

ANGLO-NETHERLANDS SOCIETY



E-NEWS

Dear ANS members,

May 2021

With summer on the horizon and lockdown restrictions easing, many of you will be venturing out and taking this opportunity to explore the spectacular green areas, gardens and parks again. Enjoy the little things you've been missing and took for granted pre-lockdown. We hope to let you know soon when we will start with outdoor and live events again but in the meantime, please join us online for our forthcoming events.

An excellent talk on *Dutch Courage and Medicinal Brandy* by historian Berwyn Kinsey last month was very well received. We even learned a great deal of English expressions and idioms with the word *Dutch*. We had a fantastic response to our Book Club discussion on *Humankind* and the event became oversubscribed. For several reasons, some personal, we had to reschedule the date for this event. All participants have been notified. We already have a good many people signed up for our online live guided tour of Panorama Mesdag. If you haven't yet booked a place, but are intending to do so, there is still time to register. Later this month Robert Aronson, the fifth generation owner of the family business *Aronson Antiquairs* in Amsterdam, will talk us through the fascinating history of Dutch Delftware.

In June we are pleased to present an online interview with Graham Brack, published crime fiction writer and member of our Society. He will give us a personal insight into his writing career.

We look forward to welcoming you to one of our events again soon. Enjoy your E-NEWS !

ANS ZOOM EVENTS

Panorama Mesdag of Scheveningen - Interactive live guided tour – Monday 10 May 3.00pm



Join us for an exclusive online live guided tour of Panorama Mesdag and its collection. The vista of the sea, dunes and old fishermen's village was painted by Hendrik Willem Mesdag and several fellow artists. It is the largest circular canvas in Europe and the oldest original panorama in the world. The tour will last 60 minutes with Q&A. Cost £10 per screen. **Still a few places left.** Guests and potential members are welcome. Payment into the usual ANS bank account. Register at events@anglo-netherlands.org.uk

The History of Dutch Delftware – Lecture by Robert Aronson – Thursday 27 May 7.30pm



Dutch Delftware evolved as an alternative to the porcelain from China which the Dutch East India Company (VOC) brought to the Republic in the early 17th century. Join Robert Aronson and learn about the history of Delftware that played a pivotal role in the development of European ceramics. Discover why Delft became an inspiration to many European and Oriental potters and why products were coveted by nobility and royalty. King William III and Queen Mary II of England became true ambassadors and commissioned pieces for their own collection. Robert Aronson was born into the family business, founded by his great-great-grandfather in 1881 in Amsterdam. He joined in 1990 after working at Sotheby's in London. He is a director at art-related organisations and is a panel member on the Dutch version of the Antiques Roadshow. <https://www.aronson.com/> The talk will last about 60 minutes with Q&A. Cost £5 per screen. Potential members and guests are welcome. Payment into the usual ANS bank account. Register at events@anglo-netherlands.org.uk

Interview with Graham Brack – Thursday 10 June 7.30pm



Join us for a Zoom interview with award winning mystery author and ANS member Graham Brack. Graham is a retired pharmacist with a Masters of Philosophy degree in Medical Law and Ethics. After a holiday in Prague he wrote the award winning *Josef Slonsky* series. He then went to Amsterdam on holiday and the result was the *Master Mercurius Mystery* series, a historical fictional murder mystery series set in The Netherlands, published in 2020. Find out about Master Mercurius, what inspires Graham, why the historical setting, the role of religion and the events of the time. Graham will be interviewed by Marina Mathon-Clark, member of the Events Committee. Potential members and guests will be welcome, but subject to availability of places. Please register for this free event at events@anglo-netherlands.org.uk

Payment for events via Internet Banking, Anglo-Netherlands Society, account 0540 98 45, sort code (NatWest) 50-41-02, ref your name/event. If not using IB, email the administrator for alternatives.

You will receive your Zoom invitation and easy joining instructions a few days prior to the event. If it is your first time using Zoom you will be asked to download the Zoom App.

Society News

It may read repetitively, but the continuing basic lockdown of the Netherlands Embassy means that we are administering our various activities from our respective homes. So, please, minimise any snail-mail correspondence to our usual address there. You are welcome to address correspondence to us by email at administrator@anglo-netherlands.org.uk where it will receive attention as soon as we find possible. In the meantime, we warmly welcome some new members of the Society, Mr Michiel and Mrs Shirley Kermer and Mr Gerald Gardiner.

Our regular monthly E-NEWS issues which have to some extent replaced our quarterly newsletters, appear to be much appreciated by our members. Not only because these allow us to provide you with a more regular supply of information about our increased number of Anglo-Netherlands events, but also of many other activities and pieces of information that you will hopefully find of interest. Our plans for some larger events remain firmly in our forward agenda. Events such as the Unilever lecture, a drinks reception for new and younger members, and of course the postponed Centenary reception fall into this category. Regarding the latter, it now looks as if we may be able to agree a date during the second half of March 2022 with the key parties involved for this special event, subject of course to any restrictions nearer the time as a result of the pandemic or another unforeseeable situation.

Our team of Awards judges awaits the submissions from students in Dutch studies at Sheffield University in June and, later in the year, from UCL. We hope to announce the first winner sometime towards the end of the second quarter.

Many thanks for your understanding of the present situation and your ongoing support. We are very pleased with the large attendances to our Zoom sessions which have drawn in a much larger group of our members from all over the country (and beyond).

Council ANS

Books

Simone van der Vlugt *Midnight Blue*

A gripping historical novel about Holland set in the 17th century and the birth of Dutch Delftware. *Midnight Blue* is a vibrant blend of mystery, drama and romance. Light on the history but heavy on the twists. <https://www.waterstones.com/book/midnight-blue/simone-van-der-vlugt/9780008212100>
http://www.simonevandervlugt.nl/biography_english/

S.J. Bennett *The Windsor Knot, Her Majesty the Queen Investigates (2020)*

The first book in a highly original and delightfully clever crime series in which Queen Elizabeth II secretly solves crimes while carrying out her royal duties.

