

Newsletter of the New Zealand Netherlands Society (Wgtn) Incorporated

THE DOUBLE DUTCH

Issue 2023/4

August – September 2023



Tulip Sunday – and Spring is on its way!

**COMING UP: Tulip Sunday * Leiden Ontzet * 75th Anniversary event
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 9515770	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

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. **\$4.00 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: **TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED** – while your host Ans Howes is moving house. **New venue will be announced shortly.**

From the Secretary – Van de Secretaresse

As I write this (well past the deadline for copy) the Dutch Lionesses have played a draw against the USA. Husband and daughter were at the game (someone needs to stay home for the dog, and as I'm not interested that much in football, I was the one!) and they enjoyed it very much. I'm so glad the weather had cleared as Wellington looks so much better in the sunshine.

It's been a quiet two months for the club, as far as events are concerned. We've had the Solstice Lunch, that I enjoyed very much (especially the mulled wine) and our usual coffee mornings and Sunday socials. Willem and I will be on duty a couple of times on a Sunday afternoon, and I look

forward to seeing a few of the members that do not come to the Wednesday coffee mornings.

Our condolences go to Annie Peters, on the death of her husband Hans. I also know of a few people who are suffering ill health, are in pain or are recovering from surgery. I wish you strength and, if possible, a good recovery.

Best wishes to you all – tot ziens!

Anne-Marie



SAVE THE DATE: Sunday 25th February 2024!



Both the date and venue for our big 75th Anniversary have been set!

You will read more about this event in the next edition of the Double Dutch but for now make sure that you mark and reserve that day in your diary.

From the President – Van de Voorzitter

We are already halfway through the year and rapidly approaching a very busy time for the committee and event volunteers.

The first big event, in fact the biggest of all, is on 24th September. After three years of absence the committee has decided to organise Tulip Sunday again. This event takes a lot of effort from volunteers, and I therefore hope that our call for volunteers finds some willing ears (and hands).

Only a week later we will be celebrating Leiden's Ontzet in the traditional way. So, if you don't want to miss out on the fun (and food), register quickly as seats are limited. You can find out how a bit further on in this issue.

We have also set a date for our Anniversary event, and you will find more information further on in this magazine.

Looking back, we had a successful Solstice lunch with, once again, a full house of members enjoying a well-filled luncheon table.

Social Sunday and Wednesday coffee morning were a bit slow in the first winter month. I guess that this was largely due to the bad weather that we had lately, and I am convinced that attendance will pick-up again in spring and summer.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to wish the Dutch National Women's Football team – the Leeuwinnen – all the best in the upcoming tournament and for all those who are going to watch the games of the Dutch team, please cheer as loudly as possible. I am sure that it will help!

Greetings,

Pierre

Times are tough!

High petrol prices, expensive groceries, soaring inflation; yeah, we all know the story but when Ann Beyk and Nelly Laterveer must share one Advokaatje at Social Sunday, you know that times are tough!



Tough times never last, tough people do – Robert H. Schuller

Celebrating the Solstice

This year's Solstice Lunch showed a record number of visitors, so much so that we had to turn people down. Could it be the fact that most of us are Dutch and enjoy a free lunch? Let's not second guess....

As is the practice now, we celebrate mid-winter with a lunch with dishes that would normally be served around Christmas time. As it was the first event in our Anniversary Year, the committee decided to shout the lunch to all members. Some 45 members signed up for the event which was held on 18th June in Avalon House.

As can be expected from her, Anna Heythuysen had dressed up the clubrooms with natural wintery elements giving the hall a warm atmosphere. To warm up our visitors even further, they were treated to a cup of Rita's mulled wine upon arrival.

Marina prepared a delicious starter from the fresh eggs that were donated by Phemia and the main fare was catered by Chalet caterers. They delivered a sumptuous luncheon with plenty of choice for everyone.

To give the stomach some rest and make space for dessert it was Saskia that entertained us with a game of Bingo. Lucky winners were Dawn and Ella who both scored a full card.

Thanks to the team of volunteers who helped making this event a big success and, as far as I am concerned, see you all next year at or around Solstice.

Pierre

PS: So, there is such a thing as a free lunch after all.



While Pierre, Marina, Carolina and others kept the food and the people moving

... in Dutch Style!



