N E T H E R L A N D S

SOCIETY ROTORUA (Inc.)

GEYSER NEWS

February and March 2025

To All Our Members and Friends of The Netherlands Society Rotorua, The committee wish you all a Happy and Healthy 2025. May the New Year bless you with good health, lasting happiness and everything you deserve and more. 2024 was a joyful year; we had a very popular baking competition, a delightful bike ride and a well-attended Christmas Lunch. The Coffee mornings are for being together, catching up and the "Gezelligheid" and the Bingo is for a laugh and talking. On the last page it shows the good times our members had in 2024. We are grateful for your trust and support this past year. Your Committee

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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The First Market Day in 2025
22 FEBRUARY
10am-12noon

The first of our Market Days and time for a cuppa with a croquet. Meet your friends and you can still say Happy New Year.

Coffee mornings

4 February and 4 March
from 11am

18 February and 18 February
from 1.30pm

19-21 May in Tauranga Consular Pop-up date

If you wish to receive an email when appointments become available you can register for the infoService (in Dutch) and select "Aanmelden + Registratie bij Ambassade".

https://informatieservice.nederlandwereldwijd.nl/

Hardly any Member or even Non-Members are using our PO Box and because of this the committee has decided not to renew our box.

Kingdom of the Netherlands

News from the Embassy

December 2024

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
23 Dec '24 - 6 Jan '25

Wellington Anniversary
20 January '25

Waitangi Day
6 February '25

Message from the Ambassador

Dear Dutch community,

2024 has been a year of *action* and *connection*. The Embassy team, including our Honorary Consuls, worked hard to strengthen our ties with the Pacific, including New Zealand. From hosting key delegations on horticulture innovation, security and climate change to expanding our Embassy team with new faces - including a duo Deputy Head of Mission and a Pacific Advisor - we've made big steps in deepening our relationships.

We also took our consular services to the next level. With more pop-up consulates across New Zealand and tailored services for our 80+ community, we're making it easier for you to get the support you need. And we're not stopping - 2025 will bring even more improvements.

Next year, we'll celebrate *60 years of diplomatic representation* between the Netherlands and New Zealand and *15 years of the Waka collaboration* between Wereld Museum Leiden, Dutch Waka Paddlers and Toi Māori. These milestones are a testament to the strong foundation we've all built together and the exciting future ahead.
Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to an even more successful year together in 2025!

On behalf of the team 'Fijne feestdagen en een gelukkig Nieuwjaar', Ngā mihi o te Kirihimete,

Your Ambassador,
Ard M.M. van der Vorst

Consular pop-up desks 2025

We are delighted to announce our 2025 consular pop-up dates and destinations and look forward to seeing you there:

10-13 March – Christchurch
19-21 May – Tauranga
14-17 July – Christchurch
23-24 September – Queenstown
3-6 November – Christchurch

If you wish to receive an email when appointments become available you are welcome to register for the InfoService (in Dutch) and select 'Aanmelden + registratie bij ambassade': https://informatieservice.nederlandwereldwijd.nl/

Alternatively, info and appointments will be available one month prior to each date on our website and our social media pages.

A reminder that you can apply year round at the embassy in Wellington or VFS Global in Auckland:
www.netherlandsworldwide.nl/passport-id-card/abroad/apply-new-zealand

NL and NZ - celebrating 60 years of diplomatic representation

In 2025 we celebrate 60 years of diplomatic representation between our two countries. Together with the New Zealand Embassy in The Hague, we're very proud to present the 60th anniversary logo.

The logo celebrates the strong bond between our two nations. It visually represents shared history and cultural connections through iconic symbols:

The Koru: A stylized fern frond, symbolizing new beginnings and growth, a distinctive New Zealand motif.

A Waka: Showcasing the stern of the waka "Te Hono ki Aotearoa" (The Link to New Zealand), permanently housed in the Netherlands.

Delfts Blue: A traditional Dutch pottery style, representing centuries-old craftsmanship and artistry.

The logo's design incorporates a water element, symbolizing the historical connection between the two countries, and the intertwining shapes signify a balanced, strong and enduring partnership.

Thanks to Ambassador Ard van der Vorst, Ambassador Susannah Gordon, Elizabeth McKay, Hannah Frost, Merle Overmeire and Nico Buitendijk for their contribution to this design process.

The Dutch Week will be 26 April – 4 May

The First Tuesday of the Month

The Next Coffee Mornings are: Tuesday 4 February and Tuesday 4 March

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

The Next Bingo afternoons are: Tuesday 18 February and 18 March

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

H E L P **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 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 = $20.00

Coffee Morning Every 1st Tuesday of the month at 11:00
Bingo Afternoon Every 3rd 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**

THIS IS YOUR COMMITTEE:

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NON-COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

ALIE VISSER	**Back-up for the custodian and Facebook**	**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:

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.

We are in the middle of the summer and the weather is very good to us.
February 22 is our 1st Market Day of the year and we can fill up our pantry again with Dutch goodies.
Members of the Coffee Club can do this earlier as the Coffee Club starts on 4 February and the Bingo on 18 February

Is your passport expired? The Embassy has a pop-up in Tauranga on 19-21 May. You have to make an appointment what can be done online

Our PO Box will be closed in February. If you are using this box please give me a call and we will work out what we can do for you.

The dates for Dutch Week are:26 April – 4 May
More info about this in the next newsletter.

Hope to see you at the Coffee Morning or Market Day or both.

Ina

Dutch Market
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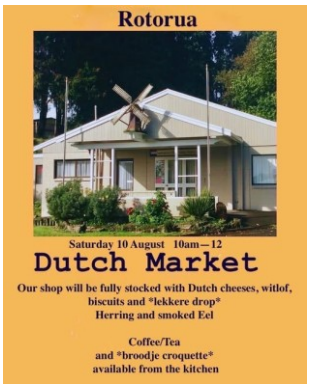
Saturday 5 October
from 10am—12.
Neil Hunt Park
Rotorua


Rotorua
Saturday 10 August 10am—12
Dutch Market
Our shop will be fully stocked with Dutch cheeses, witlof, biscuits and *lekkere drop* Herring and smoked Eel
Coffee/Tea and *broodje croquette* available from the kitchen