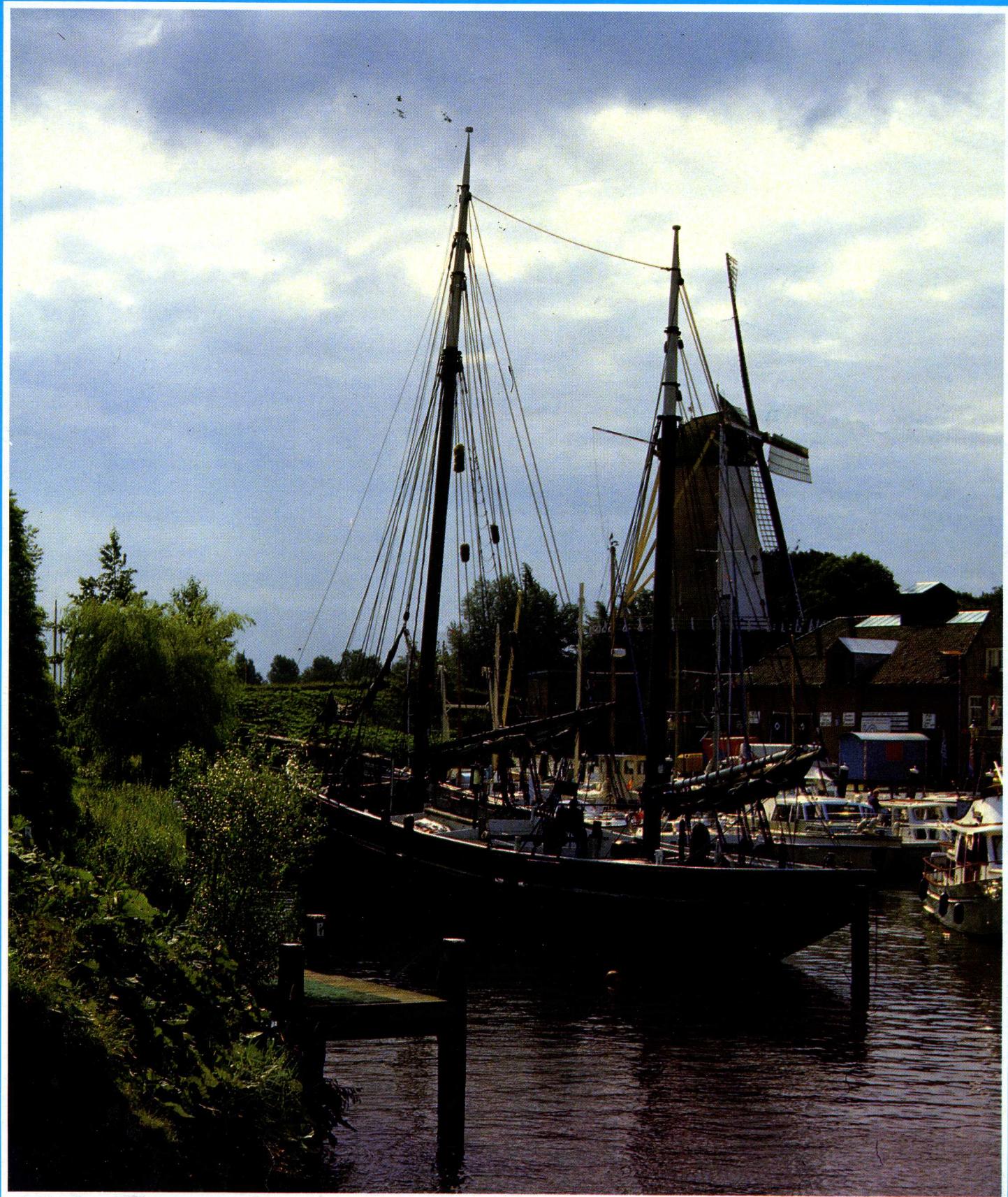




KLM

Vogelvlucht

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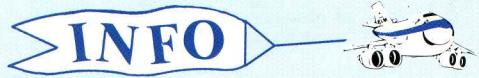
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We trust you enjoyed the first "KLM INFO", which appeared in the last edition of "Vogelvlucht". Don't forget, if there is anything at all about KLM that you've been longing to ask, here's your chance. Just drop us a line and we'll try to answer all your questions via this column over the coming months.

Waar Wilt U Zitten!

Whilst we're waiting for your letters to come in, one of the most frequently asked questions we receive from our Tourist Class passengers is whether or not special seating on board can be reserved in advance. Apart from the obvious possibility of requesting seating in either the smoking or non-smoking section of the aircraft, we're afraid that additional requests, such as a window seat or a seat with extra legroom can never be guaranteed in advance. Your best bet is to arrive at the check-in counter as soon as possible after the check-in for your particular KLM flight has opened. This is usually around two hours before the scheduled departure time of your flight.

Naturally, if you're travelling with an infant or young children, special seating can be pre-arranged provided you tell KLM or your Travel Agent well in advance of your travel date.

The same applies to the elderly or infirm, but, in certain cases, KLM may require a certificate from your Doctor, explaining the exact nature of your medical condition and why special seating is required.

We hope this information will help everyone to have a more comfortable flight.

Wat Wilt U Eten?

KLM has always prided itself on the carefully prepared and delicious meals served to everyone on board every flight. However, for one reason or another, not everyone may be able to partake of the regular menu. Your Doctor may have prescribed a particular diet, or your religious beliefs may dictate a certain method of preparation. Whatever the reason and, provided advance warning of at least 36 hours is given, KLM can offer an excellent cross-section of special meals, which are carefully prepared in accordance with modern dietary or traditional religious principles. Here's an interesting selection:

Diabetic / Low-Calorie / Low-Sodium / Fibre-Enriched / Cardio-Vascular / Kosher / Vegetarian and many others. If you'd like more information about this special service, just call your nearest KLM office and ask them to mail you a copy of KLM's "Special Meals" brochure.

En ... het kost niet veel.

It's Christmas time and time to spoil yourself so next time you plan to travel why not consider travelling in style in KLM's brand-new Business Class. It really doesn't cost the earth and just think about all the advantages. Starting out with a generous extra luggage allowance of up to 30 kilograms (the same as First Class), a separate uncrowded check-in counter, advance seat selection to ensure the seat of your choice is waiting for you and a quiet lounge at many airports in which to relax and await your flight's departure. And that's all before you even leave the ground!

Once on board the pampering really starts, with extra cabin staff to attend to your every whim, extra wide and roomy seats with acres of legroom, a choice of delicious meals, premium liquors, vintage wines and champagne to keep the "inner-man" happy and last, but not least, an attractive useful personal toiletry kit to help freshen up in the extra toilets in Business Class that means no more waiting in queues.

The hours will really fly by and once at your destination relaxed and refreshed, you'll find that your luggage has been specially tagged to be first off the plane so you can be on your way sooner to enjoy your vacation, or to catch up with family and old friends.

Have we tempted you? We hope so. Just ask KLM or your Travel Agent for the details and you'll be pleasantly surprised at just how little extra it costs to travel in style. That's it for this time round ... enjoy the rest of the magazine, have a very happy New Year and "tot ziens".



De Nederlandse Wapens.

Het Koninkrijkswapen en de Hoge Raad van Adel.

Kort geleden vatten we het plan op een serie te wijden aan de afzonderlijke provincies, met daarbij de wapens: hoe zijn ze ontstaan en wat is de betekenis? Direct rees de vraag: waar berusten die wapens nu eigenlijk, hoe worden ze vastgelegd? Die vraag voerde naar Den Haag, naar een instelling die weinigen van u zullen kennen: de Hoge Raad van Adel. Een gesprek met de secretaris van de Raad, Mr O. Schutte, leverde zoveel interessante gegevens op dat we de provinciewapens maar een aflevering opschuiven.

De Hoge Raad van Adel

De Raad werd ingesteld in 1814, toen Nederland weer onafhankelijk werd. De directe aanleiding was, dat de adel weer zou gaan deelnemen aan het landsbestuur – er moest dus duidelijk zijn wie van adel was. Al snel daarop werd besloten dat er ook een inventarisatie moest komen van de wapens van het rijk, de provincies en gemeenten, maar ook van instanties zoals de waterschappen.

In de moderne tijd zijn de wapens van gemeenten en waterschappen verreweg het belangrijkste onderdeel van de taak van de Hoge Raad gaan vormen. Er is namelijk enorm veel veranderd: het aantal Nederlandse gemeentes is door samenvoegingen van meer dan 1000 naar ca. 700 gedaald, en ook bij de waterschappen en polders zijn er veel ontwikkelingen geweest.

