



The
Biesbosch

March 2024

Dutch Touch

Dutch Canadian Club (Edmonton)

13312 142 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5L4T3

Phone: 780-452-2861 —email: dutchtouchedmonton@gmail.com



National Park The Biesbosch in the south of the Netherlands is a nature conservation area and the largest fresh water tidal zone in Europe. This means, for example, that you will find many streams and willow swamps there. With tall, luxuriant willow forests, the area looks just like a jungle! Due to its location, the Biesbosch is affected by the tides. This means that the water level varies. At flood tide, the seawater holds back the water from the rivers, and the water level is then at its highest. At ebb tide, the river water flows freely to the sea, so that the water level reaches its lowest point. The difference between the highest at lowest water levels in the Biesbosch used to be two metres. Since the Delta Works were constructed, the tidal variation is only 20 centimetres in the Brabantse Biesbosch and 70 centimetres in the Hollandse Biesbosch. Such fresh water tidal zones are quite rare.

EDITORIAL

by Jenny Smits
780-975-7426 - dutchtouchedmonton@gmail.com



Dear readers:

We are in the month of March already, the month of Spring. Time to change our clocks forward again on the 10th for the start of daylight savings time. Days are getting longer.

Also, as is our tradition, our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held in March, this year on Saturday March 23, starting at 1:00 p.m.. We hope many of our members, who are able to come, will attend this important meeting to find out what is happening in your club.



The Windmills/Auxiliary is now called the Windmills Activities Committee, they will be organizing all special events for our club and look after food sales, coffee, etc. Volunteers are always needed and welcome to help out.

Good Friday and Easter this year are on the 29th and 31st of March. I wish you all a very Happy Easter!

See you at the club.

Jenny

Our membership dues are per calendar year (January-December) at the following rates:

| | |
|---------------|---------|
| Family: | \$70.00 |
| Senior Family | \$60.00 |
| Single | \$35.00 |
| Senior Single | \$30.00 |
| Student | \$25.00 |

Please mail your membership application or renewal with your **name, address, phone number and email address** to:

**Dutch Canadian Club
13312—142 Street NW
Edmonton, AB T5L4T3**

Or remit via e-transfer to dccedm@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Frank Stolk | President—780-464-4879— stolkfm@telus.net |
| Rinske TerHeide | Vice President/President Windmills—780-960-9758 rin.terheide@gmail.com |
| Willie Korendyk | Secretary/Membership coordinator—780-454-2231 |
| Jenny Smits | Treasurer—780-473-0905— jismits45@gmail.com |
| Ria Bok | Communications Officer—780 472-2725 |
| Pauline Commandeur | Vice President Windmills—780-458-2024 |
| Pieter Van Leeuwen | Director—780-459-5367 |
| Nels Andersen | Director—780-481-7697 |
| Club phone: | 780-452-2861 |



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Per month

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|-------------------|----------|
| 1 full page | \$ 80.00 |
| 1/2 page | \$40.00 |
| 1/4 page | \$20.00 |
| 1/8 page | \$10.00 |
| (GST to be added) | |

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, March 23, 2024

1:00 p.m. - Nordic Room

Please note the change of date!

AGENDA

1. Welcome and moment of silence
2. Opening remarks and year end review
3. Minutes of Annual meeting from March 12, 2023
4. Discussion of Minutes
5. Financial statement for the year ended December 31, 2023
6. Discussion of financial statement
7. Reports from subgroups:
 - a) Card makers
 - b) Klaverjas club
 - c) Saturday socials
 - d) Sewing & craft group
 - e) Windmills socials
8. Report on the progress of the Sale of the property

RECESS

9. New Business
10. Election of three officers

Willie Korendyk & Rinske TerHeide's 3-year terms are up. They will stand for re-election. One officer has to be elected to finish Judy Boekholt's term (two more years).
11. Question Period
12. Adjournment

FROM THE DESK OF FRANK STOLK

Dear Membership,



February is all but gone and if you are tired of it getting dark at 5 p.m. you may be wondering when Daylight Saving Time comes into effect in Canada in 2024. According to The Old Farmer's Almanac, Daylight Saving Time (DST) will have us officially springing forward by one hour on Sunday, March 10 at 2 a.m. local time.

