

Echo

Dec
2025



Official Newsletter of the Netherlands Society Christchurch (Inc)



AI creation.
Image: Miryam Denny-Ipenburg

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Editor's note

Echo's 2025, done.

But it is not done with the festivities!

Sinterklaas for the not so young was cancelled, however the Sinterklaas Picnic for all of the family and friends will be held on the Sunday 7 December, do not forget to register your (grand)children so Sinterklaas can add them in his big book.

Besides lots of family games, Lekker Dutch will be there too with their food stall.

For all your Sinterklaas goodies I find Stanmore road Bin inn still the best address.

Wim de Winter is currently in Burwood hospital and he would love you to visit him! I think a wish-card will be appreciated so if you know how to reach him, or even via the club or the Echo you can let him know you are thinking of him.

Especially during the coming holiday celebrations.

Please read on about celebrations and dates for market and where to get your cheese.

We will see you at the Sinterklaas Picnic and otherwise at the Saturday Riccarton Market since we've been back from the travels for a few weeks now.

Till next time,



**Hedwig
Dunbar-Keek**
Editor, Echo

Netherlands Society Christchurch

637 Marshland Road
Ouruhia
Christchurch 8083



Visit our facebook page



Netherlands_Society_Christchurch

Want to contribute to the next issue of the Echo Newsletter?

Echo Material for the next issue of the Echo has to be in by the 20th of each month. Although handwritten material is acceptable if clearly readable, the editor will be very happy with typewritten articles. You would, however, really make my day with your contributions as an attachment to email or with an email in Word format (.doc NOT .docx). Please ensure any images are of good quality. Please send to: editor.nsc@gmail.com

President's greeting



**Miryam
Denny-Ipenburg**
President
Netherlands Society
Christchurch (Inc.)

Beste lezers,

Zaterdagavond sloten we ons, samen met velen van jullie, aan bij de Toneelproductie van 'De Gouden Pauw', en wat was het leuk! We hebben enorm van de voorstelling genoten. Het was een goed verhaal met veel humor en een zeer slimme inzet van muziek. We vroegen ons wel af hoe de geest aan zijn 'Overijsselse' accent kwam, en zijn ook zeer benieuwd wie de verloting voor dat mooie schilderij heeft gewonnen.

Onze kofferbakverkoop (Car boot sale) was opnieuw een succes, en we zullen het evenement in maart 2026 herhalen. We hebben al reserveringen binnen, dus als je ook mee wilt doen, kun je nu al een plek reserveren bij Lynda of Annie.

Tijdens de Sinterklaasintocht in het Zuid-Hollandse Gouda is zaterdag een bootje met Pieten omgeslagen. Sinterklaas heeft besloten deze Pieten niet mee te nemen op de lange tocht naar Nieuw Zeeland. Gelukkig waren dat niet zijn betrouwbare Pieten, die inmiddels bekend zijn met het Christchurch Sinterklaasfeest, dus kan ons feest gewoon doorgaan. Vergeet je dus niet aan te melden voor onze feesten.

Volgend jaar viert onze club haar 60-jarig jubileum! De commissie is al druk aan het brainstormen over manieren om dit te vieren, en we nodigen iedereen die wil helpen—met ideeën of met de organisatie van de festiviteiten—van harte uit om dit aan ons te laten weten.

Geniet van de feestdagen en jullie vakantie, en we kijken ernaar uit om jullie allemaal weer te zien op onze eerste markt in februari.

Met vriendelijke groet,

Miryam

Dear readers,

Saturday evening, we joined many of you at the Toenail production of the 'De Gouden Pauw' and what fun it was! We all thoroughly enjoyed the show. It was a good story with many laughs and very clever use of music. We did wonder how the ghost got his 'Overijssels' accent and are curious to find out who won the raffle for that beautiful painting.

Our Car Boot Sale was another success, and we will be repeating the event in March 2026. We already have bookings in, so if you want to come along as well, you can already book a spot with Lynda or Annie.

During the Sinterklaas arrival parade in Gouda, South Holland, a small boat carrying Pieten capsized on Saturday. Sinterklaas has decided not to take these Pieten with him on the long journey to New Zealand. Fortunately, they were not his reliable Pieten, who are already familiar with the Christchurch Sinterklaas celebration, so our festivity can go on as planned. Don't forget to book for our Sinterklaas celebrations.

