

**Erasmus Foundation**  
Netherlands- Australian  
Cultural Society Inc.  
(www.erasmus.org.au)

**Who was Erasmus?**

Desiderius Erasmus was born in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, in 1469.

He was an enlightened figure in the turbulent Middle Ages. He preached tolerance, reason, understanding and reconciliation in a world which preferred intolerance. He abhorred violence and cruelty. He pleaded for the rights of women and for better education of the young. Indeed, Erasmus was a unique teacher, guide, educator and moralist.

He travelled widely in Europe, visiting England, France, Belgium, Italy and Switzerland for long periods. During his stay in England he was in close contact with Sir Thomas More and others.

**Why did we adopt Erasmus' name?**

Erasmus' long and close association with English speaking persons was the reason the Erasmus Foundation Inc chose his name as a symbol of the cultural links between people of an Australian and Dutch background. Key objectives of the Foundation are to promote these links, as well as understanding and friendship between the people concerned.



Erasmus: Painted by  
Hans Holbein, 1523

**Why become a Member of the Erasmus Foundation?**

You should join the Erasmus Foundation:

- If you want to familiarise yourself with, or if you would like to know more about the Australian and Dutch culture and its interaction;
- If you like to know more about topics of general interest;
- If you want to promote a mutual understanding and friendship between our two countries and support the objectives of the Erasmus Foundation, and
- If you want to have an enjoyable time among like-minded people at our meetings.

**What are the Membership advantages?**

As a Member you can attend all lectures and social functions of the Society at reduced prices. Members also receive announcements of upcoming functions and any special events.

At our meetings invited speakers address Members on subjects of general interest. The talks, held in English, are followed by often very lively discussions. Our meetings normally take place on a Tuesday night and include dinner. Occasionally, film nights are also organised.

Dinner meetings

Members and guests usually meet bi-monthly on Tuesday nights at selected venues. There is ample opportunity for members and their guests / friends to meet one another whilst enjoying a drink. Dinner is served by 7.00 p.m. Talks are after dinner.

For an overview of activities in recent years, please see the other side of this brochure.

**How to become a member?**

Membership is open to those who are interested in the objectives of the Society as described. Application for Membership may be made on the Application Form included in this brochure.

**Erasmus Foundation  
Application For Membership**

To the Committee of the Erasmus Foundation,

I/We\*,

Mr/Mrs/Ms\*.....

.....  
(Name(s))

.....  
(Address)

.....  
(Place and Postcode)

..... / ....  
(Private Telephone) (Business Telephone)

.....  
(E-mail address)

wish to apply for the following Membership of the Erasmus Foundation:

(i)\* Family Membership (1 Year \$40, 2 Years \$75)

(ii)\* Single Membership (1 Year \$30, 2 Years \$55)

(iii)\* Student Membership (Annual Fee \$15)

Signature:.....

Please send this Form and payment of \$.....to:-

Secretary  
Erasmus Foundation Inc.  
PO Box 169  
OLINDA, VIC 3788

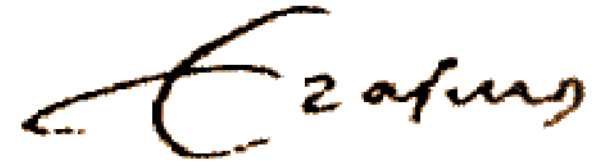
\* Please circle what is applicable. Payment by Internet bank transfer is also possible. Enquire by e-mail: erasmus@telsource.com.au

## Overview of some of the Guest Speakers in Recent Years (see also our website)

- **Dr Sander Adelaar:** "The Dutch occupation of Taiwan"
- **Kees Brusse:** "Dokter Pulder zaait papavers". Film night with actor.
- **Professor Ronald de Leeuw:** "Forward with Cuypers: The renovation of the Rijksmuseum".
- **Rolf de Heer (Director):** "Ten canoes"- Film night with the director
- **Prof Mark Bovens:** "Beyond Pillarization: Changes and Continuity in Dutch politics".
- **Prof Frank Bovenkerk:** "Recent Events and immigration to the Netherlands"
- **Fleur Bourgonje (Author):** "An evening with Fleur Bourgonje"
- **Tim Krabbé:** An evening with Dutch author Tim Krabbé
- **Adriaan van Dis:** An evening with Dutch author Adriaan van Dis
- **Prof Ad Borsboom:** "The clan of the Wild Honey", Aborigines in Arnhem land
- **Dr Frank Heckes:** "Velázquez and Goya: Master Painters at the Spanish Court"
- **Prof Merle Ricklefs:** "Creating Indonesia? The Dutch in the Indies 1800-1930"
- **Prof David Runia:** "Happiness Ancient and Modern"
- **Prof Martin Veltman (Nobel prize winner physics 1999)** "Journey into the Sub-Atomic World"
- **Bart van Oort:** Piano recital, works of Haydn, Fodor and Mozart
- **F Springer (author):** "Journey with F Springer"

## Overview of Exhibitions and other activities in recent years:

- "Innocence", Film night with director Paul Cox
- "The Old Man Who Read Love Stories", Film night with director Rolf de Heer
- Showing of the Dutch film "The Discovery of Heaven"
- "The Other Dutch, preserving the disappearing", exhibition with the "Tempo Doeloe Society".
- "The Rembrandt Connection": exhibition of Dutch/ Australian artists in the Malthouse
- Bonegilla Exhibition "Where Waters Meet"- at the "Old Treasury Building"



**The Erasmus Foundation**  
Netherlands- Australian Cultural Society Inc.  
Melbourne

Reg. A0024583P

The aims of the Society, as defined in the constitution, are to familiarise Australians and Dutch with the culture of the Netherlands and Australia, and to promote understanding and friendship between the two countries. November