



JULY - AUGUST 2026

Issue 243

Australia

Nederland



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



We are on our way to the *Cardiff RSL - Saturday 25 July* to enjoy another great day with our guest artist **Michael Montgomery**.

*Concordia is a Dutch - Australian Social Club - Established in 1957*  
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<b>Ann Beckers</b>	0448 311 147	<b>Joop de Wit</b>	Federation Representative

**We invite everyone to all our functions. "Gezelligheid kent geen tijd"**

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**Any of the above information, wrong or out of date, please contact the editor at your earliest convenience, we will be able to change or make an immediate alteration in the general interest of our members.**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

**D**id you realize that from the first week of July it's only 25 weeks till Christmas? Did that startle you? It did me! I know some of you already started **2026** Christmas the day after last year's Christmas. Most, if not all goods, are basically half price including many other bargains. Being a typical Dutch person, I cannot see why not, you certainly save some money when you have the room to store the gifts and decorations for next Christmas. It sure makes a lot of sense. Some of you might even be done with Christmas, but for those of us who aren't, you still have 25 weeks to go!

**While Concordia isn't in hibernation**, our committee is busy organising the next get-together for **Saturday 25th July**. Our well known **Michael Montgomery** will be our guest entertainer with a repertoire of songs that we all remember, all his past shows were a huge success. Due to your personal response we decided to do it all again this year. **Michael** happens to be a great entertainer and had the audience eating out of his hand. At the end of his show we asked all those in attendance if they wanted him to do another show in future and the sound of **'YES'** was deafening. It was good to hear and also nice to be together as a large happy family, seeing many twinkles in the eyes of all those in attendance. The atmosphere at his last show was something else. So, here we are 16 months later and we are doing it again. We envisage to see as many people at this special function. This is also an opportunity to bring anyone along to a great show including an all you can eat luncheon, coffee and tea for only **\$20 Dollars per person**.

**Being the end of Concordia's fiscal year**, a reminder to pay your **2026-2027** membership. We give you around 2 month's to pay, in addition you may also give us a financial gift if you enjoy and value our services. You may pay directly from your bank account into ours. Further information in this issue. Don't let **Concordia** down. This time I'm afraid there is no more pussyfooting around. Those who haven't paid their membership by the end of August will be scratched off the mailing list. It's now up to you...to be or not to be! I mentioned in our last issue the streamlining of our new fees. This latest streamlining has resolved some issues in having a much better system for the treasurer's administration, as all our annual memberships are only **\$20**.

**For those who are sick...** a get well wish. **For those who are sad.....keep smiling. For those who are cranky.....look into the mirror and make a face..!**

Looking forward seeing all of you on **Saturday 25th July** at the **Cardiff RSL**.

Until next time.... your secretary/editor *Joop*

***From the Presidents Desk - Toni Somerville***

**D**ear readers, Thank you everyone for attending the May function, which included 6 additional guests. We hope all our guests enjoyed the day and happy to come again.

**There was a fair bit of orange worn by members**, which was nice to see. Special to have **Mia** and **Jan Joosten** from the Rembrandt club joining us. Thank you very much, great to catch up with you.

**Our clever committee member, Jopie Ryan**, decorated the tables beautifully again in keeping with remembering the fallen in all wars and conflicts, **Liberation Day, Kings birthday and Mother's Day**. **Jopie** also donated a belated Mother's Day gift to all mums present. Sincere thanks **Jopie**.

**Joop provided the entertainment** after lunch with the first part being a solemn occasion. After that, there was much laughter as **Joop** showed a fun program. Thanks **Joop**. Compliments to **Joop** also for the newsletters, always an interesting read. And to **Jib** who takes photos of members with many included in the newsletters.

**Memberships are due in July**. Sincere thanks to everyone who has already paid and also to members who add a donation at functions, and raffle tickets sold. We are most grateful for your donations.

**At the July function Michael Montgomery** will entertain us for the first hour after lunch. If you have not heard **Michael** before, please book with **Joop** and come as he is fantastic. **Joop** will entertain us for the second part of the afternoon.

**Our member, Henk Jut**, passed away May 21. Sincere condolences to **Henk's** daughter, **Monica**, who brought **Henk** to every function in his wheelchair and also to family members and friends. We will miss **Henk**.

**Please join us on July 25** for another super function. Meet up with friends, an all you can eat smorgasbord lunch and great entertainment. And for only **\$20.00**. How good is that!

**Until next time**, take care, keep well and stay warm. *Toni.*

***New Dieting tip:***

***Just fill up your car's fuel tank and you won't be able to afford buying your groceries...More tips next issues!***



# MOST COMMON BREAD TOPPINGS IN THE NETHERLANDS

These toppings are common, affordable, and eaten at home for breakfast or lunch – every day by locals.



