



THE JESTER

A COLONIAL HISTORY //
FAVOURITE PETS // LONELY
PLANET WAGENINGEN
EDITION



AUG 2021

New Year New Jester



This issue of The Jester marks a new beginning. For many, the beginning of life away from parents, or the beginning of living in a foreign country for the first time. The beginning of the new academic year, with new discoveries, lessons and friendships. The beginning of a year that will hopefully see the near-end of Covid19. It also marks the beginning of a freshly minted Jester.

Do not be fooled by our new clean lines. We will continue striving towards being your eyes and ears in Wageningen, and providing you with gripping, outside-the-box content. Let's see where this year takes us.

Yours truly,
The Jester



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A Colonial Reputation

Where does WUR get its impeccable international reputation from? Well, according to WUR's own website, it all starts with having colonies.

The history of WUR and Indonesia goes back to a time before WUR and Indonesia existed as such. Back then, WUR was just a rijkslandbouwschool and Indonesia was called the Dutch Indies. The reason why Indonesia was called the Dutch Indies is because it was a Dutch colony. And for the Netherlands, the purpose of having a colony was to make money. The Dutch even referred to their colony as a 'wingewest', literally translated as a 'profit province'.

The way the Netherlands made money with their colony was by growing cash crops such as sugar, tea, coffee and opium. These cash crops were grown in government-owned plantations in which peasants were forced to work. To trade in these goods was very lucrative and brought great wealth to many Dutch traders, some of whom invested in luxurious houses in Wageningen: e.g. villa Hinkeloord (now a museum) or villa Sanoer (now a WSV Ceres student house).

But by the end of the 19th century, the system of government-owned plantations was replaced by a system of privately-owned enterprises and these private owners were looking for ways to increase profits by increasing crop yields. The knowledge to do so, they would find in Wageningen. At this time, the

predecessor of WUR was organising courses in 'Indische' (Indonesian) agriculture and forestry*, which later developed into full degrees focused on the Dutch Indies. It was in this system of exploitation of colonial plantations that (according to the WUR-website) 'WUR gained its international reputation'.

Many of the students that came to Wageningen were in fact from the Indies. They were sons of plantation owners and civil servants. Once in the Netherlands, they founded their own student associations such as the still active Nji-Sri (named after an Indonesian goddess of rice and fertility).

Because Wageningen alumni were not as theoretical as some of their Dutch counterparts in Leiden, Utrecht or Amsterdam, most of them found jobs in the field with plantation owners or with private companies, where research was often practice-driven.

In those same early decades of the 20th century, big corporations such as Shell and Unilever emerged, and both went to the Dutch Indies in search for oil. Shell started out by drilling for oil in the now Indonesian island of Sumatra, while Unilever became big in the palm oil trade. Wageningen alumni working for palm oil exploiters already made the first link with Unilever back then, but, as we now know, it would still take a century for the multinational to come to Wageningen campus.



"Wageningen alumni effortlessly switched from their colonial jobs to work in 'development' "



*Coffee plantation on Java, the Dutch Indies (ca. 1900).

During the second world war, the Dutch Indies were occupied by the Japanese, and after the war, the spirit of independence could no longer be contained. This led to a new war in which the whole Dutch colonial project in Indonesia came to an end. In 1949 Indonesia was one of the first countries in the world to gain independence from its colonisers.

After the war, researchers from WUR laboratories were requested to leave the country. Despite this, they were not suddenly out of jobs. According to the WUR-website, Wageningen alumni effortlessly switched from their colonial jobs to work in 'development' in other places of the world such as Africa and South America.

From that time on, development became the new trademark of Wageningen University but, nevertheless, the relationship with Indonesia remained strained. In 1965, relationships with Indonesia were restored, only to be broken again in 1992. Since then, a new development model has been put in place in which WUR no longer maintains test facilities in Indonesia, but instead focuses on the education of foreign MSc and PhD students.



*Deforestation for a tobacco plantation in North Sumatra (ca.1900).

Find your people at facebook.com

Best facebook groups of Wageningen!

Wageningen has so much more to offer than just the physical realm. Why go outside when you have Facebook groups just one click away? Whether you're into puzzles or plants, fermenting effervescent kombucha or brewing your own beer, or whether you're simply desperately looking for people to hang out with or live with, dozens of Wageningen student groups exist to help you feel right at home. Here's a rundown of what you'll find.



Wageningen Student Plaza | 37.2K members

By far the most important Facebook group for students in Wageningen, this group will reveal to you all that the city and university's students have to offer. If you're looking for a room, want to buy homemade sushi or pizza made by fellow students, participate in an online shouting debate on crop tops, or waste your time scrolling through random second-hand products for sale, then this is the group for you.



Wageningen Student Plants | 2.8K members

You want to have a debate on crop tops? OFF TOPIC! This group is all about plants. Who has some poison ivy seedlings? Why is my plant looking sad? Why are there bugs crawling around? WSPlants is there for you.



Foodsharing Wageningen, Against food waste / Tegen voedselverspilling | 2.8K members

Wasting food is a crime, and you can fight it by joining this group to save a loaf of bread or juicy tomatoes from the horrors of the landfill.



Wageningen Board Gamers | 743 members

This group is all about playing board games and meeting new people while you do it. Whether you're new or experienced, join in with any of the regular meetings, or host one of your own! Feel free to post any game-related stuff on the group, and have fun!



Vegans & Vegetarians in Wageningen | 740 members

This group is just for vegans and vegetarians in Wageningen, so everyone is welcome. Here you get the latest insights into vegan and vegetarian technology such as new-vegan-pizza-technology or new-vegan-donut-technology. Underlying question at this group is: how can we eat sustainably in Wageningen?



Wageningen Fermenters | 688 members

Fermentation goes back to ancient times. Beer residues found in a cave from 13.000 years ago serve as the earliest archaeological evidence of fermentation. Fast-forward to present day Wageningen: Kombucha, waterkefir, sauerkraut, sourdough bread or kimchi are just some of the mouth-watering foods and drinks you'll be able to make with help from experimenters from this group. And if you're only interested in sourdough and yeast, then *Wageningen sourdough and wild yeast* might be the group for you.



