

Newsletter of the New Zealand Netherlands Society (Wgtn) Incorporated

THE DOUBLE DUTCH

Issue 2024/1

February – March 2024



COMING UP: 75th Anniversary Dinner * Easter celebration * Year Ahead
Join us for coffee mornings, Klaverjas and Sunday afternoon socials.

The committee – Het comité

Officers

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Manager of bar, kitchen and other supplies; Cleaner: Anna Heythuysen 027 563 6026

Positions outside the committee

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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).

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

Cover photo: Morspoort gate in Leiden.

Happy New Year – Gelukkig Nieuwjaar!

Our first event of 2024 was our Nieuwjaar/New Year's celebration held on 7th of January. About 25 members attended this festive Social Sunday to share wishes for the fledgling year.



Both Ans Howes and Ann Bosch spent some time in their kitchen preparing Oliebollen which we enjoyed with a nice layer of sugar dusting.

To accompany a New Year's drink, rookworst bites from our local butcher and fresh won-tons were served. The latter were freshly prepared in the club's kitchen by Julie Tan from an old family recipe and served with a sweet chili sauce. Delicious!



The Committee of the Dutch Club Wellington would like to wish all members, friends and their families a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Pierre

Van de redacteur

I'm looking forward to another year of celebration and retrospection for the club— as we continue to commemorate our 75 years of existence, and consider some key questions for the future of the club – see Pierre's column on page 4, and three key topics he'd like us to consider.

Just thought I'd share some thoughts on his second question: is there a need for our own clubhouse and if so, how to better utilise it? I hope it will spark others' deliberation on all the questions.

As I tried to say 2-3 years ago at an AGM, I feel there is a need for a place the club can call 'home'. For me, Avalon House is a second home, a 'Dutch home'. If I may borrow the Māori term, it is my 'turangawaewae' – a place to stand. Scene not just of many Dutch Club celebrations, but three family birthday party celebrations.

It's also handily placed to integrate a community appealing 'Orange Bike' event in the park with Koningsdag celebrations focused on the clubrooms. (But I know I'm biased in that).

Speaking of which – if anyone would like to help out with Orange Bike this year, send me an email or call me on 021 909688.

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And finally, just a plug that our Spelletjes/Games afternoons – for children of all generations – starts again on **Sunday 11 February**. Bring along any favourite games. We may even go outside, if the sun plays ball with us!

Martin de Jong

From the President – Van de Voorzitter

First and foremost, I would like to wish you all the best for a brand-new year. I hope you have enjoyed the festive season and had an opportunity to spend some quality time with family and friends. Certainly the weather has been good to us.

Looking at the temperature reading here in my office today, I see that it is currently 26 degrees both inside and outside and that is at 9.30 in the morning! Only a few minutes ago I received an email from my sister in Limburg that she was clearing about 10 centimetres of snow that had fallen in the past few hours. Lucky us!

As I alluded to in the previous Double Dutch, we had a busy few months of club activities, and you will read more about Sinterklaas, the Christmas lunch and New Year celebration in this edition.

Looking ahead, we are in full swing in our organisation of our 75th Anniversary celebration on Sunday 25th February. If all has gone well, all members have been contacted by phone (or email) to inform you about this. So far, we have about the same number of people attending the event as the number of years our club is young! I am very much looking forward to this event and I hope you are too.

You will also find a list of dates for other events currently planned for the rest of the year. Please note them in your calendars so that you don't miss out. Early bookings are always possible, just contact any of the Committee members and have your name down on the attendance list. We will probably have more events through the year, but these are still on the drawing board, and we don't have dates yet. We will keep you informed either in upcoming issues of the Double Dutch or separate newsletters.

There is one event that I would like to draw your attention to and that is the AGM that will be held on 19th May this year. As you know, your attendance, as a member of our club, is of the utmost importance. This year even more so as we will be discussing some important topics

concerning the future of our club. For this reason, I would like to ask you to wrap your mind around the following three topics:

- The Committee of the club and how you can contribute.
- Is there a need to have our own clubhouse and if there is how can we better utilise it.
- Your ideas around the future of our club.

As you can see, these are important topics and hence I hope you will all find time to attend and contribute to a constructive discussion.

That's about all from me, keep cool and see you soon.

Pierre

For the English in us...

Some Dutch sayings rendered literally in English
(*Thanks Saskia for putting me onto this – Ed.*)

It rains steel pipes.

I fell with the door in the house.

