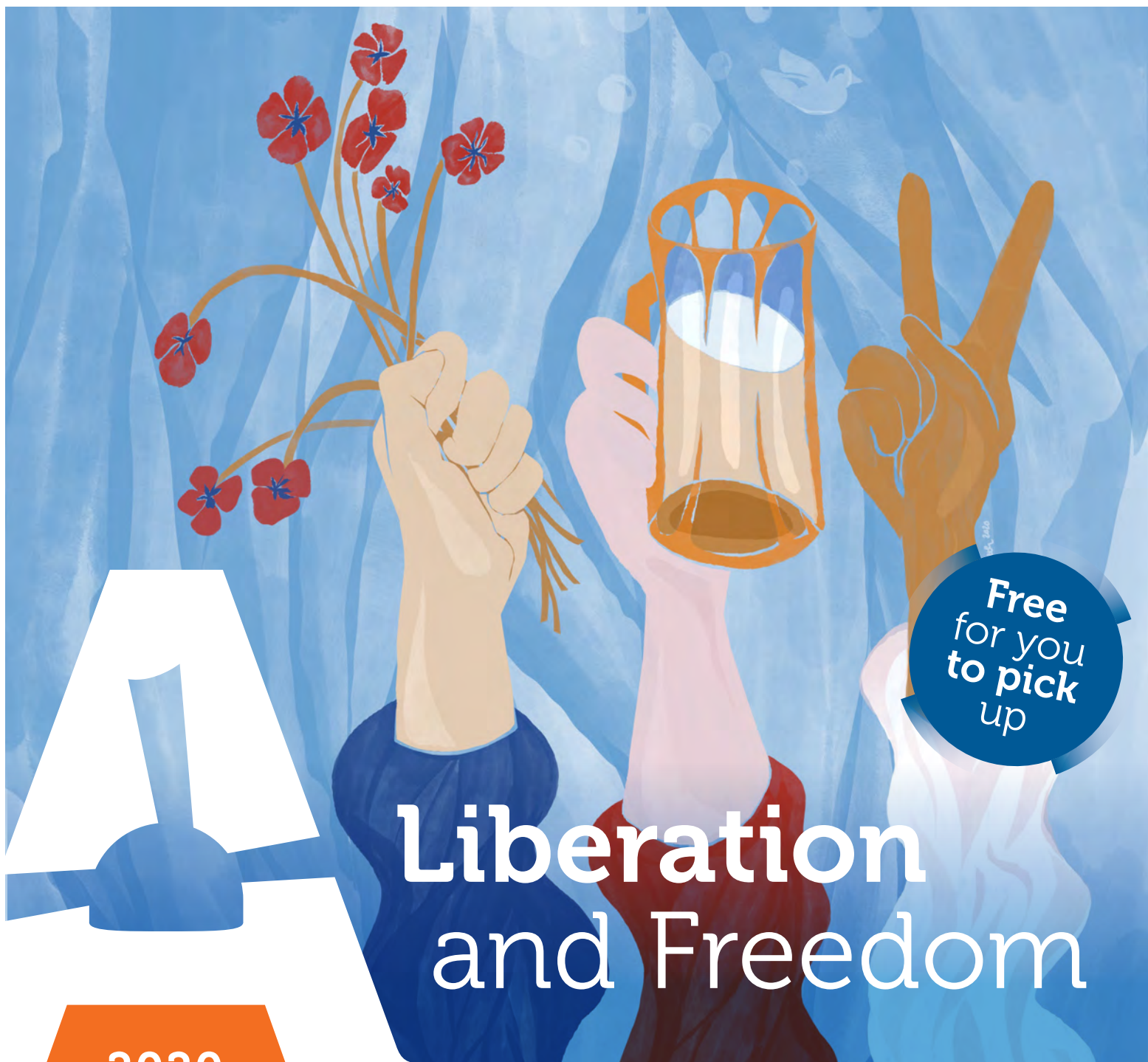


ACCESS

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2020
Spring

In this issue | Celebrating and remembering | The Analogues |
Invictus Games | Never give up | Seasonal food | The Resistance Banker |
Liberation walks |

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Dear ACCESS readers



Steve Voyce

ACCESS Editor

editor@access-nl.org

Commemorate the Liberation and celebrate freedom

At home, above my desk, is a photograph of my grandparents taken on their wedding day during World War Two. While my grandfather looks proud in his naval uniform, most striking to me is how young they look. My grandad looks hardly older than my own college-age son. They were getting married as my grandad was, literally, shipping out the following day. Like thousands of others, no one knew when, or if, he would return. Luckily he made it home.

This Spring marks the 75th anniversary of the final liberation of the Netherlands, and while we find ourselves surrounded by reminders of wartime, and celebrations of freedom, it is perhaps impossible to imagine what it was like to live through those terrible times. In this issue we've looked at different ways to learn about the wartime experience, and at events taking place across the country to commemorate the Liberation and celebrate freedom.

Growing up in the UK, my grandparents' generation had their own memories and scars from the war, but here in the Netherlands there is a different legacy. In her moving Cover Story, Hannah Behrens looks at two major events from the German occupation, and the resonance they still have. It's a fascinating read.

For those seeking an immersive experience, we couldn't recommend more highly the Freedom Museum, in the eastern Netherlands near the German border. It is an interesting and inspiring place to visit. For those with slightly more energy, Lorne Holyoak looks at marking the Liberation by following hiking routes mapped by Liberation Route Europe.

Away from the celebrations, why not try some of Kim McClure's delicious ideas for locally-sourced, spring ingredients, or book a ticket (if you can) for one of the amazing—possibly—final shows by The Analogues?

Finally, Kim van der Velden writes about the Invictus Games coming to The Hague in May. It is an inspirational event, and also a good link between this issue's articles about Liberation and our summer issue's sport theme. Check out the next ACCESS magazine, available in June.

ACCESS is...

a dynamic volunteer run, not-for-profit organisation that serves the needs and interests of the international community in the Netherlands. We do so by:

- personally responding to inquiries and providing information through our helpdesks
- providing face-to-face support through the expat centres we work with
- offering answers to the most frequently asked questions on our website
- fostering cultural diversity, facilitating connections and encouraging growth for the volunteers we work with
- offering childbirth preparation courses in The Hague, Amsterdam, Utrecht and Rotterdam
- maintaining an on-call Counselling Services Network
- facilitating a network of Trainers to support the community
- producing an informative magazine intended to help the community get to know the Netherlands
- being available to international employers and their HRs to support their staff, partners & families



+31 (0)85 4000 338



helpdesk@access-nl.org



www.access-nl.org



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MISSION

ACCESS is an independent not-for-profit organisation serving internationals to settle successfully in the Netherlands.

ACCESS

The ACCESS vision is to provide unique, comprehensive and essential services nationally, through the expertise and experience of its volunteers to the community.

Important note

ACCESS' number has changed. You can now reach us on **+31 (0)85 4000 338**. Also when calling from **overseas**.

Colophon

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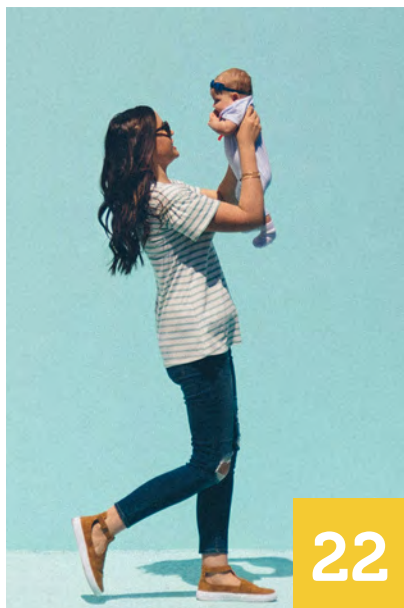
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From its beginning, ACCESS was an organisation established to support the international community in the Netherlands. Back in 1986 that community was relatively small, and disparate across the country. No Internet meant people relied on personal contacts and phone calls to find what they were looking for.

and a personal recommendation from someone with the time to listen is still the best kept secret to successfully arriving and settling in a country.

Our teams

While keeping, collating and reviewing data about our teams is relatively new, it is an extremely valuable tool for our organisation. Beyond helping us get to know the make-up of ACCESS, it gives us a sneak-peak into the wider international community in the Netherlands.

The significant feature of our team at ACCESS is its diversity. While female volunteers (85%) are still the majority—the countries our volunteers originate from, the languages they speak, their spouses or partners, and the ambitions they have, are very diverse. Our most recent stats review in 2019 showed ACCESS has, on average, around 40 nationalities working with us at any given time.

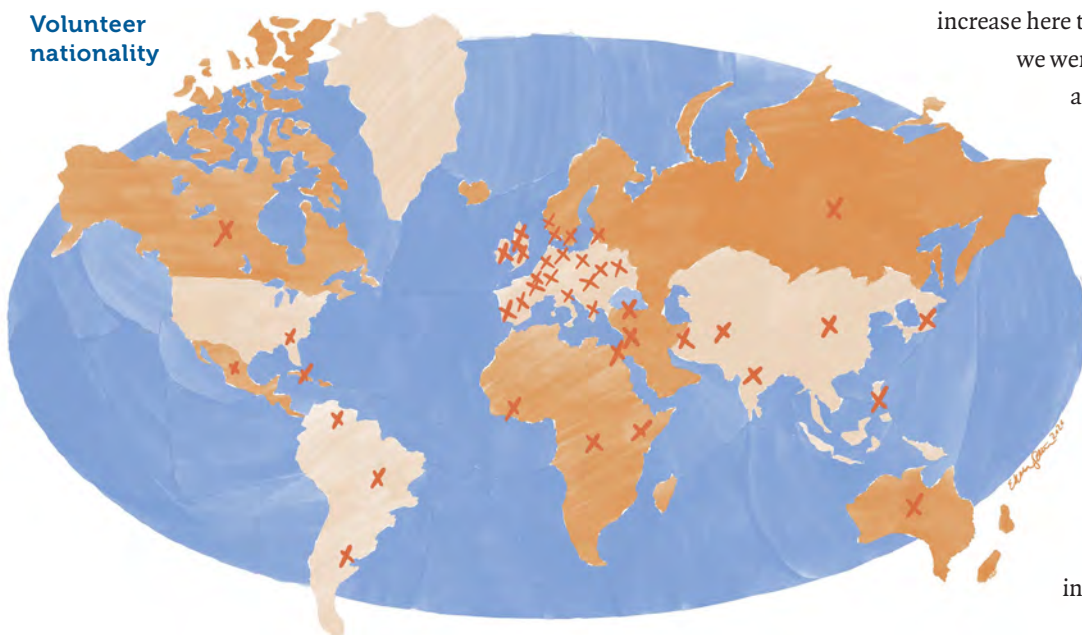
In 2015 the mean age of ACCESS volunteers was 41, in 2019 this has lowered slightly to 36 years. While these statistics do not include the members of our Counselling or Training Networks—each numbering about 25—they do include the 86 regular volunteers who run and manage ACCESS. We've seen an increase here too, by about 10 from 2015, when we were about 77. This reflects the addition of our teams in Utrecht, Amsterdam and Leiden.

