

# Going Dutch



2017  
October

In  
this  
issue

Holiday Bazaar Prep  
Walkie Talkies on the Air  
A Monk, Mumbai & the Dalai Lama

American Women's Club of The Hague





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## Going Dutch

October 2017



It's officially fall as we kicked off the new Club year



Handbags, wallets, and gloves in the Clubhouse? It must mean the Handbag Auction is soon



The Walkie Talkies retained their media streak when they made an appearance on TV

## The Magazine of the American Women's Club of The Hague

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**Chat, Craft & Cake** Suzanne Dundas  
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**Heart Pillow** Jan de Vries  
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Holly Savoie, Sue Merrick  
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**Tours** Open  
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**Women with Dutch Partners** Open

## AWC Mission Statement

The AWC is an association formed to provide social and educational activities for American women living in the Netherlands and to promote amicable relations among people of all nations, as well as acquiring funds for general public interest. Membership in the club is open to women of all nations who are friendly and welcoming to American culture. The association does not endeavor to make a profit. The AWC is a 100% volunteer organization.





Fall  
Kick Off





# Message from the President

by Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall

Over the coming Club year, each of my monthly articles will highlight a goal from the AWC's strategic plan and update you about what your Board and subcommittees are doing to achieve that goal. In short, the monthly *Message from the President* will ensure that you are aware of what your Board is doing on your behalf.

For more than 80 years, AWC The Hague has served its members and community by providing a place for women to gather and impact one another and the broader community in a meaningful way. The AWC provides a wide variety of events for members which are educational, social, and philanthropic and has created a legacy of being a *home away from home* for Americans and other expats.

The Board's mission is to continue the legacy of our AWC. To do that, we will focus on the three Rs: Retention, Recruitment, and (out) Reach. Member recruitment is a key factor, but if we want our Club to thrive, membership **retention** is the most important piece of the puzzle. In order for new members to join, it's necessary to have a solid foundation of members to stimulate further growth. This month's article focuses on current and future **retention** initiatives.

One ongoing program, under the leadership of Naomi Keip, is the **Caring Committee**. The committee is charged with reaching out to members who are ill, having a difficult time in their lives, or are grieving. Naomi, on behalf of the AWC, sends

cards and/or flowers to members to show our support. Other members have expanded upon this gesture by providing meals or transportation to members in need of an extra

hand. There is an email group that is notified when members need support or know of someone who needs extra care. If you'd like to join the group, please send me an email.

Under the leadership of Vice-President **Dena Haggerty**, the **Activities Committee** organizes tours, walks, lunches, seminars, programs, and so much more. This committee maintains the legacy of providing programs at the AWC that matter to all of us and enrich our lives. If you spot committee members at activities, don't hesitate to thank them and don't hesitate to let Dena know if there is a program or activity you think will be of interest to the Club.

Our **Communications** team does an excellent job of keeping members informed about the Club, its events and activities. The Club uses multiple communication tools to communicate with members, including *Going Dutch*, eNews, mass emails, Facebook, and monthly meetings. I highly recommend that you take advantage of the multiple sources of information to stay involved.

The communication tools I mention are primarily a one-way stream of information. To open the lines of communication, I am introducing two new initiatives:

Taking the Pulse  
Coffee with the President

Each member joined the Club for her own reason, and I will make it a priority >> 33



# October General Meeting

by Suzanne MacNeil

The **October General Meeting** on Thursday, October 12, is your chance to get the details about the upcoming Club year from members of the Board, which has been active throughout the summer, planning events and activities for the 2017-2018 Club year. The meeting is also the time to ask Board members any questions you may have about the Club, to present ideas you may have for activities, and to welcome new Members.

After the board's presentation, we'll be joined by **Lucie Cunningham**, the project coordinator for The World in Your Classroom (TWIYC), which places expats in The Hague in classrooms throughout the area as guest lecturers. The project is designed to build volunteer work within the international community and to give Dutch students a broader view of various countries. Lucie is looking for new guest lecturers to give presentations in English about their home country and culture and hopes to beat the 2016 record of applications from lecturers from 53 different countries.

Guest speakers share information about their home country's traditions, cultures, geography, and other areas of interest in English to help boost the Dutch students' English skills. I've been a guest lecturer for TWIYC twice and along with discussing the the long-time ties between the U.S. and the Netherlands. I also wanted to boost their taste buds by sharing a typical and traditional American lunch, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, not a combination familiar to the Dutch palate.



It was fun to watch the reactions. Some of the students were absolutely disgusted, while others said they were surprised how much they enjoyed their PB&J.

This school year Lucie has had a higher than usual demand for native English speakers due to schools offering a Cambridge English track. If you are interested in sharing your time with Dutch students, don't miss the chance to meet with Lucie and join other expats in giving back to our home away from home. If you can't make it to the meeting, and are interested in learning more about The World in Your Classroom, please visit [www.theworldinyourclassroom.nl](http://www.theworldinyourclassroom.nl) or call Lucie at 061 426 7180.



Immediately following the General Meeting is a gratis lunch with prosecco on the menu. When the clock strikes 12:30 p.m., it will be time for one of the most anticipated events, the **Handbag Auction**. Bring your appetite for a new purse, clutch, wallet or other accessory, all donated by Members and sponsors. The proceeds from the auction will go to the FAWCO 2017-2019 target project, *Hope Beyond Displacement*, aimed at educating and empowering women and girls. **Thursday, October 12 10:30 a.m. Clubhouse Free**



# Letter from the Editor

by Suzanne MacNeil

I grew up in Miami. Unless my parents packed my brother, sister, and me in the car for vacation, and drove the 380+ miles north on I-95 to Georgia, we weren't going out of state, let alone out of the country. It was usually a Florida staycation for us. Traveling to the Bahamas was easier than crossing the border to Georgia since the islands sit just 50 miles off the coast of Florida. On occasion, we'd go to Bimini and Nassau, where I've been many times, including once with my Girl Scout troop. The islands don't count since we didn't need a passport in the old days to visit. Although I did travel to Canada (steaks in Calgary...delish) and Jamaica (jerk everything!), I was still within North America and/or the Caribbean. And the traveling was for work.

Never, NEVER in my wildest dreams did I think it possible for me to travel abroad, let alone become an expat.

Just one month after I remarried in November 2012, my husband said he had a job offer in Europe, and would I be interested in moving across the pond? Never, NEVER in my wildest dreams did I think it possible for me to travel abroad, let alone become an expat. It took a nanosecond for me to say "yes" and within a few months we settled in The Hague. That was more than four years ago.

Today, as an expat, I can play country bingo. Close my eyes, place my finger on a map of Europe, and book reservations. Just as my family and friends who've never lived abroad might say they are vacationing in Yellowstone Park or New England, we say we're heading to Paris, Cordoba, Lithuania, Poland, Greece, or (insert your favorites) any of the many cities and countries that are easy choices. Cheap flights, short flight time, and no jet lag make travel in Europe simple and economically viable.



My boys, plus one girlfriend, met me in Rome last year, and we spent four days as tourists, before flying to Schiphol for more adventures. Our flight cost each of us just €37. My husband and I are planning to return to the U.S. for a few weeks to see our families scattered between Florida and California. The closest version of easyJet in the U.S. is Southwest Airlines, but the price of tickets is far more than our two-hour flight from Rome to Amsterdam. For non-Americans who visit the U.S., there's likely to be sticker shock when they have to shell out \$200 or more for just one leg of a flight when city-hopping.

I've been to 14 countries and countless cities during my expat years, with many more to tick off my bucket list before we repatriate. It would be foolish not to take advantage of the easy access to so many unique spots on the globe. But, I have an expat dilemma. How do I share my travel stories with friends, and some family members, without coming off as pretentious? I only occasionally post travel photos on Facebook and Instagram, and when I do, I feel like I'm bragging. Is it me, or do other expats feel the same? Let's discuss. Send me ideas about how to share travel stories with those who won't, or can't, cross the pond.

Tot ziens,

*Suzanne*

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# Membership

by Shirley Newlin

## Membership Renewals-PAST DUE NOTICE

AWC Membership Dues for the 2017-2018 Club Year **were due** September 30. To continue membership in the AWC and delivery of *Going Dutch* magazine, please renew your membership ASAP. You are welcome to pay via electronic bank transfer to the Club's bank account with IBAN: NL42ABNA0431421757 (be sure to include your name and Membership Dues in the notes) or pay by PIN at the Clubhouse. Dues remain the same as last year: € 110 for Regular and Associate Members, € 90 for Business Professionals, € 55 for Military (with valid military ID) or € 35 for Student Memberships (with valid student ID). For any contact or information changes, please email our Membership Coordinator, Shirley Newlin, [awcthehague.membership@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.membership@gmail.com)

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## Welcome New Members!

