

GOLD!

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Magazine van de Vereniging Gouden-Kruisdragers Vierdaagse

In this edition:

- Gien Langen on 60 years of the Four Days Marches Mass
- Who are our ambassadors?
- Pin to be earned on 'Powered-by GKD' tours!





GOUD! is an issue of the Association of Gold Medalists

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Content

3	Foreword chair
4	60 Times 4days Marches mass. Portrait of Gien Langen
6	Introducing! Interview with ambassador Hans Rennie
7	Inge`s report walk Gold Medalists' Trail
7	In Memoriam
8	News
9	4Days Marches Mass 2024 in St.Stevenskerk
9	Reunion 2024
10	Heumensoord walk Powered-by GKD
10	Flag Parade 2024
11	Powered-by walk in Burgum
12	Pin to be earned in Powered-by GKD walking tours
12	Gold Medalists T-shirt 2024
13	Summary meeting april 2024
14	Members meeting on July 15th 2024
15	Meeting points 106th 4Days Marches

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Foreword chair

Dear Gold Medalists,

We are at the brink of a 4Days Marches. A 4Days Marches that, after a few difficult years, seems to be incredibly popular. A 4Days Marches that gets durability as a main theme, with new resting areas, a new layout of the “Wedren” starting area and more focus to litter and littering. With this renewed popularity chances appear for our society; of course we can use some new members because even our society has had a small relapse in numbers.

The society has made calls to her members, through various channels, to make themselves electable for the board or to fulfill other volunteer functions. Fortunately this ended into enthusiastic reactions, not much but in any case enough to be able to manage the society and continue our activities. Probably we do not have to recruit in an active way, but if you would like to help the society in any way, you can always call on the board.

After a busy anniversary year in which we completed the Gold Medalists path, and with the attention of the media, we expect to do the usual association activities in 2024. I hope to meet a lot of members in the reunion and the Powered-by GKD Castle walking tour in Gulpen (Province of Limburg) on September 29th, or maybe at the next Powered-by GKD Heumensoord tour in Nijmegen, December 18th.

Powered-by GKD tours are free of charge to our members, so don't let that stop you.

I wish everyone a beautiful and successful 4Days Marches; not only the walkers but also the many members of our society that nowadays work for the organization of the 4Days Marches. And if you are not finished walking July 19th, maybe I'll see you in Gulpen or Nijmegen later this year.

Frans Leijtens
President of the Board



60 TIMES 4DAYS MARCHES MASS

Portrait of Gien Langen

Traditionally, on the Sunday preceding the 4Days Marches, the 4Days Marches Mass is celebrated in the St. Stevens Church in Nijmegen. Our Member of Merit, Gien Langen, has been one of the driving forces behind this special church service from the very first hour. In 2023, Gien was involved in the organization of this special event for the last time. Reason for the editors of GOUD! to travel to her home in Lent. It became a special conversation with a very enthusiastic lady.

Upon entering her home, the Paschal candle in the hallway immediately caught my eye. A gift, which she once received as a token of appreciation from the Ecumenical City Pastorate (O.C.P.) for all those years that she put her heart and soul into organizing the church services. Something she could never have done without the help of her children and certainly not without her now-deceased husband. Her husband Ton supported her in word and deed for many years. Thus he was responsible for the fact that the booklets with the liturgy, which are distributed to the churchgoers, developed over time from a simple A4 sheet to a professional looking booklet.

Ton took great care and attention to the illustration of the title page, which was based on a chosen theme for the service. But it didn't stop there. Gien's family got up early on the Sunday of the 4Days Marches Mass for all kinds of supporting activities. Quite a job! Did an orchestra need timpani? Gien's husband borrowed a trailer and drove across town to pick them up.

After the service, the family helped count the proceeds of the collection. Daughter Rosalinde took care of the photography of the mass for, among other things, the website of the *Stichting Vierdaagsemiss*. That website in turn was realized by son Wijnand and her other son Floris, on the occasion of the 50th 4Days Marches Mass, wrote the booklet "Fifty-Five Years Of Gods People On The Go".

