

THE FRIENDSHIP: BATH AND ALKMAAR

Speakers: Aletta Stevens & Chris Davies

Date: Thursday 7 November 2024 at 10.30 am

In this illustrated talk, Aletta Stevens and Chris Davies reveal the fascinating story about how the friendship between the Dutch city of Alkmaar and Bath came about. The story begins with World War II and Mr Prins's miraculous escape from Occupied Europe which triggered an innovative fundraising campaign that enthused the whole Bath community to reach out to a European neighbour at a time of critical need.

Aletta Stevens is the author of *Looking for Uncle Joop* and *The Remarkable Journey of Mr Prins*, the history of the Bath-Alkmaar twinning. Raised in Holland, she graduated in English Language from the University of Sheffield and works as a writer and professional translator.

Chris Davies is the Chairman of the Bath-Alkmaar Twinning Association. A Bath resident for over 25 years, he was inspired to become involved in BATA by being told the then-known details of the story of why the two historic cities were 'twinned'.