BY DEBORAH VALENTINE

ILLUSTRATIONS BY ELISABETH SCHETTLE

Today, the picture is very different. Time does that, as does technology of course. Curiously, while the Internet gives us a world of information at our fingertips, we appear to have come full circle. A phone call,

Volunteer nationality



Today, ACCESS's team is more broadly-based than in the 1980s, with volunteers from urban as well as rural settings, each bringing a unique knowledge and experience that helps us understand what is happening 'on the ground' in the Netherlands.

Looking ahead

More than 80% of ACCESS team members have a graduate degree and 74% have moved here because of their 'partner.' Many of our volunteers are actively seeking employment. Our recent findings show that for 50% of people leaving ACCESS, a new job was their reason—a figure particularly relevant for the 20-30 age group. This bittersweet moment puts a smile on our faces, and while we hate to see anyone leave, we always celebrate the new phase in our colleague's journey.

The main feature of ACCESS is our diversity

While there is a small group who have been with ACCESS for a longer period of time, the one-year stay-rate has become our norm. This increase in shorter stay-rates for a majority of our team is clear evidence that the labour market is improving. A gain on one end is a loss for the other. We welcome, and bid farewell to, volunteers all year round, and the positive feedback we get about their time with us keeps us grounded and determined to continue doing what we do.

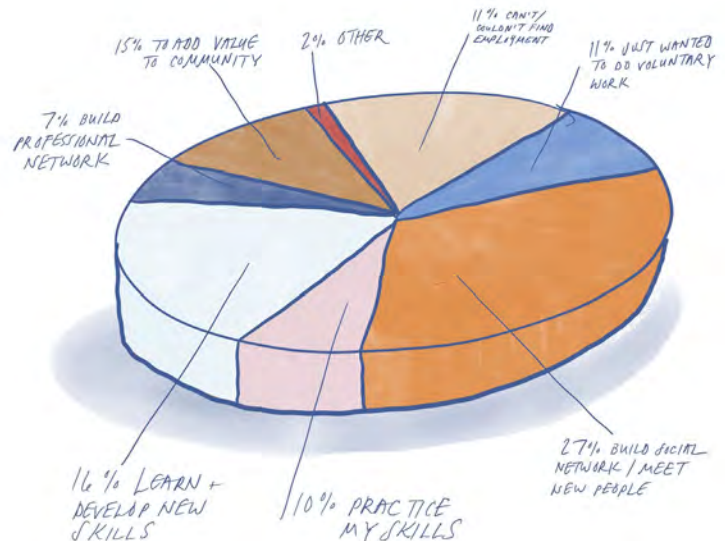
Our internal mission

Giving people a start in their new lives in the Netherlands keeps ACCESS going. Our volunteers report that they are more confident, have met and made friends, and shared a meal—and a giggle. They have found their community. We welcome volunteers with a wide embrace.

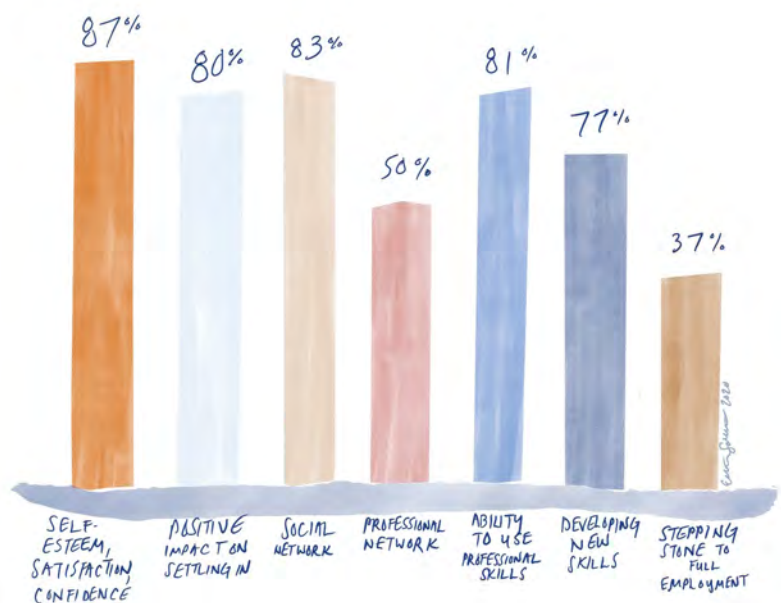
ACCESS's mission for our team is to provide professional opportunities for growth and fulfilment, which are vital for feeling settled. In return our volunteers give their valuable time and expertise. We thank them. We wish them well.

We are also here for you. «

Main reason to volunteer with ACCESS



Volunteers agree or strongly agree that ACCESS gives





Curious



Connected



Compassionate



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A time to look back and look forward

This year, we commemorate the Netherlands' 75th anniversary of its Liberation from Nazi occupation during World War Two. Over the course of the year institutions and individuals across the country are remembering and honouring those who suffered and fought for freedom.

BY HANNAH BEHRENS



A lasting legacy

For many across Europe who were not alive to experience the war, 75 years could feel like a huge amount of time. For those who lived during World War Two, and survived, there is a sense of duty to remember those who were lost, and to make sure the lessons of wartime are not forgotten. The Liberation commemorations are not just a chance to look into the past, but a way of measuring the impact of that historical period, and what it means for future generations.

The enduring legacy of the war is seen in memorials across the Netherlands—some monumental in city or town centres; others that are smaller, on side-streets or in quieter corners and areas, but are no less poignant. In the Netherlands, the war, occupation and the Holocaust endure within the collective consciousness and memory of the population. Two devastating occurrences during the occupation of the Netherlands, the Holocaust and the famine during the winter of 1944-1945, eminently shaped the identity of the Dutch nation at the time, and echo throughout the subsequent 75 years.

Unearthing the scars

Comparative studies have calculated that during the German occupation, 75% of the Dutch-Jewish population died in the Holocaust, which was an unusually high percentage compared with the other occupied countries in western Europe. In 1939, there were some 140,000 Dutch Jews living in the Netherlands; but by the end of the war in 1945, only about 35,000 were still alive.

According to the Anne Frank Fonds, the large number of Dutch-Jewish victims can be explained, in part, by the German police in the Netherlands having sole authority over deportations to concentration camps. The Nazis had tried to win over the Dutch to their ideals and imposed a civil, rather than military regime. When the deportations began the occupying authorities used misinformation and deception to keep most of the population unaware of the existence of the camps. »



PHOTO: RONNI KURTZ

Cover Story | A time to look back and look forward

The occupying civil government did make use of Dutch administrative infrastructures. Existing records, and an early mandatory registration scheme, meant the German authorities were aware of the residence of almost every Jew. In addition, the Netherlands' dense population and relative lack of open space or woods for people to flee to, made it difficult to go into hiding. During the civil occupation it is estimated that only 25,000 of 140,000 Jews in the Netherlands went into hiding. Of these a third were caught and deported, and of those who survived, 4,000 were children.

Survivors

While 75 years seems like a lifetime for some, to Holocaust survivors Myrna and Mattie Tugendhaft, a married couple in their eighties from Amstelveen, that time in their childhood, understandably, remains the defining period of their lives.

Mattie went into hiding in Klimmen during the war. The date, 18 September 1944, marks a significant day for him, as he recalls the arrival of American soldiers to the small village where he was hidden. The day represented an end to his war and the joy of finally returning home to his parents. During the occupation, Myrna was taken by train to Hillersleben and Farsleben concentration camps in Germany. She remembers 10 April 1945 as the day when she was liberated and finally getting to eat a good meal after near starvation.

Take nothing for granted

Mattie and Myrna both agree that the most important outcome of their liberation was freedom, and are eternally grateful to have been spared. Their wartime experiences have meant that they take nothing for granted.

The significance of any liberation date represents the happy family and life that they have made together since that time. Memories and gratitude are underlined with caution, though, as they have noticed that “antisemitism is again on the rise” in recent years.

Discover more

Anne Frank Fonds

Founded by Anne Frank's father Otto, this foundation educates about her diary, her life, and her family and “works towards strengthening human rights, in particular the rights of children and women, and towards promoting social justice.”

annefrank.ch/en

Holocaustnamen Monument Nederland (Dutch Holocaust Memorial of Names)

Learn more about the monument, designer, and site, or adopt a name at holocaustnamenmonument.nl

Stolpersteine Project (Stumbling Stone Project)

Stolpersteine laying ceremonies are occurring in 16 Dutch towns/cities (including Amsterdam, Enschede, Zwolle and Utrecht) between 22 and 28 March 2020. For further information (and other future ceremonies) stolpersteine.eu

Hongerwinter The Hunger Winter

Dr. Ingrid de Zwart's research culminates in the book *De Hongerwinter (The Hunger Winter)*, available in Dutch from Prometheus Uitgeverij, and in English this year from Cambridge University Press. cambridgelearning.net

Create positive changes for the betterment of society

Holocaust Namenmonument Nederland (Dutch Holocaust Memorial of Names Monument)

In January 2020 Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte issued an apology, on behalf of the government, for the failure of Dutch officials to do more to prevent the deportation and murder of over 100,000 Jews, Roma, Sinti and other targets of the Nazis during their occupation of the Netherlands.

Efforts to memorialise Dutch Holocaust victims have been in progress, particularly the soon to be erected *Holocaustnamen Monument Nederland* (Dutch Holocaust Memorial of Names). Initiated by the Dutch Auschwitz Committee, Polish-American architect Daniel Libeskind was chosen to design the Memorial dedicated to those lost during the occupation. The monument will be located in the heart of Amsterdam's Jewish Quarter.