It cost Gien tremendously, that at her farewell she was not able to express a token of appreciation for the years of effort, which her husband and children have put in all these years for the benefit of the 4Days Marches Mass. So, herewith.....



The Easter candle in St. Stevens' Church during the Vierdaagse Mass, which now has a prominent place in Gien's home.

But how did she actually ever get involved in the 4Days Marches Mass? It all started in the Carmel Church where Gien, already a 4Days Marches participant by then, sang in the choir. In 1962, Father Willehad Kocks O.Carm. reported there, and he was going to walk his first 4Days Marches. He openly expressed his desire for a special mass on the occasion of the 4Days Marches. And so it happened: in the aforementioned year the 4Days Marches Mass was held in the Carmel Church in Nijmegen for the first time with Father Kocks and musically accompanied by the Carmel Choir.



Gien with the sash she received at the last church service she organized

After the Carmel Church closed (in 1978), Father Kocks formed a committee to continue the celebration. From the beginning Gien was part of this organizing committee, which later became the *Stichting Vierdaagsemiss*. They left for the Antonius van Padua church on Groesbeekseweg, followed by the Petrus Canisius church on Molenstraat and finally the St. Stevens church, figurehead of the city of Nijmegen.

The originally Catholic 4Days Marches Mass quickly took on an ecumenical character, that is, the service has both Catholic and Protestant elements. Each mass is presided over by both a priest and minister.

In the course of time, Gien has built up a whole network of choirs, orchestras, as well as priests and pastors. There is one condition for selection of the latter group: they must have walked the 4Days Marches themselves at least once. Pastors can still be found, but in recent years it has become increasingly difficult to obtain a priest for the service.



Dit ontwerp voor de liturgie van de 35-ste Vierdaagse is van de hand van Giens echtgenoot Ton

Once, a minister found hospitality at the Langen home during the week of the 4Days Marches. Because Gien was walking herself, her children said, "Mom, this is your week. We take care of the ins and outs of the house." Including the guests. With some clergy, Gien maintained lifelong contact. She visited one pastor in the hospice where he was staying. He gave her a painting of the Waalbrug near Nijmegen as a token of appreciation. It still hangs in her living room.



Painting with Waal bridge, which Gien received from a pastor as a thank you for her dedication and hospitality

Gien's passion for music and love for the 4Days Marches come together at the 4Days Marches Mass. Thus, she was involved in the musical composition of each service. Gien determined the choice of music, even though the conductor had his own ideas. Once, there was a disagreement about a mass by Schubert. A choir conductor was not very fond of this composer. But in spite of that: Schubert's composition was performed during the mass!

Through all the years, the 4Days Marches Mass has acquired its own structure and character, through which walkers may receive inspiration from the Higher for four days of physical and mental effort. A very special church service. Because let's face it, on what other occasion do you sit in church in your sports attire, with or without the 4Days Marches Cross pinned on and walking shoes on?

One principle has always proudly stood firm with Gien: in the House of the Lord, everyone is welcome and everyone is equal. A principle, which ties in with the core value of the 4Days Marches, as expressed by the 4Days Marches song: WHILE WE ARE ONE FOR ALL AND ALL ARE ONE!

Gien can talk for hours about both the 4Days Marches Mass and the 4Days Marches itself. Born and raised in Nijmegen, she walked her first 4Days Marches in 1958. Eventually, she successfully completed the 4Days Marches 45 times. In itself quite an achievement. During the years she got to know many people, such as Bert van der Lans, the record holder with 71 finishes. Bert also assisted in the organization of the 4Days Marches Mass for many years. In fact, both Gien and Bert have also been active for our Association of Gold Medalists for many years. They have become very good friends over the years. Whenever possible, Gien contributes to the care of Bert's wife.



The care medal in silver awarded by the KNBLO to Gien for her many years of contribution to the organization of the Four Days Marches Mass



The entire family of Gien counts the proceeds of the collection after the Four Days Marches Mass

The 4Days Marches itself and the 4Days Marches Mass have become a big part of Gien's life. On the other hand, the 4Days Marches Mass, like the Vierdaagsefeesten, has become part of the traditions surrounding the 4Days Marches. Gien itself has thus also become part of the rich history of the world's largest walking event.