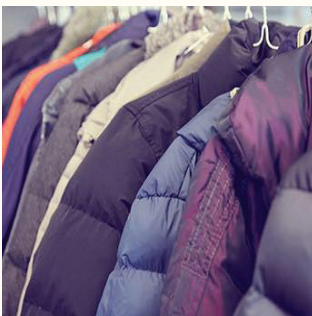
Booksharing Wageningen | 224 members

Have you ever lent a book to a friend and got it back full of boogy stains, ripped pages and wrinkled edges? Spread the love at Booksharing Wageningen.



Casual beach volley - Wageningen - | 48 members

Are you looking to fool around with the beach volleyball - no strings attached? Do you like to go to the beach but are not willing to commit? In the Casual Beach Volley group you find the people to volley and chill with.



Find my Jacket Wageningen | 166 members

A surprising amount of jackets go missing in Wageningen and are returned to their rightful owners at Find my jacket Wageningen.



Puzzleswap Wageningen | 9 members

Fed up with doing the same puzzle over and over again? The puzzle enthusiast community doesn't seem so big yet, but will surely be enriched by your participation.

BONUS: Wageningen Uitgaans Promotie | Wageningen Party Promotion

Did you know that the coolest parties in Wageningen are advertised on WUP? If you're throwing a party and afraid no one will show up, WUP is here for you. Find parties ranging from joy division revival bands to cancelled summer festivals.

Including everyone @WUR

Are we there yet?

The new academic year will soon start, you are at the dawn of an exciting time of your life. Do you already feel a strong connection with Wageningen and its University? Or is that something that needs to develop in the coming weeks and months? Recent research on all Dutch Universities shows that students from minority groups (i.e. immigrants, people with disabilities, lower socio-economic status and LGBTQAI+ students) tend to feel less connected to the university.

This study by Geertje Hulzebos from VU University Amsterdam investigated the extent to which belonging to a minority or majority group influences the sense of belonging and experiences at the university with regard to exclusion, academic and interpersonal validation. The conclusions based on 440 students from twelve universities in the Netherlands, including Wageningen, show that minority students experience less sense of belonging and validation, and more exclusion. Being part of multiple minority groups led to an increase in exclusion and it is a fallacy to think that the pursuit of an inclusive environment only benefits a small minority. The research showed that discrimination is not limited to students of colour (who represent 25% of the student population), but also includes international students (28%), working class students (17%), LGBTQAI+ students (10%) and students with disabilities (8%).

How is WUR tackling this problem and making sure everyone feels at home? We asked the press officer to elaborate on WUR's inclusivity approach and policies. It turns out that the role of the student dean is crucial in all issues that arise while studying in Wageningen. Be it for study delay, disabilities,

transition leave or any other problem. This is perhaps not fully known by all students, but student deans offer help, support or just a listening ear and do this always in confidentiality.

“It is clear that there is still a task for us as a university to make more visible where students can go to for help” said Vincent Koperdraat, press officer at WUR. He mentions that the university puts a lot of effort in becoming an inclusive study and work place. But the possibilities that are offered are not always fully being used.

Efforts from WUR

WUR has different initiatives to include minority groups: the first gender-neutral toilets have been installed, seven of the university buildings have a lactation room and proper wheelchair access has become common. Twice a year the rainbow flag is hoisted to let students and employees of the LGBTQAI+ community know that they are welcome here. Additionally, there are arrangements for gender transition leave. For international students the Annual Introduction Days offer workshops that will prepare you for the Dutch education system



and the culture. For employees WUR has a so-called Diversity and Inclusion group. On this intranet site, training sessions, workshops and newsletters are posted. Job applicants with a functional impairment are especially welcome and the Job Participation Support group is there to help and match them. WUR strives to create at least 230 positions for people with a functional impairment by 2024.

“It is clear that there is still a task for us as a university to make more visible where students can go to for help”

Better facilities, support and workshops alone are not going to cut it. To make people feel at home and give them a sense of belonging, universities need to promote an open environment where people can be themselves and stimulate contact across group borders. Historically, academic institutions have almost solely focussed on a very privileged layer of society. In our last edition we wrote about the still, disadvantaged position of women in science. Too often, people who did not use to be in this privileged group have the feeling that they need to adapt in order to fit in. Just like integration should not be a one-way street, adapting cultures, systems and institutes works both ways.

To gain more understanding of international students, WUR student deans made a visit abroad. Two of them went to China, where many of the students come from, to study the local culture and to give workshops to prepare students better for what they can expect when they arrive in the Netherlands. This can certainly help international students to adapt better. However, some minority groups raise the fair question of why it is always them who need to adapt. Why not use that knowledge of other cultures to also improve the current system so these students have to adapt less?

Bottom-up initiatives

Unlike other Dutch academic institutes, WUR was slow in reacting to the Black Lives Matter movement. “Within our international, multicultural community, there is no room for exclusion in any way, shape or form”, said WUR spokesperson Simon Vink to the Resource in June last year. “Not based on ethnic origin, religion, culture, gender and so forth. However, never state the obvious applies. What is obvious need not be stated explicitly.” Thanks to a widely supported petition offered by Anti-Racism Association to the Executive Board in the summer of last year, WUR has now formulated an advice plan on how to tackle racism and discrimination. Where top-down change might sometimes be slow, bottom-up initiatives can move fast. With discrimination in science this is not any different. Inspired by the BLM movement, a group of researchers from the Forest and Nature Conservation and Policy group



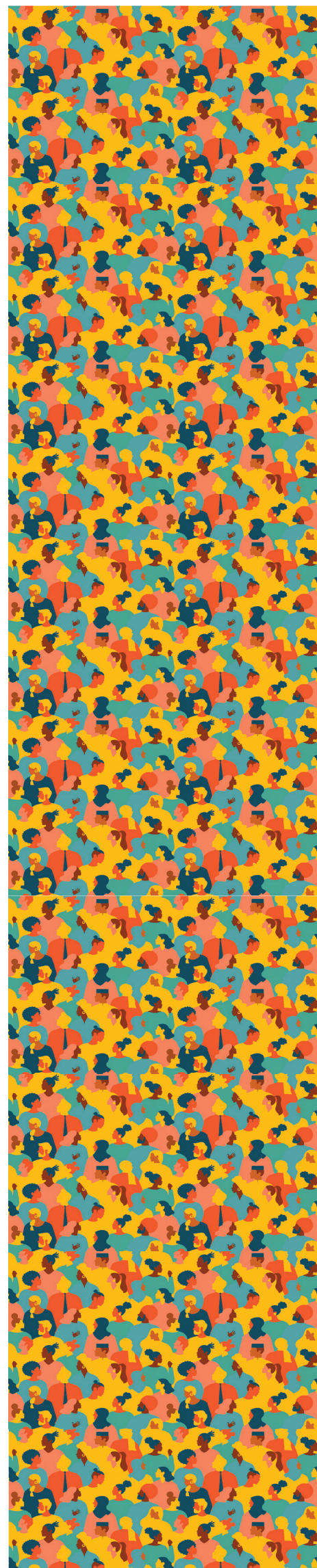
came together to discuss whether and how they need to explore and fight discriminatory practices in their own institutional context.