In memory of

The Memorial's design is complete and construction has begun. Visitors to the memorial site will face a labyrinth of corridors with two-metre high brick walls on either side bearing four Hebrew letters that, together, represent the word meaning "In memory of." Each of the 102,000 stones will be engraved with a name, date of birth and age of death of the Jewish as well as the 220 Sinti and Roma victims, to commemorate them both individually and collectively.

Stolpersteine Project (Stumbling Stone Project)

The ongoing *Stolpersteine Project*—initiated by the German artist Gunter Deming in 1992—aims to commemorate individuals at exactly the last place of freely chosen residency or work, before he or she fell victim to Nazi terror. *Stolpersteine* brass

PHOTOS: HOLOCAUST NAMENMONUMENT



commemorative plates are embedded in the street or sidewalk in front of the building, and the project remains the world's largest decentralised memorial. Over 70,000 *Stolpersteine* plates have been laid throughout Europe, and commemorate Jewish, Sinti, Roma, homosexuals, disabled, peoples of colour, political outcasts, resistance fighters, and members of the Christian opposition. The plates can be seen in streets of towns and cities across the Netherlands.

The Hunger Winter Reassessed

World War Two spans such a vast and complex range of narratives and perspectives, that it falls to individual nations to tell their own story of those turbulent years. The events of the 1944-1945 winter, known in the Netherlands as the *Hongerwinter* (Hunger Winter), have become a defining moment in Dutch history, and a pivotal moment in the collective memory of the population. »



PHOTO: ALLIED JOINT FORCE COMMAND BRUNSSUM IMAGERY



PHOTO: FACEPEPLS

A sense of duty to remember those who were lost

The study of the Hunger Winter is important, not just for posterity, but to preserve an accurate depiction of the time period within the broader narrative of World War Two. This story of survival, rather than suffering, carries significance within contemporary Dutch culture and history. It remains figuratively and literally in the consciousness and make-up of the Netherlands.

Initiated by a Dutch railroad strike in September 1944, along with other factors, the occupying German government temporarily cut off food and fuel shipments. After this embargo was lifted in November 1944 other transportation and distribution problems

resulted in 2.6 million citizens in the occupied western Netherlands facing starvation. They turned to soup kitchens, and were eventually driven to finding food where they could, including eating sugar beets and tulip bulbs. It is estimated that at least 20,000 deaths occurred from the famine. But the toll on the survivors also changed them physically for the rest of their, and their children's, lives.

Causes and consequences

Dr. Ingrid de Zwart, an assistant professor of Rural and Environmental History at Wageningen University, has conducted extensive research into the Hunger Winter in partnership with NIOD

(the Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies). This research institute leads projects on issues related to war violence, and its causes and consequences, in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Dr. de Zwarte's study, "The Hunger Winter: Fighting Famine in the Occupied Netherlands, 1944-45" stems from broader questions about how people survived daily life during the extremes of war, with the Dutch Hunger Winter a major example of the observable consequences.

The motivation behind the study is to re-examine the narrative of the 'orthodox view' that the Dutch people suffered passively at the hands of the German occupiers, by examining the different aspects and causes. A broader, more nuanced and complex picture emerges of a population facing a desperate situation with ingenuity, grassroots organisation, spontaneous action, lifesaving solutions and selfless sacrifice for the community. De Zwarte's study shows that community and individual initiatives alongside state-run efforts "likely mitigated the famine's detrimental effects, particularly towards child-feeding initiatives."

Hope and resilience

For de Zwarte, the significance of the Hunger Winter lies in the collective memory of the Dutch people who lived through it, and the knowledge and attitudes passed down to succeeding generations. As time passes, the direct survivors are no longer around to share their stories, "so it is the duty of the next generation to retain the lessons of the experience, and to preserve a clear picture of what really happened."

There is hope in de Zwarte's conclusions, revealing "a better understanding of the relationship between physiological vulnerability to food deprivation and social processes fostering resilience."

The keyword here is resilience over suffering. The diligent and heroic actions of a humanitarian-minded people during a time of incredible hardship, should be inspirational to us all. The results of

those small and optimistic actions lead to the peace, prosperity and freedom we enjoy in the Netherlands today.

Contemporary connections

Interestingly, the evocative memories and after-effects or implications of such an extreme period of history carries weight even in contemporary environmental and political debates. When Dutch farmers announced their collective strike against restrictions on nitrogen emissions in the winter of 2019, some protesters controversially evoked the lessons of the Hunger Winter in an effort to gain sympathy for their cause.

Not forgotten

Hoping for a better world for future generations means being aware of and willing to admit to the truth of the past. Awareness campaigns and groups like neveragain.com "work to empower the next generation to create positive changes for the betterment of society."

Remembrance and liberation

The spring and summer of 2020 is a great time to join in the many commemorations and celebrations of freedom in the Netherlands. Marking the 75th anniversary of the Liberation is a momentous event, not least because of the reverberation that remains from the years of war, persecution and occupation. Perhaps hearing a passing reference to the *Hongerwinter*, or walking past one of the square brass pavement plaques can lead to a moment for quiet reflection on the sacrifices made by so many during wartime. «



About the author

Hannah Behrens is a freelance writer, editor, poet and writing coach. A Netherlands resident since 2016, she writes a blog, weedsandwilderness.com, leads Weeds and Wilderness Creative Writing Meetup in Amsterdam, and is currently working towards her PhD in Expressive Arts Therapy.



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Invictus Games 2020 in The Hague



This year we won't just be commemorating 75 years of Liberation, 2020 also sees the Netherlands host a major international sports event, the Invictus Games.

TEXT BY KIM VAN DER VELDEN

PHOTOS BY GETTYSPORTS FOR INVICTUS GAMES FOUNDATION

For Simon Keijzer, Media Director of the Invictus Games 2020, what sets these games apart from any other type of international competitive sports event is that “the Games are not about winning medals, but to show the mental and physical strength of the wounded, injured or sick (ex-) military and service personnel who have overcome incredible hurdles on their personal journey to recovery. And should act as an example for everyone else who is struck by fate.” »

International Community

Global games

The 20 participating nations at this year's Invictus Games are: Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Iraq, Italy, Jordan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Romania, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States.

In mid-January 2020, the twentieth country confirmed its attendance—the Republic of Korea.

The competitors

The Invictus Games also remind us of the fragility of freedom and democracy that is enjoyed in the Netherlands and across the world. These values are protected daily by servicemen and women. Luckily, most of us will never know the full horrors of combat, but we are aware that service personnel risk suffering and life-changing injuries, visible or not, whilst serving their country.

The Patron

The Duke of Sussex (or Prince Harry as we know him more commonly) is the patron of the Invictus Games. On a trip to the Warrior Games in the USA in 2013, organised by the US Department of Defense, he saw first-hand how the power of sport can help physically, psychologically and socially those soldiers and veterans suffering from injuries and illness. Prince Harry was inspired, and the Invictus Games was born.

Undefeatable

The word 'invictus' is Latin for 'unconquerable' or 'undefeatable.' It embodies very appropriately the fighting spirit and tenacity the competitors have displayed post-injury to reinvent themselves and the way they demonstrate their mental and physical strength at the games. A competitor from Team UK is quoted on the Invictus Foundation website, "I lost my identity and my ability. Training for the Invictus Games picked me up. It's proved to me that actually I am still worth something and I have still got drive and determination."

The Hague

The first Invictus Games took place in London in 2014 and after Orlando, Toronto and Sydney, the fifth edition will take place in The Hague from 9 to 16 May 2020. According to Keijzer, The Hague won the bid due to the good reputation of Dutch organisational skills for big events, the compact

Did you know...

Around the Zuiderpark there will also be music, entertainment, sport clinics, lectures and demonstrations.



Service personnel who have overcome incredible hurdles

and sustainable nature of the event and its strong legacy for the future. The jury's decision was further helped by the clear and full endorsement of the city of The Hague, plus the fact that 2020 is the 75th year commemoration of the end of World War Two in the Netherlands.

Unconquerable

When asked which adaptive sport was an absolute must see for anyone who does not know which event to pick, Keijzer replied without hesitation, "each single sport event is great to watch, as you will see competitors who are unconquerable!"

Positive example

One of these unconquerable athletes is the Estonian team captain Janno Lepik. He and his team of 20 can't wait for the games. "We are really looking forward to The Hague and are curious about Zuiderpark. Moreover, we can't wait to meet and compete in sports, with other veterans, from around the world."

A seasoned competitor, Lepik knows the importance of the games, "I am a good example of how sports, but especially the event, has influenced me in a positive way. The first time, in Toronto, I was in fact nothing more than an injured veteran. I had prepared myself well for Sydney, I really participated. And now there are even plans for me to participate in the Paralympic Games. I want to be an example for others."

The games

During the Invictus Games in The Hague, 9 to 16 May 2020, 500 competitors from 20 countries will showcase their sportsmanship by participating in one or more of ten sports—athletics, archery, cycling, indoor rowing, powerlifting, sitting volleyball, swimming, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair rugby and the



Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) Driving Challenge (Jaguar is one of the long standing partners of the Invictus Games).

Most sports take place in and around the Invictus Games Park (Zuiderpark), in venues including the Sports Campus and Athletics Club Sparta. The location for swimming is the Hofbad, in Ypenburg, six kilometres from the Invictus Games Park.

Zuiderpark in The Hague will be transformed into the Invictus Games Park. Grandstands will be built in the Sports Campus, Court, the athletics complex and the Invictus Games Stadium. To support and encourage the participating service personnel, tickets for the individual sports events can be purchased with prices starting from €10. Day Guest Experience passes are also available that include full access to the sports events, meals, snacks, drinks and entertainment events. Tickets and passes are available at invictusgames2020.com «

About the author

Kim van der Velden works for a large multinational and is an aspiring writer in her free time. While maybe not the biggest sports fan—besides a weekly yoga class—she does appreciate the emotion sports events can stir in people.

The Tower of Babel at DISDH-Kindergarten

Hearing a multitude of languages is part of the daily experience at DISDH-Kindergarten. Even at the young age of three and four, many children are already used to hearing and speaking two, three or even four different languages.



They switch back and forth between languages as many adults could only dream of doing. It is this openness and realisation that other languages exist which makes learning an additional language for these children so much easier.