**Boter**  
(Butter)



**Pindakaas met hagelslag**  
(Peanut butter with chocolate sprinkles)



**Pindakaas**  
(Peanut butter)



**Kaas**  
(Cheese)



**Ham**  
(Cooked ham)



**Salami**  
(Salami)



**Leverworst**  
(Liver sausage)



**Hoofdkaas**  
(Head cheese)



**Ei**  
(Egg salad)



**Komkommer**  
(Cucumber)



**Tomaat**  
(Tomato)



**Haring met uitjes**  
(Herring with onions)



**Gerookte zalm**  
(Smoked salmon)



**Filet Americain**  
(Steak tartare)



**Kipfilet**  
(Chicken fillet)



**Zuivelspread**  
(Cream cheese)



**Pindakaas met banaan**  
(Peanut butter with banana)



**Kaas met komkommer**  
(Cheese with cucumber)



**Appel met kaneel**  
(Apple with cinnamon)



**Jam**  
(Jam)



**Pasta (chocoladepasta)**  
(Chocolate spread)



**Kaas en ham**  
(Cheese and ham)



**Oude kaas met mosterd**  
(Aged cheese with mustard)



**Pindakaas met honing**  
(Peanut butter with honey)

Bread in the Netherlands is usually whole grain, whole wheat, or multigrain.

Toppings are simple, quick, and part of everyday Dutch life.

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



*We are keeping our Dutch traditions alive at... **Concordia***

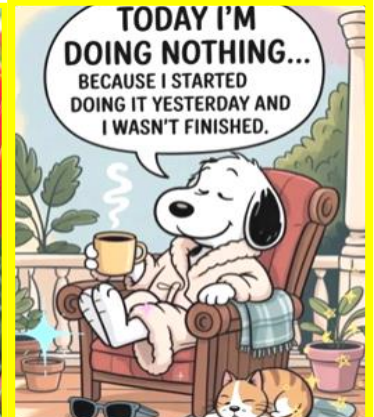
***We cannot be serious all the time !***

**A little boy fell sick at church.** He told his father, ***"I gotta throw up."*** So his father told him to go to the restroom. A few moments later, he came back. He told his father, ***"I didn't have to go to the restroom. There's a little box by the door that says, 'For the sick.'***

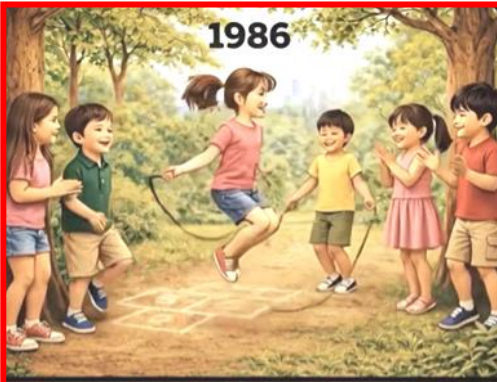
**One evening,** a woman sees her husband standing by the crib of their newborn baby. She silently watches him, as he stares at the sleeping baby. She reads a mixture of emotions on his face: disbelief, doubt, delight, amazement, and enchantment. Moved by this unusually tender posture and the deep emotions it stirs, she wraps her arms around her husband with tears in her eyes. ***"What are you thinking, honey?"*** she whispers in his ear. ***"It's just incredible,"*** he stammers... ***"how can anyone make such a beautiful crib for just 50 dollars!"***

**Church Collections** the past weeks have been awfully short, so the good priest announced just before offertory, ***"Just a reminder. Consider what you are about to give. It is tax deductible, it can't be taken with you to the afterlife, and it is considered by the Bible to be the root of all evil."***

***With the approaching cooler weather, its time for the old fashioned Dutch menu to keep us warm and healthy.***



**Pain and discomfort go hand in hand with getting older. Try not to dwell on them but accept them as a part of the cycle of life we're all going through. Try to minimize them in your mind. They are not who you are, they are something that life added to you. If they become your entire focus, you lose sight of the person you used to be.**



1986

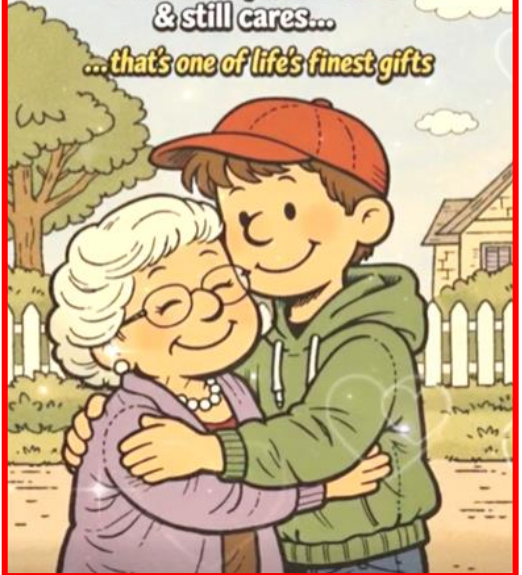


2026

# Happiness is

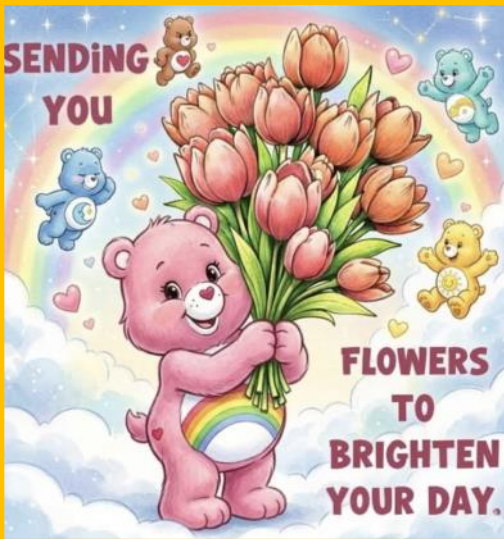
having a Grandson in your life  
who still helps, still calls  
& still cares...