The Spring Equinox on March 20, which means equal length of daylight vs nighttime, is a brilliant time for new beginnings, no matter how you celebrate. In short, Spring is on our doorstep. And that also means we have to hold another AGM on March 23, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. in the Nordic Room. We had first planned to have it on the 17th of March, but we needed to change it as I received a call from our friends at the Irish Sports and Social Club to see if we could help them out to have St. Patrick's Day at the DCC. The reason for this request was that the water main in front of their building broke and flooded their entire building, so as good neighbors do, we helped them out and gave them the 17th.

The nice thing about springtime is that people and groups start looking again for a place to call their own and the good news is they are indeed looking again at our building. We had several groups touring our beautiful building so fingers crossed a sale may happen. As soon as I get some good news on that you will be the first to know.

There are a two board members whose term has come to an end. Rinske TerHeide, our Vice President and Willie Korendyk, our Secretary. The good news is they both have agreed to another term but there is a vacant spot left to be filled to replace Judy Boekholt, so if you are interested to be nominated to join the Board of the DCC in what promises to be an exiting year, let me know and we will put you on the list.

Well, my dear friends I'm looking forward seeing you all on Saturday March 23rd at 1:00 p.m.

Yours Truly

Frank



The spring equinox, also known as the vernal equinox, marks a significant moment in our journey around the sun. Here's what it entails:

- * *The spring equinox occurs when the sun crosses over the celestial equator.*
- * *It happens around March 20 in the Northern Hemisphere and September 22 in the Southern Hemisphere.*
- * *The term "equinox" originates from Latin, combining "aequus" (meaning "equal") and "nox" (meaning "night").*
- * *During the equinox, the amount of daylight and darkness is nearly equal, symbolizing a balance between day and night.*

Significance:

On the spring equinox, the sun rises due east and sets due west—a unique occurrence. It represents the official start of spring in the Northern Hemisphere. The word "vernal" simply means something related to spring. Equinoxes occur twice a year, and they are the only moments when the equator is closest to the sun, resulting in equal sunlight distribution across both hemispheres.

SEWING & CRAFT CIRCLE

By Jenny Smits - 780-975-7426



For Valentine's Day we made a special project which we presented to those who attended the Windmills Valentine's afternoon on February 8 and to the ladies of the Klaverjas club on the 13th of February. Now we are busy with our other projects again. We meet every Tuesday at 10:30 and have enough room in the boardroom if you would like to join us. Please bring your own lunch.

Jenny



KLAVERJAS CLUB

The Klaverjas club meets on Tuesdays from 11:00 until 3.



CARD MAKERS

By Ria Bok - 780-472-2725

Good morning from the card makers!

We are back at our bi-weekly card makers group. It sure is nice to be back with my girls, we sure missed each other.

The next days for card making are March 2, 16, and 30. That's three times in March.

If you would like to join us you are very welcome. We start at 10.30. See you there!

Ria and the girls.

A big thank you for all the visits, cards, flowers and phone calls I received during my hospital stay. It was hard on my family during the holiday season. Thanks again love to you all!

Ria



SATURDAY SOCIALS

By Aris Smits - 780-920-7699



March 9 - 1:00 p.m. - PICKLEBALL

Our first Pickleball session was a lot of fun and we are doing it again! We learned some of the basics and are getting the hang of it. We took a cake-break to celebrate Jennifer's birthday. We are not ready to start keeping score yet, so far it's just practising together. If you are interested in finding out what it's all about come check us out. Members and guests.

March 23 - 1:00 p.m. - Annual General Meeting

No bingo this Saturday because the Annual General meeting is held at this time. We hope all our members who are able will attend this meeting. Bingo will return in April.



This and That to the Windmills

Hello Windmills.

At the time I am writing this, I find myself suddenly and unexpectedly all the way back in the Netherlands. Roel and I have had quite a tumultuous week and again finding out not to take anything for granted, realizing how quickly and suddenly one's life can take an unexpected turn. So let me share some of our adventures.



