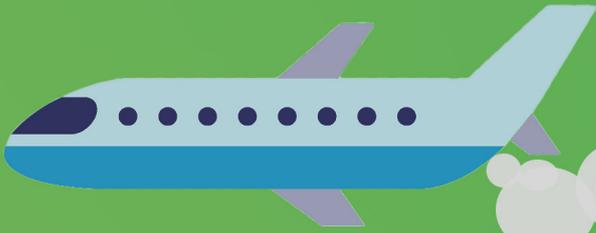


THE JESTER

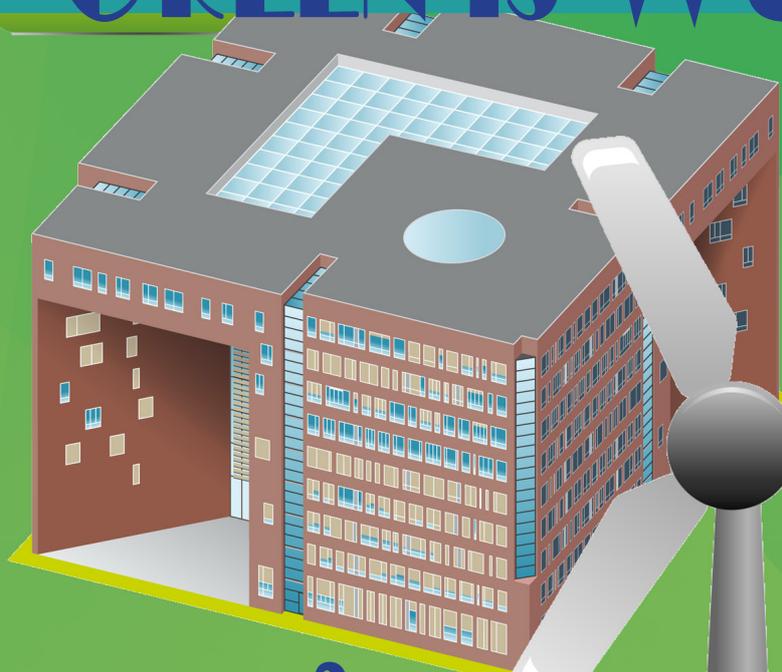
No.4, November-December 2020



INSIDE: WHERE'S THE JESTER?



How GREEN IS WUR?

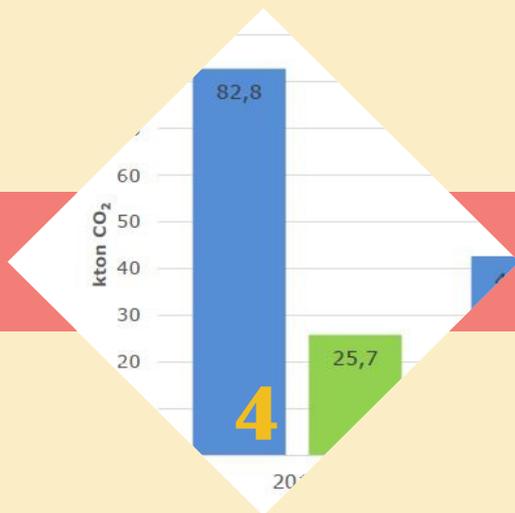


Is WSP DEMOCRATIC?

ARE CHINA-TIES TOO CLOSE?

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The Jester is made by a team of amateurs that is striving to make a funny, critical and interesting magazine. We are always looking for your contributions. Reach us through our Facebook page, on the website: www.thejesterwageningen.nl or on our email: thejester.wageningen@gmail.com.

Cartoon

IT IS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE
THE QUALITY OF LIFE.

MY LIFE SUCKS, BUT
I ALSO HAVE A BIG TV



LUCKILY SUPERMARKETS INVENTED A LITTLE TRICK:
CERTIFICATION LABELS

WOW, 2 STARS,
SUCH GOOD LIFE



HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE QUALITY OF
YOUR OWN LIFE?

I GIVE MY LIFE 2 STARS,
BECAUSE I EAT TWO 1-STAR EGGS
AND I HAVE A BIG TV



Facebook is dangerous

Also we, the Jester, are on Facebook. We have to. Others are on Facebook too.

Sometimes we post something on Facebook. We get likes. We like likes. It makes us feel happy inside. Sometimes we post something that we hope will get likes. But instead a lot of people get angry. Even then, we still get likes. Because in the end, bad press is better than no press?

But it's not nice when people are angry and especially not because I got kicked out of Wageningen Student Plaza (see also page 14.) That's why we propose that you will like the Jester page directly. Then we don't have to post stupid posts and we can focus on saving the world again.

Cheers,

The Jester



WUR CO₂ report review

WUR redefines compensation



When the WUR is pressured into taking a leading role in climate change action, they usually reply: “WUR is already doing really well, with regards to sustainability” and “In many sustainability rankings, WUR is among the best!”.

One thing they definitely do really well is promoting how green they are, and it’s not at all unlikely that they are actually doing better than most other universities. However, this doesn’t mean they can’t do better. In fact, not WUR, but the Hogeschool Van Hall Larenstein won this year’s SustainaBul award for most sustainable university of The Netherlands and two years before it was Eindhoven University. Clearly, there’s some room for improvement.

Since I never fact checked the statements WUR made, I thought I should. So I started by reading WUR’s CO₂ footprint report of 2018. These are the highlights.

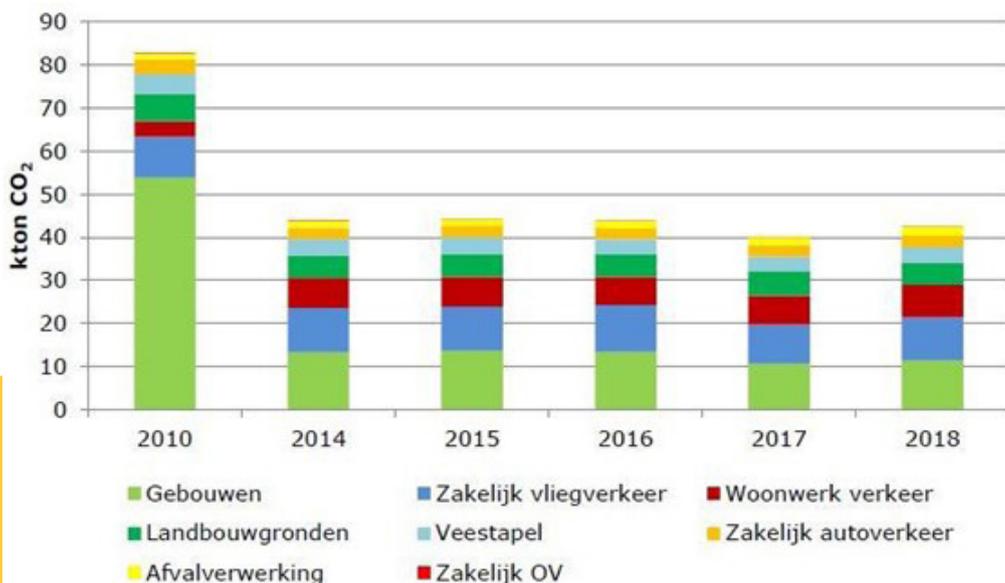
I started reading the introduction. It says: “there is a high probability that the increase of greenhouse gas emissions contributes to global climate change”. Interesting, do they think it *might* be related? Revolutionary!