Duidelijke opleving

Het boeiende is, dat de belangstelling voor wapens niet alleen bij particulieren groeit (zoals we in een vorige Vogelvlucht beschreven), maar ook bij officiële instanties – publieksrechtelijke lichamen zoals dat heet. Elk publieksrechtelijk lichaam (gemeente, waterschap, polder ...) heeft het recht een wapen te voeren. Maar: niet allemaal hebben ze er een! Ten eerste zijn er natuurlijk de nieuw gevormde gemeenten (zoals "Zaanstad"), en er is zelfs een nieuwe provincie bijgekomen – Flevoland. Maar verder bleken lang niet alle bestaande gemeenten en waterschappen ook werkelijk een wapen te hebben! Sinds een jaar of twintig is dat aan het veranderen, stelt Mr Schutte vast:

"zeker voor de gemeenten is het nu een "must" om een wapen te hebben,

zelfs zo dat men vindt dat de burgemeester het wapen weer op de ambstketen moet dragen. Er zijn wel een soort "logo's" in omloop, maar die zijn zo verschillend van uitwerking dat er geen lijn in te bespeuren valt. Het hoort tegenwoordig bij de interne huishouding van de gemeente dat er een wapen is – strikt volgens de heraldische wetten bepaald. Ook dat is een vorm van het zoeken naar de "roots" – net als van families."

Alle wapens – die door de Koning worden verleend – zijn officieel bij de Hoge Raad gedeponeerd. Ze moeten aan heel precies omschreven eisen voldoen (kleur, voorstellingen, opmaak) en de Hoge Raad heeft de daarvoor noodzakelijke kennis in huis. Zo zijn in de loop van de tijd ook bijna alle provinciewapens wel veranderd.

Het Rijkswapen

Dat geldt ook voor het wapen van het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden, dat tevens het wapen van de Koning der Nederlanden is, en dat we als eerste afbeelden. Dat is als volgt ontstaan:

In 1815 werd uitgegaan van de Nassause leeuw: goud op blauwe achtergrond met gouden blokjes (die geen bijzondere betekenis bezitten). Daaraan werden toegevoegd het zwaard en de pijlenbundel uit het wapen van de oude Staten-Generaal (van de Republiek) en een kroon – die in 1907 werd veranderd.

Dat centrale schild is "het" wapen. De verdere versieringen kunnen worden toegevoegd, maar dat hoeft niet: de kroon op het schild, de twee leeuwen die het dragen (ook al lang een onderdeel van het wapen van Nassau), het devies "Je Maintiendrai", de mantel met baldakijn en kroon. De laatgenoemde kroon zal in de toekomst kunnen veranderen: mannelijke opvolgers op de troon mogen in plaats daarvan een helm gaan voeren. Het afgebeelde wapen is vastgelegd bij Koninklijk Besluit van 10 Juli 1907, de tekening is door J.E. van Leeuwen bij de Hoge Raad van Adel te 'sGravenhage en toestemming tot reproductie werd verleend door de Rijks Voorlichtings Dienst aldaar.



Sidesteps in West Brabant

If you're on your way through the West of Brabant, we can recommend some sidesteps we have made and liked. Of course the Delta area is quite nearby, or you might want to combine your Brabant trip with touring through Zeeland or a trip to Rotterdam, but here are three suggestions in a different vein.



Willemstad, romantic settings.

Willemstad

Situated on the Hollands Diep, Willemstad is one of the best-preserved fortified towns in the country, with walls, gates and ditches and even an intact fort called "De Hel". The town has a pleasant atmosphere and would be a good place for your lunch. It has become an important nautical centre since the completion of the Delta project. Two sights not to miss are the Princehof or Mauritshuis (built in 1623 for Prince Maurits) which is now the town hall, and the church is the first in the country that was especially built for the protestant community (1607).

For information contact the VVV (Town Hall): 01687 - 2350.

Wouw

Wouw is a pleasant village in a wooded area and is called the "geranium village" because each year its inhabitants get free geraniums

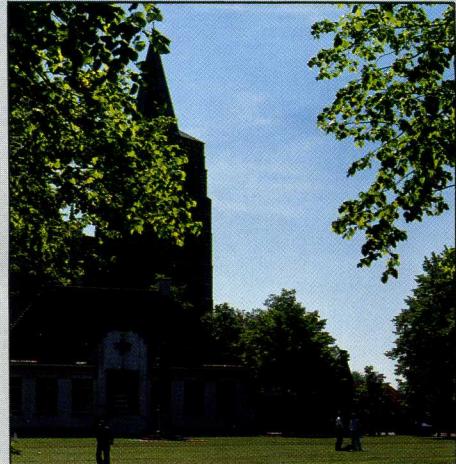
from the municipality! It boasts a nice market square with two pumps (1768) that still work and the old parsonage (1660) and corn mill (1811) are other sights.

What we would especially recommend, however, is a visit to the old school building in the Schoolstraat. First of all it houses a small exhibition called "Ter Zijde", which tells you all about the manufacturing of silk and shows beautiful exhibits of that precious material. But quite apart from that we think you'll like the "gezellig" atmosphere of the old school building with its large old-fashioned classrooms. There is a nice shop too, and you can take refreshments sitting at tables in the corridor, savouring the memories of your childhood that the surroundings will certainly bring back.

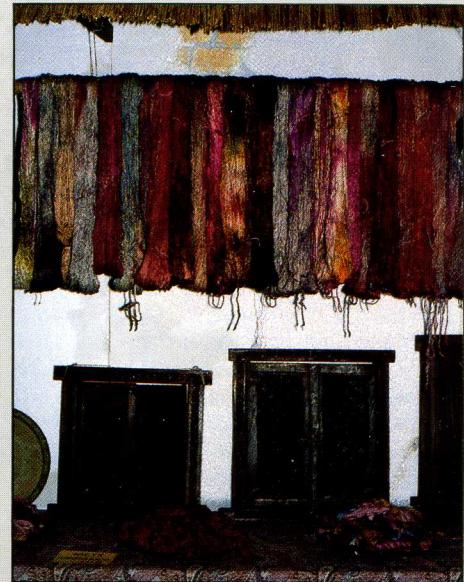
For the ex-school boys, a visit to the mysterious-sounding Wouwse Plantage might be a good idea. Exhibits in the castle show the development of

fire-fighting, from hand pumps through steam to trucks with ladders ... the lot! The area is nice for picnicking too.

For information contact the VVV Wouw, 01658-1951.



Peaceful centre of Wouw.



"Ter Zijde" shows the beauty of silk.

Bergen op Zoom

Bergen op Zoom is a typical regional shopping-centre situated in a wooded area on the shores of the Delta, a combination that has made the city a popular tourist destination. Here are some sights you should definitely not miss.

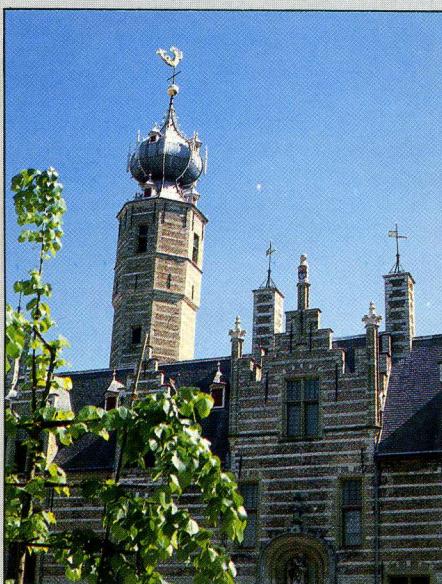
Hotel de Draak is said to be the oldest in the country. There are other contenders and the decision is up to the experts, but anyway de Draak goes back to 1391! The restaurant is certainly worth visiting and is situated on the market square. While we were there, ceremonies were in progress

to remember the victims of the war and that subject too deserves a picture in Vogelvlucht, we think.

If you knew Bergen op Zoom in the Fifties, you'll see many modern additions. But on the other hand, the ancient buildings look much better cared for. The Gevangenpoort, for instance, one of the few intact medieval city gates in the country. And best of all: the Markiezenhof. This was built between 1485 and 1525 as a city palace for the Marquesses (governing nobles) of the city and may truly be called unique. The complex is very large, has several wings,

inner courts and gardens and houses one of the most varied collections you can imagine: from ancient paintings to funfair nostalgia! The Markiezenhof has been completely restored over a period of 25 years and the result has been honoured by a prestigious European Award. Two impressions of our visit: the quiet secluded gardens and courts and the beautiful texture of the brickwork – we simply could not resist touching these stones of half a millennium ago. The pictures will whet your taste, we think!

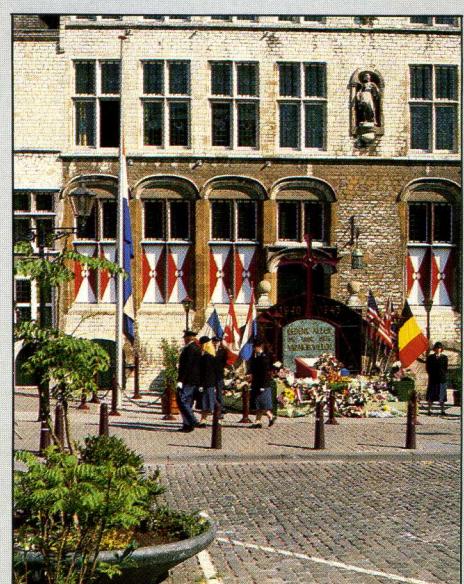
VVV Bergen op Zoom: phone 01640-66000.



