

"Our car is decorated like a tank and the police don't think it will pass Dutch MOT" Member of public.

TEABREAK



British
Consulate-General
Amsterdam



John Cameron-Webb, British Consul for the Netherlands

News crumbs, tips and snippets from
the British Consulate-General Amsterdam

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As of January 2014, anyone who comes into the Consulate to apply for an Emergency Travel Document due to their passport being lost or stolen is now asked to fill out a questionnaire. This questionnaire is designed to help us build a picture about what is happening to British passports here in the Netherlands. It is hoped that the questionnaire will identify any patterns or commonalities; such as any 'hotspots' for losses or thefts, or whether the majority of passport disappearances happen when the document is being used for ID purposes rather than purely to travel. In turn, we can then focus our attention to the relevant police authorities or establishments in an attempt to prevent further problems for British citizens and their passports.

Ambassador's Residence

British Ambassador Sir Geoffrey Adams looks forward to welcoming British Ex-pat organisations to the residence in The Hague when the refurbishment is completed later this year. The Consul will be holding the usual annual British Ex-pat reception when the residence can once again provide a beautiful backdrop to some good networking.



British Consul Welcomes Marks & Spencer

John Cameron-Webb hosted a meeting with Markus Winkler, International Marketing Manager of Marks & Spencer prior to the grand opening of the new shop on the Grote Markt in The Hague. On the left is Chairman of the British Society of Amsterdam Ian Cherrington and former Chairman Stephen Huyton, now representing the Netherlands-Britain Chamber of Commerce.

John Cameron-Webb welcomes the re-opening of this "flagship" store on the high-street of Den Haag and in 2015, Amsterdam. Marks & Spencer is very popular with both British ex-pats and other ex-pats and also the Dutch public.

"We are delighted to be made so welcome in the Netherlands" said Markus Winkler at a meeting at the Consulate recently. "And look forward to opening our store in The Hague and Amsterdam."

NO PLACE TO HIDE. FUGITIVE CAMPAIGN 'OPERATION RETURN 3'

Following on from the successful fugitive campaign Operation Return, launched by Crimestoppers in 2010, a new appeal was made to the public to help identify UK criminals during a press conference on **Thursday 13th February at 11:00 at Nieuwspoor.**

Operation Return is an initiative by UK National Crime Agency and Dutch law enforcement and prosecution authorities, UK Crimestoppers and Bel M, which targets fugitives thought to be in or around Amsterdam.

Originally launched in March 2010, the campaign features subjects wanted for prosecution for serious crimes including drug offences, robbery and rape as well as those who have absconded from custody. **Operation Return 3** included 8 appeals for fugitives believed to be hiding in the Netherlands. <http://bit.ly/1cokufz> (shortened URL)

"The local authorities were very vague about a British consulate stamp. I think they would accept one made from a potato."
Member of public.