

LOOIER NEWS

August to October 2011 VOL. 18 No. 2

**This newsletter comprises three sections:
Art, Antique & Auction News
Holiday Apartments News & Bridge News**

www.looier.com

**Nature is really close to Albergo
Ristorante San Carlo - sometimes a little
too close.**



*Copulating snakes at the car park of our hotel in San Carlo Terme. You can watch the video with the following link:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fnb2MOOceKs>*

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Circulation: 3,600 Editorial &

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The series is taking shape

The plans for the bridge lessons television soap are beginning to take shape. The creative team working on the realization of Hans Becker's dream keeps coming up with new ideas. Everyone is convinced it's a good idea now and the lessons will be filmed in November.



A visit to Campo Cecina with its spectacular view at the marble is on the agenda for the winners of the Bridge Holiday

It's incredible how much work is involved in a project such as this. Every step needs to be thought of, scheduled and arranged. It has taken many brainstorming sessions and meetings to get to this stage, but considering what we started with and how things are now taking shape, it hasn't been a bad investment.

Casting will take place in September / October. We are looking for young people

of around 20 years old who like playing cards, live in or close to Amsterdam and want to learn to play bridge. They should also enjoy being in the spotlight, because we aim to have the series broadcast as a television soap. Do you know of anyone who may be interested in this challenge? Let them send us an e-mail at info@looier.com and we will contact them at a later date.

LART 2011

The Bridge Club will celebrate its 24th anniversary in the second weekend of September, and as usual, the celebrations will last 3 days. How do bridge players celebrate? Holding a hand of cards, of course! On Friday the 9th of September we will kick off at 7.30 p.m. with a Pairs Competition. You can register in advance. Should you wish to take potluck, you need to arrive at 7.15 at the latest.



Yolanda Schaefer wins the Chestnut Holiday to Tuscany.

Saturday evening is Patton night. In a Patton competition, both the pairs' and the foursomes' scores are included in the final score. In this scoring method all aspects of the game are represented in the score. The Looier Friday evening club uses this scoring method, which is why we included this competition in our festive programme. The Patton scoring method is also used for the Amsterdam

pub-crawl. This way the risk of card distributions being passed on is negligible. It is rumoured that this sometimes happens at other major pub-crawls.

On Sunday afternoon you're on your own. You will be matched up with seven different partners. The best bit of this competition is that people are matched according to strength. This means that top-ranked players battle it out against each other. As the results in the weakest lines can vary considerably, there are often high scores to be achieved by beginners, who often play in this line. In addition, a factor 3 is applied to the weight of the scores, so that everyone, even if they only participate on the last afternoon of the competition, has a chance to win one of the many, big prizes.

There is a separate line for the Looier system players, so the students need not worry, they can participate like everyone else. We hope to achieve a milestone this year: enough participants using the Looier system to form two or even three Looier lines.

Chestnut Bridge Holiday moved forward, while the Clinic is postponed to 2012

The Chestnut Holiday has been rescheduled for September. We have come to the conclusion that the hotel is not attracting enough visitors in the off-season, so we urgently need to turn it into a seasonal hotel. Because the bridge lessons and the filming for the soap start in October, it would be convenient for Hans to be in Amsterdam at that time. We have therefore decided to move the autumn bridge holiday forward to September.

Without Hans there, the hotel is not run as smoothly as it should be. Everyone wants to be boss, while it's much more important to cooperate with each other. Hans has learned from this experience. He is not the type to throw in the towel, so will look for solutions and think of new initiatives. He has now decided to only open the hotel in June, July and August.

This new policy also has consequences for the bridge clinic and the Spring

Holiday. The bridge clinic will have to be postponed to mid June, and the



The cyclamen may already be flowering so you may discover some if you join us on our slightly treacherous walk in the woods from Antona to Canavara.

activities around Christmas and the New Year, as well as the Spring Holiday will be cancelled. Members of the Monday evening club will now be invited at the beginning of June, which is when we will organise the Fireflies Trip. It will be an entirely different type of Holiday, because there is a much smaller chance of bad weather.

Looier Cash.

Regular players at the Monday Evening Club are invited to participate in the Looier Cash Tournament on Monday the 29th of August. There are several cash prizes to be won at this tournament, ranging from € 1,500 (first prize) to € 100 (consolation prize). It will be an individual tournament and because the players are matched up according to strength, all participants have a chance of winning. We hope that we will also be able to welcome our centenarian that evening. Lenie



Wessel Omens shows his prize of € 1,000 - won at the 2010 Looier Cash Tournament.