Next year is our club's 60th anniversary! The committee is already brainstorming ways to celebrate, and we invite anyone who would like to help—either with ideas or with organising the festivities—to let us know.

Enjoy the festive season and your holidays, and we look forward to seeing you all again at our first market in February.

Yours sincerely,

Miryam

What's on!

Riverlution Farmers Market



Beste kaasliefhouders,

De Nederlandse markt is gestopt voor een welverdiende rust in de maanden december en

januari om op 8 februari '26 weer met goede moed terug te komen!

Wij stoppen niet, want we hebben ons opgegeven om de 3e zaterdag van de maand bij de

Riverlution Farmers Market te staan, om iedereen van kaas te voorzien en de Nederlandse

Club te blijven steunen.

We zijn daar dus: 20 december, 17 januari enzovoort.

In de Richmond Community Garden in Vogel Street.

Het zou geweldig zijn om jullie daar allemaal te zien en als je van kaas houdt, weet ik dat u

geen twee maanden zonder kan!

U kan ook bestellen (graag zelfs!) en dan graag vóór de volgende data:

Vrijdag 12 december '25

Vrijdag 9 januari '26

Vrijdag 30 januari '26

Email ons op: bruchem.family@gmail.com of bel/sms
Liesbeth op: 021 819 114

Hieronder staat de link naar de event voor de Farmers Market:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1Cav3P4nww/>

Groetjes!

Liesbeth en Ewout

What's on!

Dear cheese lovers,

De Dutch market is taking a well-earned rest in the months of December and January, to come back refreshed and full of energy on the 8th of February '26.



We are not stopping, because we have committed to be at the Riverlution Farmers Market on the 3rd Saturday of the month, to supply everyone with cheese and to still support the Netherlands Society.

We'll be there: 20th of December '25, 17th of January '26 etc. It's at the Richmond Community Garden in Vogel Street.

It would be great to see you all there and if you love cheese, you won't be able to go two months without it!

You can also order (wea prefer this) and the cut off dates for this are:

- Friday 12th of December '25
- Friday 9th of January '26
- Friday 30th of January '26

Email us on: bruchem.family@gmail.com or ring/txt Liesbeth on: 021 819 114

Please find the link for the Farmers market here:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1Cav3P4nwu/>

Kind regards, Liesbeth and Ewout

Dutch Market 2026



See you all at the next market
on 8 February 2026!

Dutch Language Day

Saturday, December 06, 11:00am–2:30pm
Tūranga

Dutch is spoken by approximately 24 million people worldwide, mainly in the Netherlands and Belgium.

Join us on December 6th and celebrate the Dutch language as a living link between people, culture and community here in New Zealand.

Listen to a special bilingual Storytimes and get creative with crafts featuring Belgian poppies and Dutch tulips. Try out traditional games and trail the library on a themed treasure hunt with Miffy and the Smurfs.

This event is part of Dutch Language Weekend 2025 and is open to everyone with an interest in the Dutch language, whether through heritage, family ties or curiosity.



Youth of Yesterday

Every Friday morning
9.30 am - 2.00 pm approx.
Bottomless coffee/tea and a speculaas.

Operating
are Rummikub, card players, drawing, golfers.

Important Dates:
*Breakup lunch - 12 December approx 12.30 pm
*Restart – 23 January

Get out of the house for a coffee and chat speaking Dutch/English with a group of friends, or maybe you are a group of knitters, crochet, etc. You are most welcome. We have plenty of space. You do not have to be dutch to join in.

☎ 027 751 9338 Lilian for information
lilian_van_elk@hotmail.com

Festive events!

Sinterklaas Picnic

Sunday 7 December, 11am - 2pm
The picnic ground at the front of the clubrooms, 637 Marshland Road.

Join us for another fantastic family day filled with fun for everyone!

We have an exciting line-up of games for the children, and adults are welcome to join in too. After Sinterklaas leaves, we'll have a friendly tug-of-war for those ready to flex their muscles!

Everyone will have a chance to take photos with Sinterklaas, and all children will receive a treat bag with lollies and juice. Registered children up to 12 years old will also receive a special gift. For the adults, a

traditional taai taai treat awaits—assuming you've been good this year!