Gien, on behalf of the Association of Gold Medalists, thank you for your many years of unconditional contribution, which you have been able to make to the 4Days Marches Mass and also to our own association.

Esther Zijlstra

Introducing!

Interview with Ambassador Hans Rennie

Can you tell us who you are and for which country or countries are you ambassador on behalf of our association?

Hans Rennie rep for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Where are you from?

I am from London and moved to a village in Somerset 21 years ago.

Can you tell us a bit more about your personal background, such as family, place of origin, profession and hobbies?

I am 70 years of age. My Mother was from Herford in Germany, my father had ended up there in the war, via Market Garden and served there for several more years.

I served in the Metropolitan Police for 32 years.



I have been married for 45 years and my wife has completed the marches 11 times and supported the police team on 3 occasions. I grew up bilingual in English and German and took evening classes to learn some Dutch.

In retirement I joined the army cadets which is a uniformed youth organization for young people aged between 12 and 18. I teach them long distance marching, first aid, orienteering and shooting as well as some keep fit and military history. Also about the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme in which they do expeditions, public service amongst others.

When did you participate in the 4Days Marches of Nijmegen for the first time?

1974

How did you decide to participate in the 4Days Marches?

A friend of mine was dating the daughter of the Chief Inspector who organized the Metropolitan Police team. We both completed the Marches that year.

How many medals have you received?

46

What was the moment when you were caught by the '4Days Marches virus'?

The first year I completed them.

What is your most special moment at the 4Days Marches? Maybe you've had a very special encounter with someone.

The year I joined some rock apes (members of the RAF regiment) in a charity fundraiser where we walked from RAF Cranwell in Lincolnshire to Nijmegen and back to take part in the 4 Days.

Where will you be staying during the 4Days Marches?
The Hotel Mercure, a definite upgrade from Heumensoord and the sports halls and children's homes. I've stayed in over the years. Though the Skipper School was great fun.

Do you have a special anecdote to tell us about the 4Days Marches?
The new military walkers used to be encouraged to run across the top gantry at Heumen, over the old lift bridge.

Why did you become an ambassador for our association? What is your most important task as an ambassador?
Because my wonderful predecessor, Trevor Day suggested me. I wish to give a little back to the event which has given me such enjoyment over the years

Finally, what message do you have to say to the readers of GOUD!?
This is the biggest and best sporting event that most of the world has never heard of, it is the job of the Gold Medalists ambassadors to spread the word.



Impression of Inge's walk

Inge's report walk Gold Medalists Trail
On Sunday the 10th of march my walking-companion and I walked the "Gouden--Kruisdragerspad" (Gold Medalists trail). At 08:00, early in the morning, my walking--companion was at my front door. It was a nice and diversified walking tour focused at the history of the 4Days Marches and the city of Nijmegen itself.

The directions in the booklet were a good guide and on my mobile phone the directions were clear also. My walking-companion red the directions in his phone and I used the booklet. We started at the Irish pub "Shamrock" subsequently we walked through the old city and in the "Saint Stevens church" we watched the exhibition about the bombardment of Nijmegen in 1944.

This drew our attention, also because what I have learned from Marcel Claassen, about the bombardment ad the big fires that existed afterwards. The remembrance of this in the form of many little bricks was on the places where it all happened.

After the walk we had a cup of coffee at Café De Bruijn at the Grote Markt right opposite to the Waag. For the walk we have taken plenty of time, we started at 10:00 and ended our walk at 16:50 at the Shamrock. But we did walk all nine stages. At the end we were back home in Breda around 18:30.

It was, again, a very beautiful and diverse walking tour and worth repeating.

