



September - October
November 2025
Issue 239

Australia

Nederland



**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DUTCH
SOCIETY CONCORDIA - HUNTER REGION NSW**

Concordia is celebrating 68 Years of 'Gezelligheid'

Gefeliciteerd
**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**
Concordia



Concordia is a Dutch - Australian Social Club - Established in 1957
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Ingrid Thomas	0429 861 549		
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Accept what IS, let go of what WAS, have faith in what WILL BE.

NEWSLETTER OF THE DUTCH SOCIETY "CONCORDIA"

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Any of the above information, wrong or out of date, please contact the editor at your earliest convenience, we will be able to change or make an immediate alteration in the general interest of our members.

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Concordia geeft onpartijdig nieuws, zonder gebonden te zijn aan enige staatkundige partij, kerkelijke richting of belangen en gemeenschap, wij werken uitsluitend in dienst van Concordia's eigen social belang.

From the Secretary's & Editor's Desk - Joop de Wit

Dear Readers, Concordia will be celebrating its **68th Birthday** on the 27th September. It certainly deserves to be celebrated. Our Dutch-Australian Society has managed to survive **68** years of ups and downs. During that period Concordia has build a legacy that can't be measured, and isn't measured in material possessions, but rather the many lives they have touched. The human reach of our club is very extensive when you add up the many past & present members during those unbelievable **68** years.

Concordia as a Dutch-Australian society has been on an incredible journey *for all those who have been involved with **Concordia**, especially those who have been here from the start. We've experienced massive changes in our community during that time, some of which we couldn't have imagined when Concordia started in **1957**. But what hasn't changed is what has always inspired us and that's the great company of friends we enjoyed together.*

Concordia started in 1957 to assist all those surviving home sickness which everyone experienced from time to time. They all are unique achievements worth celebrating. Attending our unique functions are a special way to feel at home in familiar surroundings, just try us out!

I have 2 very important dates for you to jot down on your calendar, in your diary or the calendar on your computer. First we like to invite you to another wonderful afternoon celebrating **Concordia's 68th Birthday** on **Saturday 27th September 2025** in the Cardiff RSL. Entrance fee for everyone is **\$20.00PP** for an afternoon of all you can eat including entertainment. We have some great surprises in store. If the last few afternoons are any indication we have another great day waiting for you.

(Further information and details in this newsletter)

On the 25th October 2025 we have our **Annual General Meeting** in the Cardiff RSL, starting at **2pm**. Please attend this very important meeting, we need your input and valuable assistance once a year.

Congratulations to all our past and current members in reaching the **68th** anniversary celebrations of Concordia, my sincere good wishes to all those reading this **239th** issue since I took over as editor in **1984**. Please be patient & kind to each other. **Until next time....** your editor *Joop*

From the Presidents Desk - Toni Somerville

Dear readers, thank you members and guests for attending the July function. We were pleased to have a good crowd. Happy to see **Norm Bakker**, singer/entertainer and his sister, **Marijke**, again. Some guests came especially to listen to **Norm** singing **Elvis** songs. It is always a treat to sing along to the well know songs of yesteryear. Thank you **Norm**, it was a great afternoon. **Jib, Marijke** and others danced and sang along during many songs. Well done ladies and gentlemen. Good to be young.

I don't see much of the pictures **Joop** shows before we start a function as I am greeting members and guests. This time I did notice some really beautiful Dutch scenery though. The colour was so bright and unbelievably lovely. Truly Dutch, green fields, blue sky, windmills, Keukenhof and others. I mentioned it to **Joop** and he told me that it took him a couple of days to show it that way. Lucky for us that he is technical and all the work he does is for our enjoyment. As always, thanks **Joop**. Sincerely hope our many guests enjoyed the day, those I spoke to did. Anyone is welcome to attend our functions.

The tables were decorated in a winter theme by our clever committee member, **Jopie Ryan** again. She featured small penguins that committee member, **Lucia Reynders** knitted some years ago. **Jopie** and daughter, **Jenny**, made little skates out of plastic for the penguins. They stood on a mirror, pretend ice, with lights under soft material, pretend snow. There was more to it than that and all in all just beautiful. Thank you very much **Jopie**, amazing how you think of something different every time.

Our sincere thanks to everyone for donations received on the July function day, for a little extra when sending memberships in the mail, and also to **Lucia Reynders, Jib, Marijke, Norm's sister**, and **Christina Kliousis** for the raffle prizes. Very generous.

Heavy rain today, August 2, while I write this. I am so grateful that we had our July function last Saturday, July 26.

Joop has booked the small function room in the **Cardiff RSL** club for the **AGM** on **Saturday, October 25**.