Bergen op Zoom, inside Markiezenhof.



Impressions of Bergen op Zoom.



Bergen op Zoom: commemorating the fallen.

Italy in Holland: Oudenbosch

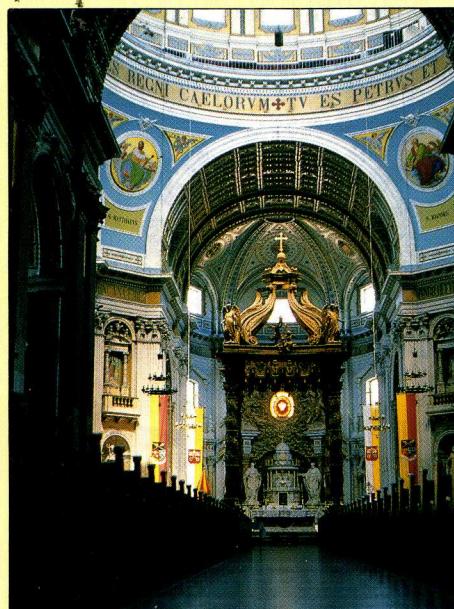
Imagine a Dutch newspaper running a headline on its front page: "4000 DUTCH MERCENARIES FIGHT IN ITALIAN CIVIL WAR!" Today, that would almost lead to another civil war... in the Netherlands itself. Certainly, heads would roll! But in the time of our great-grandparents, this is exactly what happened. There were no upheavals in the press or government, and if you go to the small but almost outlandish village of Oudenbosch near Bergen op Zoom in the western part of Noordbrabant, you can find out all there is to know and have a highly interesting and pleasant day into the bargain. At least, that's what happened to us, and although we had a good idea of what to expect, we were utterly fascinated.

Italian trouble

To understand the atmosphere of Oudenbosch, some historical background is helpful. The matter is highly complex and I'll give the barest essentials only.

In the second half of the 19th century, Italy was not yet one state, but consisted of several competing kingdoms. The idea of a unified state was widely acclaimed in Italy, but a large portion of the country consisted of the Vatican State. This led to a military confrontation between the Italians and the Vatican, and some 4000 able-bodied young Dutch men volunteered for service in the army of the latter. In 1870 the Vatican State became the tiny property it is now, the army was disbanded and the Dutch "zouaves" as they were called returned. Older people can still remember them in their romantic uniforms, as the last died in 1946.

Alright, and what about Oudenbosch? Before they went on their way, from



rural Dutch villages like Lutjebroek to Rome, the zouaves passed through this village, were lodged and fed in the institute called St. Louis and will have noticed that the good people of Oudenbosch were building a cathedral the like of which is not found

elsewhere in the country. These are the buildings you can still see, and as the pictures show they are decidedly exotic for Brabant. With a blue sky overhead, you might almost think you're in Italy!

Changing appreciation

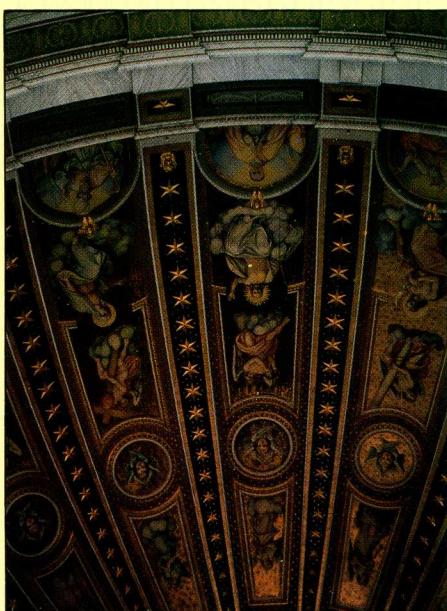
The cathedral is Oudenbosch's most spectacular attraction. For a village of only 3500 people in 1865, when construction was begun, it is simply immense: 81 metres long, 55 wide and with a cupola that towers 63 metres above the houses and dominates the view from afar.

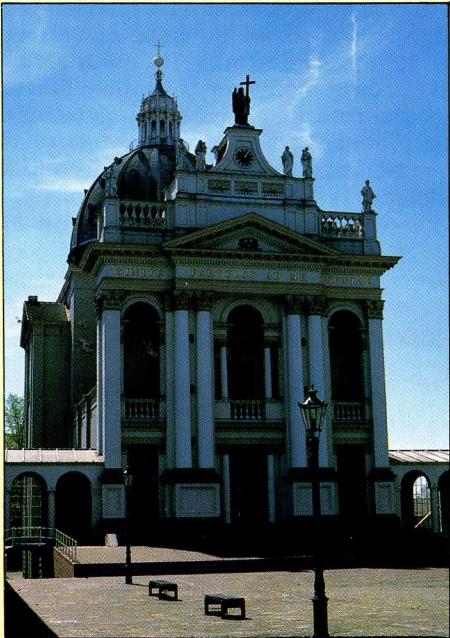
The initiative was taken by a priest called Willem Hellemons, who had studied in Rome and wanted no less than a sort of scaled-down St. Peter. That the locals raised the staggering sum for its construction was truly a miracle. They also contracted a first-rate architect: P.J.H. Cuypers, who also built the Rijks-museum and Centraal Station in Amsterdam.

What Cuypers did is a combination of elements of two cathedrals in Rome. For some time the Oudenbosch cathedral was regarded as a "copy" not to be taken seriously or even as kitsch, but views have changed. In the Fifties it became a protected monument and was completely restored. Now the official view is that it certainly is no copy as it contains many original ideas and is an interesting work of a great architect.

See for yourself

Why worry about the art critics, though? Simply see for yourself. Your main impression will be the enormous drive the villagers put into their village church – for that's what it really is. When the building was finished in 1880, it was still "bare", most of the decorations came in later. What is especially noteworthy is the technique





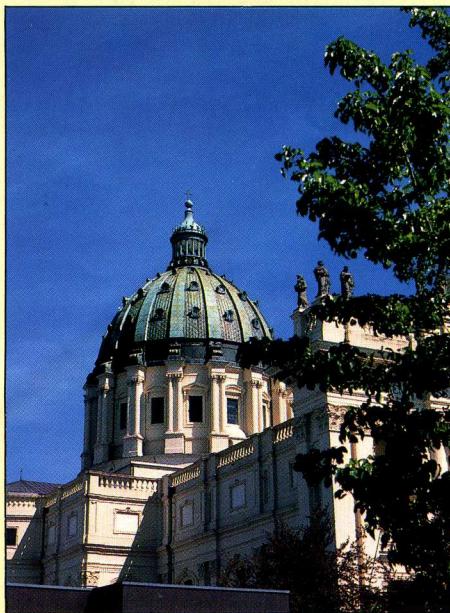
of marble painting. Again, this is not a matter of "kitsch", it has been an established (and almost lost) craft since at least the 16th century. Oudenbosch is perhaps one of the most interesting and complex specimens.

If you look up, you'll notice windows showing a blue sky with small white fleece clouds – even if it rains outside. Such "tricks" were also used by the most famous of ancient architects.

The sculptures, decorations, altar, paintings and floors all deserve a leisurely inspection. Climb the stairs to the cupola (there is a well-stocked shop you may wish to visit halfway up) and then inspect the paintings done by the local artist C. Raaijmakers. He

painted himself as one of the saints and if you want to hear lots of interesting stories just ask one of the friendly volunteer guides!

When you leave the cathedral, you can't miss the statue for the Zouaves in front – now at least you'll know what they were. With a little bit of searching you'll also find the interesting cemetery across the street and almost by accident you'll walk into the grounds of the St. Louis institute. And if you want to know more about the 4000 mercenaries: the Zouave Museum is open between May and September on Tuesday, Thursday and the first and third Sunday from 14.00 to 17.00 hours. ☺



General information on Brabant

For general information on Brabant (not just the West covered in this issue) you can contact any of the main VVV's in the province. We have approached the VVV Breda, because we plan to feature that city in one of the next issues. The result was a wealth of information and excellent service, so here's the address for you: VVV Breda, Willemstraat 17-19, postbus 7000, 4800GA Breda. Phone: 076-222444.

Some tips we think you will be interested in for your holiday and fully covered in the brochure VVV Breda will supply:

- there are almost 40 bungalow holidays to choose from, generally accommodating 4-6 people.
- biking holidays: more than 20 different tours lasting from 3 to 7 days all have a very convenient arrangement
- you take the bike, your luggage is transported to your next hotel. Hotels and bikes are included in the price.
- boating: there are several arrangements for hiring a canoe, a sailboat or even a cruiser.

