



**NETHERLANDS  
SOCIETY ROTORUA (Inc.)  
GEYSER NEWS**

**November, December 2024 and January 2025**

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**



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**SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER MARKET DAY  
10:00-12:30**

**This will be the last Market Day of 2024**

We have invited two special guests to join us, and Yes, Sinterklaas and Piet will bring us a visit. You will have plenty of time to get a family photo with Sint Nicolas and Piet. Sint Nicolas and Piet love Rotorua and the people but they also like very much the "oliebollen".



**CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON  
SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER**

**Doors are open: 12:30**  
**Lunch to be served: 13:00**

**\$15.00 for Coffee Club Members**  
**\$20.00 for Dutch Club Members**  
**\$25.00 for Visitors**

**Includes a Beverage**



**Please RSVP Before 2 December to**

**1) Anneke**  
**Ph. 3574273 or 021 1329363**

**2) Jo**  
**Ph. 07 3482280 or 027 6684521**





Looking for a snack this Christmas? The club has boxes of frozen Croquettes and “Bitterballen” for sale. A box of 32 croquettes is \$60.00. We also have boxes of 8 croquettes for \$15.00. A box of 25 Bitterballen is \$20.00. This will be a delicious bite during the busy Christmas time.



Kingdom of the Netherlands

## News from the Embassy

October 2024

### Questions?

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

0800-388-243

Or visit:

[www.netherlandsworldwide.nl](http://www.netherlandsworldwide.nl)

### Upcoming Consular Pop-Up Dates

New Plymouth  
30 October

More info:  
[www.netherlandsworldwide.nl/passport-id-card/abroad/apply-new-zealand](http://www.netherlandsworldwide.nl/passport-id-card/abroad/apply-new-zealand)

### Message from the Ambassador

Dear Dutch community in New Zealand,  
Summer is on the Horizon!

As we gradually approach the summer season, I hope you're taking the opportunity to get outside and enjoy some fresh air—perhaps with a bike ride?

Our Consular team is certainly out and about, visiting communities with our pop-up consulates. We're committed at the Dutch Embassy in Wellington to increase our consular presence and spend more time connecting with Dutch nationals across the regions.

On 18 October we celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Dutch Waka Crew. Fifteen years ago, two traditional Waka made the journey to Leiden, marking the beginning of a beautiful collaboration between the Netherlands and Māori in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Looking ahead to 2025, we'll celebrate 60 years of diplomatic representation between the Netherlands and New Zealand. This milestone is a perfect opportunity to reflect on the active role of the Dutch diaspora in local communities and their contribution to New Zealand's success. The theme for the year will be 'NL-NZ: Going Local' and I look forward to hear your stories about how you're helping to strengthen the ties between Kiwis and Dutchies.

Let me know where you think we can make a difference. Remember, we are here to serve you.

Your Ambassador, Ard M.M. van der Vorst

### Meet the Policy Team



Our dedicated team works tirelessly to foster collaboration between the Netherlands, New Zealand, and the six Pacific Island States our Embassy is accredited to: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga, and Tuvalu. We work to strengthen business-to-business, government-to-government and people-to-people ties, representing the Dutch community and engaging in meaningful dialogue on key issues that reflect our shared values and interests.

Jet, works on economic affairs and public diplomacy around water, climate and agriculture portfolios. She also manages our Embassy's Human Rights Fund from which we support Pacific LGBTI+ organisations.

Pieter, with his background in China and security issues, has a regional role focusing on the Pacific. He works to enhance our bilateral relations with the Pacific islands and our understanding of geopolitical dynamics in the Pacific.

Our intern Merle is a cultural anthropology student and focuses on Māori topics as well as the celebration year 2025: 60 years of NL-NZ diplomatic representation!

Inge has recently joined the team as a Rijkstraine, she will contribute her expertise in China and defence issues while working on political affairs and security portfolios.

Check our socials for updates on our activities, and feel free to reach out to [wel-ea@minbuza.nl](mailto:wel-ea@minbuza.nl)

### World Sustainable Transport Day

Are you a Dutch Kiwi aged between 16-22? Keen to learn about themes like sustainable mobility and green diplomacy? Would you like to work on real life sustainable transport cases with fellow rangatahi?

Join us in Wellington for a day of workshops on World Sustainable Transport Day on the 26<sup>th</sup> of November!