Well, alright, in the IPCC report they also use the words extremely

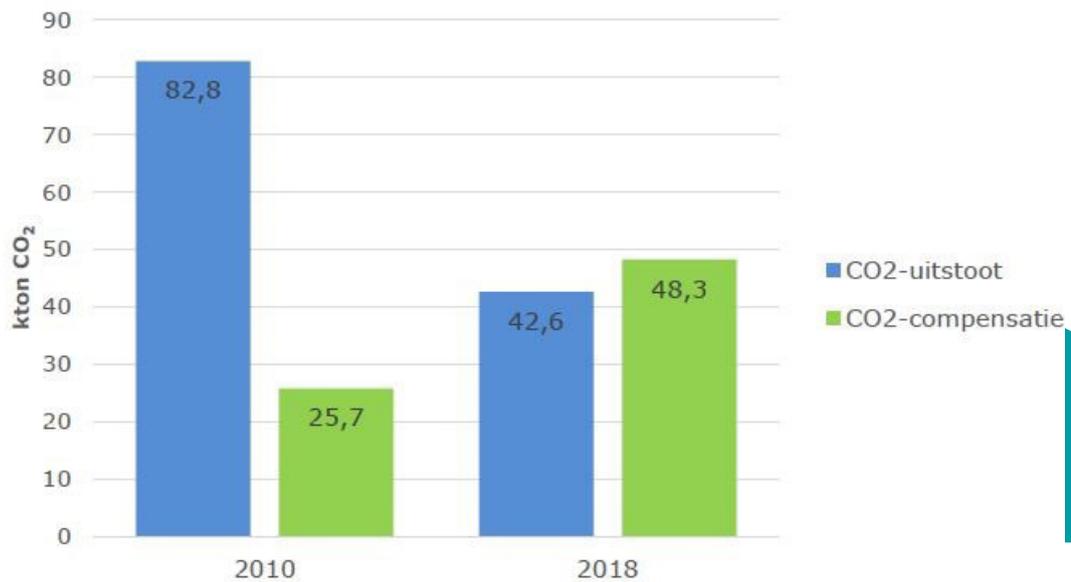
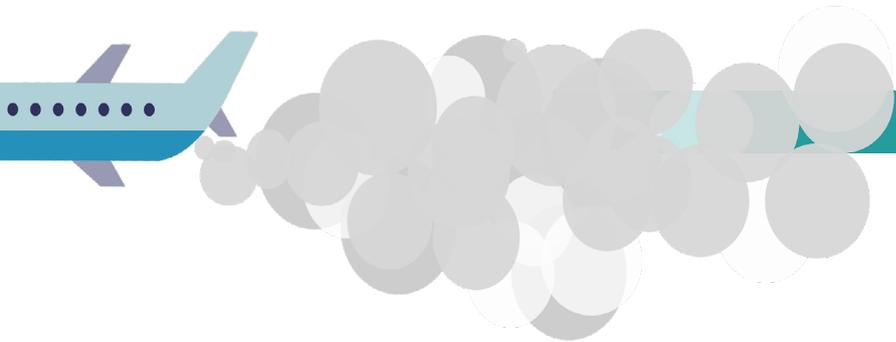
likely, but that is just because they have to agree on this with all members, including oil-loving, fossil fuel-selling Russia and Saudi Arabia. But why should WUR have to use these politically correct words?

Let’s continue and share some numbers. In 2018 the whole WUR corporation emitted 42.6 kilotons CO₂ (see graph below). As you can read from the graph: buildings, air travel and commuting have the highest contribution to the total

CO₂ emissions. In 2011 the CO₂ emissions by buildings dropped tremendously, and the total CO₂ emissions was reduced by 49% in 2018 compared to 2010. As they mention in the report, this reduction is mainly caused by the switch to green energy, resolving in a zero emission for electricity use by the buildings. Also, the increased use of the geo-thermal system for heating and cooling of the main buildings played some part in the reduction.



Total CO₂-emissions in kton of the WUR, 2015-2018 and reference year 2010



CO₂ footprint and CO₂ compensation footprint in 2018 and reference year 2010

Up to this point the report was quite clear and understandable. They bought green energy and built three windfarms in Lelystad. Therefore, their CO₂ emissions decreased.

Now the confusing part of the report: their paragraph about CO₂ compensation. Above, this graph is shown. It depicts how much CO₂ is emitted and how much CO₂ is compensated, for 2010 and 2018, illustrating that more CO₂ was compensated than emitted. First, I was positively surprised, but then I was confused. Does this mean that WUR's CO₂ footprint is negative?

It took some long staring at the report before I figured out that CO₂ compensation actually means prevented CO₂ emissions. The examples they give are: due to the delivery of (100% green) wind energy to the grid, less grey

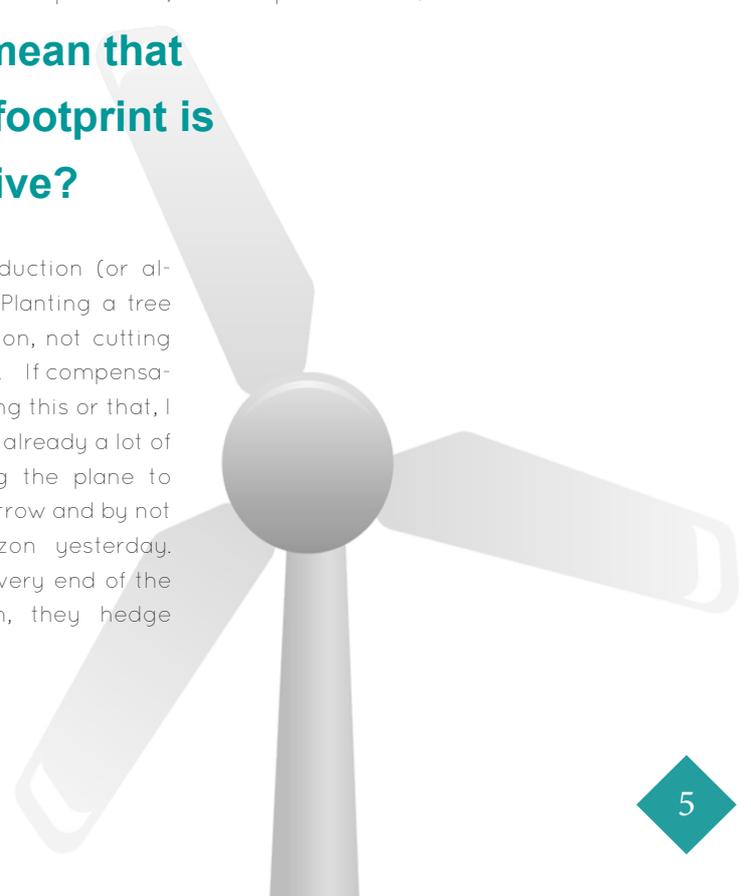
energy is used; by using a geo-thermal system to heat and cool the buildings at campus, they save energy; and due to waste separation, less CO₂ is emitted.