Our next function is on **Saturday, September 27**. It will be our **68th** birthday and **Father's day** celebration. Please join us for an all you can eat lunch and afternoon's entertainment by **Joop**. It will hopefully be warmer. Until then, take care, stay safe, well and warm, soon be spring. *Toni.*

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

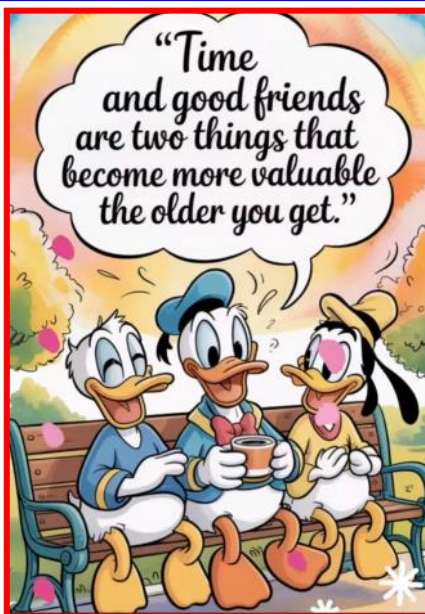
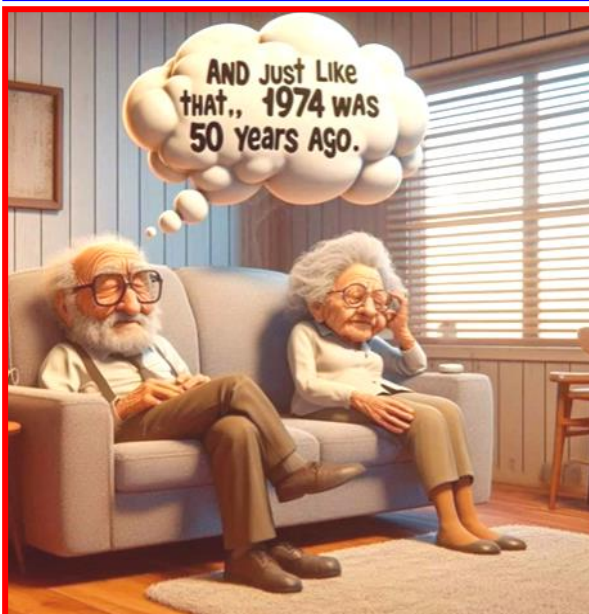
2025
2026
Now
Payable



*We are on our way to 't Winkeltje
They celebrate 60 years this year.
Congratulations Jan-Mia-Monique.*



Kijk niet teveel in het verleden, *maar in de toekomst.*



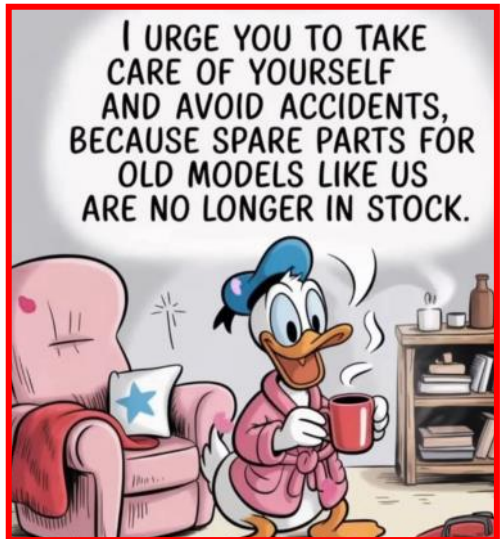


The Dutch Olympic swimmers training in Newcastle 25 years ago. Concordia invited all in the team to share a meal at the Cardiff RSL in September 2000. **Some interesting well known faces to see.**



De Goudse Kaasmarkt elke zomer donderdags op de markt





I am not yelling, I am Dutch, that's how we talk ... hahaha

Sharing for the right reasons, or is it the cost of living!

An old man placed an order for one hamburger, French fries, and a drink. He unwrapped the plain hamburger and carefully cut in half, placing one half in front of his wife. He then carefully counted out the French fries, dividing them into two piles and neatly placed one pile in front of his wife. He took a sip of the drink, his wife took a sip and then set the cup down between them. As he began to eat his few bites of hamburger, the people around them were looking over and whispering. Obviously, they were thinking, *"That poor old couple-all they can afford is one meal for the two of them."* As the man began to eat his fries a young man came to the table and politely offered to buy another meal for the old couple. The old man said, they were just fine-they were used to sharing everything. People closer to the table noticed the little old lady hadn't eaten a bite. She sat there watching her husband eat and occasionally taking turns sipping the drink...Again, the young man came over and begged them to let him buy another meal for them. This time the old woman said *"No, thank you, we are used to sharing everything."* Finally, as the old man finished and was wiping his face neatly with the napkin, the young man again came over to the little old lady who had yet to eat a single bite of food and asked, *"What is it you are waiting for?"* She answered..... *"His Teeth!"*