It all started when we were on a get-away weekend to Fairmont. We left home early on Friday the 16th of February and made a stopover in Calgary to take in a day of the World Speedskating event held at the Calgary speedskating oval. We were dressed up in orange to cheer on the Dutch skaters, but also waving our little Canadian flags for the Canadian athletes. It also nice to see the spectators being supportive of the skaters from all nationalities. We also saw Jenny and Aris from the club among the spectators, who were taking in the whole weekend, while we were there just for the day. It was fun and special to be there and see these world athletes competing and

to take in the atmosphere with both the Dutch and Canadian skaters doing very well. At the conclusion of the competition both teams ended up winning lots of medals.

After the Friday event finished, we continued our journey to Fairmont, staying for the weekend of Roel's birthday for some R and R and an afternoon of skiing, together with our youngest son who came out to join us. On Sunday, the 18th Roel received a phone call from his brother in the Netherlands, thinking it was a call to wish him a happy birthday, but instead it was the sad message that his brother's wife had passed away. After finding out more details on Monday, we started thinking about the possibility of going and be there for the cremation service to be held on Friday the 23rd.



Skating at Windemere

On our way home from Fairmont, we made a prearranged stop in Banff to meet our daughter and family to hand over the condo key, so they could spend the remainder of the week in Fairmont. It turned out to be a good time, since they also wanted to wish their Dad and Opa a happy birthday and took us out for lunch. We then drove to Rocky Mountain House, where our daughter, husband, and granddaughters had a special dinner prepared in celebration of Roel's birthday. While there we managed, with the help of a smart granddaughter, to book our trip to Holland with a flight leaving from Edmonton on Wednesday morning. After staying overnight in Rocky we headed home on Tuesday morning. Once at home we made all other necessary arrangements and started packing.

Wednesday morning our daughter-in-law, drove us out to the Edmonton airport. However upon arriving at the airport, we found out our plane to Toronto was delayed and as a result we would miss our connection to Amsterdam. At the Air Canada desk they found us a flight from Toronto to London Heathrow instead and from there a British Airways flight to Amsterdam. It turned out to be a long day of traveling and it takes a bit of stamina to negotiate all the stopovers at these large busy airports. Walking for miles it seems, while going up and down I don't know how many, escalators. And for instance at Heathrow we had to take a

bus to another terminal and a train to the gate and another bus to the plane. We had decided to just take carry on baggage, lugging that around as well. But after all that I am happy to report we arrived in Amsterdam in one piece. My sister and husband picked us up from Schiphol and all was well. Moreover we are glad to have made the effort. We attended the service held for our sister-in-law and the family was happy and appreciative we were there. Both Roel's brothers have been diagnosed and are receiving treatment for cancer, and it's nice for the brothers to have some time to spend together.



Meanwhile it feels very special to be here in the Netherlands once again. They are having a mild but very wet winter. Have yet to see the sun. But the grass is green and there are *Sneeuw klokjes* (Snowdrops) and Crocuses everywhere and a few Daffodils in bloom, the Tulip leaves are sticking up out of the ground, and here and there I see some blossoms coming out.

We are staying with my nephew and family in an old farm house, overlooking the fields, with a separate little apartment just for us. The siblings, my other nieces and nephews, live close by, some within walking distance. They all have little ones ranging in ages between one and five. Nine of them in total, and they were all together yesterday for a birthday party for the littlest who was turning one. Needless to say it got a bit wild and chaotic when all of them get together. We have the use of a car so it's easy to escape and get away and do some other visiting and sightseeing. Don't know how the rest of our stay will turn out, but we will head back to Canada on March 3rd and take it from there.



Meanwhile greetings from Wapserveen in the Netherlands. Take care everyone back in Canada.

Rinske

President of the Windmills



*Flowers and cheese on
a rainy day at the
market*





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Members Page



Margarita Day—February 1



**Rinske & Pauline served
Dutch pancakes for
Valentine's Day.**

They would love to have a little help in the kitchen on Thursdays.
There is a sign-up sheet in the clubroom if you can help sometimes.
"Vele handen maken licht werk"

**Condolences to Roel & Rinske on
the passing of their sister-in-law
in the Netherlands**

We congratulate everyone who has celebrated a birthday or an anniversary.