The "Vakantiereisgids Noord Brabant" is nearly 100 pages of fun-in-advance. And if you have made a choice, booking is easy: just contact the VVV Boekingscentrale Brabant, Stadhuisplein 128, 5038TC Tilburg. Phone: 013-366061. ☺

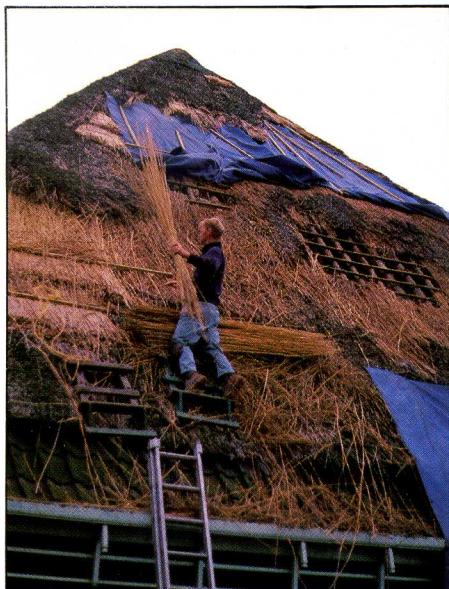


Beroepen in Nederland

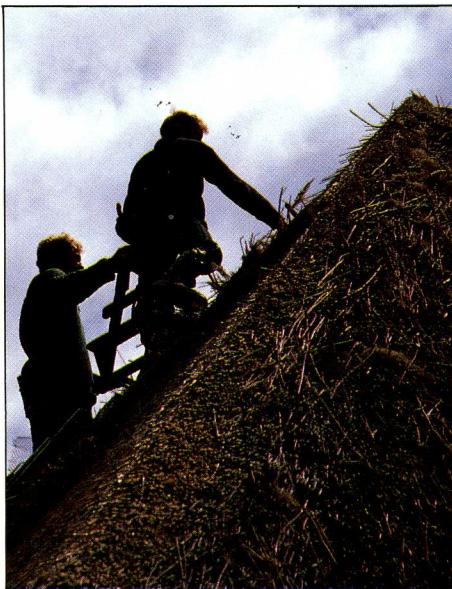
Zwervend door Nederland kom je herhaaldelijk mensen tegen die een beroep uitoefenen dat je boeit. Soms wordt je interesse gewekt omdat het vak sinds eeuwen onveranderd is: de "machine" van de molenaar zal zo'n 300 jaar oud zijn, en de wind is in die tijd ook niet moderner geworden. Een andere keer vraag je je juist af wat er wel niet allemaal anders moet zijn geworden in de loop van de tijd, en vooral in de laatste veertig jaar.

Daarom beginnen we met een serie beroepen in Nederland. Geen verhalen over ontwerpers van wasmiddel-reclame's of beroepsvoetballers, maar mensen die u bezig kunt zien als u op vacatie door de oude dorpen en steden van Nederland aan het touren bent.

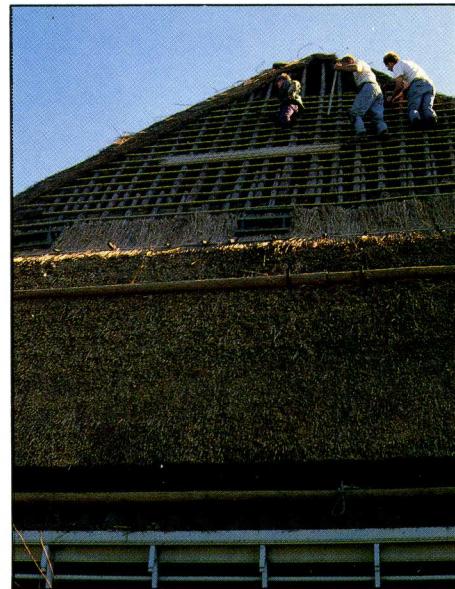
In onze keuze zijn we gewoon lekker bevooroordeeld: het moet een leuk beroep zijn, en het moeten leuke mensen zijn ... We hopen dat het lezen van de stories net zo gezellig zal zijn als het schrijven was!



Eerst de rommel opruimen!



Met zoon en maat het dak op



De top is bereikt

De rietdekker.

Ergens langs een Noord-Hollandse landweg staat een forse boerderij. Aan de zuid-west kant is het rieten dak een grote ruine. Hele stukken zijn weg, de rest ziet eruit als een kat die je de verkeerde kant op geaaid hebt. Het trieste gevolg van de orkaan (windkracht 12 en meer) die in het begin van het jaar zoveel schade aanrichtte.

En op dat dak zijn twee kerels aan het werk. Hun gereedschap is al sinds de middeleeuwen niet echt veranderd en is zo simpel dat je het zelf kunt maken. De rest van het vak van rietdekker zit in je hoofd en in je handen en is zo moeilijk dat het zo'n jaar of zeven duurt voor je het echt beheerst. Een advies: als u rietdekkers bezig ziet, ga dan maar eens een half uurtje zitten kijken, want hoe je van bossen riet een glad-aflopend dak maakt, is fascinerend om te zien!

Leerschool: de praktijk

Nico Poland (52) heeft zijn werkterrein in de kop van Noord Holland, ruwweg in een straal van 30 kilometer van zijn woonplaats. Hoe kwam hij in het vak?

"Dit beroep is nergens te leren, alleen in de praktijk. Mijn vader was rietdekker en ik ben zo vanaf dat ik 12 was met hem meegegaan. Oorspronkelijk was ik helemaal niet van plan rietdekker te worden, maar toen mijn vader overleed – ik was toen 16 – ben ik erin gestapt. Ik kon toen werkelijk nog helemaal niets, een knecht die bij vader had gewerkt heeft me wegwijs gemaakt. Je ziet wel dat het vak van vader op zoon overgaat, maar dat hoeft niet: mijn vader was daarvan een voorbeeld. Hij werkte als jongen in Bergen. Dat is zo'n 25 km hier vandaan. Zaterdagavond liep ie naar huis: lopen! Zondagavond kwam ie naar huis: lopen! Toen een rietdekker hier in de buurt een knechie kon gebruiken was dat een prachtige kans! Nou, toen vader overleed kon ik de zaak onmogelijk overnemen. Er was vlak na de oorlog enorm veel werk – voor de oorlog was er geen geld voor geweest. Mijn vader had toen voor 4-5 man alle dagen werk in de Wieringermeer en als jongen van 16 kon ik dat natuurlijk niet aan. Mijn eerste eigen dak legde ik toen ik 18 was. Dat doet je wel wat, zo'n eerste. En het ligt er nog!"

Als u goed kijkt ziet u op een van de foto's een wel heel klein knechie. Dat is zoon Sebastian van 12 ...

Prijs en levensduur

Je hoort steeds zeggen dat een rieten dak een fortuin kost maar dan ook eeuwig meegaat, orkanen uigesloten. Nico grinnikt"

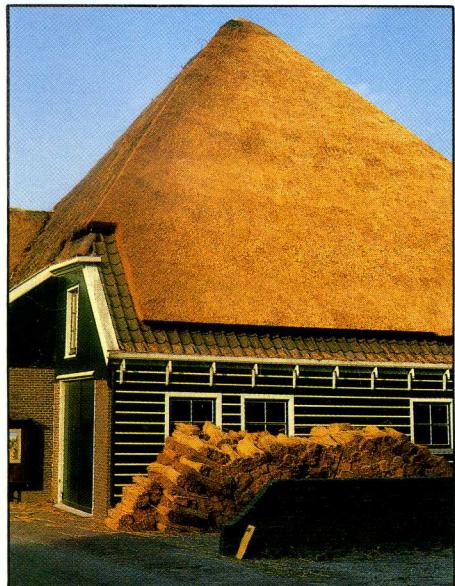
"Ik wou dat ik de prijzen kon vragen die de mensen wel eens noemen! Gemiddeld moet je rekenen op ongeveer 100 gulden de vierkante meter, hoe groter het karwei hoe voordeliger het uitvalt. Wat de levensduur betreft: een dak gaat zeker 40 jaar mee, op de oostkant kan het wel 60 wezen. De nieuwe daken die ik heb gelegd zie ik in ieder geval niet meer terug. De kwaliteit van het riet is echter heel belangrijk. Goed riet komt bijvoorbeeld uit Hongarije en Polen. Ook in Nederland, bij Giethoorn bijvoorbeeld. Het beste kwam van Koe dijk en uit het Naardermeer, maar dat zijn nu natuur-reservaten! Riet uit brak water is onbruikbaar: je ziet er niets aan maar in tien jaar is het weg!" De techniek van het leggen is niet in een artikel te vertellen, dat moet je zien. Met een drijfbord (houten plank

met holten) wordt het riet gelijk geklopt, met naalden en (tegenwoordig roestvrij) draad wordt het aan de latten vastgezet. Ladders en "stoeltjes" brengen de rietdekker waar hij wezen moet. Heel specialistisch werk is het maken van figuren, jaartallen of randjes, en het dekken van molens – waarvoor je de wieken als standplaats gebruikt.

