

B U L L E T I N

GENOOTSCHAP NEDERLAND-ENGELAND

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Dear members,

What a pity we had to cancel our March meeting because our speaker, Louise West, had trouble with her eyes. We wish her all the best and hope she will be able to talk to us another time. We regret very much that the news of the cancellation of Mrs. West's talk reached us so late that we were unable to organise an alternative.

We trust there will be no such difficulty with our April meeting, which will take place on

Tuesday 13 April at 8.15 p.m.

You will recall that Jill Collinge was to have told us about The Origin of Pub Signs, but that she too was obliged to cancel her tour of the GNE branches. In her stead, our fellow member

Dr. Jan Posthumus

will talk to us on

The Life of Dictionaries

Jan Posthumus writes: Whereas some dictionaries are short-lived, others, actually the ones we remember best, are kept going for long years. How this can be brought about I will illustrate by following the fortunes of a modest Dutch and English pocket dictionary, which publisher Van Goor put on the market in 1859, and which from the 1920's came to prominence in the form of the well-reputed *Kramers' Engels Woordenboek*. In my story I will pay due attention to the role of the publisher, the role of various editors and the skirmishes with other publishing houses which were running similar dictionaries.

After the interval I will be pleased to answer any questions from the audience about dictionaries and their usefulness.

Having graduated in 1944 from the Groningen Grammar School (now known as Praedinius Gymnasium) I enrolled in 1945 at our local university to study English under Prof. Zandvoort. After a happy seven-year period as English teacher in Amersfoort, I was invited in 1959 to return to the English Department as a member of staff, a position requiring familiarity with dictionaries and their use. My interest in the historical aspect of dictionaries was stimulated when in a project dealing with the use of English words in Dutch, successive editions of Koenen's dictionary were collected and scrutinized to get information about their date of first appearance. After my departure from the English Department in 1987, I went on searching through flea and book markets and second hand bookshops to find ever more potentially interesting dictionary editions. They proved to be interesting material to write articles about. In 2009 fourteen of these were published in a book titled *Woordenboeken en hun lotgevallen. Studies over lexicografische praktijk (ca 1850 tot heden)*. Together with two others, four of these were then recycled in my recent dissertation *Lexicografie in Nederland. Peilingen in de negentiende en twintigste eeuw*.

On Saturday 24 April we will celebrate the 90th anniversary of GNE at De Keizerskroon and Het Loo, near Apeldoorn. You have all received an invitation direct from the National Committee. We hope many members will come and make this festive event a success.

Most of our programme for the 2010-2011 season is now known. Here it is:

Tue 28 September: John Gilroy, "Tyger, Tyger"

Wed 17 November: Andy Thomas, "The Truth Agenda, Exploring Unexplained Mysteries"

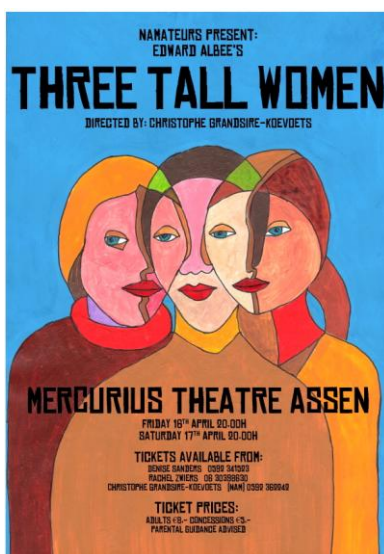
Tue 15 February: Lawrence Goldman, "The Dutch Connection"

Tue 8 March: John Pilkington, "A Stroll through the Axis of Evil"

Tue 12 April: Christopher Ridgway, "Castle Howard and Brideshead, Fact, Fiction and In-Between"

Wed 18 May: Florian Schweitzer, "Wonderful Things: Museums and Galleries in London"

There are of course a few gaps, which we shall do our best to fill with interesting subjects and good speakers. You will hear more from us.



The Namateurs are presenting *Three Tall Women* by Edward Albee, directed by Christophe Grandsire-Koevoets, on 16 and 17 April at 20.00 hrs at the Mercurius Theatre, Assen. They would be delighted to see GNE members in their audience. Tickets at € 8 for adults or € 5 for students can be obtained from Denise Sanders (tel. 0592-341523), Rachel Zwiers (06-30398630) or Christophe Grandsire-Koevoets (0592-362242). Please note that the play is not really suitable for children.

Our May meeting is scheduled for Monday 17 May. Prof. Louwrens Hacquebord of the Arctisch Centrum of Groningen University will then talk to us about "The geo-political situation in the Arctic". This will be the last regular meeting in the current season.

We hope to meet you all in good health on Tuesday 13 April. Your committee.