

Netherlands

Ina Postma

September 2006 – October 2007

My total impression of the trip and study meetings:

Exhausting, but a valuable experience of a close relation between colleagues over frontiers. A better understanding, more distance to our own problems, inspiration for the practice of today and the planning for the future. A Dutch section of FICE seems a useful affair. (Frits Hoppe, 1974 after the conference in Banja Luka)

1 The foundation of the National Section

1.1 1948–1969

FICE (Fédération Internationale des Communautés d'Enfants) was established in 1948 as an answer to the alarming situation in Europe after World War II. The Netherlands played a role in its establishment through two people, Kees Boeke of the Pedagogical Reform Movement and Dr Elisa Mendès da Costa.

Between the two World Wars, the Pedagogical Reform Movement paid particular attention to social problems, rather than focusing on education, bringing innovative ideas to the care and education of children. It emphasised the complete development of a human being, one with an interest in society and in other countries, a compassionate human being with a sense of international brotherhood. This reform movement underpins the close relationship between the National Sections of the Netherlands and of Germany where its vision was dominant.

Kees Boeke was important in the Netherlands because he stressed the importance of peace education — we have to have faith in each other and stop hatred — and was an inspiration for the founders FICE. He was invited by Bernard Drzewieski to join the management committee of FICE in 1949 but resigned in January 1951, arguing that the new definition adopted at the General Assembly in Lyon had clarified nothing. He tried to establish a Dutch national section of FICE but did not succeed and his relationship with FICE ended when he moved to Lebanon in 1955.

Dr Elisa Mendès da Costa spend her active life in the Netherlands on activities directed to Israel, in particular for Youth Aliyah. She attended the Trogen conference in her capacity as 'secrétaire honoraire du Conseil d'administration, Fondation pour 500 enfants Israélites à Apeldoorn.'

It is not clear why the Netherlands did not participate in FICE activities between 1955 and 1964 since FICE membership had been opened up in 1950 but, according to FICE International records, a Dutch national section was founded

in 1964; however, it did not survive and in 1969 a number of directors of residential child care establishments met Josef Docekal, the new General Secretary of FICE, and began to attend international conferences, especially when they took place in neighbouring countries like Germany, England or France, and to make closer contact with the board of FICE International. Researchers and staff members also attended the conferences.

1.2 1969 – 1978

1.2.1 The founding fathers

Wim van Halm, Frits Hoppe and Leo van der Sijs started the contact between child care in the Netherlands and FICE. Wim was director of a residential establishment for young people in Amsterdam, the *SAC*. His successors at this establishment — Harm Helmantel and Theo Binnendijk — were members of the board of the National Section till 2000.

Frits was director of a residential centre for young people called *De Vliert* and Leo van der Sijs was member of *WIJN*, an organisation supporting the managers of child care in the Netherlands.

These contacts grew over the years and in March 1973 preparations for the foundation of the National Section began. A provisional board contacted the international secretariat in Vienna and Jan van der Ploeg, a well known researcher in child care, in his capacity as secretary of *WIJN*, became another founding father of the National Section along with Rom Haanstra. Other members of the provisional board were Frits Kovacsek, Pieter Hendriks and Betsy Lijessen.

A Dutch contingent attended the FICE Congress in Paris in September 1973 and in 1974 another group attended the FICE Congress in Banja Luka; in 1975 the Congress took place in Amsterdam for the first time.

Every board member had a special interest; for example, Frits Hoppe was specially interested in bridging the gap between research and everyday practice in work with young people. That is why he insisted that universities were represented on the board of FICE Netherlands. Several meetings were organised in the seventies and eighties on topics on which academics, managers and social workers could exchange knowledge and experience as you can read in Section 4 on page 8. Because of this special interest the University of Leiden has been a board member of the National Section for a long time. The first representative was Jan van der Ploeg, followed by Peter van de Berg and Marc Noom. The University of Groningen was represented by Tjalling Zandberg but when he left the board there was no successor.

Leo Ligthart joined the National Section in 1976 after the conference in Aberdeen whose theme was ‘Integrated Caring’; he has been on the board for 30 years. At the time he was group leader at *Lievenshove*. Frits Hoppe was the person who made Leo enthusiastic about FICE. Among his many activities Leo often wrote articles on the activities of FICE International and the National Section and books on themes that were relevant at the time. You could call him our first PR agent! Especially in the eighties and nineties FICE was well-known in the Netherlands.

Other special interests for the National Section were young fugitives from countries at war and AIDS among children.

