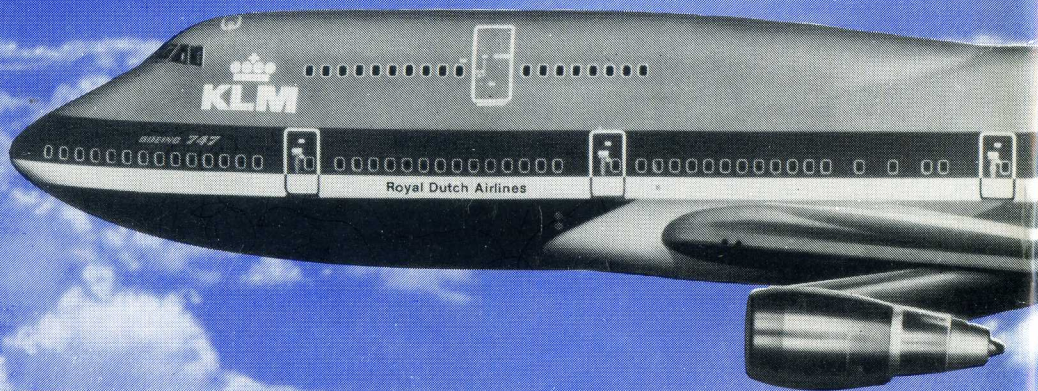


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SHORT HISTORY
of and
INFORMATION
on
NETHERLANDS SOCIETIES
in
NEW SOUTH WALES
and the
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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FOREWORD

I can envisage you experiencing the same sentiments when reading this booklet as I did. The same feeling of admiration will probably well up for the countless number of Dutch people, who, having at some time arrived in Australia, spared no energy, cost or trouble in the devotion of their best efforts to the establishment and further development of the societies founded for the benefit of people of Dutch origin.

This booklet consists of a collection of articles concerning the history and background of the diverse and very varying Netherlands societies in New South Wales, and bears witness to the extremely encouraging examples of initiative and communal sense from the people closely involved.

May the Netherlands societies here in Australia be granted a long and fruitful life.

J.Th. van Leeuwen
Consul-General of the Netherlands
Sydney

INTRODUCTION

This booklet, published by the Federation of Netherlands Societies Ltd., is intended to present the reader with a brief history of the Federation of Netherlands Societies and its members and to give some information on present activities.

The Dutch immigrant was and is made welcome in Australia, although under present Government policy access remains limited. During the early years he or she was, as was any immigrant, met with the expectation of assimilation in the shortest possible time. In later years, this expectation changed into one of integration, and during recent years it has become one of taking part in a Multicultural Society.

On arrival in Australia, everyday life became a melting pot of new experiences which for many, especially in the early years, gave rise to a desire for Dutch societies. These societies developed as time went by and the Federation and its members adjusted their priorities as was deemed necessary.

The great majority of people of Dutch origin who settled in the State of New South Wales and in the Australian Capital Territory, have done well and are happy in their situation. However, there are those who are not so fortunate. It may perhaps be mentioned that this short story contains some striking examples of well motivated, voluntary service to the community.

On behalf of the Federation, I thank the contributors to this booklet with a special word of thanks to Mrs. M. Hage, who spent so many hours in getting it all together and to K.L.M. Royal Dutch Airlines for sponsoring this publication.

A.F. Kool,
Chairman
February, 1985

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Many thanks to the clubs, their secretaries and the many members of the various societies who have made it possible for me to write this booklet. Without their assistance it could not have been done. To mention all people, who gave willingly of their spare time, would make too long a list. Let it suffice to say that I am very grateful for their time and assistance given.

Mijntje Hage

THE NETHERLANDS SOCIETY IN SYDNEY

De Nederlandse Vereniging in Sydney

The history of this club goes back 40 years. On July 25, 1944, "De Nederlandsche Vereeniging in New South Wales" was founded in the canteen of the Dutch Services Overseas. Its objectives and aims were many. To name a few: enhance community spirit, look after the interests of Dutch subjects, foster cultural interests, and collect money for Australian and Dutch charities. Its immediate goal however was to have at least one meeting per month. After all those 40 years, the club has not changed much, except for a greater diversity in members and a name-change to "The Netherlands Society in Sydney", more of which will be discussed later.

At present, the social get-together is on the first Monday of each month. This is combined with either a lecture, film or discussions about current affairs or other interests. The subjects of the evening vary greatly in order to satisfy as many members as possible. Many of the 'talks' are given in the English language for two reasons:

1. to enable the non-Dutch speaking partners of members to participate in the activities of the club,
2. to attract the 'second generation' of Dutch-Australians.

No matter which language is spoken, the atmosphere of the club is very 'Dutch'. Most Monday evening meetings generally have the same pattern. The room on the 14th floor in the Philips Building, Blue Street, North Sydney, is open from 7.30 p.m., thus enabling members to mix, chat and have a cup of coffee before the event starts at 8.30 p.m. After the evening's event, refreshments and snacks are served and most of those present will stay for further small talk, discussions or conversations.

Before the foundation of the present Sydney club, an attempt was made to establish a Dutch society in 1938. Very little is known about it. It was shortlived and financially not very sound. During the war, attempts were made to save the club, but to no avail. The financial rescue was undertaken by:

THE NETHERLANDS RELIEF FUND

From the scant information available emanates an emergency fund that assisted the Dutch military forces in Australia and probably the Dutch East Indies in the war effort. Even though things were uncertain during the war years, an enormous generosity was present. Apart from money, clothes and blankets were also collected. Christmas parcels were sent out and help was given where necessary to people in distress both in the Netherlands and the former Dutch East Indies. Their balance sheet (see Appendix 1) shows that large amounts of money were at times paid out, for instance: to save the teetering Dutch Club until its closure in 1942, a sum of 1695 Pounds 18/6 was donated. This equalled three high annual incomes, compared with 1985. More than 20,000 pounds were distributed amongst the following: the Queen Wilhelmina Benevolent Fund, Princess Margriet Fund, Prince Bernhard Fund, the Netherlands Indies Red Cross, various seamen's missions, and other charitable organisations. In this case it is justified to paraphrase the words of Winston Churchill "seldom in history have so few done so much for so many".

After the war, in January 1946, the Fund was dissolved. Money still on hand and all incoming donations had to go to "The Nederlandsche Vereeniging in New South Wales", which in turn was obliged, through a stipulation from the Fund, to pass this money on to charities. In this case it was to be the Queen Wilhelmina Benevolent Fund.

Although the Sydney club never had enough money to possess its own premises, it had managed to establish a central meeting point in the City. In 1950, certain individuals, together with the club, bought the then-named "Niagara Cafe" in George Street and renamed it "Tulips Restaurant". This establishment became a great success, due to two factors; firstly, it was the only place in Sydney where the Dutch, with reasonable certainty, could find fellow country-men, and secondly, it was a place where a woman could go to meet other women or friends, without feeling uncomfortable. Please bear in mind that Australia anno 1950 had a totally different mentality than that of 1985. Of course there were other places where women could go, but they were too expensive, too exclusive and completely alien to them in as far as a familiar atmosphere was concerned, not to mention the difficulties or lack of understanding of the English language. After some years "The Tulips" became independent from the Netherlands Society. It was closed in 1969.

The policy regarding immigration was to promote decentralisation, in other words, to populate this vast country. It should therefore be no surprise that most immigrants found their first accommodation away from the big cities. There was the 'famous' camp Bonegilla, many miles from Melbourne, and here, in N.S.W., the camps near Bathurst, (the first 'Holding Centre' in N.S.W.), Newcastle, and Wollongong. As most people came to Australia to seek a better future for themselves and their children, they were prepared to work hard. Only those camps near places where work was available remained, for instance, Greta near Newcastle and the Illawarra hostel near Wollongong.

From the Dutch people in those migrant hostels sprung the Netherlands Society Concordia (Newcastle & District), and the Dutch Australian Society in Illawarra (D.A.S.I.). The hostel's Dutch immigrants in Bathurst headed for the Big Smoke as

soon as possible, so no club was formed there, although a flourishing Dutch club existed in Orange some 35 years ago.

* * * * *

The first clubs (still existing) formed outside the metropolitan area were:

THE DUTCH-AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY IN ILLAWARRA (D.A.S.I.)

The Nederlands-Australische Vereniging in Illawarra.

This society was founded in June 1952 with the foremost aim to bring some Dutch atmosphere to the industrialised area of Wollongong and surroundings. The steelworks at the best of times is not a beautiful environment, and there was great need for some diversion and to have a shoulder to cry on (both excellent remedies against homesickness). Also, assistance was needed to make living in Australia easier, in so far as it was connected with language difficulties. For these purposes, the club organised dance evenings in hired premises. The cost of these evenings was very low and the attendance was very high.

There is no need today to hire premises anymore, as the D.A.S.I. possesses its own building. Its range of activities has not only grown, but changed as well. Apart from the dance evenings and the "St. Nikolaas" parties, there is now a billiards club "Pikeur" (started in 1980), a carnival group "De Papegaaien" and most important of all, the Senior Citizens Club. It must be stressed here that D.A.S.I. was the first social club to foresee the eventual problems of the ageing immigrant and took steps to be able to assist in case of need. The building is continuously in use. In the daytime, coffee is served and it is a bit like a "bruin cafe", in other words, good old fashioned familiar Dutch atmosphere is being provided.

The club does not favour a specific charity, but has from the beginning realised that this begins at home. In 1953, a committee of social workers had already been formed, which helped many an immigrant through difficult times. Lack of a sufficient command of English and the virtual non-existence of social services gave members of this committee often a very difficult task to perform. Fortunately many things improved over the years and today the committee's main task is comforting the sick.

In 1954 the club filled another great need by establishing a relief fund in case of death (steunfonds bij overlijden). The contribution to this fund was 1 pound. Within three days after the death of one of the members, a sum of 100 pounds was paid out to the dead person's family (approximately 8 - 10 weeks' wages). After this, every member immediately paid 1 pound to replenish the fund.

