

Special Vogelvlucht



ROOTS DISCOVERED

Contest winners travel 2,000 kms through the Netherlands exploring their family background! Read their personal stories in this special issue.

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Frontpage:

The four winners in Middelburg's ancient abbey. From left to
right: Saskia, Jenny, Chris and Debbie.

DISCOVER YOUR ROOTS SPECIAL

In the beginning of this year, Vogelvlucht announced the
"Discover your Roots" contest. During their visit to Australia
and New Zealand, the editors of Vogelvlucht selected the four
winners from the hundreds of entries. These winners were going
to explore the Netherlands in search of their family background.

At that moment SBS - Australia's Special Broadcasting Service
- heard about the contest and decided that it would form an
excellent theme for a documentary. And so, all of a sudden,
the winners were the "stars" in a TV production!

On the basis of the prize-winning stories submitted by the
parents, the editors of Vogelvlucht did the necessary research
on the 4 families, made appointments for visits and supplied
SBS with a mass of data. An itinerary was planned and at the
end of August the four winners, Tony Chenn (director) and
Silvio Rivier (presentator) from SBS and a camera crew of three
were packed into a KLM coach for a 2,000 kms tour in the
capable hands of chauffeur Paul Hubert.

This special issue covers the events of that pleasant and busy
week when I piloted the travelling circus through the country!

Frithjof Sterrenburg

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SBS TV

As mentioned in this special issue, SBS TV has made a
documentary of the "Discover your Roots" tour of our
winners through the Netherlands in search of their family
history.

We have just been informed that this programme will most
probably be shown on the 15th of January 1988, so make
sure you check your TV-Guide carefully!

From a preview we can tell you that this is excellent
entertainment especially for the younger generation, so
you'd better make a note and sit back for a good show!

THE WINNING STORIES AND THE WINNERS

For the contest, the parents were asked to supply information on their family background and name one of their children as a candidate for a trip to Holland. Apparently, this was done in some secrecy, because some of our winners did not even know they were candidates until a few hours before they got their prize!

So it was the parents' work that clinched the matter. After all, they are the ones who have the personal memories that make for a lively story. And that was what KLM hoped to get: we did not aim at enormous bone-dry family-trees or nostalgia, but anticipated some stories that would permit the winners to identify more with their forebears and so enrich their personal experience. Many stories came up to these expectations and selection was not at all easy!

Here, then, are the summaries of our four winning "Roots" entries, with some comments on the potential we thought they had for further development.

Debbie Oude Avenhuis

From Hornsby Heights, N.S.W., Australia, Mr J. A. Avenhouse (formerly Oude Avenhuis) not only entered an intriguing story, but also sent a pile of photographs going back to the 19th century!

Looking at Debbie's family tree, it immediately became apparent that "photography" must be an hereditary trait in her ancestry. In five successive generations there were no less than 8 professional photographers, including Debbie herself. Their family names were Niestadt and Bijl and they had shops all over the west of the Netherlands. Especially the Niestadt shops were so well-known that many Dutch people still know what you're talking about.

The Niestadts emigrated to Holland from Germany in 1850 and settled near Schagen (Noord-Holland). Would any of their shops still be there? And what about the interesting name Oude Avenhuis?

Finally, Debbie was the only winner who not only continued the professional family tradition, but did so for 9 months in one of the most prestigious institutions imaginable: Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum!



Debbie

Christian Sies

From Christchurch, New Zealand, Mrs E. Sies wrote that a comprehensive family tree worked out by a relative showed how one of Chris' ancestors called Fagg emigrated to Vlissingen from England. A family crest should still be visible on an ancient house in that city. She herself grew up in Vlissingen and the house should still be there on the boulevard.

Ships play an important part in the family history: one of Christiaan's great-grandfathers was captain on the Vlissingen-Harwich ferry, which was torpedoed in the First World War.



Christian

Another relative designed the luxury liner "Willem Ruys", which became front-page news not long ago as the "Achille Lauro", victim of a notorious hijack.

One branch of the family, called Reedecker, hailed from Terschelling, one of the "Wadden" islands in the north of Holland. Would anything still be visible there? And finally, Chris was named after an uncle who fought in 1940 and died in captivity in Germany. He was reburied somewhere in the Netherlands, but the family did not know where.

Christiaan himself is preparing for his Master's degree in chemistry at the University of Canterbury, but is intrigued by many other things, including floriculture.



Jennifer

Jennifer Smit

Jenny's father, Ijsbrand, wrote from Scotts Creek, Vic., Australia telling he came from a long line of small farmers and farmhands in the Easternmost part of Groningen province. In his letter he enclosed several precious ancient pictures, including one of two elderly people in traditional costume. This is unique, because Groningen traditional dress disappeared in the beginning of this century!

In practically all stories we received, World War II played some role or another. In Ijsbrand's case: he went underground in a village in Friesland and stayed there for several years. There he heard about somebody going to emigrate to Australia and owning no land himself he decided to go there too. Continuing his ancestors' tradition of hard work, he finally cleared over 200 acres practically with his bare hands, and turned it into prime farming land, for which he was awarded a prize by the Royal Agricultural Society.

Jenny's mother originally came from the province of Zeeland, also from farmers' stock. It is pretty certain in view of the distance, that Jenny's parents would never have met in the Netherlands, therefore!

Jenny herself is a pharmacy assistant, but she still can feel the "call of farming" - so who knows what may happen in the future.

Saskia de Vries

From Lugarno, N.S.W., Australia, Saskia's parents presented a very orderly story, with male and female lines clearly separated.

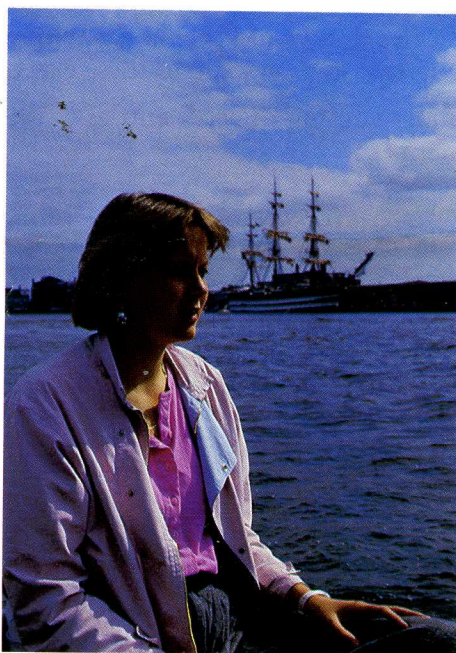
To start with the former: the de Vries branch emigrated from Germany to the Netherlands in the 19th century. Another branch came from Terschelling, where Teekele Zwaal, a sailor's son, became a teacher and took the initiative for a nautical school on the island. According to the information, the old building should still be there.