...that's one of life's finest gifts



*Concordia does not discriminate on the basis of religion,  
gender or political persuasion.*

*“Worshipping our Concordia club is totally voluntary”*



SENDING  
YOU

**FLOWERS  
TO  
BRIGHTEN  
YOUR DAY.**

**World Cup 2026  
Do you Support  
The Dutch Team?**



# Dutch News

News And Current Affairs, News - Overseas



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

# MEMBERSHIP 2026-2027 Renewals

*If someone makes you happy....make them happier*



*Get well soon!*



*Feeling so much better!*

*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!*

A DUTCH CLASSIC

# GONE WITH THE WINDMILL

*Cheese is all we need!*

**COMING Soon**

**Verboden toegang voor ongeezelligen**  
art. 461 wetboek van strafrecht

IN CINEMAS EVERYWHERE THE WIND BLOWS

COMING SOONISH



*Your special invite for Saturday 25th July*  
*Concordia Presents.... a special solid July program*

*Michael Montgomery is part of our afternoon*

*All this, and more at the Cardiff RSL.*

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

**Anyone is welcome - Enjoy a day out - Booking essential**

FOR BOOKINGS: Contact **Joop** on 4954 5227.

Doors open 11am - Finish 4pm

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

*Please pay at the door, only \$20.00 pp Meal & entertainment.*

*Eastern Tiger banquet followed by a cosy sentimental afternoon.*

*Don't be impressed by money, degrees and titles.*

*Be impressed by kindness, integrity, humility and generosity*





*Oma wacht op de visite*

*Please book your seats for the next Concordia Function.  
 Together we celebrate a special cosy winter afternoon  
 Join us on Saturday 25th July at the Cardiff RSL - Everyone is welcome*



## *Het verhaal van de Stroopwafel*

**De stroopwafel** is een traditioneel product uit **Gouda**, de plaats waar ik ben geboren en getogen. De stroopwafel is volgens mijn onderzoek sinds het begin van de 19de eeuw ontstaan. De naam wafel komt van het Duitse woord **Weben** of **Wabe** en heeft betrekking op het typisch diamantvormige patroon op de wafel. Deze wafels worden doormidden gesneden en met stroop ingesmeerd. Dat verklaart het woord stroopwafel. Een document uit de archieven van de Provincie Zuid-Holland uit het jaar 1840 noemt voor de eerste keer een recept voor **“Goudse stroopertjes”** (een andere naam voor **stroopwafels**). In het recept staat dat de wafels gebakken werden van deegresten en kruimels uit de bakkerij en dit werd gevuld met stroop. Omdat ze erg goedkoop waren werden ze ook wel **“Armenkoeken”** genoemd.

**De productie** van dit typisch **Goudse** product werd gestimuleerd door de vestiging van de eerste stroopfabriek in **Gouda** in het jaar 1819. Tot de jaren 1870 bleven de stroopwafels een exclusief product dat alleen in **Gouda** gemaakt werd. Later begonnen inwoners van **Gouda** de stroopwafels te bakken op markten, festivals en feesten binnen en buiten de regio. Hierdoor verkreeg de stroopwafel nationale faam. Tegenwoordig worden de meeste stroopwafels fabrieksmatig geproduceerd maar de bakkers uit **Gouda** bakken nog steeds hun eigen stroopwafels naar een eigen oud geheim recept. Het blijft een populair product en Nederlanders eten minimaal **300 miljoen stroopwafels per jaar**.

**De stroopwafels** worden gemaakt van de volgende belangrijke ingrediënten. Voor het deeg: bloem, suiker, eieren, zout en gesmolten boter; voor de stroop: warme melasse, bruine basterdsuiker en bakpoeder, terwijl er druppels boter toegevoegd worden aan deze mix. De bakker maakt een deeg van de ingrediënten en laat dit een poosje rijzen. Daarna maakt hij kleine deegbolletjes en legt deze tussen het wafelijzer, waar deze gedurende ongeveer een minuut bakken. Om te voorkomen dat de wafel breekt wordt deze doormidden gesneden als deze nog warm is. Daarna smeert de bakker de stroop op de ene helft van de wafel en legt de andere helft erop. En dan hebben we een stroopwafel. Tegenwoordig wordt het grootste deel van dit proces machinaal gedaan en het exacte recept van de stroopwafel blijft natuurlijk het geheim van de bakker.

**In de negentiende eeuw** waren er nog ongeveer honderd traditionele stroopwafel-bakkers, hiervan zijn er nog vier over. **Kamphuisen, van Vliet, van den Berg en het stroopwafel winkeltje** zijn de overgebleven namen en

*(Continued on page 13)*

(Continued from page 12)

verkopen nog steeds stroopwafels in hun eigen winkel. Het productieproces is ook te zien in de winkel van **Kamphuisen**. Hier worden meer dan 2000 stroopwafels per uur gebakken. De typische **Van Vliet** siroopwafels worden gekarakteriseerd door de toevoeging van extra witte suiker bij de stroop, die de stroopwafel zoeter maakt. Wie wil d'r nog een lekker bakkie koffie met een versgebakken stroopwafel? **Editor**

### ***Being Blonde is not always the case to be different?***

**A plane is enroute from Sydney to Amsterdam** when a blonde woman after departure was sitting in economy class. She gets up and moves to the first class section of the plane. A flight attendant in first class sees her taking an empty seat. She calmly approached the blonde and asks to see her ticket.