... Saskia kept us entertained as caller for two rounds of Bingo between courses!



Decorations by Anna Heythuysen added to the festive atmosphere – heel gezellig!



COMING UP

First time in three years: Tulip Sunday!

After three years of absence, we are very excited about organising Tulip Sunday again. The event will take place in the Botanic Gardens in Wellington on Sunday the 24th of September. Tulip Sunday is part of the week-long Spring Festival organised by the Gardens. More information about other events during the Spring Festival can be found [here](#).

As per usual we will be selling Dutch treats, coffee and home baked goods amidst a display of Tulips and other greenery. Official opening will be around noon at the Tree house.

Food stalls are located in and near the treehouse and along the display gardens at the entrance. The stalls will be open from 10am to 2pm.

Please remember that all items will be CASH SALE only.

Come and support our club and admire the spring scenery at the Botanic Gardens of Wellington.

See you there.

Pierre.



Call for Volunteers – Alstublieft

As you probably know, Tulip Sunday is the club's biggest event, which means that we need many people to make it a success. Jobs that need doing include venue set-up, food preparation, food sales and cleaning up.

Food preparation and sales will be from 10am to 2pm and set-up and clean-up will be before and after those times. Tasks will be scheduled over two shifts namely 10am to 12noon and 12noon to 2pm. Set-up and clean-up tasks will start earlier and end later.

We are looking for volunteers that are willing to help on Tulip Sunday by doing one or two shifts. If you are interested, please contact Carolina van Rooy on carolinavanrooy@gmail.com.



Leiden Ontzet 2023

Come and celebrate the event that makes the freedom of the city of Leiden from the Spanish during October 1574.

On Sunday 1st October 2023, we will celebrate with a luncheon following a traditional Dutch menu: haring, hutspot met klapstuk, dessert and coffee or tea to finish.

The clubroom will be open from 11.30am. Lunch starts at 12.30pm.

The prices are \$25 per person; non-members \$40 per person. We have a strict limit of 40 guests only. Sorry there are no door sales. Payment needs to be made before attending please.

Purchase your tickets before 24 September in one of the following ways:

- Email dutchclubwlg.secretary@gmail.com (Anne-Marie)
- Via bank transfer to account no. 03-0525-0098055-00 NZ Netherlands Society Wgtn Incorporated (include your details).
- Or pay cash to Ann Beyk at any regular event.

(If you want to know more about the history of Leiden Ontzet (in Dutch) go to: <https://3october.nl/een-bijzonder-schilderij-weer-terug-in-leiden/>)



Football – and Being Dutch in Aotearoa

Van de redacteur

Nothing gets me as excited sports-wise as international football, especially major international competitions such as the Women's World Cup currently underway in Aotearoa – and in which the Dutch 'Oranje Leeuwinen' (Lionesses) have more than a fighting chance of progressing to the next stage, at time of writing. I was fortunate to witness their hard-fought draw against the USA amid a throng of Orange supporters, seated just behind the US benches. Hopefully they have not bowed out of the competition by the time you read this.

But I'm not going to provide an analysis of the game or speculate on the Dutch chances from here. No, this column provides me an opportunity to muse on me, football and my father. As a Dutch Kiwi, born of a New Zealand mother and Dutch father, I realised about a decade ago, I realised that football was my father's greatest connection with his homeland and upbringing. He came here aged 21 (and I heard he was a pretty good footballer). I still have vague memories from my childhood of Dad coming home from evening football practices dirty, tired and sore.

So Dad had my younger brother and I playing football for a club side from age 8 or so; while he always served as Manager for youth football teams – and provided the oranges. (Orange segments at half-time have probably long gone as a standard refresher at youth football teams, but I could be wrong). We played for Papatoetoe in Auckland. I swear soccer (as we called it then) was far more popular at school than the variation with the funny oblong ball. I still naturally call it soccer, not really being into the puritanism that insists on called it 'football'. When we moved from Auckland to provincial Paeroa in my Form 2 year, 'football' only meant rugby.

At Paeroa, my father actually set up a youth team for the town. All I can remember from that time is when we hosted a team from somewhere in

Auckland – and were thrashed about 20-nil. Could have been higher. Thankfully, we're not seeing any scores like that at the Women's World Cup.