In 1956 a "klaverjas-club" was formed, which nowadays engages in competitions. In 1962, most importantly of all, the first Dutch Senior Citizens club was founded. Today the fortnightly meetings on 'pension Wednesday' attract an average of 70 people.

One of the highlights in this society's existence was in 1967 with the purchase of the clubhouse, which was renovated and partly rebuilt in 1971 to what it is today. This building at 647 Princes Highway, Woonona, is well worth a visit and as there are many activities organised for the 275 members, a great opportunity for you to go to one.

The society also publishes a monthly magazine, "De Stuw".

CONCORDIA DUTCH-AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY NEWCASTLE AND DISTRICT

"Concordia" Nederlandse Vereniging Newcastle en omgeving

Initially there were several small Dutch clubs in the various immigrant hostels in and around Newcastle, Camp Greta being one of the bigger ones. After a little while, in the early fifties, members of the various clubs in the area came together and decided to form a proper Dutch Society for the whole district, and thus, Concordia was established in the Wallsend Community Hall. It is therefore difficult to give an exact date of the foundation of this club, but it is more than 25 years old. Like the majority of the Dutch Societies in the early years, the main events were dance evenings. In 1957 a theatre/playgroup came into being and this group became very popular. In the Greek Hall in Hamilton, many a performance was given and a great many Dutch people had an enjoyable evening. As a matter of fact, this acting group glued the Concordia members solidly together and today, this club can boast of a steady membership of 200 people.

In the eighties there are still dance evenings being organised - approximately 5 or 6 per year - also wine and cheese tastings and film evenings. The club has, for its social activities, twice received a grant from the Department of Ethnic Affairs. The amount was \$900. Every year the club donates 10% of its profits to a charitable institution, either the Queen Wilhelmina Benevolent Fund or another organisation chosen by the members during the Annual General Meeting.

One of the female members of Concordia initiated, not very long ago, a club for 'over 60s'. This is at the moment one of the very successful enterprises of the club. Other events are participation in the yearly Carnivale, playing cards and many more activities.

For people living in the Newcastle area it is worthwhile to contact the Secretary, who will forward

you the monthly magazine "Concordia" and will give you all information required.

* * * * *

Soon after Wollongong and Newcastle, 3 clubs were almost simultaneously founded in the outer areas of Sydney. One must not forget that in those days, Sutherland, Condell Park, and Narrabeen were considered as the 'most' outer suburbs. This was also the peak of the so-called "assisted passage immigration scheme". Literally thousands and thousands of people of all nationalities arrived in Australia, and among them, during the fifties, were about 10,000 Dutch migrants per year. The ones who set foot on land from the Sibajak, Zuiderkruis, Grote Beer and Johan Van Oldenbarneveldt, to name just a few of the ships, could not possibly all live near the city. Besides, for most of the arrivals, the 'migrant hostel' was their first accommodation. As this was situated in not the most pleasant of surroundings and a fair distance away from the city, it was for that reason that certain people, mentioned earlier on, put their request to the Nederlandsche Vereeniging in N.S.W. and it was then that the new clubs were formed. Many people tried to attend the monthly meetings in the city, but in the long run it proved to be too difficult, and without cancelling their old membership of the city club, they went their own way. Another vital point in having a club not too far away was to alleviate the loneliness of the women.

After having been at the 'migrant hostel', many bought a block of land, built a garage on it and used that as a temporary dwelling. This offered cramped quarters, and with small children, little money to spend, often a limited knowledge of the English language and living next to neighbours in the same position, but often being of a different nationality, this could, at times, make life very lonely. A meeting now and then, offering some Dutch conversation, dancing and

'gezelligheid' meant the difference between living and only just existing. The "Tulips" was often too far away, no matter how much one wished to go.

So it happened that, in August 1953 - the Sutherland Club, in November 1953 - the Bankstown Club, and in March 1954 - Neerlandia were established. They are the oldest Netherlands societies in Sydney except for "The Netherlands Society in Sydney".

* * * * *

THE NETHERLANDS SOCIETY IN THE SUTHERLAND SHIRE

De Nederlandse Vereniging in de Sutherland Shire

This club is very active, despite the fact that, over the years, many of the original members have moved to other parts of Sydney. The dance evenings are less frequent, but many other events have taken their place. To name a few: a fishing club, klaverjasclub, picnics, bingo evenings, cruises, and many other activities, in fact, too many to name them all. All events are mentioned in a monthly magazine "The Club Post", which is readily posted to you by the Secretary.

The first gathering took place in August 1953 at the Highway Cafe in Sutherland. Its attendance was so good, the place was literally overflowing with people and enthusiasm, that this turned out to be the club's 'flying start'. However, money was scarce, but with very little in the coffers, many activities were still organised and well attended. Over the years, the financial situation improved and the club has always given generously where the need arose. For instance, in the 17th year of its existence, all the children in an orphanage in Cronulla were given a small Christmas present.

When it became obvious that many charities had the same idea at the same time of the year, the committee

decided to surprise the children on their birthdays. Also, in 1980, when the fierce bushfires in the National Park claimed the lives of five men, a considerable sum of money was made available to assist the surviving relatives. A good example of how the Dutch can become generous to others in times of need. To give another example, when a cyclone devastated Darwin in 1973, liberal assistance was given.

The Society's greatest achievement however, was the efforts it made to help raise money for the Juliana Village, a 'hamlet' for senior Dutch people in Miranda, about which more will be mentioned later. The Sutherland Club was instrumental in this fundraising action. There were the V.V.V., Vele Vlijtige Vingers (Many Industrious Fingers), who, with their arts and crafts products, collected a lot of money. However, most important of all, and the highlight for many Dutch families, were the seven 'kermissen' in 7 successive years. It was unforgettable, both for the organisers and for the visitors, and the funds raised on those evenings, lasting from 4 p.m. till 10 p.m., were generous. The last 'kermis' (Mardi Gras) in 1978 left a net sum of \$10,000 for the Village. If anything, this is a big feather in the cap of the Netherlands Society in the Sutherland Shire.

THE NETHERLANDS SOCIETY IN BANKSTOWN

De Nederlandse Vereniging in Bankstown

This club is at the moment in a kind of transition state. Many of its old members have moved and their children live too far away from Bankstown and have started their own interest groups further away in their suburbs (for distribution of Dutch population, see Appendix 4). But even so, there are still many activities going on, such as film evenings, picnics, contact evenings and dance evenings. Like most clubs, it has a monthly magazine, which again the Secretary will be pleased to forward to anyone.

The history of the club is virtually the same as that of the Sutherland Club, with the difference that, in the first whirls of excitement, nobody thought about a constitution. It was however, a minor thing. When it was brought to their notice that a constitution was necessary, it was quickly rectified with a set of rules and regulations, which was at that time (1953) acceptable under the "Charities Act". In May 1984, the club was in the process of a new constitution and by-laws, in line with the "Charities Act" as it applies at present.

There was great interest in the drama club. A surprising number of people proved to be actors and have given many a family happy and memorable evenings.

Apart from entertainment, the older and more settled members of the club were very active in helping to find work for new arrivals. Assistance was given in obtaining suitable accommodation and many other 'social services' were provided. It must be said that members of these older clubs were very influential in the forming of the Co-operative Building Societies. How these operated will be explained later.

One of the highlights was the 25-year Jubilee, which was celebrated with a big party, when \$2,000 was donated to the Juliana Village.

THE DUTCH AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY "NEERLANDIA" LTD
De Nederlandse Vereniging Neerlandia Ltd.

The proud owners of their own premises, this society has the space and the opportunities to organise a great variety of functions and "do's". In the clubhouse at the corner of Bantry Bay Road and Gratton Crescent, French's Forest, there are dance evenings, bridge-drives, picnics, disco evenings, a klaverjasclub, and many more activities. These are well attended, especially when there is a B.B.Q. or a

smorgasbord on.

All the various functions and activities are announced well in advance in the club magazine "Neerlandia News". This club supports no specific charity, but gives donations to different institutions such as the Cancer Society, and the Society for Disabled Children, just to name a few. One of the highlights each year is the Heritage Day Festival in March, which is run in conjunction with the N.S.W. Heritage Week.

"Neerlandia" originated in the Narrabeen Tent Village (now known as Lakeside Caravan Park) in March 1954.

When living in a 'migrant hostel' was already unpleasant for the Dutch, who are so keen on 'gezelligheid', it is not difficult to imagine the persistence or sheer guts needed, for the people in tents to keep up their morale. And they did! A break was essential under these circumstances and therefore it was no wonder that in a short time the club could boast about 180 members. When the tents eventually were folded up, as the people moved into houses, the functions were frequented less by the members. When T.V. became popular, the interest waned to such a degree that the committee began an extensive membership drive.

In close cooperation with the K.L.M., a group-travel division was formed within the club, and soon after, the first groups set out for Holland at a discounted rate.

For the purpose of group travel, "The Link" was formed. This was a national body, administered by "Neerlandia", the CDMA and DASI, necessary for the organisation of Group and Charter Flights.

Membership rose to approximately 1500 and more than 1200 people visited their relatives and friends in Holland. At the moment the club has 295 members.

With this great number of members, combined with the number of activities, the first step was set for the building of the clubhouse. In 1970, when group-travel ended, Neerlandia had \$22,000 in the bank. During this time, the club had a soccer team, which later changed into the Warringah Soccer Club and is still going strong. The culmination of all these events was the laying of the foundation stone for the clubhouse in 1977 by the then Consul-General of the Netherlands. As said before, the club donates to various charities and has also received assistance from the Government. This assistance was given in the form of leasing land to build on from the Warringah Shire Council. After final inspection by this council in June 1984, a Public Hall Licence was obtained through the Services Department of the Department of Local Government. In that same month, final payment was made to the bank on a loan of \$25,000. If interested in joining this club, please contact the Secretary.