Your walking-tour reporter Inge Mol van Egmond

In Memoriam

- | | |
|------------------|----------|
| L. Otter | Abbega |
| P. Boele | Arnhem |
| T. Vrieling | Glimmen |
| G. Meijer | Stiens |
| A. Rebel | Rijswijk |
| H. van Reenen | Haarlem |
| H. Schortinghuis | Diemen |



News ** News ** News ** News

New board member

At the April membership meeting, Dauphine Noordanus was elected as a new board member. She briefly introduces herself:

My name is Dauphine Noordanus. I discovered the 4Days Marches later in life, when I started working at Albron Catering. What started with a bet between colleagues has turned into a regular 4Days Marches participant, with as absolute highlight the lap of honor 50 km in the night (during 4 times 55) of the 100th 4Days Marches! By now, I have finished 12 times. And, with the 10th time I immediately became a member of the Association of Gold Medalists of course. At the first general meeting I joined as a reserve member of the Finance Committee. At the moment I am a financial manager in the newest and most beautiful hospital in The Netherlands!

GOUD! Hardcopy

The production of the hardcopy version of GOUD! for foreign members is now costing too much to continue. There are only three English-speaking members and 12 German-speaking members who still receive a hardcopy version of GOUD! The other foreign members receive the digital version of GOUD! in pdf-format. Therefore, from now on, we will send foreign members who still want to receive a hardcopy version of GOUD!, the hardcopy Dutch version along with an English or German version in pdf-format. If these members do not have an e-mail address, we will see if we can send them a printed version of that pdf document by regular mail. They will then receive the glossy Dutch edition and a digital or printed version in their own language: that option is considerably cheaper than the printed, glossy copies in English or German.

Membership KWbN

The fees for membership of the KWbN increase every year. On the other hand, foreign members only receive a five euro discount on the registration fee for the 4Days Marches. Furthermore, they receive no mail or other services from the KWbN, because the KWbN does not send mail abroad. Moreover, it is becoming increasingly difficult to register foreign members through the KWbN membership administration system. Therefore, as of January 1, 2025, we will no longer make our foreign members (with an address outside of The Netherlands) members of the KWbN, unless they explicitly indicate that they want to be a member (through a mail to ledenadministratie@gouden-kruisdraggers.nl). They will of course remain members of our association.

The bookkeeper is not happy!

The question remains, of course, whether members want to read this story. But those who do not read this writing should not complain either. Recently I resigned as treasurer, but I continue to support the new treasurer as bookkeeper. I noticed that members' payment morale is declining.

On March 1, 120 invoices were still open and still members ask why they get two invoices or collections instead of one. Since 2022 all members pay the membership fee for our association and members, who are also members of the KWbN, pay that annual membership fee separately as well. The fee paid for the KWbN is being paid back to the KWbN by us. We are only intermediaries and that gives us a lot of work and worries. There are always members who do not cancel their membership in time and do not want to pay.

You can cancel through our membership administration until 1/11/2024. Since 2024 you can cancel your KWbN membership through the GKD and still remain a member of the GKD.

If we have not received the fees by March 15, we will block your membership and therefore the benefits of membership will also expire.

Fee for membership of the GKD is €12.00 (also in 2025). The membership fee for the KWbN is €28.88 (KWbN complete) or €16.50 (KWbN basic) in 2024, but is expected to be 5-10% higher in 2025 (the rate increases in accordance with the price index, the collectivity discount decreases).

Finally, for adequate handling of the fees, it is necessary that members communicate changes in bank account, mail address and address to the membership administration in a timely manner.

We are doing our best, hopefully our members as well.

Vacancy editorial board GOUD!

At the moment, the editorial board of GOUD! consists of two people. We would like to increase the board with an additional member. There are several members who like to contribute to our magazine by writing articles, but we are specifically looking for volunteers who would also enjoy editing the magazine. The tasks will involve coming up with ideas on the content of the magazine, proofreading of the articles that are sent in, taking care of an attractive design, selecting the photos and doing the final editing before the magazine will be printed. The editorial board meets in February and September to reflect on the content and the planning of the magazine. GOUD! is edited in Dutch, German and English editions. The editorial board is working on this in April/May – so that the magazine can be sent out on time in June – and in October/November in order to have the edition delivered at the members before Christmas. Would you take pleasure in contributing to magazine GOUD! and to our association as a result? Please show your

interest via redactie@goudenkruisdragers.nl so that we can discuss what is possible. Of course, we are always willing to answer additional questions over the phone.

