

DAW



EASTER
2011

Dear Friends,

WELCOME TO ALKMAAR !!

We extend a warm welcome to you, our swimming friends from Bath, and wish you all a very happy Easter here in Alkmaar and its surrounding area.

It is a long time ago since the first exchange took place between our clubs back in 1948 and we feel proud to have been associated with your city and your club since that time. As a result of that friendship, several hundred swimmers of both clubs have visited their twincity for that reason. We are aware that a great number of them have continued close friendships over many years.

We are happy to welcome also this year old friends, because several members of The Dolphins who are visiting us this year have visited Alkmaar already a lot of times. But for a lot of you it's the first time you visit Alkmaar and our club and we hope that when you go back to Bath on Tuesday you will have a good impression of Alkmaar and its surroundings. This little book contains not only names and addresses of the hostfamilies and the names of the guests, but also the programme of the following days.

We hope that you will all have a very enjoyable stay in our fine city with hopefully nice weather and we look forward to a good contest at the Swimming Gala for The Thomas Best Trophy on Sunday, 24 April

The Exchange Project Team

Hans Schoenmakers, Han Masée, Fred Heemstra, Rene de Boer and Joost Hoetjes

Program:

Thursday 21st April 2011:	18.30	Arrival at DAW Clubhouse. Evening with host family
Friday 22nd April 2011:	09.45	Meet at Tourist Information Office
	10.00	Visit the cheesemarket
	10.30-11.30	Activity
	12.00-15:30	Free time to spent
	15:00	Clubhouse is open
	15.30-16.30	Swimming Training (optional)
	16.30-???	Free evening
Saturday 23th April 2011:	08.00-09.00	Swimming Training
	09.30-10.30	Breakfast together in the clubhouse of DAW (don't eat to much at your host family)
	10.30-±13.30	Dune-walking and/or bustrip along the flowersfields. Departure and arrival at the Clubhouse by bus
	13.30-19.30	Free afternoon to spend
	19.30-22.00	Social evening at the clubhouse with Old- Dutch games
Sunday 24th April 2011:	Eastern:	Morning with your host family
	12.30-13.00	Warming up swimming gala
	13.00-15.30	Swimming Gala for The Thomas Best Trophy
	15:30-17:30	Clubhouse Open to socialize and the <i>Thomas Best trophy ceremony</i>
	17:30-???	Free evening
Monday 25th April 2011:	08.45	Meet at the clubhouse
	09.00-18.00	Zuiderzeemuseum
	18.00-20.00	Buffet in the clubhouse
	20.00-23.30	Goodbye party
Tuesday 26^h April 2011:	10.00	Meet at the clubhouse
	10.30	Departure from Alkmaar

Host families:

Fam. de Boer



Luke Ladbroke (20), Shaun Rowe (20)

Hans Schoenmakers en Ilona Hogerheyde



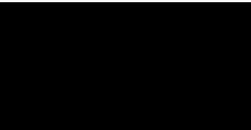
Paul Sartain

Fred Heemstra



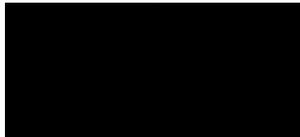
Paul Brake

Han en Ank Masee



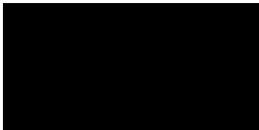
Phil Brake, Barbara Cutting

Fam. Schaap



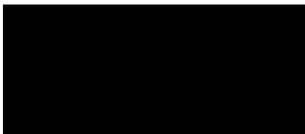
Sally Gay, Paul Gay

Fam. Bruijn



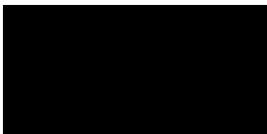
Alex Joy (13), Jasper Lye (12)

Kars Luttkik



David Maynard

Fam. Wiersma



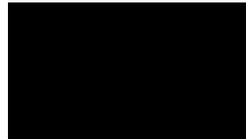
Charlie Bond (13), Grace McMullen (13)

Fam. Boersma



Ryan Gay (17), Liam O'Sullivan (20)