In 1976 the National Section became more active in the Netherlands. Wim

van der Halm, who had been president of the provisional board, was succeeded by Frits who became the second president of our National Section but it was 1978 before our National Section was constituted officially. The statutes were approved on August 25 in 's Hertogenbosch and the National Section became an association. Frits Hoppe and Pieter Hendriks, director of Binckhorst, were present to give their signatures. Frits became the president, Pieter the secretary, Frits Kovacek the treasurer and Wim van der Halm a board member.

1.2.2 Contacts with other countries and partners

In the mid-seventies the National Section also had a close relationship with the University of Leuven in Belgium. Jan van der Ploeg wanted to share particular scientific research and methods of child care and so he started EUSARF, together with Professor Hellinckx from the University of Leuven in Belgium. EUSARF became a network of universities in Europe which organises international conferences on new developments in child care. Unfortunately the National Section was unhappy about this initiative and for two decades they hardly communicated.

Residential care was most common in those days in Europe. So the National Section was only meant for members in residential child care. That policy changed in 1978. But even today colleagues think that FICE pays exclusive attention to residential child care.

As mentioned earlier a FICE Congress was organised in Banja Luka in 1974. The theme of this conference was: 'Analysis of possibilities and aims in the management and re-socialisation of young people at risk.' Wim van Halm went there with some younger staff from his institution, the SAC, Frits Kovacek, staff development officer at *Valkenheide* and Huig de Groot, a mentor at *Woodrose*. They drove for 20 hours in their Peugeot to reach Yugoslavia. Wim van der Halm had brought his younger staff to Banja Luka on purpose. In those days there was a lot of resistance from staff towards management and the existing structures. They had organized themselves in a group called 'the pink pamphlet group.' Wim's plan was to take some of these younger staff to another country to see what was happening over there. You can imagine the young people with long hair, dressed like hippies with their own standard of decent behavior; the Swiss, Germans and Austrians were shocked by the sight of this wild crowd. But afterwards Wim had achieved his goal; these younger workers became aware of the big differences between child care in different countries. child care in the Netherlands was not so bad after all!

This trip underlined the importance of FICE for these visitors and preparations for a National Section were started right away. Kees Waaldijk had met the FICE network when he was asked by the director of *Valkenheide* to join him at an international FICE conference in Salzburg in the seventies. In those days Kees worked as a psychologist in residential child care and was also a teacher at an educational centre. He was also a member of *WIJN* before he became a member of the National Section. As a consequence he was already familiar with other board members, like the president Frits Hoppe.

He remembers that the activities of the National Section in the sixties and seventies focused merely on contacts with other countries through organising conferences. The exchange of knowledge and experience was the main issue. A director went to these conferences if he could spare the time and sometimes he

asked a staff member to join him. Every international contact between staff in child care was accidental.

Some directors were inspired by the international meetings and discovered the value of them. They were able to travel to other countries on the budget of their institution to exchange knowledge and experience with colleagues. But the rest of the staff hardly ever met their counterparts in other countries, although their day to day practice was more similar than the work of the directors. Children and young people did not meet at all!

Frits Hoppe changed the policy on conferences for directors. He saw the importance of contacts at every level in residential child care. Because the budget was not sufficient, he encouraged young people to start writing to each other. The staff visited their counterparts and worked alongside their colleagues abroad. For example, team leaders from one institution went to Ireland for a work visit.

In September 1977 Kees Waaldijk and Professor Piet de Ruyter attended the FICE Congress in Vienna on 'Professional Training in Europe' as representatives of FICE Netherlands. Until then Dutch society and the educational institutions had not paid much attention to the profession of child care worker. There was just one book on the subject by Frans Gieles. FICE International was looking at what was unique about the profession.

At the start of the eighties Kees Waaldijk was asked by the National Section to work with an international group (Marcel Courtioux, Haydn Davies Jones, Jürgen Kalcher, Werner Steinhauser and Heinrich Tuggener) to write a book about the profession which was published in 1981 under title *Leben mit Anderen als Beruf — der Sozialpädagoge in Europa* and then translated into English and published in 1984 under the title 'The Socialpedagogue in Europe — Living with others as a profession'.

The development of the profession began in the eighties. More books were written about the work of team leaders and for residential child care generally. Kees wrote several books on the work of team leaders, some with Lies Gualthérie van Weezel, another active FICE member.

1979 was the International Year of the Child, a reason for all national sections to pay extra attention to children who rely on residential care. The FICE Congress in Dublin that year addressed this topic.