* * * * *

Before describing other clubs it would be appropriate to give a brief history of the development of the Building Societies.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE NETHERLANDS CO-OPERATIVE TERMINATING BUILDING SOCIETY SCHEMES

The difficulties of the 'first' assisted immigrants were many, "housing" being one of the greatest problems. Although in post-war Holland housing was difficult to come by, eventually, if one was patient enough, the government would look after you. Not so in Australia, where capital was so scarce that even Australians themselves found it almost impossible to get finance for housing. The various Netherlands societies, confronted with the problems of their

members, sought ways and means to obtain funds for housing and in 1956 they were successful. An amount of 100,000 pounds was made available by the Commonwealth Bank to start a Terminating Building Society especially for Dutch immigrants. The Board of Directors of the "Netherlands Co-operative Building Society", consisting of representatives of the various Netherlands societies, was responsible for the allocation of the loans. The day-to-day running of the Building Society was in the very capable hands of an Australian secretary, the late Mr Keith Downing. The directors were faced with the mammoth task of dealing with a large number of applications for a limited amount of money. They spent many hours carefully judging each application on its merits and allocating the loans to the most deserving. Of that original Board of Directors, three members are still left.

In every respect the initial scheme was a great success. The Directors and the Secretary carried out their tasks competently and fully justified the trust placed in them by the Bank and the Netherlands Emigration Service. The Dutch proved to be reliable borrowers, who always met their commitments promptly. But there were still many Dutch immigrants in need of housing finance and the Netherlands Government, acknowledging their plight, succeeded in raising an amount of \$A2,670,000 in the form of a loan from the United States Development Loan Fund, a unique and first loan of such a nature granted, and which reflected great credit on the initiative and standing of the Netherlands Government.

The Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia became deeply involved in the planning of how the loan from the Development Loan Fund should be utilised and its implementation. Mr W.P. Conley of the Bank was the architect of the three housing schemes and he has written the following synopsis of these schemes:-

"It was on the initiative of the Netherlands Government that the first overseas housing scheme was

created to provide financial assistance to Dutch immigrants in Australia to build or buy their homes.

The Netherlands Government from the beginning of the post-war emigration programme, accepted the responsibility of assisting their emigrants to find jobs in Australia and in 1958, in view of the shortage of finance for housing, in addition, moved to assist their emigrants financially to obtain adequate housing.

In August 1958, at the suggestion of the Australian Government, representatives of the Netherlands Embassy in Australia approached the then Governor of the Commonwealth Bank, Dr H.C. Coombs, with the news that their Government had been successful in negotiations with the U.S. Development Loan Fund for a loan on \$A 2.67 m. to house their emigrants in Australia. The loan was granted on the condition that the \$ 2.67 m. be matched dollar for dollar by Australian savings banks. The Governor was asked for assistance in implementing the loan.

The Commonwealth Savings Bank, in view of its experience in lending for housing, was nominated to act as Agent for the Netherlands Government in the disbursement of the overseas funds and to arrange the matching Australian funds; the Bank was also requested to devise a scheme by which the total funds involved of \$ 5.34 m. could be lent to Dutch immigrants.

The CSB accepted the role of Agent under an agreement executed in April 1959 for a nominal service fee of 0.25% on the outstanding balance of the overseas loans. There were of course a number of complex technical and legal problems to be solved, including the exchange risk on the overseas funds, but the bank was able to overcome the difficulties. It was decided the best and most efficient way to disburse the funds was through State Government guaranteed terminating co-operative building societies in the various states in which such societies operated. The State Government

Guarantee was an attractive factor to the Netherlands Government.

With regard to the matching Australian funds of \$ 2.67 m. required, outstanding and instant co-operation was displayed by four other savings banks when approached by the CSB to form a consortium to provide the funds, the result being as follows:

Comonwealth Savings Bank	\$ 1,070,000
Bank of N.S.W. Savings Bank	\$ 700,000
ANZ Savings Bank	\$ 400,000
State Savings Bank of Victoria	\$ 300,000
CBC Savings Bank	\$ 200,000

	\$ 2,670,000

In 1960 a second scheme was formed involving the same banks and an overall amount of \$ 5 m. (including matching funds) was quickly disbursed.

A third and final scheme was implemented in September 1966, this time involving an overseas amount of \$ 2.5 m. from The Netherlands and on the basis that this amount was to be matched on a \$ 2 to \$ 1 formula as against the previous dollar for dollar.

To provide the extra \$ 2.5 m. the CSB on behalf of The Netherlands Government approached the various State Governments which readily agreed to provide the required matching funds under the Commonwealth/State Housing Agreement. This was considered fully justified in view of the ingredient of self help contained in the proposal and that by joining in the scheme, overseas funds of \$ 2.5 m. would be engendered into the Australian economy for housing, of which there was a grave shortage.

On this occasion, nine savings banks joined in the consortium to provide the matching funds of \$ 5.0 m.

The three Netherlands schemes combined, provided an overall amount of \$ 17.84 m. as set out in Attachment "A". (See Appendix 2). The schemes are unique in Australia and their outstanding success a great credit to all concerned."

So far Mr. Conley. For a complete resume of the three schemes see Appendix 2. When one realises that the average family who received a loan under the schemes consisted of father, mother and four children, some 15,000 individuals benefited from them.

* * * * *

It was not until the late sixties that new clubs were formed.

N.A.S.C. WILHELMINA LTD.

Netherlands Australian Sports Club Wilhelmina Ltd.

This is also a club with its own building and therefore an enormous number of activities going on. To state a few: dance evenings, family evenings, a klaverjasclub and the reason for the founding of the club, the very popular Dutch billiards. Wilhelmina differs in another aspect from other clubs in that it leans more to the Australian way of spending leisure time. There are poker machines on the premises and the club is fully licensed. All this makes for a very lively atmosphere, and despite Australian influence in the club, the Wilhelmina Club is very Dutch. This club also has a monthly magazine which can be sent on request through the Secretary.

The origins of this club were very special, namely: to play Dutch billiards. This was first done at 45 Station Street, Wentworthville, in a coffee lounge. This shop was roomy, so that, apart from drinking coffee, there was ample space for a billiard table and

even dance evenings could be held. Announcement was given in the Dutch Australian Weekly and on June 1st, 1967, N.A.S.C. Wilhelmina was officially opened, with 80 members, all of them avid billiards lovers and players. (The club derives its name from the wife of one of the founders and owner of the coffee lounge.) As the club flourished, and the participation of ladies increased, it became N.A.B.C. (Netherlands Amusement and Billiard Club) Wilhelmina.

Two years later the name was changed again, this time to N.A.S.C. (Netherlands Amusement and Sport Club). During three years space in the coffee lounge was ample, but a growing membership prompted the move to Beaconsfield Street in Auburn, on the 1st floor of an office building.

Own premises were needed, when after 7 years in Auburn, the high rent forced the club out. With fundraising and debentures, the dilapidated R.S.L. Club in Rooty Hill was purchased. With a lot of voluntary work, this building was renovated into the pleasant place it is now. In order to get a full license, the name had to be changed again, and this time (hopefully the last) it became in English "The Netherlands Australian Sports Club 'Wilhelmina' Ltd". This happened in 1979.

THE HAWKESBURY AND DISTRICT DUTCH AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY

When land became scarcer and dearer and people had to move to the outer rim of the metropolitan area, they established their clubs there. One of the first was the Hawkesbury Club. There are quite a number of events going on, but the major attractions are the monthly dance nights and the yearly St. Nikolaas ball.

Since its foundation in 1968 the club has freely given where needed, especially to the Cherrywood Village, an institution that looks after disabled people.

BLUE MOUNTAINS DUTCH CLUB

The activities of this club are also very varied, but on the whole, everything Dutch is promoted as much as possible. Information regarding this club is freely available from the Secretary.

CANBERRA DUTCH CLUB

This young club, founded in 1973 with 150 members, can now be proud of its almost 1200 members. Among those 1200 are quite a few of the so called "second generation" Australians. The main reason to establish the club was: to keep the Dutch culture, language and customs alive. Apart from this, there are many evenings of a different nature, for example dance evenings, billiards and card playing, coffee mornings and special dance nights. If you happen to be in Canberra it is worthwhile to pay a visit to their beautiful clubhouse in Heard Street, Mawson.

Highlights of the existence of the Canberra Dutch Club were the laying of the foundation stone by the late Ambassador of the Netherlands, Baron van Aerssen and a commemorative stone-laying by H.M. Queen Beatrix, in those days still H.R.H. Princess Beatrix, and finally the grand opening of the building.

Through its many activities, financial support can be given to the Foster Parents Plan of Australia. More information can be obtained via the Secretary.

REMBRANDT CLUB ST. MARYS

A younger of the mainly social clubs was officially formed on March 1st, 1978. Although most of the foundation members were already involved with another Dutch society, it was felt that there was room for another Dutch club. But in this case, a club where the only spoken and written language was to be Dutch.

Despite some pessimism from outsiders, it became a success. The rented building on 87 Dunheved Circuit, St. Mary's, is pleasantly (gezellig) furnished, by volunteers of course. The weekly programme is as follows: open from 7.30 p.m. till 1 a.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and of course on special occasions. Wednesday is klaverjas evening, more for enjoyment than to win, Friday is social night. It goes without saying that there are plenty of Dutch snacks and Dutch 'talk'.

On New Year's Eve 1977, 40 people wanted to have something specifically Dutch in St. Mary's. Words were put into action, a donation of \$ 100 was asked from each couple that wanted to become a member and within 2 months, space was rented, furnished and the goal achieved. Well done!!

In its short life there have not been many highlights, but the members of this club are forthcoming with their help in assisting the committee of the Holland Festival. Although the membership is limited to 100 couples, everyone is welcome to come to one of the events which are announced in the monthly magazine.

HOLLANDS GLORIE

The youngest club in the metropolitan area is "Hollands Glorie". Only formed in 1983, it officially became a member of the Federation of Netherlands Societies in 1984. This club caters for people of Dutch descent, whether born in the Netherlands or elsewhere, in Hornsby and district. The activities are many, but since the club is so young, it has no established pattern.