There is nothing on the hand.

I shall let them smell a poopy.

I'm keeping you in the holes.

I don't trust you for a metre.

It shall me a sausage be.

It's dick black outside.

Unfortunately peanut butter!

To participate for bacon and beans.

There is not a ball on the TV.

It walks in the soup.

Falling through the basket.

This time, I can see it through the fingers.

From the Secretary – Van de Secretaresse

Dear people,

Best wishes to you all for the New Year. I hope you are well. As you will be aware, the Committee members have spoken with every member during January, regarding the Anniversary Lunch on 25th of February. I have really enjoyed catching up with the people on my list, as well as finally speaking with people whose names I've seen on address labels for years but have not met or spoken with before. We have now finalised our arrangements with The Lodge.

Everyone who said they are coming to the lunch will receive a written invitation in the mail, or in person on a Sunday afternoon. A note about the transport arrangement (if you asked for transport) will be included. If you haven't received your invitation by 12th of February, please give me a call or send me a text or email. Those who aren't attending the lunch are not forgotten and can expect a surprise sometime in late February.

Pierre has already mentioned in his column about the AGM in May, and the discussions we will be starting about the club's future. As in previous years, we ask that members pay their membership of \$45 per household (includes children under the age of 16) before 1st of April, by cash to Ann Beyk or online into the account no. **03-0525-0098055-00** for **NZ Netherlands Society Wgtn Incorporated** (include your name in the reference field).

Only those who have paid their dues can vote at the AGM. We are not sending out individualised invoices. New membership cards will be included with the April issue of the Double Dutch, or given to you by Ann Beyk when you pay her.

As always, I wish you all well. To those of you who are battling illness or caring for someone who is, I wish you strength and as good a recovery as possible.

Warm regards,

Anne-Marie



Artwork created by member Denise Rush for our Christmas Lunch on 17th December.

COMING UP ...

Mark your diaries for key dates below for our regular **yearly events** (all on a Sunday):



- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Easter: | 31 st March |
| Koningsdag | 28 th April (tbc) |
| AGM: | 19 th May |
| Solstice Lunch: | 23 rd June |
| Tulip Sunday: | 22 nd Sept (tbc) |
| Sinterklaas: | 1 st December |
| Christmas Lunch: | 15 th December |
| New Year's 2025: | 5 th January 2025 |



Some of these events have limited seating. Members can register at any time for any of these events to secure a seat in advance.

The Committee is also planning a few additional, one-off events for the coming year, but we do not have dates as yet. Please keep an eye out for these on our website www.dutchclubwellington.co.nz, on Facebook www.facebook.com/dutchclubwellington and upcoming issues of the Double Dutch or Newsletter.



... in the Year Ahead



As for our **regular events**, dates and timings are as follows:

Social Sunday: Every Sunday from 2pm to 5pm.

Avalon House coffee morning: Starting **21 February**, on every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 10am to 1pm.

Klaverjassen: Starting **13 February**, every Tuesday from 10:30am.

Spelletjes/Games afternoon: Starting **11 February**, every 2nd Sunday of the month from 2pm to 5pm.

Waikanae coffee morning: Every second Friday of the month from 10am to 12am.

We look forward to seeing you at one (or more) of these events!

The Committee.



Sinterklaas on a trike

I don't know how many different ways Sinterklaas is going to dream up on how he can arrive, but there seems to be a new innovative vehicle each year – and last December, he shifted into another gear: arriving on a suitably orange-coloured motor-trike! Rain did not deter about 60 children and their families from turning up on 3 December to witness Sinterklaas' arrival, alongside one of his trusty Pieten holding an umbrella. Fortunately, the rain though steady was light, as we had to split the children into two groups to come inside to receive gifts and goodies from Sinterklaas and his colourful Pieten, the second group waiting patiently in the rain!

Thanks to the patience of our children and families, and thanks to Brett Lindsay who brought Sinterklaas and Piet on his trusty 'oranje steed'. (You can read more about the Tours of Wellington that Brett offers on his 'TriknTours' on page 15.)





Pieten relaxing at the end of their long day!

Christmas lunch

For me the fun of Christmas starts with decorating the hall in our clubhouse. We usually do this quite early so that we are ready in time for the Christmas lunch. And so we did this year. Anna Heythuysen brought some of her own decoration material and together with the club's garlands she created a stunning Christmas display.