1.3 The eighties

Harm Helmantel became a board member on 2-12-1980 and in 1983 he became the President until 1993. During these years the budget for child care was cut almost every year. Residential child care was seen as expensive and so there was a change from 'beds' to 'chairs' during this period: community support and day care instead of residential care.

While budgets for child care were being cut, the National Section grew bigger and bigger! Leo Ligthart explains that the board chose to partner with Eastern European countries to exchange experience and knowledge and they knew how to work with low budgets!

The board had a number of basic themes on which exchanges concentrated, such as

- behavioral therapy, later called 'working on competences' by Wim Slot

- learning through experiences
- family type methods
- the residential group as a substitute for the family.

Tjalling Zandberg, the board member from the University of Groningen, promoted the last theme.

With these themes the National Section did good work at both national and international levels. The selection of these themes was innovative for this period. The Eastern European countries were very interested. Very special gifted educators went there and travelled around together staying at camp sites during their visits. Dutch child care learned a lot from them about how to work effectively with groups.

1.3.1 Contacts with other countries and partners

Besides the exchange of knowledge and experiences the National Section, together with FICE Germany, organised transports to Poland to help local institutions with food and even two buses. The bi-lateral contacts with the countries behind the Iron Curtain were specially meant to give them hope. In the eighties the National Section's main contacts were with Poland and Germany. In 1980 the first food transports were made and in 1985 the first bus was transported to Gdansk and in 1990 the second.

The coordinating organisation for child care, *WIJN*, and a foundation gave the National Section the money for the food and the trips. A big car company gave the buses! With these buses children could be transported from institutions to their foster families. However, these gifts were not as effective as had been hoped; in Poland they had no parts for repairs and so after five years these buses could no longer be used. It also became clear that you could not import anything without paying bribes.

At that time the Dutch board members had close contacts with Gerhard Haag and Anne Frommann, who were board members and worked for FICE Germany, the *Internationale Gesellschaft für Heimerziehung*, and there were a lot of exchanges between Dutch and German managers and workers. (Our languages resemble each other a lot!). There were also contacts with Switzerland, especially through Leo Ligthart who was a good friend of Heinrich Tuggener, who had revitalised FICE in the eighties. A specific topic in those days was 'learning by experience.' German directors admired the flexible ways Dutch directors worked with their colleagues. Of course managers and workers had to experience for themselves how to build a raft together and to sail over the lake. The Germans were asked to bring sports kit and they were very surprised. There are still pictures of the German managers, properly dressed on the edge of the lake with their colleagues floating on their raft.

The Alpes-Rhein group was created in the eighties by Wolfgang Trede, Leo Ligthart and Alenka Kobolt. The Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland and Slovenia were represented as Austria was not active in FICE at this time.

Leo Ligthart became Vice President of the National Section in charge of international activities while Harm Helmantel took care of FICE activities within the Netherlands. Leo participated in a variety of working groups such as the groups that worked on the Malmö Declaration (1986) and Budapest (1988-1989).

In those days Sweden was an active member of FICE and Jürgen Lindemann represented Sweden on the Malmö Declaration working group along with Gerard Haag, Heinrich Tuggener, President of FICE International, and Harm Helmantel, the final document being presented at the FICE Congress in Malmö in 1986.

In the second work group to prepare for the Federal Council in Budapest in 1989 Germany was represented by Hans Peter Muller, Anne Frommann and Gerard Haag, France by F-R Joubert and the Netherlands by Frits Keizer and Leo Ligthart. This document dealt with cuts in the budget for child care.

During his period on the board of the National Section Leo organized study trips to the countries of Eastern Europe, Nepal and Israel. He has been to Israel on at least six occasions, the last being a study trip on the subject of interculturalisation.

In the Netherlands he started advocacy for young unsupported children (AMAs). Aad Vroon says that we had some influence in our country on the subject of young unsupported refugees. The way they were treated and supported became better as a result of the involvement of the National Section with this group. We brought together all the parties involved over many years to discuss the main themes and this produced very good results. When Anton Tobé joined the board he shared this interest and joined in the advocacy.

The National Section had good relationships over this period with the Ministry of Labour, Health and Culture. In cooperation with several partners there was much investment in the development of new methods. The eighties and nineties were the most productive years for FICE Netherlands during which we played an important role. It was a very lively period and the exchange of views was very interesting, for example, there were lots of bi-lateral contacts between institutions and directors.