But huh? That is not compensation,

Does this mean that WUR's CO₂ footprint is negative?

that's just CO₂ reduction (or alright, prevention). Planting a tree is CO₂ compensation, not cutting a tree is prevention. If compensation means not doing this or that, I have compensated already a lot of CO₂ by not taking the plane to New Zealand tomorrow and by not burning the Amazon yesterday. Anyway: At the very end of the report's conclusion, they hedge

themselves by mentioning that they don't claim that the WUR has no net CO₂ emissions, although that the setup of this report can give this impression. How about writing that at the start of your report? 🙄 R.O.



Meanwhile in Xinjiang

Aan | How to deal with letters from readers

Onderwerp Self-censorship

B **I** **U**   **A**   

Dear Resource,

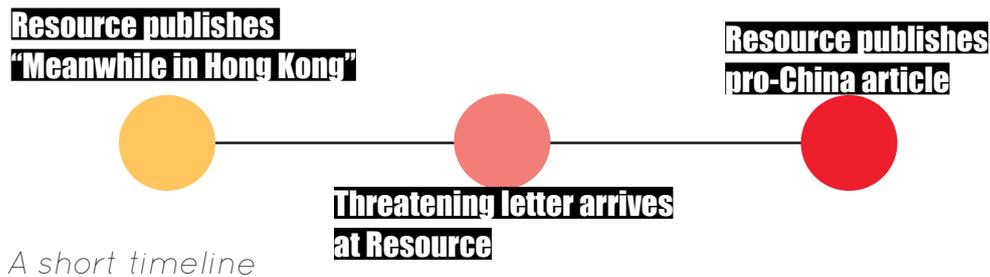
This story starts in June this year, June 18 to be exact. A sent-in letter to the Resource magazine catches my eye, where a student puts a hard judgement on the pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong. According to the sent-in letter, protesting for freedom is a slippery slope. It reads:

"Freedom must be constrained to a certain degree. Otherwise, thieves, scammers and rapists can also declare that they cannot be punished by using the excuse of 'freedom'".

The letter concludes with a line that could have been written by the secretary of the communist party of China itself:

"To achieve a peaceful and safe society, humanity has developed the society ruled by law. Thereby, I have strong faith in the national security legislation as an approach to ensure that criminals will be punished, to protect the well-being of the people of Hong Kong, and to bring back the peaceful and civilized Hong Kong."

It's a letter that would not be badly placed at the state news of China, but it is published in the Resource, a Wageningen University Magazine.



Obviously, ties of Wageningen and China are close. Chinese students are the second largest nationality on campus. Before Arthur Mol was appointed as Rector Magnificus, he was professor of ecology at two Chinese universities. Louise Fresco, the university's headmistress, gets paid by Syngenta, a company owned by ChemChina, a Chinese state company. WUR has a China Platform, a China strategy and even a China office, located in Beijing. There are student challenges in China and last year the mayor of Beijing even visited campus.

The ties are close and it would be a shame if those ties became less close. For example, because of the the article posted in the Resource two weeks before the sent-in letter (see also on timeline). In the Resource segment 'Meanwhile In' from June 4 2020, a Cantonese student expresses her concerns about the situation in Hong Kong. She tells from a personal perspective how she sees changes in her home country and how China's involvement in Hong Kong is perceived from her side and her friends. She states:

China's parliament has backed security legislation for Hong Kong that criminalizes secession, subversion, terrorism and engaging with 'foreign forces'. Many fear it could lead to increased prosecution of Hong Kong's residents for exercising their rights under local laws. (...) China's narrative is to present the Hong Kong protesters as separatists, which the new law targets directly. (...) When the security law is fully implemented, anyone, not only protestors, could be accused of being a threat to national security.

Naturally, such a clear explanation of the situation in Hong Kong caused outrage among a few Chinese students and outrage was best expressed in a threatening letter that was sent to Resource a few days after. In the letter two main points are made:

"1. Is the Resource a political magazine that should publish on the interior affairs of other countries?" (fair point)

and *"2. The author of the 'Meanwhile In' article is no real Chinese or Cantonese" (unfair point)*

As a cherry on the pie, the email concludes: *"This is an extremely unacceptable behaviour (...) Her words caused great rage inside us. Please tackle this problem seriously. P.S. I have CC the embassy of the People's Republic of*

China.” (By the way, also the WUR board was CC’ed. Just in case).

And boy, it was tackled seriously. Two weeks later, Resource published the sent-in letter that apologised to a repressive totalitarian regime and described a protest for democracy as a protest for rapists and murderers. Well done, good crisis-management, but still... something did not feel right. Did this mean anyone could just CC their embassy and get published in Resource magazine? What happened in between? Why succumb to such a threat email?

And that’s the strange part. According to Resource’s editor-in-chief they did not succumb at all. He says that they simply also wanted to show the other side of the story. That this other side of the story compared democratic protesters with rapists apparently did not matter.

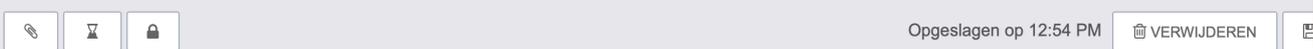
Well... I admit it is a tough journalistic question. I suppose it was interesting to read the other side of the story, although I couldn’t have disagreed more.

I guess then. similarly, it would also be nice for Chinese students to hear the other side of the story about the repression of Uyghurs in Xinjiang. That is why I propose for next Resource the segment: Meanwhile in Xinjiang. Someone from a mass detention camp (or re-education camp) can then write about some of the issues in that region, such as forced sterilisations, destruction of cemeteries and a cultural genocide.

So, Resource, what do you think?

Looking forward to your reply.

P.S. I CC’ed the embassy of the Kingdom of The Netherlands in China.



A SHORT STORY

For Whom the Bell Tolls?



Tim (24) was on a leisurely walk towards the market when his thoughts were suddenly interrupted by the loud ring of some familiar bells. *The church bells*, he thought. *I wonder how I have spent three years living in this town and still don't understand what they are saying.*

The sunny autumn day encouraged him to try to understand. Dong... the air smelled sweet and the sun warmed his cheeks. Dong...how wonderful it felt to take time to listen to the birdsongs, the rustling of the leaves! Dong...really? It could not possibly take this long. He checked his wrist: 11: 15.