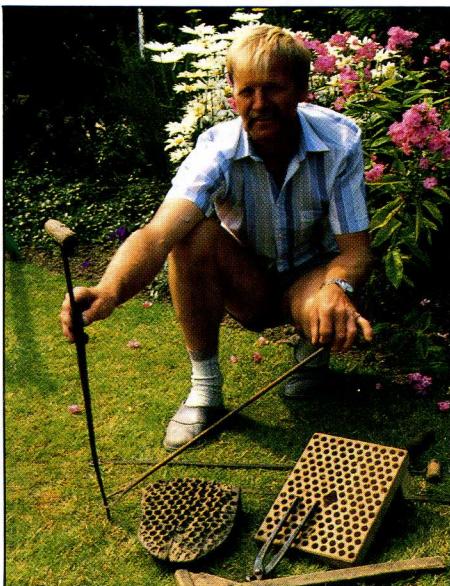
Problemen van het vak

Zoals overal ter wereld zijn vakmensen schaarser dan gestudeerden. Voor de rietdekker is er werk genoeg – door de orkaan kwam er zo'n 1½ jaar extra bij! Het grote probleem is de lange tijd voor de opleiding, zeg maar 7 jaar. En de risico's? "Sebastian durfde vroeger alles, nu op dat dak waar je de foto's maakte was het ineens minder. Dat vind ik

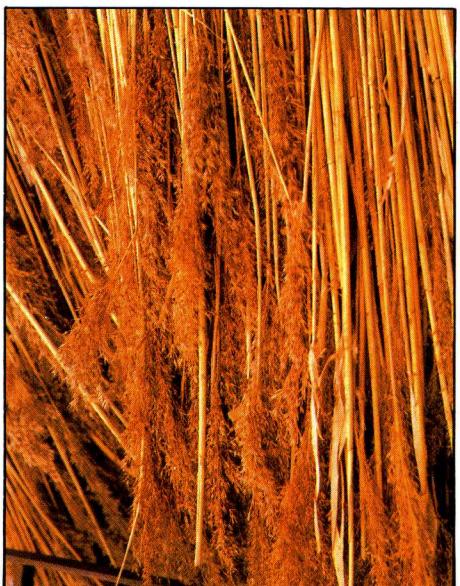
prima, ik heb hem ook gezegd "dat vind ik fijn dat je dat niet durft". Je moet snel reageren en in principe niets doen wat jij eng vindt. Slopen is het meest riskant – je staat dan op ouwe troep. Met wind kun je niet werken, dan ga je met riet en al het dak af. Maar het aantal rietdekkers dat naar beneden komt – zonder gebruik van de ladders! – is klein!" 



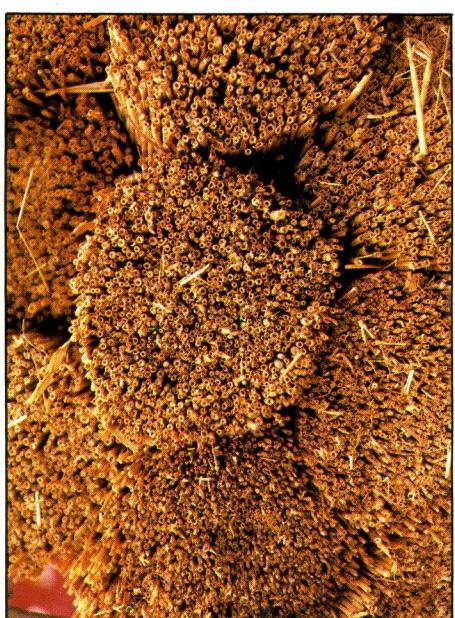
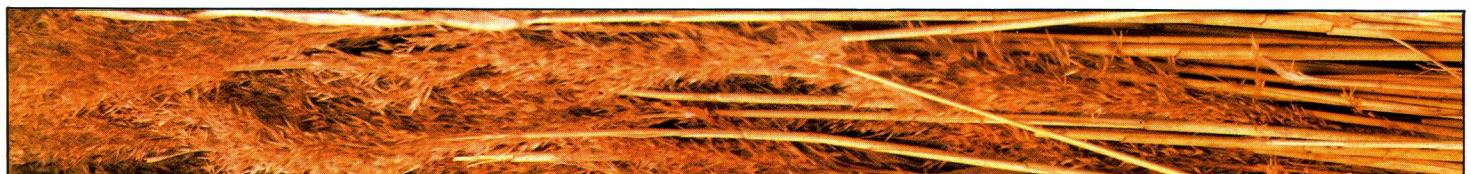
Het eindresultaat



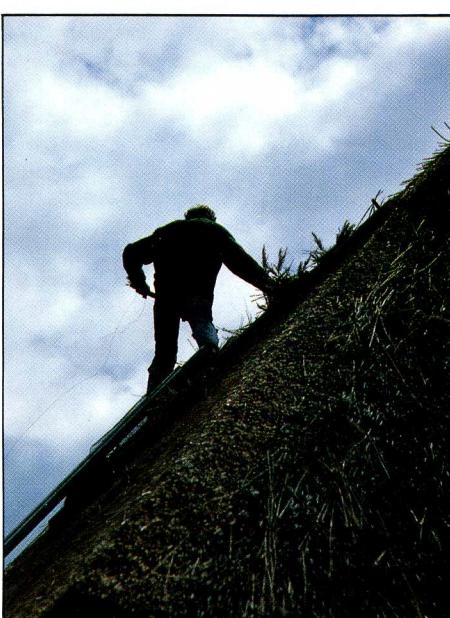
Eenvoudig gereedschap



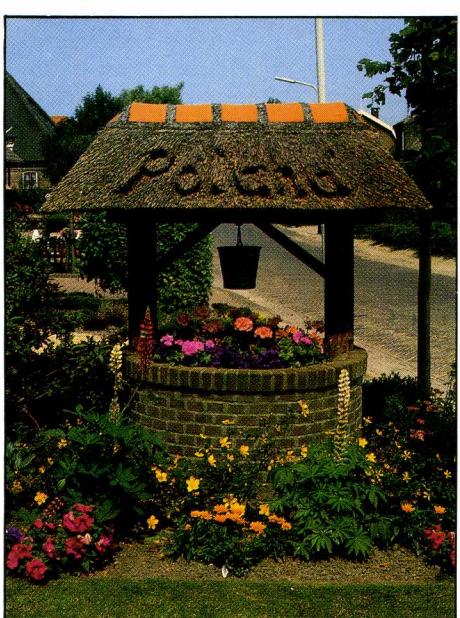
Natuurlijk materiaal



Natuurlijk materiaal



En trots op vakmanschap!



En trots op vakmanschap!

Europe 1992 – what is it?

In the press, but especially in conversations with Dutch friends or relatives, you may have heard about "Europe 1992" or "European integration". As 1992 is approaching fast, this is certainly a topic, with enthusiastic as well as pessimistic comments. So we thought it might be a good idea to present a brief article on the subject for your information. Especially because The Netherlands – as a small, but very internationally oriented country – will be very much "in the thick of it" so to say.



The basic question

At the root of it all lies the question of competition on the world market. Japan and the United States are Europe's main competitors and these two countries have a solid home market. This creates good opportunities for production at a low price and thus improves international competitiveness. Europe, however, consists of a number of separate national markets, which reduces efficiency. The result is that Europe has been flooded with cheaper products from elsewhere. Growth in exports has been slower than for the United States and Japan, for instance.

The road to unity

That process of integration started in 1957, when six countries (The Netherlands, Belgium, Luxemburg, France, West Germany and Italy) joined to form the European Community. Especially for coal, steel, agriculture and import taxes, this has resulted in greater uniformity.

In 1973 the community was enlarged to 9 members, when Denmark, the UK and Ireland joined. In 1981 Greece became the tenth, in 1986 Spain and Portugal made up the dozen. When we're talking of "Europe 1992", it's these 12 countries that are meant. The intention is that from 1992 onwards

they will of course remain sovereign states, there will be no borders limiting the movement of people, goods, services and capital. The road to that unity is a complex one, however: there is a master plan involving no less than 300 different measures that must be implemented.

With some 320 million people, this Internal Market will become the largest commercial unit in the world.

The consequences

Some advantages for industry and consumer are evident. Transport will become much easier without customs forms. Banking will be streamlined. The benefits are clearly illustrated by the following examples:

A patent will be valid in all 12 countries. Regulations concerning safety (e.g. of electrical appliances) will be the same in all countries. Taxes like VAT and excise duty will be harmonized. Governments may not unfairly favour their national industries.

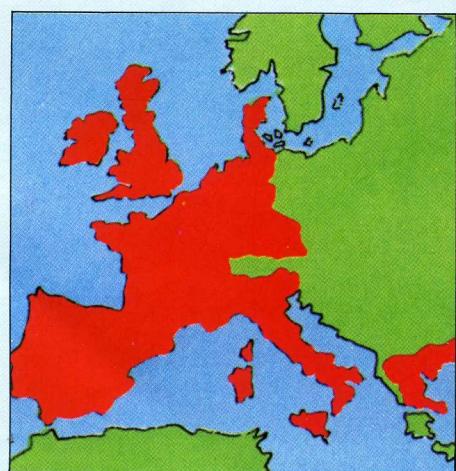
So far, so good. But although many consequences are predictable, their effects are not, and here are some of them people discuss.

