## The British Club of The Hague

## What you can look forward to in the month of APRIL 2019

Friday 5	12.00	In 1674, Antoni van Leeuwenhoek visited the Berkelsemeer, a lake near Delft, and took a water sample because the water was unusually cloudy. When he examined the sample with his simple microscope, he got the surprise of his life, and the biological world would never be the same. The water was full of "little animals" invisible to the naked eye.  Using original drawings, modern digital photos, and film clips taken through exact replicas of his microscopes, Dr Lesley Robertson will give us an overview of van Leeuwenhoek's life and work: the Man who discovered Micro-organisms.  Lesley's life-long interest in microbiology led to a career at TU Delft, lastly as Head of Biological Safety for the unversity. She is co-author of a new biography of van Leeuwenhoek — "Master of the Miniscule".  Improve your Bridge with John Macfarlane	Sombrengs discontraction of the state of the
Friday 12	11.00	BCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Guaranteed not to be boring! A review of last year at the Club, including our successful 90 <sup>th</sup> anniversary season, an insight into the Club's finances, plus your chance to elect Members to manage the Club on your behalf. Another important element: voting to select the Club's Charity for 2019. Please play your part and participate All this, plus a free finger buffet lunch, offered by your Committee!  Improve your Bridge with John Macfarlane Mahjong	
Tuesday 16	10.50 for 11.00	Join a member of De Gilde for a one-hour guided walking tour of Art Nouveau/Jugendstil buildings in The Hague's city centre. Towards the end of the 19 <sup>th</sup> century, many older buildings made way for new ones in the latest architectural style, for both domestic and retail use. Some existing buildings were given new facades in this distinctive style, in particular with the addition of mosaic decoration. The Hague, together with Brussels, boasts a wonderful collection of these 19 <sup>th</sup> and early 20 <sup>th</sup> -century gems.	

		Details:  Meet in front of Restaurant 't Goude Hooft, on Dagelijkse Groenmarkt in the city centre.  Cost: €5.00 per person, payable in advance to Deppy  Group: minimum 4, maximum 15  Afterwards: Lunch or coffee (at own expense) at nearby restaurant Haagse Bluf. Please indicate your interest, so that Deppy can reserve tables.  If you would like to join this visit, please add your name to the sign-up sheet at the Club, or contact Deppy at activitiesbch@gmail.com.	
This is Good Friday: nevertheless the Club plans to be open.	12.00	'The Seniors' is a category of membership discontinued some years ago, but there are still some Club Members who are strictly 'Seniors', and their welfare is co-ordinated by Luise van der Meer. On 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fridays, they have an Open Table, when non-Seniors can join them at their special table for coffee and conversation.  Improve your Bridge with John Macfarlane  Mahjong	
		Happy Easter!	
Friday 26	10.45	This month the Readers' Discussion Group will be led by Isy Randall, who will introduce Amor Towles' second published novel, A Gentleman in Moscow. Set in Russia from 1922 up to the 1950s, the novel centres on Count Alexander Rostov, an aristocrat who is under house arrest in an attic in Moscow's Metropol Hotel. It details his life as he watches, and adapts to, the changes in Russia, and shows some endearing friendships — with a chef, an actress, and a nine-year-old girl. The Count has lost his family, his possessions, and his social standing. In addition, everything he loves about Russian life is being uprooted systematically by the new regime. However, he has two things going for him:	A CENTLENAN IN ROSCOM  AMOR TOWLES  Life of the North Town Labella  RULES OF CIVILITY
	12.00	his upbringing as a gentleman; and his ingrained optimism. Being a person of honour helps him to navigate three decades in the hotel.  Improve your Bridge with John Macfarlane	