Oostendorp has taken the initiative and arranged for various members to take it in turn to accompany Carel van Sitteren to the club building. This meant that he was able to join us most Mondays and has qualified for this invitation tournament.

The club's officers are proud of the volunteers who pick Carel up every week and accompany him to the bridge club. Walking is not as popular as it should be. Carel, however, is living proof that exercise is important. It helps you function well at a high age if you use your skills. Keep yourself occupied and use every part of your body you can still use. It is no coincidence that Hans Becker, Chairman of the board of Humanitas and author of the book "Levenskunst op Leeftijd" ("The art of living at a respectable age") has: "Use it or lose it." as his motto. The namesake of one of our committee members knows what he's talking

about. He manages 5 large old people's homes where his philosophy is very successfully put into practice. Carel is an example of someone who does this on his own initiative. Go Carel and show everyone on the 29th of August that you can still be a winner at this mind game when you have reached the respectable age of 100.

The contributions for the new season.

The new bridge season starts in September. The contribution for the 2011/12 season will be increased in line with inflation. If you pay before the 1st of September, you can pay the old price. If you do not want to renew your membership, please let us know before the 1st September. That gives us time to inform the NBB, so we do not have to pay membership fees for you. If you pay after the 1st of September, the new price will apply.

The relevant rates are below:

	Old price	New Price
Monday Evening Sept. to Aug.	€ 37,35	€ 38,10
Tuesday Afternoon Sept. to Aug.	€ 94,25	€ 96,15
Wednesday Evening Sept. to Aug.	€ 94,25	€ 96,15
Thursday Afternoon Sept. to Aug.	€ 94,25	€ 96,15
Thursday Evening Sept. to Aug.	€ 94,25	€ 96,15
Friday Evening Sept. to May	€ 51,00	€ 52,00
An additional club membership:	€ 62,30	€ 63,55
The full competition package:		€ 300,00
Participation by members in one of our other clubs:	€ 2,30	
Participation by non-members in a club afternoon or evening:	€ 5,00	
Participation other members in the Sunday afternoon Drive:	€ 4,25	
Participation by non-members in the Sunday afternoon Drive:	€ 8,50	

You can transfer your contribution for the Looier bridge club of your choice to the ING account of Bridge Club de Looier: **7366100**

Subscription to Looier News € 7.50

You will receive our magazine 3 or 4 times a year. Please send your payment, stating 'Looiernieuws', to:

v Lanschot Bankiers no 63 25 58 768 in the name of the Looier A'dam.

End of the third Women's Bridge season.

On Sunday the 19th of June we closed the third Women's Bridge season in the Looier. As usual, we ended the season in style. We started off with some choux pastry and sparkly wine, to get us in the festive mood.

During this last contest of the season, the participants also competed for the Ladder Trophy. This trophy is awarded to the person with the highest average over seven contests. For the second consecutive time, the trophy was won by Margot Schoenmacker and Dorine Rijkers, scoring 56.66%, followed closely behind by Marjan Nieuwenhuis.



Winners of the Ladder Trophy Margot Schoenmacker and Dorine Rijkers

Each season consists of ten contests, played from September to June, always on the third Sunday afternoon of the month. This year, 140 ladies participated, the

same number as last year. On average, there were 20 pairs each time, compared to 22 pairs last year. The core of regular players (i.e. 7–10 times per season) has been reduced. There were 15 ladies this season (compared to 22 last year). In addition there are 20 players who play 4–6 times per season (31 last year). The number of occasional players (once to 3 times), however, has increased significantly. Last year, there were 87 – this year there are 101. An unusually high number.

Due to certain circumstances, Arjen was unable to act as tournament leader the last three months. Dorine Rijkers and Andrea Reijntjes replaced him as best they could, with Andrea also acting as referee. Margot Schoenmacker stepped in to support Barry behind the bar. Next season Arjen will resume his tournament leadership. The three replacement ladies can then apply themselves fully to bridge again, knowing that the organisation is in good hands.

The good atmosphere on these Sunday afternoons can be largely attributed to Barry's cheerful disposition and the lovely refreshments he serves – we wouldn't want to miss them for the world!