If you would like to share these or other special events with our members please email me at:

dutchtouchedmonton@gmail.com
or phone 780-975-7426 and I will include it on our member's page.



Valerie Granoien

celebrated her 75th birthday on February 15 with a delicious German chocolate cake.

Windmills lunches

Just a reminder!

Starting the first week of March we will start serving lunches on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. instead of 3:00 p.m.

The Club is open at 12:00. Come join us for lunch and socializing.

We'll serve the usual croquettes, fries and spring rolls alternated with something special for special occasions

Thank
you ♥

Thank you
Johanna Wenden

For your generous donation
to the Dutch Canadian Club.
Your support is very much
appreciated



Edmonton's
longests
running winter
festival,
Silverskate
Festival was
held in Laurier
Park this year
from February
7-17



Photos by Rinske TerHeide

March

Forward, March
And welcome Spring,
When bunnies
bounce
And birds all sing!



When March winds blow
The winter away,
They get the world
ready for
April and May.

By: Helen H. Moore



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Brain Teasers #6 *by Marwina Prent*



1. Forward, I am heavy; backward, I am not. What am I?
2. If two snakes marry, what will their towels say?
3. I have a head like a cat and feet like a cat, but I am not a cat. What am I?
4. Paul's height is six feet, he's an assistant at a butcher's shop, and wears size 9 shoes. What does he weigh?
5. What gets broken without being held?
6. Throw away the outside and cook the inside, then eat the outside and throw away the inside. What is it?
7. They come out at night without being called, and are lost in the day without being stolen. What are they?
8. What is always in front of you, but can't be seen?
9. You'll find me in Mercury, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, and Uranus. But never Neptune, or Venus. What am I?
10. I can be cracked, made, told, and played. What am I?

HELPFUL HINTS

By Edith

SIDEWALK DE-ICER

For icy steps and sidewalks in freezing temperatures, mix the following:

**1 tsp Dawn dishwashing liquid
1 tbsp rubbing alcohol
½ gallon hot/warm water**

**Pour over walkways.
They won't refreeze.**

**No more salt eating at
the concrete in your
sidewalks!!**



Meanwhile at the Calgary Speedskating Oval...

Both the Canadian men's and women's Sprint Teams won a gold medal at the Calgary ISU World championships in February.

The men's team consisting of Anders Johnson, Laurent Dubreuil, and Antoine Gélinas-Beaulieu set a world record with a time of 1:17.173. Their first-place finish was determined by a photo finish as the Netherlands speed skating team came in at the same time.



The women's team consisted of Madison Pearman, Ivanie Blondin and Carolina Hillman. They finished with a time of 1:25.14 in the event.

Canada had its most successful ISU World Speed Skating Single Distances Championships ever, taking 10 medals on home ice at the Olympic Oval in Calgary. The Dutch team took home 13 medals.

The Dutch Frikandel, Netherlands most popular snack

The Frikandel is the most popular fast food snack in the Netherlands, followed by the kroket. According to the AKSV (the General Association of Manufacturers of Cooking Supplies and Snacks in the Netherlands) 600 million frikandellen are produced each year in the Netherlands. Most of these are also sold in the Netherlands, where more than 37 frikandellen are consumed per capita per year.



The frikandel is perhaps the most contentious of Dutch foods. It's both widely loved and widely hated, but what is it?

Even the history of the frikandel is controversial. Some argue that it was invented in Dordrecht in 1954 by a man called Gerrit De Vries. De Vries' frikandel was essentially a meatball — but cylindrical.

However, others claim it was invented in Deurne in 1958 by a man called Jan Bekkers, who would later coin the appetising word frikandel.

Regardless of who created the frikandel, the legacy lives on, and it has become a staple in Dutch cuisine, whether we like it or not.

So what is a frikandel?

The frikandel is a go-to snack in the Netherlands. Its natural habitat is typically a snackbar, like the nicely heated vending machines or in the “to-go” section of a supermarket.