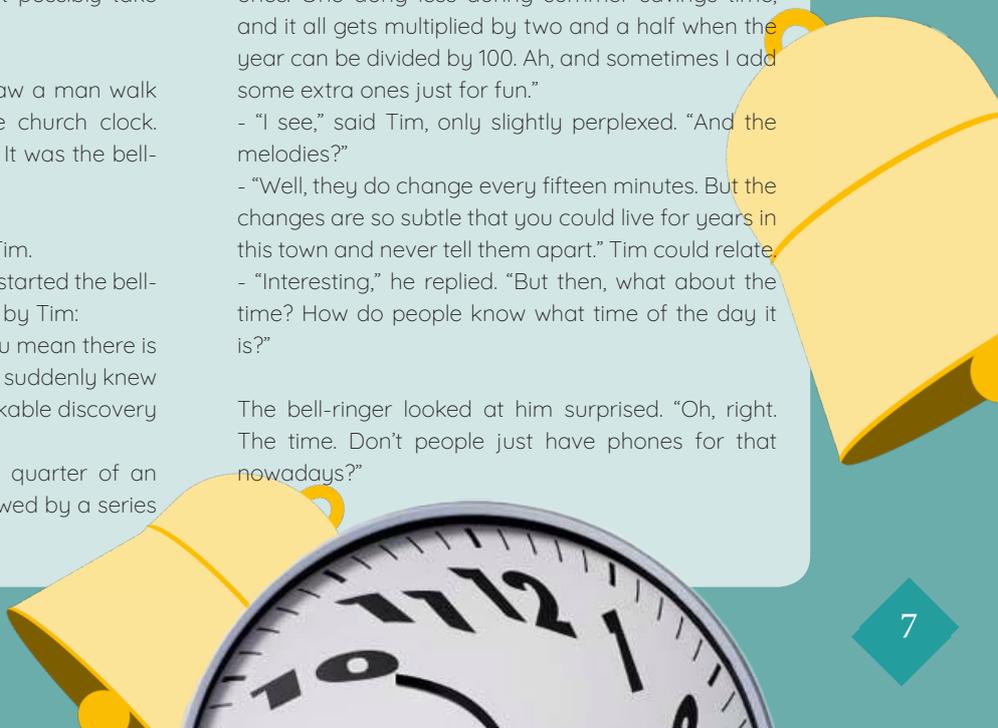
As he neared the main square, he saw a man walk out of a small, red door below the church clock. "Excuse me, sir!" he approached him. It was the bell-ringer...

- "Well, how does it all work?" asked Tim.
- "So, you first go inside the church—" started the bell-ringer. But he was quickly interrupted by Tim:
- "Whoa, whoa. Inside the church?! You mean there is actually an inside to this church?" Tim suddenly knew he had stumbled upon his first remarkable discovery of the day.
- "...and then a melody plays every quarter of an hour" continued the bell-ringer. "Followed by a series of dongs".

- "But why so often? Don't do people get tired?"
- "Well, I thought the same. But it's an agreement with the municipality. Something about them not liking their meetings to go on for so long."
- "And the dongs? What do they mean?"
- "Well, some people like to think that they are related to the time of the day. But no one has been able to prove it." *I wonder why*, thought Tim.

- "It's actually much more logical than that—you see, there are three dongs for Olympic years, two for gap ones. One dong less during summer savings time, and it all gets multiplied by two and a half when the year can be divided by 100. Ah, and sometimes I add some extra ones just for fun."
- "I see," said Tim, only slightly perplexed. "And the melodies?"
- "Well, they do change every fifteen minutes. But the changes are so subtle that you could live for years in this town and never tell them apart." Tim could relate.
- "Interesting," he replied. "But then, what about the time? How do people know what time of the day it is?"

The bell-ringer looked at him surprised. "Oh, right. The time. Don't people just have phones for that nowadays?"



The Ultimate GREEN

Long-awaited: Attentive Jester readers might have learned from the “Greener than green” article in the last edition that Wageningen lacked a particular something. But: no need to worry no more, because our beloved town got not just one, but even two Zero-Waste-stores in the last few months. So step up your grocery game and buy without packaging.

De Gieterij

Many of us self-proclaimed environmentalists know the frustration: Plastic is everywhere and around (almost) everything, even single carrots or bell peppers get wrapped. Each and every one of us generates an astonishing 30kg of plastic packaging per year, that's about 80g per day! During and after working hours together at De Karde, the organic shop in Bennekom, Linde and Flor used to dream and philosophize how the future of food supply might look like. When finally presented with the opportunity of a premise for their very own shop, they decided to just go for it, and try what has already been successful in places like Belgium, Germany and Austria already. That's how De Gieterij, the first zero-waste store in Wageningen, was born.

From Tuesday to Saturday, Linde and Flor await you with a wide variety of products. The fresh produce is exclusively local and seasonal, so no bananas and in winter time... This means there will be less choice, but hey, that's how nature works! Luckily, the Onmuurde Tuin in Renkum will supply the store with fermented and preserved vegetables in jars. Other than that you will find all basics you need to feed yourself sustainably: Bread

(some of you might know Ivo's Bread and Pizza from the early days in Droevendaal or recently the Wednesday market), dairy (including Dutch mozzarella), staples like grains and legumes, seeds, tomato sauce, oil, coffee, tea, chocolate, locally produced juice and beer, ... and also meat, but to increase shelf life the latter is only found in the freezer.

The motto is: as little packaging and as local as possible. At De Gieterij waste is only generated for meat (for hygiene reasons) or when there is no other way. For dry products, you can either tap from dispensers into your jars or buy 5kg paper bags. For other products, such as jams and fermented veggies there is a deposit system, meaning the jar is empty, you can bring it back to the store. It's not only the packaging problem that is addressed at De Gieterij: "All products that enter our store are either locally produced in an ecologically sound way or certified as organic", says Linde,



who studied Organic Agriculture and launched a market garden in Deventer for one season before De Gieterij.

The shop is a work in progress and a combined effort of Linde and Flor with many other creative and flexible allies willing to explore new and alternative ways.

What should Wageningen look like in 2030? "At least three stores like this one!" Linde and Flor are convinced: people should think more from the land to the plate and appreciate what the local environment has to offer. The duo also advocates for more organic food production, shops to be smaller and run by the people rather than corporations, and for a small bakery in every village.

“The motto is: as little packaging and as local as possible”

Wat in het vat zit

It started with a small garden where his parents used to grow vegetables. In summer this led to an abundance of cabbages, pumpkins, onions and much more. But what to do with this surplus? Preserving vegetables for the winter is the answer, a very ancient technique that is less common now, but definitely not forgotten.