Hedwig Bijl  
Linda Chen  
Cynthia Chung  
Sue Cramp  
Donna Kirby  
Esther Jonker  
Una Mulvihill  
Fiona Passantino  
Karina Romay  
Carol Schapira  
Astrid Spanjaardt  
Charlie Taylor  
Anna-Lena Thuren-Vogel

## October Birthdays

Lara Leenhouts-Regnault	2
Diane Schapp	2
Joan Truncali	6
Monique Althuis	12
Laurie Brooks	14
Celeste Maguire	16
Isobel Walker	16
Michele Jacquemain	19
Marsha Hagney	21
Rachel Küppers	24
Teresa Braunschweig	25
Sabine Crowley	28
Lucille Heineken	29

# Newcomers

by Greetje Englesman-Postma

**A**re you a new AWC Member or know someone who may want to join the Club? Be sure to attend a General Meeting at the Clubhouse on the second Thursday of the month. Meetings start at 10:30, but please do stop in a bit early to meet Members, sip coffee, and get the lay of the land. In addition, if you have questions about how to navigate in your expat country or are frustrated trying to translate Dutch to English in everything from instruction manuals to government forms, the AWC Newcomers team can help. **Greetje Engelsman, Holly Savoie** and **Sue Merrick** welcome your emailed questions at [awcthehague.newcomers@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.newcomers@gmail.com).



# Ongoing Activities

## Book Clubs

The AWC Book Clubs are open to all readers, and new Members are especially welcome! There is no obligation to attend every meeting or to lead a discussion. Snacks are provided by a different member each month. There are two Book Clubs hosted by AWC Members – one in the daytime and one in the evening. Questions? **Teresa Mahoney** organizes the daytime group, and **Rebecca Fry** handles the evening meetings. For further information, please contact them at [awcthehague.bookclub@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.bookclub@gmail.com). Happy reading!

## Daytime Book Club

*The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer, is the October **Daytime Book Club** selection. William Kamkwamba was born in Malawi, a country withered by drought and hunger, and a place where hope and opportunity were hard to find. But William had read about windmills and dreamed of building one that would bring electricity and water to his village and change his life and the lives of those around him. The author's unwavering determination is a testament to human inventiveness and its power to overcome crippling adversity.

**Thursday, October 26  
10 a.m.**

**AWC Clubhouse  
FREE**

<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1069670>

### Daytime Book Club Reading List:

Thursday, November 16: *The Nix* by Nathan Hill

Thursday, December 14 (date subject to change): *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout

## Recap of the Daytime Book Club Summer Discussions

### Moonglow

Michael Chabon's *Moonglow* was, in everyone's estimation, a cracking good read. A loved grandfather, dying of cancer, relays the events of his life to his listening grandson. The grandfather's tongue has been loosened by pain medication, and his grandson transcribes his adventures in a memoir "packed full of lies". The description of an impoverished Jewish childhood in Philadelphia yields, in turn, to memories of World War II espionage, a career at NASA, expertise with explosives, and an attempt to murder his boss for unfair dismissal which ultimately lands him in a penitentiary. The action-packed memories close with the grandfather's move to a Florida retirement community, the loss of his beloved wife, and the hunt for a pet-eating snake. As one critic concluded, *Moonglow* captures "an entire era rendered in a single deathbed confession". Highly recommended.

### Born a Crime

Trevor Noah hosts the American TV program, *The Daily Show*, which satirizes American politics. His perspective is unique and through *Born a Crime*, we learn why. He is South African of mixed race. His was a childhood of walking behind, and pretending not to know either his black mother or his white Swiss father so as not to allow the South African authorities to connect his very existence to either of them. Existential criminality in a three-year-old is hard for us to fathom, let alone be charmed by the telling of it, but Noah is canny and funny talking about his fearful outsider status, his

### Evening Book Club Reading List:

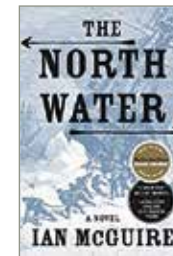
Wednesday, November 15: *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles

Wednesday, December 13: *The Year of the Runaways* by Sunjeev Sahota

remarkable mother's struggle to overcome poverty and domestic violence, and his own later, actual, criminality. Noah was born a crime but he was also born a brilliant and insightful storyteller. Recommended

## Evening Book Club

The October Evening Book Club selection is *The North Water*, by Ian McGuire. The tale weaves between Henry Drax, a harpooner on the *Volunteer*, a Yorkshire whaler bound for the rich hunting waters of the Arctic Circle and Patrick Sumner, an ex-army surgeon with a shattered reputation, no money, and no better option than to sail as the ship's medic. The discovery of something evil in the hold rouses Sumner to action. And as the confrontation between the two men plays out amid the freezing darkness of an arctic winter, the fateful question arises: who will survive until spring?



**Wednesday, October 18  
7:30 p.m.**

**AWC Clubhouse**

**FREE**

<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1069670>

## Recap of the Evening Book Club Summer Discussions

**One in a Billion: The Story of Nic Volker and the Dawn of Genomic Medicine.**

As a true scientific detective story, this book doesn't disappoint and is a quick read. While no reader will fail to feel sympathy for the suffering boy at the center of the story, our book group was in universal agreement that the reporting is breezy and biased. The pace picks up so much toward the end of the book that it seems the journalists were prioritizing getting the book to market over completing important segments of the medical case for the reader. Still, the book is a fascinating look at one patient, his family, and the medical establishment's (dis) function at confronting a life-threatening mystery illness.

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# Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 15

## Eligible

Though one member of our book group enjoyed this novel, the rest of us believe Jane Austen is rolling over in her grave. Rather than waste time on Curtis Sittenfeld's salacious, sophomoric, narcissistic politically correct butchering of *Pride and Prejudice*, reread Austen's masterful classic. We marvel at the decision to publish this poorly written and ill-conceived book.

## Barkskins

Readers who love an epic saga will find much to admire in Annie Proulx's brutal, dramatic novel about deforestation of huge swaths of the North American continent. Beginning in the late seventeenth century and spanning forward more than 300 years, *Barkskins* takes the reader on a journey across North America and around the world as it tracks the descendants of two intertwined families. As an added bonus for AWC readers, some Dutch characters figure prominently in the story. We recommend this novel, but note that the last two chapters seemed more essay than fiction, and don't fit well with the rest of the book.

## Chat, Crafts & Cake

Get creative! The AWC is open to all crafters. If you need space large enough to spread out a king-sized quilt, or a place to organize a scrapbook or photo album, or just want to sit and chat while you work on a project, **Chat, Crafts & Cake** members welcome you to join the group. Sit and chat, pick up a few tips, and get ideas and suggestions about your project from a fresh set of eyes. Each week a different Member will bring a cake made from a never-before-tried recipe for tasting and critiques. Babysitting is not available so we can't accommodate chil-



dren. Questions? Please contact **Suzanne Dundas** at [awcthehague.crafts@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.crafts@gmail.com).

**Tuesdays**

**10 a.m. – noon**

**AWC Clubhouse**

**FREE**

<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1129152>

## Dinner Club

There's nothing better than enjoying an evening with friends over a meal. The first **Dinner Club** of the year was set in a restaurant known for wine pairings, Ravi Food and Wines located in the Statenkwartier. The choice of wines was left to the owner of the restaurant, who served the table. With each of the four courses, all of them the size of an amuse-bouche, guests tasted



two wines. One he said paired well; the other, well, it was up to each diner to decide. Everyone at the table agreed with his recommendations. Those at the table also agreed that Ravi's intimate atmosphere made it a great spot to kick-off the new Club year. Check GroupSpaces and eNews for an announcement about the next Dinner Club location.

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## Cancellation Policy

Members may reserve a spot for an AWC tour, activity or event in advance. Payment is required within five business days of the reservation or before the deadline date (whichever is sooner) otherwise your name will be moved to a wait-list. It is the responsibility of the Member to notify the Club at [awcthehague.finance@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.finance@gmail.com) to cancel a reservation prior to the cancellation deadline. Please note that there will be NO REFUNDS (no exceptions) after the cancellation deadline. Members may find a substitute in lieu of cancellation provided that arrangements are made with the tour, activity or event organizer. Members shall be held responsible for their guest reservations in accordance with this policy.