4DAY MARCHES MASS 2024 IN ST. STEVENSKERK

61st Four Days Marches Mass on Sunday 14 July 2024

On the Sunday prior to the Four Days Marches, the familiar Four Days Marches Mass will take place in the Stevenskerk in Nijmegen, a highlight of the many festivities surrounding the Four Days Marches.

We hope to welcome you (again) on this Sunday, July 14, 2024.

The theme of the celebration is: "Sent on the road to be who we are together".

Pastors are Reverend Johan Dorst, chaplain Manuel Kuhn (Switzerland) and chaplain Bertran van Paassen.

The celebration will be musically graced by the choir Jubilate from Gendt with the participation of soloists and orchestra AVAZ. The ensemble is led by conductor Marcus de Haard. Organist is Cor van Wageningen.

It promises to be a great service. The celebration begins at 10 a.m. The church opens at 9:15 a.m. If you want to reserve tickets, you can do so via: <https://eventix.shop/53ys3tts>. This reference can also be found on our website: www.vierdaagsemis.nl.

Reunion 2024

Sunday 29 September 2024

The reunion will be organized again this year in combination with a Powered-by walking tour.

As the selected walking tour will be organized on Sunday, so will be the reunion.

The walking tour and reunion will be held on Sunday 29 September in Gulpen.

At the moment of writing this article the program is still under construction (perhaps the program will already be present at the website at the moment of appearance of this magazine) but for sure a visit will be made at the famous "miljoenenlijn". This is a railway line in the province Limburg that has costed millions at the time it was constructed.

The construction of the original Miljoenenlijn starts in 1925. Subsidence's threaten to arise continually caused by mining in the area. To keep height differences to a minimum a lot of soil in this hilly area was moved

While the embankment was raised by 32 meters in the valley of the Anselerbeek in Kerkrade, the track was built 18 meters below ground level between Kerkrade and Simpelveld.

The number of attendees for this reunion is limited due to limited capacity on the train wagons!

Keep an eye on the website and apply in time!

Information and application through rino.hamelink@goudenkruisdragers.nl



Walking tour during the reunion

The second 'Powered by GKD' walk in 2024 will be the Castles & Monuments walk in the village of Gulpen. After the walk in the province of Friesland last March, we will head south to the province of Limburg. This walk will be held at the same day as the reunion. Like in the previous years, this will allow walkers to join the reunion and the handing out of the lustrum awards after the walk.

Depending on the distance, there will be several castles and monuments along the route. Nature lovers will be delighted by the great variety in landscapes and panoramic views. The beautiful autumn colors will also already catch the eye during this walk. Local walking club De Veldlopers has plotted 5 attractive walks, with lengths of 7, 12, 18, 24 and 30 kilometers



At the start and finish point you will be able to enjoy food and drinks, such as a delicious glass of specialty beer. Along the route there will be a resting station where you can buy food and drinks at affordable walking prices.



You can register for the Powered by walks by sending an email – at the latest one week before the walk – to rino.hamelink@goudenkruisdragers.nl
Please mention clearly your name, place of residence, date of birth and the distance that you would like to walk.

Heumensoord walk Powered-by GKD

Normally we organize a Powered-by GKD walk only twice a year, we organize this with another walking club. This year we will issue a third Powered-by GKD walking tour. We see that a lot of our loyal members take part in the walks initiated by SOP (Stichting Samen Op Pad). SOP organizes a group walk of 25 kilometers every week on a Wednesday in different places in The Netherlands. These group walks always start at 10:00 and finish around 16:00. During the walk there will be a break at a catering facility and one or two places where the walkers get something to eat or drink.

On Wednesday December 18th 2024 SOP organizes the Powered-by GKD “Heumensoord walk” in Nijmegen. The name of this walk is a good pointer to where the walk will lead to. The route of this walk will meet the Gold Medalists path on several points: in case you haven’t walked that path, you can test the app of the “Gouden-Kruisdragerspad” on December 18th.