The owner and cook Giel Dons is bringing this to Wageningen with his new pickle shop: Wat in het vat zit. Deriving from the Dutch saying “wat in het vat zit verzuurt niet”, meaning that something that is good and well preserved will not lose its value. Pickling and fermenting foods does not only increase shelf life, but also adds flavour and health benefits. Think about condiments like hot sauce, miso paste and kimchi, these products got their flavour because of the fermentation process.

Dons produces and sells these tasty products in a sustainable

“Wat in het vat zit, verzuurt niet”

way. The vegetables are sourced locally, most come from organic farm the Hoge Born. But also from smaller producers with surpluses, hereby preventing food waste. The ingredients of his pickles and ferments are very simple: vegetables, water or vinegar and Breton’s sea salt. He makes kimchi with the bacteria, fungi and yeasts that naturally occur on the vegetables and in the air. Only for the miso he uses a culture to guide the fermentation. “The kimchi is only fermented for 5 days”, Dons mentions “That is just enough to achieve the right acidity. The rest of the process will happen slowly at fridge temperature, so it doesn’t become too sour”.

Instead of soybeans Dons uses locally grown lupine for his miso paste. Similar to soy, lupine is also a leguminous plant, fixing nitrogen from the air and giving it to the

soil as natural fertilizer. The protein rich beans of this plant are perfect to ferment. “By introducing lupine products I hope to do my part in the protein transition”. Pearl barley is another ingredient that Dons sources close to his shop, it is grown on the Wageningen berg and used to kickstart the bacteria and yeast cultures.

The small shop, located on the Nieuwstraat, just off the Hoogstraat offers the home-made products with zero waste, in glass jars for which you pay a small deposit that is returned when you bring back the jar. Two small tables with chairs outside the shop offer the possibility to sit down and savour a tasting menu. Also: make sure not to miss out on his awesome bean brownies.

🚲 C.J., J.O.





Where's the Jester?



Taking Back

Wageningen Student Plaza

Who governs what governs us? Is Wageningen Student Plaza, a place where people are seemingly equal actually an authocratic platform? And what can we do about it? The Jester proposes some radical changes in the way we look at one of Facebook's most successful groups.

Douglass C. North spent years studying forms of exchange. From bazaars in the Middle East to caravan trades in Northern Africa and long-distance trade in modern Europe, he believed that these interactions lay the ground for all else that followed: complex economic systems, informal rules of behavior, and, ultimately, the quality of our lives. What he would have made of Facebook's marketplace, or the so-called 'Buy and Sell groups' that allow people to coordinate such exchanges from the comfort of their couches, we don't know. Perhaps he

and dedicated it to him. Most likely, though, he would have looked at Wageningen Student Plaza and realized that his descriptions of small-scale village trade remained, regardless of the medium.

Wageningen Student Plaza, the Facebook group which has been revolutionarily replacing Wageningen Electronic Student Plaza since 2011, serves as the bulletin board for a host of old furniture, community invitations, and self-promoting house-seekers (see our section 'The Best of Wageningen Student Plaza'). Its role as one of the

prominent interviewees have admitted to it being "the only reason why I keep Facebook" (Ekom, Ben; personal communication), their "main source of income" (Aus, Emma; personal communication), or their "favorite second-hand store, at least the one with the most reasonable opening hours" (Del, Lee; personal communication). Some quick mathematics



WHO GOVERNS THIS COUCH?

“Who pulls the strings of one of the most precious institutions of our student life? “

would have scratched out countless paragraphs from his work while cursing Mark Zuckerberg. Perhaps he would have written a new book

pillars of student life is undeniable. Not only is it common for people to know about it before they even know about Wageningen, but a number of

reveal that the group has almost as many members as Wageningen has inhabitants (36,272/38,774=93.54%). None of its competitors ('Droevendaal; with around 4k or 'Wageningen Room Sublets' with 5k) can even get close to claiming the same. But for something that dictates so much of our student interactions,



And who pulls the strings on this microwave?

that makes the difference between finding that room of your dreams or being stuck in the star flats forever, there is little knowledge of who runs it. Who is able, through their undemocratic value judgements and non-legitimate clicking power, to pull the strings of one of the most precious institutions of our student life?

The Jester's team prepared a search for the faceless member. Inquiries to both the municipality and alternative social media revealed no matches for the individual who goes by the name of 'Wag', the surname of 'Eningen', and whose sole ornament to his profile is a -premonitory- 'Admin' badge. Their recent enrolment in Facebook (March of 2020) as well as their muted social life, suggests we might be dealing with something more suspicious: (insert your favorite, or most recent, conspiracy theory). But fear not. We write here today to propose a new plan, a strategy to take back the reins of Wageningen Student Plaza, to democratize our interactions, and to build a free and fertile ground for 'all else that follows'. It includes the following:

- 1 The establishment of a governing board of directors, including members of the general public, the student body, and, most importantly, all of Wageningen's second-hand stores (see Point 3 for the election of such board).
- 2 A required submission form, to be filled out before the publishing of any post, which should detail the intended audience, the fair distribution of profits, your underlying philosophical beliefs, and the carbon footprint of your intended interaction. The decision, which should be made available by the board within 7 business days, will include indoor photography tips, an English-Dutch dictionary, and some discount vouchers from participating sponsors.
- 3 For the board of directors, an electoral college (or university & research) system, whereby each Idealis building gets to cast an arbitrary number of votes that it collects from its tenants via an utterly (un)complicated mail-in system. For more details on this procedure, you can contact us (although you should know that its success does rely on the small percentage of us that understand it).
- 4 A carbon-offsetting scheme, whereas for each ton of carbon emitted from, e.g. 'internet time', 'travel costs', or 'opportunity-costs-of-scrollin-when-you-don't-need-anything', another ton of climate-friendly posts should be made available on the platform. These include, but are not limited to, car-pooling invitations, composting workshops, products made of vegan leather, or climate-friendly language groups.
- 5 The active promotion of alternative groups, which may not only curb the almost monopolistic power of this group, but allows students to further, and freely, segregate based on their interests, languages, and favorite types of beer.
- 6 The inclusion of 'Eningen, Wag' in the marketing board of all of WUR's corporate ties. Such commercial skill, we believe, should not go to waste.

Together, we can take back control of Wageningen Student Plaza. We can do some of the "shackling of the arbitrary behavior of rulers" (be them wild boars, 5G, GMOs, or whichever form the conspiracy of your liking took) which North's Nobel-winning work proclaimed as key to the development of early institutions. And, most importantly, we can provide a safe and prosperous space, not only for the generations to come, but for our most endeared, and outdated, belongings.

🍷 E.B.



Leaving “Happyland”

A journey of overcoming white fragility

Hi, I’m Johanna, 24 years old and I grew up not knowing that me being white is something else than just “normal”. This article is a little introduction on how to overcome this idea, the so-called “Happyland”. I’m going to let you know something about my journey of realization and will give you some background information.