## AWC Guest Policy

Guests are welcome to participate in AWC activities and tours on a limited basis. As a nonmember, a guest is limited to attend two functions per calendar year and will be charged an additional nonmember fee. Only Members are entitled to use babysitting services.



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# Ongoing Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 17

## Heart Pillow Project

This Club year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> year that Members will make heart-shaped pillows designed to help support the arms of recent mastectomy patients. Each pillow is made with TLC, wrapped, and comes with a note signed by an AWC volunteer. No sewing skills are needed! Each month members cut, cut, stuff, and wrap the heart pillows made with TLC. We are proud to provide women with something both practical and comforting, and we know our work helps because we often receive touching thank-you notes and emails from patients who received a heart pillow. For more information, please contact **Jan de Vries** at [awcthehague.heartpillow@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.heartpillow@gmail.com).

**Tuesday, October 10**

**Noon – 2 p.m.**

**AWC Clubhouse**

**FREE**

**Visitors Welcome**

[www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1022908](http://www.groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1022908)

## Ladies' Night at the Movies

Who doesn't like going to the movies with friends and a bucket of popcorn! The first Monday of the month marks **Ladies' Night at the Movies**. Each film is chosen based on what's playing at area theatres. **Rebecca Fry** coordinates each month's outing. For more information, please contact Rebecca at [fry\\_rebecca@hotmail.com](mailto:fry_rebecca@hotmail.com) or (070) 213 9222.

**First Monday of the month**

**Locations are TBD**

**Tickets at own cost**



## Out to Lunch Bunch

Join us for lunch in **Brasserie Zinq**, one of the two restaurants of the Hotel School of Scheveningen. The Hotel School offers bachelor's and master's programs in international hospitality management. The Brasserie is run by students who are supervised by teachers. Dining at Brasserie Zinq gives students practical experience to develop their hands-on approach and management skills. The menu at the restaurant is diverse and offers diners interesting meals. For more information, please contact **Greetje Engelsman** at [greetje.engelsman@gmail.com](mailto:greetje.engelsman@gmail.com).

**Monday, October 16**

**Brasserie Zinq (Hotel School Scheveningen)**  
**12:15 p.m.**

**Brusselselaan 2, Den Haag**

**Deadline to sign up is October 13.**

<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1126126>



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let them know *Going Dutch* sent you!

## Tennis League

The AWC **Tennis Group** plays doubles every Tuesday in Warmond. Ladies move up and down the courts according to a ladder tennis system. The emphasis is on having fun! The league is available for all levels except true beginners. If you are interested in being placed on the waiting list to become a regular player, or would like to be on the sub list, contact **Molly Boed** at [mollyboed@yahoo.com](mailto:mollyboed@yahoo.com).

**Tuesdays (except specific holidays TBD)**

**1 – 3 p.m.**

**Dekker Tennis Courts**

**Veerpolder 14, Warmond**

**€ 275 Members / € 325 nonmembers**

<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1129146>



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## Thirsty Thursdays **NEW!**



Need a night to sip cocktails with friends? Join your AWC friends for a drink at our new event, **Thirsty Thursdays**. We'll meet on the third or fourth Thursday of each month for a casual, no-stress evening. There's no need to RSVP. Just come by when it suits you and stay for a drink or two.

**Thursday, October 19**

**6 p.m.**

**Ravi Winebar**

**Jacob Gillesstraat 21, Den Haag**

**Everyone pays for their own drink and/ or food.**

## Walkie Talkies

Whether you count your steps or just want to walk with friends, the Monday



morning **Walkie Talkies** is a fun way to start the week. The group meets in front of the Clubhouse before heading out for an energetic walk to various destinations in the area, whether in the city, at the beach, or in the woods. On occasion, there is a longer walk which is posted on Facebook. Sign up on *GroupSpaces* to receive email updates or contact **Emily van Eerten** at [vaneerten@gmail.com](mailto:vaneerten@gmail.com) or **Greetje Engelsman** at [awcthehague.newcomers@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.newcomers@gmail.com).

**Mondays**

**9:30 a.m.**

**FREE**

## Wassenaar Coffee & Conversation

If you live in or around Wassenaar, join your neighbors for a once-a-month morning gathering without going to the Clubhouse. One Member living north of The Hague will host a casual coffee at her home on the first Thursday of the month for Members and prospective Members. **Suzanne Dundas** coordinates the meeting place with each hostess and will send directions once you sign up on *GroupSpaces*.

**Thursday, October 5**

**9 – 11 a.m.**

**FREE**

<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1129154>



# One-of-a-Kind Activities

by **Holly Savoie and Sue Merrick**

**RSVP directly** on *AWC GroupSpaces.com*. Direct any questions to [awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.firstvp@gmail.com).

Payment must be made within 5 calendar days of reserving or your name will be moved to a waitlist. Payment can be made in the Front Office by PIN or by bank transfer to the AWC account NL42ABNA0431421757.

## Travel Talk



Do you want to travel while you're living in Europe? Not sure how to start planning a trip? Or, have you traveled a lot and have tips to share? Join us for **Travel Talk**, a chance to gather ideas about resources and strategies to plan your getaways. Whether you're a seasoned traveler or a novice, let's get together to make the best of your holidays. For more information, please contact **Sue Merrick** at [suehou714@yahoo.com](mailto:suehou714@yahoo.com).

**Wednesday, October 4**

**10 a.m. – noon**

**AWC Clubhouse**

**FREE**

**Friends are welcome**

**Please sign up on GroupSpaces so organizers can plan for snacks and handouts**  
<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1131873>

## Social Security Town Hall Meeting

Social Security, a U.S. federal program, provides social insurance and benefits, including retirement income, to Americans. It's one of the largest government programs in the world. Finding information about your eligibility for benefits, the amount of your monthly checks, and how to file for benefits

may prove difficult as an expat. To make it easy, representatives of the Regional Federal Benefits Units in London and



Dublin have arranged a town hall session at the Clubhouse.

**Thursday, October 5**

**5:30 p.m.**

**AWC Clubhouse**

**FREE**

## Christmas Joy Card Making

Stars and trees and snowflakes—oh my! Yes, it's that time of year to spread Christmas cheer. At this festive workshop, you'll create ten different cards in four different designs. All the materials in merry reds, greens, and blues will be available, including card stock, stamps, inks, ribbons, and more. Ring in the holiday season with music and merry>> 22





# One-of-a-Kind Activities (cont.)

Continued from page 21

card-making. For questions, please contact Jaimie Keppel-Molenaar at [JJPinLA@yahoo.com](mailto:JJPinLA@yahoo.com).

**Sunday, October 8**  
3 – 5:30 p.m.

**AWC Clubhouse**

€ 25 Members/€ 30 non-members

**Reservation deadline September 30**

<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1133089>

## Website Basics Part I – Creating a Website

**Julie Otten** has been the AWC Webmaster since 2008 and is a former IBM software developer. Julie has operated her business, Jewels Website Design & Services since 2010. She's offering her knowledge and services to Members interested in learning the basics about setting up a blog, or an individual or small business WordPress website. She'll also discuss domain names, web hosting, and WordPress.

*Optional:* Bring your laptop or tablet to take notes and follow along.

*Note:* A PDF copy of the presentation will be sent ahead of time so you can print it at home to bring along.

**Please sign-up no later than October 1**

**Minimum 3 people/maximum 10**

**Monday, October 9**

10 – 11a.m.

**AWC Clubhouse**

**Free**

<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1133341>



## Walking Tour of Volendam



Volendam is a Dutch fishing village on the Markermeer Lake, northeast of Amsterdam. It's best known for the colorful houses and fishing boats around its harbor, and traditional clothing still worn by some of its residents. Join us for a tour, with a guide dressed in historic clothes, who will share stories and lore about Volendam. For more information, please contact **Holly Savoie** at [hpsavoie@comcast.net](mailto:hpsavoie@comcast.net) or 070 373 0049.

**Tuesday, October 10**

9 a.m. – 5 p.m. (Meet at Den Haag Centraal)

€ 10 Members/€ 15 non-members

**Minimum 7 guests/maximum 10**

**Cancellation deadline: October 3**

**It will be possible to sign up after**

**October 3 if space is available**

<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1133320>

## Taste of California Crush Wines

Do you miss California wines? Or maybe you're in the mood for some new wines to taste? Either way, we have the event for you.



We'll be tasting four California wines (one sparkling, one white, and two reds) while nibbling with Club friends. And should you taste a wine you can't live without, you can order the wines we'll be serving.