Address starting location:
SportQube
Rosa de Limastraat 23
6543 JG Nijmegen
(bus stop in front of the door)



Distance: 25 Kilometers
Starting time: 10:00 exactly (Group walk)
Finish: Around 16:00
Information: <https://www.samenoppad-wandelen.nl/>

Flag parade 2024

Like in previous years, our association can carry flags during the Flag Parade this year on Sunday afternoon prior to the 4Days Marches (Sunday, July 14). While writing this piece of text nothing is really known yet, but the Flag parade will probably be the same as last years. It will take place in the second half of Sunday afternoon and will start in the Westerpark, route through the Waterkwartier and downtown and end at the Wedren for the official opening of the 4Days Marches by the march leader. Our Association has currently been assigned 36 flags.

We would like to participate in this Flag Parade with a large group (at least 40 to carry the flags and our Association’s banners), but we do want to portray that we are an Association. Wearing a shirt of our Association when participating is greatly appreciated! Like in previous years, there is the possibility to purchase a shirt of the Association. Participants in the Flag parade will receive € 5.00 discount when purchasing this shirt (will be returned in cash at the Flag parade). Info can be found elsewhere in this magazine.

Would you like to participate in this Flag parade? Then sign up at rino.hamelink@goudenkruisdragers.nl

Powered-by Walk in Burgum

On 23 March 2024

It is March and spring is coming. Colors are coming alive again. The best moment to pull on your walking boots and enjoy a spring walk.

Today we, as Gold Medalists, are invited at the Frisian Long Distance Walkers (FLAL) walking club in Burgum, a small town with about 10,000 inhabitants in the province Friesland. We start at sports hall "Nije Westermar" in Burgum and we can choose from walks of 13, 25, 40 or 60 km that overlap each other in the first section from Burgum via Noard Burgum to Feanwalde.



With more than five hundred participants this event is well attended and is also well signposted as I experience during the day. I choose the track of 25 km and punctual at 08:45 AM I receive the information about the track.

The sun shines, the sky is blue and the rooster crows. This idyllic start I had not foreseen listening to the weather forecast. We pass by the original Romanesque church which long lasting history is linked to the monastery of Burgum.

Since the early medieval times many monasteries are connected through a safe trade route: the Monastery road. We walk along a lane leaving Burgum through Ritskebos to Noard Burgum.

The wind increases and the first stop after about 9 km in the sports hall in Veenwouden/Feanwalden is more than welcome. We pass a cultural center that is significant present through its imposing wrought iron gate and walk soon through a wetland area.



In a mix of sun, wind and hail we are joined by the twittering of goose. The daylight is clear up to the horizon and shows me as urban resident the contrast between city and countryside.

I cross the Monastery road again before I decide to make a second stop at 18 km in the sports hall in Veenwouden

The last kilometers go along by rain soaked forest land. A walk in Friesland could not do without the Frisian language, so I am happy a Frisian walker has patience with me to practice some Frisian words.

Back at the sports hall Burgum there is time for another coffee break. Altogether a marvelous countryside walk. See you in Nijmegen.

Monika Kleiböhmer



Pin to be earned in Powered-by GKD walking tours



Our association does not organize walking tours by itself but ‘adopts’ several tours a year all over the country. We try to support the organizing club by bringing their tour under attention of our walkers. It offers us as association to do something about the awareness of our club and it is a nice extra for our members to meet outside the third week of July.

A couple of years we introduced a stamp card which could be stamped at every walking tour. After collecting 5 stamps, you’ll get a bronze pin from our association and after 10 stamps even a silver one. Taking part in the ‘Powered by GKD’ walking tours will be paid for our members after reporting it by e-mail.

