdat ik slaaf ben van hun gril.

- Abe Lames

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.



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Van de Redacteur:

Join the Orange Bikers for a 'Free Ride'

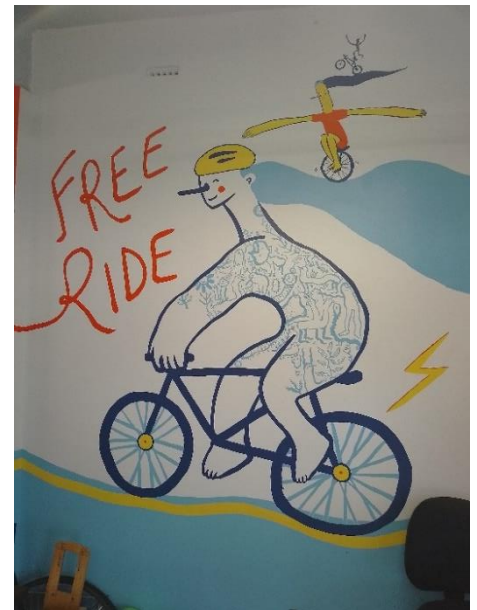


I'm so pleased that we have been able to run Orange Bike again as part of our Koningsdag celebrations. And SO pleased to be

partnering with local community bike provider "Free Ride" of Naenae. Free Ride aims to increase bike riding for transportation, recreation and fitness. Anyone (not just in Naenae) can join for free, and get access to **free and discounted services** to reduce barriers to cycling.

Members can access free bikes, free bike fix ups, tools and training to fix bikes, bikes skills and safety gear and a community of cyclists enjoying our cycle friendly city. They will take in used, unwanted bikes, and fix them up so others can enjoy.

I was fortunate to meet some of the community at the recent opening function of their Community Bike Workshop (open since September 2022). And – their brand colour is orange! Come along to find out more about what they do at the Orange Bike Hub on Koningsdag, or check them out online at: www.free-ride.nz. **Register for Orange Bike Hub at tinyurl.com/orangebikehub** (it's free!).



... and from the Archives ...

I've had an interesting time recently going through memorabilia from our 60th Anniversary – thanks to Dawn Dorresteyn for preparing a history of the Club up to that time – as far as could be told from an incomplete record!

According to information supplied to the 60th Anniversary History of the Club, the Club was founded on 12 May 1948 as a 'Dutch Club' for the whole of New Zealand, at a time when (apparently) there were about 25 Dutchmen in the country. According to our records, it was founded by Dutch Consul Bill Arriens (first President), Jim van Praag (first Secretary), Lex Gesterkamp (first Treasurer), Jan Okkerse and Wim van Dongen. Bill Arriens served as President from 1948-1951, but it seems that the role of Treasurer was often the most stable. Lex Gesterkamp was in place for a while; later Gerry Bruggemans served for 23 years, followed by Mary Boonen for at least 18 years.

What was of interest to me however, was that the club's newsletter has been called the "Double Dutch" since at least 1957. Though published in different sizes, colours, styles and on different equipment, I found it interesting that the Editor back in 1991, Gerry Wekenborg, was preparing it in Microsoft Word (as I am now – but in a much more advanced version!).



Martin de Jong (Editor)

Sender:

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

Next Double Dutch: June - July. Deadline: 22 May

(Contributions to the Editor at dutchclubwgn.editor@gmail.com; or post to the address below)

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Avalon House, 61 Taita Drive, Avalon, Lower Hutt 5011

Telephone: 04 567 3573

Facebook: www.facebook.com/dutchclubwellington

Website: www.dutchclubwellington.co.nz

Goods Delivery: 27A Korau Grove, Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt 5019.

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