

New Zealand Action Committee
Ex-Japanese War Victims

Dear all,

Hereby I will give you an update of what has happened in 2018. Membership payment numbers are down but thanks to several payments of \$100 we can survive. Thank you very much. We have 47 paying members. So if you can/want, please pay EJOS \$20 membership. Thank you. Several members have given-up.

ANZAC day 24 April: Hans van Ess and myself attended the Birkenhead ceremony. EJOS has a wreath which we lay at the Birkenhead monument.

6 May Commemoration of the end-of-WWII in the Netherlands in the Parnell Rose garden organised by Lucy Powell. Dutch ambassador and Consul were present. Hans van Ess and I lay the wreath at the monument.

24 May - 3 June, The Tong Tong Fair Malieveld: in The Hague (Den Haag). It is the largest festival in the world for Indo (European-Indonesian) culture. This year there was a heatwave, with 32 degrees. Many people changed their mind about going to the festival and went to the beach instead.

26 May 2018 EJOS AGM in the Birkenhead RSA. As you know I was not able to attend the AGM. Lucky I have an assistant/vice president Hans van Ess who took the honours. That was fantastic at such short notice. Thank you Hans. I had written my speech earlier and stored it on my desktop. My wife printed it and could hand it to Hans.

Human Rights Prize for ex- Comfort Woman: In June I get the good news that ex Comfort Woman Janny Ruff O'Herne received the Women's Human Rights Prize. A photo of Janny with her grand daughter and the prize is later on in this newsletter. Sadly Jan had a fall and is now in hospital care. Her daughter writes on 1 November 2018. "She is in a nursing home and is not doing very well. She had another fall at the home. She is very unsteady on her feet, and getting confused about where she is. Very sad, but then, she is 95 years old".

15 August, Commemoration in Den Haag at the Water Party was the biggest attended in years.

8 September: This was the commemoration of the Japanese Sea transports of some 100,000 POW's to places in South-East Asia for slave labour in Bronbeek, The Netherlands. Many of the "Hell Ships" were torpedoed and sank with thousands of casualties.

Saturday September 29 we had our "End-of-WWII" commemoration with an Indonesian Lunch at the Kuta Bali in Ponsonby with 52 people.

AGM Saturday 18 May 2019 at the Birkenhead RSA. 10.45-12.30. Followed by an Indonesian Lunch for \$15.

As per December 2018 I was allowed to drive again after my ICD implant May 29. I am lucky to be able to get on with my function with EJOS. In January we had a committee meeting at my place. We discussed finances and future activities.

Sadly the following people passed away; Harry Klay in FEB aged 92, 5 MAR Truus Bodzassy aged 90.

Last page shows you an official AUG 1944 statement of the final disposition of POW's.(not to leave any traces)

The photo of the lady with great grandchild is Corrie van Werkum.
On behalf of your Committee, we wish you a Happy New Year.

*Kind regards,
Ivo Pabbuwe*



24 APR 2018. Birkenhead Monument EJOS wreath.

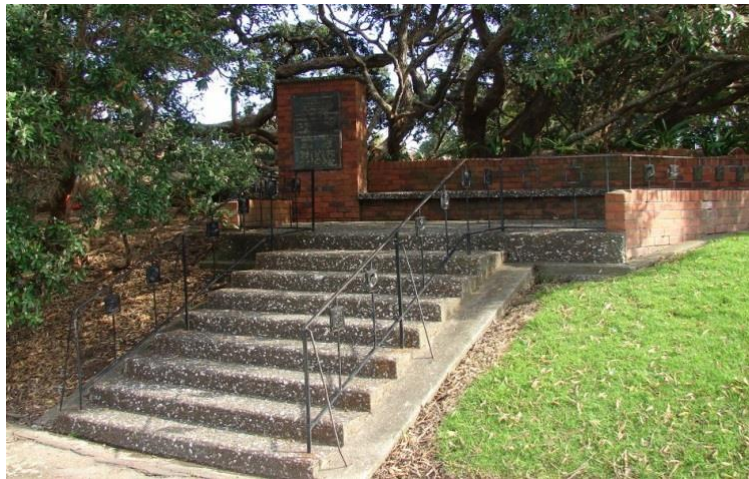


Photo 2 & 3: 6 May 2018. End-of-WWII commemoration Rose gardens Parnell. Hans van Ess, Consul Sake Hitman & Ivo Pabbruwe at the monument



15 AUGUST 2018 Commemoration in the newspapers in The Netherlands.



Jan Ruff O'Herne with grand daughter Ruby received the Women's Human Rights Prize. 9 June 2018