**Saturday, October 14**

7:30 – 10 p.m.

**Clubhouse**

€ 15 per person for Members and partners/€ 20 for non-members

**Please sign up and pay no later than October 11**

## Life Coaching Workshop for Expats

Are you facing difficulties finding the balance between work and private life?

Are you stuck in a midlife crisis or retired and unsure what to do with your life?

Are you exhausted, plagued with low self-esteem, or lost confidence and would like to refocus and re-energize to make a positive change? Are you in transition or is this your first posting abroad and you're wondering what you can do? Or are you simply interested in opportunities for change in your life? If any of the above is applicable come to the interactive life coaching and accountability workshop with **Ingrid Masselink Andreas**. Ingrid is a Canadian/Dutch expat who has lived abroad for the past nine years and is a Master NLP Practitioner and International Leadership Management (Life) Coach.

**Friday, October 13**

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. (including coffee break)

**Clubhouse**

€ 10 Members/€ 15 non members

**Please sign up and pay no later than October 11**

<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1133339>

## Private Meeting with HMC Doctors re: Breast Cancer

The AWC, along with members of the International Women's Club (IWC), are invited to meet with physicians from

H a a g l a n d e n Medisch Centrum (HMC) to learn about the latest developments to screen, detect, and treat breast cancer. Dr. Onno Guichrit, MD, Ph.D., and surgical oncologist who represents The Center for Personalized Cancer Treatment (CPCT), one of the beneficiaries of the AWC's Red, White and Blue Gala, will be one of four doctors leading the program. Along with the various options available for screening, detecting, and treating breast cancer, the panel will discuss the Dutch national breast cancer screening program in detail. The event takes place in October, which is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Please join with members of the IWC for this important presentation. Space is limited so reserve your spot early.

**Tuesday, October 17**

10:30 a.m.

**HMS Antoniushove**

**Burgemeester Banninglaan 1, Leidschendam**

<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1129405>

## Sustainable Development Goals Workshop

**Rob Oliver**, board member and education director of Stahili Foundation, will join us to discuss sustainable development goals and what they mean for charitable organizations such as the AWC. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) are a UN-supported set of agreements between the world's nations designed to inform, shape and guide international development till the year 2030. The SDG play an increasingly important and visible role in public policy. In this work shop we will discuss what the SDG mean for charities, philanthropy, and fundraising.

**Wednesday, October 18**

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

**Clubhouse**

**Free**

<http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1133085>





# AWC Holiday Bazaar

by Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall

## Don't Miss the Best Shopping Spot for the Holidays!

Save the dates! Mark your calendar! The annual AWC **Holiday Bazaar** pop-up store opens for just two days in November. If you have a list, check it twice so you don't miss out on unique, tasty, quirky, and interesting must-have gifts for everyone you want to treat for Christmas and Chanukah.

If you haven't yet been to the Holiday Bazaar, be sure to save a few hours to stroll through rooms of items from vendors throughout The Netherlands, the U.S., and many other countries. The pickings are anything but slim at the Carlton Ambassador Hotel, which will be transformed into a winter shopping wonderland. There's the added bonus of drawings throughout the day if you buy raffle tickets, which will be for sale at the door. Each vendor will donate an item for the raffle, and you could walk away with even more gifts for family and friends.



Have a chef on your list? You'll find jams, oils, spices, and honey. Plus, bakeware and other kitchen items. Have to get something for the kids? A number of vendors will have toys, books, and jewelry for the younger set. Gems and jewelry for moms and dads will also be available, along with ceramics, artwork, clothing, wine, and much more.

There will be a separate, and supervised, space for the kids so parents can shop at their leisure. Rumor has it that Santa may make an appearance to keep the little ones busy.

Saturday, November 12, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sunday, November 13, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Carlton Ambassador Hotel, Sophialaan 2, The Hague

€ 2 / Children under 12 years are free

Cash, PIN, and credit cards are welcome.

For more information, please send an email to [holbaz@gmail.com](mailto:holbaz@gmail.com).

## *The American Women's Club of The Hague* **HOLIDAY BAZAAR 2017**

### Featured items:

Fresh Baked Goods, Specialty Food Items, Paintings, Scarves, Jewelry, Pottery, Dutch Collectibles, Wines, Beer, Raffle Items and so much more.



*All of your holiday shopping in one convenient location.*

**Carlton Ambassador Hotel**

**Sophialaan 2, 2514 JP Den Haag**

November 11, 11:00 until 18:00

November 12, 11:00 until 17:00

€ 2 Admission

Kids under 12: Free

€ 5 Kids Craft & Activities

# Happy Holidays



# You're Needed at the Holiday Bazaar

by Mary Ann Nation-Greenwall

Take a shift! Whether you're greeting guests or selling baked goods, the 2017 Holiday Bazaar is a fun event to help you get into the holiday spirit. Volunteers are needed on both Saturday, November 11 and Sunday, November 12, with two shifts each day from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. and 2 p.m. – closing. Most jobs involve working in pairs composed of an experienced Member and someone new to the Club or Bazaar. There are plenty of jobs to choose from, including:

- **Entry & Raffle Tables**-Welcome visitors and sell tickets
- **General Floor Monitors**-Help where needed
- **Bake Sale**
- **Raffle Table**-Sell raffle tickets
- **PIN/Payment Table**-Using a PIN machine and tallying funds received. Past experience isn't necessary, just a general comfort level with taking payments. If you're new to this, you'll be paired with someone with experience.

The master schedule is under construction. **Laurie Martecchini** is coordinating volunteers for the Holiday Bazaar, so please send her an email at [lmartecchini@gmail.com](mailto:lmartecchini@gmail.com) to let her know your availability and the job you prefer.



# Volunteers Needed for Kids' Corner

by Holly Savoie



While mom and dad shop at the upcoming **Holiday Bazaar**, volunteers are needed to keep the kids busy. Do you enjoy crafts or working with children? Activities and crafts will be planned and organized so it will be all fun and games with the little ones. If you have a few hours to spare Saturday, November 11 and/or Sunday, November 12, please consider stopping by the **Kids' Corner**. Ideally, we would like two adults per each three-hour shift. Please contact **Holly Savoie** at [hpsavoie@comcast.net](mailto:hpsavoie@comcast.net) to sign up or if you have any questions.

# Bake for the Bazaar

by Jan Essad



The end of the year is just around the corner, and that means it's time to dust off your holiday baking recipes. The first batch of your favorite cookies, brownies, or pies (non-perishable) will be hits at the Holiday Bazaar because the bake sale is one of the hot spots at the event. If baking isn't in your repertoire, and you prefer savory treats, why not stir up spicy cashews or marinated olives?

The bake sale provides our guests with the energy they need to shop till they drop for their holiday gift items. Who wouldn't want to wander through the many rooms of vendors to find just the right item for family and friends while noshing on your homemade cupcakes? The proceeds from each morsel sold goes directly into the general maintenance fund of the club.

If you're going to share your holiday recipes, please send me an email at [bjessad@hotmail.com](mailto:bjessad@hotmail.com). You may also sign up at the Clubhouse on the Holiday Bazaar Bake Sale sheet. Baked goods can be delivered to the Club on Friday, November 10, in order for the team to prepare your donations for the sale. If that's not possible for you, you may deliver your pastries or savory finger foods to the Carlton Hotel on Saturday morning no later than 9 a.m.

If you'd like to volunteer for the bake sale, please email **Laurie Martecchini**, our Volunteer Coordinator, at [lmartecchini@gmail.com](mailto:lmartecchini@gmail.com).

Happy baking!





# OCTOBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b>  Ladies' Night at the movies <b>TBD</b>	3 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake <b>10 a.m.</b>  AWC Tennis <b>1 p.m.</b>	4 Travel Talk <b>10 a.m.</b>	5 Wassenaar Coffee and Conversation <b>9 a.m.</b>  AWC Board Meeting <b>10:30 a.m.</b>  Social Security Administration Information Presentation <b>5:30 p.m.</b>	6	7
8  Christmas Joy Card Making <b>3 p.m.</b>	9 Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b> Website Basics Part I: Creating a Website <b>10 a.m.</b>	10 Walking Tour of Volendam <b>9 a.m.</b> Chat, Crafts 'n Cake <b>10 a.m.</b> Heart Pillow Workshop <b>Noon</b> AWC Tennis <b>1 p.m.</b> <b>FAWCO Quilt Square deadline</b>	11	12 Coffee <b>10 a.m.</b> October General Meeting and lunch <b>10:30 a.m.</b> <b>Handbag Auction 12:30 p.m.</b>  <b>BUDDY CHECK</b> Buddy Check 12	13 Life Coaching Workshop for Expats <b>10 a.m.</b>	14  Wine Tasting: California Crush <b>7:30 p.m.</b>
15	16 Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b> Out to Lunch Bunch at Brasserie Zinq <b>12:15 p.m.</b>	17 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake <b>10 a.m.</b> Breast Cancer Awareness Lecture <b>10:30 a.m.</b> AWC Tennis <b>1 p.m.</b>	18 Sustainable Development Goals Workshop <b>12:30 p.m.</b>  Evening Book Club <b>7:30 p.m.</b>	19  Thirsty Thursday <b>6 p.m.</b>	20	21
22	23 Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b>	24 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake <b>10 a.m.</b> AWC Tennis <b>1 p.m.</b>	25	26 Daytime Book Club <b>10 a.m.</b>  Guided Tour of <i>Neighbors</i> , <i>Portraits from Flanders</i> <b>6 p.m.</b>	27	28
29	30 Walkie Talkies <b>9:30 a.m.</b>	31 Chat, Crafts 'n Cake <b>10 a.m.</b> AWC Tennis <b>1 p.m.</b>		<b>Save the Dates</b> <b>November 4:</b> Medieval Dinner at the Stadsherberg de Mol <b>November 11 &amp; 12:</b> AWC Holiday Bazaar <b>November 21:</b> Country and Christmas Fair at Kasteel de Haar <b>November 23:</b> Thanksgiving Service in Leiden <b>December 15:</b> Holiday Out to Lunch Bunch		





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FIND THE BOUTIQUE ON [WWW.FAIRCFOUNDATION.ORG/BACKLOGWOMENBOUTIQUE](http://WWW.FAIRCFOUNDATION.ORG/BACKLOGWOMENBOUTIQUE)

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[www.access-nl.org](http://www.access-nl.org)

## Tours

by Sue Merrick

### Country and Christmas Fair at Kasteel de Haar

There's nothing like staying home for the holidays, and that's what we'll be doing for this year's Christmas market getaway. Rather than traveling out of the country, we will stay in the Netherlands and travel by bus to the **Country and Christmas Fair at Kasteel de Haar**, a picturesque castle in the province of Utrecht, and less than an hour from The Hague. 2017 marks the 20th anniversary for the fair at Kasteel de Haar.

The castle grounds will be lit with twinkling lights, and there will be Christmas trees and holiday decorations. If you're in the mood to shop, there will be more than 240 heated stands where you can buy everything from sweets to antiques, art, and many other items that will make perfect holiday gifts. If you're up for *glühwein*, sizzling hot potato pancakes, and other traditional holiday foods, you don't want to miss this trip!

RSVP for all tours directly on  
[AWC GroupSpaces.com](http://AWC GroupSpaces.com).  
 Direct any questions to  
[suehou714@yahoo.com](mailto:suehou714@yahoo.com)

The fair will also be filled with the sound of music. There will be carolers, swing bands, and numerous other styles of music to enjoy. The music will be a nice backdrop for a self-guided audio tour of the castle. Kasteel de Haar is the largest castle in the Netherlands and sits on the site of the original castle built in 1391. That castle fell into disrepair and was rebuilt starting in 1892 by architect Pierre Cuypersin, who also designed the Rijksmuseum and the Amsterdam Centraal train station.

More details for this fun excursion will be finalized in the next few weeks...so stay tuned! In the meantime, mark Tuesday, November 21 on your calendar for the Country and Christmas Fair at Kasteel de Haar.



# AWC and the Arts

by Jane Choy

## Guided Tour of *Neighbours: Portraits from Flanders 1400 – 1700*

In what was the Southern Netherlands and is now Belgium, the art of portrait painting came into full bloom from 1400 to 1700. These portraits remain impressive. The Mauritshuis will display the story of Flemish portraiture using a selection of the best Flemish portraits from the Royal Museum of Fine Arts of Antwerp (KMSKA). Major works by Rogier van der Weyden, Hans Memling, Pieter Pourbus, Peter Paul Rubens, and Anthony van Dyck will be displayed. In addition to the portraits, the Mauritshuis will add selections from its collection, along with a portrait of Jacob Jordaens from the Rijksmuseum. Remarkably, almost all those portrayed can be identified, and the exhibition will not only highlight what makes Flemish portraits so special, but also who had themselves portrayed and how they wanted to be seen and remembered.

**Thursday, October 26**

**6 – 7:30 p.m.**

**Mauritshuis**

**Museum Plein 29, Den Haag**

**€ 10 Members (€ 15 for nonmembers)  
plus Museum Entrance Fee of € 14 (en-  
trance is free with museum card)**

**Minimum 12 / Maximum 15**

**Cancellation deadline: October 11**

**It will be possible to sign up after this  
date if space is available.**

**[http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/  
item/1128607](http://groupspaces.com/AWCTheHague/item/1128607)**



RSVP for all Arts Activities directly on  
[AWC GroupSpaces.com](http://AWCGroupSpaces.com)  
Direct any questions to [jechoy@me.com](mailto:jechoy@me.com)  
or 070-387 2606



## Message from the President (cont.)

*Continued from page 8*

that each member is heard and feels connected. Understanding why people stay is just as important as knowing why people leave.

**Taking the Pulse** of the Club is an initiative to conduct an organizational assessment. Similar to how your health care professional assesses your health status, an organizational assessment enables our Board to assess the AWC's health on an ongoing basis. I will be calling each member to chat, to answer any questions you may have, to determine how we can be of further assistance, and to gather testimonials.

Lastly, **Coffee with the President** will be held the first Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.

Please take advantage of the opportunity to join me for coffee and an open discussion. Just as it is important for you to know what is happening, it is just as important for us to hear from you.

Each of you makes AWC The Hague the great place it is today and will be tomorrow. You are the **LEGACY** of the Club.

Regards,

*Mary Ann*



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Groots in genieten



# The Dutch Daily

by Eileen Harloff

For the first time in the many years that I have been writing this column about happenings in the Netherlands, as reported in the press, my focus this month is on just one event.

It all happened on a balmy morning in August. I was walking from the American Protestant Church (APCH) to the nearby shopping center, when I stubbed my toe on an upturned stone on the sidewalk, caused

*My word of warning to you is, keep your eyes on the sidewalk, not on the sky.*



by the root of a nearby tree, and fell with my full weight on my right hand and arm. As I lay there wondering how I was to get up, a young lady came running from one direction and a man who had been clipping bushes ran from the opposite side, and together they succeeded in getting me to my feet. Aside from a bruised knee, I felt pain only in my hand, which I thought would surely lessen with time.

So, I returned to the church for the monthly fellowship luncheon. I was later persuaded to stop in at a hospital for a checkup to ensure that I had not suffered any serious injuries. Little did I know that this was the start of a new chapter in my life in Holland, namely an adventure with local hospital services.

The person accompanying me was my young friend, Lai, who has extensive knowl-

edge of the health services and where to go for help. She put me in her car and drove us to her local hospital, Leyenburg. As we approached the hospital grounds, my first impression was that we were not going into a hospital but rather into a large building site. Fortunately, Lai knew her way around and we soon arrived at the emergency room. Here I learned that it is customary to be sent to emergency by one's personal doctor and not to just drop in as we had done.

However, it was found that my doctor was on vacation so I was allowed to consult a doctor. He, in turn, sent me for an x-ray, after which we waited with several other 'customers' for the results and information about the next step in the process. In my case, it was confirmed that I had broken a bone in my elbow and the treatment was to encase my right arm in a sturdy cast, whose color I could choose. I went for red so that it

would be visible to others so they wouldn't bump into me by mistake. After all this, I arrived home at 10 that evening.

The next week was a time for creativity. Being right-handed, I began to learn how to manage with my left hand to eat, dress, make my bed, wash dishes, and other activities of daily living. The weight of the cast was hard on my neck and back, so at my next hospital appointment one week later the heavy cast was sawed off and a lighter cast—this time purple in color—was created. One week later, this cast was also removed and a marvelous contraption consisting of four black bands kept in place by Velcro and an elbow rotation device was strapped on to my arm, making me look like the bionic woman! I was told that this contraption could be removed for a short period, three times a day, but I never could figure out how to take it off, let alone put it back on.