The new season will start on Sunday the 18th of September. Apart from some minor adjustments, we will continue in the same format. We noticed that the ladies like working with small notes listing the names of the opponents. We will therefore continue using this system. We will also send the personal results to the participants by e-mail, immediately after the contest. With regard to the prizes that are awarded to the best three pairs: those prizes will remain in place, but will be standardized a bit more. Any suggestions in this respect are welcome. We hope that the new season will attract a lot of keen bridge players who want to have a great time playing bridge on the third Sunday of the month!

Looier Bidding Advantage 27

As I have written here before, I have enough old bridge calendars with unsolved bidding problems to last me to 2020. In Italy, I don't have access to the comparative records and card distributions that make researching the Looier bidding advantage at the Looier Bridge Club so much easier. I sometimes play bridge at Forte dei Marmi, but here, as soon as the results have been announced, the cards are shuffled and everyone leaves to have their evening meal. That is why I use bridge calendars for inspiration now. The problems presented on the NBB block-calendar are too theoretical for my liking and far too complicated. Also, it includes many problems where the entire card distribution is presented. If you are unable to find the solution even then, this doesn't do much for your self-esteem. Although this kind of game can give you a deeper insight, it doesn't help you much in every day practice. In reality, you never see the entire hand at the beginning, and unfortunately, I don't have any clairvoyant powers.

I feel very far removed from that type of problem and it usually takes days for me to be able to fully reproduce the solution correctly. This was also true for the 5 star problem listed for Saturday the 22 of June 1996. It was one of those 'double dummy' cards again. There was no mention of how the final contract was made, who was vulnerable, nor who played this remarkable game.

The bidding in this game, however, is extremely interesting for Looier players, when South opens the hand with 2♣.

East	South	West	North
pass	2♣ ¹	pass	2♦ ²
pass	2SA ³	pass	?

¹. The opening has 4 possible meanings:

- a. Weak ♦.
- b. Semi forcing in any suit.
- c. Manche forcing in ♣.
- d. A leaky NT

². An almost obligatory relay. A different bid is only possible with 18+ points.

³. South is offering a Leaky NT.

In this case, we are dealing with the frequently maligned 'Leaky NT'. This is the most difficult convention of the Looier System there is. Whoever masters this convention is doing very well indeed.

What do you bid after your partner has indicated that he is holding a leaky NT?

♠ A, K, Q, J, 3
♥ Q, 4, 3, 2
♦ 10, 2
♣ 9, 7

You bid 3♣, of course, because you are almost certain that the leaky suit must be ♠. You are not in a hurry and should any of the other suits be leaky, because it turns out there was a 4- or 5-card in ♠, then at least the trump suit has been decided.

East	South	West	North
pass	2♣ ¹	pass	2♦ ²
pass	2NT ³	pass	3♣ ⁴
pass	3♠ ⁵	pass	?

⁴. Information bid: which colour is leaky?

⁵. My leak is in the ♠ suit.

Now here is the dilemma: there are 2 possible interpretations:

a. I have 3 suits in which the defender could immediately take two tricks.

This would make a slam dangerous.

b. I contribute at least 4 tricks and the partner promises 8 if we get to play.

Of course you would like to check whether slam is possible. You therefore bid 4♣, the 'Looier Slam Convention.' South answers 4♠ and you enquire about the number of aces with 4A. Using 5♣ south answers 0 or 3 and you end up with 6NT.

Of course we will be more than happy to share the 5-star “double dummy” problem, which the NBB block calendar presented us for Saturday the 22nd of June 1996.

♠ 9, 8, 7, 6, 5	W	N	E	♠ 10, 4, 2
♥ J, 9, 8, 7				♥ 10, 6, 5
♦ -		S		♦ J, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4
♣ Q, J, 10, 8				♣ -
		♠ A, K, Q, J, 3		
		♥ Q, 4, 3, 2		
		♦ 10, 2		
		♣ 9, 7		

On the calendar, our North plays the contract. That makes a difference, because East has a difficult start. Looier bidding advantage? Who shall say? How does South make 6NT if West leads with ♠ nine?

South leads with three high spades and throws North ♦A, ♦K and ♦Q. North then makes ♥A and ♥K and plays ♦3. East can take, but then has to help South play using ♥Q or ♦10. At the second♦ West gets in a squeeze. West can't afford to lose any more ♣ and has to throw ♠ or ♠. South gets a free card which puts West once again in a squeeze.