1.4 The nineties

In the nineties Harm Helmantel became a member of the International Initiative and as President combined these two international functions over several years. FICE did not bring the innovations to child care that he had expected. FICE International, as it was, was too top-heavy and focused too much on residential care; because some partners were limited, FICE too became limited.

Aad Vroon became a board member at the end of the eighties; the board needed a treasurer. Aad was secretary of the central committee for sending children to Western Europe. Later he became involved with medical centres for children.

1.4.1 Contacts with other countries and partners

In the eighties and nineties there was some contact with Belgium, through ANCE, the Belgian FICE National Section, and France. The main points of interest were conferences and visits to youth centres though Harm noticed that in France he and his colleagues from abroad always saw the same splendid centres for handicapped children and they weren't sure where the residential centres and other forms of child care were.

In the early nineties Aad went on a visit to a centre for child care near Liège in Belgium organised by a brewery; at the time the director of the centre was

very ill and after this visit FICE Belgium became inactive. Just recently there has been some interest from our 'neighbours' in collaborating within FICE.

Contacts with FICE members from other countries were always very special; our colleagues were very special persons and Aad Vroon commented that it felt like one big family. Kees Waaldijk, recalling a conference in Noordwijk where the subject was discussed, wonders whether, when the National Section changed their vision and abandoned the focus on residential child care to broaden their interest in all forms of child care, this change might be the reason why FICE lost its glamour in the Netherlands. Within child care residential care still has the lowest status in the hierarchy.

1.5 From the nineties to the present

In 1993 Theo Binnendijk, director of the residential centre for child care *SAC*, became President of the National Section and remained President until 2000 when he was elected President of FICE International. Anton Tobé has been President since 2000.

1.5.1 Contacts with other countries and partners

In this period the National Section became increasingly active abroad and had fewer activities at home. Child care in the Netherlands today is so regulated that it leaves not much space for the National Section to make a useful contribution. Instead the National Section encourages countries that had no network of centres for child care especially in Eastern Europe where board members are very active.

After the war in former Yugoslavia, the National Section, together with Switzerland began to organise Peace Camps which have taken place each year in the new republics where FICE National Sections have been established.

In the past few years it has become clear that the National Section has ignored child care in the Netherlands too much, especially the international aspect and the possibility of innovations through the international exchange of knowledge and experience. Prevention of problems with children has become increasingly important in the activities of the National Section abroad, such as the project for street children in Bulgaria, one of many joint projects developed with the assistance of FICE Netherlands.

2 Organisation and finance

The National Section of the Netherlands is a *Vereniging*, or association; so we have an Annual General Meeting of members who are responsible setting for the budget, approving the accounts and electing board members; this is normally combined with a study meeting. As the Netherlands is a very small country, we don't have regions; our members come from all parts of the Netherlands.

At the beginning individual members paid 25 florins a year, establishments with less than 50 residents paid 50 florins, those with more than 50 residents paid 100 florins and academic institutions paid 50 florins. In 1978 the National Section was sponsored by *WIJN* and we had a surplus from the study meetings we organised. But now membership fees are our only source of income. In 2007 the fees were:

Individual members	40 Euros
Organisation members	90 Euros
Academic institutions	90 Euros
Establishments with an income of less than 5 million Euros	215 Euros
Establishments with an income between 5 to 7 million Euros	245 Euros
Establishments with an income more than 7 million Euros	275 Euros

3 Membership

The first members of the National Section were Wim van der Halm and Frits Hoppe's institutions and a group of 18 directors from the province of Brabant who made a joint study trip to Switzerland in 1976 (see page 8). By 1975 there were 30 to 40 members and in September 1978 there were 25 special members, 42 individual members and 105 institutional members! Since then a lot is changed. Most of the institutions have been combined and we now have fewer, much larger, institutions than we had thirty years ago. Today we have 69 members: 46 establishments and organizations, two academic institutions and 21 individual members representing child care and research.

All kinds of child care organisations can become members: organisations providing community support and those who work with handicapped children. Most of them are NGOs but public sector institutions can also become members.

4 Activities

The topic of the first international conference in the Netherlands (Amsterdam) in 1975 was: *New Developments in Residential Youth Care*. Two major themes were identified: the development of small living units like family groups and Browndale groups and democracy in residential establishments.