This article is of course not complete, because an article can’t be a racism-quick-fix, since there is no racism-quick-fix. We have to keep going, talking, educating, trying.

Oh and what’s also important: If you read “we” in this text, it means “white people”, because this text is written to raise awareness upon the role of white people in deconstructing racism.

Also let me explain “white people”: that includes everyone who is not a BIPOC, and who is keeping racial structures alive. BIPOC? Black, Indigenous, People of Colour!

Great, a little glossary as a starter never hurts. Are you sitting comfortably? Seatbelts fastened? Because it will be a bit of a rough trip! Let’s go!

You definitely remember when George Floyd was murdered, it’s just a blink of an eye ago. Especially relative to the existence of racism.

The thing is, there is the one part of humanity who is suffering from it and the other part who is only slightly aware of what racism actually implies. I am quite sure you are aware of racism, you definitely know it exists and am quite sure

you also think it should not exist, right?

I realized after George Floyd was murdered that I always thought I would not be (part of) the problem. I thought it would be good enough to just not be a racist. I thought it would be enough to consider myself a “left”-wing person and I thought everyone who was not a hateful “right”-wing extremist would not be a racist.

I learned as long as we live in a society where racism is embedded

“Fearlessness in terms of racism is a privilege”

into everything, we can’t be detached from it. Currently, the situation is that we’re all growing up in a racist society. We breathe it in with children’s bedtime stories where the heroes are mostly white, with TV shows where we don’t see BIPOC as if it would be usual or in school where we do not learn enough about the colonial past and BIPOC children still get less opportunity in education than white children. And in this society it’s not enough to be non-racist, we have to be anti-racist.

So, for me this was a wake up call

and I feel ashamed. I feel ashamed that George Floyd and thousands of others worldwide had to die first and that the whole world had to get enraged and desperate, before I started to realize my role in how to deconstruct racist structures. Before, I was aware of the (in)direct impact that white people have on the BIPOC’s daily life by unreflectively living white supremacy (I will explain this in a bit) and not being aware of white fragility, but constantly acting it out.

Let me first tell you about white fragility. I have experienced it before, acted out by myself or by others, before I heard about the term. You might have the same. Things became clearer for me, since I learned more about it: White fragility is something you can call a “white people defense mechanism” called upon during debates about racism or discussions on their own privileges. Mostly it is expressed in blocking or leaving

the conversation, getting very emotional (i.e. angry or afraid), or downplay BIPOC’s experiences about racism. Now you can ask yourself rightfully: Why would white people defend themselves? They have nothing to fear in terms of racism.” Yes, and that’s the whole point. Fearlessness in terms of racism is a privilege.

Let me put it like this: White people are not used to being called out on their own racism or being reduced to their skin color. Ever realized that you are white (if you are white)? Well, I always

called my skin color “skin color” cause this was how I thought skin color looked like.

If someone had a different skin color than me, I used to call it “black” or “brown”, but not “skin color”. This is actually an example from so-called white supremacy. (Okay, another fancy specialised term, but I told you it will be rough. You can do it! Let’s go on:) White supremacy is the idea we have grown up with that being white would be “the norm” and not being white would be the “other”. But not only did we make everyone else “the other”, we also made us the one above everyone else.

Here is some historical background for you:

As far as we can think back, slavery has always existed. But in the 15th century, European countries started the transatlantic slave trade, as to enslave other people for their profit. Such an act of inhumanity does not work for long if it makes no sense to the human brain. There is a mechanism in the human brain called “cognitive dissonance”. This is a reflex which occurs if you act contrary to your own beliefs. In terms of racism it means: Politically and economically speaking, slavery made sense to people, but it was hard to morally frame it in the right way. A construct which explains the inferiority of non-white people had to be created to solve the cognitive dissonance. So: they did not enslave people because they were racists, they became racists because it was legitimizing their economic exploitation.

Anti-slavery laws, civil rights movements, the overcoming of segregation on the basis of color and many more steps further, we’re still not there. We live in a society where racism is alive. Where BIPOC have to fight and to

suffer from racism and where white people just keep holding this structure alive because of being so used to the system, just growing up in it and not being aware of where it is all nestled. A system wherein white people profit from their white skin colour without even being aware of their privilege. Since white people are so used to their privileges, it feels like someone wants to take something that belongs to them by being called out on their privileges. This is white fragility.

The german author of the bestseller book “Exit racism”, Tupoka Ogette, created the term “Happyland”. She calls this the place white people have been before awakening and realizing the problem of racism and how they keep racist structures alive by not being an anti-racist. I have definitely lived in this place and leaving it is hard, because things are beautiful there.

Let me make one thing clear: Having white privileges does not mean your life isn’t without its endeavours. It just means you have the privilege to not be discriminated on the basis of your skin colour. Also “Black Lives Matter” does not mean your life matters less, it means that all lives matter, but black lives haven’t mattered enough for so long, that we have to point out: they do matter.



So, dear you, dear me, we still have to learn a lot. We have to take our role seriously. We have the responsibility to deconstruct racism in our society as it’s also our problem. If you don’t suffer from racism because you’re not a BIPOC, then at least you’re contributing to part of the problem if you don’t take up your moral role as an anti-racist. And that’s unfair, I know. Because you have just been born into this world without doing anything to create those structures. But since we live all together here on this finite planet, I want to warmly ask us all together to face the situations we live in today and tackle the injustice, because that’s the way we can create a world where we all feel heard, seen, worthy and safe.

“I want to warmly ask us all together to face the situations we live in today and tackle the injustice”



Speaking about racism is like an untrained muscle, it needs exercise.

How can we train it? I don't have a masterplan on this, I'm sorry. But I do have some ideas, which I agreed to myself to continue to be weary of:

Whenever someone points out something I said is racist, I let those feelings of being personally attacked float on by, because it is not about my pain.

If I legitimize my words, for example "oh but I don't mean it like this" or "I should be able to say so", I try to consider that it could be because I'm just very used to thinking it this way.

If I hear someone else saying something racist, I dare to say something, I dare to ask a question or to say "actually, this is racist." I do not always have to have the conversation of my life, I just dare to not laugh about or smile away this underlying racism.

I try to stand the questioning if someone else asks me something,

I allow myself to not do perfect and I don't judge myself, because this is not what it is about. I'm not a bad person. I am just automatically part of the problem, so I dare to take my responsibility. Which also does not make me a better person.

And last but not least, I agreed to keep educating myself and keep raising awareness - to myself and

"I dare to say something, I dare to ask a question"

to others. This is why I am writing this article.

Because I really, really wish all of us to start agreeing on all those things, those basics on how to deconstruct white fragility and in that way racism.

So, my heartfelt question to you is: Do you dare? Do you dare to overcome white fragility? Do you dare to leave Happyland with me?

🌻 J.S.

