

THE DOUBLE DUTCH

Issue 2023/6

December 2023 – January 2024



Last year Sinterklaas came by bakfiets. Hoe komt hij dit jaar?

COMING UP: Sinterklaas * Christmas * New Year

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

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). (NOT Dec-January)

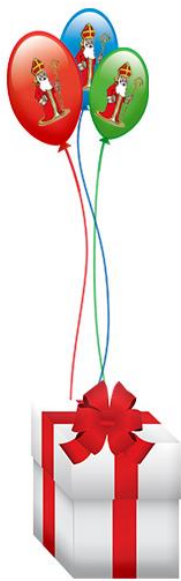
Waikanae coffee group: every 2nd Friday of the month, 10am. At the Baptist Church, 286 Te Moana Rd, Waikanae. \$6.00 per person.



Old St Paul's, Wellington | Friday 8th December 2023 at 6.30pm



Sinterklaas is coming to Avalon House



Spain, 1 November 2023 

Dear children of Wellington (and parents of course),
This year I hope to celebrate my birthday together
with you at the Dutch Club in Avalon House.

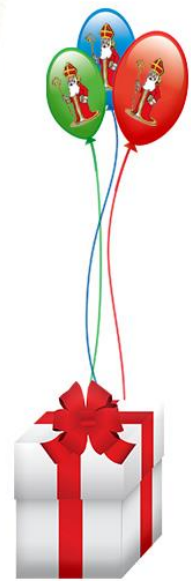
So I am inviting you all to come and celebrate with
me on Sunday the 3rd December when I expect
to arrive between 2 and 2.30pm.

The Pieten will be there a few days earlier making
sure that everything is ready and decorate
the hall for the party.
Of course they will also be preparing the presents
that I have brought for each of you.

If you want to join me at my birthday party,
make sure that your parents make a booking
so that you don't miss out.

I hope to see you all on the 3rd December,
until thenbehave and be good!

Sint Nicolaas



As you can see above, Sinterklaas will be visiting us this year on the 3rd of December. All children (and adults too) who want to join Sinterklaas' birthday party can register still via www.dutchclubwellington.co.nz/sinterklaas – The Sinterklaas Committee.

Sinterklaasgedicht

*Kijk, ik heb 5 Pietjes op mijn hand,
die helpen Sint door het hele land
Dit is de dikke Bakker Piet (duim),
hij eet vaak pepernoten als niemand het ziet.
En dit is Piet met de grote oren (wijsvinger)
hij kan de liedjes heel goed horen
Lange Piet kan keihard lopen (middelvinger)
en de mooiste kadootjes kopen.
De Stal Piet zorgt voor het witte paard
(ringvinger)
geeft het voedsel, drinken en kamt de staart.
En wie zorgt voor het Boek van Sinterklaas?
dat is de kleinste Pieterbaas (pinkje).*

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From the President – Van de Voorzitter

Hi folks, I sure hope y'all doing mighty fine! (Sorry, I was in the US recently.) However, I do hope that you are well and preparing for summer because it is just around the corner. As for the committee members, things are heating up alright and I don't mean the outside temperature. We are preparing for a trio of "end-of-year" events that make us work up a sweat.

First, we will be welcoming the "Goedheiligman" to our clubrooms on 3rd December. We already have more than 50 boys and girls on the audience list and with supporting family and friends we are expecting well over 100 people at Avalon House for Sinterklaas' birthday party.

No more than two weeks later we will be having our annual Christmas lunch. Seats are filling up nicely, but there are only a few left so hurry if you want to join. The theme this year is "Summer".

Lastly, we will be organising a party on the first Social Sunday afternoon of the year. So, I hope to see many of you for a toast and New Year's wishes on the 7th of January 2024.

There is one more event that I would like to draw your attention to and that is the Christmas Service on Friday 8th December which is, as is the custom, being organised and offered to us by Harbour City Funerals.

Looking back on the past two months, I would like to thank the Leiden's Ontzet team for organising a delicious traditional lunch event. We had a full house and everyone enjoyed the food.

Want to know more about any of the above? If so, read all about it in this issue.

That brings us to the threshold of a New Year where we can take time to reflect on the past 12 months in which a multitude of activities and events have passed the scene, both communal and personal. There were happy days and sad days, we shared a laugh and we shared a tear but most importantly: we did it together and that, in my opinion, is the essence of our club.