On Sunday 17th December, with a hall suitably prepared, we welcomed around 40 guests for our annual Christmas lunch. This year we enlisted the Lower Hutt based catering company "Fine Touch" to prepare a Christmas BBQ feast for us on-site.

Unfortunately, the weather did not play along with our plans and heavy rain and wind were predicted for that day. However, thanks to the flexibility of our caterer a solution was found in having the food prepared on their premises and brought over to the clubhouse.

After a starter of small bites, courteously prepared by Marina, our banquet of piping hot dishes was placed on the buffet table, and we could start dishing-up from a large selection of meats accompanied by vegetables, salads, sauces and bread. All in all, a sumptuous meal with a choice to please everyone. A light dessert of fresh fruit and ice-cream completed the meal.

For entertainment, Ben had tuned his ocarina and flute to accompany us singing traditional Dutch carols and Rita hosted the Bingo game that saw prizes won by Ben Lokum, Peter Van Deursen and Sarah van Dyk.

A big thank you to "Fine Touch" for delicious food, to all members that stepped in on the day to prepare starters and dessert, and helped with the clean-up – and of course to all members and guests for making the last event of the year a memorable one.

Pierre.





From the Archives

With considerations this year about whether we need the present clubrooms and how to best utilise them, just thought I'd share this excerpt from the 60th Anniversary magazine (2008), prepared by Dawn Dorresteyn. Continuing on from the bottom of this page, the article says the renovated Clubrooms were opened on 9th of June 1990.

AVALON HOUSE

Right from the inception of the Dutch club, the members always dreamt of having their own club rooms. Meetings were held in the homes of various committee members and halls or rooms had to be hired for other events. A scheme was set up to raise funds for a club house. Boyd Klap has kindly provided quite a lot of information about it but Emmy Vandeursen has quite adequately covered the topic of "Holland House" in her research for the 50th Anniversary of the club. The first club house then was at 50 Courtney Place in Wellington and after a lot of work by the members it was opened on the 28th of July 1979.

When the lease was taken out on the house at 61 Taita Drive, Avalon, Lower Hutt, many alterations had to take place to make it suitable as our club rooms. The house, situated in Avalon Park, consisted downstairs of a kitchen, dining room, lounge, passageway, bedroom, bathroom, toilet and garage with internal access. Upstairs were two more bedrooms, a landing, bathroom, toilet and another small room.

The conversions that took place with voluntary labour from some of the members made the kitchen, dining, lounge, hallway, front porch and garage all open-plan. The downstairs bedroom was made into an entrance foyer and the bath was removed so as to install a ladies toilet. The original toilet became the men's toilet. Upstairs, the bedroom on the north side of the house remained largely unchanged structurally, but storage cupboards have been installed and shelves fitted for books. The small room is lined with shelves of books for the members to borrow and there is a small door way from there to under the roof for storage. When the club rooms are "in session" the Dutch Flag is flown out of the window of this room, facing the road. The other



bedroom upstairs was opened up into the hallway and contains the pool table. The photo of Kees Dorresteyn and Bertus Hogendoorn was taken in May 1990 when they were looking at the changes needed for the downstairs toilets. The two doorways on the left were first, the internal access to the garage and the second one on the left was to the downstairs bedroom that became the foyer.



Magda van Ree and Jaap

Schrader were photographed hard at work preparing the walls for wallpapering. The group in the photo of some of members who worked on the changes to Avalon House are (left to right): Joka Sutthoff, Paul Sutthoff, Paula Klaassen, Kees Dorresteyn, Mary Boonen, Henk Boonen, Jannie Hogendoorn, Bertus Hogendoorn. Sadly, three of those mentioned, have now passed away: Paul Sutthoff, Henk Boonen and Jaap Schrader.

The men were hard at work to lift the beam into position to support the floor above after the weight-bearing internal walls were removed from the hallway to open it all up into one room from the kitchen through to the garage. At the opening of Avalon House, on the



Doodgaan is een dure zaak

(Dying is an expensive business)

Ik sta met een been in mijn graf:
het and're durf ik nog niet bij te trekken.
Want vooralsnog vraag ik mij af,
wie zonder maar een spiertje te vertrekken,
straks de rekeningen gaat betalen,
als ik overweeg in deze grafkuil af te dalen.

De financiële konsekventies zijn enorm.
De kostenposten rijzen uit de pan.
Consternatie onder nabestaanden is conform.
Die zeggen: "Waar betalen we dat van?"
Ik stem in: ik ben dat allemaal niet waard.
Ik wacht wel op een hemelvaart!