Fam. Hoetjes



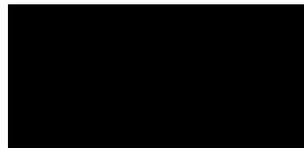
Sue Wooly, June Heath

Fam. Peeters



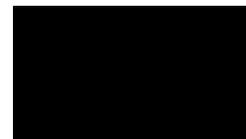
Adelaide Peach (13), Alisa White (13)

Fam. Padt



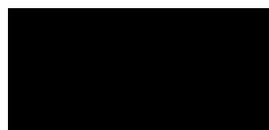
Ella Mandell-Lynn (14), Chloe O'Sullivan (17)

Paul Quick



Rebecca Harnden (12), Emily Walton (15)

Fam. Schot



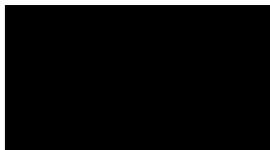
Rachel Li (16), Rebecca Cornish (17)

Gerard Hoedjes



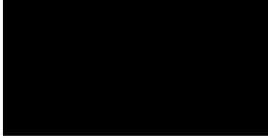
Driver

Fam. Vriesman



Dennis Toogood, Debbie Toogood

Fam. Dekker



Mark Grainger (13), Tom Smith (13)

Fam. Pusch



Tom Smith (13), Mark Grainger (13)

Map of Alkmaar



Cheesemarket

History of the cheesemarket

In 1365, the city owned one pair of cheese scales only, but this increased to four in 1612. The kaasdragersgilde (cheese carrier's guild) is first mentioned in the archives in 1619. 1593, however, is considered the first year of the cheese market, which has always taken place on the Waagplein. This square has been extended several times; in the course of two centuries, it was enlarged no fewer than eight times before it reached its current dimensions, which proves the importance of cheese trade for the city. In the 17th century, cheese was traded on Fridays and Saturdays from May until All Saint's Day, and in the 18th century on four days a week.

Putting up the cheeses

The cheese market opens to the public at 10 am, but much work is involved prior to this. Lorries filled with cheese from the Campina and Cono factories drive to the Waagplein. So-called "kaaszettters" (setters) start putting up the cheeses as early as 7 am. Under the watchful eye of the market superintendent, they place about 30,000 kilos of Gouda and Edam cheese in long rows on the Waagplein. The number of cheeses varies from 700 to 1000. During the "stacking" samplers and traders inspect whether the cheese looks good, as the way cheese looks is of major importance. Everything must be on display in the market at 9.30 am.

Cheese father calls the roll

Cheese carriers are required to be present at the Waaggebouw (weighing house) at 7 am, but in reality only the kaaszettters are on time. Cheese carriers arrive at 9.30 am. Those arriving too late are stated on the "stocks" and are required to pay a fine which is collected by the "provost marshal". The provost marshal punishes the cheese carriers if they are too late or break the rules. Part of the money collected in fines is used by the guild to sponsor a school in the small city of Alkmaar in Surinam. The remainder goes to the guild. At 9.30, the cheese father – head of the four forwarding companies – gives a talk to the cheese carriers in the Waaggebouw, stating the number of metric tons of cheese on the market and whether important guests, journalists, or TV crews will be present. He makes a roll call to see whether the guild is complete or whether anyone is sick, and divides the forwarding companies over the market: the part of the market where the cheese carriers are to work.

Opening of the market

The bell rings on the stroke of 10 am; the sign indicating the start of the cheese market. The ringing of the bell is often done by a visitor to the market, at the invitation of the council of Alkmaar, for instance. This may be a famous Dutch person from sports or TV, or a foreign ambassador.

Cheese inspection

As soon as the market opens, the samplers and traders go to work. Inspecting cheese is more than just looking at its exterior. Cheese is knocked on and a special cheese scoop used to obtain a piece, which is then crumbled between the fingers and smelled. And, naturally, it is tasted to assess the relation between taste, and the percentages of fat and moisture.

Price bargaining

Price bargaining per kilo is still done by means of clapping hands: bargaining by clapping one another's hands and shouting prices. The last clap clinches the sale of a batch of cheese.