All information about this club will be forwarded to you by the Secretary.

THE N.S.W. KLAVERJAS FEDERATION

This Federation was formed a few years ago to incorporate all the existing "klaverjasclubs", whether they were part of an organisation or a separate entity. The Federation organises several tournaments each year: one during the Holland Festival, in February, an annual tournament for couples, an annual tournament for singles, and one on the Queen's Birthday Weekend, sponsored by the Dutch Australian Weekly.

There are ten affiliated card clubs: Gios in Blacktown, D.W.S. in Sutherland, F.K.C. in Fairfield, D.A.S.I. in Wollongong, P.K.C. in Penrith, Neerlandia in French's Forest, Ons Genoegen in Curl Curl and S.K.C. in Sutherland. The Canberra card club attends some of the tournaments, but is not yet a member of the Klaverjas Federation.

SOCCER

If there was one thing the newly arrived Dutch missed, it was "voetbal" or soccer. It was therefore that Sydney Austral provided for this need. The team was formed in 1948 and all the players were Dutch. It had tremendous support and was one of the first soccer clubs that contributed to the increase in popularity of soccer in Australia after World War II. The financial support faded, and, unfortunately, to the great chagrin of the many followers, the team had to be disbanded in 1969. A number of players went to play for the Western Suburbs.

To remain on the topic of sport, the "Dutch Eleven", a hockey team, must be mentioned. This team started in 1978, but apparently hockey is not as popular as soccer. The Dutch Eleven can do with a bit of support, which is inverse to the enthusiasm the players put in.

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The following groups concentrate mainly on song and dance: the Folkloristic groups, the choirs and the Carnival societies. The oldest is:

THE DUTCH FOLKDANCE GROUP

De Nederlandse Volksdansgroep

They do exactly as their name suggests: to keep alive the art of Dutch folk dancing. A number of the traditional Dutch costumes are imported from Holland, but quite a few are reproduced in Australia from imported material. Theatre costumes are never used. The outfits mostly used for performances are those from Volendam and some from Marken. This group has become very successful, to such an extent, that in 1976 a junior club was founded for youngsters between 6 and 12 years. Although only a few of these children are of distant Dutch descent, they seem to look to the Dutch for some identification.

With rehearsals twice a week, and with a performance nearly every week, it is a busy group indeed.

To join, please contact the Secretary. She will give you the necessary information regarding rehearsals or where the group can be seen performing. She can also inform you at what price the costumes can be hired. Of importance is the fact that these costumes have even travelled as far as Tokyo.

The birth of the Folk Dancing Group was exactly 10.00 p.m. on January 29, 1951, when it was announced on A.B.C. Radio that the first prize for a float in Sydney Harbour, on the occasion of the Commonwealth Jubilee Celebrations, was awarded to a Dutch entry. Ever since the group has become more and more popular, much through the efforts of the late Dr. Wouters, who promoted the Dutch culture wherever and whenever possible. The dancers have participated in many fundraising events and performed all over N.S.W. They

have adorned T.V. shows with Bobby Limb's Sound of Music and more recently they have appeared on Channel 0/28. The group played in four films, including a feature film shot during the Tulip Festival in Bowral. There have been, and still are, too many activities to name them all. They do not only perform for outsiders, but organise many kinds of entertainment for the members themselves.

In the course of this last story, the name of Dr. Wouters cropped up. He was not only the driving force behind the "Volkdans Groep", but he moved through many aspects of our culture, whether Dutch, Polish, Italian, Croatian, Greek or Russian. He officially knew at least 10 languages and this made it possible for him to make a great contribution to the welfare of many immigrants of different nationalities.

Dr. Cornelis Wouters, who died in Brunssum, Limburg, Holland at the age of 81 years, received many distinctions. Some of these are: in 1961 the Gertrud Kumm Award for Citizenship from Governor General Lord Dunrossil; the Knighthood of the Order of the Star of Italian Solidarity; Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands personally handed him the "Zilveren Anjer" (Silver Carnation); and he was also distinguished by the Polish government. He also became a Knight of the Order of Oranje Nassau (Ridder in de Orde van Oranje Nassau).

On the occasion of his death in 1978 the following passage was written in the Dutch Australian Weekly:

"His influence on the Dutch Culture in the Australian community will undoubtedly bear fruit for a long time to come."

DUTCH CHOIR & FOLKLORIC GROUP DEE WHY

There is a small but very dedicated group of 25 people, who do their utmost to promote and represent Holland where and whenever necessary. Without any financial support from 'the outside', they perform on many occasions, for instance, the Cultural Display at the Domain during Carnivale, and more glamorously, the appearance in the Opera House during the Shell Folkloristic Festival. Other highlights are partaking in the Warringah Eisteddfod and winning prizes, performing on Australia Day in Canberra, Carols by Candlelight, and on many other occasions. The national costumes of the choir draw much attention. It also participates in the yearly Holland Festival.

The choir was founded within the Presbyterian Church, Dee Why (Dutch Charge), in March 1958. It sang initially in the Church to enhance the services, but over the years, the accent has shifted from purely religious to more general songs, although singing during church services is still being done. This change took place to establish a wider circle of activities. The younger generation only takes part in the folk dancing. In 1973 the choir changed its name to "Dutch Choir and Folkloric Group, Dee Why".

The outstanding reputation of this choir is mainly due to only a small number of members.

"SUNRISE" CHORAL SOCIETY

This choir grew out of a group of immigrants, who not only enjoyed one another's company, but even more so, the singalongs of their old country. So it happened that on May 25th, 1959, the choir was officially formed. At first all the songs were in Dutch, like the name, "Morgenrood", and music was ordered from the Netherlands, but little by little English and Australian songs crept into the repertoire, and

singers from various nationalities joined in. The name was changed into English to: Sunrise Choral Society.

At the moment there are 44 singers, who proudly wear their uniforms when performing. Those uniforms with emblems were acquired with a lot of singing, fundraising, raffles and so on. It took altogether 2 years to achieve this.

During the almost 25 years of singing, there have of course been many highlights and outstanding events. To name some of them: the International Concert at the opening of the Bankstown Civic Centre, Carols by Candlelight, concerts at the Bowral Tulip Festival, performing in Wollongong and recently in Melbourne, and best of all, performances with Marcia Hines and Jon English. Do not be deterred by this imposing list of achievements if you wish to join in the singalong. Just come any Monday evening to 15 Hereward Highway (Coreen Public School) in Blacktown at 8 p.m. You are welcome to join in rehearsals and eventually to sing in the choir when they perform.

DUTCH CARNIVAL SOCIETY "THE BOOMERANGS"

Nederlandse carnavalsvereniging De Boemerangs.

The Boomerangs keep one of the oldest traditions of Europe alive, that is the yearly Festival before Lent, "Carnaval". A big party is made of it, complete with the election of a "Prins Carnaval", his Lieutenants and entourage. The greatest ball is in March, followed by a Mid-Winter ball and a closing ball in October or November, when the 'Prince' of the year is 'buried', by voluntarily stepping down.

Because of the overwhelming enthusiasm and interest in these festivities, in particular from 'fair dinkum Australians', the Boomerangs have split up in 2 divisions. One to accommodate the people living in the Southern part of Sydney and one for those 'above' the

bridge. It is advisable to order tickets for their balls well in advance to avoid disappointments.

In 1961, after lengthy discussions in the Bankstown Club, the society was founded and given the extensive name, "Waar doen we het van" ('where does the money come from?'). Well, the money came through action and in February the first ball was sent rolling in co-operation with the Netherlands Society in Bankstown. Every member of the carnival society had to be guarantor for the princely sum of 10 Pounds, this was in case of shortage of funds (through not enough tickets being sold) to pay the bands, rent for the hall and other expenses. As well as that, the members had to pay for their own tickets and do a 'carnaval show'.

The fears were fortunately unfounded; that evening was a success and so were all the balls that followed. Less successful was the name. It was too cumbersome and for Australians, difficult to comprehend. Somebody suggested "The Boomerangs", because like a boomerang, 'carnaval' returns each year. The new name required a constitution and one of the rules was: dinner suits for all men. Despite the popularity of jeans, this tradition is still adhered to. And for a long time to come "The Boomerangs Alaaf" will be heard.

THE CITY OF BLACKTOWN CARNIVAL SOCIETY "THE JOKERS"

Like all the other carnival clubs, The Jokers consider it their duty to give as many people as possible a chance to enjoy themselves and have a great time. They keep in touch with other similar societies and have established a Council of Carnival Organisations of N.S.W. They hope in this manner to make close co-operation easier and to make it possible for more people to participate in their parties.

To create a pleasant evening for a lot of people one does of course not need a big committee. There are at present 50 members. In November 1966 there were 15 who formed the Council of Eleven and had a Prince with escorts.

The main reason for establishing the society was to convey the tradition and meaning of "carnaval" as known in Europe into Australia. It was therefore that an English name was chosen: The Blacktown Carnival Association "The Jokers". The adjective Dutch was left out on purpose to attract more non-Dutch born people and acquaint them with "Carnaval". At a later stage, when Blacktown became a city, the name was changed to the City of Blacktown Carnival Association "The Jokers".

The 'second generation' Australians are very interested in dancing and parties, but not in the meaning of carnival as such. But a lot of Australians are keen and make up a great number of the balls' participants. Highlights of the club were participation in the Waratah Festivals with a float made by themselves, the 11-year jubilee at which other carnival societies took part and 1200 people celebrated this event with them.

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In the course of the story the name Juliana Village cropped up time and again. It has hopefully become clear that this 'retirement village' came as a result of concerted efforts by many clubs and individuals. Also a great part of the Dutch community in N.S.W. helped to make the Juliana Village possible. The following story will tell how it all came about.