Learning languages

The main language at DISDH-Kindergarten is German. In addition, Dutch and English are part of everyday life. Being familiar with the German language is not a prerequisite for joining Kindergarten, as children

without previous knowledge receive daily language skill support by a specially trained educator. The aim is for the children to learn the language in a playful and natural manner, each at their own pace within a relaxed and gentle atmosphere.

Daily language learning of Dutch and English are part of the daily agenda at DISDH-Kindergarten. It is important the young children feel comfortable with the language they hear around them in their host country. DISDH places an emphasis on children moving beyond the expat bubble. By regularly attending Dutch children's theatre and musical performances as well as learning about and enjoying Dutch traditions, the children get to further acquire the Dutch language and make progress while not even consciously making an effort. Due to the growing importance of the English language in the international world, DISDH-Kindergarten children also partake in English language learning. The acquisition of various languages opens their ears and minds and makes later language learning in school a pleasurable experience.

Play and learn

At DISDH-Kindergarten, children play and learn with each other enriched by the many languages and nationalities around them. They sing songs, play circle games and enjoy birthday traditions in different languages. Pride in their native tongues is shown when their parents come to Kindergarten to read aloud to the children in different languages. Children at DISDH-Kindergarten live each day with a natural understanding and acceptance of differences, an attribute which will surely accompany them into their future. «

070 354 9494
www.disdh.nl

Vrijheidsmuseum Freedom Museum



PHOTOS: FLIP FRANSEN

Perched on a hill in the green countryside of Groesbeek near Nijmegen, Arnhem and the German border, the Freedom Museum seems, at first sight, to be covered by a massive white parachute.

BY LYNETTE
CROXFORD

This is an homage to the 82nd US Airborne Division, which, amongst others, landed in the area as part of Operation Market Garden during World War Two. The largest airborne operation in warfare history attempted to take command of the Maas (Meuse),

Waal and Rhine bridges, outflank the heavy German defences, gain entry into northern Germany and bring a quick end to the war. Although the Allied Forces fought valiantly, the historic battle during nine days in September 1944 is seen as a failed operation as, after successfully retaking Nijmegen, the Allies failed to capture the bridge at Arnhem, the elusive 'Bridge Too Far.'

A must visit

The Freedom Museum is located in Groesbeek, just outside Nijmegen near the German border. Details and opening times can be found at freedommuseum.com (Information throughout the museum is in Dutch, German and English).

Liberation and freedom

Formerly the Liberation Museum, the museum's name was changed to Freedom Museum in 2019, a result of collaboration between German and Dutch historians to focus beyond World War Two towards the freedom that crosses borders and transcends nationalities. For historian and museum curator Rense Havinga, it was important to still focus on the importance of the Liberation, but we still live in a world where "one person may be liberated but someone else was not." The museum centres on the 'four post-war goals,' freedom, peace, prosperity, safety.

Alongside the new name came a new building, built with the latest heating and lighting technologies and using recyclable materials to be sustainable and with as small a carbon footprint as possible. The new building's modern interior and well-designed layout aid an interesting and educational historical journey.

Visitor-friendly

Much time and attention has been paid to the visitor's experience—a warm welcome awaits from the friendly volunteers who are available to advise how best to navigate the exhibitions and get the most from any

visit. The permanent exhibition starts with a film depicting how the war affected the population and the impact of the fighting and deprivation.

Ordinary people

Interactive media installations draw visitors into the lives of ordinary people who endured the horrific effects of war. Personal accounts from local residents on both sides of the border give an eerily realistic impression of what it might have been like to be German or Dutch at the time. The exhibition route leads from before the war, through the merciless occupation, celebrates the euphoric Information and witnesses the post-war rebuilding of Europe and the Netherlands.

Particularly poignant are the snapshots of those coping with the war in the best way they could. Artefacts and factual accounts bring the memories to life in a humble but dramatic way. The most startling reminder of the ever-present intensity and ferocity of wartime is the re-creation of an air raid shelter interior.

Operation Market Garden

Another well-executed exhibit is the Operation Market Garden simulation—a scale model of the local area with interactive media that guides through the actual events, timeline and outcomes and brings the operation to life. It is an excellent way to understand the geographical challenges and the impact on both sides of the frontline, and gives perspective to the immense effort and determination of the Allied forces to bring an end to the war.

Awe-inspiring

Great war museums inspire awe and disbelief and serve as a memorial to those who fought and died, whose daily courage, humility and creativeness can seem almost unfathomable to a modern visitor. Tales of resistance, small acts of defiance and the many lives saved by the kindness and generosity of ordinary people lend a very human quality to the Freedom Museum.



PHOTO: LYNETTE CROFORD



PHOTOS: FLIP FRANSEN

An exhibit of lives lost by each nation during the war depicting the numbers sent to fight and never return home to families and loved ones is one truly heart-stopping moment. Liberation, at the end of the journey through the museum, comes as a mighty relief, even to the visitor.

Freedom

‘Freedom Square,’ the final room, shows a film investigating the meaning of freedom in current times—if war can be looked at in a different light; at the effects of terrorism; at the rise of nationalism; at the threat of climate change; and at both peaceful and violent protesting. While these images are both thought-provoking and alarming, they also give a sense of hope and aim to help us understand one another, our values and what—if anything—we are willing to die for.

Overall, the Freedom Museum’s thought-provoking journey through history is well worth the few hours spent here.

Don’t miss

The museum also has a temporary space which changes exhibits periodically. At the time of my visit a pictorial exhibition of the occupation, Liberation

The museum focuses beyond the war to freedom that crosses borders and transcends nationalities

and Allied looting in the Nijmegen region was an interesting look at the behaviours of liberating troops and their interaction with the local community.

In the area

A short drive from the museum, deeper into the countryside around Groesbeek, is the Canadian War Cemetery, a beautifully-maintained but jarring reminder of the many young lives lost in the battle for freedom and liberation in the area. The white gravestones with the maple leaf etched above the names and ages of the men who perished are a stark visual reminder of the ravages of war.

Well worth a visit. «

About the author

Lynette Croxford is a British freelance copywriter and translator living in Delft with her husband and daughters.

The art of not giving up

BY KATARINA GABOROVA

Imagine yourself sitting in a front row of your favourite cinema. The movie captivates your attention with a full spectrum of human emotions. As it unfolds, the story shows the main character facing many obstacles, but never giving up.

A different turn

In this movie Suzy is the main character. She is a young and successful business woman—powerful and inspiring, who thought she had experienced everything when she learned she was expecting her first baby. Suzy was excited and could not wait to meet her baby girl, and her pregnancy went well. Until the day she gave birth.

Suzy's dreams took a very different turn when the doctors discovered her daughter's liver was failing. So instead of focusing on bonding with her new daughter, there were invasive assessments, treatments and eventually, to save the baby's life, a liver transplant. All this required months in the hospital and a series of operations. Suzy needed to find a way to cope.

Not giving up

While we feel Suzy's anguish, fear, desperation and hope for her daughter, she is also an inspiration. Suzy was used to having control and planned her



PHOTO: THIAGO-CERQUEIRA

life perfectly, but this new situation was different, nothing up to now had been this hard. But, as giving up was not an option what could she do?

So while focusing on her beautiful daughter and making her as comfortable as possible, Suzy spent all her free time researching liver transplants and recovery. Suzy used her free moments for study and improvement.

New energy

Acquiring new knowledge helped get Suzy through these toughest of times—she noticed it gave her mind a break from the stressful situation, filled her body with a fresh energy and gave her a sense of control over at least some areas of her life. Researching and learning supported her through the months of waiting patiently for the hospital staff treating her precious daughter.

This is a true story. Suzy wants to pass on that helping others, taking steps forward, having some control, seeing positive moments, and stimulation of her, then, overly-busy mind really helped during those hardships, battles and sorrows.

Happy ending

Personally I love movies that end happily. Luckily so does this one! Today Suzy's beautiful little girl is an active three-year-old, thanks to a liver donated by her father.

Suzy built a new career all over again—one that allows her to be close to her daughter and combine the knowledge she learned in the hospital. While those experiences were tough they made her wiser, more grateful, more powerful, a believer, and a survivor.

Steve Jobs, co-founder of Apple, said in 2005, “You can’t connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future. You have to trust in something—your gut, destiny, life, karma, whatever. Because believing

that the dots will connect down the road, will give you the confidence to follow your heart even when it leads you off the well-worn path and that is what will make all the difference.” For Suzy trusting in her newly-acquired knowledge helped her get through those toughest of times.

Inner superhero

We may not be aware of our capabilities until we are forced right to the edge, to the point where we have no other choice. This is where our inner superhero takes over. Human bodies are amazingly designed, evolution has given us physiological inner strengths and physiological systems hard-wired to enhance our chance of survival by being vigilant and responsive to threats. Our survival intelligence has embedded higher level meta-cognitive systems within our nervous system that help to calculate the situation, be cunning in our surroundings, or even interpret and understand others' actions, behaviours, and desires. Based on this information we respond accordingly.

Human bodies are hard-wired to enhance our chance of survival

Get through this

Life brings downward spirals, but it is comforting to know that we were designed to get through them. I share this story with Suzy's permission to show positive surprises can come at the hardest moments, that things can change—we can get through this—if we trust the future. We may stumble but not give up. That is the difference. «

About the author

Katarina Gaborova is a founder of K.G. Psychological Services (psychologistinthehague.com, katarinagaborova.com) in The Hague, where she works as a psychologist and coach and is a member of the ACCESS Counselling Service Network (CSN). She is a TED speaker and a published author of SEE BEE TEE products amazon.com/See-Bee-Te-Te-Reinforce-Positive/dp/1790721326.

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Really got a hold on me



PHOTO: FERDY DAMMAN

There are a huge number of tribute bands on the music scene these days. Some of them are pretty decent, some are perhaps not so good, and some are truly terrific. The Analogues certainly fall into the latter category.

BY TRACEY TAYLOR

It was my privilege to see them in concert at the Theater aan 't Vrijthof in Maastricht recently. Let's find out a little more about how The Analogues perform The Beatles.

Oh! Darling

Half a century later, much of the music created during the 1960s is still loved and listened to worldwide. Culturally central to the sixties, particularly musically, are The Beatles. To many, The Beatles are the sixties.

Subsequently, their music has also taken on a timeless quality and their songs have become modern 'classics.' The Beatles' music is an ever-present soundtrack to life and is discovered and embraced by new generations.