One of his sons was lost at sea: he sailed as the First Mate on the barque "Postiljon" from Surabaya to Melbourne in 1866 and the ship disappeared. His last letter to his wife is still in the possession of the family.

From her mother's side, Saskia is indeed Frisian as her father's name would seem to imply. One great-grandfather was a builder in Sneek and was involved in the restoration of the Martini church there. Another great-grandfather called de Haas was a famous

silversmith in Sneek (Frisian silver is renowned for its quality). In 1960 he donated his complete inventory (tools but also his papers) to the Open Air Museum in Arnhem. Some of his work should be on display in a museum in Sneek, according to the information Saskia's parents had.

Saskia's parents met just after the war on the hospital ship "Oranje". Interestingly, this was subsequently sold to the same Italian company as the "Willem Ruys".



Saskia

Good Cross-Section

Together, these four stories give a representative cross-section of Dutch ancestry. Only one of the four (Jenny) had a farming background. This agrees well with the role of farming in the Dutch economy: 25% of the export figure.

The other three show that the Dutch economy thrives on independent businessmen, craftsmen (today's technologists) and trade or shipping. This structure has been present since the end of the 15th century.

In all four cases, some branch of the family tree consisted of foreigners emigrating to the Netherlands for economic or religious reasons. Ever since the 16th century, the Netherlands have been a "multicultural society".

For your editors, there was a wealth of data to work with. Between May and August, the locations mentioned were visited, relatives were interviewed and appointments were made with museums and institutions for special visits by the winners. Mr. N. Plomp, Vice-Director of the Central Bureau for Genealogy in the Hague, began to search in the archives of the bureau.

We discovered that we ourselves became involved in this detective story: each new discovery brought excitement and the relatives we met seemed to be our own (distant) kin

Then came the moment of truth: let's get the menagerie on the road!

The Great Battle of the Archives



DIARY OF THE ROOTS DISCOVERY TOUR

Sunday, August 23. Start in Amsterdam.

Breakfast for twenty or so: winners, relatives/friends, TV crew ... I feel like the father of an orphanage! The "circus", TV equipment and personal luggage require a small KLM coach. The winners discover that for reasons of "continuity" they'll have to wear the same stuff when they're on camera: one cannot "cut" from a shot in a red sweater to one in a yellow blouse! (At the end of the tour Saskia would softly whisper "I'm sick and tired of this outfit!") The estimated distance to be covered amounts to some 2,000 kms. Comment: "we thought it was a small country!" Nevertheless, this was the most economical itinerary for the trip, with lots of interesting sights on the way. Despite previous visits to the Netherlands, most of the route was totally new to all four - an excellent opportunity to get to know the country better.

Saskia is the first "victim". Just opposite Amsterdam's Central Station there is a pseudo-baroque hotel called the Victoria.

Saskia

"According to family lore this was the location of the house my German ancestor de Vries lived in when he came to the country. But apparently his, and many neighbouring houses were torn down for this hotel."



Embarking for the tour

Fortunately, Amsterdam's past is well-documented photographically. From the editor of the journal "Ons Amsterdam" a picture could be obtained of that corner before the hotel went up. The house on the corner is a liquor shop around the turn of the century, but the next one is an inn and Saskia is pretty sure Mr. de Vries did keep an inn for some time, so this may be it. And one of the gentlemen in the picture might be Mr. de Vries himself...

Our next stop is the "Overtoom", where Debbie's relative Mr. Bijl ran a photoshop for many years.

Debbie

"Although I had worked in Amsterdam for many months, I never visited this location. You can still see it was a shop, but that's all."

The next location is close by: the Hoofdweg, and this makes for a zany story indeed. Let's hear what Debbie has to tell:

"Here on the Hoofdweg are my "Roots" from both my father's and mother's side. One branch lived on number 88, the other just across the road on number 73. There were close contacts between these two families, the kids played together, but my mother and father failed to meet each other all the time. The first time they met was in Australia!"

Through the Delta to the South

Then comes a long hop to Vlissingen in the South of Zeeland province. As we drive through the Delta Project it becomes evident that this is not just one or two great dams or whatever, but a complete overhaul of an area measuring some 2,500 sq. km. General comment: "much more impressive than I thought".

In Vlissingen, Chris searches for the house his grandparents lived in on Boulevard Bankert 28. Research had shown that the houses have been renumbered and Chris is not perfectly sure until he gets unexpected help.



Situation about a century ago. (Picture courtesy editor "Ons Amsterdam").



Chris gets information from neighbour

Christiaan

"We were cluttering up the sidewalk with our team and attracting some attention. Suddenly I found myself addressed in excellent English by a young man and when I explained what we were doing he told me his family had lived for 3 generations in the house that had been No. 30 formerly. So neighbours can be a good source of information!"

Over dinner that night we had a fantastic view of the Scheldt estuary. This is an excellent example of good neighbourly relations too: it is the only access to Belgium's principal port, Antwerp (a competitor of Rotterdam and Amsterdam), and the entire approach is made through Dutch territorial waters!

Monday August 24. Beautiful Zeeland and Delft.

First we visit the "Nieuwendijk" in Vlissingen's old centre and find that there is indeed an old house showing the crest Christiaan is look for.

Both Chris and Jenny relate personally to the Zeeland scene and a visit to Middelburg is a "must": its medieval Town Hall is one of the richest in the country and the enormous abbey complex is a place where time stands still.

For Jenny, we visit two tiny villages nearby. In the first, Nieuw en Sint Joosland, her mother lived on the Korteweg and research has shown that an elderly couple living there still knows precisely in which house. Again, neighbours can be a great help! The village of Kleverskerke is difficult to find, it's so tiny. Here's where Jenny's ancestors called Coppoolse came from and some relatives are still around in the area.

Jenny

"What a lovely village and what marvellous farmland. Just look how green it all is."

Chris' family does have some relation to Zierikzee so we have a good excuse to visit this jewel of a city, with its church steeple planned for a height of 200 metres but stopped at 70 metres for financial reasons.

On we go, to Delft for Debbie.

A picture in her possession shows the photoshop the Niestadts had at the address Koornmarkt 89, around the turn of the century. This is really a surprise: not only do we find the house has not changed at all, Debbie's picture shows there was a plumber next door and there still is! Research had already shown the same picture is in Delft's city archives, where Mr. van Leeuwen could give additional surprising information.

Chris' family crest

Debbie

"I knew that my ancestors were standing in the doorway, but I had not noticed that my great-great-grandmother is wearing the West Frisian costume (that's where she came from), while living in Delft! Also, the other members of the family are behind the windows. But what strikes me most of all is that this picture is from a recent book, in which about a third of the pictures were made by Mr. Niestad - his work is still in demand!"