I have become quite dexterous with my left hand. I can even wash my upper back (although I'd rather not go into how I was given a shower with the aid of a lady from home help) during my daily wash-ups. I work with a physiotherapist and, best of all, my friend Sarah rushed over from England

to stay with me, help with daily home tasks, drive me to appointments and errands, and to keep me in good spirits. As an aside, it just so happened that my household help was on vacation at this time so I was doubly grateful for Sarah.

I have a date on my calendar that I must not miss. I'm leaving in September for a scheduled trip to the U.S. for a five-week visit. I asked my physiotherapist if my right arm will be able to bear the burden of travel, to which his response was, "You do have another arm", so I guess all will go as planned. I have been most fortunate throughout the past weeks—health professionals have been kind, caring, and amusing. My physiotherapist is encouraging, and Sarah has lightened and brightened my days.

My word of warning to you is, keep your eyes on the sidewalk, not on the sky.

*The Dutch Daily will return when Eileen is home from her vacation. We wish her a speedy recovery.*

*Did you know that any English-speaking woman may join the AWC?*



*Invite your English-speaking friends from other countries who have an affinity for Americans to join us today!*

# FAWCO Corner

by Julie Mowat



*Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas, a United Nations NGO with consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council  
www.fawco.org.*

## Mumbai FAWCO Conference Attendees Support Local Charities

In the FAWCO spirit of giving, a collection taken up during the 2017 FAWCO Conference in Mumbai raised almost \$1,250 to support three local Indian nonprofits. I was fortunate to visit Urja, a women's shelter, where we donated milk, rice, cook-

training and holistic aids to transition guests so they only stay at the crisis center for a short period of time. The women then move into a group independent living facility where they earn a paycheck, pay rent, and cover other expenses. Urja supports women taking responsibility for their lives and participates in campaigns that sensitize society toward the issues and rights of homeless young women.

**The women at the shelter were warm, welcoming, and grateful.**

ing oil, tea, and other staples. The women at the shelter were warm, welcoming, and grateful. We were hosted by Mayra Johnson (AWC Mumbai), and we met Urja's director, Deepali Kamble. The shelter is small, just 400 square feet, and houses 23 women between the ages of 18 and 30, along with three young children.

Urja supports young women who are run-aways, homeless, or on the verge of homelessness. Once the women are referred to Urja, the organization offers them a three-step rehabilitation program that caters to their unique needs. The first step is crisis support and shelter, followed by a variety of

The money raised will also be used to help two other active nonprofits in Mumbai, VOICE and mann. VOICE is an orphanage for girls ages 6 to 17. The organization provides a home and schooling for as many as 50 girls. mann is a day center for teens and adults with developmental delays, autism, Down Syndrome or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. They receive both general and person-specific training with the goal to help prepare mann's clients for a more meaningful and independent life.

For more information about these three organizations, please contact **Julie Mowat** at [jjbbmow@msn.com](mailto:jjbbmow@msn.com).



## American Women's Club of The Hague

### FAWCO Handbag Auction!

**October 12th @ 12:30pm  
AWC The Hague  
Johan van Oldenbarneveltlaan 43  
The Hague**



*Gorgeous Handbag!*

Once again the  
AWC The Hague will be  
having the popular  
**Handbag Auction**  
to raise money for  
Hope Beyond Displacement.

Please come, see  
friends, meet new peo-  
ple, have some nibbles, bub-  
bles, laughs, and bid  
on wonderful handbags.

RSVP to Julie Mowat at  
[awcthehague.fawco@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.fawco@gmail.com)





# Handbag Auction

by Suzanne MacNeil

## Gently-used Items Needed

Got handbags? Too many handbags? It's time to clean out your closets and donate the purses you no longer need, want, or use. The **AWC Handbag Auction** takes place on Thursday, October 12, and your donations of handbags, wallets, gloves, and other accessories are needed. All funds raised at the auction will go to the FAWCO Target project, *Hope Beyond Displacement*. Donations can be dropped off at the **Clubhouse** or contact **Julie Mowat** at [jjbbmow@msn.com](mailto:jjbbmow@msn.com) for more information.



## Butterfly Quilt

by Julie Mowat

### Butterflies from The Hague for FAWCO

The 2018 FAWCO friendship quilt is in the works thanks to AWC members throughout the world, including our own Karin Wolff and Suzanne Dundas. Both have made butterfly blocks in keeping with this year's quilt theme, *Butterfly Brigade*. Butterfly Brigade was the theme at the 2017 FAWCO Conference in Mumbai and is a natural carryover for the 2018 quilt.

The FAWCO Foundation will auction off the quilt at the March 2018 Interim Meeting in The Hague. The auction is expected to raise

several thousand dollars to be used to fund educational and development grants for AWC members around the world, including our Club. The grants have been awarded to many AWC The Hague members throughout the years.

If you want to contribute to the quilt, there's still time. Please contact Roberta Zollner ([rl.zollner@gmx.net](mailto:rl.zollner@gmx.net)) for quilt instructions or if you have any questions. **The deadline to mail your blocks is October 10**, and Roberta requests that you email her when you send your work so she can let you know when your package arrives.



## Remembering 9/11

by Emily van Eerten

2017 marks the 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. To ensure the legacies of those who died that day are not forgotten, Overseas Americans Remember (OAR) again organized the Ceremony of Remembrance and Hope. AWC and OAR members were joined on Monday, 9/11 by Shawn Crowley, Chargé d'affaires at the American Embassy, and James Hines, a 25-year veteran of the NYPD, who was a young police officer when he arrived at the World Trade Center within hours of the buildings' collapse. Today he works at Europol and as he told those at the ceremony, "We remember those who were lost, but we also value those who continue to work together for the peace and safety of all."





# Retracing the Summer of Love

by Greetje Englesman-Postma

The summer of 2017 marks 50 years since my first kiss with my husband, Eddy. We decided to celebrate this milestone with a trip to where it all began – Groningen, which we had called home for 10 years. This summer we drove to the northern part of the Netherlands and stayed with friends and made quite a few nostalgic excursions.

The most exciting part of our visit was a return trip to the Botanical Garden at Groningen University.


It was there that I had my first job. I worked in a beautiful mansion (Huize de Wolf) which housed the Institute of Genetics. The building is still there!

In the summer of 1967 Eddy had just finished his military service and before starting his university studies, was looking for a holiday job. With my help, he was hired to count the eggs of the snails, *Cepea nemoralis* (grove snail) in the zoological snail garden every day.

As the summer progressed, we fell in love and kissed for the first time in the Botanical Garden.



This summer we again walked through the Botanical Garden and were able to find our “kissing spot” or at least it looked like the same spot. The garden has changed, and so have we!



**Social Security Administration Information Presentation**

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- Would you like to know how much your check will be?
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**Thursday, October 5, 2017 at 5:30pm**

**American Women's Club of The Hague location**

**Johan van Oldenbarneveltlaan 43, 2582 NJ The Hague**

Presentation and Q&A conducted by Jack Leuchtman, Regional Federal Benefits Officer & David Lee, SSA Operations Supervisor.



# Mumbai and a Monk

by Julie Mowat

When I learned the 2017 FAWCO conference was going to be held in Mumbai, India, I reached out to my friend Tenzin Tharpa, a Buddhist monk living in Tibet, and asked if I could visit him. After much discussion, we determined it would be easier for him to meet me in Mumbai since his monastery, Sera Jey, was difficult to reach. Tenzin told me he had never been to Mumbai and so we planned the visit.

I met Tenzin (then William) when he was my sons' piano teacher in Boulder, Colorado. He was already a practicing Buddhist, but had not yet taken his vows. Not long after, when a Tibetan monk offered him the opportunity to move to what was then India, and now Tibet, he decided to take the offer. His journey has been nothing short of amazing. He was fully ordained in 2010 by his holiness, the Dalai Lama, which put him into a higher position within Buddhism.

Tenzin told me his ordination by the Dalai Lama is uncommon and knows of only one other monk who was personally ordained by him. He says it is now a major part of his journey to seek answers as to why he was chosen.

I didn't know what to expect regarding the treatment of Buddhist monks in Mumbai. I didn't know if I should warn the tour guide I had hired but decided to take a wait-and-see approach. I soon realized there was no need to worry.