In the course of their relatively short recording career this four-piece band from Liverpool, United Kingdom, released no fewer than 13 studio albums worldwide and recorded a whopping 213 songs.

But, after their final live show at San Francisco's Candlestick Park in 1966, The Beatles stopped touring to focus on being a studio band. Between 1966 and when they split in 1970 they wrote and recorded six iconic albums, *Revolver*, *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely-Hearts Club Band*, *Magical Mystery Tour*, *The White Album*, *Let It Be* and *Abbey Road*, but never performed any of the material for a live audience.

Come Together

With a sound and style that is complicated, intricate and so instantly recognisable, anyone attempting to cover The Beatles' songs, let alone whole albums, might be considered sheer madness. In particular the multi-layered, complex and intricate later-years studio albums that even the band themselves didn't attempt live. For The Analogues, however, no challenge is too great. Their aim is to perform those songs note-for-note and pitch-perfect, and this bunch of skilled musicians has developed quite the reputation—even amongst die-hard Beatles fans—for doing just that. »



PHOTO: FERDY DAMMAN

From the first riff, the heartfelt performance is something of which even the Fab Four themselves would have been proud

A Day in the Life

The Analogues are five core members, Fred Gehring, Jac Bico, Bart van Poppel, Diederik Nomden and Felix Maginn, who recreate The Beatles sound as perfectly as possible live on stage with horns, strings, occasionally a harp or a sitar, and guest vocalists. They have performed throughout the world with renditions of *Magical Mystery Tour*, *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* and *The White Album*.

A Hard Day's Night

The Analogues are a collective group of multi-talented and passionate musicians who seamlessly move from one instrument to another and cover all vocal

ranges, including the stunning harmonies that are a key feature of the show. The band approach the musical style of The Beatles with reverence and respect while being sensitive to capturing essential Fab Four nuances.

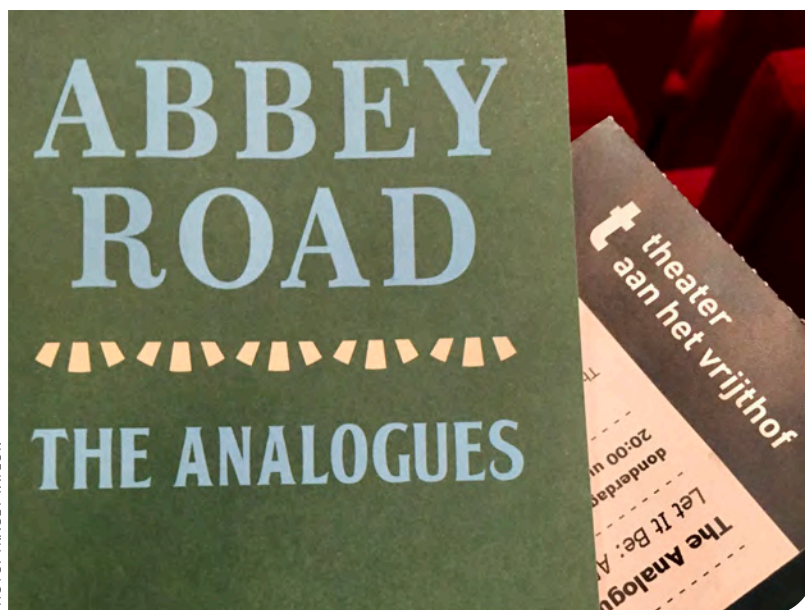
Using 'period correct' instruments such as Fender Esquire guitars, Hammond Rt-3 organs, and Epiphone Texan guitars they create a sound as close to that recorded in Abbey Road Studios years ago. A small orchestra including strings, tubas, clarinets and violins also joins the band on stage bringing additional dynamics, warmth and depth.

Helter Skelter

The Analogues concert is beautifully staged and the chemistry within the group is palpable. Their performance is hugely professional and polished, and foot-tappingly, sing-a-long enjoyable. A huge 'hats-off' must go to the backstage crew, who keep the show flowing with fast set-changes and the countless instrument swaps required by the complex music.



PHOTO: TRACEY TAYLOR



Hello Goodbye

On 11 and 12 September The Analogues perform at Ziggo Dome Amsterdam, Hello Goodbye–The Very Best of the Studio Years marking their last performances, for now. For more details, theanalogues.net, facebook.com/theanalogues, instagram.com/theanalogues

At the Maastricht show, the band received no fewer than two standing ovations and treated the rapt crowd—which covered a broad spectrum of ages—to the same number of encores. While it is probably best to not have favourites, mention must go to guitarist and vocalist Felix Maginn from Belfast and his completely captivating rendition of *Taxman*... Wow!

The Long & Winding Road

As *Abbey Road* was the final Beatles album, The Analogues' mission to perform the albums The Beatles never got to play live has come to an end. The band will take a serious break and officially close this rollercoaster project with two shows at Ziggo Dome, focusing on a selection of highlights from the studio albums they've performed so successfully over the last years. A smashing greatest hits show!

Rock and Roll Music

The performance delivered by The Analogues is heartfelt and genuine and—dare I say it—something of which even the Fab Four themselves would have

been proud. From the first riff, one is immediately transported back to the swinging sixties, to a time of peace and love and to the inimitable vibe of the decade—even for those audience members who perhaps weren't there the first time around.

What I liked so much about this tribute band is that they are not trying “to be” The Beatles in any shape or form, so there are no “cheesy” wigs nor moustaches in the mix, no tacky costumes from the era and (thankfully) no dodgy Scouse (from Liverpool) accents. The Analogues tribute band simply lets their talent for and accolade to the original music, style and essence of The Beatles speak for itself. And boy, do they do a bloody good job of it! «

About the author

Tracey Taylor lives in Maastricht with boyfriend Dave and cat Little Tubbs. She is Irish, a blogger, radio host and aspiring photographer. [@traceytaylor_nl](https://twitter.com/traceytaylor_nl) [@taylormade.theblog](https://twitter.com/taylormade.theblog) [@littletubbs_nl](https://twitter.com/littletubbs_nl) [@themaastrichtedition](https://twitter.com/themaastrichtedition)

All the right springredients

Much like the weather, spring ingredients are greener, lighter and brighter. Dishes are simply made and devoured more quickly.

BY KIM MCCLURE



PHOTO:
CARLY JAYNE

Spring stretches from March until June in the Netherlands, bringing with it new buds, new rains and new excitement for the balmy months ahead. You can expect varying rain and sun but longer stretches of blue skies that make for impressive spring sunsets. Similar to the weather, spring ingredients are fresher and sunnier and dishes lighter. Here's a quick guide of what to look out for—and what to do with it when you find it.

Asparagus

Of all European vegetables, asparagus is a spring favourite. This most seasonal of veg comes in small tender tips, ghostly white and regular green. Wash, then bend each spear until it cracks naturally where the fibrous bottoms end. Smaller, more tender varieties look elegant and cook quickly, and can benefit from char-grilling or pan-searing, as opposed to boiling.

Toss in a hot pan with olive oil and plenty of salt for about five minutes, then finish with a good squeeze of lemon and cracked black pepper. Once tender, your asparagus can be enjoyed atop a smear of ricotta on crostini, piled onto a green salad with some salty Parmesan shavings or served with fresh pasta.

Rhubarb

A good stewing with plenty of sugar is the perfect treatment for spring rhubarb.

The simplest way to cook it is in a hot oven, which preserves its texture. Use about 80 grammes of sugar for every 500 grammes of rhubarb.

Toss the rhubarb in the sugar, place in a baking dish covered in foil and bake at 200°C for about 15 minutes (until tender). The tender rhubarb

is balanced well with whipped vanilla cream and crushed amaretti biscuits, topped with toasted flaked almonds.

Savoy cabbage

Named after the region in France, this leafy winter-spring vegetable is said to originate from the Netherlands but isn't always available in all supermarkets, so keep an eye out for it at the market or at the greengrocer. Slow cook in butter with finely chopped garlic and a sprig of rosemary. Scatter with toasted almonds and it's a hearty and healthy side.

Turnips

Turnips have a pleasing and unique peppery-sweetness that adds earthiness and crunch to raw salads. They can also be roasted with olives, salt and rosemary. Or peel, thinly slice then add to any salad for texture and flavour—particularly with carrot and rocket, which complement the turnip's flavour.

Strawberries

Although they're most commonly enjoyed for breakfast, dessert or snack, they can add just the right level of sweet acidity to savoury dishes too. A bright salsa of chopped strawberries, mango and lime generously seasoned with salt and black pepper cuts through the richness of slow-roasted meat or vegetables.

Spinach

The green, leafy earthiness of spinach is brought to life when paired with rich, sweet and tart flavours.

Boil penne, or any short pasta, in salted boiling water until *al dente*. Reserve some of the pasta cooking water to thicken the dressing. Drain the pasta and mix with store-bought green pesto and a handful of finely chopped spinach. Stir through to wilt the spinach, then top with a squeeze of lemon, a handful of toasted pine nuts and a flourish of parmesan cheese. Quick, impressive and delicious.

Keep a spring in your prep

Keep springtime dishes simple, and you'll reap all the benefits of fresh produce that's bursting with flavour and colour. «

About the author

Kim McClure is a copywriter and Brand Language Creative at Design Bridge Amsterdam.



PHOTO:
SHAWN OLIVIER
BOIVIN
BLANCHARD

Did you know...

This time of year is prime for visiting cheese markets. Graskaas is cheese made from the first milking of cows after they return to the fields, so it has a distinctly rich and creamy flavour.

If you are a highly-skilled migrant living in the Netherlands, and you are considering moving to a new employer, read these key considerations first.

5 tips for highly-skilled migrants



RENÉE SAUER

1 Check your search period

When you terminate your employment contract, you are entitled to up to (maximum) three months to search for a new job in the Netherlands. To safeguard your highly-skilled migrant status, check how long you will have—it may not be the full three months. If your existing residence permit ends less than three months after your employment terminates, your search period will be shorter. If your residence permit is only for the duration of your employment contract, you may not have any search period at all.

If you do not find another job within your search period, your residence permit could be revoked.

2 Find a recognised sponsor

As a highly-skilled migrant, you need an employer who is a recognised sponsor. Only a recognised sponsor can hire highly-skilled migrants in the Netherlands. Check if your potential new employer is registered as a recognised sponsor with the IND (Immigration and Naturalisation Service) on the IND website before accepting an offer of employment.