Our hotel for that night is the Kurhaus in Scheveningen and it's opulent central hall inspires certain members of the company with grandiose ideas on interior decoration ... A classic "rijsttafel", Indonesian dinner that never seems to end, leaves us all completely whacked!

Tuesday August 25. The Great Battle of the Archives.

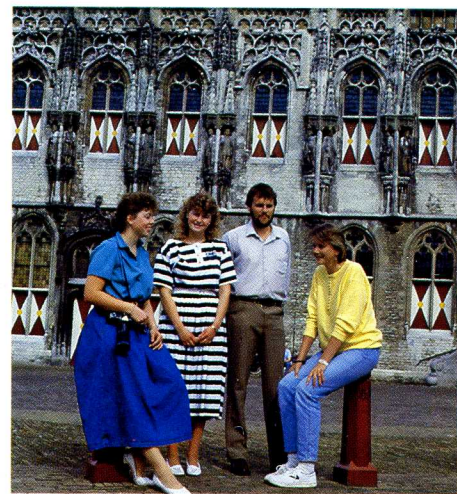
In Den Haag we go to the Central Bureau for Genealogy, which, because of its rich collections and helpful experts, is the place one should visit first of all. The Bureau's director, Mr. Plomp, and his staff were contacted before and did a superb job. No wonder Mr. Plomp develops into a central figure in the video production - with the comment "I never knew video stars actually worked!"....

Saskia

Is hopelessly snowed under by documents concerning "de Vries" - this is definitely not an easy branch to trace. "De Haas" (the silversmith) and "Zwaal" (the sailor-teacher) offer much more scope.

Christiaan

Armed with his impressive family tree, discovers that there are books giving the location of people by family name. He is most impressed by the fact that Mr. Plomp supplies him with the death certificate of his uncle who died in Germany during the war (from the Red Cross archives).



Middelburg's Town Hall - and some tourists



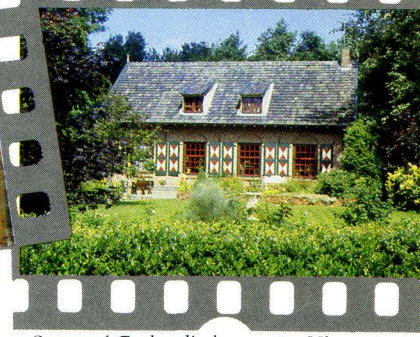
Jenny's enquiries "on camera"



Saskia gives up on "de Vries"



In Middelburg's abbey



Some of Zeeland's beauty in Kleverskerke

Debbie

Discovers that the "Oude Avenhuis" name is a project in itself. Mr. Plomp: "This name is unmistakably from the area called Twente, near the village of Tubbergen. It is an old form of name referring to a farm, but we are pretty sure it's gone. In that area people still tend to be called after the farm they live in - although their family name may be totally different!" A new avenue for research in the future, Debbie decides.

Jenny

"Smit" is almost as daunting as "de Vries", but the Coppoolse branch turns out to be a super find. Jenny: "The documents show that the first of that name emigrated from Belgium to Zeeland in 1545! Wow, I'm really ancient! These people were farmers too, but the records refer to them as "landowners". This will mean they tilled their own land." On to Arnhem for next day's programme.

Wednesday August 26. Looking at traditions.

All four have some relation to regional folklore in their ancestry, and the Open Air Museum in Arnhem is the place to go for that. Jenny and Debbie actually have pictures of ancestors in traditional costume, Saskia's silversmith ancestor formed part of the Frisian cultural scene and Chris' Zeeland base of course still has people wearing the traditional costume.

The four were too well-informed to assume that there is something like a "traditional Dutch costume" (some touristy version of Volendam dress...), but the fact that around 1900 there were about 125 totally different ones comes as a surprise. It's function - identification with the community, like we wear college ties now - is thought to be a good idea.

In the meantime, shots are being made of a humble dwelling made of slabs of peat. Such were the houses of the poor in Jenny's East-Groningen area. Jenny's great-grandparents were somewhat better off (they wear some silver in the picture), but comparison with a wealthy farmer's home from East-Groningen, also in the Open Air Museum, makes it clear that in Jenny's area the agricultural scene was one of exceptional contrast before the Second World War.

Seeing the sights of the Open Air Museum easily takes a day and a lot of walking, but despite the attractiveness of a quiet evening, the attraction of the nearby Royal Palace "Het Loo" is stronger. The palace and gardens happen to be open to the public that night and this is such a treat it will be covered separately in a future Vogelvlucht issue.

Thursday August 27. Time for private feelings.

Loenen is on our way to the North and there we visit the War Cemetery. For the first time Chris knows where his uncle Christiaan lies buried: a large peaceful place of 3,500 Dutch.

On to Sneek, where we visit the "Fries Scheepvaart Museum en Sneeker Oudheidkamer". For Saskia this is perhaps the most emotional personal experience of the tour. Mr. Ten Hoeve, the director, shows her 3 pieces of silverware made by her ancestor Mr. de Haas at the turn of the century. He also tells her that Mr. de Haas had a great reputation for his work: "he supplied the Royal Court and his work was in great demand in England."

Saskia

"This was really a moving experience. I was allowed to handle these beautiful objects and at that moment I really became aware of a link between this master-craftsman and myself."

After a brief visit to the Martini church restored by Saskia's "De Graaf" ancestor we're on our way to Harlingen, where we catch the ferry to Terschelling. Most of the 1½ hours' journey is spent on deck and especially Chris feels some salt water running through his veins.

Friday August 28

Official welcome by the Lord Mayor of Terschelling, Drs. E. Haaksman: "Terschelling's importance is out of all proportion to its size because from the 16th century it was the major base of the East Indies Company (V.O.C.)." In one of the Anglo-Dutch wars, the English raided the island and set fire to the village. Very shortly afterwards the Great Fire destroyed much of London. Did some Terschelling sailor visit the city with a tinder-box...?



Jenny's great-grandparents in traditional dress

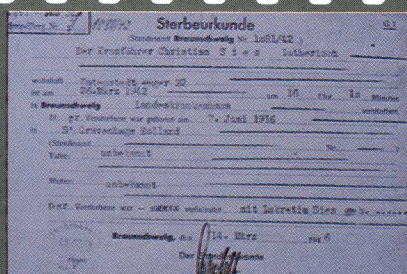
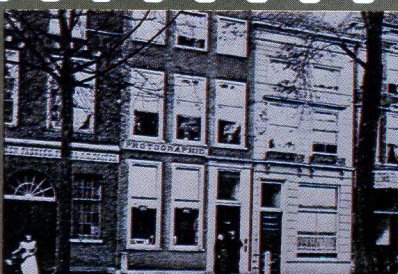


Mr Ten Hoeve shows Saskia work by Mr de Haas



Mrs Bokma unveils Saskia/Chris' relationship!

