

## News from Nan

### ANNA'S FAMILY HISTORY

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MY GREAT-GRANDMOTHER, JANSJE BARENDSEN

NOVEMBER 12, 2018 | ANNA



*Elburg, Gelderland, Netherlands – birthplace of Jansje Barendsen*

Happy birthday, Jansje! Ik wens je een gelukkige jaardag op 12 November 2018 – your 198th!

This year we tasked ourselves with writing something in remembrance of all our ancestors back through our great-grandparents. Today I'm writing about one of my Dutch great-grandmothers, Jansje Barendsen (born November 12, 1820), about whom I know practically nothing.

I do know that she was the mother of my Dutch grandmother, Elisabeth Johanna Maria, who had both Dutch and German ancestors. Elisabeth's ancestors on her mother's side were Dutch as far back as I know.



*My Dutch grandmother, daughter of Jansje*



*Jansje was my dad's maternal grandmother*

I know that Jansje was born in Elburg, Gelderland, Netherlands, which is a small, picturesque, water-oriented town east of Amsterdam.

According to sources I found on the Internet, neolithic stone tools and pottery sherds have been found in Elburg. In Roman times it was an army camp. In the 14th century it suffered a catastrophic flood and was rebuilt late in the century. It was a fishing and farming center until 1932, when the former Zuiderzee was closed off by the Afsluitdijk (enclosure dam). Because the town's medieval "look" and footprint have been well preserved, it is a popular tourist town. Two attractions are "Botterdagen" (botter days; a botter is a flat-bottomed fishing boat) and "Kerst in de Vesting" (Christmas in the Fortress).



*Town of Elburg, Gelderland, Netherlands, Jansje Barendsen's birthplace (Elburg\_s-tadszicht\_2008 by Spotter2 on commons.wikipedia.org)*



*Elburg harbor (Elburg\_straatzicht\_havenkade by Michielverbeek on commons.wikipedia.org)*









*"Kerst in de Vesting" celebration in Elburg (destentor.nl)*

It looks like a charming town – I would like to go there!

Jansje and her husband, Adam Friederich Metsch, had four children; my grandmother Elisabeth Johanna Maria was their second. Elisabeth's older sister was Hendrika (known to the family as "Tante Heintje"). I think she was a favorite aunt; my aunt Bets named one of her daughters Hendrika, and the name was used elsewhere in the family.

My grandmother's brother Chris was apparently also a family favorite.

There was also another, younger brother named Adam, who lived only six years.

Family Group Sheet for Adam Friederich Metsch	
<b>Husband:</b> Adam Friederich Metsch	
b:	02 Sep 1824 in Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, Netherlands; 9:30 pm
m:	24 Sep 1851
d:	10 Sep 1880 in Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, Netherlands
Father:	Christian Friederich Metsch
Mother:	Johanna Elisabeth Niemöller
	
<b>Wife:</b> Jansje Barendsen	
b:	12 Nov 1820 in Elburg, Gelderland, Netherlands; Lived in Amsterdam
d:	30 Nov 1865 in Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, Netherlands
Father:	Barend Barendsen
Mother:	Maria Wijnbeld
	
<b>Children:</b>	
1 F	Name: Hendrika Maria Metsch b: Abt. 1852 in Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, Netherlands m: 13 Nov 1872 in Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, Netherlands Spouse: Rein Zurburg
	
2 F	Name: Elisabeth Johanna Maria Metsch b: 26 Jun 1854 in Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, Netherlands; Date variants: 1848, 08 Jun 1854, 1855 m: 17 Mar 1880 in Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, Netherlands; De Oude Kerk [the Old Church] Burial: Feb 1939 in Detroit, Wayne, Michigan, USA; Forest Lawn Cemetery, Van Dyke Avenue d: 09 Feb 1939 in Detroit, Wayne, Michigan, USA Spouse: Christiaan Frederik van Raaphorst
	
3 M	Name: Christiaan Gottfried Metsch b: Abt. 1857 in Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, Netherlands m: 02 Apr 1880 in Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, Netherlands Spouse: Anna Maria Dorothea Scheidele
	
4 M	Name: Adam Frederik Metsch b: 1859 in Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, Netherlands d: 21 Oct 1865 in Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, Netherlands
	

Jansje died in November 1865 only a month after little Adam.

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