

First Charter Love (?)



In 1990 the young German Lutz Hilken, living in Glinstedt, came with the Hepstedt delegation to Esch. That year the annual meeting was held in Esch. Lutz was journalist for the Zevener Zeitung in Zeven.

On the last day of the event he met Saskia van der Pasch, a young girl who lived in Esch. After this "love-at-first-sight" they travelled between Germany and the Netherlands and in 1991 Saskia moved to Zeven to live there on her own. This way she was able to get to know the country and its inhabitants. She never came back!

On 23 may 1998, the day of their first get-together, they married in Haaren (Esch is part of the municipality Haaren) with both families and friends present. Because of this special occasion, the former mayor Haas itself married the happy couple.

On 22 may 1999 they married in front of God in the church of Zeven in Germany. So there was a second reason to party!

On 17-08-1998 they became the proud parents of daughter Janne-Lisa, followed by son Jos on 11-02-2000.

They are still living in the neighbourhood of Hepstedt and they are doing great! Saskia is completely settled in Germany and the children are raised bilingual.



Saskia, Lutz and the children with the Annual Meeting in Esch 2005, 15 years after they met, carrying the European flag!