This year our association has put next ‘Powered by GKD’ at the calendar:

23 maart	Pingo wandeltocht	10, 25, 40 en 60 km	Burgum	wsv FLAL
29 september	Kastelen wandeltocht	7, 12, 18, 24 en 30 km	Gulpen	wsv De Veldlopers
18 december	Heumensoordtocht	25 km in groep	Nijmegen	Samen Op Pad

Information about taking part and how to report is further on in this magazine
Reporting for the ‘Powered by GKD’ walking tours (possible till up to a week before the tour) can be done by sending a mail to: rino.hamelink@goudenkruisdragers.nl
State clearly; your name, address, date of birth and the distance you would like to walk

Gold Medalists T-shirt 2024

Like other years there is an opportunity to buy a T-shirt of the Association of Gold Medalists. Would you like to order one or more? Then you should read this article!

Description and cost

The shirts are called technical shirts, they are of solid quality and made of 100% polyester. You can obtain them in male and female sizes in the colour Green. The emblem printed on the shirt is that of the Association with underneath the emblem the text “Est 1951” The emblem and the text are in white.

The costs of the shirts are € 12,50 a piece (including VAT) You may obtain them in the sizes S through XL (Ladies) and S through XXL (Gentlemen). People who take part in the Flag parade get a € 5,00 discount (we’ll give the participants their discount at the flag parade in cash)



Ordering

Send a mail to rino.hamelink@goudenkruisdragers.nl before June 15! State in the mail, your name, address and telephone number. Tell us if you want the ladies or the gentleman model and the size of your choice. Pay the total amount to account number (I-BAN) NL51INGB0008163010 (BIC-code INGBNL2A) to Blue Boot Walking Tours and mark it with your name and ‘shirt GKD’ Your order will be processed when the payment is received. Trade in is not possible because the shirts are made to order.

Obtaining the shirt

When the order is ready and processed, you’ll receive a confirmation, with this confirmation you can get your shirt on Sunday July 14th or Monday July 15th at the Wedren. The ones that take part in the Flag Parade will get their shirts on Sunday afternoon.

Summary meeting april 2024

Saturday 13 april 2024

Minutes of the general members meeting of the Association of Gold medalists 4Days Marches in Nijmegen.

The chair welcomes everybody and is happy with the large attendance

Announcements by the board:

The board has had consultations with the board of Stichting DE 4DAAGSE. Complaints of the members have been discussed e.g. the loud music along the track. The application for lustrum awards has been discussed too; the list we received last year contained multiple errors. Stichting DE 4DAAGSE promised to check the list thoroughly before sending it.

Important to know: when the courses during the 4Days Marches need to be shortened due to unforeseen circumstances, a shorter course for the 30km will be available. Till now only the 50km and 40km were shortened. Now a shorter course for the 30km is present. Everyone hopes that the shortened courses will not be used.

The annual reports of the secretary and treasurer are presented and approved by the attendees. After the presentation of the report of the financial committee approval of financial policy was given and discharge to the secretary was granted. The budget is also discussed and approved after explanation by the secretary. During the meeting Dauphine Noordanus is presented as candidate board member. Ed Hendriks will handover his position to her in the coming months. Dauphine Noordanus is chosen as board member by acclamation.

During the meeting in July Harry van Dijk will be transferring his tasks regarding the member administration. His successor will be presented during that meeting.

Reports and documents of the meeting can always be found on the website of the association. In GOUD! Summaries are published. At request members can receive a hardcopy by mail.

The membership fee of the association will be 12,== Euro again in next year. The membership of KwBN is not included in this fee.

The chair draws attention to the power-by walking tours once more, with special attention for the tour on 29 September that will be combined with the yearly reunion.

After the meeting there is an informal gathering with all attendees



Members Meeting on July 15th 2024

Invitation next Members meeting

All members are invited to attend the Members Meeting on Monday July 15th 2024 at the Van der Valk Hotel in Lent. The meeting will start at 2 pm and will take about an hour.