Mrs Ietje Bokma has done some top-notch research in the archives. Saskia's ancestor, Master Zwaal, and Chris' ancestor, Mr. Reedeker (Mayor of Terschelling), did know each other indeed. What's more, Mrs. Bokma has actually discovered a very distant relationship between Saskia and Christiaan! All agree that this is almost a tall story - two winners from Lugarno and Christchurch crossing family lines on Terschelling! "Hello cousin."

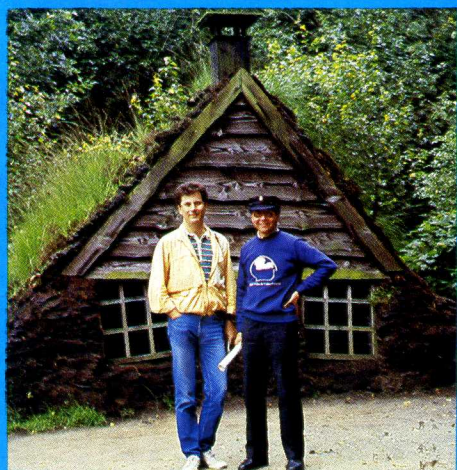


On the way to Terschelling



Peter Winter, director of Terschelling's Tourist Bureau, did a perfect job of organisation. In addition, he is a source of interesting information on this very special island. With special dispensation, we visit the oldest lighthouse, a cultural monument built in 1594. Looking at the fantastic panorama, Mr. Winter tells that some 80% of the island is a protected nature area. One area called Bosplaat is so unique it is a European nature reserve. Tourists are welcome, but the flow is carefully controlled.

Final visit for the day: The Higher Nautical School "Willem Barentsz", where we are received by the director, Mr. Harms and Mr. Smit, one of the teachers. When Saskia's ancestor, Mr. Zwaal, started the nautical school he could not imagine the tradition would grow to this ultramodern institution! For a special demonstration, cadets man the radar simulator and in the red glow of the simulator room the four winners watch with fascination. Mr. Harms comes up with a surprising titbit: one of the pupils comes from Western Australia!



Sylvio River (left) and Tony Chenn (right) in search of their roots?



Interview by Terschelling press

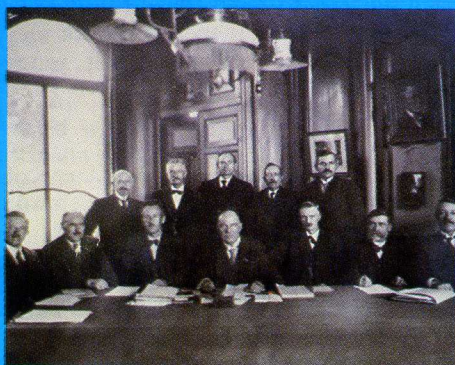


The other extreme of the Groningen farming scene

Saturday August 29

Peter Winter of the Tourist Office has laid hands on two nostalgic tandem bikes. These are great fun and not as difficult as everybody thought.

First we pay a visit to the local museum "t Behouden Huys". The curator, Mr. Albert Flonk, supplies pictures of the fire of Terschelling and - most importantly - shows Saskia a commemorative medal relating to Master Zwaal! The museum reflects the cosy personal atmosphere of the island, where the four winners start encountering "old acquaintances" on the second day. The local press has an exclusive interview with them. Saskia discovers the old school building and she and Chris find the gravestones of their ancestors are only a few paces distant in the cemetery.



Master Zwaal and 19th century brass

In the afternoon we take the fast boat back to the mainland, are picked up by the bus and travel to the city of Groningen. Right in front of the hotel there is a funfair in full swing, good for exercise after dinner, but not for sleep

Sunday August 30. Family mystery

When we visit Blijham in East-Groningen we pick up Jenny's cousin Gart-Jan and under his expert guidance rural Groningen of the beginning of the century comes to life. The feudal system hardly existed in the Netherlands, but this area came close to having one. Jenny's ancestors worked for millionaire landowners such as lived in Bellingwolde nearby. At the site where the Smits lived there were about 6 other small homes. All have disappeared,

because the farmhands disappeared. Slight elevations and depressions in a potato field mark the former yard and the canal in which the kids had a dip.

Jenny

"Gart-Jan tells me a mystery story I did not know. Family legend has it that the name is not Smit at all: in the early 19th century an ancestor deserted from Napoleon's army. He settled in this area and adopted the commonest name he could find, Smit. It is said that his true name was something like Bongers, but of course he kept it pretty secret, so we cannot be sure."

Across the Afsluitdijk, on which Jenny's grandfather worked. All are greatly impressed, the more so since it's over half a century old! In schagen Debbie hopes to find the shop where the photography tradition started about a century ago. Her parents have seen it, but the site shows only a hypermodern shopping centre. Everything else was destroyed in a fire only 3 years ago.



Monday August 31. Back in Amsterdam.

This is Debbie's moment: the Rijksmuseum where she worked for 9 months not long ago. The environment still fits her like a cloak, old friends are there and she looks very much at home. As the museum is closed that morning to the general public, we are allowed to make video shots and those who do not have to work can make an informal museum visit to look at the fabulous collections.

Mrs Kolkman, head of the museum's information service, discusses the role of photography in a museum of this class. "A museum is not just a place to store art objects but rather a research institution". Special photographic techniques come into play and documentation is another important aspect. Debbie's relative, Mr. Bijk, is mentioned as an authority in this field, especially regarding photographs of paintings.

The lunch on a canal boat (for some time skippered by Debbie) is followed by the final visit: in the Nederlands Scheepvaart Museum Chris finds a model of the ferry boats on which his great-grandfather was a captain during World War I.

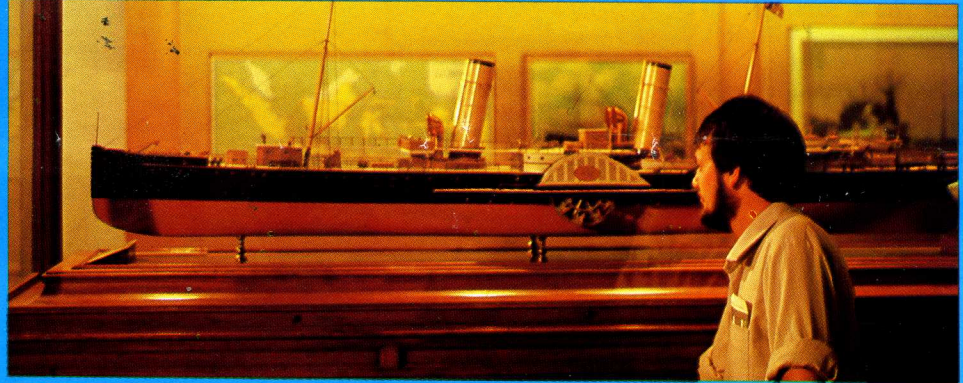
Mr Rontgen of the museum tells him that the company lost 3 boats then and because all archives were lost in the Second World War and during the 1953 flood, the research ends there.