You could describe the frikandel as a long, cylindrical attempt at a meat stick. It's classically encountered on its own or dressed up as a *frikandelbroodje* or a *frikandel speciaal*.

The difference between a "frikandel" and a "frikadel" is that the frikadel was invented in 1954 and the frikandel is a similar product invented in 1958 and has a different production method, yielding a smoother end-product. Currently the frikadel is no longer in production.

What's in a frikandel?

The frikandel is essentially a long, skinless sausage or “a cylindrical, chewy, skinless, dark-coloured, sausage-like meat product” ... delicious?! However, this doesn't mean it consists purely of one specific meat. Indeed, you could say the frikandel is a hybrid meat product.

What meat you're eating is never certain. All we can say is that it's probably a bit of everything: the usual combination is pork, chicken, and beef, with chicken making up the highest proportion.

In the Netherlands, the frikandel is most often served with curry ketchup or mayonnaise, though some eat it with tomato ketchup, mustard or apple sauce. Very popular is a frikandel served together with mayonnaise, curry or ketchup and chopped raw onion: a *frikandel speciaal*. The *frikandel speciaal* usually has a deep cut lengthwise through the middle to provide room for the chopped onions and the sauces. Some people prefer the taste of a frikandel if the cut is made before frying, resulting in a larger crisp surface. Sometimes the sausage is served on a bun and is then called a *broodje frikandel*.





Frans Hals

WHO WAS FRANS HALS?

Frans Hals was born in Antwerp between 1582 and 1584, the son of a weaver. In 1585, the family fled the Spanish invasion and ended up in Haarlem. There, Frans was trained by painter Karel van Mander. In 1610, he joined the Haarlem painters' guild and became an independent artist with his own apprentices and assistants, including Judith Leyster. Frans Hals was celebrated, admired and sometimes despised for his 'rough-and-ready style'. His main focus was on portraits and he also created masterful militia pieces. Frans Hals died in 1666 and is buried in the Grote Kerk in Haarlem.

Despite being forgotten by later generations, Hals remains one of the most celebrated painters of the Dutch Golden Age. Some of his classic paintings include *The Gypsy Girl*, *Laughing Cavalier*, and *Laughing Boy*. His works depicting drunkenness and obsession with death display unusually free and powerful brushwork showcasing his technique's evolution.

Hals' signature looseness has served as inspiration for many artists beyond the Golden Age period. The Frans Hals Museum located in Haarlem showcases his works alongside exhibitions from other notable artists. Because he was a dominant force across the 17th century art scene when Baroque painting dominated Dutch art, it is crucial to note that this movement continued widespread into other artistic mediums such as architecture, sculpture amongst others.

RIJKSMUSEUM EXHIBIT - February 16-June 9, 2024.

A selection of around fifty key works has been made from Frans Hals' extensive oeuvre to exhibit in Rijksmuseum Amsterdam. These include works from the Rijksmuseum's own collection – *The Merry Drinker*, *Portrait of a Couple* – and a number of special loans, for which they are extremely grateful. These include *The Laughing Cavalier* from the Wallace Collection in London, a work that normally never travels, as well as *Catharina Hooft with her Nurse and Malle Babbe* (Gemäldegalerie, Berlin), *Family Group in a Landscape* (Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza, Madrid) and *Fruit and Vegetable Seller* (Private Collection Bridgenorth). The exhibition features another first: the group portrait *The Banquet of the Officers of the St George Civic Guard* from 1616 (Frans Hals Museum, Haarlem), will be seen outside the city of Haarlem for the first time ever.

The exhibition centres on Frans Hals' style, which was as freewheeling as it was lively. A style that won him praise and prestige, and earned him a reputation as a forerunner of impressionism. Encompassing around fifty works, this exhibition gives the visitor the chance to watch him grow as an artist. Painting by painting, you can see him breaking with convention and gaining in confidence as he finds his own inimitable way. At the same time, the exhibition paints a fascinating picture of the times in which he lived. The 'bourgeois realism' of which Frans Hals was a master gives a remarkable insight into the lives of his patrons and the norms, values and traditions of the age.