Dutch News

News And Current Affairs, News - Overseas



Nederlands Nieuws - iedere dag 12:30pm - SBS channel 35

MEMBERSHIP Renewals

You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream



*Our love for Concordia is a combination of... Respect,
Friendship, Understanding, Communication and Companionship.
Therefore your Concordia friendship is like a bank account
You cannot continue to draw on it without making a deposit.
Please be generous, every amount is very welcome for the
continuation of your Concordia. Bij voorbaat alvast bedankt!*

Traditional Dutch Recipe

WE'RE
COVID
SAFE

T. Winkeltje

Dutchies
SNACK FOOD



Original Dutch Croquettes

Smullen maar!

**'t Winkeltje
The Dutch Shop**

85 Market Street Smithfield

Phone: 9604 0233

Daily 10am to 4pm - Closed Monday's

Also available at
the following places

Bibina - Warners Bay

Fill & Carry - Kanwal

Suteliffe Meats - Erina Fair

Cresthaven Meats - Bateau Bay

It's all Dutch en heel lekker

Kroketten &
Bitterballen

Frikandellen

Available at all of the above outlets

Croquettes Beef 23% - Deluxe Beef 46% - Chicken - Bitterballen
- Beef Goulash - Party/Snack Size - Cheese Chicken / Schnitzel
Sausages - Frikandellen

CONCORDIA

Personal Invite to the next function

Your special invite for Saturday 27th September

Concordia Presents a special 68th Birthday afternoon.

We also celebrate a belated Fathers Day

Every father receives a small present.

Joop will be entertaining us at the Cardiff RSL.

Don't miss it! Bring your family and friends.

Anyone is welcome - Booking essential - Enjoy our show

Doors open 11am - Finish 4pm -BOOKINGS: Contact Joop on 4954 5227.

Join us for an all you can eat Banquet, followed by our entertainment

Please pay at the door, only \$20.00 pp for an all you can eat Eastern Tiger banquet, followed by a cosy sentimental afternoon.

IKEA JOB INTERVIEW





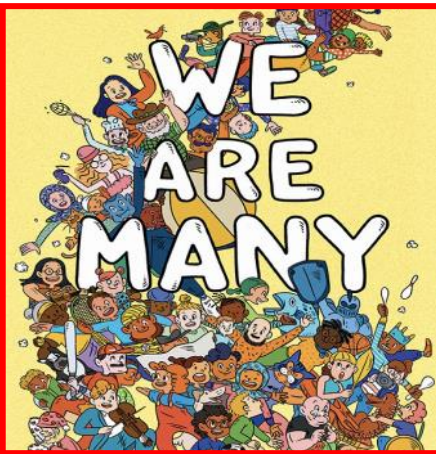
*You can take me out of the **Netherlands**.
But you can't take the **Netherlands** out of me!*



*Our last July function was a great success. Our well known **Norm Bakker** entertained us with his large repertoire of good old fashioned music from the **50th** and **60th** - It was much appreciated.*



Another cosy variety afternoon was enjoyed by all



Come and join us for a special Birthday program.

When: Saturday 27th September 2025

Our entertainment will by Joop de Wit

Everyone is welcome, please pay at the door, only \$20pp



The Dutch Shop - better known as 't Winkeltje - was celebrating 60 years in August 2025, come and visit us in Smithfield soon.

Special dates for your Australian calendar - 2025

*Here are the public holidays
in New South Wales for the rest of 2025*

- Labour Day: Monday, 6 October
- Christmas Day: Thursday, 25 December
- Boxing Day: Friday, 26 December
- New Years Eve: Wednesday 31 December



Special Events for 2025 - 2026

Saturday 20th September 2025
Monday 13th October 2025
Spring vacation

Concordia's Annual General Meeting
Saturday 25th October 2025
Start 2pm — Cardiff RSL

Saturday 20th December 2025
Monday 26th January 2026
Summer Vacation

CONCORDIA
FUNCTIONS 2025
CARDIFF RSL
Important Dates:

Saturday 27th September
Concordia's Birthday

Saturday 25th October
Concordia's AG M

Saturday 20th December
Christmas Celebration

If life is a journey, mine is between the fridge and the computer.