Saskia finds a model of the "Oranje" in hospital ship livery, the setting for her parents' first meeting. A mystery story unfolds concerning the barque "Postiljon". It was lost with all hands, including Saskia's ancestor, in 1866. However, the official records in the museum show that it was sold to be scrapped 4 years earlier!

Brandaris dominates the island



Lunch on a launch



WW I ferry boat in miniature

Saskia:

"We know my ancestor was in difficult financial circumstances; perhaps the crew took a chance and bought a cheap ship? Poor guys, they didn't make it."



Debbie in action

Discover your roots



A Memorable Experience

At the farewell dinner that night we summed up our impressions. All were tired: a week of travel, hard work and a mass of new impressions lay behind us. It was not without some regret that we saw the circus split up. But all had a feeling of contentment about this experience, and here are some quotes:

"I'll need a week to tell my family all they did not know ..."

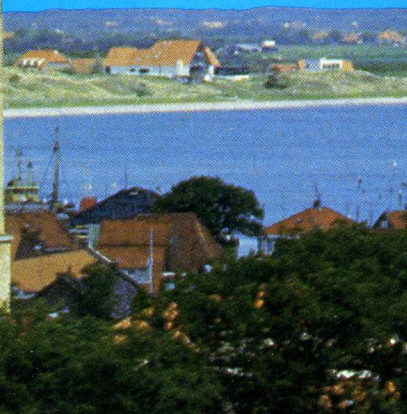
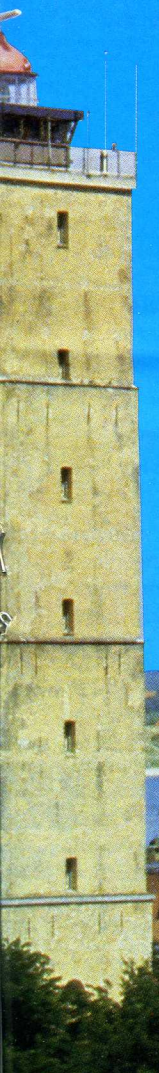
"I now relate much more to my ancestors as people. Before they were just branches on the family tree."

"I've seen more in this week than in the whole of my visits before."

"Holland is fantastically varied, at home you cannot expect to see much variety in an area of Holland's size, but here it's different every few kilometers."

And the farewell toast may be repeated here too:

"In this week we have been living with the past. From now on we resume living for the future. May it be a happy one for all of us."



WHY NOT SEE FOR YOURSELF?



If you should happen to meet any of these four people you can get some firsthand comments on what *"discovering your roots"* means. Until then, you'll have to make do with their views on paper.

Discovering more about your ancestry can be intriguing detective work if you tackle it the right way. You should be armed with correct information, of course, and then not try to draw a *"complete"* family tree in a minimum of time. First of all approach your ancestors as people and look at the human interest of their history. If you find something interesting, follow that line first - why limit yourself to the male line? Then, for the Dutch portion of your ancestry, you will find that conditions are ideal: well-kept and accessible archives; friendly and expert assistance.

For your *"roots"* to have any depth, you

must go and see places as well: visit the area in question and find out about its history (which may be quite different from a place just over the horizon!), visit the town or village, the street and possibly even the house. Then you will start to find your ancestors' mark on the Netherlands, from documents they signed, houses they built or even objects they made. That's the point at which you'll feel a sense of kinship develop. There may be photographs in city archives nobody has ever discovered! Books of ancient pictures of many towns and villages are on sale in bookshops....

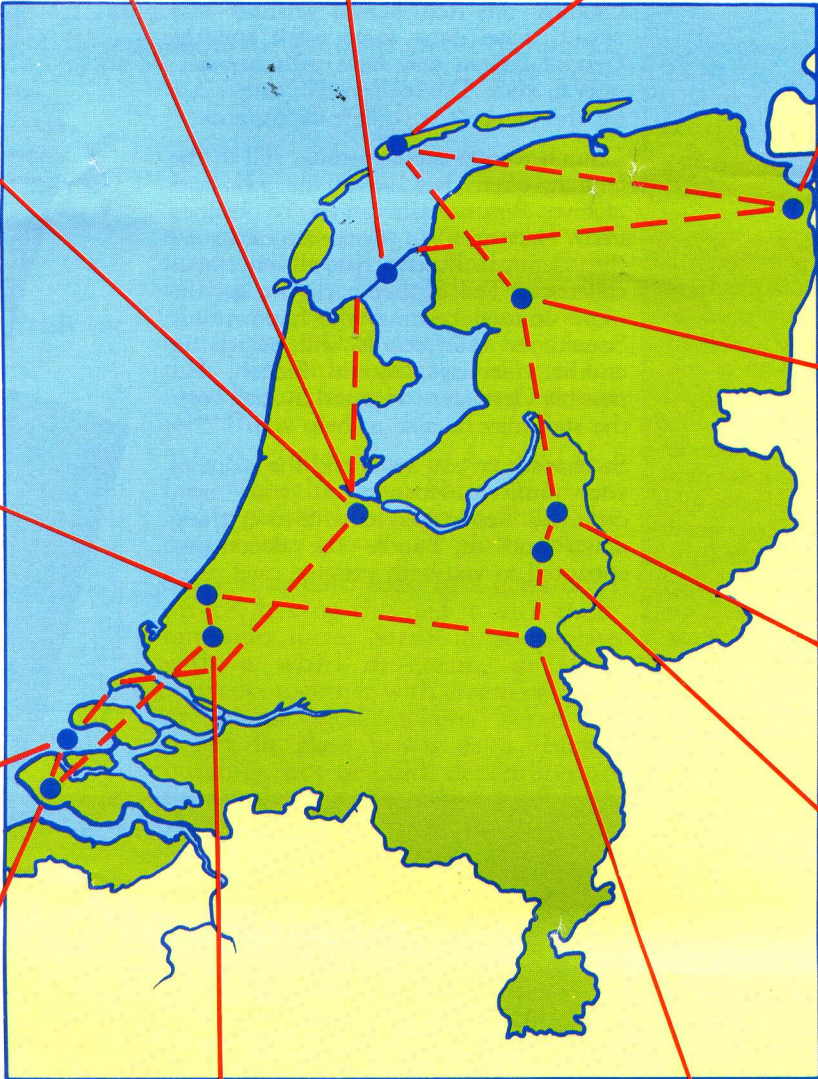
In this phase of the project, you'll get a much better and much more interesting view of the country too. Our winners' knowledge was far superior to that of the ordinary tourist, but even they said that there was much more than they ever thought. Their unanimous advice is that

you should take about 2 months to become acquainted with the country.