<https://www.waterstones.com/book/the-windsor-knot/sj-bennett/9781838773168>

Tessa Leuwsha *Plantage Windlust (2020)*

Students from UCL and the University of Sheffield embarked on a collaborative project to translate an excerpt from *Plantage Windlust* by the Surinam Dutch writer Tessa Leuwsha.

<https://the-low-countries.com/article/plantation-windlust>

http://www.tessaleuwsha.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=18

Robert D. Aronson *Below the Glaze; a family affair, Delftware facts and figures.*

This book explores the history of the important Dutch Delftware factories for each period, which can be cross-referenced with family trees and with many coloured illustrations.

<https://www.aronson.com/product/below-the-glaze-family-affair-delftware-facts-figures/>

Graham Brack *The Vanishing Children (Master Mercurius Mysteries 5) 2021*

Three Jewish boys are missing ... but why is nobody investigating? *The Vanishing Children* is the fifth historical murder investigation in the Master Mercurius Mystery series set in the Netherlands.

<https://saperebooks.com/books/the-vanishing-children-master-mercurius-mysteries-5/>

Art, Culture & Tips

Rubens: Reuniting the great landscapes, Spring/Summer 2021

For the first time in over two hundred years, Peter Paul Rubens's two great masterpieces of landscape paintings *The Rainbow Landscape* and *A View of Het Steen in the Early Morning* will be reunited as part of an exhibition at the Wallace Collection. For tickets, online talks and courses check out:

<https://www.wallacecollection.org/art/exhibitions-displays/rubens-reuniting-great-landscapes/>

Meet the Expert: Thursday 20 May at 1pm online free event

Join Ada de Wit of the Wallace Collection and Dr Theresa Witting of Dresden Grünes Gewölbe in a conversation about Renaissance Kunstkammer, the Baroque Treasury of August the Strong and the 19th century cabinet of treasures of Sir Richard Wallace.

<https://www.wallacecollection.org/whats-on/meet-the-expert-collecting-treasures-gr%C3%BCnes-gew%C3%B6lbe-in-dresden-and-the-wallace-collection/>

The Battle of Britain Bunker

The bunker housed RAF fighter Command's No.11 Group Operations Room throughout WWII, the room from which the RAF co-ordinated most of the Battle of Britain, presented as Winston Churchill. saw it on 15 September 1940. Make a virtual visit at <http://battleofbritainbunker.co.uk/virtual-resources/>

Spying for Queen and Country, Lord Burghley 500th Anniversary Lecture Series

Spying for Queen Elizabeth I was very different from modern-day intelligence services - or was it? This lecture brings together historian Stephan Alford and Sir Richard Dearlove, former head of MI6 and will discuss Tudor spies and the modern-day secret service.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CO7l_Xtq808

Royal College of Music, online free concerts & masterclasses.

<https://www.rcm.ac.uk/events/>

Tour of Hatfield House with Lord Salisbury and Dr Emily Burns

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MaO39-SGJv4>

The Low Countries

Information on cultural life in the Netherlands and Flanders. <https://www.the-low-countries.com/>

Buckingham Palace Garden

Explore the Palace Garden with unprecedented freedom this summer, and discover for yourself for the very first time its sights before enjoying a unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to picnic with views of the Palace. <https://www.rct.uk/visit/buckingham-palace>

Van Gogh's House in London

The house where Vincent van Gogh lived when he first arrived in London in 1873, is now open to the public. <http://www.vangoghhouse.co.uk/van-gogh-house-london/the-house/>

English Heritage Podcast

English Heritage cares for over 400 historic buildings, monuments and sites, and brings the story of England to life for 10 million people each year. <https://soundcloud.com/englishheritage>

ENO Breathe

A breathing and wellbeing programme developed specifically for people recovering from the effects of COVID-19. Delivered by ENO in collaboration with Imperial College Healthcare teams entirely online. Read about the programme and how to take part. <https://eno.org/eno-breathe/>

Information session on the EU Settlement Scheme for Dutch nationals living in the UK (recorded version 27 April 2021). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8u71U0QvdNM>

Information on the EU settlement Scheme & Brexit

<https://www.government.nl/topics/brexit>

Recordings

Lecture by Andrew Taylor on Dutch Landscape paintings

https://zoom.us/rec/share/zJJ0CZKv5F5OTYnDtkWGBYAaBdvUX6a82ydPrKAJyEvQZ_rG0zn7Z8X8wkPblo8o Access passcode for members only

Lecture by Tanja Mödersheim on Dutch Heritage Tulips

https://zoom.us/rec/share/h6ozN9wV3N4_6i_LctiXdJIENITm5Fw7adrhJvZcn6NKIJkTrpFS4wA_cQn1A4I.Um_XOSHLIuWxsBek Access passcode for members only

Interview with Selma van de Perre on her book *My name is Selma*

https://zoom.us/rec/share/ztGICfLztHkAgAooiXA3q2NNPZT_BkthdOFtMhnHBMvpZH_R8w0afhAICr0yt7d4.DboQBB55hMGaJ8br Access passcode for members only

ANS Centenary book

An excellent present for your family members and friends waiting for you: a copy of our much appreciated Centenary book. Please contact administrator@anglo-netherlands.org.uk

Instagram

Please follow us on Instagram at AngloNetherlandsSociety

<https://www.instagram.com/anglonetherlandsociety/?hl=en>

If you have ideas or suggestions for ANS E-NEWS or for one of our ZOOM-Events, please let us know at events@anglo-netherlands.org.uk.