My father continued his interest in football through management and support of youth football in Northland – earning a couple of little trophies and a string of beer mugs which I keep in his memory. He was also one of the key organisers for the FIFA Under 17 (men's) competition that was held in Aotearoa in 1999 – the first FIFA competition ever to be held here (and first in the Pacific Islands too).

Turning to the Women's side of the competition, I remember how delighted, and proud, of our little country I was when we hosted the inaugural Under 17 women's competition in 2008. Tickets were \$10 a piece and we were treated to some wonderful performances from these young players.

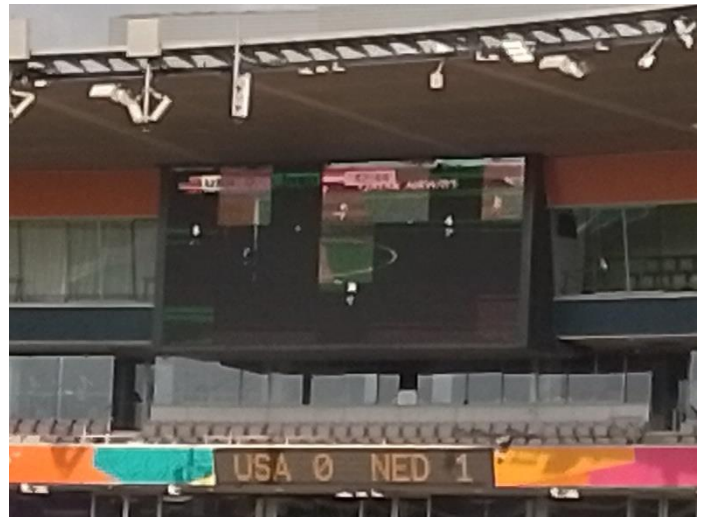
It was that competition that got me onto Facebook actually – so I could provide online support to the Young Football Ferns U-17 side. The most memorable moment was seeing a brave New Zealand side in driving rain defeat Colombia 3-1 at Wellington stadium. Even though they were out of contention to progress to the next round, they weren't down by any means – and earned a huge round of applause.

Let's hope the Netherlands do well for the rest of the current competition. Go Orange!

Martin de Jong (Editor)



Netherlands v United States, Wellington, 27 July



We may not have had drums in the Dutch quarter behind the US team bench, but we did have BRASS!



Orange erupted when Netherlands scored the opening goal.

The following story has been reprinted from the Kapiti News, 21 June, 2023, on member Bert ten Broeke.

Bert's still the great survivor at 99

by Grace Odlum

When his home country was invaded by Germany, Bert ten Broeke had no clue he would spend two years of his life in a work camp.

But unfortunately, Bert turned 18 in the midst of World War II, and that was deemed "old enough" for a German work camp.

But he's always been a survivor since day one.

It was October of 1924 when Bert was born in Nieuwe Schans, a village in the most northeastern part of the Netherlands, right on the German border.

His parents, who owned a butchery, were concerned because he wouldn't drink his mother's milk, and he was losing weight fast.

"When I had a drink. I spat it out."

Doctors thought he wouldn't make it, and it wasn't until one of his father's customers gave him a rather unusual suggestion that anything changed.

The customer gave Bert's father a dozen eggs and two litres of buttermilk, and so for the first six months of his life, that's what Bert lived on.

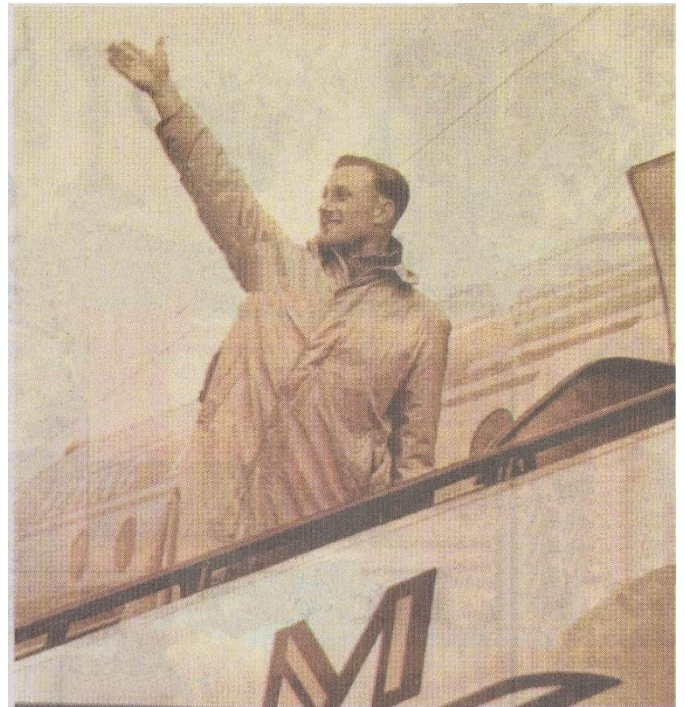
The family later moved to Ede, in the Netherlands, and in 1940 the country was invaded by the Germans, and everyone was given identity cards.