- a professional diploma will be valid in all countries. This is expected to result in great "professional mobility", but the crux is which

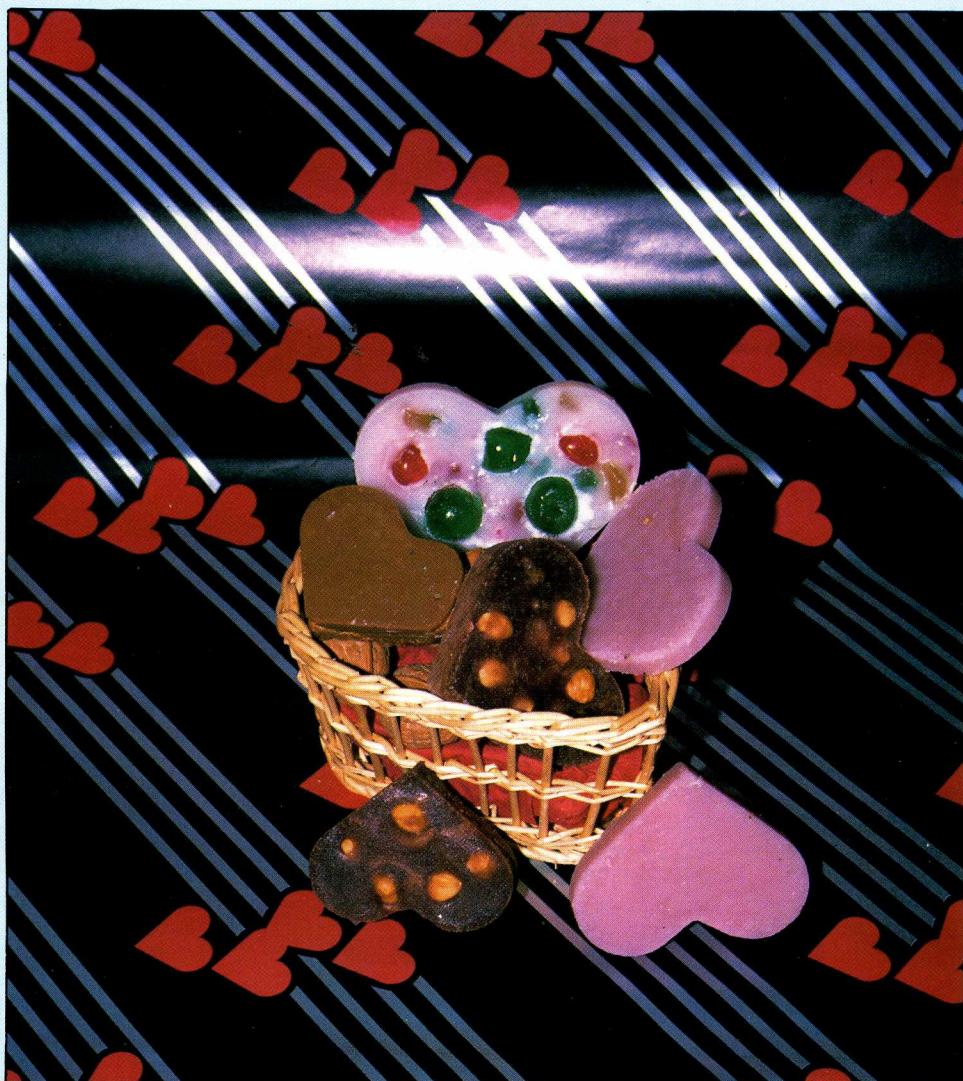
people will go where?

- will the cancelling of border checks affect security?
- can farmers from the colder countries compete with those from the South?

Add this to the political upheavals in East Europe, a bankrupt East Germany now integrated with West Germany and thus a member of the European Club, plus the Scandinavian countries, Switzerland and Austria that are not (yet?) members and you'll agree that the future will be interesting! ☺



Borstplaat



To make borstplaat is definitely not difficult as long as you don't panic if the sugar syrup behaves a bit whimsically. If it thickens too quickly just put it back into the pan and add a little water, if it is too thin just bring it to the boil again. Bearing this in mind you will realize that quantities are not critical.

For a try-out of two smallish hearts you could take:

- 150 g sugar
- 5 tbs water or milk or cream

Place buttered rings, hearts or other open moulds on wax paper or alufoil. Put sugar and liquid into a pan and stir until a little syrup dropping from the spoon forms a thread.

Remove from heat, add a dab of butter and stir again until liquid starts to thicken. Now pour into the moulds to a thickness of about 1 cm or a little more. This should be speedily done but even then you may have to add some more liquid and to bring the mixture to the boil again. Leave in moulds to cool. ☺

Grottemensenborstplaat

- 150 g sugar
 - heaped tsp instant coffee
 - 5 tbs thin cream
- When sugar has dissolved, add 1 tbs very strong coffee.

Kleinekinderborstplaat

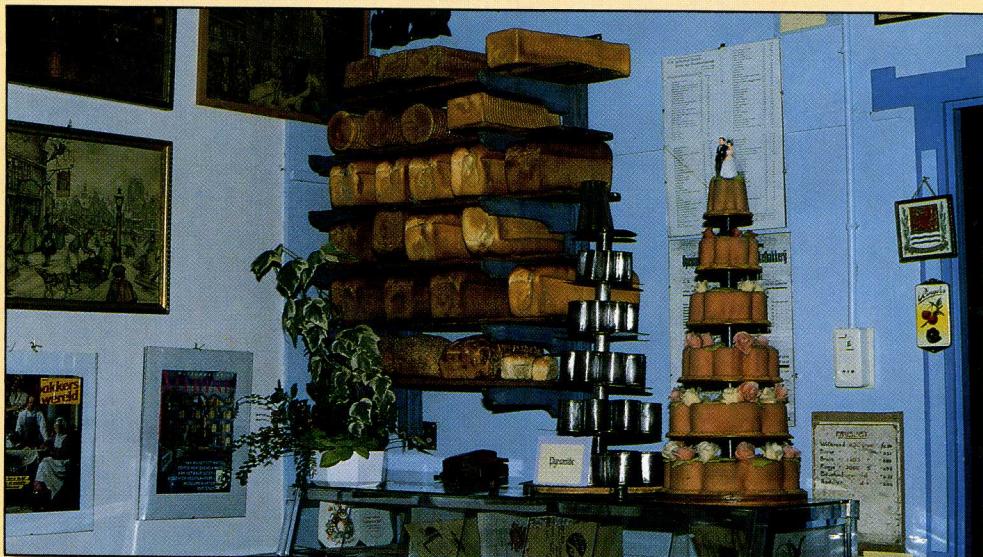
- 150 g sugar
- 4 tbs water
- 1 tbs blackcurrant syrup

More variations

- Add finely chopped ginger and replace 1 tbs water by ginger syrup
- Add chopped candied fruit, leaving some whole for decoration
- Add chopped nuts, leaving some whole for decoration
- mix 2 tsp cocoa with the dry sugar, use 1 extra spoonful of liquid. Owing to the fat in cocoa the syrup will not form its little thread now so just be brave and pour!

Bakkerij St. Jozef

Vanaf de dijk bij Medemblik uitkijkend over het wazig-blauwe IJsselmeer, hoorde ik een geluid naderbij komen dat ik niet zo gauw kon thuisbrengen. Pas toen er grote rookwolken verschenen, werd het duidelijk: de stoomtram uit Hoorn was in aantocht. Dit tafereel bracht me in de juiste nostalgische stemming om "De oude bakkerij", een werkend museum in het centrum van het stadje, te gaan bekijken.



Op familiebezoek

De term "werkend museum" dekt de lading eigenlijk niet. Zowel quo sfeer als qua omvang komt Bakkerij St. Jozef niet in de buurt van wat we gewoonlijk onder een museum verstaan. Denk maar dat u op bezoek gaat bij een gezellige oom die bakker is en die de tijd heeft laten stilstaan. Nauwelijks over de drempel ruiken we al dat er iets in de oven staat. De lekkertjes zijn in de winkel en verkopen Weespermoppen à f.2. – per ons, netjes afgewogen op een weegschaal met koperen gewichten, marsepein en krentebrood staan verleidelijk uit-

gestald, ander lekkers zit in de fraaie koektrommels achter de toonbank. Het verschil met de supermarkt waar we de artikelen in plastic van de schappen grissen, kan niet groter zijn ...