As our abilities change over time, so do our contributions change in equal measures. That, however, does not change the fact that I consider all members of our society as volunteers and would like to thank all those volunteers with the following words of Elizabeth Andrew:

*"Volunteers do not necessarily have time;
they just have the heart".*

With that I wish you a healthy and peaceful 2024 with all the adventure and fortunes that you wish for.

See you soon,

Pierre.

75th Anniversary Lunch Coming Up in February



Just a reminder that our 75th anniversary lunch is coming up on 25th February. This will be at The Lodge at 182 Paekakariki Hill Rd, Pauatahanui, and is wheelchair friendly. We will have live music and entertainment. Full details were in the last issue of the Double Dutch, and you will be contacted by a committee member in January to check on what your needs are in order to get there and enjoy the event.

'Tis the Season ...

Christmas Service

As is their custom, Harbour City Funerals will be organising a remembrance service at the Old Saint Paul's church on Friday 8th of December. A free bus service is provided from both Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt. (More information on page 10.)

If you would like to attend this service, please contact Pierre Schmits (021-08272084 or pierre.schmits@yahoo.com) for details.

The Dutch Club Wellington would like to thank Danny Langstraat for extending an invitation to this service to our members.

Pierre.

Christmas Lunch

On Sunday 17th of December, we will be organising our Christmas lunch. This year we will have a summer theme to the food – and that is as far as I will lift the veil. For the rest, you will have to come and join us to find out. I promise it will be more than a surprise and you won't leave hungry.

Venue: Avalon House

Date/time: 17 December, doors open at 11:30

Members' price: \$35 pp / **Non-members:** \$45 pp

So, if you are into experiencing some companionship, good food and a drink (or two) in a Christmassy atmosphere, then join us and register in one of the following ways.

1. Through the website
<https://www.dutchclubwellington.co.nz/christmas-lunch/>.
2. Paying Ann Beyk at one of our regular events.
3. By electronic transfer to account number 03-0525-0098055-00, mentioning your name and "X-mas" in the reference

We need to have received your registration and payment **before Wednesday 13 December**. There is a strict limit of 40 seats for this event, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

New Year Celebration

Come and join us for a drink and nibble and catch-up with friends on 7 January 2024 as we raise our glasses in a toast to the New Year. Our first Social Sunday will be all about catching up after the Christmas hustle and bustle and promising to keep this year's resolutions well, at least until the 1st week of February. See you there, cheers,

Pierre



Een Feestje voor Leiden's Ontzet

On Sunday 1 October, the sun was shining as people arrived to celebrate Leiden's Ontzet.



Pierre welcomed everyone, including our Ambassador, Ard van der Vorst, his husband Pieter and guest Rhys Hakken. While everyone enjoyed a drink, Pierre presented a short history of Leiden's Ontzet on the big screen.

Our first course was herring with onions – aka rollmops. Next the main course, hutspot with klapstuk, followed by fresh fruit salad with ice cream.

Saskia played the expert quizmaster, checking our knowledge of the history of Leiden's Ontzet.

People had time to socialise and mix and mingle with each other. There was a major power outage

early in the afternoon, so no heating! This meant we had to improvise other ways to finish cooking the meal, make coffee and heat hot water for dishes. (Thank goodness for the gas cookers!)



Thank you to all the committee volunteers who organised and made this event possible. A special thanks to Wendy and Saskia for their consistent assistance throughout the day and to JoAnna Eikenbroek for supplying the beautiful spring posies for the table centre-pieces.

Carolina van Rooy





Pleasant company – and fine food. Heel gezellig!

A long way and a long time from the liberation of Leiden on 3 October 1574 – but the food is just the same – more or less!



Thank you to all who made it a great success!

From the Secretary – Van de Secretaresse

Hello all,

Another two months have passed, time for the last message this year. I hope you are well. This year we are welcoming four new members: Gordon (from Wellington), Hamish (also from Wellington), and Arif and Joke from Upper Hutt. I hope you enjoy our club and what we offer.

We will have the last coffee morning of the year on Wednesday 6 December. Please bring a plate for a shared lunch. We'll have a good two-month break and return to the regular first-and-third Wednesday of the month schedule, starting with the third Wednesday of February: Wednesday 21st.