**She then informs the blonde** that she paid for economy class and that she must sit in the back. The blonde replies: ***"I'm blonde, I'm beautiful, I'm going to Amsterdam and I'm staying here."***

**The flight attendant** goes into the cockpit and informs the pilot and co-pilot that a stupid blonde is sitting in first class and should be in economy class, she refuses to return to her seat.

**The co-pilot goes back to see the blonde** and tries to explain to her that, since she only paid for economy class, she must leave her seat and return to her seat.

**The blonde replies: *"I'm blonde, I'm beautiful, I'm going to Amsterdam and I'm staying here."*** The co-pilot tells the pilot that he should probably ask the police to wait at the landing to arrest this blonde who refuses to listen to reason.

**The Pilot replies: *"You say she's blonde? I'll shall take care of it. I'm married to a blonde and I speak the blonde language"*** He goes to speak to the blonde and whispers in her ear, she than says, ***"Oh, I'm sorry."*** She gets up and goes back to her seat in economy class.

**The flight attendant and the co-pilot** are astonished and ask the pilot what he said to get her to move without making a fuss.

**"I told her: *"FIRST CLASS DOES NOT GO TO AMSTERDAM."***

## Here are the public holidays in New South Wales for 2026-2027

- Labour Day: **Monday 5th October**
- Christmas Day: **Friday 25 December**
- Boxing Day: **Saturday 26 December**
- Additional Day: **Monday 28th December**
- New Years Eve: **Thursday 31 December**

### Public Holidays NSW 2027

- Australia Day: **Tuesday 26th January**
- Good Friday: **Friday 26th March**
- Easter Saturday: **Saturday 27th March**
- Easter Sunday: **Sunday 28th March**
- Easter Monday: **Monday 29th March**
- Anzac Day: **Sunday 25th April**
- King's Birthday: **Monday 14th June**
- Labour Day: **Monday 4th October**



Whenever you're having a bad day, remember this...

*Concordia loves you!*

### Public School Holidays

NSW 2026 - 2027

**Monday 6th July 2026**

**Friday 17th July 2026**

**Winter Holidays**

**Monday 28th September 2026**

**Friday 9th October 2026**

**Spring Holidays**

**Friday 18th December 2026**

**Wednesday 27th January 2027**

**Summer Vacation**

### CONCORDIA FUNCTIONS 2026 CARDIFF RSL

**Important Dates:**

**Saturday 25th July**

**Saturday 26th September**

**AGM to be announced**

**Saturday 19th December**



Toni



Mat



Joop

Our Executive Committee

*Nederland oh Nederland, wat ben je toch mooi*

## *What makes Dutch culture unique?*

**Dutch culture** is known for its unique blend of warmth, practicality, and straightforwardness. Some distinctive aspects include:

- **Direct Communication Style:** The Dutch are famous for their directness, which can sometimes be perceived as blunt or even rude by other cultures. However, it's a reflection of their value on honesty and openness.
- **Love for Cycling:** The Netherlands is renowned for its bike-friendly infrastructure, and cycling is a way of life for many Dutch people. You'll find extensive bike lanes, bike-share systems, and a strong cycling culture.
- **Rich Artistic Heritage:** The Dutch Golden Age produced some of the world's most famous painters, such as Rembrandt, Vermeer, and Hals. Dutch art is characterized by its attention to detail and realistic style.
- **Tolerance and Liberalism:** The Netherlands has a long history of tolerance and acceptance, reflected in its progressive laws and social attitudes. This is evident in its approach to issues like same-sex marriage, cannabis use, and euthanasia.
- **Festivals and Celebrations:** The Dutch enjoy numerous festivals throughout the year, such as King's Day (*April 27th*), which is celebrated with street parties, markets, and festivities.
- **Cuisine:** Traditional Dutch cuisine includes dishes like stamppot, mashed potatoes with vegetables and sausage, herring, often served raw with onions and pickles, and cheese like **Gouda** and **Edam** the famous Dutch cheeses.
- **Work-Life Balance:** The Dutch prioritize work-life balance, with many people working part-time or enjoying flexible hours to pursue their interests and spend time with family.

*These are just a few aspects that contribute to the unique character of Dutch culture. Editor*

*Children: You spend the first 2 years of their life teaching them to walk and talk. Then you spend the next 16 years telling them to sit down and shut-up.*

*Everyone eventually returns to their own home port.*

Death is not about death, but about what you have done with your life.  
At her own request **Gerda** peacefully passed away, late of **Kahibah**.