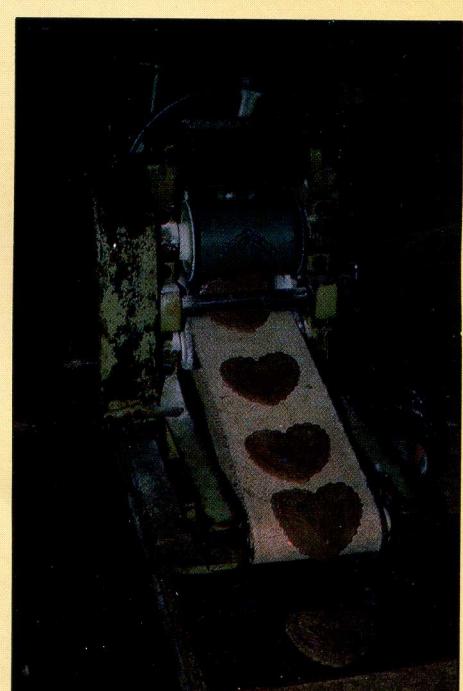
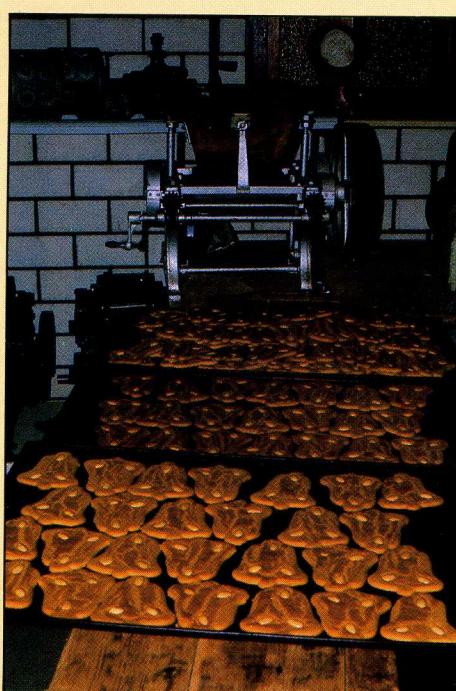
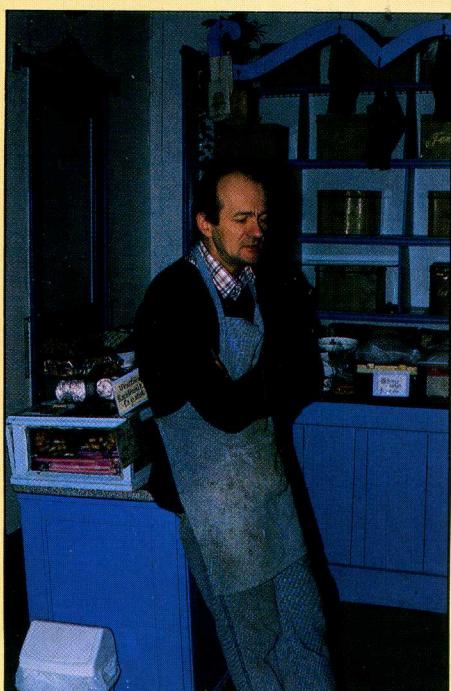
U neemt evenveel suiker als amandelen

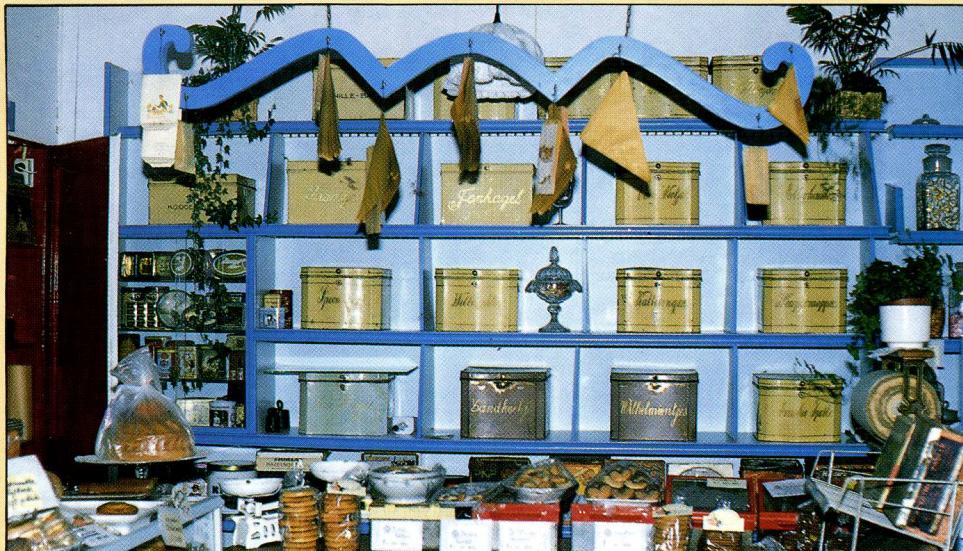
Voor de collectie speculaas – en taaitaaiplanken hebben we eigenlijk nauwelijks oog want we horen dat oom in de bakkerij op zijn praatstoel zit terwijl hij een nieuwe lading gevulde koeken klaarmaakt op een bakplaat. Hij legt uit hoe de Weesper-

moppen tot stand kwamen die net in de betegelde oven zijn geschoven. Even verderop worden truffels gemaakt: witte bolletjes (een in de koelkast hard geworden mengsel van roomboter en slagroom) worden in de confiture (gesmolten chocolade) gedoopt en daarna door de cacao gerold. Met cacao kun je trouwens ook nog andere dingen doen zoals we later zien: schilderijen maken!

Vijf generaties bakkers

Wanneer je de collectie vormen, verpakkingen, kleurstoffen, de met de hand aan te drijven speculaas-,





beschuitsnij-, en amandelwrijfmachines, de trog waarin roggebrood werd getrapte, de bakkerskar en zelfs de hondekar bekijkt, vraag je je af hoe de familie Spil dit alles bij elkaar heeft gekregen. Nou, dat was niet moeilijk want vijf generaties bakkers gingen hen voor en vooral schoonvader was "puur bewaarderig". Verder kwamen er veel schenkingen, zelfs van Paleis Soestdijk.

Roggebrood op je rug

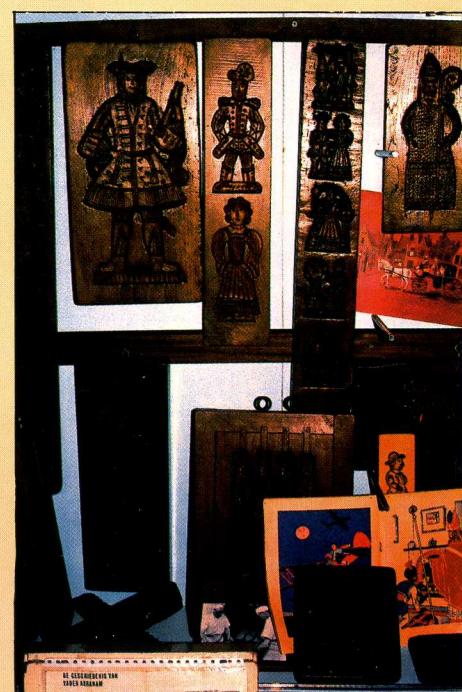
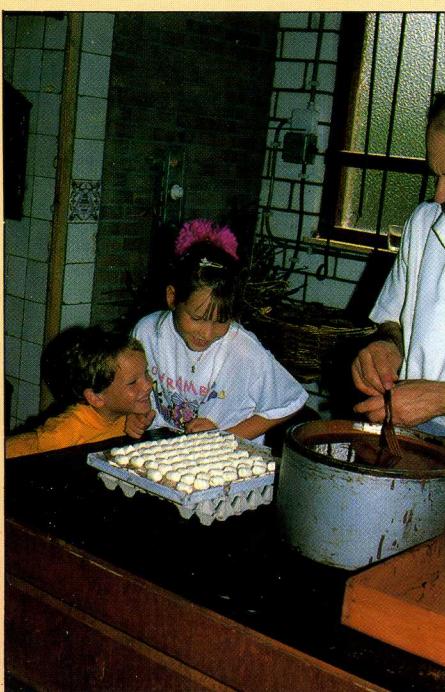
Het publiek dat met duizenden per seizoen bij "oom bakker" op bezoek gaat, is bont van samenstelling: West-

Friezen uit de omtrek, toeristen van verre, vrouwenverenigingen, jonge vakbroeders maar ook oude collega's. Of, zoals laatst, een oude venter die nog met een mand op zijn rug had gelopen met 20 roggebroden 2 kilo elk! Omdat boeren als bijverdienste bijvoorbeeld een dag per week roggebrood bakten, waren er soms wel acht boer/bakkers in een dorp en moest je als boerenzoon vaak 10 km lopen om al vaders klantjes af te gaan.