2025

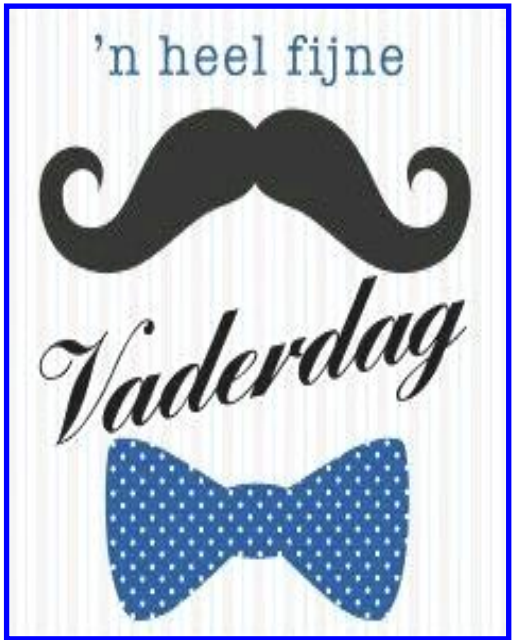


We can only look forward - The past we cannot change

"I asked a friend who has crossed **70** & is heading towards **80** what sort of changes he is feeling in himself? He sent me the following:

1. **After loving my parents**, my siblings, my spouse, my children and my friends, I have now started loving myself.
2. **I have realized** that I am not "Atlas". The world does not rest on my shoulders.
3. **I stopped** telling the elderly that they've already narrated that story many times. The story makes them walk down memory lane & relive their past.
4. **I have learned** not to correct people even when I know they are wrong. The burden of making everyone perfect is not on me. Peace is more precious than perfection.
5. **I give compliments** freely and generously. Compliments are mood enhancers not only for the recipient but also for me. A small tip for the recipient of a compliment: never, **NEVER** turn it down. Just say, **'Thank you.'**
6. **I have learned** not to bother about a crease or a spot on my shirt. Personality speaks louder than appearances.
7. **I walk away** from people who don't value me. They might not know my worth, but I do.
8. **I remain cool** when someone plays dirty to outrun me in the rat race. I am not a rat & neither am I in any race.
9. **I am learning** not to be embarrassed by my emotions. It's my emotions that make me human.
12. **I have learned** that it's better to drop the ego than to break a relationship. My ego will keep me aloof, whereas with relationships, I will never be alone.
13. **I have learned** to live each day as if it's the last. After all, it might be the last.
14. **I am doing what makes me happy**. I am responsible for my happiness, and I owe it to myself. Happiness is a choice. You can be happy at any time, just choose to be **HAPPY!**

***The world doesn't want to be saved,
it wants to be loved, that's how you save it.***



On behalf of the Concordia committee we like to encourage you in giving a gift subscription to your family, friends or acquaintances. You can never give a more value for dollar present to anyone who is interested in our Dutch community or the Dutch Culture. This truly is a gift that lasts a whole year. Think about, how you, as our members, **You can put something back into Concordia without too much effort.**





Lakeside Gas Fridges

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With over 30 years experience in the business, we know our stuff. Lakeside gas fridges aims to provide reliable, efficient and quality services to all our customers.

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Caravan Hot Water Sales & Services

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Caravan LPG Safety Inspections

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Wednesday: 8am - 4pm

Thursday: 8am - 4pm

Friday: 8am - 4pm

Saturday: Closed

Sunday: Closed

Phone: 02 4958 6652

Mobile: 0435 447 005

Email: gasfridges@gmail.com

Website:

www.lakesidegasfridges.com.au

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- Waeco
- Truma
- Swift
- Aircommand
- Suburban

*Can't see the brand of your appliance here?
Give us a call to see what we can do for you!*

**CARAVAN, CAMPING
AND MARINE APPLIANCE
REPAIR SPECIALISTS**

BESTUURS NOMINATIE

JAARLIJKSE ALGEMENE VERGADERING 2025

Wij nomineren:

Dhr / Mevr.....

Adres.....

Telefoon.....



Voor de positie van: *(Aankruisen a.u.b.)*

1. **PRESIDENT** ()
2. **PENNINGMEESTER** ()
3. **BESTUURSLID** ()



Handtekening Voorsteller:.....

Handtekening Ondersteuner:.....

Ik accepteer de nominatie: *

.....

***Handtekening Kandidaat**

Stuur naar: Secretary of the Dutch Society "Concordia"

P.O. Box 16, Cardiff - NSW 2285 - Or email to:
concordianewcastle@bigpond.com

(Before 31st September 2025 or you may hand it to a current Committee Member)

CONCORDIA'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

*Concordia members are cordially invited to attend
the Annual General Meeting - AGM*

Date: Saturday 25th October - 2025 commencing at 2pm

Place: CARDIFF RSL - private room - start 2pm

*All members attending the AGM must be financial
for the year 2025 / 2026*

Late membership payments will be accepted prior to the AGM

Attend the **Annual General Meeting** to have your say
in the running of YOUR Concordia.