Remember that if your employer changes (for instance if your employer's company is taken over), the new company will not automatically become a recognised sponsor.

3 Notify the IND on time

You and your employer must report any changes that relate to your residence permit to the IND within four weeks. If you are changing jobs, this means notifying the IND that your employment is terminating as well as notifying the IND that you have found new employment as a highly-skilled migrant.

4 Consider your salary

To qualify as a highly-skilled migrant, you must meet certain criteria, including a minimum salary. From January 2020, the gross salary requirement excluding 8% holiday allowance is:

- Highly-skilled migrant 30 or older: € 4,612 per month;
- Highly-skilled migrant under 30: € 3,381 per month;
- Highly-skilled migrant under reduced salary criterion: € 2,423 per month.

Check that your salary meets the minimum requirement before accepting a new job offer.

5 Avoid the (residence) gap

Any residence gap can have significant repercussions. If you plan to apply for an indefinite residence permit or Dutch nationality, you need five consecutive years' stay in the Netherlands. Also note that your residence permit has a "valid until" date – not a "valid up to and including" date—so ensure your employer renews it before the end date.

When the going gets tough... get advice

Life as an expat includes many new challenges—but you don't have to do everything alone. If you need advice about Dutch immigration and employment law, please contact me on 070 361 5048. «

Renée Sauer specialises in the international aspects of employment law, together with Dutch immigration law. Renée works at GMW lawyers and is a contributing expert for Legal Expat Desk.



070 361 5048
www.legalexpatdesk.nl



PHOTO: ERIC VAN NIEUWLAND

Remembering and celebrating

Events to remember liberation and celebrate freedom have been taking place across the Netherlands since September, and with many more scheduled this spring and into the autumn, there is plenty for everyone to see, do and join in with.

BY ANUJA TIPNIS-
RANDIVE AND NANCY
KROONENBERG

From music festivals to museum exhibitions, from a bike tour to an airborne operation, there is something for all. Many of the events and ceremonies are in

English, to honour returning Allied veterans from Canada, the UK, the US and other countries, and to attract the Netherlands' growing and welcome international community.

Bevrijdingspop (Liberation Pop)

Bevrijdingspop are free festivals with a mixture of classical music, debates, poetry, rap and pop music. At various locations across the country, Dutch and international musicians and DJs perform live, with cultural readings and exhibitions reflecting this year's theme of 75 Years Freedom. »



PHOTO: HENRIETTE GUEST

The first Liberation festivals took place in Haarlem, and since 1980 there have been festivals in Haarlem, Amsterdam and Wageningen. Other provinces joined in 1994, so that now Liberation Festivals are the biggest one-day cultural event in the Netherlands. The Prime Minister launches the events, traditionally from a different province each year. bevrijdingsfestivals.nl

Verzetsmuseum Junior – Junior Resistance Museum

Step back in time and actively participate in the lives of four Dutch children—Jan, Henk, Eva and Nelly—who endured World War Two and have survived until the present day. Visitors to the Verzetsmuseum Junior enter the children's war-time homes to immerse themselves in their lives.

Devour a digital meal—which may include tulip bulbs—and listen to Radio Orange broadcasts by Dutch ministers and royal family members from London, on a 1940s radio. At a simulated dinner table, visitors press a decision button—should the teenager go to work in Germany or go into hiding? The final rooms focus on the liberation and the jubilation of the Dutch people, and display current photos and video interviews (with English subtitles) with Jan, Henk, Eva and Nelly. Children and adults alike “meet” these Dutch survivors of World War Two.

The quality of the information, interactive approach and appropriateness for children make it no wonder that the Verzetsmuseum Junior received the 2016 Museum Kids Kidsproof Prize and the 2019 ANWB prize.



PHOTO: MERIJN SOETERS

Also of interest

Where does the month of freedom begin?

The kick-off for Freedom Month (4 April to 5 May) is in Tubbergen near the German border. Tubbergen is the departure point for World War Two exhibitions on 14 Freedom Express buses visiting 750 locations in all 12 provinces. Search for more information at tubantia.nl

Liberation in the media

These Dutch websites (translatable into English) give detailed information throughout the year.

- **NOS 1944-1945 75 Years of Liberation**
A day-by-day account of news and events from the equivalent date 75 years ago, starting on 20 August 1944. nos.nl/75jaarbevrijding
- **75 Jaar Vrijheid (75 Years Freedom)**
Readers can search news and events province by province, with the most recent information appearing first. 75jaarvrijheid.nl
- **War cemeteries in the Netherlands**
Cemeteries commemorating the American, Canadian, British, Polish, French, Dutch and German soldiers and civilians who fell during World War Two are visited by their families, local Dutch community members, and others. Search for more information on war cemeteries at holland.com

This Amsterdam museum is appropriate for children from age eight. Adults are welcome and can also visit the adjacent museum, with its more grown-up themes. Younger children should be accompanied, particularly as the simulated sounds of soldiers pounding on doors and military planes seen overhead are quite realistic. verzetmuseum.org

The Hague Freedom Weeks

During the weeks leading up to Liberation Day, The Hague organises over 50 activities related to freedom, peace and democracy, under the title of The Hague Freedom Weeks. Activities include films, theatre, concerts and discussions. A free highlight is the performance by a celebrity who, as the Ambassador for Peace, is flown in by helicopter.

For 75 years we have been free to live as we want to. That is something to cherish, to protect and to pass on to others.

On 14 April, Het Nutshuis venue offers an interactive privilege-free afternoon, accessible to English speakers. Visitors enter an “escape room” and experience “the privilege of being an adult, of being European, or of being a citizen in a democratic country.” There is the opportunity to take a Freedom Walk and “discover how freedom works for those around you.” bevrijdingsfestivaldenhaag.nl, nutshuis.nl »

Sunset March

“A March to Remember Those Who Fought For Our Freedom” occurs daily in Nijmegen at sunset. One or more veterans cross a bridge close to where Operation Market Garden occurred in pace with specially constructed lights. Veterans can make a reservation to join the march which has occurred more than 2,000 times to date. sunsetmarch.nl

Oorlogsmuseum Overloon – War Museum Overloon

Opened in 1946, this is the first museum focused on World War Two in Western Europe. The Bicycle Bridge lets you bike through the main hall of the museum, then continue on to the British and German military cemeteries in the area. During Museum in the Dark (6 evenings in November 2020), storytelling, images, video projections and re-enactments bring the Battle of Overloon to life. oorlogsmuseum.nl

Airborne at the Bridge

Nominated as European Museum of the Year 2019, Airborne at the Bridge is an annex of the newly-renovated Airborne Museum Hartenstein in Oosterbeek. Visitors to this Arnhem bridge learn the individual stories of British, Dutch and German military who fought in the 1944 Battle of Arnhem as part of Operation Market Garden. airbornemuseum.nl

Canadian Liberation Festival Apeldoorn

Featuring old Army cars, a historic army camp, hot air balloons, paratrooper landings, presentations and orchestra performances, this festival takes place in Apeldoorn 9-10 May 2020. europeremembers.co



PHOTO: OORLOGSMUSEUM OVERLOON



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Liberation Bike Tour

“For 75 years we have been free to live as we want to. The horrors of war have become abstract. That is something to cherish, to protect and to pass on to others,” says Prime Minister Mark Rutte. To make these years come alive, Dutch Heritage Travel is organising a special eight-day bike tour between 2 and 8 May.

Participants will experience and celebrate freedom by traveling to heritage locations across the country, including attending a Remembrance Day ceremony, learning about Operation Canonslot—when the Canadians liberated Twello, visiting the Airborne Museum (former British headquarters), and taking a steam train. The tour starts in Apeldoorn and ends in Beekbergen.

dutchheritagetravel.com/organized-tours/memorial-tour

5 May Amsterdam Concert

Every year, Liberation Day concludes with the 5 May Concert on the Amstel River in Amsterdam. A different orchestra performs each year joined by various soloists, and the concert is broadcast on television or can be watched live from the quayside.

Since 1998, the concert ends with *We'll Meet Again* during which the King, Queen and company depart by boat. This song was made famous by British singer Dame Vera Lynn, who had her own radio programme in the 1940s where she sang requests and passed on messages to soldiers abroad. In 1942 she recorded *We'll Meet Again* which became enormously popular, particularly with those separated from their loved ones. 4en5mei.nl

Commemorations continue beyond this spring

Celebrating seventy-five years of liberation and freedom does not stop on 5 May—more events will take place during the summer and autumn.

15 August – Rotterdam and The Hague commemorate the end of World War Two in southeast Asia (Dutch East Indies/Indonesia). 4en5mei.nl



PHOTO: MAARTEN WEIJ

Discover how freedom works for those around you

In commemoration of Operation Market Garden 76 years ago, 2,000 paratroopers will be dropped from planes above Ede (between Arnhem and Utrecht) on 19 September 2020. Events will occur all day with a special commemoration including veterans at the Airborne Monument.

europe remembers.com

The closing event for this momentous year will be the 75 year anniversary of the United Nations on 24 October 2020 in The Hague. 4en5mei.nl «

About the authors

Anuja Tipnis-Randive and Nancy Kroonenberg are volunteers on the Amsterdam ACCESS Helpdesk. Anuja relieves her everyday stress by socialising, composing poems and taking walks. Nancy is an inveterate traveller within the Netherlands and beyond, indulging in her love of art museums.

The value of student voice at NAISR

On 4 May each year, the Netherlands stops and pays tribute to the fallen during Remembrance Day, with ceremonies taking place throughout the country. The following day is Liberation, or Freedom Day and it is often seen more as a celebration. Remembering what was... and then celebrating (or rather being thankful for) what is.

BY: BRETT SULLIVAN
SECONDARY SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL AT NAISR



NORD ANGLIA
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ROTTERDAM

Find out more
naisr.nl
admissions@naisr.nl

As an international school that represents over 40 nationalities, Remembrance Day and World War Two both hold a deep significance within the NAISR community. They are topics that are discussed and taught on a regular basis. And so they should be, we study history and learn about the past in order to guide and inform our future world citizens. While the concepts of freedom and liberty are part of the curriculum, they also have far-reaching and often deeper impacts on students in other areas of the school.