The writer of this article was one of the organizers of the BLM protest in Wageningen. This protest was from the beginning planned as a kick off to initiate change in Wageningen in terms of racism. At the same time a petition has been started towards the university to tackle racism. From both, the petition and the protest multiple anti-racists groups have been built in Wageningen. One of them is ARA WUR (Anti Racism Association). This is a group of students, staff and affiliates of Wageningen University who aim to fight both individual and systemic racism at Wageningen University.

About the progress of Wageningen University and Wageningen as city becoming anti-racist the jester will keep you updated.

Reviewing the Reviews

Need a new lightbulb? Cleaning supplies? Some candles? Where do you go to get your home essentials in Wageningen? Well, we have taken the time to sift through the reviews to guide your home purchases!

Zeeman

★★★★★ a year ago

(Translated by Google) Outdated store, unkind and unhelpful staff, messy but the offers are always there and you go for that

Action

★★★★★ 2 years ago

It is cheap and... well just cheap. But that's what it is good for. Whenever I need something quick and cheap it's found over here. The shop is open on Sundays as well and did I mention that it is cheap? (Don't complain if it is broken - buy a new one!)

★★★★★ a year ago

This is the nicest place in all the Netherlands I have met my life love

★★★★★ a year ago

(Translated by Google) Friendly staff, good service and nice stuff. It would be nice if the store were more environmentally conscious.

Hema

★★★★★ 6 years ago

(Translated by Google) Nice atmosphere, Cozy shop, only the youngsters are annoying.

A group makes the cafeteria unsafe at irregular times. They scream and scream at anything and touch each other's feet in an inappropriate way. It is a shame.

★★★★★ 2 years ago

(Translated by Google) Breakfast with the new concept ... very confusing. It can be clearer

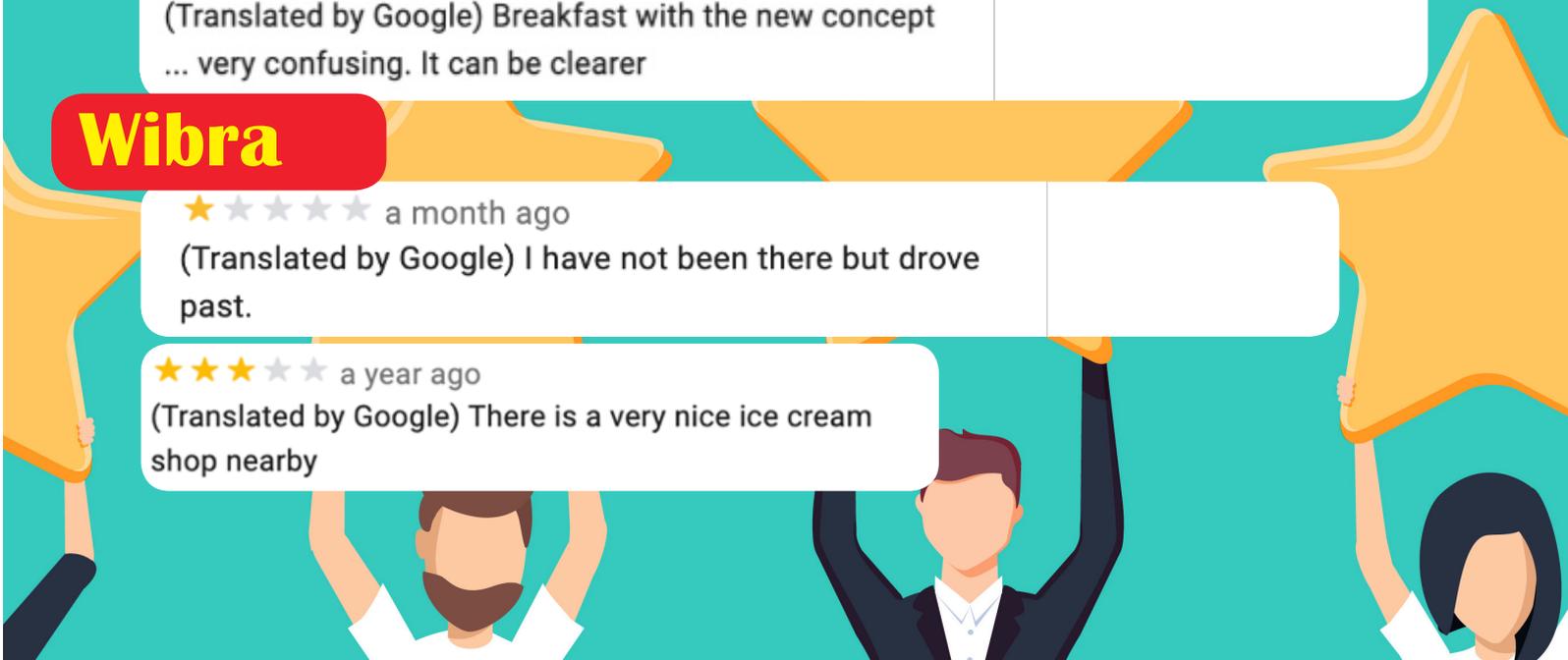
Wibra

★★★★★ a month ago

(Translated by Google) I have not been there but drove past.

★★★★★ a year ago

(Translated by Google) There is a very nice ice cream shop nearby



HOROSCOPE



Sagittarius

November 22 - December 21

This period is a bad period. The only thing you can do to soften your suffering is eating nice snacks while trying to stuff all the knowledge into your already overheated brain.



Capricorn

December 22 - January 19

You are waiting for something that is not coming. Your feelings are mixed between annoyance and desperation. So, are you going to keep waiting? Or are you going to take initiative?



Aquarius

January 20 - February 18

You feel frustrated because the future has become unpredictable. It is difficult to make plans in these times. Sadly, there is no direct solution for that, but instead you can try to focus on the here and now and you will see that it can bring out positive thoughts.



Pisces

February 19 - March 20

If you already have taken out the christmas-tree and decorated it, please put it back if you want to avoid the anger of Sinterklaas and your relatives.



Aries

March 21 - April 20

You are ready for a new chapter. A time of independence and self-achievement has arrived. It is in your hands if you seize this opportunity to become a better version of yourself.



Taurus

April 21 - May 20

This is a month to say no to everything! You have discovered saying yes all the time can be too energy-demanding and can also lead to some very weird situations. Therefore, it is time for a new strategy.



Gemini

May 21 - June 20

You seem to be in control of everything. You follow your schedule tightly and you don't let anything distract you from your goal. Don't forget to smile from time to time to brightens someones day.



Cancer

June 21 - July 22

If you acknowledge the feelings you experience this can bring you a whole end further. Recently, you have been trying to hide from them which does not only harm you but also your loved-ones.



Leo

July 23 - August 23

Polux sheds light on a mystery that has been keeping you awake for many nights. Finally, you might have found the answer. A great weight is taken of your chest and you can function normally again.