This workgroup concluded from their extensive survey and round table discussions that students regularly feel discriminated against by their peers, particularly in the formation of group work and language used during interactions. The FNP diversity group mentioned in their report that: "Teachers need to take an active role to address this topic openly in class, enforce/remind students that English is the main language, carefully consider the process of student group formation and scrutinize course content." On staff-student interactions most discrimination was experienced in access to opportunities for the thesis as well as perceived double standards when it comes to guidelines and deadlines. Gender related discrimination is experienced in different ways. First, there is the experienced subtle and often implicit discrimination in day-to-day interactions. Second, there is the experienced structural gender inequity as it is institutionalized in WUR and wider academic culture. This may involve factors such as unequal (or gender-neutral) compensation and an emphasis on predominantly masculine leadership and evaluation criteria. Currently, WUR is conducting an equal pay research focussing on the gender pay gap. Finally, gender discrimination can also be thought of as the lack of room for caring responsibilities for both women and men.

"41% of people reported experiencing or observing no or positive discrimination"

Across the surveys, 41% of people reported experiencing or observing no or positive discrimination, which shows that mandatory sessions are needed at all levels to raise awareness beyond those already engaged. The FNP diversity group suggests that role-plays that put people in the shoes of others who commonly experience forms of discrimination in WUR may be a powerful method to raise awareness and dialogue. The *All that we share* workshop during the AID hosted by Emma Holmes, the founder of Wageningen Comedy Club, can contribute to that. *All that we share* is a variation on the famous *If you really knew me* television program, where students are presented with different yes and no statements on various personal topics.

Feeling connected in times with little offline interaction might be even more challenging, but the Annual Introduction Days are the perfect opportunity to start. Wageningen is home to a wide diversity of people, associations and organisations and has the potential for everyone to feel seen, heard and valued.



WAGENINGEN



Why go?

Wageningen, or Wagga for youngsters, is alluring. This small historic town in Gelderland receives much exposure for its ground-breaking university that focuses on life sciences and agricultural research, and this comes with a vibrant student atmosphere. Let's be frank: it may not be the most bustling city of The Netherlands, but there is more to Wageningen than the university.

The enchanting city centre boasts pretty streets and villas, communal gardens, hidden eateries and cafés. Behind the city centre lies the Rhine with its sandy beaches and cow-filled floodplains, overlooked by the great big Berg.

Population: 38.800 people

Language: Dutch

Unit of currency: Euro

How to get there: Schipol Airport is the Netherlands' busiest airport. From there, enjoy the Netherlands' affordable and fast trains to the Ede-Wageningen station, where an OV-fiets, a bus or a long walk await you.

What to visit?

Wageningen is a rather small and rural town, so one cannot expect a cultural offer in the likes of Amsterdam. However, if you look carefully enough, you'll find little bit of everything.

Movies & Theatres

Theatre Junushoff

This theatre claims a heritage of 140 years. Located in the middle of a park, it is the perfect spot for summer concerts, comedy shows, and public entertainment.

Theatre de Wilde Wereld

This small theatre in the heart of Wageningen offers the ideal stage for small productions. SHOUT, Dance30+ and OGDD often organise parties in the hall.

Heerenstraattheater

The brightest light of Wagga's movie scene, this is a combination art-house cinema and cafe. It shows both indie and mainstream films in English and Dutch.

Music

Do you want to enjoy live music this Friday night? Then head to Loburg Café, where you might find a concert, a DJ set, or even a comedy night. If electronic music is your thing, stay updated on the socials organised by MiniCulture, De La Niets (DNL), or NACHTDIER, because they might be up to something...



Museums

If you want to get lost in museums, hop on the next train to Amsterdam. But if you want to discover a little more about the history of the town or the soils of the world, Wageningen has some museums to offer.

Hotel de Wereld

In 1945, Hotel de Wereld was the dramatic setting for the capitulation of the German Occupation. Its restaurant has a Michelin star since 2010, and the Capitulation room has remained virtually unchanged since that historic event.

Museum de Casteelse Poort

This small museum lets you discover the history of Wageningen from the medieval period all the way to today.

World Soil Museum

Learn more about the nature and the diversity of soils in the world and their importance for society and for science. What's more, this unique museum is located on the university campus.

Bee Museum

More interesting than it sounds, this apiculture museum takes a closer look at the honeybee. It also houses a bee garden and a shop selling honey products.

Art

A few art galleries and an annual event to promote local artists exist in Wagga.

Gallery Wit

Uncompromising works of art by new and upcoming as well as established and internationally known works, including drawing, painting, sculpture, photography film and installation.

Het Depot

This sculpture gallery houses a collection of torsos and fragments of the human body.

Imagine, art books design

Arguably the loveliest bookstore in town, this little shop sells books, paintings, posters by (local) artists, and you can enjoy a coffee in the garden.

Culturele ronde Wageningen

This annual event promotes local artists in Wageningen through exhibitions and visits to artists' ateliers

Secret spots on the WUR campus

The wooly mammoth

When studying in the forum, you're actually sitting below centuries of wisdom and insight: the imposing skull of a great big wooly mammoth hides

on the 9th floor. The skull is one of the thousands of mammoth fossils found in the Netherlands, a small country with a huge mammoth record. Rumour has it you'll get 0.1% wiser for every hour spent beside it.

The secret love bench - "What's it really all about?" bench

At the edge of campus lies the Lumen natural garden, a little oasis of wild plant species, insects and birds. The most beautiful bench in all the land lies within it, offering the perfect spot to get some peace and quiet, contemplate life, or make a marriage proposal.