Should East underplay ♦B, then West would immediately be in a squeeze after ♦10. If West throws a ♣ then South would underplay a ♣ trick to West.

Hans Becker

Blind Date Drive

The Blind Date Drive has been scheduled in for Wednesday the 5th of October. Why don't you join in and meet your life's partner? We are relying once again on our faithful sponsors: Restaurant 'Moeders' situated on the corner of the Rozengracht and the Groenmarktkade; The pub Chaos on the corner of the Looiersgracht and the Lijnbaansgracht and Restaurant Wenders, also on a corner,

i.e. the corner of the Weteringsstraat and the Prinsengracht. They all open at 5 p.m. This gives you plenty of time to make it to your bridge evening at the Looier. The sponsors have been offering a dinner voucher to us for many years, and you and your new partner can win one of them if you join us in our Blind Date Drive. A successful night of bridge may then be concluded by dinner in one of these restaurants. Join in, you never know who you are matched up with and what this may lead to.

This annual event usually coincides with our General Meeting. The meeting will now take place before the drive. We kindly request members who take an interest in the everyday running of the club, to arrive at our bridge room at Lijnbaansgracht 185 Amsterdam, by 5.30 p.m.

Will there be another Looier team?

Martin Wolff and Hans Becker would like to participate in the external foursomes' competition this year. They are looking for 4 more team player. Hans is picky though. He feels that, as the creator of the Looier System, he should appear with a team of Looier players. He therefore asks members who are competent in the Looier system and like to play in foursomes' competition to register. Would you like to participate in this competition? Please register before the 15th of August. If you want to form your own team, you can, but please note that the competition's games are played on Friday evening and this is a non-smokers club. Please register with Barry!

Now that our first team, which is composed of Rob Scherpenisse, Kees Bootsma, Clemens Beutick, Hans Posthuma and Derk Heiligers, has managed to stay in the first class, we expect them to represent the Looier once again. The second team, composed of Yolanda Schaefer, Eveline van de Sande Bakhuizen, Alide v Ingen, Peter v Westering and Wim Hangard experienced some problems and had to play with many stand-by players. It would be helpful, therefore, if you form a team, to have 6 players instead of 4. Please register before the 15th of August.

A Bridge walking trip with many excursions

At the end of September we will organise our last Autumn Holiday to Italy for the time being. The theme for this holiday, in addition to bridge, will be walking, because there are many lovely walks in the area. The area is also very suitable for rock climbing. There are special paths for this, and although I personally have never tried this sport, I'm quite interested to know more about it. Many people come here especially to climb the rocks. The routes have been plotted in the Apuane alpes. Another excursion I am particularly looking forward to is our trip to Campo Cecina, where you can enjoy a spectacular view. I have never seen such an impressive panoramic view. The Carrara quarries show up white between the wooded mountains and the blue Mediterranean sea with its curved coastline, with in the distance the Lago di Massaciuccoli as a glistening pool in the scenery. The arrival date is Saturday the 24th of September and the departure date is the 1st of October.



Internet auction the Looier tel.: 31 20 - 420 69 88

Artist in trouble.

This photograph of a 'MEDUSA', the Italian word for a jellyfish, was sent to me by Roy Jongeling. He photographed this beauty in Genua where he visited the famous aquarium after an invitation by the Looier.

Roy creates art and I'm very impressed with his work. He often plays with light, makes edible art, jewellery, in other words he is very versatile. I'm still very much in love with the two candles he created, and now I was sent this photograph by e-mail ...



This beautiful photograph of a Medusa, with a market value of € 150 by Roy Jongeling will be auctioned on Monday the 5th of September.

Last week Roy had an operation after he suffered a brain haemorrhage. Thankfully the operation was successful and there is no permanent physical or mental damage. However, he will have to take it easy the coming months. He can't do any strenuous work. However, that's exactly what he normally does for a living.

All his attempts to get a temporary benefit have resulted in a lot of stress but very little result. He was sent from pillar to post, whereas he has never had to ask for any help before. After his education at the Rietveld Academy of Art, he has always worked as a self-employed artist and has always managed to make a living. He is extremely creative and has a lot of beautiful art to offer!