The Board proposes the following agenda:

1. Opening by the Chair
2. Contribution from the March Leader of Stichting DE 4DAAGSE and/or a delegation of Netherlands Walking Association KWbN
3. Incoming correspondence and announcements from the Board
4. Minutes of the Members Meeting held on April 13th 2024
5. Election of Board Members
6. Reunion and "Powered-by GKD" walk in Gulpen, September 29th 2024
7. Heumensoordwalk "Powered-by GKD" in Nijmegen, December 18th 2024
8. Other proposals from the Board
9. Any other business
10. Closure and singing of the 4Days Marches song

Notes to the agenda:

Point 5: Board Member and membership administrator Mr. Harry van Dijk has recently stated that he would like to lay down his duties as a Board Member on the next suitable occasion. His post will therefore become vacant. The board want to put up Ms. Lisette Melisse as a candidate for this position in the Board. On election, she will also take over the membership administration from Harry van Dijk around September 2024.

Point 6: We would like to know if there are members who would like to help organize the reunion of 2025. At the moment we are looking into options to hold the reunion somewhere near the town of Breda.

Point 8: The Board will briefly explain the decision to no longer register foreign members as KWbN members from January 1st 2025, unless they ask for this explicitly.

Point 9: If members have proposals or questions to the Board, then the Board would like to hear or read these before the meeting, so that we might be able to address the proposal or question directly at the meeting. Anyone who has questions that reasonably require a search for additional information, is asked to send these questions to the secretariat in writing no later than one week before the meeting – if possible.

Lustrum achieved

Last year, a number of members of our association reached a special milestone. We mentioned it in the December edition, but sometimes our administration is incomplete. One of them was Peter McCafferty, he successfully completed a lustrum last year by participating for the 20th time! Too late, but not forgotten. Congratulations Peter!

Meeting points 106th 4Days Marches

During the upcoming 4Days Marches we look forward to meeting many of our members at our meeting points. Our volunteers will be by the course every day to provide you with a drink and a snack. At the meeting point you can meet other Gold Medallists, but you may also introduce non-members to our association. There is no need to show a card or badge: you will be welcome regardless. A few hundred meters before each meeting point these will be announced with clear signs and of course our lovely beach banners will be at each meeting point: you can not overlook us.

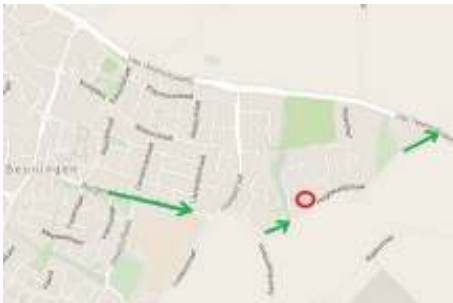
Tuesday:

left of the course, Vossenpels 38 in Bemmel, just before Lent



Wednesday:

left of the course, Hoge Waldstraat 16 in Beuningen, just before leaving the village.



Thursday:

right of the course, Oude Kleefsebaan 17 in Berg en Dal, on the square in front of the church just before Nijmegen.



Friday:

right of the course, Rijksweg 73 in Malden, immediately after leaving Malden.





The Marine Band of the Royal Netherlands Navy and the participants in the flag game during the playing of the national anthems in the Flag Parade on the Monday evening prior to the 39th 4Days Marches (25 July 1955).

Source: Photo Collection Regional Archives Nijmegen



The Paris police during the Flag Parade on the Molenveld on the Monday afternoon of the 25th 4Days Marches (22 July 1935).

Source: Photo Collection Regional Archives Nijmegen



The traditional flag parade on Monday evening; this time in the context of the Benelux idea with the cooperation of a Belgian military band. Flag bearers were the members of the women's walking club "de Blauw Vosjes" and the gymnastics clubs in Nijmegen. (July 25, 1949)

Source: Photo Collection Regional Archives Nijmegen



The flag parade on the Monday of the 21st 4Days Marches on the Molenveld (20 July 1931).

Source: Photo Collection Regional Archives Nijmegen



Parade of walkers in the Goffert Stadium during the Flag Parade (19 July 1948).

Source: Photo Collection Regional Archives Nijmegen



The ladies of DA. DI. DO. during the flag parade on the Monday afternoon before the 26th 4Days Marches. Mrs. Breunese (SUI) passes her husband, Captain J.N. Breunese, the then Mars leader. (July 20, 1936).

Source: Photo Collection Regional Archives Nijmegen