Consider student voice or, as it is more commonly referred to now, student activism. At NAISR we provide our students with opportunities to be part of decision-making at all levels—in their classrooms, in the school community and beyond the school walls. Not only does this offer students leadership opportunities and a sense of personal responsibility, it empowers them with the right to speak up, act and

think for themselves. It provides them with a degree of freedom—the very freedom they would not have had here in the Netherlands, if not for liberation.

While many of the actions undertaken by student groups, such as our Student Council, are based on the present, we believe that the freedom afforded to young people gives them different perspectives and a look at life through different lenses. It could be supporting the UNICEF World Children's Day, making a stand on climate change, or even negotiating a rule change at school. So long as it is relevant and they believe in it.

Hopefully these experiences will also help students to meaningfully reflect on the past as they move into the future. Especially at this time of the year when we remember the release from oppression alongside the freedom from limits on thoughts or behaviour.

We will remember them.





PHOTO: MARK VAN ALLER

The Resistance Banker

BY GIULIA
QUARESIMA

Joram Lürsen's movie tells the incredible story of World War Two resistance banker Walraven van Hall.

Opposite the Dutch Central Bank on Amsterdam's Frederiksplein is a monument—a fallen tree, symbolising, in the words of its artist, a fallen giant—dedicated to a World War Two resistance hero, Walraven (Wally) van Hall, also known as 'The Banker of the Resistance.'

The hero

Find out more about Wally van Hall at Amsterdam's Resistance Museum verzetmuseum.org or at walravenvanhall.nl

Dutch resistance

Unrecognised for decades by his own country, van Hall (under the pseudonym of 'van Tuyl') was one of the greatest Dutch resistance fighters. Together with his brother Gijs and others, banker van Hall created a system of loans using the National Support

Fund to transfer millions to resistance organisations. In the occupied Netherlands this money supported strikes and financed underground printing presses and hiding Jews, and in London it funded exiled resistance leaders.

When the financial needs of the resistance increased, the van Hall brothers organised the biggest bank fraud in Dutch History, stealing bank bonds and replacing them with fakes. The brothers worked secretly, but were constantly under suspicion of the Nazi occupiers who were hunting and arresting the resistance and trying to capture the mysterious 'van Tuyl.'

The Resistance Banker

Van Hall's true story, set between 1942 and 1945, is brilliantly told in Joram Lürsen's movie *Bankier van het Verzet* (The Resistance Banker), with a cast including Barry Atsma as Wally van Hall, »



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I amsterdam.

Jacob Derwig as Gijs van Hall and Pierre Bokma as Rost van Tonningen, a National Socialist Movement (NSB) politician and collaborator with the German occupiers.

The film was released in Dutch cinemas in March 2018 and seen by 400,000 movie-goers to become one of the most-viewed Dutch films that year. It received many award nominations and prizes, including Golden Calves for Best Actor (Jacob Derwig), Best Film, Best Production Design, Best Female Supporting Actor and Audience Prize.

Powerful

Impeccably made and with high-level performances, *The Resistance Banker* is an authentic recreation of the Netherlands during wartime. The film's narrative combines a serious, tense story with portraits of family life and its tonal colours, mood and music add to the charm. The movie is packed with powerful scenes that resonate long after the ending.

The Resistance Banker is unique in that it occupies fresh narrative ground between being a historic thriller and a white-collar heist movie. While some may find the beginning slow, patience is rewarded as the second half is dynamic, empathic and builds to a tense climax.

While the film occasionally slips into movie clichés—the archetypally ‘pure’ hero and starkly-opposed right and wrong viewpoints—it is beyond doubt a moving story of old-fashioned heroes who sacrificed their safe and untouchable status to fight for their country's freedom.

National hero

The Resistance Banker is the previously untold story of a Dutch hero, bringing van Hall's bravery from obscure history into the mainstream. “The resistance to the Nazis was in no small part thanks to the actions of the van Halls,” says Johannes Houwink ten Cate, historian and leading expert on the Holocaust in the Netherlands.

Van Hall and his brother bankrolled the Dutch resistance for three years, supplying it with the equivalent (in today's money) of €500 million. Their story is a tale full of courage, treachery, death and loyalty. And unimaginable quantities of money. “When people think of the resistance, they rarely think of the enormous amounts of money that it cost to keep this organisation running,” says the film's director, Joram Lürsen. He chose to focus his movie on the intrepid event at the heart of the story—the theft and cashing of Central Bank bonds, which at that time was the biggest bank robbery in European history.

Wally van Hall, *The Resistance Banker*, was one of the greatest Dutch resistance fighters

Fitting tribute

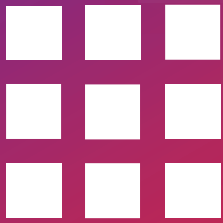
The Resistance Banker is a fitting tribute to van Hall, a man who used his cunning and courage to save hundreds of Jews from the Holocaust while also causing important damage to the Nazi war effort. In 1978, Israel recognised van Hall as a ‘Righteous Among the Nations’, a non-Jew who risked his life to save Jews during the Holocaust.

This movie proves a good contrast to other celluloid World War Two biographies. While it takes certain creative, dramatic decisions about particular historical facts, it remains a moving, and at times shocking, tribute to a great hero. Well worth a watch.

The Resistance Banker is available on Netflix, in Dutch with English subtitles. «

About the author

Raised in Italy and based in The Hague since 2018, Giulia Quaresima spends her free time writing, organising trips and teaching Italian.



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The International School of The Hague (ISH) works hard to make its vision of shaping a better future for all a reality.



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ishthehague.nl

Project Kenya

As an example of this, our Vice Principal for Experiential Learning, Ben le Heux, is inspiring students to become compassionate and proactive global citizens by organising “Project Kenya” where a team of our Year 12 students travel to Kenya to help develop a rural school.

In partnership

Working in partnership with the parents, students and teachers of Njoro Central Primary School, the ISH Team will build a concrete block classroom and two 5000 litre water tanks to provide water during

the dry season. They will also partner with the charity “Breakfast for Children” to help provide a daily school breakfast and deworming programme to help encourage school attendance and child health.

Amazing opportunity

To be part of this amazing opportunity, members of the Team were asked to demonstrate the skills and experience they would bring, indicating what they hoped to get out of the experience and supplying a detailed proposal of a fundraising venture to pay for the proposed classrooms.

Students can explore the world and realise that happiness can often be found through people

A long-lasting impact

The selection committee felt the main quality students needed to possess to get the most out of the projects was being open to new things. This teaches them it is possible to have a positive and long-lasting impact across the world.

The benefits to the successful candidate would be to help them gain the confidence to explore the world by themselves and realise that happiness can often be found through people, not possessions.

Discover more

If you would like to find out more, or make your own important contribution in ensuring that the children of Njoro Central Primary can go to school and receive food and water all year round, please go to their Go Fund Me page: www.gofundme.com/f/project-kenya-ish «

Welkom, Welcome to Eerde

If you are looking for a high-quality international school in the Netherlands focus on Eerde International Boarding School Netherlands.



Welcome in Eerde

Eerde is the oldest international boarding school (founded in 1934) to offer education for students aged 4 to 19 years, and the only international school to offer boarding from age 12 in the Netherlands. Located on a tranquil estate, in the forest of Ommen, our school is located in a castle, built in 1715, which offers a home for students from more than 20 countries.

We offer education to day students, who leave our school at the end of the day to go home, but also to boarding students (as of 12 years old), who stay in our boarding houses during weekdays, or seven days a week. Eerde is the only international school to offer boarding from age 12 in the Netherlands.

Eerde is accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS) and we are a member of the Boarding School Association (BSA) and Middle School Association (MSA).



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Our curriculum

Eerde has an internationally-recognised full English-language educational offer, guaranteeing the inflow and outflow for children from expat families runs smoothly.

We offer the following curricula:

- Primary (age 4 – 11 years)
International Primary Curriculum (IPC) and Cambridge curriculum for English and Math.
- Middle School (ages 11 – 14 years, grade 6, 7 and 8)
International Middle Years Curriculum and Cambridge curriculum for English and Math.
- High school (ages 14 – 16 years, grade 9 and 10)
Cambridge IGCSE (comparable to Dutch HAVO diploma).
- High school (ages 16-19, years grade 11 and 12)
International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBDP), comparable to Dutch VWO, giving access to over 3,300 higher educational institutions worldwide.

During their studies, students are intensively guided in their choice of the next step in their educational career and their application to the university or higher education of their choice.

During their school career at Eerde, students can follow the course of their native language (for example Dutch, French, German, Swedish) and complete it with a certification. «

More information

For information, or to visit our campus, contact our head of admission, Mrs. Niki Holterman

+31 (0)529 451 452

admission@eerdeibs.nl

eerde.nl/welcome

Eerde International Boarding School Netherlands
Kasteellaan 1, 7731 PJ Ommen

Walking the past



Spring is the perfect time to get out into the Dutch countryside. Why not combine a walk with learning more about the Liberation of the Netherlands?

TEXT BY LORNE
HOLYOAKE

PHOTOS BY
LIBERATION ROUTE
EUROPE FOUNDATION

Tracing steps

On 14 April 1945 Private Leo Major of the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division single-handedly drove the German garrison from the Dutch city of Zwolle, burned down the Gestapo headquarters, captured dozens of enemy soldiers and subsequently spared the town and its civilian population from a devastating assault by Canadian troops.

Imagine retracing Private Major's footsteps from Normandy through the Battle of the Scheldt and along the Dutch roads where he fought. Now you can. Liberation Route Europe is an organisation that assists with creating tour itineraries based around European World War Two stories.

Tour Europe with an historical agenda

Liberation Route Europe's website provides information, itineraries, route maps and links to qualified tour guides throughout Western Europe. Locations covered include Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Great Britain, Luxembourg the Netherlands and Poland. The site recommends walking, cycling or driving itineraries of varying lengths, many suitable for a weekend excursion or multi-day journeys.

The site helps travellers design a custom tour to fit ability, time and interest. For example, walkers can take a day trip to Zwolle and visit the local Liberation Route sites in the town. Alternatively, travellers can combine a road trip with a walking tour—such as a cycle around Noord-Brabant, visiting various sites and ending with a walking tour of Breda. »

Find out more

The primary mission of Liberation Route Europe is the development and expansion of the Liberation Route Europe concept and to promote it and make it accessible and educational.