Jan Ruff-O'Herne

The Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan, known as "Jeongdaehyeop," and the Foundation for Justice said Friday the Friends of Comfort Women in Australia will present the award to **Jan Ruff-O'Herne, 95**, on their behalf Saturday. Jeongdaehyeop and the foundation granted the award on the occasion of the U.N.-designated International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, which falls on June 19. Born in what was then the Dutch East Indies, now Indonesia, Ruff-O'Herne was imprisoned by the Japanese and taken to a military-run brothel as a forced sex slave during World War II. Camp Ambarawa. In 1992 after she and her British husband migrated to Australia, she revealed her ordeal for the first time as a non-Asian after being inspired by the courage of some of the Korean women who were speaking out and demanding an apology and compensation from the Japanese government. As a human rights activist, she has travelled the world to tell her story and taken the lead in informing people about Japanese atrocities during the war.

Ruff-O'Herne, along with two former comfort women from South Korea, gave testimony about the hardships they experienced at a 2007 hearing of the U.S. House of Representatives before the lower house adopted a resolution demanding that Japan formally apologize for its sexual enslavement of tens of thousands of young women, mostly Koreans, for front-line Japanese soldiers during World War II.

SJE Nieuws brief DEC 2018 published this article about Jan Ruff O'Herne:

Birthday gift from Janny O'Herne to her camp friend Gertie.

The Japanese surrender came on August 15, but the inmates of the camp Kramat heard this a week later on 24 August 1945. On 18 August, Gertie, then 20, her friend Janny O'Herne had made her a booklet with drawings and a few short texts. Jan O'Herne wrote it "in memory of your third birthday camp". The drawings speak for themselves. Jan O'Herne.



Sjouwploeg. "Broo-oo-ood!"



Gertie in functie. (at work) "Pannen weg van de drum !!! (Get rid of the pans from the drum)"
Camp people used the kitchen fires to cook for extra, which was forbidden.

Indische Kwestie

12 SEP 2018. Meeting concerning the Indische Kwestie postponed till further notice (again)
Finally 8 NOV 2018. Indische Kwestie in parliament.

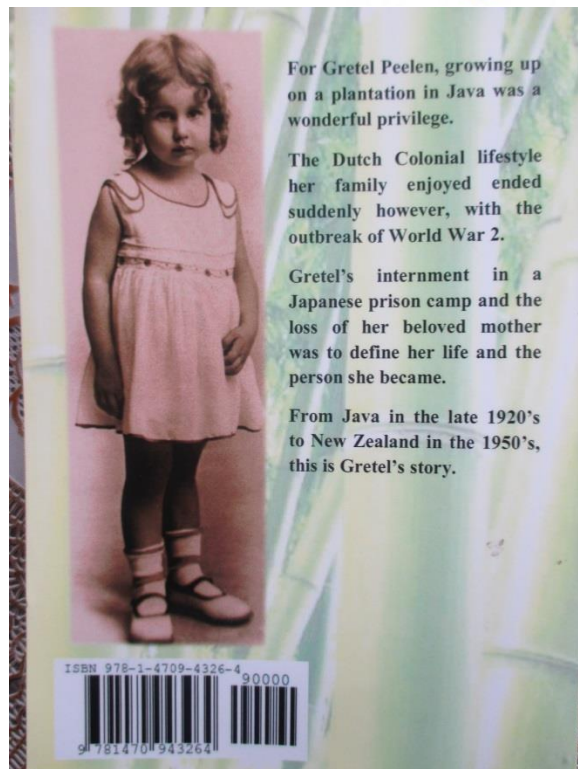
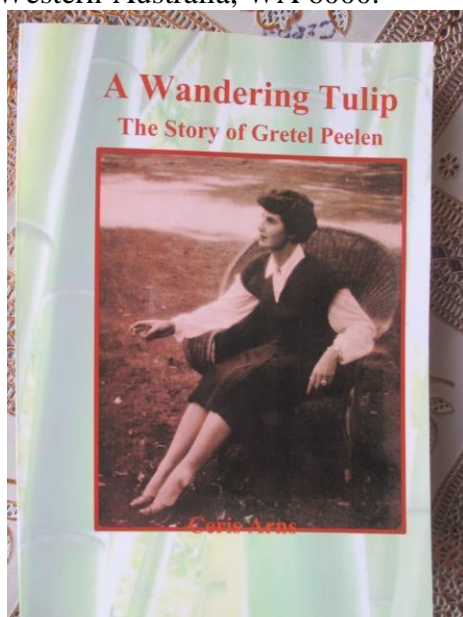
Algemeen Overleg. 8 NOV 2018. (General Discussion)