Now he is trying to improve his vulnerable financial situation by selling the 'MEDUSA,' a photograph of 30 by 45 cm printed on glossy paper. He is hoping to avoid getting into financial trouble and is therefore offering the 'MEDUSA' at a reduced price of € 100, whereas the normal price would be € 150 exclusive of VAT; package and postage are included.

Should you be interested, we have purchased one and are offering it in the next internet auction which ends on Monday the 5th of September. The starting bid is one Euro. If you have missed this auction, you can still order the photograph from Roy directly. His e-mail address is: r.jongeling1@chello.nl

You can also transfer the amount of € 100 to his bank account (account number 69.59.59.999 at ING bank in the name of A. R. Jongeling, Amsterdam). Don't forget to include the delivery address. The photograph will then be sent to you within 10 days.

Successful Clearance Auction

As a result of a court ruling, the Looier shop at Elandsgracht 111 will have to allow a table market to be held at its premises at the Elandsgracht, 3 days a week. This ruling had far-reaching consequences. The shop had to drastically reduce its stock and nearly all of it was sold off on Monday the 2nd of May. To make sure that everything went, the starting price of the offer was set at one Euro. Well, that worked. It was the busiest auction ever. There were some real bargains to be had for our customers.

The court's ruling has some nasty consequences. The shop is now continued on a smaller scale. The same applies to the Looier Auction: there is no way it can

continue in the same way. The biggest client of the Auction was actually the Looier shop and now this client has stopped buying, due to lack of space. The auction will have to be entirely web-based from now on. We can only accept a limited number of items, as we have much less space to display the items.



An adventurous bargain - very interesting for traders and collectors. The bidding for this item will end on the 5th of September. The 'Buy Now Price' is € 75, and the starting bid € 20.

Margot will be here on Tuesdays to take the items in from sellers and hand them over to buyers. On other days Barry en Map or Hans (who are actively involved in the bridge club on the top floor) will help out. It's a shame there is only one day where you will receive the best possible service, but the alternatives were too expensive. Taking in the goods, putting them on the internet, photographing them, displaying them and helping buyers is extremely labour-intensive. We are therefore asking a basic fee for taking in items of EUR 20, in order to cover our costs. We are hoping to receive higher quality items in our auction.

Whether this new format will work, we don't know. But we have every interest in trying to keep the same high number of frequent visitors to our site. That is why



Telephone number Looier Suites: + 31 20-420 69 88

The last Chestnut Holiday?

If you are planning a stay in our hotel in Tuscany this year, you haven't got much time left! We are planning some renovations. Some of the bathrooms need to be adjusted to make them suitable for disabled people. That is a relatively easy job, but it still creates quite an upheaval and a lot of noise and dust, and with all the furniture rearranged and dust everywhere, it is better to be closed. We hope to be able to offer you some more comfortable rooms soon. We will, of course, still have the more basic, cheaper rooms, because they are in greater demand.



Our Restaurant 'Panoramique' at the end of September – the fire place adds to the nice atmosphere, but, unfortunately, this year the restaurant will be closed for the winter

The low visitor rates in the off-season also played a role in our decision to only be open in the months of June, July and August of 2012. As a result, this will be our last Chestnut Holiday. Personally, I think it's a real shame, but with the

bridge season starting, there is a lot of work to be done in Amsterdam too. It has turned out that staying open in winter is not financially viable. The restaurant wasn't going, the hotel rooms were barely let, and when I was in Amsterdam the costs mounted up. It's a shame, but so be it.

29 December

(From the book Buon Natale in Antona)

part 36

On Saturday the 29th I wake up early again and start the day behind my computer. Wim stays in bed again and, like before, I decide to immediately write some of our adventures down. I want to record as much as possible straight away, now that it is still fresh in my memory. Sometimes I don't get any further than writing down some interesting things that have happened, at other times I write down every detail as seen from my perspective. I surprise myself how easy I find it to describe some of our experiences sometimes, but at other times I can't find anything interesting or readable to write about.

This is the second time I write something a bit like a travel report. The first time was when I wrote about my bridge holiday to Rimini. I made that trip with some club members and the travel report was published in bridge news at the time. I had a lot of positive feedback on that story, and the reading session on the way back in the bus was a lot of fun. Everyone wanted to receive the edition of Bridge News in which the story would be published. Today, I am getting on really well and I have made quite a lot of progress when Wim gets up. I have filled many pages of text and he is the first I ask to read and comment on my writing.