Food stalls and a coffee van will be there to add to the festivities.

Important: Please register your child by 30 November!

Email: annievanderdussen@gmail.com

Text or call Annie at 021-0625656 or Lynda at 021-1379147 with your child's name and age.

The cost is \$10 per child; adults attend free.

Please note: If you decide to attend at the last minute without registering, we may not be able to provide a gift for your child, so please register in advance.

7 Dec



Games:

Water relay course,
Family obstacle course,
Pass the ball, Stilt walking, Volleyball,
Ballen gooien, Hoepels,
Spijkerpoepen,
Sjoelbakken,
Zakken lopen

Festive events!

Christmas Play and BBQ



Like every year we are planning to have another Christmas play, therefore we like to hear from children who want to take part in this fun part of the Christmas afternoon we are having on the 21st of December.

We do need lots of children and some adults to help out. As always we do need Mary, Joseph, angels, kings, soldiers, shepherds, sheep, donkey, ox, or any other person or animal you like to be.

We would love to have a baby, it would be really great if there is a mother who likes to take part with her baby.

Costumes are all provided or especially made.

No need to be able to speak Dutch and we

practice 3 times, usually after school time.

For more info, please contact Annie on mob: 021 062 5656

BBQ: Starting at 2pm with a sing along of all the old well known Christmas songs.

The bar will be open to buy a drink, tea and coffee will be provided.

Cost for members \$20, non-members \$30.

Children under 10 years free with a paying adult.

Children between and 10 and 15yrs \$15.

Bookings can be made by calling Annie before 15 December.

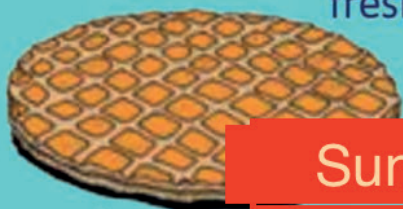
Ph: 383 1594 or Mob. 021 062 5656

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WHERE TO FIND US

*EVERY SATURDAY on Kahu road
Christchurch Farmersmarket,
Riccarton House and Bush

Sunday 7 December at Sinterklaas Picnic

Dutch Society, 637 Marshland rd,
at Everglades Golfcourse

Instagram: lekkerdutchinnewzealand



POFFERTJES

Our speciality,
little buckwheat pancakes,
served with butter and icing sugar

OLIEBOLLEN

Traditional Dutch Donut

APPELTAART

Oma's Recipe served with cream

email: lekkerdutchnz@gmail.com

**From the
committee:**

We'd like to give these
embroidered paintings back
to the children of E. van Herp.
This is the name on the pieces.
Contact Kees van Dam.
Mobile: 02745 988 98

**From the
committee:**

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DE NEDERLANDSE VERENIGING

Editie Wereldwijd



Sinterklaasjournaal weer gestart

Pietje Paniek is weer terug!

Lieve Nederlanders, groot en klein,

De Sint vindt 't weer fijn,

om straks bij jullie te zijn.

Met een knipoog naar de realiteit,

maken we Piet en ik het gezellig vol gekkigheid.

Bij elke nieuwe aflevering,

krijg jij nu een ping,

via de facebookpagina van de Nederlandse Vereniging.

De eerste aflevering vind je hier.

We wensen je veel kijkplezier.

De tweede aflevering komt er snel aan,

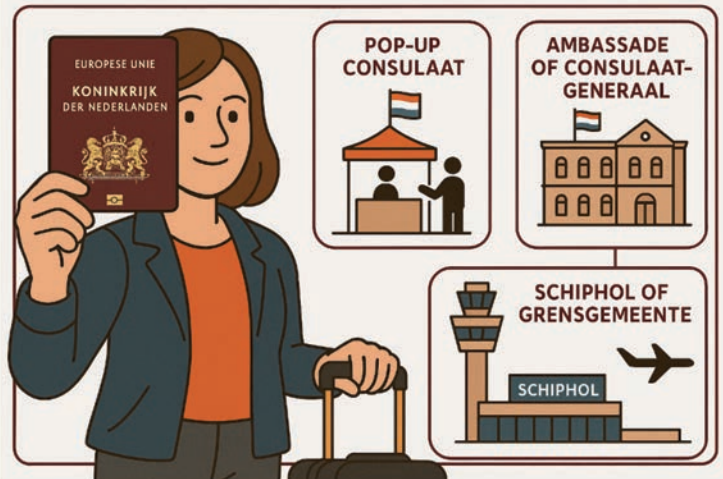
zodat jij kunt zien of de Stoomboot is vergaan.

