

B U L L E T I N

GENOOTSCHAP NEDERLAND-ENGELAND



Deventer Branch
www.NederlandEngeland.nl

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SEASON 2009-2010 BULLETIN No. 4 – February 2010

Dear members,

The committee would like to wish all GNE members a very happy and healthy 2010.

After our very successful Christmas Event with Peter Galinsky we are pleased to announce our first lecture of the New Year. On Tuesday, 9 February *Roy Skan* will be speaking to us about **The English language, emphasising its debt to Dutch.**

Please note the venue will be at the recently renovated De Lindeboom, Schalkhaar!!

THE SUBJECT

The history of language and how language works are fascinating. When you start to learn a little of how English has come about you realise how much more there is to discover. This talk will explore the English Language making particular reference to the influence of Dutch over the centuries.

The talk is both informative and entertaining.

THE SPEAKER

Roy Skan graduated from Nottingham University, served in the army and then worked for General Motors (Vauxhall) for 5 years. He was a Principal Lecturer of languages at Brighton University for 25 years.

Roy also has an M.A. from Sussex University and an M.Sc. from the London School of Economics. He speaks four languages and has some knowledge of three others.

Since retiring he still acts part time as a tour manager on SAGA Holidays escorted trips to Switzerland for his over 50s clientel.

Date: Tuesday, 9 February
Subject: The English Language, emphasising its debt to Dutch
Speaker: Roy Skan
Venue: De Lindeboom, Lindeboomsweg 1a Schalkhaar
Admission: members free
students €3,00
guests €7.00

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Please note: our secretary Karel Wiecherink has a new email address for GNE Deventer: Deventer.gne@kpnmail.nl

A WARM WELCOME

The committee would like to extend a warm welcome to a new member who joined our branch at the Dickens Festijn on 19 and 20 December. We hope Mrs Nanneke Trenning of Diepenveen will enjoy her membership and will soon feel at home with us.

SAD NEWS

Recently the sad news reached us of the passing away at the age of 95 of

*Prof. Dr. A.G.H. Bachrach CBE,
D. Phil., D.Litt*

Professor Bachrach, former professor of English Literature at Leiden University was National President of our Netherlands-England Society for many years and an honorary member.

LOOKING BACK

On 9 December 2009 we welcomed *Peter Galinsky* at our Christmas event. Peter is known by many for the very nice talks he gave to us before.

Dressed in kilt and other Scottish gear, Peter talked about Scottish and Celtic folk music and played many reels and jigs and what-have-you on his clarinet and treble recorder.

We were very pleased to welcome a large number of guests, mainly from the volks-universiteit Zutphen and together with a high turn-out of our members this evening was quite pleasant with bishop and fruit cake adding to the good spirits.

There were also a few fruit cakes up for sale on the book table which, not surprisingly, were sold out in no time. An idea to increase the number on offer next year maybe?

Peter was also presented with Daphne's home-made fruit cake which, he said, he quite preferred to a Deventer spice cake! This remark shows the very friendly ties our branch has with Peter.

DICKENS FESTIJN

On 18, 19, 20 December 2009 GNE Deventer was present once more at the Dickens Festijn

in order to inform visitors to the Bergkerk about us.

Starting on Friday night committee members from Breda and Deventer handed out GNE flyers to visitors to the exhibition of the **Dickens Museum, London**. Also present at the exhibition was *Dr. Florian Schweitzer*, its Curator who told us he was looking forward to speaking to all branches of our society in the season 2010-2011.

Owing to the extreme weather conditions (minus 10 degrees on Saturday and lots of snow on Sunday) many visitors entered the Bergkerk to seek a little warmth and stand on the under floor heating grid with their shoes removed.

Many visitors asked for a leaflet and those who decided to join any of the branches received a home-made fruitcake as welcoming present.

For photos see [www.NederlandEngeland.nl/looking back](http://www.NederlandEngeland.nl/looking%20back).

CHARLES DICKENS FROM DEVENTER?

On a bookstall in de Bergkerk I came across this poem which had been adapted to refer to Deventer as Dickens Town.

*Deventer to the whole world beckons
Come to us and honour Dickens
But though we glory in his name
To the man himself we have no claim.*

*Charles Dickens was not born here
And here he did not die
In life he never lived here
In death he doth not lie.*

*But in faces you will look
Whilst strolling through our town
His characters from every book
Are stalking up and down.*

My question to you is: do you recognize the original poem and who is its author? Please let me know so I can inform you in our next bulletin.

REPLACEMENT FOR CANCELLATION

As stated in our December bulletin *Jill Collinge* has had to cancel her lecturing tour in April due to private circumstances. We are very pleased to announce that *Mrs Carla Teune* will be speaking to us on 14 April.

Mrs Teune, who recently retired as **Curator of the Hortus Botanicus, Leiden** successfully spoke to us before on Japanese Gardens. This time she is going to speak about the **Hortus Botanicus Leiden**.

NATIONAL DAY

This year it will be 90 years ago when het Genootschap Nederland Engeland (GNE) was founded. Currently the National Committee is organizing a National Day to celebrate this event. It will take place on **Saturday 24 April**.

Members from all branches will be invited to join in the celebrations. Details of this event will reach you as soon as possible.

PROGRAMME STILL TO COME

For those who mislaid the dates and subjects which are on the programme until July 2010, here is a small summary.

It might be an idea to cut it out and tack on to your notice board!

Tuesday, 9 February

Roy Skan – The English Language emphasizing its debt to Dutch

Thursday, 11 March

Louise West – Living with Jane Austen's legacy at Chawton

Wednesday, 14 April

Carla Teune – the Hortus Botanicus, Leiden

Saturday, 24 April

National Day, organized by the National Committee

Friday, 21 May

Michael Daley – the history and inhabitants of Holkham Hall

Friday, 25 June or 2 July

End-of-season event Deventer Branch

READING GROUP

Somewhere in the course of 2009 our group discussed **To Heaven by Water** by *Justin Cartwright*.

According to reviewers this novel lacks the tragic intensity some of his previous novels such as **The Promise of Happiness** have but all the same we thought this story is very worth -while reading.

In *To Heaven by Water* the writer returns to his favourite themes: Patriarchy, mortality, the shift in the balance of power between the generations, in short what getting older does to a person.

David Cross is a retired journalist – a television celebrity. He is recently widowed after 38 years of marriage. His wife Nancy was the domestic anchor of the family.

David's grown-up children, Ed and Lucy, worry about him: David has begun to work out at the gym, he is startlingly lean and has taken to wearing shorts, leopard-print trainers and African bangles, sent to him by his brother Guy, who has devoted his life to studying rock paintings of the Southern Bushmen. Ed and Lucy worry David is going to sell the family home which they would see as the end of family life.

The question of personal identity is present throughout the book.

David Cartwright is such a good writer that in spite of the flaws in the plot, the family observations in this story are again spot on.

We hope to see you on Tuesday, 9 February when Roy Skan will be speaking to us on the English Language and the influence of Dutch.

**Please note the venue:
De Lindeboom, Schalkhaar**

THE COMMITTEE