In October 1976 the group of 18 directors of Brabant made a study trip to Switzerland for five days to get to know about residential child care in Switzerland and visited the host organization *Jugenddorf St Georg* in Bad Knutwil. The director of St Georg is also member of a group of 16 in Switzerland: *VSA Arbeitsgruppe Jugendheimleiter* and editor in chief of *Heilpädagogik*. Besides St Georg they visited four other residential care centres, the *Institut für Heilpädagogik*, the *Schweizerische Zentralstelle für Heilpädagogik* and the *Schule für Heimerziehung*. This trip resulted in a document in which the information on child care in Switzerland was described in detail.

Between 1975 and 1978 the provisional board described the planned activities of the National Section as follows:

- organising each year of an international conference for members
- establishing international working groups
- informing national sections of each others' activities
- publications
- coordinating and documenting scientific research

- defending the interests of children in difficult circumstances all over the world in cooperation with UNESCO and the International Union for Child Welfare
- intermediate study trips for workers and holiday camps for children
- publishing a year book and a magazine which describes the activities of the National Section.

The magazine first was published as *FICE Bulletin*, later as *FICE Forum*, and was published twice a year. It had 40 pages at the most and was published after each annual study meeting.

In 1988 there was close contact with René Clarijs, the editor of the only important magazine in child care in that period. Board members were invited to write articles on international subjects.

During the seventies and eighties the National Section organised a lot of congresses in Amsterdam. *SAC*, the organisation to which the Presidents of the National Section belonged, had their building on 'IJsbaanpad' and in the building next to them FICE could use conference rooms for free! These congresses were well attended and FICE had a very good reputation in those days. Every theme was obliged to have an international connotation. The institution Ampsen near Lochem also provided accommodation for conferences that took more than one day. We could stay there overnight and there was a big kitchen for all these visitors.

The activities of the Dutch section over the last 30 years can be classified as follows.

1. Meetings and conferences. In the seventies, eighties and nineties once or twice a year a subject with an international theme was chosen for a Congress. There were always around 150 participants. Once we organized a Congress and invited everyone who was involved in any kind of experiment in child care. They received a small stand to present their work and it was well attended!
2. The FICE prize has been presented four of five times, the first time to Wim Slot, an international expert on delinquency in children.
3. Courses for child care workers on topics such as the situation of the worker in the organisation and also courses for other staff members and managers.
4. Bi-lateral contacts with colleagues in other countries to exchange knowledge and experience.
5. Staff exchanges with the different countries, for example, the Professional Exchange Program. A lot of young Dutch workers went to Romania.

Among the themes covered over the years are:

March 1977 The basic worker in residential child care: a profession?

March 1978 Criteria for quality

October 12 1978 Current and future position of residential care for children

November 10 1981 Evaluation and calculation of results

November 30 1982 'Market day in Amsterdam' was organised to encourage representatives of the universities and child care to meet to develop new methods. The meeting was organised as a market with small areas with tables and chairs for meetings between small groups of people. Fourteen establishments presented projects on subjects like follow-up research, coaching parents, living in big residential institutions, behaviour therapy etc. Though 240 people attended this conference, the organisers were disappointed that only representatives of the universities of Utrecht, Leiden and Leuven (Belgium) were present.

1983 At home all right and out of home bad ... True or not true?

1984 Cooperation

The position and development of residential child care was a subject of great importance in the eighties and nineties. With the region Rhineland-Westphalia we exchanged a lot of innovative methods in child care like 'learning by experience' and video home training. *WIJN* was represented on the board through the Secretary. They paid the expenses of the board members and took care of the administration and publicity.

1990 Problems in education and migration

1991 (with the Korczak Foundation) Children's rights

In the nineties the Dutch National Section started their support for Romania. To prevent extreme problems with youngsters a social-medical day centre was built in Cluj Napoca: Bethania. This centre has received long term support from foundations in the Netherlands. It is an example in Romania of delivering a good quality service.

The relation between the Netherlands and Bulgaria developed in the nineties. The SAC had a partnership with an organization in Sofia. Some of the Bulgarian staff members became enthusiastic for FICE and after a couple of years they started FICE Bulgaria. This section is still supported by our National Section.

After the war in Yugoslavia the National Section directed their attention to the new, independent states. They suffered from a sad heritage after the war, as always. Residential child care centres were overcrowded with orphans and refugee children.

Since the end of the war until the present Anton Tobé has developed an extensive network to support child care in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia and so on. In the last few years he has extended his support further to Albania and Montenegro.

A more recent activity of the National Section is our participation in the project Quality for Children. In cooperation with the International Foster Care Organisation and SOS Child Villages international quality standards are developed bottom up. The clients themselves have told their stories and made clear how they wanted to be treated in youth care.