To learn more about the Liberation Route Europe visit liberationroute.com

Vectors of Memory

Liberation Route Europe is also developing an International Remembrance Trail—for following the route that the Allied Forces took during the final phase of World War Two. Opening this year, walkers can experience the same route as liberating Allied soldiers, through a 3,000 kilometre-long network of hiking trails. Stretching from London to Berlin, the route passes hundreds of World War Two points of interest, and offers numerous optional branches off the main trail. Walkers don't have to go the whole route though, but can use the website to find which section interests the most, and suits their needs.

Historians and hiking specialists collaborated to develop the Remembrance Trail from existing trails, and Liberation Route Europe engaged Polish-American architect Daniel Libeskind (also designer of the Dutch Holocaust Memorial of Names in Amsterdam) to design distinctive route markers—Vectors of Memory. Hiking guides and maps, a digital route guide and a trail 'passport' stamping system will all be part of the experience.

The Liberation Route in the Netherlands

Liberation Route Europe covers areas throughout the Netherlands—including Zeeland, Overijssel, Gelderland, Noord-Brabant, Drenthe and Limburg. Travellers can use the online interactive map to zoom in on pinned locations, download recordings of information (listening points) or stream the information to their phone when they reach a particular site.

For those preferring a guided experience, there is an opportunity to sign up for group tours of varying lengths and itineraries led by well-established and knowledgeable local guides. All guides are vetted by the Liberation Route Europe Foundation.

More independently-minded travellers can find itineraries designed by Liberation Route Europe in conjunction with their trusted guides. For example, take a five-day tour of the Arnhem-Nijmegen area and follow the course of Operation Market Garden and the Anglo-American effort to seize the bridges across the Maas, Waal and Rhine Rivers, which attempted to open an invasion route into northern Germany. As with all, this itinerary contains links to historical information, photos and detailed maps including listening points. The information for each listening point includes GPS coordinates for exact navigation.

Experience the route of liberating Allied soldiers





Did you know...
Architect Libeskind oversaw the rebuilding of New York's World Trade Center, titled *Memory Foundations*.

Liberation Route Europe provides a level of detail to delve deeply into history. Their website allows walkers to create their own curriculum, facilitated by keyword searching and connected links, for a tailor-made and fascinating experience.

Personal stories

The story of the Liberation of Europe is not only military but also one of the many men and women –politicians, civilians, resistance-fighters, collaborators or victims–the faces of history. Liberation Route Europe has collected individual stories to pass onto to future generations, and to help travellers expand their knowledge and add character to their tour experiences.

Guidebook

Liberation Route Europe with Rough Guides have produced a travel book dedicated to following the Liberation Route. The publication covers hundreds of locations in nine countries, and used in combination with listening points creates a comprehensive self-guiding experience.

The Liberation Route Europe Foundation

The Liberation Route Europe Foundation is a Dutch organisation which acquires much of its funding from the European Union and *Ufonds*, the Dutch

Foundation for Peace, Freedom and Veterans Support. However, the Foundation also relies on private donations.

The Liberation Route Europe Foundation was established to commemorate the closing stages of World War Two in Europe, from the D-Day landings to the German surrender in May 1945. The Foundation works with a variety of research institutions, governments, non-profit societies, and travel and tourism groups to raise awareness about the liberation of Europe, to educate and promote a shared understanding of the events of the time, and to stimulate thinking about the importance of freedom.

Springtime for hiking

With the days getting longer and, hopefully, warmer, spring in the Netherlands is no better time to get outside and enjoy the countryside. Combining lots of fresh air with a smattering of history is a really great way to understand the events of 75 years ago. Why not give it a go? «

About the author

Lorne Holyoak is a development anthropologist and aspiring writer who hails from Canada. He has worked as a volunteer with ACCESS in Utrecht.



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Learning in 5D:

Forest School at the British School

More and more people are interested in the benefits of combining nature and learning.



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Because young children are inherently curious and nature offers the best possible classroom, this is a golden combination.

What other learning space can simultaneously be an art room, a music room, a science lab, a gym, a theatre, a botanical garden, a home for wildlife as well as a mindfulness haven?

A multisensory and multi-dimensional learning approach

A Forest School site can be all that and much more. It is a space where the children become self-directed, confident and happy. It is a place where they follow

their interests, engage in discoveries, find time for mindfulness and can simply just be.

Forest School is a multisensory and multi-dimensional learning approach that has a great impact on children's learning journey. It can be applied everywhere in the world.

Forest School teaches the students the "universal language of nature".

Building confidence, independence and creativity

What does an afternoon at Forest School look like? Children learn how to use tools safely, and learn how to take informed risks.

A space for children to become confident and happy

They identify and classify different local trees and wildlife. The beehives at the British School locations are looked after and bee-friendly flowers are planted. This creates awareness of the importance of ecology and preservation.

Children develop fine motor skills, planning skills and build confidence by building shelters reusing old materials. At the Senior School in Voorschoten students have the opportunity to work in the Eco Garden.

The natural world has always been an outstanding source of inspiration for people. With the Forest School at the British School, we inspire children to make sustainable and environmentally friendly choices. All this while playing and learning outside. Go and take your children outside. There is so much to discover. Remember that there is no bad weather, just wrong clothing! «

Admissions: 070 315 4077
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- International Welcome Centre Utrecht Region • Sapienza Consulting • TU Delft (Coming to Delft Services)

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For the particular needs and interests of accompanying spouses/partners the following may be of value.

- Angela Fusaro • Business Breakfast • Caitriona Rush
- Caroline van den Bogaard • Colleen Reichrath-Smith
- Connecting Women • Empower Amsterdam • Helga Evelyn Samuel • Ida Rutten • Jacinta Noonan • Janet Rodenburg • Marie Dewulf • Martine Hulsman • Natalia Leal
- Nataliya Volosovych • O'ona Souissi • Rawia Liverpool
- Teresa Moynihan • Sylwia Borowy • Veena Joseph • Volunteer The Hague • Women's Business Initiative International

Relocating

Whether you are planning a relocation to the Netherlands, or have recently arrived and are getting settled, these partners have some of the services you may require.

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- Tulip Expat Services

Healthcare

Another category which speaks for itself, and includes members of our ACCESS Trainers Network.

- Beste Dolanay • De Boezemvriend • Chitra Natarajan
- International Health Centre The Hague • Jac Rongen
- Loonzorg B.V • Meida van Baal • Nina Bogerd • Ria Wiertz
- Truus Gale

Childcare

Daycare, after-school care and support for your children.

- Big Ben Kids • Holiday Sitters • Kinderopvang 2SAMEN
- True Colors Childcare • Villa Bloom • Zein Childcare

Housing

The services of these partners speak for themselves – and cover your housing needs.

- !WOON • Expat Mortgages • Hospi Housing • MLP Real Estate • My Home Relocator (SVB Vastgoed) • Stads Daemes

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For further support from the community, or to find out what is happening and where more information can be found on the next page.

Acknowledging our Partners, Counsellors, Trainers & Volunteer Managers
ACCESS is grateful for many things, not the least, the work of our strong and diverse volunteer community. They do the work – but the partners invest in us so that we are able to carry out our mission to serve the international community. Should you make use of them, do mention ACCESS referred you. Should you wish to help us serve the international community and include you in our acknowledgements, get in touch with prd@access-nl.org.

»» Newsflash ««

ACCESS has a new number!

Effective immediately, the new number to reach our Helpdesk is **+31 (0)85 4000 338**. No more added call fees & reachable from overseas we look forward to being of continued service to the community with this more ACCESSible number.

27 March, Friday

Join the Welcome to Delft programme, hosted by the City of Delft as well as the TU Delft, and discover how to make the most of your new home. Participation is free, but pre-registration is required.

 access-nl.org/what-we-do/helpdesk/welcome-events

9 April, Thursday and

7 May, Thursday

Looking for a satisfying role as a volunteer? Want to discover what it means to volunteer with, and for ACCESS?

Do discover how you can do so at our Information Mornings. How to register to attend can be found online.

 access-nl.org/volunteering-for-access/info-morning-dates

Looking for informative events?

Be sure to check the following expat centres' websites for localised information sessions about living in the Netherlands:

- **IN Amsterdam**
www.iamsterdam.com/en/our-network/in-amsterdam
- **Expat Centre Leiden**
www.expatscentreleiden.nl/en
- **The Hague International Centre**
www.thehagueinternationalcentre.nl
- **International Welcome Centre Utrecht Region**
welcome.utrechtregion.com/en

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Discover more



PHOTO: CHRISTOPHER PAUL

Pride in everything we do

Every issue of the ACCESS magazine is always an adventure. We think of themes months ahead of time; the Editor sources writers, illustrators and photographers and... within what appears to be a few weeks: voilà, a magazine. It—this process—amazes me every time, and also, does not. What else could one expect from a professional volunteer organisation? In which, pride is at the core of everything we do.

It is with this pride, and professionalism that we are very excited to share our NEW initiatives in Rijswijk. Have you heard? Yes, we have, in conjunction with our Partners, True Colors, started our one-day Childbirth Preparation Course in Rijswijk. After a very successful year in 2019—it is time to spread our wings. Are you, or do you know of a couple preparing for a birth? Let them know. We are here to help.

Deborah Valentine, ACCESS Executive Director

Community & Media Partners

Our community partner groups and initiatives are listed below for additional support and information. Looking for something else, missing your community? Get in touch with our Helpdesk so we can help you further.

- American Women's Club of The Hague • Amsterdam Mamas • Broadcast Amsterdam • Delft MaMa • Dutch Buzz • Dutch News
- Expat Events • ExpatINFO Holland • Expatriate Archive Centre • Expats Utrecht • Expat Republic • Expat Spouses Initiative
- Families in≈Global Transition • Here in Holland • i am not a tourist (IANAT) bv • IamExpat • ICP International Community Platform
- International Community Advisory Panel (ICAP) • International Locals Amsterdam • M-space Graphic Designers
- STET (English Theatre) • The American Book Center
- TheHagueOnline • Xpat Media



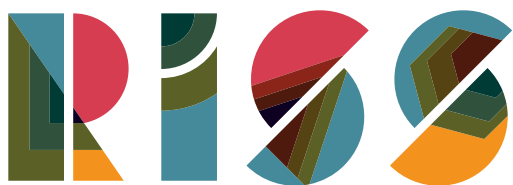
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