*Please refer to the nomination form in this magazine (Page 18 = left side)
if you'd like to be elected as...*

PRESIDENT / TREASURER / COMMITTEE MEMBER



My patriotic heart beats red white and blue.





**ATTENTION
TOILET ONLY
FOR....**

**DISABLED
ELDERLY
PREGNANT
CHILDREN**

THANK YOU

For shopping with us

*UIT DE OUDE DOOS- from our special past memories.
Around 30 Dutch Twilight Singers during a special concert in
Christ Church Cathedral which was held during the 1990s*



Anyone celebrating a special event like an Anniversary, Birthday or
some other special occasion during the next few months,
Concordia wishes you a pleasant time with family and friends.
Our sincere congratulations from your **Concordia** Family.



When I was in my younger days,
I weighed a few pounds less,
I needn't hold my tummy in
to wear a belted dress.
But now that I am older,
I've set my body free;
There's the comfort of elastic
Where once my waist would be.
Inventor of those high-heeled shoes
My feet have not forgiven;
I have to wear a nine now,
But used to wear a seven.
And how about those pantyhose-
They're sized by weight, you see,
So how come when I put them on
The crotch is at my knee?
I need to wear these glasses
As the print's been getting smaller;
And it wasn't very long ago
I know that I was taller.
Though my hair has turned to gray
and my skin no longer fits,
On the inside, I'm the same old me.
It's the outside's changed a bit.



Connie Verstegen has settled
in her new aged facility
ARCARE In Warners Bay.
I visited her one afternoon.
She was very happy and well
settled. She sends her love to
all in Concordia, *Joop*



I don't care what you earn, where you live, what you drive, whether you're fat or thin, tall or short, poor or rich, beautiful or average, smart or not.



If you're my FRIEND, you're my FRIEND.
I accept you for who you are
and that's all that matters!

*Joop is always in his
element to entertain us*



Het wordt weer vanouds 'Geweldig Gezellig!'

How much does it cost to hire André Rieu?

Booking Andre Rieu for one of our functions is contingent on many variables, the booking fee is based on a range derived from other experiences. Andre Rieu would charge, as an example only, a fee in **the starting range** of **A\$1,000,000 - A\$1,500,000** (*Fact or Fiction?*)

Concordia has therefore decided not to go ahead in booking the great maestro for one of our future functions. I hope you agree, this would send Concordia broke before we even think about paying a deposit.

Keep smiling folks, let's keep enjoying our normal functions which for **20 dollars** is something very cheap indeed. Lately Concordia is actually subsidizing everyone that attends our functions. Being together with your friends while enjoying an all you can eat meal. **Where do you get all this? Only at the Cardiff RSL on Saturday 27th September 2025. Joop**

June 30 was the official end of the last financial year.

We allow our members a period of 2 months to pay their new membership being the 30th August as the closing date.

Those already paid we thank you. Please refer to page 35 for information. Your membership is now overdue for 2025-2026!

*Life is like a camera. Focus on what is important. Capture the good times.
And if things don't work out, just take another shot.*



Liefde is gratis, jammer dat sommigen er zo zuinig mee zijn!

Parents are not around forever

Call them, visit them, take the grandchildren to see them, laugh with them, hug them, let them speak and tell you the same old stories over and over again, take them their favourite foods and sweets, treat them with respect, patience and plenty of love.

TOMORROW MIGHT BE TOO LATE !

The older you get, the more you chose calm over conflict. Drama becomes your ultimate priority. You start surrounding yourself with people who are good for your mental health, Heart and Soul

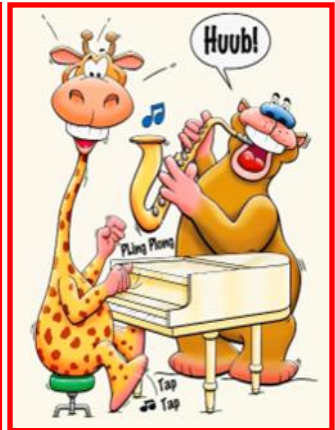
The longest password

During a recent password audit by a security company, it was found that an employee was using the following password:

MickeyMinniePlutoHueLouieDeweyDonaldGoofySacramento

When asked why she had such a long password,
she rolled her eyes and said:

***"Hello! It has to be at least 8 Characters
and include at least one capital."***



I always offer two dinner choices - take it or leave it.