The Gypsy Girl



The Laughing Boy



Catharina Hooft with her nurse

EXPOSURE (sculpture)

Exposure is a steel frame sculpture on the Markerstrekdam near the Houtribsluizen in Lelystad Netherlands by artist Antony Gormley. The work is also known as Crouching man (Squatting man), or popularly called the Shitting Man.

In creating Exposure Gormley was inspired for his design for Flevoland by the intended location near Lelystad: a breaking dam (spur of the Markerwaarddijk) in the middle of water, with a view of the Markermeer on one side and on the other side a view over the polder. He designed a crouching man, modeled after himself. The figure looks out toward the water. The vastness of the surroundings makes it difficult to estimate the scale of the 26 m (85 ft) high artwork from a distance. The male figure becomes more abstract as the visitor nears the sculpture.. Writing about the sculpture, Atlas Obscura said, "Exposure most definitely resembles a giant figure squatting to poop. This is so apparent that the locals have taken to calling the work, 'the shitting man'". The Dutch locals refer to it as "de poepende man" or "the shitting man".



Gormley sees his landscape sculptures as a still point in a moving world. Over time, however, Exposure will also respond to changes in the environment. The artist predicts that because of Global warming and rising sea levels, the dam will have to be raised at some point, burying the work more and more.

DE SCHREEUW (The Scream)



De Schreeuw (The Scream) is a sculpture in the Oosterpark in Amsterdam that commemorates the assassinated Dutch filmmaker Theo van Gogh. The monument was designed by Jeroen Henneman as a symbol of freedom of speech.

Theo van Gogh was assassinated on 2 November 2004 in the Linnaeusstraat in Amsterdam, just a few steps away from the Oosterpark. The assassin was Mohammed Bouyeri. In 2007 Henneman created the sculpture as symbol of freedom of speech.

The 4.5 m (15 ft) high heat-blasted stainless steel statue is in the form of a stylized profile of a face that screams on one side and has a closed mouth on the other. The work shows the tension and complexity of the theme of freedom of expression and how Van Gogh was silenced.

The designer, Jeroen Henneman, said on the occasion of the unveiling that he hopes the image will remind passers-by of the moment of the murder; "to Theo van Gogh, who cries out for mercy."

CHALLENGE: Try speaking and writing without using this two-letter word which has more meanings than any other – can be a noun, verb, adjective, adverb, and preposition.

“UP”

It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP?

At a meeting, why does a topic come UP?

Why do we speak UP?

Why are the officers UP for election?

Why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report?

We call UP our friends, brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver, warm

UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen.

We lock UP the house and fix UP the old car.

People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses.

To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed UP is special.

This UP is confusing: A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP.

We open UP a store in the morning but we close it Up at night.

We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP!



To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look UP the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4 of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions.

If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP.

When the sun comes out, we say it is clearing UP.

When it rains, the earth soaks it UP.

When it does not rain for awhile, things dry UP.

One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP as my time is UP! Oh, one more thing:, What is the first thing you do in the morning and the last thing do at night? U P. Did that one crack you UP?

Don't screw UP. If this is good, send it to everyone you look UP in your address book, or not, it's UP to you. Now I'll shut UP.

Submitted by Marwina Prent








Answers from page 11:

1. a ton
2. Hiss and Hers
3. a kitten
4. meat
5. a promise
6. corn on the cob
7. stars
8. the future
9. the letter "R"
10. a joke



March 2024

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|--|------------------------|-----|-----------------|--|--|
| | | | | | 1 Pub night | 2 Card making |
| 3 | 4 | 5 Sewing Klaverjas | 6 | 7 Windmills | 8 Pub night | 9  |
| 10  | 11 | 12 Sewing Klaverjas | 13 | 14 Windmills | 15 Pub night | 16 Card making |
| 17 | 18 | 19 Sewing Klaverjas | 20 | 21 Windmills | 22 Pub night | 23  |
| 24 | 25 | 26 Sewing Klaverjas | 27 | 28 Windmills | 29  | 30 Card making |
| 31  | We are open again on Friday nights. Sure hope to see you all again for a game of cards or billiards. We open at 7. See you there! | | | | | |



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