Three years later Bert turned 18 and was taken to a forced labour camp in Neiheim-Hüsten, Germany.

His identity card was taken from him, and he was loaded on to a train with about 500 other people, but Bert was always optimistic.

"They were all sad, didn't know what would happen. But I just thought it's the first time I had a free train ride."

While wandering through that train, he found a German who was attempting to sort the identity



Bert ten Broeke departing from Amsterdam – one of thousands who emigrated to New Zealand in the 1950s and 1960s.

cards by occupation, but the man didn't know how to read them.

Bert offered to help sort them, and when he came across his own card, he hid it in his pocket.

That split-second decision may have saved his life.

During his time at the camp, Bert was subject to some horrifying things.

He worked as a cook, and he was fondly nicknamed Cookie.

He recalled the time when he collapsed and was diagnosed with appendicitis.

Bert remembered being chained to the steel table and how they operated without any anesthetic.

"I couldn't do anything – I was chained to the table – I had to take it."

During the operation the air raid alarm went off, and while everyone else went down to the bunker, the doctor kept operating.

The windows had been blown out by the air raid, but still the doctor continued the surgery while nurses shielded Bert from the wind.

Bert said the doctor's decision to continue the operation saved his life.

He spent almost two years in the camp, before a split-second decision meant he had to escape.

It was when he was drinking vodka with some of the Russians in the work camp, who made their own alcohol, and a German officer walked past and made a comment like "A Dutchman shouldn't mix with Russian second grade people".

Bert, who had had a few drinks at that point, punched the officer in the face, and promptly went into hiding because all the Germans were looking for him.

It took him a week to get back to his hometown, and he took great risks to get there.



Bert dancing with his future wife Patricia.

Bert remembered catching a train to the Dutch border, where German officers took dogs through the train, on top of the train, and underneath the train to check for people illegally trying to get over the border.

But Bert was hiding in the long grass, and once the train started moving, he ran to it and climbed on.

He made it to his aunt and uncle's house, but he couldn't get all the way to his hometown without papers (which he didn't have as he escaped Germany illegally), so he had a police officer friend take him home by pretending to be handcuffed.

"Not many people can say they escaped from Germany during the war.

"There was only one fine, and it was a bullet."

In the Netherlands, there was an offer of coupons for suits, underwear, socks, and more for people who had been in Germany.

But since he had escaped illegally Bert didn't have papers, and wasn't eligible.

So he decided he wanted to get as far away as possible, and originally thought that was Australia, before looking at a map and seeing that New Zealand was even further away.

Seven years later he came to New Zealand by plane (a KLM DC-4), with only £7 to his name.

He landed in Auckland and got a job straight away in a butchery, but after four weeks he moved to Hamilton where he worked in another butchery.

Eventually he got offered a job in Whanganui, which was where he met his wife, Patricia.

Patricia worked in a dairy, which was where they originally met and the two met again the next day at a dance hall.

Bert chose to dance with Patricia, and she said he was "the best dancer I've ever danced with".

Twelve months later they married.

In 1955 the pair moved to Wellington, and Bert bought three butcheries over the next couple of years.

Five years later, in 1960, he bought an acre of land in Porirua and built a factory called Brook's Smallgoods, which was very successful.

But it got to a point where he decided to sell up and pursue another dream of his – farming.

So, in 1980 he sold Brook's Smallgoods, and bought a dairy farm in Bulls, so he and Patricia could be closer to her family in Whanganui.

After selling that farm, and two others he had bought, he and Patricia spent time in Otaki, before finding their way to Paraparaumu for their retirement.