The President of the Newcastle & Hunter Multicultural Choral Society
Joop de Wit, hereby invite you to our 47th annual

Multicultural Christmas Concert
To be held: Sunday 6th December 2025
Venue: Sacred Heart Cathedral
Hunter Street — Newcastle West
Commencing 7pm - Concert is FREE to attend.



A Collection plate to go around during the concert to cover the cost of the event.

A Festive Multicultural Christmas Celebration



Dutch – Australian Society CONCORDIA

*It doesn't matter where we came from....
....all that matters is where we are going!*

*To understand what life is all about,
you have to visit three locations.*

1/ The hospital - 2/ the Prison - 3/ The cemetery

At the hospital you will understand that nothing is more beautiful
than good health.

In Prison you'll see that freedom is the most precious thing.

At the Cemetery you will realise that life is worth nothing.
The ground we walk on today will be our roof tomorrow.

*Inner peace, it begins the moment you choose not to allow another
person or event to control your emotions.*

Winter 2025, it sure is not over yet!

*All those not feeling well, Concordia will be thinking of
all our readers who are experiencing some discomfort or
not feeling the best, we wish you a full and speedy recovery.*



Please book your seats for the next Concordia Function.

Come to a day full of gezelligheid including food for only \$20pp

Join us on Saturday 26th July at the Cardiff RSL - Everyone is welcome

The new 2025 catch of haring's were of a very good quality.

The usual **"Nieuwe haring happen"** refers to the Dutch tradition of eating **"Hollandse Nieuwe"** (Dutch New Herring), typically during the herring season from **May to July**. The **"happen"** part means.... to bite or eat, and the tradition involves holding the herring by the tail, tilting your head back, and taking a bite, **als engeltjes op je tong.....**



Later becomes never, in most cases that's true.

Don't leave anything for later. **Later**, the coffee gets cold. **Later**, you lose interest. **Later**, the day turns into night. **Later**, people grow up. **Later**, people grow old. **Later**, life goes by. **Later**, you regret not doing something when you had the chance. Life is a fleeting dance, a delicate balance of moments that unfold before us, never to return in quite the same way again. Regret is a bitter pill to swallow, a weight that bears down upon the soul with the burden of missed chances and unspoken words. So, let us not leave anything for **Later**, Let us seize the moments as they come, with hearts open and arms outstretched to embrace the possibilities that lie before us. For in the end, it is not the things we did that we regret, but the things we left undone, the words left unspoken, the dreams left unfulfilled. *Toshikazu Kawaguchi*

*a Taste
of Dutch*



BIBINA

Shop Where the
Chefs Shop!



"Eet
smakelijk"



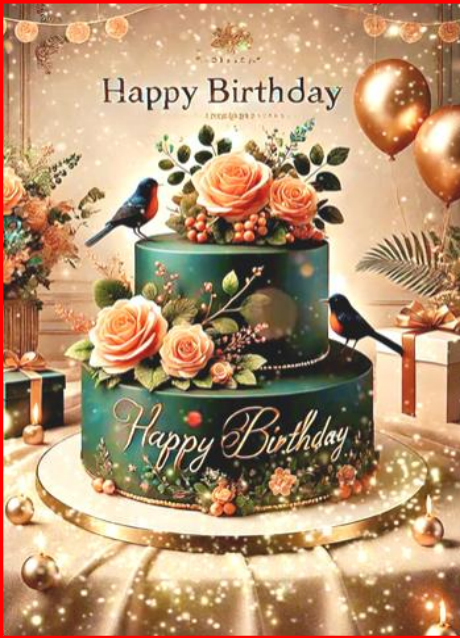
*Plenty of overseas
food available.
It starts at BIBINA*

355 Hillsborough Rd, Warners Bay | p.4954 6044 | www.bibina.com.au

OPEN 6 DAYS: Mon - Fri 8am to 5pm *** Thurs 8am to 7pm *** Sat 8.30am to 4pm

*Come and join us for a great day out with your family and friends.
CARDIFF RSL - Saturday 27th September - Everyone is welcome.*

Concordia will be 68



**Wist je dat er op de
Canarische eilanden geen
kanarie te vinden is?**

**Op de Maagdeneilanden
precies het zelfde!
Ook geen kanarie te
vinden.**

*Did you know there are no canaries in
the Canary Islands?
It's the same in the Virgin Islands!
No Canaries either.*

***Don't save anything for a special occasion.
Being alive is a special occasion.***

***Why you should not wait until your
retirement to start traveling***



***For many Dutch immigrants
this building was the last place
before leaving for an unknown
overseas destination.***





Men hate to cry, they rarely ever do. But when a man cries over you, I can guarantee he loves you. Because men only cry when they lose something or are afraid of losing something that they love as much or more than themselves.