Where to eat?

Da Martini winkel

With a striped monochrome awning, marbled counter and Neapolitan slow-rising-dough pizzas, Da Martini is a slice of bella vita in Wageningen. Selecting exceptional produce is precisely what the owners envisioned.

Ivan Market

Enchantingly vintage in design, with bar and overhead ceiling fan, this is a tasty little neo-bistro delightfully off the tourist-trodden track. Ivan Market is the place to buy your kapsalon or the falafel sandwich that packs a punch for just 2.99€. And, yes, it should fall apart on the first bite, covering your shirt, your shoes, and your useless napkin in a sea of sauce.

Mekking

It will require a bit of a cycle, but if you're feeling adventurous and you have a birthday coming up, head to Bennekom for the finest of Dutch pastries. Make sure to get there early on King's Day to enjoy the best Tompouce in town.

Milk Veld & Beek

Farm with the secret shed behind the AH where you can get milk and butter. You need a key. It's not just a speak easy but also an escape room. Challenge for the year: find the key.

Onder den Linden

This café doesn't actually seem to be under a linden tree, but it serves arguably the best mushroom bitterballen in town, accompanied by truffle mayonnaise, which you can enjoy with one of many beers on tap.

Reading the news, voting, and getting naked all seem legitimate ways of being an active participant in our university's decision making. But where has this gotten us? A study by Dominik Antonowicz and Ben Jongbloed in 2015 outlines the history of democratisation of higher education in the Netherlands. By understanding this history can we look forward to a more democratic WUR in the future?

Before getting into where we are today, we need to look back to where all this began, the swinging 60s. It was during this decade that the push for democratising higher education in the Netherlands really gained ground. Prior to this, students and non-academic staff had no mandate for policy decisions of the university, a privilege reserved for lecturers and professors who appointed a board of curators.

Following many attempts to reform this structure, a wave of student protests swept the Netherlands, France and Germany in the mid-60s, with Wageningen making national news when students interrupted a faculty meeting and stripped off. These protests, along with changing public and political opinion, resulted in the University Governance Reorganization Act, approved in 1971.

This act led to radical changes in how universities were governed, including the introduction of a University Council which consisted of one third students, one third non-academic staff, and one third academic staff, with the executive board playing an advisory role. This council had powerful rights, including the right to approve the budget of the university.

The 1971 reforms were a big win for the democratisation of higher education, since all members of the university rose to a relatively more equal playing field in policy deliberation and decision making. That said, there was still a large influence from state regulation through the Ministry of Education, having a say in such matters

The Bare Butt Times

Butts out for democracy!



Butts were out in force today in Wageningen, as students were unhappy with Professor Polak's prosperous plan for a 'provisional university council'. The plan has been criticised for the lack of participation from students and other groups concerned with higher education governance.

The policy is now under review and will be considered in the planning for the new act to be discussed in next

as the university's mission and goals. This was especially the case in Wageningen where the university was also receiving large funds from the Ministry of Agriculture.

This state interference began to be criticised in the 1980s, when governments began to step back from interference in the public sector, allowing universities to function more autonomously in terms of goal setting and funding acquisition. This led to universities aligning themselves more with business and industry. On top of that, the 1971 reforms were criticised for slowing down decision making, leaving universities unable to adapt quickly enough to the fast-paced changes which were happening in the late 20th century.

To address this, the Modernising the University Governance Organisations Act was passed in 1997. This act brought about a lot of changes, with the most influential being the centralisation of powers in the executive board, leaving the university council in a more advisory role, losing rights such as that to approve the annual budget of the university. The executive board are appointed by a supervisory board who are appointed by the Minister of Education and Minister of Agriculture, leading to the most powerful body at university level not being democratically elected by members of the university. For the university



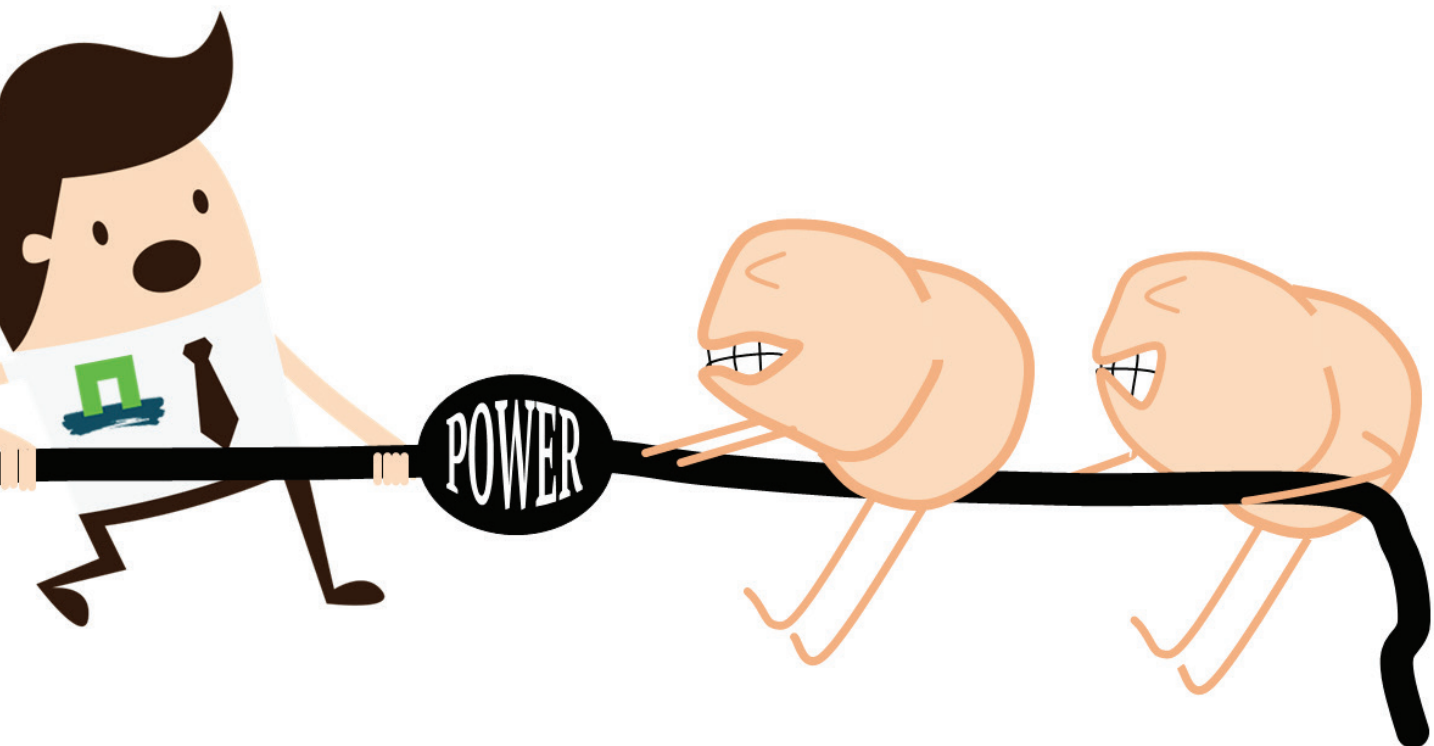
democratisation movement, this was a big step backwards and state interference seemed to have just been readjusted from a different angle.