Wim looks at my texts in a completely different way than I would like him to. He won't give his opinion on whether it's good or bad, but he does pick up on my mistakes! He always wants to correct Bridge News too, but he has realised by now that even he can't pick out each and every mistake and typo I make. This has made him a lot milder and less harsh in his criticism lately.

When he found a mistake in something that was already published, he would say: "It's your mistake for not letting me check everything. I would have picked those mistakes out." He doesn't seem to realise that it's not always possible to let him read everything because I keep adding and changing things up until the last moment, when the printer comes to collect the file.

He criticizes every mistake, inaccuracy, personal interpretation, times that are not quite correct or technical flaw of any nature; he doesn't have an opinion on whether the text is fun or interesting to read. Having said that, I still like to have him read through my texts and this morning, I read out my last additions. It is helpful for me to read everything through again, so that I can rewrite badly written paragraphs or sections I can't even understand myself. Wim enjoys doing it because it means he gets to see my new ideas first. He makes his usual comments and then we have breakfast together.

THE CENTRAL HEATING ENGINEER

This morning we are expecting an engineer who is going to do something to our central heating system – I'm not quite sure what. Yesterday, Riccardo arranged for him to arrive between ten and twelve, so we clear up our breakfast things and wait. Wim continues reading in 'House in Tuscany' and I get back behind the computer. At twelve, the engineer has still not arrived. I buy some fresh bread and we have some lunch. I always feel a bit sleepy after a meal, so I retire to my bed and before long, Wim decides to follow my example.

I love having siestas, but in Amsterdam it's very difficult to find the time and opportunity. Here, it's easy to give in to my need for daytime sleep. Wim doesn't mind at all, because to him, sleep is always a welcome alternative. I immediately get to sleep and as a result, I don't hear Wim's snoring. At three o'clock we are woken up by the bell. We immediately sit up in bed, with a startled look on our faces. Who goes upstairs to open the door? Wim is the first to get his act together. He runs to the bathroom, puts his bathrobe on

and goes upstairs. There is a lad outside the door of about 18 years old. It turns out he is the 'idraulico' we have stayed in for all morning. The jobs took a bit longer than expected. These things happen. At least he's here now.

I had stayed in bed and before I knew it, the lad was in our bedroom, where I was still in bed, naked. I send him away, because I need to put some clothes on first. He waits in the kitchen with Wim. Wim, who is quite enchanted because the lad is very good-looking, tries to make conversation in his best Italian. When I am finally dressed, he can enter the bedroom, where the central heating boiler is. The lad is not just handsome, he is also very cocky. He says "It's far too hot here" as if it's anything to do with him at what temperature we like to have our house. Then he adds: "That friend of yours, should really learn to speak Italian properly – I could hardly understand him." This kind of directness is something we are not really used to in Holland. Any foreigner who manages to say something that even remotely resembles our word for 'thank you' (dank u wel) is greeted with great enthusiasm and encouragement. Here, you are expected to speak Italian. And if you don't, well then you can't talk to them; it's not as if they care, anyway.

As a result, most foreigners speak fluent Italian. Black market traders in the centre of Massa, who try to sell you umbrellas in the rain and sunglasses when the sun shines, speak to you in fluent Italian. Even beggars, who walk past the cars with cardboard signs, write down their requests for money in flawless Italian. It obviously helps you integrate if you are snarled at or not understood if you don't speak the language properly. It happened to me once when I was looking for an address. I was in front of the right block of houses but I couldn't find the right number. A young couple went inside and I asked them, in my best Italian, where number 19 ('diciannove') was. I believe I made the error of saying 'diciuova' instead of 'diciannove'. They really couldn't understand what I was trying to say. Only when I showed them the piece of paper with the address written down, were they able to help me.

Even Tiziano, Wim's brother in law, is certain people won't understand a word I say when I speak Italian to other people and always translates my Italian into the local dialect of Antona. My pronunciation must be appalling. It does help you to keep working at your pronunciation.

It turns out the engineer is installing a thermostat. It's not installed in the designated place, but put on the central heating boiler for the time being. It can be installed properly at a later date, he says. He was finished within ten minutes, and says "one hundred thousand Lire please". I quite understand that I will have to pay the bill of everything in the end, so I just pay him, but I don't understand why this can't just be added to the bill I will receive from the building contractor. The boiler is working properly now and we don't have to keep changing the switch from hot water to central heating now. But we could have easily managed for a few more days with the old system. Particularly if this would have saved us one hundred and ten guilders.