Why stick to the standard tourist attractions? And why stick to one place where your relatives live? Much better rent a bike and tour the Netherlands from Kleverskerke to Blijham....

So *"discovering your roots"* is not a matter of old hat and nostalgia. It's a personal trek in search of people you can relate to. And like our four friends, you will find a country and traditions you can relate to as well. That is why the picture was taken in the Open Air Museum, the best place to give you an idea of what *"tradition"* really means: not a mass of stuffy attitudes, but simply the thing we have invented a trendy word for: lifestyle!

Some Highlights of the Tour

- 
- 13. Amsterdam:** Debbie feels quite at home. Saskia and Chris explore maritime background.
- 12. Afsluitdijk:** Engineering feat of half a century ago.
- 10. Terschelling:** island loved by all. Saskia and Chris are cousins!
- 11. Blijham:** Jenny hears family legend. Some farmers are millionaires!
- 9. Sneek:** Saskia holds ancestor's silver objects.
- 8. Loenen:** Chris visits uncle's grave.
- 7. Het Loo:** Romantic palace and gardens.
- 6. Arnhem:** Traditional costumes and folklore make for a busy day. Jenny sees primitive home.
- 4. Delft:** Debbie finds shop intact and photographs still in demand.
- 3. Vlissingen and environs:** Chris finds crest, Jenny gets help from neighbours.
- 2. Delta project:** Biggest engineering project fascinates all.
- 5. Den Haag:** Jenny goes back to 16th century. Chris finds records of his uncle.
- 1. Amsterdam:** Start of tour: visits to ancestral sites.

HOW TO DISCOVER YOUR ROOTS

The picture shows Mr. N. Plomp, vice-director of the Central Genealogical Bureau in Den Haag. You will certainly go there if you want more information on your personal project, but before the Bureau's staff can help you, you must give them the tools to work with.

Where the Records are

The State of the Netherlands consists of several provinces. Within the provinces there are municipalities ("gemeenten"). Each may consist of a single city, a town, a village, or several villages combined. Any town hall information officer can tell you.

Each municipality has its registrar's office ("burgerlijke stand"). Historical research is **not** their job: these people handle current affairs. Older records are transferred to archives, and these are what you're looking for. They are fully public and their sole function is research so your project is related to their work. Therefore you must be able to start with skipping the recent generations. Make sure you have absolutely correct data on your grandparents at least and better still: your great-grandparents. The most important aid in this respect is called the **persoonskaart**. For all people deceased in the Netherlands since 1939 a register card is kept by the **Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie** (Pr.W. Alexanderhof 22, Den Haag). The data are supplied at nominal cost. For your great-grandparents, the data will include the names of their parents, and this will let you start about a century ago. Then you can go to the municipal archives in question. If you are lucky and your ancestors stayed in the same municipality for a long time, you may hop back several generations during an afternoon! Not all municipalities have their own archives, especially not the smaller ones. In that case you go to the **provincial** archives and the same principles apply. The **State** archives contain records not referring to a particular municipality, e.g., ship's logs, data from the armed forces, etc.

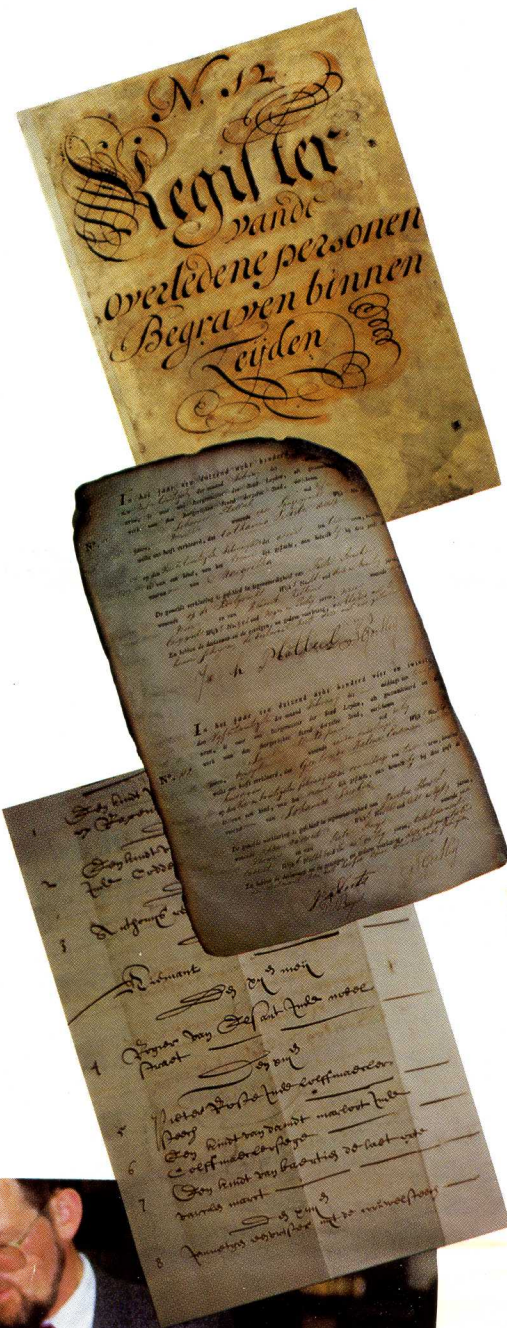
A Wealth of Data

The municipal archives also contain a vast amount of information you may wish to have: maps of the town and area of long ago, collections of old pictures. If your ancestor worked for the railways, there may be pictures of the station and possibly staff in uniforms, for instance.

Chances are that distant relatives may already have done some work and the Central Bureau may have your complete story in stock. This happened in Jenny's case for the name "Coppoolse", for instance.

Church records are sometimes still in the church, often they are in the provincial archives. Personal data can also be obtained from "bidprentjes" (In Memoriam cards) and the Centraal Bureau has an enormous collection. The further back you go, the more unusual becomes the handwriting. Sometimes the records will switch to another language, mostly French, but possibly German or Hebraic! In such cases the staff may be able to help you.

So that's how you start, and the scope of your project depends on your own creativity. Remember to write everything down and to handle the documents entrusted to you with extreme care!



RECIPE-CONTEST

Mrs. Anna Willis-Polstra, 123 Maich Road, Manurewa, Auckland, New Zealand, sent us the perfect example of what we had in mind when we announced the recipe contest. She writes:

"When I was little and lived in Friesland, our Sunday delight was RIENTSIEBRY, I think a kind of WATER-GRUWEL. In 1970 I emigrated to New Zealand, married and settled down. I wanted to please my husband with a typical family dish, our beloved RIENTSIEBRY. But...no red currants and no red currant jelly were available in New Zealand. Time passed and I discovered the delights of cooked Tamarillo's and the lovely juice they make. Just like red currants, I thought. So our youth's delight came on the menu and my husband baptized it as ANNA'S PINK PEARLY POTPOURRI. And so it is a great delight, hot or cold, as soup or as a desert."