An amazing but different last farewell

In Ireland, the 99-year-old **Mother Superior** lay quietly. She was dying. The Nuns had gathered around her bed, laying garlands around her, and trying to make her last journey comfortable. They wanted to give her warm milk to drink but she declined. One of the nuns took the glass back to the kitchen. Then, remembering a bottle of **Irish Whiskey** that had been received as a gift the previous Christmas, she opened it and poured a generous amount into the warm milk. Back at **Mother Superior's** bed, they lifted her head gently and held the glass to her lips. The very frail Nun drank a little, then a little more and before they knew it, she had finished the whole glass down to the last drop. As her eyes brightened, the nuns thought it would be a good opportunity to have one last talk with their spiritual leader. **"Mother,"** the nuns asked earnestly, **"Please give us some of your wisdom before you leave us"**. She raised herself up very slowly in the bed on one elbow, looked at them and said: **"DON'T SELL THAT COW!"**

REMEMBER:

Mom's and Grandma's used to set hot baked apple pies on the window-sill to cool. Her granddaughters set theirs on the windowsill to thaw. They would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron. I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron **but love.**

Some more photographic memories of our last July function
This latest July get-together was a very big success,
it certainly was a fantastic day for all those attending.



Whenever you're having a bad day, remember this:
Concordia loves you!

We all get heavier as we get older because there's a lot more information in our heads. So I'm not fat, I'm just really intelligent and my head couldn't hold any more so it started filling up the rest of me. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.



ZIGZAG WORD SEARCH

Vegetable Garden

T	O	C	G	A	R	K	O	H	L
O	T	A	C	I	L	I	B	A	R
M	A	U	O	C	A	T	U	H	R
B	R	L	N	I	R	T	R	S	A
R	E	I	G	O	R	E	N	I	D
O	W	F	O	N	O	E	I	P	O
C	O	L	U	R	T	B	P	O	T
C	O	L	I	D	E	G	A	T	A
T	N	A	L	C	A	B	B	C	U
E	G	G	P	R	E	B	M	U	C

Find all the words from the word list (ignore spaces and dashes, if any):

BEET
BROCCOLI
CABBAGE
CARROT
CAULIFLOWER
CUCUMBER
EGGPLANT
GARLIC
GOURD
KOHLRABI

ONION
POTATO
RADISH
TOMATO
TURNIP

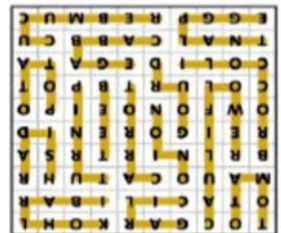


Verboden toegang
voor ongezelligen
art. 461 wetboek van strafrecht

This is zigzag word search puzzle. Words go left, right, up, down, not diagonally, and can bend at a right angle. There are no unused letters in the grid, every letter is used only once.



ANSWER:



Never let the thought of what you want tomorrow make you forget what you already have today. Stay strong, positive and blessed.

Is being over 80 considered elderly?

If you are over 80 and reading this, you are not only elderly you are remarkable. Do you realise how amazing it is to be in your early 80's and be able to live a normal life of any type. So yes, obviously 80 is considered elderly which of course is no longer used as a term or way of saying who or what someone is. This is 2025 for gods sake, are we so hung up to think or say, he or she is elderly. Elderly has the connotation of someone who can hardly take care of themselves, is falling over, can't think straight. Well is everything fading in your 80's? Absolutely, but lets dump the designation of elderly and call those in their 80's and upward, the Emeritus Generation. They should get a special designation just for getting that far. Of course this is not 100 years ago when 80 was an astounding feat, but still it's not the norm. I believe the average for men is now 76.5 or thereabouts. That means 82 is pretty special, especially if you are a man who on average die younger than women. The name elderly, I love to dump it, but just come and celebrate it while we are able to in the **Cardiff RSL 27th September. Editor**

BE KIND ALWAYS

*Even if others are not — Even if others will not
Even if others cannot.*

Beste Joop, It's a bit of a story that would take too long to write in an email. In short: I was born in Dokkum in 1941. When our oldest daughter **Dominique** visited Dokkum in October last year, we found out that a few guys were collecting information about evacuees who escaped hunger or danger during the war and stayed with families in the North of Friesland. My father was part of the organisation which we learned from my brother's diary. He was 14 at the time and wrote bits and pieces about the time between Christmas 1944 till May 1945. **Dominique** was able to share that diary with the writers. The book they created is finished and I own a copy. It is a wonderful book full of information about the time of war and the kids and some whole families that had to flee from their home in places like Arnhem, Den Haag, Amsterdam etc. The book is huge. It's called: **'Vluchtelingen in Dokkum 1940-1945**. It was written by **Doede Douma & Reinder Tolsma**. it's full of photos, stories and memorability's. I thought to bring it on the 26th and show it to people interested. I believe that it is possible to order a digital copy for next to nothing as this was a labour of love for the authors. *Elly and Walter.*

I asked my daughter to give me
the phone book. She laughed
at me, called me a dinosaur and
lent me her iPhone.