THE JULIANA VILLAGE FOR THE AGED

The Village provides accommodation for elderly people and consists of a well detailed, pleasantly sited group of buildings, which produce an excellent residential character in a central location for aged people. This was the verdict of the jury, when the Australian Council for Rehabilitation of the Disabled gave an award for this purpose-built project to the Danish born architect of the village, Leif Kristensen. His own peer group, the Royal Australian Institute of Architects, awarded Mr. Kristensen for the same project the prize for Beauty.

The Juliana Village, Miranda Road, Miranda, looks like a cluster of townhouses. The accommodation consists of 28 serviced units and 16 self contained units, together with community buildings such as hall, shop, library etc. This is all set in a pleasant garden, is close to Miranda station and the big shopping complex Miranda Fair.

How all this was made possible is a long story. It all started when a Dutchman had to spend some time in hospital. Despite a very good command of the English language and many shared interests with his room mates, he still felt an outsider. Subsequently his thoughts wandered to old age, when people tend to lose their adopted language and the loneliness that would accompany this. With unbelievable optimism and a capital of \$ 47.00 he managed to get some followers for this idea and managed to persuade a number of people to form a board of directors of The Juliana Village Association Ltd.

To get such a project off the ground, a project that finally was going to cost approximately one and a quarter million dollars, one needs lots of imagination, people, and of course, money. Money was raised in all sorts of ways: donations, Mardi Gras, certificates, raffles, and last but not least, a gift from the Queen Juliana Fund in Holland, which in turn

satisfied the requirements of the Department of Social Security, which then assisted with a grant to finish the project. It sounds simple, but it was not, and it was a great accomplishment for the many workers and members of the Board, when in October, 1980, the first residents moved into the Village. The number of enthusiastic and satisfied people grew so quickly that extensions soon had to be made.

In May 1984, the Juliana Village acquired additional land for this purpose. The additions consist of 29 self-contained units and 12 hostel units. Construction of the self-contained units was commenced in September 1984 and is expected to be completed in July 1985. Two thirds of these units are already leased. The twelve proposed hostel units will be built after the self contained units are completed. Once all of these extensions are realised, the assets of the Juliana Village Association Ltd. will be approximately \$ 3.5 m.

Further information available via the Administration of the Village.

This last story of how clubs and individuals manage to get a big project off the ground shows that, with a concerted effort, both the Australian and the Dutch Governments do give assistance for worthwhile projects.

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RELIGIOUS AND/OR WELFARE ORGANISATIONS

P.D.B.S.

Protestant Dutch Benevolent Society

The P.D.B.S. started its work in Australia in 1948. It began as a social committee of the Dutch congregation of the Presbyterian Church and was called "Diakonie", which, in 1970, became the P.D.M.A. (Protestant Dutch Migrant Association). Elders and Deacons of the Dutch congregation gave moral and often social support to newly arrived immigrants. Over the years the work of the P.D.B.S. has shifted from religious to social and welfare work. More and more emphasis is placed on assisting the aged immigrant - not only in moral support, but in a very practical way too, by organising coffee mornings ("instuiven") and other self-help programmes, often in cooperation with the C.D.M.A. and other welfare organisations.

On those coffee mornings, which are well attended, the older immigrant can talk with people of the same age and background and quite often starts organising things for others. The P.D.B.S. also organises outings for the aged, in the way of bus tours, lunches and so on. Money for these activities is raised through donations, stalls in various shopping centres, selling of arts and crafts and of course the yearly "Wooden Shoe Bazaar" held in October in the hall of the Uniting Church in Ultimo.

The P.D.M.A. as such could not become a member of the Federation of Netherlands Societies, therefore some structural changes were necessary. This happened in 1977 when the P.D.B.S. was formed, which is basically a continuation of the P.D.M.A. If you want to go to an "Instuif", please contact the person named in the list at the end of this booklet. Information is also available regarding Dutch Church Services, and/or Indonesian-Dutch Services.

THE C.D.M.A. AUSTRALIA

Catholic Dutch Migrant Association

This association was founded in Sydney on 17-8-61 with the aim to assist the Catholic migrant chaplains with their work among the Dutch in N.S.W. This work consisted mainly of finding work and accommodation for newly arrived immigrants, but assistance was also given with acquiring finance.

Australian solicitors provided legal assistance on an honorary basis. For many years the C.D.M.A. had its own St. Vincent de Paul conference. Organisation of religious services, retreats and study weekends for families also formed an important part of its work.

The C.D.M.A. is one of the main welfare organisations in the Dutch community. Its services are not restricted to its own members, but is provided for all those in need. Close co-operation with other welfare organisations such as the P.D.B.S., the Queen Wilhelmina Benevolent Fund and St. Vincent de Paul has been maintained over the years. When "Neerlandia" started its member drive linked to cheap group travel, the C.D.M.A. and the Netherlands Society in Illawarra were party to the 'Link'.

Since 1970, fully independent branches have been established in Melbourne, Geelong, and Gippsland in Victoria, Canberra, Brisbane, and in N.S.W. South Coast & Tablelands and Macarthur District. The original C.D.M.A. is called C.D.M.A. Australia (N.S.W.).

Although welfare work is still the main objective of this association, the emphasis has shifted to work among the ageing members of the community. In 1977 a vigorous programme commenced to avert the loneliness and despair of so many of the elderly, with the result that some 250 -300 people have regular get-togethers (instuiven) in 8 areas of Sydney. Two substantial grants for this work were received from the Queen

Juliana Fund in Holland. The C.D.M.A. in Melbourne also received money for a similar programme.

Over the years, several grants were obtained from both State and Federal departments for its welfare work. Some of these came from the Ethnic Affairs Commission and others from the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs. The monthly paper "Het Kompas", while keeping members informed of its activities, also publishes articles of general interest. This paper has received grants from the Ethnic Affairs Commission and the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs.

Because of its special character, the C.D.M.A. only occasionally provides its members with social events like dance evenings and the like. Its main source of income is the annual membership fee.

There is a special night only once a year, "De Bonte Avond", which is a night of dancing and variety. The 20th anniversary in 1981 began with a National Conference of C.D.M.A.'s in March. In June the well known St. Gregory Choir from Melbourne came to Sydney for a choral concert and the celebrations finished with an Anniversary Ball in September.

The National Conference in Sydney had Drs. Jos Van Campen, Director of Catholic emigration in Holland, as guest speaker. The first Conference took place in Melbourne in 1980 when Bishop Th. Zwartkruis, now deceased, was present. The third Conference was held in 1983 in Canberra.

NETHERLANDS EX-SERVICEMEN & WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION IN AUSTRALIA

The Association, which has its National Headquarters in Sydney N.S.W., operates branches in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania.

The formation took place in October 1969 and consisted of a merger of the "Netherlands Ex-Marines" and the "Nederlandse Oud Strijders", which since 1951 operated as two entirely separate organisations.

The "Netherlands Ex-Marines" were founded through a get-together at the home of the then Consul-General in Sydney on the 10th December 1951. This was instigated by a well known Commander of the "Mariniers Brigade" in the former Dutch Indies. The purpose of the meeting was to celebrate the birthday of "Het Korps Mariniers".

After that meeting approximately 40 ex-marines got together every year on December 10 in a very traditional style of their own. A Committee was formed and this arranged for other socials and kept members informed.

"Nederlandse Oud Strijders" originally consisted of a group of 1940-1945 "Oud Indisch gasten" and ex-Korean veterans. They were the first ethnic organisation to march in the Anzac Day March in Wollongong. Later they joined the Americans and French ex-servicemen in the Anzac Day March in Sydney. From the start, the ex-service personnel of Air Force, Army and Navy were part of this group.

The Association is now represented in the Anzac Day Marches in all capital cities.

In 1976 The Association became a member of the "World Veterans Federation". This is an organisation with member organisations in all countries of the world, irrespective whether they at one time may have been enemies. The aim and objectives of this Federation is to maintain peace worldwide and to advise and liaise with all Governments. The Federation has its National Headquarters in Paris. The World President is Mr. W.C.J. van Lanschot, a Dutchman, who has been in this function for many years.

Also in 1976, the group joined "The Australian Services Council", now known as "The Australian Veterans and Defence Services Council". This Council, which has many Australian Ex-service organisations as its members, is mainly concerned with the welfare of ex-service and defence services personnel. It will recommend to the Australian Government proposals relative to the welfare of ex-service personnel. It was mainly through this Council and the Ex-Servicemen's Committee's efforts, that in late 1979, the Australian Government granted a service pension to Allied Ex-Servicemen & Women. This entitles the person qualifying to obtain the normal pension at the age of 60 or an invalid pension, where applicable.

In 1979, "The Netherlands Ex-Servicemen & Women's Benevolent Fund" was incorporated and has funds available to assist any member in financial need.

The association is very much involved in assistance in obtaining Dutch military pensions for those who qualify.

Most branch-committees now have a welfare worker and this person will assist or seek outside assistance if so required with any problems the members may encounter. Most of the branches arrange their own social nights which are usually well patronised.

THE QUEEN WILHELMINA BENEVOLENT FUND Het Koningin Wilhelmina Fonds

This fund is a charitable organisation which helps people of Dutch descent who are eligible for assistance from the Fund. In case of illness, disasters or whatever, the Fund will assist where possible. When there are financial difficulties, donations may be given, and where necessary, food

parcels and clothing. It stands to reason that this organisation is always in need of money. Assistance is given in a confidential manner and is determined by the trustees, often on the advice of a social worker or a religious organisation. The Fund's capital is managed by 7 trustees.

This Fund is the oldest relief organisation in Australia. In March 1903, the then Consul-General of the Netherlands took the initiative to establish The Netherlands Aid Society in Australia and New Zealand. Its object was to give financial support to people in difficulties and to pay for the return fare of those who wished to go back to Holland. Money to return to Holland is no longer given. Furthermore, aid was given to people in search of work. It is, however, a fact that the people who received support in the early years were without exception seamen.

In the beginning it was a society with members. This changed in 1943, when H.M. Queen Wilhelmina gave her permission to the fund to use her name. At that time the Queen Wilhelmina Benevolent Fund was officially registered. There is close cooperation between the Princes Marijke Fund in Queensland, the P.D.B.S., the C.D.M.A. and the Ex-Servicemen & Women's Association.