Finally the Indische Kwestie was on the agenda and honoured. The meeting was more than 2hrs. The main subject was the BACKPAY. Many people

thought they were eligible but most of them had passed away by the cut-off date 15-th AUG 2015. Applications had 1 yr to apply, which was extended with 1 ½ yr. They expected 1020 (!) people to apply. Of the applications 1175 were denied and 594 accepted and paid out. Three EJOS members have received back pay. They were all in their 90's. Only Bert Modderman is still alive. About 30 people have gone to court in order to get the Backpay. State secretary Blokhuis said that the Backpay has been well accomplished. The following issues the SVJ will look at now; Dutch-Indonesian history in the school curriculum and more funds for the. Collective Recognition (Collective Erkenning) of the Indonesian Community especially 2019/20 when 1945 will be 75yr ago. Acknowledgement or lost-goods compensation was not discussed.

History Lesson

When the EJOS group started in 1989 Joop Arns became the secretary. In December Menno Uiterdijk showed me a book written by the daughter of Joop & Gretel Arns. "**A Wandering Tulip**" the story of Gretel Peelen, written by Ceris Arns, Gretel's daughter. Published by Chargan My Book Publisher Pty Ltd, Lvel 18, 152 Georges Tce, Perth, Western-Australia, WA 6000.



In the Dutch-East-Indies the servants used to call St Nikolaas "sinjokolas".



Ivo had this article printed in the local newspaper AUG 16 2018.

Corrie van Werkum-Lieneman. Great grand mother. JAN 2019.



Colonial group in Java. In the back three servants. Period 1924- 1928. Picture Prentenkabinet Leiden

The Hofkwartier in Den Haag gets new 'royal' street name signs from early December. In addition to the crown above the street name, the material used is also new and particularly: **bamboo.**



2 JAN 2019. Japanese 85yr old Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko announced that they will step down 30 APR. Their son 58yr old Crown prince Naruhito will take over.



Your Committee



EJOS AGM – SATURDAY 18 MAY 2019 - 10.30am, Birkenhead RSA building.

Coffee & Tea available beforehand for a gold coin donation

AGM starts 10.30am - 11.45.

After the meeting refreshments will be available at the bar upstairs at your own cost.

At 1pm we will have the Traditional Indonesian Lunch downstairs - \$15 for EJOS members, \$17.50 for non-members.

5 Pay at the venue and, please, register if you like to join the Lunch only. You are welcome. We just need to count numbers for lunchers.

Call Ivo (09) 534 4560. (ivo.p@xtra.co.nz) to book in . See you on Saturday 18th May.

(Certified as Exhibit "O" in Doc. No. 2687)

From the Journal of the Taiwan POW Camp H.Q. in Taihoku,
entry 1st August 1944.

1. (entries about money; promotions of Formosans at Branch camps including promotion of Yo Yu-toku to 1st Cl Keibin - 5 entries)
2. The following answer about the extreme measures for POWs was sent to the Chief of Staff of the 11th Unit (Formosa POW Security No. 10).
"Under the present situation if there were a mere explosion or fire a shelter for the time being could be had in nearby buildings such as the school, a warehouse, or the like. However, at such time as the situation became urgent and it be extremely important, the POW's will be concentrated and confined in their present location and under heavy guard the preparation for the final disposition will be made."

The time and method of this disposition are as follows:

(1) The Time.

=====

Although the basic aim is to act under superior orders, individual disposition may be made in the following circumstances:

- (a) When an uprising of large numbers cannot be suppressed without the use of firearms.
- (b) When escapees from the camp may turn into a hostile fighting force.

(2) The Methods.

=====

- (a) Whether they are destroyed individually or in groups or however it is done, with mass bombing, poisonous smoke, poisons, drowning, decapitation, or what, dispose of them as the situation dictates.
- (b) In any case it is the aim not to allow the escape of a single one, to annihilate them all, and not to leave any traces.

- (3) To: The Commanding General
The Commanding General of Military Police

Reported matters conferred on the 11th Unit, the Kiirun Fortified Area H.Q., and each prefecture concerning the extreme security in Taiwan POW Camps. "

3. (The next entry concerns the will of a deceased POW).

I hereby certify that this is a true translation of
the Journal of the Taiwan POW H.Q. in Taiwan, entry 1st August 1944.

Signed: Stephen H. Green.