The National Section also participates in the Professional Exchange Programme. Some Dutch workers have been abroad to learn from child care in other countries and to share their knowledge of methods.

Harm Helmantel says that the National Section has had some influence in the Netherlands:

1. we connected establishments with each other as well as managers and workers; they appreciated this mediation
2. we gave a lot of attention to new developments in child care
3. we were advocates for the workers and for the group leaders
4. we offered an international perspective

As a network we brought a lot of enthusiasm into child care during the eighties and nineties.

5 Future

Harm left FICE thirteen years ago. He is concerned that FICE International cannot move any more because it has become too top-heavy. It is a bad habit to move only as fast as the slowest moving country. He suggests it would be a wise thing to discuss this subject in all frankness. In the Netherlands the image of FICE International is not very good because it is a long time since they made any innovative contributions. He adds that the National Section of the Netherlands is very important on the issue of sharing knowledge and experiences with colleagues abroad. It is a continuing risk that we might think that we only can bring our knowledge and experience. There is a lot to learn from other people in our country and abroad.

Kees Waaldijk agreed completely that our National Section was focused on residential care and he still thinks it is very important to pay most attention to residential child care. This sector has its own character and dynamics. He regrets that the National Section of FICE is not represented anymore by a couple of strong representatives. On the board members change too easily every three or four years, except for some board members. For the promotion FICE really needs people who stay for a longer period and who have a certain personal influence in child care in the Netherlands.

Leo Ligthart believes that we should stick to the original mission of FICE: searching for other ways of educating children who have few chances, like refugees. FICE should also find the way back to the team leaders; it is dealing now too much with directors. The function of the team leader receives too little attention and respect. A lot of the activities that the National Section undertook in the past have now been taken over by other organisations. The scope for FICE in the Netherlands has become smaller over the years.

The National Section is still a network of people and organisations who are interested in what happens over the frontiers; so there is still work to be done in the Netherlands. The National Section is aware that we are limited in our activities because everybody has a job and not too much time to work for FICE. So a few years ago we began to look for partners who share the same interest in the international exchange of knowledge and experience. This search becomes more and more successful. The Association of Directors is interested in combining some of our activities in order to contribute innovations in child care.

6 Special Features

Two of the four wise men who played an important role in the National Section gave us some advice. Harm Helmantel stressed the importance of the FICE prize in the Netherlands: the board is obligated to make a choice on the issue of: ‘What is important in child care in the Netherlands. The people who received the prize in the last decades were really important for the development of useful methods.’

Kees Waaldijk suggested that FICE should really think about making residential child care a focus; it still needs more attention and to earn more respect nowadays.

Material for this response came from the archives of FICE Netherlands and from interviews with

- Harm Helmantel, the third president of the National Section
- Leo Ligthart (vice president)
- Aad Vroon, long time board members of the National Section
- Kees Waaldijk, a well known FICE member who was very active in the eighties and nineties for FICE.

‘Missing something is a very good motor to start up changes.’

Harm Helmantel

A Provisional Board 1975

Wim van Halm, President
Jan van der Ploeg, Secretary
Betsy Lijessen, Treasurer
Frits Hoppe
Pieter Hendriks
Mrs Nieboer
G J van Eerde

B Board on 15–03–1983

Harm Helmantel, President
Rob Uijen, Secretary
Betsy Lijessen, Treasurer
Peter Paul Doodkorte
Leo Ligthart
Han Muller
Jan van der Ploeg
Leo van der Sijs
Pim Spaan
Henk van de Ende

In 1990 Jan van der Ploeg was still in the board and Loe Koppejan was a member.

C Board 1–10–1991

Harm Helmantel, President

Leo Ligthart, Vice President

Aad Vroon, Treasurer

Constant Goede, Secretary

Ineke van Gageldonk

Albert van Doorn

Leo de Keyser

Cees Kleijbergen

Leo van der Sijs

Mw. Sneevliet

Tjalling Zandberg

Mw. Van Woerden

Between this Board and the Board of 2007 Wim Kok was Secretary for a long period and Afra Groen and Jo Deleersnijder were also on this Board.

D Board 2007

Anton Tobé, President

René van Zundert, Secretary

Johan Bosman, Treasurer

Janny Holwerda

Charlotte Pontier

Ina Postma

Cees Wierda

Bert van Tol

Henri Wijnroks

Leo Rutjes