**Gerda Wood - Steur - aged 84**

**Utrecht 29/08/1941 - Kahibah 10th April 2026**

**Gerda** will be very much missed by her **Children** and all in the **Family**.  
**Gerda** was a loyal friend and a long time member of the Dutch Society '**Concordia**'

*On behalf of the Committee and Members of Concordia we convey our sincere condolences to **Gerda's** family in the passing of their loved one.*

*May **Gerda** rest in Peace*

**Hollywood star Audrey Hepburn once said: "As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, the other for helping others".** The saying is powerful, teaching us valuable lessons of compassion, maturity and responsibility. It helps people to remember that there is something that matters more than their own success. **Joop**



*Open your arms to change,  
But don't let go of your values*



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**Repairs & Sales**

**Caravan Hot Water Sales & Services**

**Caravan Oven Sales & Services**

**Caravan LPG Safety Inspections**

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- Thetford
- Chescold
- Engel
- Consul
- Electrolux
- Suburban
- Evakool
- 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!*

## Contact Us

### Opening Hours:

**Monday: 8am - 4pm**

**Tuesday: 8am - 4pm**

**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](mailto:gasfridges@gmail.com)**

**Website:**

**[www.lakesidegasfridges.com.au](http://www.lakesidegasfridges.com.au)**

**Address:**

**511 Lake Road - Argenton 2284**

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

## **2026 FIFA World Cup as viewed by your editor Joop**

**Not knowing anything about Soccer**, my eyes were glued to a large screen over the last few weeks as I watched 22 little men and one little white ball going from corner to corner on my tv. When goals were made I became just as excited as the public in the Stadium, I yelled and screamed and when the game was finished I was as exhausted as if I had played the game myself. While listening to the radio on my way to an aged care facility, a listener mentioned that he had overheard a few people talking about soccer, one of them had said with a foreign voice (*his words and he meant accent*) We can do it, we can win this World Cup. The listener was a dinky dye Aussie and with emotion in his voice. I was really proud to be living in Australia. Personally I do not think that Dutch people in Australia & the Netherlands have ever been so united as over the last few weeks, We wish the *“Oranjes”* and *“Socceros”* all the luck in 2026. **Hup Holland Hup! Joop**

*An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind*

### ***Would I like to live to be 100?***

**I'm not sure.** If I could remain positive and healthy as I am now at nearly 83. Why not - it's only 17years away? But I wouldn't really expect that to happen. So, if I were to become ill or have some dreaded diagnosis, like I had to deal with in the past, or just became physically, or worse, mentally, compromised, I wouldn't see any merit to setting 100 as a goal at whatever cost.

**I've been lucky** - probably a lot more so than I expected (*although I've always been a bit of an optimist*). But I'm also enough of a realist - even a pragmatist - to know that things can change in a hurry.

**How long a person lives**, and how quickly things can change, is not really in our control. And we know, it won't be forever. Would it be nice to live to be 100? I don't know. Would I want to? Yes, but only conditionally. **Joop**

***Another Financial year has come and gone!***

**Your valued membership of Concordia is now due**

**Love makes the world go round....**

**but..... Money helps too! Please pay NOW!**

***It's with a heavy heart to announce the passing  
of our esteemed member Hendrik (Henk) Jut***

***Aged 93 years***

***Late of Raymond Terrace, Borneo & the Netherlands***

***Henk passed away Thursday 21st May 2026***



Henk was a beloved Dad and Opa to his family.

*A funeral service of thanksgiving was held on Friday 6th June 2026  
in the chapel of Parsons Funerals, Dapto NSW.*

***Henk was always a very strong supporter of our Concordia.***

***To Monica, and all of Henk's family & friends***

***We hereby convey, on behalf of the committee and members of  
Concordia our deepest sympathy in the loss of their loved one.***

***May Henk rest in Peace, Rust in Vrede. Joop de Wit, Secretary Concordia***

***Please book your seats for the next Concordia Function.***

***Together we celebrate a special cosy winter afternoon***

***Join us on Saturday 25th July at the Cardiff RSL - Everyone is welcome***

# *Michael* Montgomery

***Saturday 25th July***

***Cardiff RSL***

***Bookings must be in  
before 24th July!***

***A career that has taken  
Michael to more than 26  
countries and counting***



***Cost of this  
'All you can eat'  
including all  
entertainment  
20Dollars pp.***

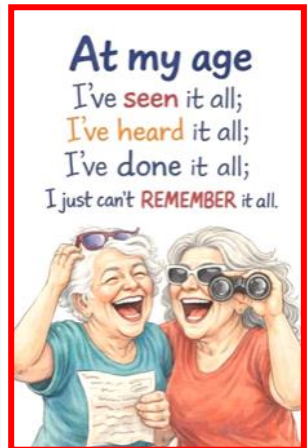
**An American** decided to write a book about famous churches around the world. So, he bought a plane ticket and took a trip to **Orlando**, thinking that he would start by working his way across the **USA** from South to North.

**On his first day** he was inside a church taking photographs, when he noticed a golden telephone mounted on the wall with a sign that read **'\$10,000 per call'**. The American, being intrigued, asked a priest who was strolling by, what the telephone was used for. The priest replied that it was a direct line to heaven and that for **\$10,000** you could talk to God. The American thanked the priest and went along his way.

**Next stop was in Atlanta**. There, at a very large cathedral, he saw the same looking golden telephone with the same sign under it. He wondered if this was the same kind of telephone he saw in Orlando and he asked a nearby nun what its purpose was. She told him that it was a direct line to heaven and that for **\$10,000** he could talk to God. **'O.K. thank you,'** said the American.