ANNA'S PINK PEARLY POTPOURRI

- 100g pearl barley
- 1L water
- Piece of lemon peel
- 150-200g mixed dried fruit or only raisins
- 3 dl tamarillo juice
- 100g sugar or more to taste

Put the first four ingredients in a pan and cook gently till the pearl barley is soft. Be careful that it does not burn, give dried fruits time to expand.

Then prepare tamarillo juice by putting 500g of tamarillo's in a pan with enough water so that they stay tender. Bring to boil. Skin the tamarillo's under (or in pot with) cold water like tomatoes.

Cut in halves and put back in boiling water. They are yellow but become a nice red when left in pan for 15

minutes, put on low. Bring water with tamarillos to boil again and put sugar in. Boil gently. Take 3 dl of tamarillo juice out when it is a syrupy consistency. Use tamarillos for a later dish. Nice with custard pudding or for breakfast or freeze, or put red currant jelly in.

Take the 3 dl or more of the juice and mix with the pearl barley mixture. Warm gently through for a while. The pearl barley gets a nice pinky colour.

Serve is as cold soup in a glass bowl on ice, having thinned it with more tamarillo juice. Serve in soup-plate with a whirl of cream, or in a soup-cup, together with cream-crackers or sesame seed-crackers. Serve for desert in glass bowls as a thicker pudding, hot or cold, depending on the weather. Lovely with custard, with a topping of ice-cream or cream with a tiny pinch of cinnamon.

Mrs. M. Spencer, P.O. Box 124, St. Marys 72-1555, TASMANIA sent us a recipe which will certainly find a wide range of applications:

- 1lb of good temper
- 2lbs of forbearance
- 1lb of patience
- 1½lbs of contentment
- 3lbs of unselfishness
- 1lb of fun
- 2lbs of cheerfulness

Mix well with 2 quarts of human kindness and you have the recipe for a happy life. Mrs. Spencer advises one wineglass first thing in the morning, to be repeated as soon as the effect wears off!

ONCE MORE: EIERKOEKEN

Mrs Hendrika Rison-Wagner, 109 Vernonstreet, Thames, New Zealand sent me the recipe I had been looking for in vain. Small wonder, she possesses "Wij bakkern zelf" from the famous Mrs. R. Lotgering -Hillebrand. (Who remembers the radio-kook-klas?).

- 4 large eggs
- 280g sugar
- 300g flour
- some vanilla sugar or essence
- 1 tsp baking powder
- a little water

Beat the eggs with sugar until crystals have dissolved. To obtain a light and thick mixture you may have to add a little warm water. Add sieved flour, baking powder and vanilla sugar. Now the dough should have the right consistency for piping. If it is too stiff you may have to add a little more warm water, but be careful, it should not run on your baking tin. Pipe small round shapes on a buttered baking sheet, dust with icing sugar and bake in preheated moderate oven for about 15-20 minutes.



A picture of Mrs. Anne Willis with her first prize (pewter coffee can)

HOLLAND GATEWAY PROMOTIONS

GROUP DEPARTURES TO AMSTERDAM ACT NOW AND SAVE!

Air fares to Europe are about to rise. However, if you act fast your Holland Gateway Promotions office can still book you to Amsterdam early in 1988 **at the old prices**, but tickets **must** be purchased **before** 31st December, 1987.

GROUP DEPARTURE DATES	OUR LOW GROUP FARES
22 January, 1988	\$1470
29 January, 1988	\$1470
5 February, 1988	\$1470
12 February, 1988	\$1470
19 February, 1988	\$1470
26 February, 1988	\$1470
4 March, 1988	\$1470
11 March, 1988	\$1470
18 March, 1988	\$1560
25 March, 1988	\$1560

These special group fares are only available from your local Holland Gateway Promotions office:

NSW — Wim Drayer

Tip Top Travel, 1st fl, 82 Alexander St.
Crows Nest 2065 (TARB B1481) Phone
438 2711 (Sydney area) 008 42 6681
(NSW & ACT — Toll Free)

QLD — Tom Schoon

Coronet Travel, 435 Ipswich Rd,
Annerley 4103. Phone (07) 848 0477

S.A. — Sieny Grothauzen

Dependable Travel's Holland
International S.A., 1st fl, Aston
House, 13 Leigh St. Adelaide 5000
Phone (08) 231 4002

VIC. — Bob van Angeren

Angeren Travel, 11 Cleeland St.
Dandenong 3175
Phone (03) 791 3966

VIC. — John Vandermark

MB Travel, 8 Whitehorse Rd.
Ringwood 3134.
Phone (03) 879 4044.

Return domestic air fares between Adelaide-Hobart-Launceston and Melbourne and between Brisbane and Sydney are included in all our special group fares, plus a 50% rebate for children under 12 years of age and a 90% rebate for infants under 2 years of age. You also have up to a year to complete your return journey.

GROUP DEPARTURES AFTER MARCH 1988

Your Holland Gateway Promotions Office is currently negotiating special low prices for group departures to Amsterdam after March 1988. However, exact details were not available at time of going to press. But remember, we will always have the best prices for you to Amsterdam, so contact us first!

ATTENTION PERTH PASSENGERS

For the latest details on special prices from Perth to Amsterdam...

Contact David Schrandt,
Au Revoir Travel, 616 Beaufort Street,
Mt. Lawley 6050
Phone: (09) 328 4299

Your Holland Gateway Promotions Office in W.A.

AMBASSADE VAN HET KONINKRIJK DER NEDERLANDEN

ROYAL NETHERLANDS
EMBASSY
120 Empire Circuit
YARRALUMLA, A.C.T. 2600.

No. _____

De "Dutch Australian Weekly" heeft sinds 1951 nieuws over Nederland gepubliceerd ten behoeve van de vele tienduizenden immigranten van Nederlandse afkomst. Immigranten uit andere landen onderhouden over het algemeen nauwe emotionele banden met de voormalige moederlanden, hetgeen blijkt uit het grote aantal publicaties dat deze ethnische gemeenschappen in Australië uitbrengen. De Nederlandse immigrant daarentegen lijkt in staat te zijn de Australische waarden en normen zozeer tot de zijne/hare te maken, dat de "Dutch Australian Weekly" één van de weinige bladen is die onze (ex)landgenoten in Australië op de hoogte houden van ontwikkelingen in Nederland.

Daarmee voorziet de "Dutch Australian Weekly" ongetwijfeld in een behoefte: voor vele immigranten die niet tot een Nederlandse club of vereniging behoren of die in afgelegen streken wonen is de "Dutch Australian Weekly" immers één van de weinige mogelijkheden om de band met Nederland aan te houden.