RADIO 2EA

Dutch Language Programme

The Dutch language programme initially appeared as a pilot programme in June 1976. The Department of Post and Telecommunications, being under much pressure from the ethnic groups in Sydney (and Melbourne), took responsibility for the technical broadcast facilities.

The Dutch were about the seventh group on air. They had to overcome some resistance, because it had been accepted that they were completely assimilated in the general community. It was also as a result of the

radio broadcasts that the realisation grew that assimilation is impossible and that many need help to integrate.

Volunteers produced the early programmes, often at their own expense. They built up a large listening audience.

The Special Broadcasting Service was created by the Federal Government in 1979. The S.B.S was charged with the provision of multilingual radio and multi-cultural T.V. (Channel 0/28). Radio 2EA, the Sydney station of the S.B.S., broadcasts weekly in 52 languages. The S.B.S. has its own news service with extensive links with news services overseas.

Four part-time broadcasters are appointed to the Dutch language programme. They were selected by a panel which contained two well known personalities from the Dutch community.

The programmes still draw a considerable listening audience. They are prepared locally and presented 'live' from the studios in Clarence Street and programmes often contain items received from the transcription service of "Radio Nederland Wereld Omroep".

One of the highlights of the Dutch language programmes was the direct broadcast of the inauguration speech of H.M. Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands in 1980.

The radio production is supported by a listeners association which publishes a quarterly information sheet.

Radio 2EA Dutch Programme can be heard on Mondays from 11 a.m.-12 noon, Thursdays 4 p.m.-5 p.m. and Sundays 9 a.m.-10 a.m. on the AM band, 1386 Khz, Wollongong 1485 Khz and Newcastle 1584 Khz.

DUTCH AUSTRALIAN CENTRE LTD.

The Dutch Australian Centre, officially founded at a meeting on the 6th December, 1982, represents the dream held by many in the Dutch community in Australia.

It is to be the Headquarters of all Cultural/Social activities in the Dutch Australian community.

It is to become at the same time, a point of informative contact between past and present, and a display of the contribution made by the Dutch.

In the preliminary plan, therefore, room is made for a library, reading/research, information, archives, offices for meetings, the social worker, and the means of communication (newspaper, radio, T.V.). It will be used for a permanent display of the Dutch settlement history as well as exhibitions of shorter duration. There may also be a trade display hall.

A start has been made with the collection of material for the archives and the future library. A grant for the library had been received through the Netherlands Society in Sydney from the State Government. The centre itself received a grant for archives from the same authority

In 1983 the D.A.C. organised an Art exhibition in the Bondi Pavillion. On display were works by Dutch artists living in or born in Australia. During Carnivale 1983 and 1984, the D.A.C. arranged for Dutch films to be shown in the Paddington Town Hall, now Chauvel Cinema.

Considerably more work is required. The D.A.C. has been incorporated since May 1984 and is now The Dutch Australian Centre Ltd. Attention will be given to fund raising to achieve the goal of being in their own premises by 1988. The Secretary will forward any further information.

We now come to the publishers of this booklet:

FEDERATION OF NETHERLANDS SOCIETIES LTD.

Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen Ltd.

One of the main objectives of the Federation is to provide a meeting place for affiliated organisations, who have similar objectives in mind, or who want to discuss subjects of importance to the whole of the Dutch community. For example, in 1978, when efforts were made to terminate direct air services to several European countries, including the Netherlands, action was taken to prevent the proposed termination of direct air services between Australia and the Netherlands.

This action, initiated by the Federation, in co-operation with the Associated Netherlands Societies in Victoria, resulted in thousands and thousands of letters and telegrams being sent to the Minister for Transport and the Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs. Letters were also sent to all Members of the House of Representatives in Canberra and later to all Cabinet Ministers and the Ministers who were not Members of Cabinet. At a later date again, the same was done by approaching the Liberal Members of the House of Representatives who were not Ministers. The daily newspapers reported extensively on the various proposed changes in the Government's aviation policy and public reactions thereto. By way of illustration, two quotations:-

1. an article by Ali Cromie in the Australian Financial Review of July 12, 1978, headed "Assurance Refused on KLM Landing Rights". A section of this article read: ... "The Dutch community in Australia has rallied to support KLM, deluging Mr Nixon's office with thousands of letters and telegrams, attacking any plan to terminate the airline's services." (the Hon.

Peter James Nixon M.P. was Minister for Transport at that time).

2. Rydge's Comment, July 1978: "An avalanche of protests".

Many of the numerous reactions received by the Federation were very encouraging and the proposed termination of air services did not take place.

At present, there are bi-monthly meetings of the affiliated organisations. At these meetings, matters of interest are discussed and resolutions of members are carried out between meetings by the Board of Directors of the Federation. In practice the Federation handles matters outside the scope of its individual members, or supports action taken by members when asked to do so, for example, representations to the Government.

Such representations were made regarding social services for aged people of Dutch background, Ethnic Radio Dutch Programme, and similar objectives that are too big to be handled by one individual club. Another activity is the yearly "Oranje Bal" to celebrate the occasion of the birthday of the Queen of the Netherlands.

Other activities over the years were the organisation of entertainment for the crew of Dutch naval ships on their goodwill visits in 1970 and 1973, a reception in honour of H.R.H. Prince Bernhard during his visit to Sydney in February 1973 and a large reception in May 1978 when the Queen of the Netherlands, then H.R.H. Princess Beatrix, and H.R.H. Prince Claus paid a visit to Sydney; and last but not least, the organisation of the Holland Festival.

The Federation of Netherlands Societies was incorporated in 1967 under the Companies Act 1961 as a Company limited by guarantee. Before this was achieved, a lot of water went under the bridge.

Already in the early fifties, regular meetings were held by representatives of various clubs at the house of the Consul-General of the Netherlands to come to a kind of umbrella organisation which could deal at government level. In 1959 a first attempt was made to form a Federation of Dutch Societies, but this was not very successful. Some clubs were of the opinion that such a body would interfere with their activities. Looking back, this proved to be wrong. Although regular meetings continued, there was still no legal identity, which after a while proved to be a necessity. It was not until 1967 that unity was achieved - a unity that seems to have grown over the years as more and bigger projects were undertaken.

The Patron of the Federation of Netherlands Societies is the Consul-General of the Netherlands in Sydney.

THE NEW SOUTH WALES-HOLLAND FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

In 1980, when the idea was put forward to have a great big Dutch manifestation, it was realised that for such an undertaking, many people were needed and that the Board of the Federation on its own could not do this. A committee was therefore appointed which organises and oversees the whole of the Festival which has been held yearly since 1982. Although most of the work done for the Festival is on a voluntary basis, it was decided in 1983 to pay three people on a part-time basis. This arrangement was made to ensure that the Holland Festival would be run along generally accepted business principles and also to ensure the continuity of the Festival on the scale of the first two years.

The objectives of the Festival are:

1. To show the integration of the Dutch community into Australian Society
2. To just have a lot of fun
3. To raise funds for charity.

If one has been to a Holland Festival, one will appreciate the amount of work and time involved to get such an event off the ground. One will also realise that it is very difficult, if not impossible, in the long run, to organise an event like this on a spare time basis.

In February 1984 the Festival was extended and a Trade Fair included. The committee is confident to attract even more people than on the earlier occasions, when approximately 25,000 people went through the gates at each Festival.

As with any club work, the Holland Festival can only succeed with the co-operation of a great number of dedicated and well motivated voluntary workers.

THE SOCIAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

The objectives of this committee are:

Sensitising Government Departments, other organisations and individuals to the real needs of the Dutch community.

Acting as a forum for the exchange of information, trends and ideas in the Social Welfare field, partly through association and membership of e.g. Council on the Ageing, ACOSS.

Acting as an advisory body to members of the Federation and others on Welfare matters, programmes and needs in the Dutch community.

Co-ordinating Welfare work within the Dutch community and acting as a referral Centre for individual cases.

Prepare for the taking over of the "Aged

Programme", at present administered by the Catholic Dutch Migrant Association Australia (NSW).

Examine and further define objectives as may be found necessary from time to time.

To be successful, any committee needs a lot of support. This is forthcoming in great measure from the community.

NURSING HOME COMMITTEE

This committee is actively carrying out a feasibility study regarding the establishment of a nursing home or, alternatively, the provision of nursing care for aged and needy Dutch immigrants.

On 22nd October, 1984, the Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs at the time, advised the Federation as follows:

"I am pleased to advise you that the application from your organisation for funding under the Migrant Project Subsidy Scheme was successful and that I have approved a grant of \$4,000 for the survey of elderly Dutch migrants living in institutions, identify their welfare needs and assess the need for a nursing home."

This grant was gratefully accepted and will be put to good use.

To get an idea of how many aged and elderly Dutch born people live in Sydney and N.S.W., please turn to Appendix 3. This table also shows projections for the future.

**FEDERATION OF NETHERLANDS SOCIETIES LTD.
BENEVOLENT FUND**

This fund is the recipient of the net surplus of the N.S.W.-Holland Festival by way of donation from the Federation of Netherlands Societies Ltd.

It is guided by recommendations made by the members of the Federation of Netherlands Societies Ltd. when together in general meeting.

The Fund is registered under the provisions of the Charitable Collections Act, 1934-41, at Sydney, June 1977. Certificate of registration No. CC. 23229.

Two institutions have not yet been described. Both are offshoots of the Terminating Building Societies. The first is:

N.E.S.I.S.

Netherlands Savings and Investment Society Ltd.

This institution is a non-profit organisation established to provide extra finance to people of Dutch descent for home improvements, especially those who were connected with the Netherlands Co-operative Housing Society (formerly the Netherlands Co-operative Building Societies, whose name was changed in 1981). The affairs of N.E.S.I.S. are managed by the same office as that of the Netherlands Co-operative Housing Society. It is a small finance company and interest rates are available on request.