**He arrived on the Gold Coast** in Australia, and again, in the first church he entered, there was the same looking golden telephone, but this time the sign under it read, **'50 cents per call.'** The American was surprised, so he asked the priest about the sign. **'Father, I've travelled all over the world and I've seen this same golden telephone in many churches I'm told that it is a direct line to Heaven, but in all of them, the price was \$10,000 per call. Why is it so cheap here?'** The priest smiled and answered, **'You're in Australia now, son "This is Heaven," so it's a local call.'**

**Mensen die denken dat tijd geld is,  
bemerken meestal pas op hun sterfbed  
dat hun tijd op is..... maar hun geld nog niet.**



## *Do the Dutch actually eat raw herring?*

**D**espite popular belief, the fish is not actually served raw; rather it is cured or brined. It can also be served smoked. After the herring is caught, it is prepared using a process known as gibbing where it is partially gutted, salted and frozen for a minimum of 24 hours to prevent parasites. The pancreas and liver are left intact in the gutting process because they release enzymes that are essential in developing and maturing the flavour. The herring is then further cleaned and put in brine for a number of days - traditionally in oak casks. This process means that herring in the Netherlands is not actually raw. This should help some people to start enjoying the real product. *Editor*



## *Everything is temporary*

**That's both the bad news and the good news.** *If things are going well, enjoy them. If they're going badly, don't worry, it won't last forever. So stay present and trust that every season will pass.*

The old things are still the best:  
old jeans, old jokes, old tunes,  
old movies...and old friends.



***My patriotic heart beats Red, White & Blue***  
***We are keeping our former traditions alive at Concordia***

**Speaking in expressions:** "well now the monkey comes out of the sleeve!" = ***Well now the cat's out of the bag!*** "You can't make chocolate from it!" = ***You cannot make a silk purse from a sow's ear!*** And well you already got the one about: ***"He who has butter on his head, should stay out of the sun"*** = ***"People who live in glass houses should not throw stones"*** = ***"That's just jumping from the frying pan into the fire!"***

***"Oh well, Peanut butter!"*** = Aww crawdad! = ***"Oh crap!"*** - ***"If it rains in September then Christmas will be in December."*** = ***When my milk check come in"*** = ***"When the crop money comes in"*** - ***"If the sky should fall, we will all be wearing blue hats"*** = ***"We'd all be in the same boat."***

**I love it that we're all basically saying the same thing**, but in different ways, but...it's still the same thing, which brings out even more similarities and oneness. ***Joop***

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

For our **SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER** issue is the 10th **AUGUST 2026**. Copy received after this date will be included in the **JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH 2027** issue.

**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.***

Concordia  
**S@MEN**  
 SINDS 1957



***Dutch summer did Dutch summer things***

**A**fter an early heatwave-spell, the Netherlands quickly returned to storms, hail, and a surge in tick bites. Dutch summer: sunscreen in the morning, raincoat by lunch, full-body tick inspection by dinner.



***Our last  
 May  
 Function  
 was another  
 great  
 success***

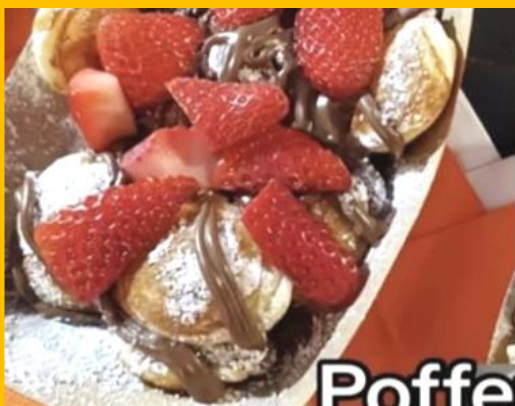
***Grandchildren completes life's circle of love***



**Stroopwafels**



**Boerenkool met worst**



**Poffertjes**



**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.



## *The commencement of our 2026 Herring Season*

### *From June we can once again enjoy the most unique foods*

in the Netherlands, Hollandse Nieuwe, often called Dutch new herring. Despite being referred to as "**raw**" the fish is actually cleaned and lightly cured using a traditional process developed centuries ago.

**Herring played a major role** in Dutch history. During the Middle Ages and the Dutch Golden Age, improved preservation techniques allowed Dutch fishermen to export herring throughout Europe, contributing significantly to the nation's wealth. Today, many Dutch people enjoy herring with chopped onions and pickles, especially during the annual herring season.

**Would you dare to try one of the Netherlands' oldest street foods?**

## WHY DUTCH PEOPLE ARE LIVING LONGER



### ACTIVE LIFESTYLE

Cycling and walking are part of daily life. Movement happens naturally, every day.



### QUALITY HEALTHCARE

Accessible healthcare and prevention-focused care help people stay healthy longer.



### STRONG COMMUNITY

Social connections, community life and staying engaged improve mental and emotional well-being.



### BALANCED LIVING

Work-life balance, less stress and more personal time support a healthier and longer life.



### HEALTHY DIET

Fresh, simple and nutritious foods like fish, vegetables, whole grains and dairy are everyday staples.



### CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

Clean air, green spaces, good urban planning and bike-friendly cities promote better overall health.

Dutch people live longer because healthy choices are easy choices in their daily lives. From cycling everywhere to strong healthcare, fresh food, clean cities and a balanced lifestyle – everything works together for a longer, happier and healthier life.