I am very grateful for the people who have volunteered their time to make the coffee mornings (and the Sunday sessions) possible. Thank you JoAnna Eikenbroek and Rita Langerak for working with me in the kitchen, and Julie Tan and Dawn Dorresteyn for making soup on several occasions. I do enjoy working alongside you. Also a

big thank-you to the other committee members who decorate the clubrooms (Anna H), make sure that there's a supply of coffee, kroketten and drinks (Pierre and Anna), that the clubrooms are clean (Anna and Carolina), and that the money is collected, counted and banked (Rita and Ann B). And then we have those who work outside of the committee but are no less important in the running of the club: Martin de Jong, who edits the Double Dutch and is in charge of the monthly games afternoon; and Ben Lokum, who has taken care of the beautiful garden beds this year. A big thank-you also to the club's members and their family or friends who helped at public events – you know who you are.

Merry Christmas to you all and best wishes for a relaxing holiday and a happy, safe 2024.

Warm greetings

Anne-Marie



Last year's Christmas Party was a cracker! Come along again on 17 December this year. See page 5.

At the Clubrooms

Tuesday Klaverjas Club

Results from the most recent rounds:

3 Oct	Roel Ymker	5083
10 Oct	Ann Beyk	5143
17 Oct	Julie Tan	4827
24 Oct	Ann Beyk	5184
31 Oct	Harry v/d Gulik	4786
7 Nov	No cards	
14 Nov	Harry v/d Gulik	5180
21 Nov	Roel Ymker	4827

Klaverjas is on every Tuesday, 10am – 2pm, with the coffee on. Bring your own lunch

Ann Beyk

Birthday Greetings ...

Birthday greetings for the next two months go to:

December: Willem Knibbeler, Denise Rush, Anne Bosch, JoAnna Eikenbroek and Henny Ekens.

January: Mary Mason, Ina Kooistra and Ann Beyk.



Coffee morning Island Bay – update

Only two months ago, in the previous edition of the Double Dutch, we reported that the Levin coffee mornings are on hold until further notice. In this edition it is with sadness that we must inform you that the Island Bay coffee morning will also be closing its doors. The main reason why these monthly events will not continue is the dwindling number of attendees.

I would like to thank Isobelle and Ben Lokum, and all organisers before them, for their effort over the past years keeping this social activity in Island Bay alive. Equally my gratitude goes out to Ans Howes, and all organisers before her, for the work in Levin. I have enjoyed many a good banter and happy times in both locations and sincerely hope that one day I might see doors opening again. Until then I look forward to continuing to see all Island Bay and Levin patrons in Avalon House.

Pierre.



CHRISTMAS

A TIME TO REMEMBER

Friday 8th December at 6.30pm

Old St Paul's, Thorndon

When you have lost someone dear to you, anniversaries and the times you were happiest are often the times you are at your saddest.

Come and join us at our service of remembrance and gather strength from others.

This Christmas let us support one another.

A free bus service is provided from our Upper Hutt Chapel, cnr Fergusson Dr & Ward St departing at 5.15pm please call 5288-924.

Lower Hutt Chapel, 665 High St departing at 5.30pm please call 5700-111. **Booking is essential.**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

www.harbourcityfunerals.co.nz

Harbour City
FUNERAL HOME



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

Sinterklaasgedichtje

De stoomboot ligt weer aan de kade
vol met letters van chocolade.

Voor iedereen is er een kadootje
en een pepernootje!

PIETEN staan te springen,
kinderen, die liedjes zingen

Oh, wat een gezelligheid

Sinterklaas vieren is een fijne tijd!

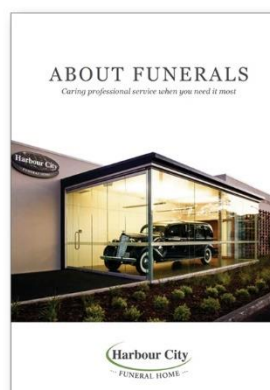


We thank Harbour City Funeral Home for generously printing The Double Dutch in full colour for us.

ABOUT FUNERALS

Informative
FREE guide

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



Call Danny Langstraat on

570 0111



Caring Funeral Professionals
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Association of New Zealand



Local People
Caring in our Community



Sender:

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

Next Double Dutch: February – March 2024. Deadline: 19 January 2024

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

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Website: www.dutchclubwellington.co.nz

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