Zulke barre toestanden komen nu gelukkig niet meer voor maar hard aanpakken is het nog steeds voor de

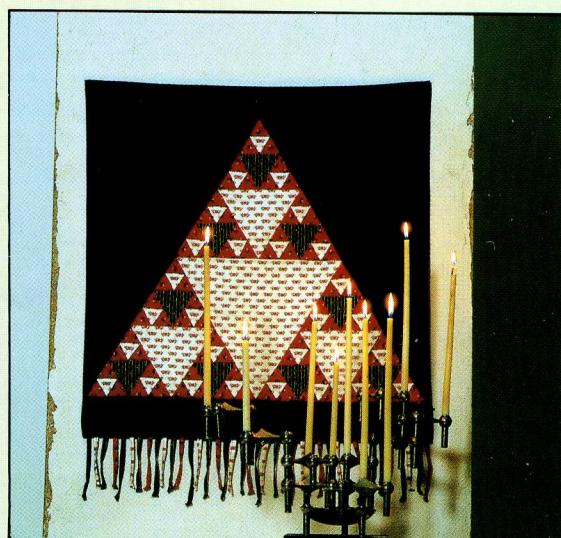
familie Spil. 's Nachts werkt vader Spil als broodbakker en moeder Spil, bijgestaan door dochters en vrijwilligers, "manteneert" (op z'n Westfies) bakkerij St. Jozef. ■■■

Openingstijden van mei tot en met september dagelijks van 12 tot 17 uur, idem tijdens de schoolvakanties in voor – en najaar en in de weekends daar tussenin.
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A Christmas Triangle Tree

Photographed by Henk Beurkers.



With a little creative imagination you can see a Christmas tree in a triangle and vice versa. If you increase the Christmassy effect by introducing hearts, holly and mistletoe on red, white and green fabric, a truly "gezelige" December decoration will result. For a patchwork triangle tree you need 1 m plain green material for the background and 3 x 30 cm red, white and green cotton fabric with small patterns for the triangles. This will leave plenty of remnants for Christmas cards and what else you can think of.

The construction

On a large sheet of firm paper draw

an equilateral triangle, each side measuring 64 cm. Then divide the sides in half and connect the three points, thus creating four smaller equilateral triangles of 32 cm. Leave the middle one in peace but divide the other three again by the same method. Now you have 3 x 4 triangles of 16 cm. Again ignore the middle ones and divide the 3 x 3 outer triangles. After one more repetition the smallest triangles measure 4 x 4 x 4 cm. Of course you have measured and drawn the pattern out with the greatest accuracy but even then your patches will not be absolutely equal. So keep them in their original order and do not cut out too many at the

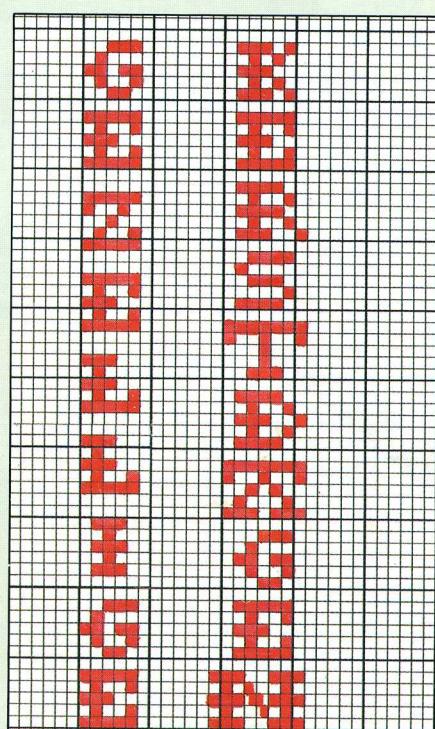
time. Number the patches as you go along.

Cutting and sewing

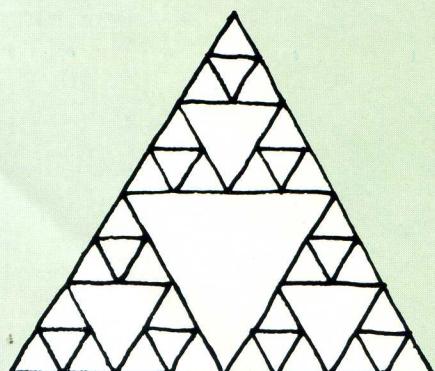
Now cut out the patches from the material, allowing 1/2 cm for the seams. Fold it round the paper triangles and secure it with paperclips before tacking it down. Join the patches by placing right sides exactly together and oversew.

The design has one little snag: where the divided and the undivided triangles are joined, you may have to smuggle away a millimeter or two.

Press seams at the back before taking out the card shapes, tack the completed triangle tree on to a piece of firm material and attach to the base fabric. For a fringe sew narrow strips of the patterned fabric, measuring + 16 x 1 cm. Tie ends into a knot if you like this effect. ☺



If you happen to be in Holland one summer or autumn you will find an outstanding collection of seasonal fabrics in "De Muurbloem", Lepelstraat 5, Haarlem. The shop is almost tucked away in the walls of the Sint Bavo Church, see Vogelvlucht 1990/2.



From Our Letterbox



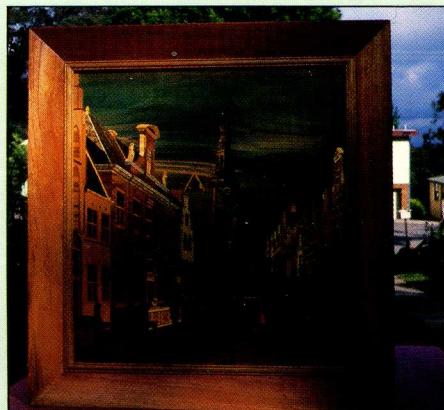
An artistic detective story

Mr Henk Kooyman, Blackheath NSW, not only sent us a pleasant letter, he also raised a challenge too good not to take up. Here comes part of his letter: "The picture of the "winkelstraat" with the St. Bavo in the background in the Haarlem article especially drew my attention. My hobby is making marquetry pictures (inlaid woodwork, Ed.) and last year I completed one after an oil painting by Gerrit Adriaansz Berckheyde (1638-1698). This is entitled "Straatje in Haarlem" and at first I thought it showed the

street of your photograph. However, the St. Bavo church is shown from a different angle. I have often wondered which street Berckheyde painted and hope that one day I'll be able to visit Haarlem to find out".

Well, Henk Kooyman's marquetry is certainly of very high quality as the first picture shows. With such an accurate rendering I felt I should be able to find the location. Slide in hand, I went to Haarlem and the two photographs show the result. I'll guarantee that Berckheyde placed his easel plus or minus two steps from the location in the Janssstraat where I placed my camera, because due to the slight curve the perspective changes quite quickly. I had an intui-

tion that the large mansion on the right in the Kooyman picture might be there still and not finding it put me off at first. The problem was solved when I realized that half of it was still there, perhaps because of a fire. Windows have been bricked in and the impressive door is no longer in the middle, but neither the street level nor the floor level changed in over 300 years and thus there are still 3 steps leading up to the front door! Henk Kooyman — who survived the ordeal of the Murmansk convoys while in the Merchant Navy during WWII — made the picture for his eldest granddaughter, now 8. After a bit of detective work, she now has a story to go with it!



Well-informed ...

Mrs Helen Wilder, from Mosman NSW, tells us she's looking forward to her next trip home with KLM and that her relatives in the Netherlands are "quite impressed" with her knowledge of places to visit in the country. Guess where some of it comes from! Thanks, Helen, that's what we're aiming at!

Love for both.

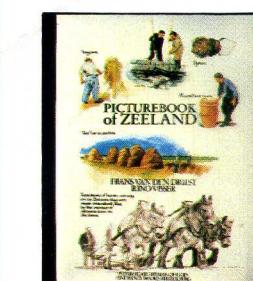
Toos Vermeulen, Auckland, New Zealand, writes that 37 years in her new country have not made her forget the old. "I am always looking forward to the next issue of your journal and sometimes I am amazed how little I really knew about Holland." However, there is no "conflict of interests" because she loves New Zealand as well, as shown by one verse of a poem she sent to us:

Auckland, with your highrise and your glitter,
where we love our D.B. bitter
you're the city built for me
Auckland, with your Queen Street
and your harbours,
with your parks and lovely gardens,
you're the place I love to be!
Quite right, Toos, we love it too!

A new series of picturebooks

In a bookshop we spotted a very handsome volume called "Noordhollands Platenboek". It was, indeed, the perfect picturebook containing a wealth of drawings and watercolours. The style reminded us of famous illustrators like Jetses, Voerman and Rol but some of the pictures showed present-day Holland so the work must be new.

The publisher lifted the veil: a team of eight artists works on the books and each book (for it is a series) takes three man-years to complete. We are not the only ones who found their work outstanding: The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs acquired the watercolours to organize exhibitions in emigrant-countries so perhaps they may also come your way. Apart from the "Noordhollands Platenboek" there are volumes on Zeeland and Limburg. Noord-Brabant will follow in the course of this year, Friesland in 1991. Of each book there is a Dutch and an English version. The publishers are Pitman-Goes and Fanoy Books-Middelburg. The books measure 21.5 x 30 cm, contain some 350 drawings and watercolours, about 130 pages and are hardbound. You can order these books at the D.I. Bookshop 72E Maroondah Highway, Croydon, VIC 3136 from approximately A\$45.00. Tel: (03) 723 1195.



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