For many Indians, Tenzin is considered holy, and for those who are not Buddhist, they showed him complete respect. Being with Tenzin was like traveling with someone famous. People wanted to talk to him, give him money, asked him to hold their babies and children, and many just stopped and smiled as we passed. Since I was with

him as a friend, I was also deemed someone special. I am also now in many photos taken by Indians while holding their children. People even laid on the ground asking for my blessings. It was unsettling and wonderful at the same time. All the staff at the hotel,

shower in more than eight years. After spending a few nights in a hotel with all the amenities, I asked him if it would be hard going back to the sparse world of the monastery. His response was typically Buddhist, saying he appreciates every moment in his life. I loved the opportunity to be able to ask so many questions and learn more about Buddhism. It was a wonderful experience!

Since I was with him as a  
friend, I was also deemed  
someone special.

My time with Tenzin was something I will never forget. He has given so much to my family through his kindness with my boys; having his monastery pray for our safe travels when we moved to the Netherlands; and held a full day of prayer when our friend Sean was killed in Benghazi. I'm so appreciative his fellow monks allowed him to travel to Mumbai and that I could experience those few days with him in India

restaurants, and shops where we journeyed showed their utmost respect to Tenzin. It was fascinating.

As for living in the monastery, Tenzin told me he had not slept in a bed or had a hot

Tenzin enjoyed meeting many of the ladies who were attending the FAWCO conference. He is always willing to answer questions and if any of you will be traveling to India, he would love to meet you. His website is <http://tibet2009.com/>. You can also find him on Facebook under the name Tenzin Tharpa.



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# A Weekend in Friesland

by Sue Merrick

On the wall of our den we have a map of the Netherlands with stickers marking the places we have visited. My husband Bill and I noticed there were some areas that didn't have any stickers, so we decided to remedy that by planning a few weekend driving trips to see what we have been missing.

Visiting Hindeloopen has been on my wish list because I love the painted milk can at the AWC clubhouse (near the name tags), which was purchased there. Since Hindeloopen is in Friesland, it was an easy decision to plan a road trip to explore that province.

After checking our options on Google Maps, we decided to take the route that gave us the opportunity to cross the Afsluitdijk.

This 32-km dike was completed in 1932, and shut off what had been the Zuiderzee from its connection to the North Sea as a



means to protect this part of the country from disastrous floods. The sun was shining as we crossed the dike and we saw sailboats enjoying the calm waters of the IJsselmeer on one side and green grass dotted with sheep on the banks of the dam holding back the sea on the other.

The seaport town of Harlingen was our first stop. I warned Bill there would be shopping involved on this trip. Luckily, he was on board. We made our way through the beautiful harbor and charming streets of the town to Harlinger Aadewerk en Tegelfabriek, a tile and earthenware factory that still practices the ages-old craft of lovingly making and painting tiles and ceramics by hand. After selecting a beautiful tile, the clerk was eager to show us step-by-step how each item in the shop is made as craftsmen have done for generations. We left with not only a lovely tile, but also a wonderful memory knowing we did our small part to support those trying to keep handmade craftsmanship alive.

On the recommendation of a good friend, our next stop was the small town of Franeker. Our destination—the Eise Eisinga Planetarium—is the world's oldest functioning planetarium. This accurately moving model of the solar system was built between 1774 and 1781 in the living room of Eise Eisinga, a wool carder.



To this day, all of the planets in Eisinga's model orbit the sun at the same speed as the real planets. I got the sense Bill was humoring me when I told him where we were headed, but we were both amazed by what we saw. No trip to Friesland is complete without a visit here.

Hindeloopen, the initial inspiration for our journey, was our final stop of the day. As we approached, we saw many cars parked on the side of the road and lines of people headed toward town. To our surprise, a regatta was under way. The beer tents and live music lent a festive atmosphere to our visit. We saw beautiful boats of all kinds, including traditional Frisian sailboats called *skûtsjes*.

Our main destination that day was Roosjes Hindeloopen. This shop, specializing in traditional Hindelooper art of handmade and painted furniture, has been in the Roosjes family since 1894.

The current proprietor proudly explained how one of his sons makes the pieces and the other son does the painting. There is also a room in the shop where people can bring items made by previous generations of Roosjes that need to be restored. There was a personal connection for my husband, as well. For years, Bill's parents had a small red cupboard painted with flowers hanging in their kitchen. When Bill saw the shop, he recognized the style and realized his parents had purchased the cupboard when they lived in The Hague when he was six. He was thrilled to purchase a piece that connected his past and present experiences in Holland.

After a relaxing Saturday night and Sunday morning in Sneek, we headed to Workum to visit the Jopie Huisman Museum. Huisman's art pays homage to simple Frisian rural farm life, the landscape, and the culture. Our last stop was in Lemmer to tour Woudagemaal, the largest still functioning steam pumping station in the world. It was a wonderful way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

We arrived home with an even deeper appreciation of how lucky we are to call the Netherlands home, even if just for a short time. I encourage you to get out and explore this beautiful and diverse country. Of course, you can get to many places by train, but it is also wonderful to get off the beaten track and explore the small towns and sites that are more easily accessed by car. You won't regret it!





# Announcements

## Leiden Liberation Celebration



This annual Leiden event commemorates the Spanish siege and subsequent relief of the city in 1574. The party starts on Monday, October 2 at 1 p.m. with a huge fun fair and market that covers a large part of the city center. On Tuesday, October 3, the official day of liberation, Breestraat is turned into a lively street theater boulevard with a giant parade featuring floats, bands, and dancers starting at 1 p.m. This year is the 131st anniversary of the parade with a theme of: *Parade Royale*. The day concludes with fireworks at 11:30 p.m. [www.3october.nl](http://www.3october.nl)

## Art Fair in The Hague

Art The Hague is a quirky contemporary art fair which displays The Hague's international character. It is the fair's ambition to be a platform for both up and coming and renowned art galleries in The Hague and the Netherlands with 52 galleries participating.



Tickets can be purchased at the door.

**Wednesday, October 4 to**

**Sunday, October 8**

**Fokker Terminal**

**Binkhorstlaan 249, Den Haag**

[www.artthehague.nl](http://www.artthehague.nl)

## Open Ateliers The Hague

Fifty-three artists in the center of The Hague will open their studios to visitors on Saturday, October 7 and Sunday, October 8 from noon to 6 p.m. Within the informal atmosphere of these studios, visitors can view and buy artwork as well as see artists working in different disciplines. [www.openateliersdenhaag.nl](http://www.openateliersdenhaag.nl)

## Community Fair for Internationals

Experience the 15th annual "I am Not a Tourist" Fair, a community fair for internationals and expatriates living in the Netherlands, hosted by Expatica in Amsterdam. Whether you've lived in the Netherlands for five months or five years, you will no doubt find a workshop or entertainment session of interest to you. Exhibitors will be available to offer advice on topics as diverse as employment, housing, relocation, taxes and banking. Free tickets are offered online: <http://www.expatfairamsterdam.nl>

**Sunday, October 8**

**10 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

**Beurs van Berlage**

**Damrak 243, Amsterdam**

## DFAS Art Lecture The Scottish Colorists

The Scottish Colorists were a group of four painters—Cadell, Fergusson, Hunter and Peploe—whose post-impressionist work had a formative influence on contemporary Scottish art and culture. While not universally recognized initially, they were all bold pioneers in the field of rich color and exuberant brush work who were inspired by their experiences in the South of France. Lecturer Alice Foster has lec-



**Afternoon by Francis Cadell, 1913**

tured for Oxford University Department of Continuing Education since 1998.

**Tuesday, October 10**

**Doors open at 7:30 p.m.**

**Lecture begins at 8 p.m.**

**Cultural Centrum Warenar**

**Kerkstraat 75, Wassenaar**

## International Children's Art Festival

From October 13 to 21, children between the ages of 2 and 12 years old will be treated to

500 enchanting performances of both Dutch and international origin and workshops at 50 different locations around The Hague as part of *De Betovering* (The Enchantment). Performances, a number of which are suitable for a non-Dutch speaking audience (highlighted in the program as NDR), include puppet shows as well as dance, music and film. To see the program, go to: [www.debetovering.nl](http://www.debetovering.nl)

## LEGO World

LEGO World is the largest LEGO event in the Netherlands for kids of all ages. Your kids can play and build with millions of LEGO bricks, giving them the possibility to build anything they can imagine. Your little ones can play with DUPLO in a separate area. Individual days can sell out, so it is advisable to purchase tickets in advance: [www.legoworld.nl](http://www.legoworld.nl)

**Wednesday, October 18 to**

**Tuesday, October 24**

**10 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

**Jaarbeurs Utrecht**

**Jaarbeursplein, Utrecht**



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# Announcements (cont.)