N.E.S.I.S. Ltd was formed in May 1961 for the abovementioned purpose, but being a non-profitable organisation, all surplus money goes to charitable institutions, for instance, during the period 1975-1982 more than \$ 8,000 was donated to the Juliana Village.

THE NETHERLANDS BENEVOLENT TRUST FUND

The Netherlands Benevolent Trust Fund was founded in March 1980 under the sponsorship of the Netherlands Emigration Board at The Hague. The objectives of the Trust Fund, which evolved from the activities of the Netherlands Housing Societies in Australia, are to assist migrants of Dutch origin and otherwise further the general welfare of the Dutch community by providing financial benefits to charitable organisations operating for the advancement of the Dutch Community in Australia.

The Trust Fund is managed and controlled by a Board consisting of five trustees, the majority of whom must be persons of Dutch nationality or Dutch origin.

The Trust Fund's income is derived from interest received on investments in the Netherlands Savings and Investment Society of N.S.W., Netherlands Investment Society in Victoria and the Australian Netherlands Credit Union Limited.

In March each year, the Trustees distribute the interest received over the preceding twelve months to various charitable organisations which conform to the objectives set out in the first paragraph.

Over recent years, the Queen Wilhelmina Fund, the Princess Marijke Relief Fund of Queensland, the Juliana Village Association of N.S.W. and other similar charitable organisations have been given financial assistance which is not confined to any particular State. It should be mentioned that special financial assistance was given to victims of the disastrous bush fires in Victoria and South Australia in 1982 through the Dutch Fire Victims Relief Fund.

* * * * *

Federation of Netherlands Societies Ltd.

Patron

Mr J.Th. van Leeuwen,
Consul-General of The Netherlands, Sydney.

Honorary Member

Mr C. Mossel,
Senior Emigration Officer for New South Wales and
Queensland (retired).

Board Members

Mr A.F. Kool	Chairman
Mr H. van der Weide	Hon. Secretary
Mr R. Schilling	Hon. Treasurer
Mr C. Zentveld	Vice Chairman
Mr A.G. Hasaart	Member
Mr Th. ten Brummelaar	"
Mr H.L.J. Hanssen	"
Mr A.G. Man	"
Mr H. Warnas	"

Federation of Netherlands Societies Ltd and
Federation of Netherlands Soc. Ltd Benevolent Fund

Hon. Secretary:

Mr H. van der Weide
53 Hinemoa Avenue
Normanhurst N.S.W. 2076
Telephone: (02) 48-4857

COMMITTEES

New South Wales-Holland Festival Committee

Hon. Secretary:
Mrs M. van Ginneken,
19 Brian Street,
Merrylands N.S.W. 2160
Telephone: (02) 632-5290

Social Welfare Committee

Hon Secretary:
Mrs H. Roggeveen,
71 Glebe Place,
Penrith 2750
(047) 32-2978

Nursing Home Committee

Hon. Secretary:
Mr Ch. Verheyden,
139 Bettington Rd,
Dundas 2117
683-2951

AFFILIATED CLUBS AND SOCIETES AND HON. SECRETARIES

Blue Mountains Dutch Club

Mr G. Versteegen,
P.O. Box 50,
Springwood 2777
(047) 51-2608

Canberra Dutch Club Inc.

Mr Ron Jones,
P.O. Box 77,
Mawson (ACT) 2607
(062) 86-5580

Catholic Dutch Migrant Association Australia (N.S.W.)

Mrs J. Passchier,
P.O. Box 2447,
Parramatta North 2151
683-1991

Catholic Dutch Migrant Association Australia
(MacArthur District)

Mrs J. Juffermans,
53 Bligh Avenue,
Camden South 2570
(046) 55-1136

Catholic Dutch Migrant Association Australia
(Sth Coast & Tablelands)

Mr L. Boers,
P.O. Box 18,
Fairy Meadow 2519
(042) 67-1209

The City of Blacktown Carnival Society "The Jokers"

Mr R. Szibrowski,
66 Cambridge St,
Blacktown 2148
621-1145

"Concordia" Dutch Australian Society Newcastle
& District

Mr J. de Wit,
P.O. Box 16,
Cardiff 2285
(049) 54-5227

The Dutch Australian Society "Neerlandia" Ltd

Mrs G. Katz,
P.O. Box 2,
Narrabeen 2101
669-6844

Dutch Australian Society in Illarawarra "D.A.S.I."

Mrs C. Lensink,
P.O. Box 219,
East Woollongong 2500
(042) 28-4602

The Dutch Australian Centre Ltd

Mrs Th. C.M. de Wit,
3 Bowen Avenue,
Turramurra 2074
44-4229

Dutch Carnival Society "The Boomerangs"

Mr F.P.E. van Roosmalen,
141 McIntosh Rd,
Dee Why 2099
982-2774

Dutch Choir & Folkloric Group "Dee Why"

Mrs S. Lammers,
918 Pittwater Rd,
Dee Why 2099
98-0709

Dutch Folkdance Group

Hon. Secretary,
Flat 2, 5-7 Forman St,
Glenfield 2167
605-7814

Hawkesbury & District Dutch Australian Society
Mr W. Vandermey,
McCann Rd,
Rossmore 2171
606-5989

Hollands Glorie

Hon. Secretary,
19 Janica Crescent,
Mount Colah 2079

The Juliana Village for the Aged

Mr A. de Haas,
58 Miranda Rd,
Miranda 2228
524-8409

N.A.S.C. Wilhelmina Ltd

Secretary Manager,
122-128 Rooty Hill Rd Nth,
Rooty Hill 2766
625-0298

Netherlands Society in Sydney

Mr H.C. von Chrismar,
Box 4709 G.P.O.,
Sydney 2001
848-0953

Netherlands Society in the Sutherland Shire

Hon. Secretary,
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Sutherland 2232
528-9274

The Netherlands Society in Bankstown

Mrs A. Sarfaty,
57 Windsor Road,
Padstow 2211
77-7524

Netherlands Ex Servicemen & Women's Association in
Australia, N.S.W. Branch

Mr W.F. Engelbrecht,
40 Baker St,
Merrylands 2160
637-9732

N.S.W. Klaverjas Federation

Mrs I. Newton,
39 Kurrajong Crescent,
Blacktown 2148
621-3480

Protestant Dutch Benevolent Society

Mrs W. van der Ven,
27 Threlfall St,
Eastwood 2122
858-5118

The Queen Wilhelmina Benevolent Fund

Hon. Secretary,
G.P.O. Box 4152,
Sydney 2001
231-3511

Radio 2EA Dutch Language Programme

Mrs L. Wamsteker,
19 Selwyn St,
Paddington 2021
358-4094

Rembrandt Club St Mary's

Mr Fr. Klaasen,
13 Ballymena St,
Hassall 2270
623-3380

Sunrise Choral Society

Mr C.G. Hijstek,
65 Grayford Crescent,
Mount Pritchard 2170
607-0353

NON-AFFILIATED ORGANISATIONS

The Netherlands Co-Operative Terminating Building Societies

The name was changed in 1981 and is now:
Netherlands Co-operative Housing Society

Netherlands Savings and Investment Society Ltd

The Netherlands Benevolent Trust Fund

Secretary to the abovementioned organisations:

Mr F.E. Pushee,
Associated Midlands House,
6th Floor,
171-175 Clarence St,
Sydney 2000

APPENDIX "1"

NETHERLANDS RELIEF FUND
SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

RECEIPTS

General Donations		4302/ 6/ 7	
Monthly Donations		2776/17/ -	
<u>Special Appeals</u>			
May 10th 1940 - Commemoration Day	184/ 5/ 3		
Van Galen Fund	88/ 8/ 4		
Spitfire Fund	248/ -/ -		
Princess Margriet Fund	2567/ 2/ -		
Princess Margriet Plates	384/14/11		
Christmas Parcels 1942/43	145/19/10		
Christmas Parcels 1943/44	545/ 2/ 6	4163/12/10	
<u>Proceeds of Sale of Badges</u>		5424/12/ 4	
<u>Proceeds of Functions</u>		1818/13/ 8	
<u>Receipts regarding Dutch Clubs, Pitt Street and Bridge Street</u>			
Takings	671/18/ 5		
Subsidy "Nederland ter Zee	869/17/ -		
Sale of furniture not transferred to Neth. Forces canteen	30/ -/ -	1571/15/ 5	
<u>Contest Receipts</u>		256/ 8/ 6	
<u>Interest Commonwealth Savings Bank</u>		224/13/ 3	

Sydney, 26/1/46
The Honorary Treasurers
D.J. v.d. Laan
H.C. Hart

TOTAL IN AUSTRALIAN POUNDS 20,538/19/ 7

AT SYDNEY
FOR PERIOD JUNE, 1940 TO JANUARY 26TH, 1946

PAYMENTS

Purchase of Goods

Wool for Garments	470/18/ -	
Blankets	2533/ 3/ 5	
Socks and Woollen Garments	1888/ 2/10	
Soap	1173/ 8/ 6	
Christmas Parcels	1149/ 6/ 5	7214/19/ 2

Remittances to London

May 10th - Commemoration Day	184/ 5/ 3	
Van Galen Fund	8/ 4	
Prince Bernhard Fund	1000/ -/ -	
Seamens Comforts Fund	200/ -/ -	
Princess Margriet Fund	2451/ 5/ 2	4223/18/ 9

Other Donations

Netherlands Indies Red Cross	1000/ -/ -	
Queen Wilhelmina Fund	450/ -/ -	
St Vincent De Paul	25/ -/ -	
Hospitality Hut - Miss Marsh	21/ -/ -	
Nieuws Berichten	10/ -/ -	
Australian Comforts Fund	5/ -/ -	
Seamen's Mission	5/ -/ -	1516/ -/ -

Purchase of Badges

Expenses Functions	699/16/ 7	
Expenses free function (Sailors' Entertainment)	430/10/ 2	1130/ 6/ 9
Purchase of Badges - Pr. Marg Fund	87/15/ 3	
Expenses Pr. Margriet Fund	28/ 1/ 7	115/16/10

Purchase Pr. Margriet Plates

Expenses Old Dutch Club (closed Nov. 1942)		1695/18/ 6
---	--	------------

Equipment to make articles by Patients Turramurra	50/ -/ -	
--	----------	--

Sundry Relief Payments	321/ 2/ 6	
------------------------	-----------	--

Visiting and Issues to Patients	453/11/ 7	
---------------------------------	-----------	--

Postage, Stationery, etc.	172/11/10	
---------------------------	-----------	--

Sundries	28/ 7/ 2	
----------	----------	--

Cabinet for Records	4/ 6/ 6	
---------------------	---------	--

BALANCE	1,689/19/ 5
TOTAL IN AUSTRALIAN POUNDS	20,538/19/ 7

APPENDIX "2"
ATTACHMENT "A"

NETHERLANDS CO-OPERATIVE BUILDING SOCIETIES

Three schemes were formed involving overseas funds totalling \$7.77m and matching funds provided by Australian lenders totalling \$10.07m, i.e. an overall total of \$17.84m.