Volg De Nederlandse Vereniging dus maar snel.

Geef ze een schuimpje of een digitaal duimpje,

En als je dit deelt met anderen, dan zeggen wij alvast: dankjewel.

Sint & Piet



Hoe ging het vernieuwen van het paspoort?

Paspoortstress of vlekkeloos geregeld?

We zitten in het tweede jaar van de **Paspoortpiek** en we zijn benieuwd naar jouw ervaring!

- Hoe ging het vernieuwen van je paspoort of ID-kaart?
- Hoe was het contact met of de service bij de Nederlandse ambassade, het consulaat, de pop-up, de Schipholbalie, de grensgemeente of VSF Global?
- Hoe was het contact met of de informatie van **Nederland Wereldwijd** of een andere Nederlandse overheidsinstantie waar je mee te maken had?

Deel je ervaringen, tips, klachten of complimenten

de Nederlandse Vereniging

Editie Wereldwijd

Geen nieuwsbrief meer?

Meld je hier af.



Car boot sale (Nov 2025)



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Kingdom of the Netherlands

NEWS FROM THE EMBASSY

NOVEMBER 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE AMBASSADOR



Dear Dutch community in New Zealand and the Pacific,

The Dutch Language weekend is approaching. From 4 until 7 December, activities are being organized all across New Zealand to celebrate the living link between people, cultures and communities.

The Dutch Language Weekend is a new initiative by the Dutch Embassy and its partners to celebrate the Dutch language in everyday life. Throughout New Zealand, we are organizing practical, accessible activities, such as workshops, children's story time, music sessions, and community gatherings, that bring together Dutch speakers and anyone curious about Dutch language and culture.

The preliminary program is as follows:

1 Dec.	Big Dutch Bingo	Tauranga
4 Dec.	Panel Discussion about Language Regression	Auckland University of Technology
5 Dec.	Story competition	Schools across NZ
6 Dec.	Dutch Language Festival in libraries	Palmerston North Christchurch
6 Dec.	Sinterklaas film festival	Dutch Clubs across New Zealand
6 Dec.	Dutch Bodypump class	LesMills Taranaki, Wellington
6-7 Dec.	Sinterklaas celebrations	Dutch clubs across New Zealand

Keep an eye on our Facebook and [website](#) for the latest updates on the activities taking place in your area.

Your Ambassador,

Ard M.M. van der Vorst

WE ARE MOVING!

The Embassy is on the move.
From the 1st of December 2025 our new address is:

Level 5, 40 Bowen Street, Wellington

If you have an appointment with us in December you will receive a notification from the Embassy with more information. We look forward welcoming you in our new office!



CONSULAR NEWS

HOW TO TRANSFER YOUR PERMANENT RESIDENT VISA TO YOUR NEW PASSPORT

If you have renewed your Dutch passport, you will need to transfer your visa into your new passport before you travel. This applies for both physical visa labels and eVisas. Either need to be requested from Immigration New Zealand.

We recommend you apply for an eVisa, as this is the quickest way to transfer your visa to your new passport and there is no application fee. You can do this online.

If you opt to get a new visa label, you will need to send your new passport to Immigration New Zealand. Please visit www.immigration.govt.nz for more information.



Tip from us:

For all your Dutch government related questions, call our Netherlands WorldWide 24/7 contact center:

0800 388 243

Or visit:

netherlandsworldwide.nl

Embassy closures:

Christmas closure

22 December 2025 -
4 January 2026

Our new address:

Embassy of the Kingdom
of the Netherlands
5th Floor
40 Bowen Street
Wellington 6011

Everglades Country Golf Club

637 Marshland Road, Christchurch



Would you like to Play Golf?

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Green fees \$15.00 for 9 holes.

Clubs are available for hire.