(to be continued)

Special Events Programme 2011

Sunday	28 August	
Market	11 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Flee Market
Bridge	12.45– 5 p.m.	The 'Master Points Drive'
Monday	29 August	
Market	11 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Antique Market
Bridge	7.15– midnight	The 'Looier Cash Tournament'
Tuesday	30 August	
Market	11 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Flee Market
Bridge	7.15 – 9.30 p.m.	Looier System Exam
Thursday	1 September	
Bridge	12.45 – 4. 45 p.m.	Start of the Tea Drive Competition (NR)
Bridge	7.15 – 10.30 p.m.	New competition 'The Smokers' Club' Membership fee € 96.15 until 31.08.12
Friday	2 September	
Bridge	7.15 – 10.30 p.m.	Start of the Patton comp. No smoking Membership fee € 52 until 31.08.11

- Saturday 3 September**
 Auction 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Viewing day**
 Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Flee Market**
 Bridge noon – 5 p.m. **Talking bridge with Barry**
 (informal gathering)
- Sunday 4 September**
 Auction 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Viewing day**
 Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Flee Market**
 Bridge noon – 5 p.m. **Talking or Rubber Bridge**
 (informal gathering)
- Monday 5 September**
 Auction 2 – 4 p.m. **General auction**
 Bridge 7 – 10.30 p.m. **Start of the Individual**
Players Competition
 Membership fee € 38.10 until 31.08.12
- Wednesday 7 September**
 Bridge 7.15 – 10.30 p.m. **Start of the comp. Gay**
Prize Bridge
 Membership fee € 96.15 until 31.08.12
- Friday 9 September**
 Bridge 7.15 – 10.30 p.m. **The L.A.R.T. pair**
competition
- Saturday 10 September**
 Bridge 7.15 – 10.30 p.m. **The L.A.R.T. Patton**
competition
- Sunday 11 September**
 Bridge 12.45 – 4.30 p.m. **L.A.R.T. Individual players** -
presentation of prizes.
 Please visit www.bridgereis.nl for further information.
 Participation prices for non-members are EUR 25 per person
 for the entire tournament and EUR 10 per contest.
 Members pay half price.
- Sunday 18 September**
 Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
 Bridge 12.00 – 5 p.m. **Women's Bridge**
- Saturday 24 to 30 September**
 Holiday Apartments **Chestnut Bridge trip to Tuscany**
- Saturday 24 September**
 Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
 Bridge noon – 5 p.m. **Talking bridge with Barry**
 (informal gathering)
- Sunday 25 September**
 Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
 Bridge 12.45 – 3.00 p.m. **Master Points Drive**
 members EUR 4.25. Other participants EUR 8.50.
- Saturday 1 October**

Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
Auction 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Viewing day**
Bridge noon – 5 p.m. **Talking bridge with Barry**
(informal gathering)

Sunday 2 October
Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
Auction 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Viewing day**
Bridge noon – 5 p.m. **Talking or Rubber Bridge**
(informal gathering)

Monday 3 October
Auction 4.00 **Bidding for the Internet Auction ends.**
Bridge 7 – 10.30 **Registration + start Bridge Course**

Wednesday 5 October
Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
Bridge 5.30 – 6.30 p.m. **General Meeting**
7.15 – 11.30 p.m. **“Blind Date Drive”**

Monday 10 October
Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
Bridge 7.15 – 10.30 p.m. **Lesson 2 2nd Relay + Looier Stayman**
7.15 – 10.30 p.m. **Individual Players Club** Looier System

Sunday 16 October
Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
Bridge 12.00 – 5 p.m. **Women’s Bridge**

Monday 17 October
Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
Bridge 7.15 – 10.30 p.m. **Lesson 3 Logjes**
7.15 – 10.30 p.m. **Individual Players Club** Looier System

Monday 24 October
Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
Bridge 7.15 – 10.30 p.m. **Lesson 4 The 2NT opening +**
Niemeijer

Sunday 30 October
Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
Auction 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Viewing day**
Bridge noon – 5.15 p.m. **The Master Points Drive**
members EUR 4.25. Other participants EUR
8.50.