Particulars of individual schemes are as follows:-

1. 1st Scheme

Formed under April 1959 Agreement with \$2.67m Netherlands funds matched \$ for \$ by Austrian lenders = \$ 5.34m

2nd Scheme

Formed under June 1960 Agreement with \$2.6m Netherlands funds matched by \$2.4m provided by Australian lenders = \$ 5.0m

3rd Scheme

Formed under September 1966 Agreement with \$2.5m Netherlands funds matched \$2 for \$1 by Australian lenders = \$7.5m

\$17.84m

(Appendix 2 cont'd)

2. Details of matching funds:

<u>Lender</u>	<u>1st Scheme</u>	<u>2nd Scheme</u>	<u>3rd Scheme</u>	<u>\$'000 Total</u>
CSB	1,070	1,200	700	2,970
Wales SB	700	400	400	1,500
ANZ SB	400	250	200	850
SSB of Vic	300	450	400	1,150
CBC SB	200	100	200	500
SBA SB			200	200
ES&A SB			100	100
National SB			200	200
R&I SB			100	100
C/S/H/A/ all States			2,500	2,500
	<u>2,670</u>	<u>2,400</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>10,070</u>

3. The Societies formed under the three schemes have completed their lending and have provided some 2,500 homes for Dutch migrant families.

CSB HEAD OFFICE
Loans Division,
25 July 1978

APPENDIX "3"

FEDERATION OF NETHERLANDS SOCIETIES LTD.

Actual and projected figures for persons aged 70+, born in the Netherlands, for the Sydney Statistical Division and for the State of New South Wales.

	<u>SYDNEY</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL PERSONS</u>
1) 1981	1981	405	434	839
3) 1986	1986	704	778	1482
3) 1991	1991	951	1178	2129
2) 2001	2001	1506	1722	3228

	<u>STATE OF NSW</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL PERSONS</u>
1) 1981	1981	591	629	1223
2) 1986	1986	1050	1162	2212
2) 1991	1991	1419	1759	3178
2) 2001	2001	2251	2784	5035

People of Dutch ethnic background born in Indonesia, Belgium and in other countries are not included in the table above.

- 1) Source: A.B.S. 1981 Census of Population Sydney Office
- 2) Projections made available by the Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs
- 3) Tables for 1986 and 1991 not available
Figures listed are 67% of the corresponding figures for the State of N.S.W.

APPENDIX "4"

It might be interesting to show a few figures from the 1981 Census as published in:

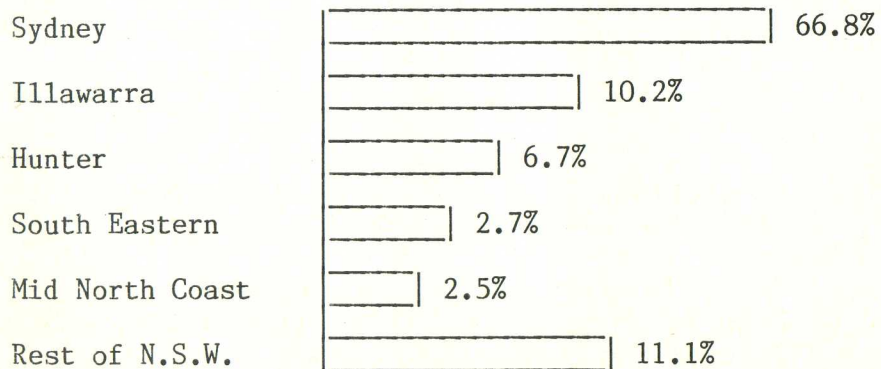
Ethnic Communities in N.S.W. A Handbook of Statistics, Pages 25,26,27 and 28.

Published by: The Ethnic Communities Council of N.S.W., September, 1983.

1. Persons born in the Netherlands & living in N.S.W. - 25,128 Males - 13,758 Females - 11,370

2. Where do they live in N.S.W.?

2a Statistical Divisions

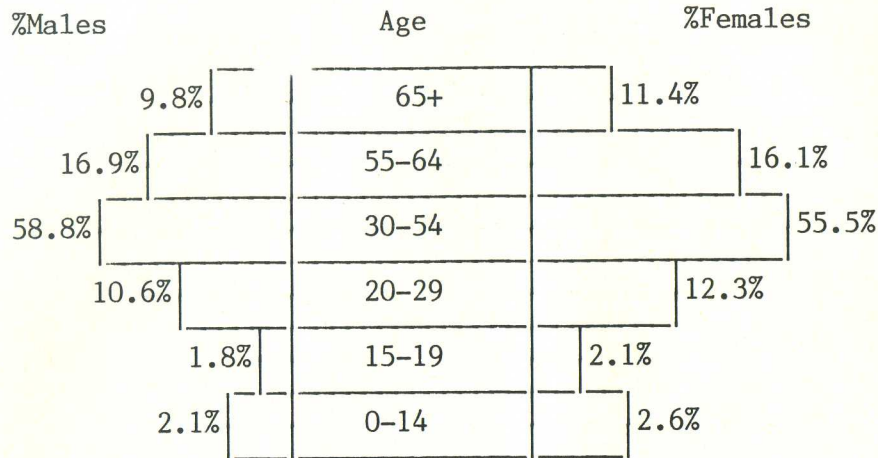


(Appendix 4 cont'd)

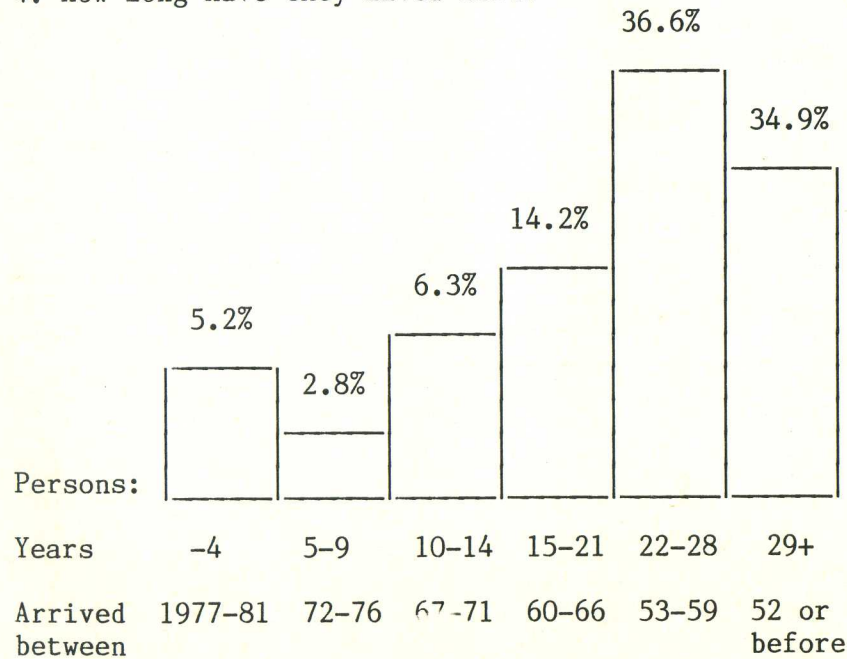
2b Local Government Areas in Sydney Statistical Division

LGA	%
Warringah	11.1
Blacktown	8.7
Penrith	7.4
Sutherland	6.8
Hornsby	4.3
Baulkham Hills	3.9
Blue Mountains	3.6
Fairfield	3.5
Rest of Sydney	50.7

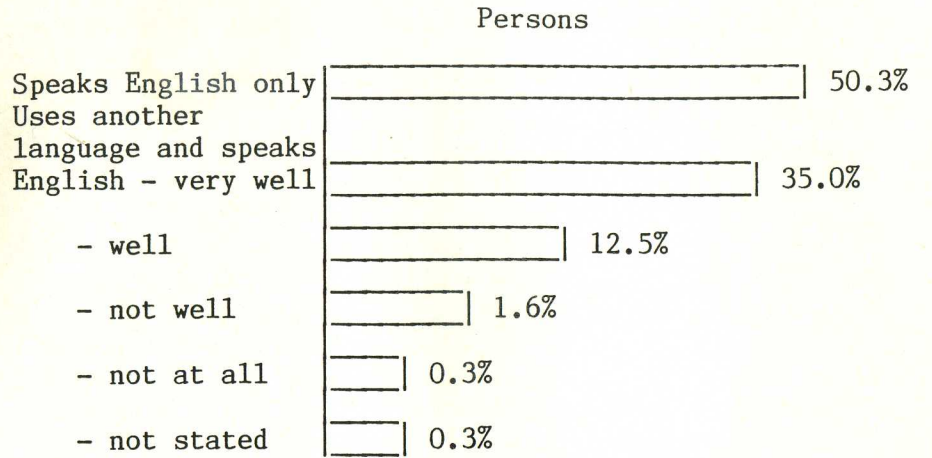
3. How old are they?



4. How long have they lived here?



5. English language ability (persons aged 5 years +)



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