- Abe Labes

Hartelijk Gefeliciteerd!

Birthday Greetings in this issue to the following:

February: Wim Geerts, Ans Howe, Peter Koedijk, Kees Dorresteyjn, Dawn Dorresteyjn, Julie Tan and Arif Effendi.

March: Ben Lokkum, Willy Muller & Corrie Romeijn.



As noted in our previous issue, the end of 2023 also saw the end of the Island Bay coffee mornings – that didn't stop the smiles for those at the last session here! Thanks to all those who supported and frequented the Island Bay sessions.





News from the Embassy

Volume 2, Issue 5

December 2023

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

Christmas Closure
25 Dec '23 - 7 Jan '24

Wellington Anniversary
22 January '24

Waitangi Day
6 February '24

Message from the Ambassador

Looking back at 2023 there is a lot to be thankful for.

Of course Dutch Week with the Big Dutch Day Out in Foxton, the Orange Bike rides all over the country and many more activities. I hope you enjoyed the FIFA World Cup, wasn't that amazing? The Orange Lionesses did very well, but so did you in participating in the Orange Fan Parades.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those volunteers that are part of the Dutch Clubs and Federations all over New Zealand, celebrating the Dutch New Zealand relationship. It truly reflects the Dutch community and hands-on spirit. Dankjewel!

In 2024 we will continue to strengthen our ties with the 150.000 Kiwis of Dutch descent and our friends all over the Pacific. We'll support Dutch Week 2024 and look forward to meeting you there at one of the many activities. Prior to Dutch Week check out our Facebook page and website to see what is happening.

The embassy will continue the NL-NZ collaboration in the agricultural sector to serve our farming communities. Furthermore, we will work on resilience to deal with the impact of climate change and towards a safer and more prosperous world. New Zealand and the Netherlands are natural partners. I believe we are stronger together.

This leaves me, on behalf of the Netherlands Embassy in Wellington and the Consuls in Auckland, Christchurch, Samoa, Fiji and Tonga, to wish you and your family and friends a wonderful holiday period.

Fijne Kerstdagen en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar!

Your Ambassador,

Ard M.M. van der Vorst

Consular pop-up desks 2024

We are happy to announce our 2024 consular pop-up dates and destinations:

03 April - Christchurch

28 May - Napier

09 July - Christchurch

10 September - Invercargill

08 October - Christchurch

30 October - New Plymouth

If you would like attend one of the above dates, please email us on wel-ca@minbuza.nl to be added to our contact lists, we will email you with information regarding your selected date closer to the time. Alternatively, info and appointments will be available one month prior to each date on our [website](#) and our [social media pages](#).

Embassy Christmas Message

The embassy will close on 22 December for the Christmas break and we will re-open again on Monday 8 January.

From all the staff here at the embassy in Wellington, we wish each and every one of you a very merry festive season.

[Watch the Ambassador's Christmas Message](#)



Apply for your passport on time

2024 marks the end of the Netherlands passport dip. Passports issued from mid 2014 onwards have a 10 year validity meaning there will be a large influx in passport applications around the world from next year.

Be sure to apply for your passport at least 3 months before it expires at the embassy in Wellington, VFS Global in Auckland, or at one of our consular pop-up desks in the regions.

More information on how to apply can be found on our website:

www.netherlandsworldwide.nl/passport-id-card/abroad/apply-new-zealand



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

Get on board with TriknTours



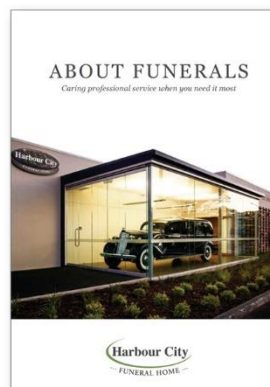
Sinterklaas driver Brett Lindsay (see page 8) offers five basic tours around Wellington for people who'd like to see the city from his orange trike. These tours are centred around: Weta Workshop, the Bays, Mt Victoria lookout, Brooklyn wind turbine (for more great views), or journey over the Remutakas on the Martinborough wine tour. You can try any of these tours, mix and match, or design your own. It's also a novel way to let visitors from elsewhere experience Wellington. Contact Brett on 027 439 3365 or brett@trikntours.co.nz.

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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... FUNERAL HOME ...

Sender:

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

Next Double Dutch: April – May. Deadline: Friday 15 March

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

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