Now, almost 25 years on, there haven't been any more democratic reforms to the legislation of higher education governance. In the past, it seems that these reforms followed major political and social changes of the time, with parallel pushes from internal lobbying and protest. Today, there are ongoing protests and social movements at WUR, mainly targeted at the most powerful body of the university, the executive board. These revolve around topics such as racism, private sector collaboration and sexual harassment.

These groups have to go through enormous efforts to convince the executive board of their policy recommendations. Would a more democratic WUR with a more powerful and representative university council and a less powerful or at least representative executive board be fairer to the university community? These are questions to ponder when imagining what a more democratic WUR could look like.

One group envisioning this future are Academics Unplugged. They are a group of faculty and students working to develop a people's assembly within the university. A people's assembly would be a randomly selected representative group of students, as well as non-academic and academic staff, who would have the same legal rights as the student council. They would meet throughout the year to deliberate on issues prevalent at the university. "It should not be that this group meets once a year, votes and that's it. There needs to be attention to deliberation to find consensus. This is the most important thing", says Kamiel Verhelst. They will be running their first trial of the people's assembly in the next academic year to discuss how topics related to climate change and biodiversity are integrated in the curriculum of different studies.

Democratising WUR is a movement that is alive and well, albeit in small pockets of our university. We are a long way from the radical changes seen in the late 20th century, but by learning more about democratisation in the past, we can envision more possibilities for the future.



LET'S TALK ABOUT YES

The Jester recently met with two members of **LTAY** to talk about their campaign. Evelien is a recent graduate who launched the campaign in Wageningen last summer. As she felt that discussions around sexual violence were lacking at WUR, **Amnesty's campaign** was the perfect opportunity for her to get involved. With a little training from Amnesty and a lot of passion, Evelien gathered some friends to launch the campaign; Judith was one of them. **With a group of now 8 people, they've been campaigning to ensure that sex based on equality, open communication, and consent is the norm**, and start a dialogue about sex and consent among young people.

The LTAY campaign was started by Amnesty. Could you describe what issues this campaign wants to address?

E - This campaign started by addressing the current Dutch law regarding sexual violence and rape, which is very old fashioned and not inclusive of what sexual violence could look like. For example, they don't consider the possibility of victims being passed out or frozen in fear. We believe this must change because it doesn't acknowledge victims' experiences and it makes legal consequences difficult. The group supported the lobbying of Dutch politicians and sent thousands of postcards to the Minister of Justice to put pressure on the government. This Spring, a bill to modernise the law finally came out (it hasn't been passed yet because we don't have an official government).

"By opening the conversation, we hope everybody will reflect more on their behaviour"

These laws also have a big impact on cultural awareness, which our campaign also focuses on. After the bill was proposed, we decided to focus on the lack of prevention, support, and attention given to the topic in higher education. Amnesty recently published a study that clearly showed many people go through a form of sexual violence in their time as a student, and in general between the ages of 18-25 years.

The study you mentioned found that 11% of females and 1% of males experienced sex without their consent during college. How can we make sense of these numbers?

E - I think it's important to realise that for each 10 women you know, one of them has been through this, which means you very likely know perpetrators too. The 1% for men is also high. We also need to keep in mind that some people may have trouble recognising what they've been through and that, for men especially, taboos around unwanted sex make it even harder to speak up. These numbers represent people who have identified what they've been through as sexual violence and are able to speak up and acknowledge it.



Do you think the definition of consent is universal?

J - Of course, people have their personal ways of how they like to be asked for consent or how they give consent. But there are certain aspects that need to be there for consent and I believe those are universal. They can be summarized in FRIES: Freely given, Reversible, Informed, Enthusiastic and Specific.

E - What we see as universal is that consent has to be actively saying yes to something. There are still a lot of people that view the absence of a no as a yes. This would usually not be the case in other (non-sexual) situations. If you make someone food that they didn't ask for, do you expect them to eat it?

But it can be very hard to know what another person wants, let alone understanding what you want for yourself. Does this not mean that consent often lies in a grey area?

Freely Given
Reversible
Informed
Enthusiastic
Specific

E - There is a grey area, but we need to be more aware of it and not simply look the other way or ignore it because it's too complicated. There are instances where it can

be hard to know what the other person wants (and to know what you want!), and maybe you cross someone's boundaries... and that's bad, but the world isn't divided between abusers and non-abusers. We need to have better conversations about this for everyone's sake. We also need to realise that there are so many complexities involved in sexual relations; to understand the sort of expectations and pressure people might deal with in relation to someone else, as well as people's personal history. People might feel expected to be intimate with someone because they are dating or are married, for example.

"Would you like me to touch you here? Does this feel good? What would you like me to do? are spontaneous ways of asking if the other person is okay."

J - In our campaign, we also find it important to be sex positive. We want to go against the shame and taboos around sex. We support people exploring their sexuality. They may

run into their boundaries in this process. We believe that opening the conversation about this allows people to explore in a safe way. We do not want to 'police' sex, but by opening the conversation, we hope everybody will be more reflective of their behaviour.

In discussions around consent, affirmative consent has been proposed as a solution. This entails that the person who initiates sexual contact must receive clear permission from the other person before engaging in sexual activity - and that consent must be ongoing throughout the sexual encounter. Do you think this is the way forward?

