

Dutch Museum Update - November 2013: We now have a Home. We're looking for a new Treasurer...

Dear Museum Supporters,

The purchase of the Mitre 10 building has been finalised and Horowhenua District Council is now the new owner of this spacious building on the river banks in Foxton. Een stuk van dit gebouw wordt 'Onze Plek' – the new home for the Dutch Connection – ons museum en cultureel centrum.

Nu moeten er spijkers met koppen geslagen worden!

The Council has hired Nicki Moen, an experienced community planning consultant, to prepare a brief for an architect. The Dutch Connection had a meeting with Nicki to help her understand our needs within the building. She will also interview all the other stakeholders in the Te Awahou - Nieuwe Stroom Project to determine requirements, present options, provide solutions and facilitate decision making. Once this process is finished, architectural drawings can be produced.

Our Dutch Connection board member Lily Frederikse is vital in the dialogue with Nicki. She is a senior curator at the Auckland Museum, and an expert in exhibition planning and design. Lily is making sure we get everything right, from the start.

We are also lucky to have Peter Fillet, Head of Security of the Auckland War Memorial Museum, as an advisor on building design matters. As you can see we are tapping into resources within the Dutch Community in New Zealand to bring our dreams to fruition.

Can we ask for your help? Do you know of somebody with expertise as a treasurer, who would want to join the Dutch Connection Board of Trustees? We would love to hear from you! (Or from him / her!)

Kees Zegwaard, our current treasurer from the Waikato Club, is stepping back. He and his wife Ineke have been dedicated supporters from day one. We'd like to thank both of them for the tremendous work they've done for us! After 14 years of spending energy on all kinds of Dutch initiatives, it's good to see them take things a bit more easy.

Take a look at the update Arjan recently gave to the ANCM, the [annual general meeting of the Federation of New Zealand Netherlands Societies](http://www.dutchconnection.org.nz/media/9760/dc%20-%20ancm%20presentation%20-%20oct%202013.pdf), held in Auckland a few weeks ago: <http://www.dutchconnection.org.nz/media/9760/dc%20-%20ancm%20presentation%20-%20oct%202013.pdf>

The Societies have been in support of our project right from the start. We like to keep them informed of our progress just like we like to keep you, our supporters, up with the play.

Een vriendelijke groet. And please don't forget to help us find a new treasurer?!

Arjan van der Boon en Yolande van de Wetering