Monday 31 October
Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
Bridge 7.15 – 10.30 p.m. **Lesson 5 The 2 ; 2♥ and 2♠ opening**
7.15 – 10.30 p.m. **Individual Players Club** Looier System

Saturday 5 November
Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
Auction 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Viewing day**
Bridge 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Bridge on the Water**

Sunday	6 November	11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Flee Market
Market		11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Viewing day
Auction		noon – 5.15 p.m. The Master Points Drive
Bridge		
Monday	7 November	11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Antique Market
Market		4.00 Bidding for the Internet Auction ends.
Auction		7.15 – 10.30 p.m. Lesson 6 The 2 opening bid
Bridge		7.15 – 10.30 p.m. Individual Players Club Looier System
Monday	14 November	11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Antique Market
Market		7.15 – 10.30 Lesson 7 Slam Conventions
Bridge		7.15 – 10.30 p.m. Individual Players Club Looier System
Sunday	20 November	11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Antique Market
Market		12.00 – 5 p.m. Women's Bridge
Bridge		
Monday	21 November	11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Antique Market
Market		7.15 – 10.30 p.m. Lesson 8 Discussion of System Card
Bridge		7.15 – 10.30 p.m. Individual Players Club Looier System
Sunday	27 November	11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Antique Market
Market		12.45– 5.45 p.m. The 'Master Points Drive'
Bridge		members EUR 4.25. Other participants EUR 8.50.
Monday	28 November	11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Antique Market
Market		7.15 - 22.30 1st Competition night students
Bridge		

Play once a week – then you will retain your knowledge. If you're a member of the Monday evening club, and you play regularly, then you can participate in the Looier Cash Tournament at the end of August. The prize money is over € 8,000 and this makes this tournament one of the most lucrative bridge tournaments in the Netherlands. The members of this club are also offered a bridge week in our hotel in Tuscany.

Albergo Ristorante San Carlo

Via Nicola Zonder 3, San Carlo Terme

54100 Massa (MS)

Tel.: 0039-0585 43193

www.looiersuites.nl

Saturday	3 December	11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Viewing Day for the Auction
Auction		11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Antique Market
Market		1 – 7 p.m. Students practice bridge
Bridge		

Sunday 4 December
Auction 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Viewing Day for the Auction**
Bridge 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Bridge Practice Session with Barry**

Monday 5 December
Auction 4.00 **Bidding for the Internet Auction ends.**
Bridge 7.15 - midnight **Individual Saint Nicholas Drive**
Looier System obligatory.

Tuesday 6 December
Auction 11 a.m. – 6. p.m. Open for drop-off & pick-up.
Bridge 12.45 – 4.30 p.m. **Start of the Egnog Competition**

Sunday 18 December
Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
Bridge Noon – 18.00 p.m. **Women's Bridge** (non-smoking)

Thursday 22 December
Market 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Antique Market**
Bridge 12.45 – 6 p.m. **Monopoly Drive. Participation € 15,-**
Members free. Smoking allowed in a separate
room.
7.15 – 23.30 p.m. **Smokers' Club**

Weekly programme of 'Bridge Club The Looier'

Monday evening: Individual Players Club Registration open until 7.15 p.m.
Free participation. Obligatory use of The Looier Bidding System. 21 boards played until approx. 11 p.m.

Tuesday afternoon: The Egnog Drive; Registration open until 12.45 p.m. The cheerful drive! Barometer with prizes for each round. Approx. 16 pairs.

Wednesday: The Winners Club Gay Prize Bridge. Registration open until 7.15 p.m. A Butler night with a prize (a meal) at the end of the 3-monthly competition. Approx. 14 Pairs, 24 boards played until approx. 11. p.m.

Thursday afternoon: 'The Tea Drive Club'; registration open until 12.45 p.m. One area reserved for smoking. Bridge area non-smoking. Free tea provided.

Thursday evening: The Smokers Club: Registration open until 7.15 p.m. Busy evening. Approx. 24 pairs. The strongest line plays a complete Howell.

Friday evening: 'The Patton Club'. Registration open until 7.15 p.m.
Plays from September until March. Relaxed atmosphere - evenings can last until approx. 24 p.m.

Sunday afternoon: Women's Bridge Registration open until 12.45 p.m.
Please note! Only held on the last Sunday of the month. Doors open at noon.

Sunday afternoon: The Master Points Drive - Registration open until 12.45 p.m.

Please note! Only held on the last Sunday of the month. Doors open at noon.