E - I would say that consent doesn't need to be as strict as saying "Yes I consent", but there has to be no doubt that everyone involved wants to have sex. This can happen in a more natural way, like asking someone if they are enjoying something, want to keep going, or whether they want to stop.

"There are still a lot of people that view the absence of a no as a yes."

J - You also need to keep in mind that even if someone says "Yes I consent" at the beginning of sex, you still have to check that your partner is still enjoying it throughout. A moment of verbal affirmation at the beginning isn't enough.

A problem I see with affirmative consent is that it requires people to be explicit about what they want. Often though, many people, especially women, find saying no difficult. How can we know that the other person really means what they say, and who's responsibility is it to know that?

E - I think that it's the responsibility of everyone involved. As we discussed before, a person doesn't need to explicitly say no, but it's still their responsibility to know, for themselves, what they want. That doesn't mean that if something happens, it's their fault, but it's part of having a healthy sex life and enjoying intimacy to get to know your own boundaries and feel empowered to say no. There's also the aspect of, as a partner, knowing what your bed partner struggles with. This is harder if you don't know each other well, but you can always check in with each other. It's complicated because people may feel internalised pressure to act in a certain way or may struggle to express themselves, but there are definitely ways to

improve these situations and support one another in expressing ourselves openly and honestly.

J - I don't think things will ever be perfect. But starting to talk about this topic can make a difference. If two people are having sex and one notices that the other seems distant, then their bed partner asking them "Are you fine? Do you actually like this?" can go a long way. I feel that people often think that only men have to ask women for consent, which is not true. Since starting this campaign, I am more aware of asking my male sex partners for their consent. I also notice that by asking for consent yourself, others also become more aware of this.

E - We also need to be aware that, though they may not feel like a boundary was crossed, there can be so much pressure on men to perform because of societal expectations. They're often expected to initiate everything and to always want to have sex.

Could you give some tips & tricks on how someone could ask for another person's consent in a way that is spontaneous and doesn't "ruin the moment"?

J - That is a good question. It's good to share more practical advice with each other.

E - Proposing things is good - "Would you like me to touch you here?" doesn't feel so stiff and this can be asked spontaneously. "Does this feel good?", "What would you like me to do?". Someone's answers to these questions also indicate whether they are into it or not - rather than ruining the moment, this sort of interaction can make the experience better for everybody.

J - During sex you can ask questions like "Are you still enjoying it?", "Do you want it more sweet or more rough?" or "What would you like to do now?". Related to the pressure that men often feel to perform, if you notice your partner is tired, you could propose an alternative, like touching, kissing and cuddling a bit.

Coming back to LTAY, your group of students has taken on the responsibility of raising awareness of these issues. What role do you think WUR should play in this?

E - I feel that the university has its part to play in informing people about consent, whether they take that on themselves or facilitate other actions, especially at

the beginning of (student) life at WUR, putting everyone on the same level of understanding in a culturally-sensitive way. Like any institution, WUR should play a part in building a culture that is more based on

"WUR should play a part in building a culture that is more based on consent"

consent. Letting everyone at the university, especially new students and staff, know where to go for information or support in case they need it, would be an important start. There is plenty of information out there. Being upfront about these issues already raises awareness on the topic and gets the conversation going. As soon as there is visible support, people also feel taken seriously.

J - LTAY has recently released a manifesto that clearly outlines the steps that Amnesty expects of higher education institutes. We aim for all higher education institutes in NL to sign it. It's available on the LTAY website.

Where can students who have been a victim of sexual assault or want to talk about this issue currently go on campus for support?

E - There are confidential advisers for these issues. However, it is not clear what going to one of these advisers entails, or how these advisers have been trained. We're not suggesting that the university isn't capable of providing support, but it is currently unclear what this support looks like. I usually recommend the national hotline from the centre of sexual violence (Centrum Seksueel Geweld); they are available 24/7. *Sense.info* is a good platform if you want to talk about topics like sex and consent in non-emergency situations.

J - For support at WUR, we will be working on making it more clear for students and staff where they can go and what help they can get in this coming academic year. More to come!

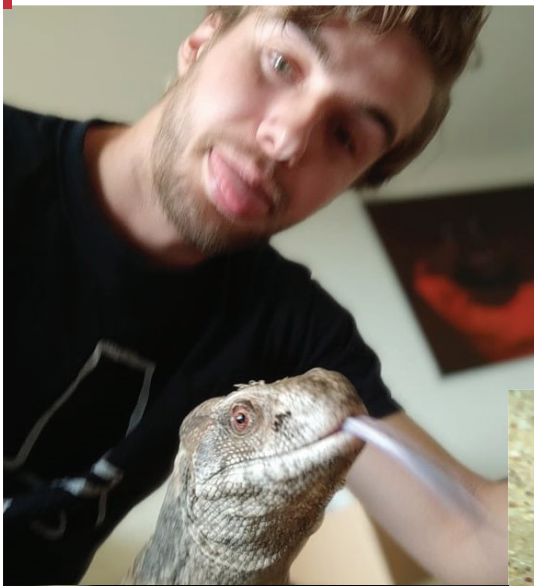
LTAY-Wageningen will be at the AID market so stop by for a chat, follow them on Facebook and Instagram @ltaywageningen, or contact them at consentwageningen@gmail.com.

#YES
SILENCE

Pets of Wageningen

Be they furry or fluffy, slimy or scaly, big and podgy or slender and tender, Wageningen is full of animals you never thought could be pets. The Jester went out to look for WUR students' most unusual pets.

This is Achmed, a Savannah monitor. What his owner Hans likes most about him is that he can distinguish fingers from food. Achmed loves to hoard; when Hans recently moved, he found a huge pile of socks, shirts and a bathrobe that Achmed had hidden away. Sneaky boy.