Door de inflatie en de daarmee gepaard gaande kostenstijgingen is het de laatste tijd steeds moeilijker geworden om de uitgave voort te zetten. Deze situatie heeft thans zulke ernstige vormen aangenomen dat het nodig is een beroep te doen op Uw welwillendheid om mee te helpen deze krant, die voor velen van groot belang is, in stand te houden.

Alleen door uitbreiding van de lezerskring kan het hoofd worden geboden aan de verhoogde kosten en kan de "Dutch Australian Weekly" worden gered. Ik zou het dan ook zeer op prijs stellen indien U voor dit goede doel zou willen meewerken door onderstaande coupon in te vullen en abonnee van het blad te worden. Hopelijk zullen huidige abonnees ook bereid zijn vrienden en familieleden te bewegen om zich op de "Dutch Australian Weekly" te abonneren.

Ik zou het zeer betreuren als de "Dutch Australian Weekly" zou moeten verdwijnen, waardoor niet langer in een toch door vele oud-Nederlanders als wezenlijk gevoelde behoefte zou kunnen worden voorzien. Met Uw steun en alleen daarmee zal het mogelijk zijn dit te voorkomen.



J.M. Vos
Harer Majesteits Ambassadeur

ABEL TASMAN SAILS AGAIN WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

For each \$15 donation you will receive a beautiful beer glass and a full colour poster plus you also become automatically eligible to win fantastic prizes such as:

- A return airfare to Holland flying KLM
- Half year supply of Heineken Beer
- Personal photocopy machine from OCE
- A life insurance bond to the value of \$1000 from AMEV Australia
- 15 Royal Chinet picnic baskets from Van Leer



ROUTING OF THE ABEL TASMAN

(Expected days of arrival and departure)

PORT	ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE
FREMANTLE	08 December 1987	12 December 1987
PORT ADELAIDE	22 December 1987	26 December 1987
MELBOURNE	30 December 1987	05 January 1988
HOBART	10 January 1988	14 January 1988
SYDNEY	18 January 1988	26 January 1988

Scissors icon

NAAM _____

ADRES _____

Postcode _____

☐ Gelieve mij, zonder verplichtingen, een proefnummer van de Dutch-Australian Weekly toe te zenden

☐ Ik wens mij hierbij te abonneren op de D.A.W.

voor een periode van 6 maanden \$15.00

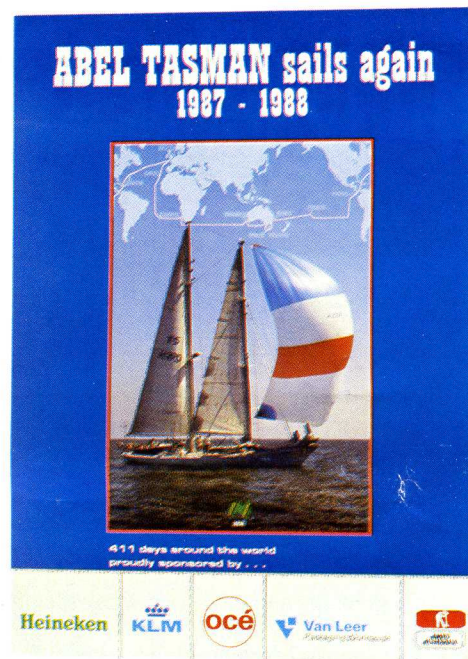
12 maanden \$25.00

Gepensioneerden 12 maanden \$18.00

(Pensioenkaart No. _____)

Ingesloten mijn cheque/money order voor _____

Scissors icon



Scissors icon

Please forward your payment to:
ABEL TASMAN PROJECT
55 GRANGE ROAD
TOORAK, VIC. 3142

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Phone _____



GROOT MUSEUMBOEK

Mooi op tijd voor het Nederlandse Museumjaar 1988 verscheen bij Uitg. Meulenhoff/Landshoff te Amsterdam de 5e druk van het GROOT MUSEUMBOEK. Op 464 pagina's staan 803 bezienswaardige instellingen naar plaats gerangschikt. Het begrip "museum" werd zo ruim gehanteerd dat dieren-, bomen- en plantentuinen, sterrenwachten, bibliotheken, bezoekers- en informatiecentra er ook onder vallen.

Het trefwoordenregister is handig als je in een bepaaldonderwerp geïnteresseerd bent (zelfs barometers en liften, strijkijzers en smokkelmateriaal staan vermeld). Elkeinstelling is verlucht met een kleurenfoto en dat levert kaleidoscopisch kijkwert op: willekeurig opengeslagenzien we een stulp met de patroonheilige van de brandweernaast een gaaf 17e eeuws pand, een collectie oude radio'snaast het barokke interieur van een stiftkerk, een19e eeuws schoolklasje naast een stuk Romeins aardewerk.

Voor fl. 45,- degelijke informatie en veel kijkplezier. \$36.50

VAN KAMPERSTEUR EN KLEIKLOETEN

Wilt u als van-huis-uit-Overijsselse die Kampersteur nog eens maken of als Brabantse-inhart-en-nieren echte Poempaaipap, dan heb ik voor het prettige prijsje van f.14,90 een goede tip. Uitgeverij In den Toren te Baarn heeft voor elke provincie een streekgerechten-boekje uitgegeven, een heerlijke lijst met tongue-twisters: \$11.95

- Van Sipelsop en Snorrepotsje (Friesland)
- Van Knipselbonenstampot en Krudoorntjesbrij (Groningen)
- Van Kruudmoes en Kniepertjes (Drenthe)
- Van Kampersteur en Kleikloeten (Overijssel)
- Van Balkenbrij en Arnhemse meisjes (Gelderland)
- Van Hele Bliksem en Prauwels (Utrecht)
- Van Goudse Moppen en Haagse Bluf (Zuid-Holland)
- Van Mosselsoep en Kaneelpap (Zeeland)
- Van Poempaaipap en Preiprol (Brabant)
- Van Mergpudding en Moffelkook (Limburg)

De traditionele feestdagen met hun specifieke spijzen en dranken zijn in alle deeltjes met een tiental recepten vertegenwoordigd.

Behalve streekgerechten geven de boekjes ook nog een aantal niet-eetbare extra's: een beknopt toeristisch overzicht, een lijst van markten, musea en Neerlands Dis-restaurants.

De reeks ziet er appetijtelijk uit: van de 84 pagina's zijn er 4 geheel in kleur, de overige vebatten zwart/wit illustraties.

Bestellingen van de besproken boeken kunt u richten aan de Dutch-Indonesian Bookshop, 72E Maroondah Highway, Croydon, VIC 3136, Australia.