Weighing the cheese

Once the deal is closed, cheese carriers use a barrow to take the sold cheese to the Waag, where it is weighed in the Waaggebouw. Currently, there are three pairs of scales: the lower, middle, and upper scale. The tasman (purse man) weighs the cheese, and the waagmeester (weighing master), a public servant, supervises the correct weight being passed on to the buyer; the motto of the Alkmaar cheese carrier guild being "Een valse Waghe is de Heere een gruwel" (a false balance is an abhorrence in the eyes of the Lord). The "tasman" is positioned at the scales and can be recognised by the purse around his waist. Cheese used to be paid to him, hence the purse. After weighing, he marks the barrow with cheese by stamping a check mark on it.

Carrying cheese

Once the batch is sold and weighed, the cheese carriers carry the cheese across the market to the buyers' lorries. Cheese is transported on the wooden barrow hanging between two cheese carriers, holding about 8 Gouda cheeses, each of them weighing 13,5 kilos. Carrying a heavy barrow (25 kilos) weighing about 130 kilos is not easy. The carriers walk with a special "cheese carriers' dribble", a particular walking rhythm to make it easier. They step out of time as it were, ensuring the barrow hangs as still as possible.

The end of the cheese market

The last cheeses are loaded in carts by "ingooiers" (loaders) who then take them back to the haulier's lorry. The entire square must be emptied of cheese before the end of the cheese market at 12.30 pm, to allow for chairs to be set out at the outdoor cafés.

The Zuiderzee Museum

The Zuiderzee Museum is directed toward the past, the present and the future of the IJsselmeer, the former Zuiderzee. Communities, crafts and water are the central features in the open-air section in the form of a Outdoor Museum, and the temporary exhibitions in the Indoor Museum.

The Zuiderzee Museum was founded in 1948. The decision was made to develop an open air Museum at the end of the nineteen sixties. The Museum Park was completed in 1983, after years of preparation. This provides an image of how people used to live and work around the Zuiderzee between 1880 and 1930, the period which preceded the completion of the IJsselmeer Dam in 1932.

The Museum is still very much in the centre of society in the twenty first century. It expressly enters into debates with its visitors and aims to offer a dynamic art and culture experience. Current Zuiderzee and IJsselmeer area subjects are often opted for with the new exhibitions and activities. Water management, town and country planning and recreation open up the Museum's boundaries

Outdoor Museum

The open-air area of the Zuiderzee Museum consists of a park with authentic old premises. Craftsmen are busy with their everyday work in the Outdoor Museum.

Marken Harbour

The Marken Harbour is a reconstruction of a nineteenth century harbour. You can see how the fishermen used to mend and knit their nets. You can enjoy a stroll along the quay to admire the ships and houses from Marken, Volendam and Monnickendam. A replica of a slip shed has been built near the harbour.

Church Neighbourhood

The church which proudly stands in the Outdoor Museum was located in Den Oever for many centuries. The chapel was moved to the Museum, literally stone by stone, in 1968. And there is much more to enjoy around the church: a beautiful old school or a heavenly delicious sweet shop. The smith and basket weaver enjoy showing off their crafts.

Town Canal

The hustle and bustle along the town canal always results in a great atmosphere. One side has been reconstructed like Edam. You will find the patisserie, the pharmacy, the cheese warehouse and the butcher. Children can get dressed up in traditional Volendam or Marken costumes and visit the Farmer Loan Bank.

Fishing village

Before you reach the poor, but oh so lovely fishing village, you will pass a fish smoker's and a real wind watermill. From the little dike you will be able to enjoy the breathtaking views of the IJsselmeer. Then you can stroll on into the village. Urk residents 'live' here just like they did back in 1905. With a bit of luck you might just be in time for dinner and you can join them for a smoked herring with boiled potatoes.

Nature area

The peninsula starts behind the three characteristic limekilns. This largely consists of a nature area. You can take some time out to relax at the picnic spot and enjoy nature. Don't forget to visit the reconstruction of a West Frisian farm from the Bronze Age whilst you are here.

Demonstrations

You will come across hard working people all over the Outdoor Museum. They do work which no longer exists today or work which has seen radical changes. Do you or your (grand)children still know what a sail maker, a washing master and a cooper used to do exactly? It is fascinating to see a brush maker or fish smoker in action.

Indoor museum

Art and culture lovers can certainly eat their hearts out in the Indoor Museum with the surprising temporary exhibitions,