The Irish and Dutch Embassies are organising a joint event for our youth diaspora, including engaging learning sessions in the morning and a group practical exercise in the afternoon.

The day promises to be both educational and enjoyable, fostering social connections along the way. A full day programme and lunch are included.

For more information, or to sign up, send us an email at [wel-ea@minbuza.nl](mailto:wel-ea@minbuza.nl)

### Renew Passport On Time

If you only have Dutch nationality, please remember to renew your passport before the current one expires. We have had an influx of applicants who only have the Dutch nationality letting their passports expire.

This causes delays with passport applications as it requires these applicants to provide extra documentation to prove they have not become New Zealand citizens which costs time and money.

## The First Market Day in 2025 will be 15 February.



Next Coffee Mornings: First Tuesday of the Month 5 November and 3 December at 11:00

NOTE: No Coffee Morning in January.

*The first Coffee Morning in 2025 will be Tuesday 4 February.*



If you like to play **BINGO** and you like to have a laugh or a chat or maybe you like to fill one of those empty chairs.

We would like to have some more players: Interested? Come along and enjoy yourself!!



**The Third Tuesday of the Month**

NOTE: No Bingo in December and January

**The First Bingo in 2025 will be Tuesday 18 February**



"Vele Handen Maken Licht Werk"- -Many hands do make the work easy



HELP

We are looking:

For anyone who is available to help in setting up the Hall.

**WHEN**

Between 11:00-12:00 on a Friday before the Market Day. Are you that person?

Please Don't Be Shy and Phone Douwe Visser NOW on [345 9383](tel:3459383) Today

We realise that some people don't want to buy a whole box of 32 frozen croquettes, so we have organised containers of 8 croquettes to sell at the Market Day.

Croquettes frozen – boxes of 32 = \$60.00 / small box of 8 = \$15.00.

We now also have "Bitterballen" for sale, 25 Bitterballen in a box.



Coffee Morning Every 1st Tuesday of the month at 11:00

Bingo Afternoon Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 13:30



Federation Website: <https://dutchcommunities.co.nz>

Federation Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/DutchCommunitiesNZ>

For all things Dutch in New Zealand: <https://dutch.nz/>  
Website: [www.netherlandsfoundation.org.nz](http://www.netherlandsfoundation.org.nz)

**THIS IS YOUR COMMITTEE:**

ANNEKE MEERKERK	PRESIDENT / CATERER	07 357 4273
JO HARVEY	SECRETARY	027 6684521 Email: <a href="mailto:jobird.harvey@gmail.com">jobird.harvey@gmail.com</a>
FRANS SCHAEFFERS	TREASURER	022 647 9188
DORIEN VROOM BARCLAY	COMMITTEE	027 245 0287
PIET ELMIGER	COMMITTEE	07 343 6769
LILY PRUMMEL	COMMITTEE	021 354 598
ELLY VAN WOLFEREN	COMMITTEE	021 025 67832
INA KROESE	COMMITTEE / EDITOR	Email: <a href="mailto:hikroese1@gmail.com">hikroese1@gmail.com</a> 021 159 9097 or 07-347 0251

**NON-COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

ALIE VISSER	MEMBERSHIP ADMINISTRATION AND NEWSLETTER DISPATCH	07 345 9383
CHRIS MAHER	CUSTODIAN / HALL HIRE	07 347-0381 or 027-3012686

**GENERAL MAINTENANCE**

DOUWE VISSER 07 345 9383 / HANK KROESE: 07-347-0251 or 021-164-3110

JEAN PIERRE (JP) PAALVAST 027-279 5542

**From the Editors Desk:**



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*To those of you who have suffered the loss of a loved one in recent times, our thoughts are with you.*

*If you or your loved ones are suffering from an illness or injury, I hope there is a speedy recovery.*



**From All of Us have a Nice and Peaceful Christmas.**

**Enjoy the holiday season with family and friends. We will all say goodbye to 2024 and welcome 2025 in our lives.**

**Hank and I will go to Pukekohe to our daughter and family. We have no plans to go away as I am still recovering from broken ribs and a Spleen operation.**

**We all hope that St. Nicolas and Pieter can make it to the clubrooms this year.**

**When you are at the Market Day and it is very busy please do give a few minutes of your time to help our very friendly volunteers.**

**Clearing the tables will be a big help for us. Thank you for helping**