Virgo

August 24 - September 22

An excellent moment to express your love to whoever is in your mind. Don't wait too long anymore or he or she might walk away with your rival.



Libra

September 23 - October 23

In the quest for your internal balance you have lost yourself in thoughts about everything and nothing. Sometimes it seems you are slightly floating. People around you are wondering what is up with you.



Scorpio

October 24 - November 21

Your studies have become your whole world and you haven't shown interest in anything else lately. It would do you good if you took the time to inform yourself about other matters and engage in conversations about a diverse range of topics.



Kiss & Study

To the girl with the shining blue eyes and blond hair: You not only stole my heart, but I think you also accidentally took my notebook. It had some personal stuff in there so please return it!!! (My email-address is in front of the notebook)

Sometimes when I'm in the Forum Library, I just look around and think it's amazing that so many beautiful people are sitting there from all over the world and it looks like we're one big happy family. Keep up the good works guys!

Can someone please clean the microwave in Orion? There's pesto on it and it smells disgusting. If you think that it was maybe you who made the mess, probably it was you.

There's this amazing cover of Africa by Toto that will just instantly make you happy when you listen to it. Just wanted to share that.

Do you have a message to your secret love on campus, are you looking for your lost lucky sock, or did someone deserve a thank you? Do you just have a random message that you want to share with the Wageningen community? Send a mail to thejester.wageningen@gmail.com and we 'll publish it for you in next edition of the Jester!

Best of Student Plaza!

Wageningen Student Plaza
6 h · 🌐
Just out of curiosity: Why are there so many guys in black suits holding a yellow paper biking through wageningen? Am I missing a national holiday or something?
👍👍👍 16

Wageningen Student Plaza
1 d · 🌐
So many cute socks
€2 · 📍 6708
MESSAGE
Dear all,
I have sooo many cute socks. Pm me if you are interested. Pick up at bornsesteeg.
2 comments
Like Comment Share

Wageningen Student Plaza
2 h · 🌐
5 comment: What kind of dutch is duolingo teaching?
8 IN A ROW
Translate this sentence
Nee, geen broek alsjeblieft.
No no pants please

23 septembre · 🌐
The last remaining mystery! People, what is this?
44 commentaires
54
I know it's for counting bikes or cars so i keep cycling over and over multiple times just to confuse whoever is counting
J'aime · Répondre · 6 sem

Wageningen Student Plaza
3 d · 🌐
Dear people of Wageningen,
I am looking for a place to live. As we, room-seekers, always write these introductory messages, I wrote this song to introduce myself and tell you what I am looking for. If you would like to live with a singer-songwriter, vegetarian and mostly happy soul hoping to become useful for the world, please let me know! 😊 Also important: my price limit for rent is 350 eur/month
YOUTUBE.COM
The housemate song
Hey cuties,
We are 7 really poor students who are in desperate need of a new television. We have traveled the world collecting rare artefacts and are now willing to sell them. Send me a pm if you are interested and want to support our humble cause.
Xoxo
Emma H

Wageningen Student Plaza
1 d · 🌐
For the person who stole my beautiful Amaryllis plant at Dijkgraaf 15 floor I hope you take care of it well and also fail all your courses and have a terrible life full of sadness and sickness.
115
12 commentaires
Like

well that escalated!
1 d Like Reply
Plants need some adventures from time to time too.
1 d Like Reply
Stefan Rots Is this a confession?
I don't know if this post makes me cry or laugh 😊
1 d Like Reply
after googling the plant i can understand the frustrations
1 d Like Reply

Wageningen Student Plaza
2 h · 🌐
Dear WUR plant people. I found this plant growing in my garden. It looks like a marijuana plant. I'm absolutely sure no seeds have been either purposely or inadvertently sown. Is it possible that a bird/s are responsible for my spontaneous garden?
Halo allemaal!
Wie helpt mij verder? Voor mijn studie communicatie ben ik op zoek naar mensen tussen 23 en 28 jaar die recreatief drugs gebruiken. Ben jij iemand die recreatief drugs gebruikt of ken jij iemand? Dan zou ik je graag willen interviewen. Uiteraard worden jou persoonlijke gegevens niet gedeeld. Stuur mij een pm als je iets weet! Tips zijn ook welkom! Alvast bedankt!
Delen · Afdrukken · Afslaan de suite

15€
THAT'S AN AMAZING DEAL!!!
310 € · WAGENINGEN, GELDERLAND
HELP US EARN A 4K TELEVISION
25
3 commentaires
Envoyer un message

Wageningen Student Plaza
3 min · 🌐
Hi people!
I am looking for a fridge, it can be a broken one, it is just to use it without electricity! Anyone has that laying around at his/her place?
J'aime Commenter Partager
yes, we have one!

WIE HELPT MIJ VERDER?
HALLO ALLEMAAL!
WIE HELPT MIJ VERDER? VOOR MIJN STUDIE COMMUNICATIE BEN IK OP ZOEK NAAR MENSEN TUSSEN 23 EN 28 JAAR DIE RECREATIEF DRUGS GEBRUIKEN. BEN JIJ IEMAND DIE RECREATIEF DRUGS GEBRUIKT OF KEN JIJ IEMAND? DAN ZOU IK JE GRAAG WILLEN INTERVIEWEN. UITERAARD WORDEN JOU PERSOONLIJKE GEGEVENS NIET GEDEELD. STUUR MIJ EEN BERICHT ALS JE IETS WEEET! TIPS ZIJN OOK VAN HARTE WELKOM! ALVAST BEDANKT!
GRATUIT · ADVIESBUREAU GELDERLAND
Wie helpt mij verder
J'aime Commenter Partager
1 commentaire

23 septembre · 🌐
So, I am really sad while writing this post. Sadly I want to inform that I lost my beautiful dark green coloured second hand yamaha electric bike which I bought an year ago. On Friday evening (18Sept), I parked it in the shed 1, Dijkgraaf 4. I never knew that would be the last time I'm seeing my beautiful bike & later I was out for weekend for the two days. I wish I would have checked upon her 😞. On Monday, when I had to go for my classes, I walked towards the shed to get my beautiful bike and f#*k, it wasn't there. It got STOLEN, somebody took my bike from the shed, creepy. I searched around and didn't find my sweetheart bike. So, who so ever did that, I wish that person a badluck 😞 and I wish my bike will be in good hands later.
Be careful with your bikes guys. Use a good lock and keep an eye on strangers if possible.
Dear 🚲 bike, I miss you ❤️
42
10 commentaires

Wageningen Student Plaza
1 h · 🌐
IAMEXPAT.NL
Netherlands ranked as one of the world's worst countries for making friends
In a new report, the Netherlands ranks as one of the worst countries in the world for making friends
18 commentaires
Anni Sc et 48 autres personnes
J'aime Commenter Partager