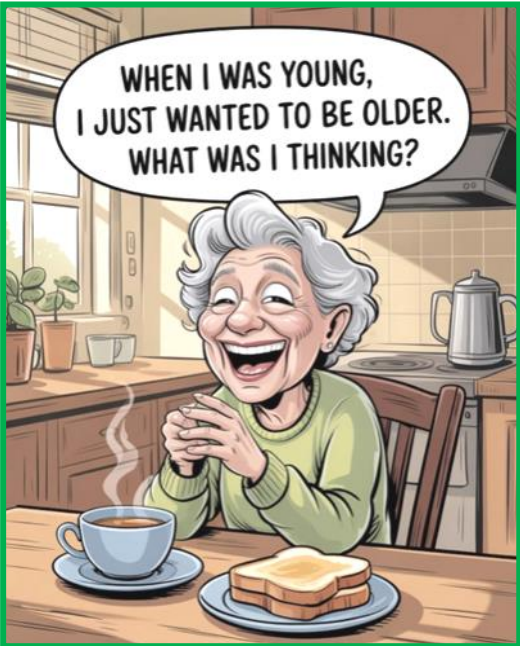
**Opening the May Social  
by our President Toni.**



**We sure are ready to  
entertain you again  
25th July - Cardiff RSL**



**GEZELLIG**  
IT'S A DUTCH THING  
YOU WOULDN'T  
UNDERSTAND!



**WHEN I WAS YOUNG,  
I JUST WANTED TO BE OLDER.  
WHAT WAS I THINKING?**



**I just realised the paper towels  
at a service station are for  
wiping away the tears after  
filling up our petrol tanks.**

**Traditional Dutch Recipe**



**Dutchie's**  
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 & 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**



*Er bestaan 2 soorten mensen,  
vroege vogels en nachtuilen.  
Wij zijn geen van beide.  
Wij zijn eerder 2 doolie mussen!*



*Come and join us again for a great day with family and friends.  
Great entertainment - Saturday 25th July - Everyone is welcome.*



*Even when you feel forgotten you can still prepare something beautiful in your life, just visit Concordia.*



## *4 foods that are proven to shorten your lifespan*

**Alcohol:** Most cardiologists calling it a *“crowd favourite”* and advising that avoiding alcohol for a longer lifespan. Alcohol is known to give temporary pleasure but has terrible long-term consequences for health. It is toxic to every cell in the body and affects almost every organ. It increases the risk of liver diseases, cancer, and cardiovascular diseases, among others.

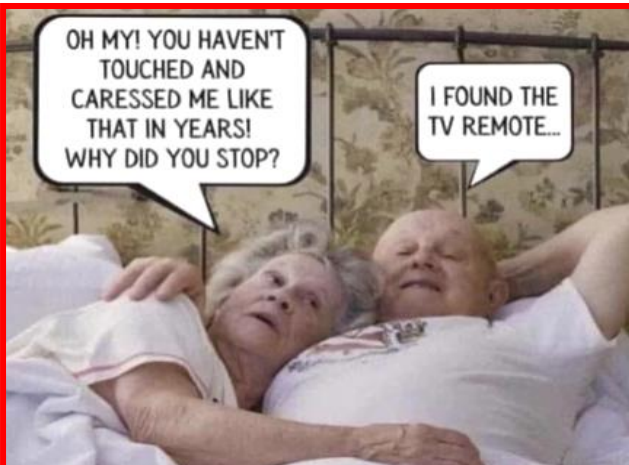
**Processed meats:** Hot dogs, deli meats are some examples of processed meats, These contain saturated fats, sodium, and preservatives that do more damage than you think. While they may be pleasing to the taste buds and a convenient option, they increase the risk of chronic diseases significantly when consumed regularly.

**Sugary drinks:** Sugary drinks such as bottled juices, sodas, and others are delicious but also unhealthy. Their high sugar content and excessive calories make them a terrible choice, especially for people with pre-existing conditions such as diabetes and obesity. *“These are empty calories and they never make you feel full,”*

**Saturated fats:** Think of high-fat meat, butter, and high-fat dairy. These foods raise *“bad cholesterol” (LDL)* levels, increasing the chances of heart disease, heart attacks, and stroke. It’s thus best to stay away from them.

**Finally,** he addressed how your diet should look most of the time.

*“I understand that life gets in the way and it’s difficult to follow a nutritional plan. For me personally, 80 per cent of the time, it’s a win.” “Now understand what you want to shoot for is reducing these things, living in moderation. What you want to avoid is having any or all of these things foundational in your nutritional plan,”* he concluded. *Editor*





*Find 8 differences in the above picture*

**June 30 - 2026 is the official end of Concordia's last financial year.**

**We allow our members a period of 2 months to pay their new membership. If you have a red address label, please take action.**

**Those already paid we thank you. Refer to page 35 for more information. Some memberships are still overdue for 2025 - 2026!**

**Whether rich or poor, our body is still suffering sometimes, that's why we need to learn to rest sometimes, bills and debts or whatever it is, our responsibilities in life are always there.**

**So when tired learn to rest if not.....Rest In Peace.**

## *Why is Dutch humour misunderstood?*

**Dutch humour** is often misunderstood due to its nuances and cultural context. It's known for being dry, ironic, and sarcastic, which can be tricky for non-Dutch people to grasp. The humour might rely on wordplay, absurdity, or self-deprecation, making it challenging for those unfamiliar with the culture to understand.