During more than 50 years together, the couple raised two children. Sue and Robbie, who was the youngest All White at 16.

At 86 he wrote his autobiography, *Can't is not in my vocabulary*, which tells the story of his life.

(Bert ten Broeke is a regular on Wednesday Coffee Mornings in Avalon. A copy of his autobiography is also available from the Club's library – Editor)



Today Bert said he "doesn't feel a day over 60" and cycles for half an hour every day on his cycling machine and walks three times a day.

"I'm never idle, I'm always doing something.

"I don't feel 99."

One of his last ambitions is to sell the remaining 200 copies of his book.

Bert's autobiography Can't is not in my vocabulary is available for \$30 from selfheal222@yahoo.com

Love cycling but can't ride anymore? Try ...

Riding with Olivia: Cycling Without Age, Lower Hutt

Our member Dawn Dorrestijn put us onto the Lower Hutt branch of **Cycling Without Age (CWA)**, a charity begun in Denmark in 2012, and established in Lower Hutt at the beginning of this year in memory of much loved Hutt Valley nurse, Olivia Marchant.

Through its 'Triobike' or trishaw operated by experienced drivers, the charity provides outdoor rides – for free – for those unable to pedal themselves. Its promotional flyer says:

- *Our mission is to provide opportunities for Hutt Valley's elderly and disadvantaged residents to enjoy recreational rides, including along the Te Awakairangi River stopbanks and Petone Esplanade foreshore.*
- *CWA Guiding Principles include generosity, kindness, sharing stories, cycling slowly, establishing relationships and improving our passengers' quality of life.*

To book or make enquiries, email info@ridingwitholivia.nz or visit the website www.ridingwitholivia.nz

(So there you have it – free rides and free lunches!
All in this issue of the Double Dutch! – Editor)



Tuesday Klaverjas Club

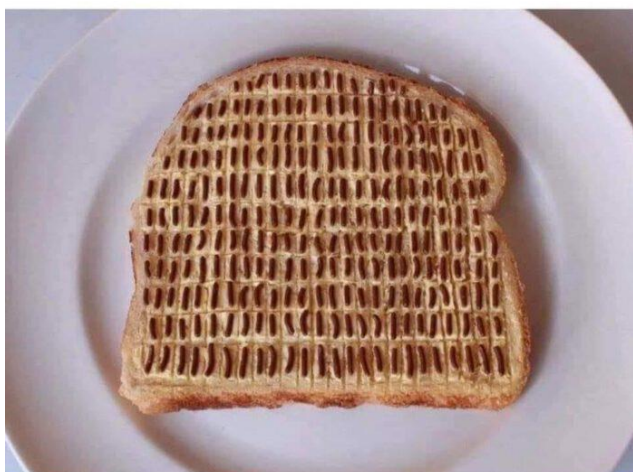
Results from the recent games below:

20 June	Ann Bosch	5151
27 June	Roel Ymker	5046
4 July	Jo de Graauw	4906
11 July	Roel Ymker	4916
18 July	Ann Bosch	4756
25 July	Ann Bosch	5003

Klaverjas every Tuesday 10am – 2pm. Bring your own lunch – and the coffee will be on!

Ann Beyk

Eindelijk eens tijd om mijn boterham goed te beleggen in plaats van het er zo maar op te flikkeren ...



Hartelijk Gefeliciteerd!

Birthday greetings are in order for the following members over the next two months:

August: Nick de Graauw, Martin de Jong, Emmy Vandeursen.

September: Elizabeth Pijnenburg, Toos Philipsen, Eri Geerts, Marina Schmits, Annie Peters, Saskia Knibbeler, Arie Molenaar, Nelly Laterveer, and Rita Langerak.



After the Netherlands v USA match on 27 July – still friends.

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



The Orange Parade on Wellington waterfront prior to the Women's World Cup clash between the Netherlands and the United States.

Photo: Netherlands Embassy.

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

[replace ad]

Sender:

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

Next Double Dutch: October – November. Deadline: 26 September

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

Postal address and Clubrooms:

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.

The Double Dutch Magazine is produced six times per year and is available to all financial members of the New Zealand Netherlands Society (Wellington) Inc.

The New Zealand Netherlands Society (Wellington) Inc. is an affiliated member of the Federation of New Zealand Netherlands Societies Incorporated.