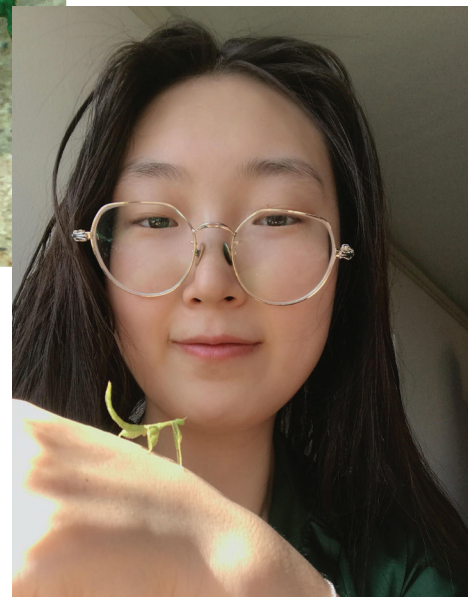
Freddie is a fat-tailed gerbil. His owner Ymke named him after the belated Mercury, in the hope that he would sing more and bite less, but unfortunately that was in vain. Behind the cuteness lies a stubborn and grumpy little fella that might decide to bury his tiny yet painful teeth into his loving owner's fingers at random. Ymke once hung up a note on his home with a reminder to not bite the hand that feeds you, but the note didn't survive long.



This blue poison dart frog brings his owner Jaimie a slice of jungle in his very own room. Him and his fellow dart frogs live in a paludarium, which represents their natural habitat as close as possible with lots of tropical plants, mosses, leaf litter and small invertebrates. When breeding time comes, he releases a silent, almost sad call, that sounds like a buzzing fly is trapped behind a curtain.



Jacques is a Red Congo Puffer, who got his name from the famous marine biologist Jacques-Yves Cousteau. Puffers are very interactive and have great eyesight; Jacques comes greeting his owner Niels whenever he enters the room. He particularly enjoys racing through the water towards Niels's fingers. Luckily he is small, or else he could bite his finger clean off.



Nuna 1, Nuna 2, Nuna 3 up to Nuna 7 are leaf insects and masters at camouflage. They can even move around to mimic leaves blowing in the wind and avoid predators' attention. When their owner Xuanyu noticed her first Nuna laying eggs, she thought they'd never hatch because there was only one of them. Little did she know, female leaf insects may reproduce by parthenogenesis. Female power!

Snakes are incredibly fascinating in their whole way of life; the way they move, eat and drink is so different from other animals, which makes them very cool to watch. Tjomme's red rat snakes are masters at escaping. The night before family holidays, Tjomme didn't close the snakes' terrarium properly and one escaped, only to find a warm spot between the mattress and the bedframe by Tjomme's feat. This would concern many as rat snakes are constrictors, but not Tjomme. He was just happy to find his snake in time before departure.

This Giant prickly stick insect is very independent; what his owner Tommaso likes most about his stick insects is that they don't care about him at all. They relax all day, eat and shit. And apparently, their shit looks like small candy. Tommaso suspects they might come from another dimension - aliens maybe?



This is Antopia, the colony of black garden ants that thrives in Antonio's room. Antonio never ceases to be amazed by how these little creatures come together; they always seem to be working for a superior common good. If the world can learn something from these insects, Antonio says, it's that much can be achieved if we unite our efforts. Nowadays, queen ants or developed colonies can be bought online, but a more romantic story brought Antonio and Antopia together. It was a warm summer night in Naples when Antonio, who already had ant-itions, noticed an insect flying on his lamp, which he soon realised was a queen ant. Lucky enough, she had already mated. In her dark, humid and comfortable home prepared by Antonio, she laid her first eggs. She has remained the queen of the colony 'til this day.



This is Habanero the salamander. Habanero may seem silly, but he does recognise his owner Dario when he approaches the tank. He sometimes has a difficult time catching the worm he's being fed; if this happens too many times, he gets frustrated and swims away without food. Never give up Habanero!



Karb & Onkel are Giant African Land snails. Together, their name makes Karbonkel, a monster from a Dutch childrens' show. These snails are hermaphrodites, so these non-gendered names do the job. Myrthe has witnessed their shells grow from 1 to 8cm in 7 months, and they should continue to 20cm. Myrthe isn't actually allowed to have pets in her room, but Karb & Onkel know how to make themselves discrete.

Horoscope



Sagittarius November 22 - December 21

The summer is in full swing but the adventure is only beginning. Surprise after surprise is coming your way. Take them in your stride and remember you can always say no. Trust yourself and your intuition before anything else, it'll do you well.



Aries March 21 - April 20

Honesty is not always the best policy. Someone who may not seem so great at first sight is going to surprise you in these weeks. Be open and listen to them. They will mean a lot to you in a few months and you'll be happy you gave them the chance.



Capricorn December 22 - January 19

Your batteries are still recharging after a tough year. Don't put too much pressure on yourself as the summer holidays draw to a close. Discover a new place near you, treat yourself to a slice of cake and a coffee, and don't forget to ask that friend for a massage.



Taurus April 21 - May 20

You've had a summer of being fabulous and it is radiating from your aura. The only stone left unturned is your summer romance, but you're completely in control. If you want it, you can get it. If you don't then just eat ice cream and bathe in your glory.



Aquarius January 20 - February 18

The double aquarius moon is leaving a whiff of change in the air. Things that used to be set in stone will slowly start to be chipped away in the coming weeks. Go with the flow and don't forget that everything is temporary. Stay connected while letting go.



Gemini May 21 - June 20

You have new ambitions for yourself but it's important you keep yourself balanced. When you feel it, go for that new project you've been waiting to start. Just don't expect too much of yourself, you may be gemini but you're also still a mediocre human like the rest of us.



Pisces February 19 - March 20

Keeping to yourself brings a lot of peace. Don't forget to take some time for it as your social life intensifies. Open yourself up to new people and experiences while always making sure you have time to do the rituals that are important to you. Ask yourself what you need, you will most likely find the answer.



Cancer June 21 - July 22

The river Rhine will take affect on you over the next week. Don't be afraid to dip your toes in the water to feel what it tells you. Disgustingly slimy? Surprisingly warm? All are an eerily accurate metaphor for your life experiences right now.



Leo

July 23 - August 23

Wake up, its time to party! Make sure to get out there in the next weeks and experience letting go of all of your worries. There are lots of opportunities coming your way and you've got to grab them by the cahones and go completely nuts.



Virgo

August 24 - September 22

You're vaccinated and at risk of one less potentially deadly virus, enjoy it. Release your inner wild side and do some illegal stuff. It'll make you feel more alive than ever and due to the position of Venus the repurcusions will be minimal.