*Continued from page 47*

## Japanese Garden Open

The Japanese Garden in Clingendael Park, home to rare trees and plants, is so fragile that it is only open six weeks per year, four in the spring and two in the fall. Don't miss the chance to see this special garden in magnificent fall colors. Free entrance.



**Saturday, October 14 to  
Sunday, October 29**  
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Clingendael Park, Den Haag

## Dutch Design Week

During Dutch Design Week (DDW) in Eindhoven from Saturday, October 21 – Sunday, October 29, you can see with your own eyes how tomorrow's world is taking shape with smart solutions and inventive designs by 2,500 national and international designers offering new perspectives. This year's theme is Stretch, which is the essence of design; i.e. by stretching your mind, you create space to innovate. DDW offers 400 events at 100 venues throughout Eindhoven, including exhibitions, experiments, lectures and workshops. [www.ddw.nl](http://www.ddw.nl)

## Wildlife Film Festival

This multi-day film festival, organized by a non-profit foundation, focuses on the screening of 40 wildlife films and documentaries. The main program consists of a juried competition that is open to professional and non-professional nature filmmakers from the Netherlands and abroad.



**Thursday, October 26 to  
Sunday, October 29**  
Cinerama Filmtheater  
Westblaak 18, Rotterdam  
[www.wffr.nl](http://www.wffr.nl)

## Affordable Art Fair

Amsterdam is also hosting an art fair early next month. This four-day event presents a wide array of contemporary art from a variety of galleries. You can find thousands of original paintings, prints, sculptures and photography all under one roof, and all under € 6,000. The work of young, emerging artists hangs alongside some of the biggest household names.

**Thursday, November 2 to  
Sunday, November 5**  
De Kromhouthal  
Gedempt Hamerkanaal 231, Amsterdam  
[www.affordableartfair.com](http://www.affordableartfair.com)

## Annual Church Bazaar

The American Protestant Church of The Hague will host its 60th Annual Bazaar. You can savor appetizing dishes and delicacies from the international kitchen, as well as shop for books, clothing, accessories, arts and crafts, and more. Free entrance with proceeds from sales to support charities worldwide. [www.apch.nl](http://www.apch.nl)



**Saturday, November 4**  
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Esther de Boer-van Rijklaan 20, Den Haag

## Cabin Crew: Fashion in the Air



Through February 4, the Kunsthal in Rotterdam is presenting a fascinating look at uniforms worn by cabin crews over the decades. This private collection, the largest in the world, was started by KLM Purser Cliff Muskeit in 1993 and consists of more than 1,400 flight attendant uniforms from 523 different airlines; apparently, his favorites are from the 60s and 70s. Over the years, the cabin crew uniforms have conformed to the dominant fashion image of the time, from functional and sober to refined and chic, even sometimes designed by such famous designers as Yves Saint Laurent and Cristóbal Balenciaga. [www.kunsthal.nl](http://www.kunsthal.nl)

## Rembrandt's Master Pupils

From October 13 to February 18, the Rembrandt House and Amsterdam Museums will be presenting the first ever exhibition devoted to the painters Ferdinand Bol and Govert Flinck, Rembrandt's two most important pupils. Many paintings are being brought together from museums and private collections worldwide for this double exhibition. Some of them will be back in Amsterdam for the first time since the 17th century. Works of art will transport visitors back in time to the painters' early years and their training with Rembrandt. Visitors will discover that Bol and Flinck developed into great artists in their own right. The two men not only became formidable competitors of each other, but also of their former teacher. During their lifetimes, they were even more successful than Rembrandt. For further information, go to: [www.rembrandthuis.nl](http://www.rembrandthuis.nl) or [www.amsterdammuseum.nl](http://www.amsterdammuseum.nl)





## Walkie Talkies in the News...Again!

by Emily van Eerten

Just one month after being profiled in the Dutch daily newspaper, *Algemeen Dagblad*, the Walkie Talkies made their small screen debut. The walkers were featured on the RTL4 show, *Koffietijd* (Coffee Time) during a segment called *de Stip*, or The Spot, on Monday, September 25. *Koffietijd* producers read the article about the Club's walkers and contacted me about featuring the group on the morning lifestyle show.

The video crew met with the walkers at Westbroekpark and got shots of the group walking and talking (what else!) and then interviewed me for the segment. Each *de Stip* piece features a guest standing on a large orange spot who discusses their activity or event or introduces a group. *de Stip* usually airs about 10 to 15 minutes into the 10 a.m. program.

When the two-minute feature ends, I was seen walking off the orange spot while rolling a suitcase. As thanks for taking part in the show, I'll be sent a suitcase and a voucher for a getaway to a Van der Valk hotel. But I'm not keeping the gifts. Instead, I'm going to hold a drawing for all the walkers who took part in the video shoot and give away the suitcase and holiday. We're looking forward to our next media adventure!





# Classifieds

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### Seaside Apartment for Short-term Rental

Overlooking the pier and the North Sea at Scheveningen beach, this 6th floor apartment sleeps 3 comfortably, with 1 king bed and 1 single futon. € 65 per night, with a 3-night minimum, plus deposit. Contact AWC Member **Jane Gulde** at [iaminholland@yahoo.com](mailto:iaminholland@yahoo.com).

## Attorney

For high-quality professional legal services in English, contact Robert Oosthout (highly recommended by AWC Member Cynthia Lardner). For over 31 years, Mr. Oosthout has specialized in immigration and IND matters, divorce, employment law, real estate and general contract law. With an office conveniently located in Leiden, Mr. Oosthout can be reached at +31 6 26 90 25 45. The first one-hour consultation is complimentary to AWC Members.

[www.oosthoutadvocaat.nl](http://www.oosthoutadvocaat.nl)

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### AWC is a Pet-Free Zone

As much as many of our Members love their pets, please do leave them at home as the AWC has a long-standing policy of no pets in the Clubhouse. Thank you for your understanding!

AWC Members, please connect with us on LinkedIn <https://nl.linkedin.com/in/awcthehague>

### Event information, suggestions or comments for eNews?

\*\*\*New email account\*\*\*

Please send all eNews information to [awcthehague.eneews@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.eneews@gmail.com) no later than end of day each Friday for the following week's eNews.

### Member Privacy

Please be reminded that the AWC Membership List is for AWC Member reference only and use of this information in any communication other than AWC official business is strictly prohibited. Members may not share the list with anyone other than another AWC Member in good standing and never to any third party.

The AWC takes care to protect Member information and adherence to this policy is critical to maintain Member privacy. Members are asked to report suspected misuse of the list to any AWC Board Member.

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### Members: eNews Distribution

A weekly electronic newsletter is sent to all AWC Members via *GroupSpaces.com*. If you have not been receiving your eNews, please contact Shirley at [awcthehague.membership@gmail.com](mailto:awcthehague.membership@gmail.com).

The AWC is not responsible for accidents or injuries occurring at Club activities or on Club property. Sports and exercise instructors must carry their own liability insurance.

### Support Fellow AWC Members

Find links to a large variety of businesses owned by AWC Members at [www.awcthehague.org/site/newcomers/business-links](http://www.awcthehague.org/site/newcomers/business-links)

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# Proost! Questionnaire

by Ceci Wong

## Why are you living in the Netherlands?

I came here for work and stayed because it's become so comfortable and familiar. It's a more mellow lifestyle and the quality of living is good. Plus, the novelty of living in Europe hasn't worn off yet!

## Give us a quick wrap-up of your family.

My parents were born in China, emigrated to America in the 70s, to Michigan, where my brother and I were born. Now I am happily married to a Canadian.

## What is your idea of perfect happiness?

Being independently wealthy, traveling the world, and becoming a serial expat.

## What is it about the AWC that you most enjoy?

Good company and great laughs.

## Which Dutch words or phrases do you most overuse?

Hoi and Jeetje.

## Which travel experience made you the happiest?

Being stunned by the beauty of the lakes and mountains in Switzerland.

## What are your favorite travel purchases?

Flags, postcards, and lately an item of clothing from each place.

## Which locations haven't been ticked off your bucket list?

South America,  
Australia,  
New Zealand,  
Japan,  
Taiwan,  
British Columbia,  
and Scandinavia.

## Where would you most like to live?

Italy or Switzerland



## What or who is the greatest love of your life?

My hubby, Thomas.

## Which talent would you most like to have?

Writing screenplays and playing the drums.

## What's your hobby?

Traveling and drumming.

## What's your favorite flower?

Hyacinths and tulips (even before I moved here).

## Who are your heroes in real life?

Buddhist monks and nuns.

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