So the spider is dead, the iPhone
is broken and my daughter
is furious!

We are after all living in the digital age



Joop de Wit - dip. RCS Utrecht
Multicultural Funeral Celebrant

D E A D L I N E N E X T I S S U E:

**For our December-January & February issue
is the 10th November 2025**

Copy received after this date will be included in the March April 2026 issue.



Letter to the editor

Dear Joop, First of all we want to mention the deep appreciation we have for all the work you and the committee do to offer the Dutch and their loved ones five functions a year, full of Dutch humour, recollections, gezelligheid and chances to reconnect to friends or find new ones. I know there is a wonderful group of people that work with you Joop, but it is you that does most of the work, creating a newsletter as well as all the entertainment after lunch. As usual, we were very happy to receive the latest Newsletter. It is something we really look forward to. Thank you for all the hard work. Please book us a place at the next function and our youngest daughter will also come. We will pay our membership at the next function. *Walter & Elly.*



**A FRIENDLY
REMINDER**

**Please send your
payment today.**

Thanks! 2025 - 2026

SO YOU'RE TELLING ME



*The Dutch National Anthem **Wilhelmus** is the oldest anthem in the world. It was written in 1568 and became official in 1932.*

Irish humour with a twist

Mrs Donovan was walking down the street in **Dublin** when she met up with **Father Flaherty**. The priest said, "**Top o' the mornin' to ye. "Aren't ye Mrs Donovan, and didn't I marry ye and yer hoosband two years ago?" "Aye, that ye did, Father,"** said **Mrs Donovan**. "**And be there any wee little ones yet?" "No, not yet, Father."** "**Well now, I'm going to Rome next week and I'll light a fertility candle for ye and yer hoosband. "Oh, thank ye, Father ..."** They then parted ways. Some years later they met again. The priest asked, "**Well now, Mrs Donovan, how are ye these days?"** She replied, "**Oh, very well, Father. "And tell me, have ye any wee ones yet?" "Oh yes, Father! Two sets of twins and six singles, 10 in all."** "**Great! "And how is yer loving hoosband doing?"** Mrs Donovan replied, "**Well he's gone to Rome to blow out yer flamin' candle."**

NEW MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION

DUTCH SOCIETY CONCORDIA - NEWCASTLE & DISTRICT

*Annual Membership Fees are payable between **1st July** but before **31th August**
Membership includes 5 newsletters per annum, your choice of hard copy or email.*

Tick if this is a new membership <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>I wish to apply for a new Membership \$.....</i>
Tick if this is a renewal <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>I wish to renew my Membership \$.....</i>
Tick if this is a giftsubscription <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>I like to give a gift Subscription \$.....</i>
Tick if this is a donation <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>I like to make a donation to Concordia \$.....</i>
for the period 2025 / 2026	<i>I agree to accept and abide by its constitution</i>
Mr Mrs Miss Ms :	
GIVEN NAMES:	
SURNAME:	
DATE(s) OF BIRTH:	
ADDRESS:	
CITY & POSTCODE:	
TELEPHONE Home / Mobile:	
EMAIL address:	
SIGNATURE:	
Annual Fee / Renewal Fee:	<i>\$ 20-00 Couple (inclusive of GST)</i>
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Hereby Cheque/Money order in the amount of: \$.....

Send to: TREASURER DUTCH SOCIETY CONCORDIA P.O. BOX 16, CARDIFF- NSW 2285 - do not send Cash.

***Our Westpac Bank details are: Dutch Society of Concordia BSB: 032-512 Account No: 340048
Please send us an email to let us know you've paid directly into our account.***

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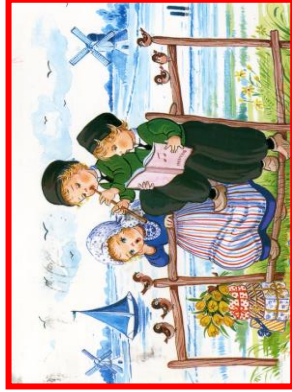
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SURFACE
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