**Additionally**, Dutch communication styles tend to be direct and straightforward, which can sometimes be perceived as blunt or rude. This cultural difference can lead to misunderstandings about what's considered funny or not. The post seems to be poking fun at this aspect, suggesting that understanding Dutch humour requires a certain level of courage or cultural insight. *Editor*

**Wife:** My specialist said I need complete rest and a long vacation.

He suggested places like *Japan, Switzerland, Italy*, or the *Netherlands*. Where would you think we should be going?

**Husband:** *To another doctor that bulk bills!*

## *Who needs a hearing aid?*

**Bert feared** his wife Peg wasn't hearing as well as she used to and he thought she might need a hearing aid. Not quite sure how to approach her, he called the family Doctor to discuss the problem. The Doctor told him there is a simple informal test the husband could perform to give the Doctor a better idea about her hearing loss. *'Here's what you do,'* said the Doctor, *'stand about 40 feet away from her, and in a normal conversational speaking tone see if she hears you. If not, go to 30 feet, then 20 feet, and so on until you get a response.'* That evening, the wife is in the kitchen cooking dinner, and he was in the bedroom. He says to himself, *'I'm about 40 feet away, let's see what happens.'* Then in a normal tone he asks, *'Honey, what's for dinner?'* No response. So, the husband moves closer to the kitchen, about 30 feet from his wife and repeats, *'Peg, what's for dinner?'* Still no response. Next he moves into the dining room where he is about 20 feet from his wife and asks, *'Honey, what's for dinner?'* Again he gets no response. So, he walks up to the kitchen door, about 10 feet away. *'Honey, what's for dinner?'* Again there is no response. So he walks right up behind her. *'Peg, what's for dinner?'* *'For heaven's sake, Bert, for the FIFTH time, CHICKEN!'*

## *Letters to the editor*

**D**ear Joop, we have been living in Australia for more than 40 years. In that time, I have hardly had any contact with my home country. However, when I heard the *Wilhelmus* at your last *Concordia* video afternoon, I got completely emotional again as I was reminded of our beautiful country through your wonderful footage of, among many other things, the *royal family*. That same evening, I even called my brother, and he also became very emotional. When you are far away, you do get a more concentrated nationalistic feeling. You then look at the Netherlands through a somewhat different lens. I think it makes you appreciate it more. The Netherlands was always a very prosperous country, had a large dose of tolerance, general education, etc.

**A country with a clear own identity and culture.** History is, of course, extremely important. The role the *House of Orange* played in the independence of the Netherlands was an important moment. Something every Dutch person carries with them; a historical/nostalgic awareness. Of course, there is always criticism of the *House of Orange*. That is also typically Dutch. But when it comes down to it, most Dutch people really love their free, prosperous country!! The Netherlands meant freedom, tolerance, sea breeze....an orange lion with its mane in the wind. "*Oranje Boven*" After all this time, we have now decided to go on vacation to the Netherlands!! I am really looking forward to it. **Joop**, thank you so much for a wonderful afternoon, "**You really hit our unforgettable Dutch heart again!!**"

*(Continued on page 34)*





**Another great show is planned, come and join us on 25th July, Cardiff RSL**

*(Continued from page 33)*

**Ha, incredibly sweet centipede Joop**, what a massive amount of work you've done again, dear friend, wonderful person! I'm completely blown away. And... I always have to chuckle when I think of you. It just makes me happy. Imagine all the things you stir up in the world! Yes, just in your life, in your world, wonderful person! Thanks on behalf of everyone!!! Warm regards and lots of hugs. *Wishing you all the best, Diewwke van Rossen*

**Good morning Joop**. Hope you are well. Just read with enjoyment and a few laughs the recent Concordia magazine. Fantastic issue. Loved the article about losing a loved one. Especially the suggestion of **Death being a new Birth**. Wow...great wisdom. It was all excellent. Wishing you a wonderful day, lovely man. See you on the 25th. *Take Care...Barb G.*

**Hi Joop**, quickly read through your latest newsletter, I thought the ship was beautiful, where did you depart from **Joop**? And all the carts are awesome, everything at the door, I had forgotten the peel collector, nice to see. Oh yes, the lion with the stroopwafel is very cool. Another wonderful newsletter, and another great job. *Love, Eef Reinders*

# NEW MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION

## DUTCH SOCIETY CONCORDIA - NEWCASTLE & DISTRICT

Annual Membership Fees are payable between **1st July** and before **31th August** each year  
 Membership includes 5 copies of our newsletter - Hard copy or by email, your choice entirely.

Tick if this is a new membership

*I wish to apply for a new Membership*

Tick if this is a renewal

*I wish to renew my Membership*

Tick if this is a gift subscription

*I like to give a gift Subscription*

Tick if this is a donation

*I like to make a donation to Concordia*

*I agree to accept and abide by its constitution*

Mr. Mrs. Miss. Ms. :

CHRISTIAN NAMES:

SURNAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY / POSTCODE:

TELEPHONE Home/Mobile:

EMAIL address:

Date(s) of Birth:

SIGNATURE:

**Annual Fee &  
Renewal Fee:**

**\$ 20-00** (inclusive of GST)

**Couple / Family and Single memberships**

**Our Westpac Bank details are:**

**Dutch Society of Concordia BSB: 032-512 Account No: 340048**

**Please attach your personal details when paying into our bank account.**

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

**No receipt will be issued, only when officially requested & after the relevant bank statements are received**

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Don't forget  
**RENEW**  
**MEMBERSHIP**  
2026 - 2027

*Keep in touch with the Dutch*