Libra

September 23 - October 23

Embrace your inner crazy person. Sometimes you shy away from having certain thoughts or being weird versions of yourself but now is the time to own it. Go skinny dipping in the pond by Forum, put your single socks up for adoption on student plaza, the possibilities are endless.



Scorpio

October 24 - November 21

Don't let the world get you down. Yes it is a cruel place but it also invented chocolate. Take some time to relax and eat some eco-fair-guilt free chocolate. Letting each square melt in your mouth, think of everything you're grateful for.

Kiss & Study

Damn this year sucked!! That is all.

I met this girl at a party and she told me if I write her a message in the Jester she'll go out with me. So here you go Jane, this is for you.

So last week I was working out at the Bongerd and I got told that crop tops weren't allowed. I got so mad that I just took off my top and rubbed my sweaty boobs over the machine I was using. Now I'm banned from the gym.

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!

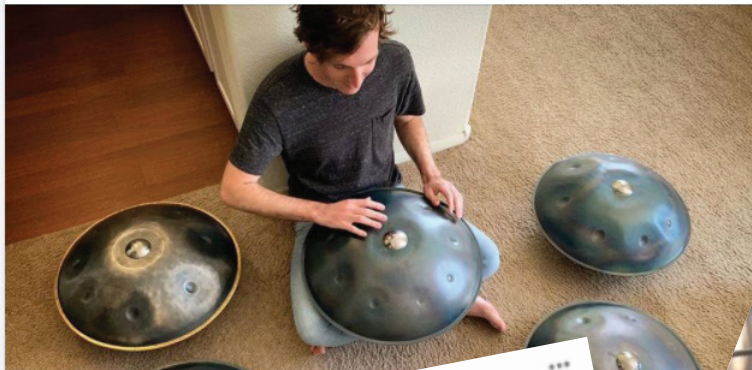
is at Haarweg, Wageningen.
6 June at 20:21 · Wageningen · 🌐

There are two rabbits walking around behind the Haarweg buildings, black and white. Not sure if someone is looking for them?

24 June at 09:20 · 🌐

Hi all,

Is there anyone here who has experience with playing a handpan or a tong drum etc? I would like to learn more about it/buy one and I am looking for someone who has some experience to get into contact with! That's not me in the picture btw, it's a random internet guy with many handpans.



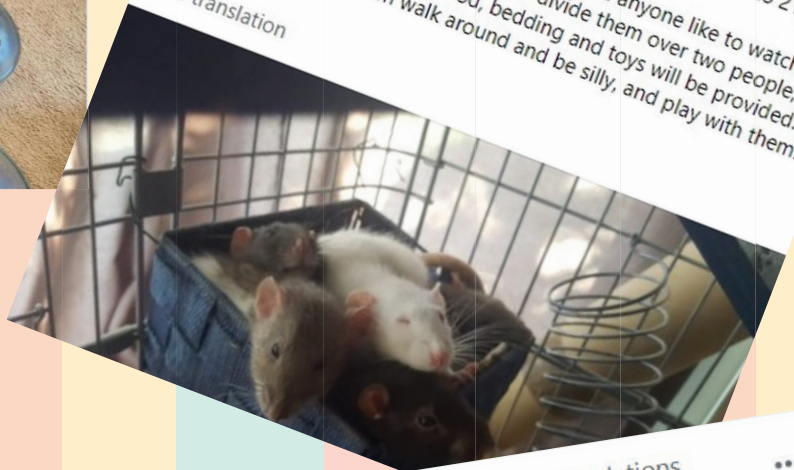
13 June at 13:46 · 🌐

Hello all, I'd love to watch the England game at 3pm however our Ziggo remote is not working so we cannot change the channel. Does anyone have one we can buy (ideally), or temporarily lend to change the channel? Can return immediately if necessary. Thanks! 😊

9 June at 10:21 · 🌐

I'm looking for a 'babysitter' for my 5 (or 3) rats from July 9 to 21, for a small payment. My normal babysitter is unavailable, so would anyone like to watch my sweet rats? If 5 is too many, I can also divide them over two people, they are used to that. Cage, food, bedding and toys will be provided. It's great fun to let them walk around and be silly, and play with them. Thank you!

See translation



20 June at 09:12 · 🌐

#Help Post

My friend is still looking for his "Spider-Man" (Picture below) Last Friday he kept his "Spiderman" on his balcony to give some fresh air and rain but on Saturday it was gone (he believes his spider man jumped out of the balcony or went somewhere on his own). But it's weird and not possible!

So please if someone has found him wandering somewhere in Dijkraaf 4th floor let us know or by mistakenly you tried to adopt him, we request to put him back on his balcony!

Thank you

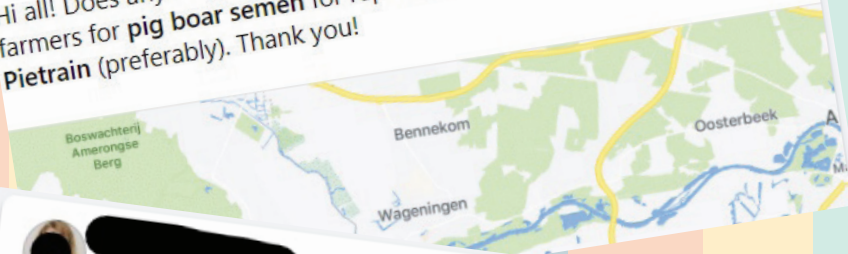
5 June at 17:38 · 🌐

People from Asserpark a wardrobe with this printing has been taken from the 15th floor. We were just moving, please return it to the 15B07 Thank you!

25 June at 20:09 · 🌐

is 🇳🇱 looking for recommendations.

Hi all! Does anybody maybe know how/where i can get in contact with farmers for **pig boar semen** for reproduction? Breeds **Duroc & Pietrain** (preferably). Thank you!



2 June at 18:47 · 🌐

Edit: Y'all sure seem to like gardening! Thank you 😊 My query has been resolved, no additional garden enthusiasts needed!

Hi! My 90-yr old neighbor is fantastic and takes care of my cat every once in a while. To thank her I am looking for someone who would be willing to help her in the garden for a day! Obviously I will pay you fairly. If you are willing and able to help out, please send me a message and we can work out details. It's in Arnhem, not very complicated work, it would be great if you speak Dutch and/or German and are a kind human!

Thanks 😊