**The course is open every week day (except Tuesday)
from 9.30am to 12.30pm and Saturdays from 10.30am
to 3pm**

**New members are very welcome. Membership
details are available at clubrooms - 03 3238641
(entrance from back car park)**

Or from the Secretary

Sue Edkins

027 205 5708

evergladescgc@xtra.co.nz



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Contact Darren Mullink

P: 022 039 0374

E: mulhollandpainting@outlook.co.nz

***"laat uw huis
weer stralen!"***

Klaverjas Club "Ons Genoegen"

Terwijl wij weg waren op een lang weekend bereikte ons het bericht dat Wim de Winter (de grote organisator van onze kaartclub gedurende de laatste ongeveer 20 jaar) een beroerte heeft gehad. We horen dat hij aan het herstellen is. Ook zijn 89e verjaardag heeft hij in het ziekenhuis - Burwood Hospital - moeten vieren. We wensen hem veel sterkte en hopen hem in het nieuwe seizoen weer terug te zien. Maar de show must go on. Lydia Verstappen en Rein Bakker hebben de taken tijdelijk verdeeld voor de komende weken. De kaartclub heeft na 1 tussendag het programma weer opgenomen. Weliswaar nu met nog maar 10 kaartspelers. Dus wie het klaverjassen nog niet verleerd heeft of het alsnog wil leren (als je kan bridgen is klaverjassen eenvoudig te leren), we kunnen lessen geven. Kom langs op dinsdagmorgen of vrijdagmorgen in de Everglades en we leren je de kneepjes. Ook gratis privé lessen zijn mogelijk. De laatste keer was Emmy Nederpelt de winnaar met 5410 punten en Lydia Verstappen 2e met 5107 punten. Als u dit leest zijn we bijna toe aan de finale voor 2025 op 16 December, waarin de jaarlijkse prijzen worden uitgereikt en we feestelijk afsluiten met een gezamenlijke lunch. Half Januari starten we weer met een nieuw seizoen met de eerste paar weken fun kaarten, voor we weer serieus aan de slag gaan. We hopen dan een paar nieuwe leden in onze gelederen te hebben, die hun goede voornemens nakomen. We wensen iedereen fijne kerstdagen en een gezond 2026 toe. Rein Bakker



New members welcome!

Are you or a friend considering becoming a member of the NSC?

For more info contact the Membership Secretary: 022 362 3411, secretary.nsc@gmail.com
Post this application to: Miryam Denny, 637 Marshland Road, Ouruhia, Christchurch 8083
Or, email application to: secretary.nsc@gmail.com



Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Post Code: _____

City: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Membership: ☐ \$30 - Single membership

☐ \$42 - Family membership*

*includes children up to 16yrs of age

You can pay the membership fee to: Westpac New Zealand 03-0823-0070683-000. Subscription year starts 1st April.



Free Dutch lessons
for children 6 years to
12/13 years old, for free
at Riccarton Library
from 3.30-5.30pm
every Monday.

Contact:
Elma van Baasbank
+64 29 023 78998

NSC Committee Members

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Annie van der Dussen – 021 062 5656
Jan Hollestelle – 022 677 5024
Lynda Smit – 021 137 9147
Jack Hoetjes – 027 281 9999
Pete Knuiman – 021 0225 3774
Ellen van Ballegooij – 021 753 002

Affiliated and Other Clubs

Hall Hire – Annie van der Dussen, 021 062 5656
Costume Hire – Marina Wijlaars, 021 0271 8942
Klaverjas Club Ons Genoegen – Wim de Winter, (03) 352 5317
Toenail Culture Ale – Annie van der Dussen, 021 062 5656
Walking Club 'De Landlopers' – Joop Stokvis, 021 0813 3480
Youth of Yesterday – Lilian van Elk, 027 751 9338

Royal Netherlands Consulate Christchurch

47A Studholme St, Somerfield, Christchurch 8024
021 670 330
nl.consulate.chch@gmail.com

Federation of New Zealand Netherlands Societies

dutchcommunities.co.nz

The views and opinions expressed within the Echo are those of the individual author, Google, or other information source and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Netherlands Society or the Editor. All contributions are proofread for style and grammar. We reserve the right to reject, abridge or edit letters for linguistic, spelling, style and other literary errors.



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Echo

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