



NEWSLETTER WEEK 12

Hey guys,

When writing this newsletter, we tried to come up with something to signify **Week 12** - only to find that there does is nothing significant about it. The finals, not to mention Christmas are still weeks away, but the tension is in the air. It is not yet Advent nor winter, so the weather is not just cold, it is *unjustifiably* so. There is a lockdown, but not really, and people are fed up, but not really. This week is just *meh*.

In these times of **languish** (which incidentally was declared the word of corona by the New York Times), the only thing that helps is to try and break the spell. Take a walk in the late **autumn sun**, cosy up in the **corner of a café**, or invite over someone to **cook together** - whatever it is that makes you feel a bit more alive, just do it. And if you still need a bit of help... here's a climate puppy to get you through the day:



Open Positions

First things first - **we want you on our team!**

Yes, that's right: With the new semester just over the horizon, two positions are opening up in our board.

What are we looking for? Motivated and creative students who would like to start the next semester either as the **Academics Manager** or the **Internal Affairs Manager and Treasurer** of the Green Office.

What do you need to do?

- Join our **open board meetings** either this Thursday (25th November) at 6pm or next Friday (3rd December) at 8:45am.
- Send us your **motivational letter** before the 8th of December.
- Take part in an **interview** with two of our members.

For more information, visit [this link](#). If you have any further questions, you can always contact us.

Hope to see you! :)



What's Up

Psst... Want some plants?

We have some lovely little pancake plants looking for new parents! Swing by Anne this Wednesday between 4 and 5 to plant and take home the plant baby of your choice. We'll work on a first come, first serve basis, so make sure to be early - the plants will be waiting for you on the round table on the ground floor. :)

Remember the **farm map** we created with **HZ Green Office**? Our flyers have arrived, so now you can find them all around the campus! And don't forget: let us know if you have visited any of the places - or if you know farms we forgot about.

Local farms in Zeeland

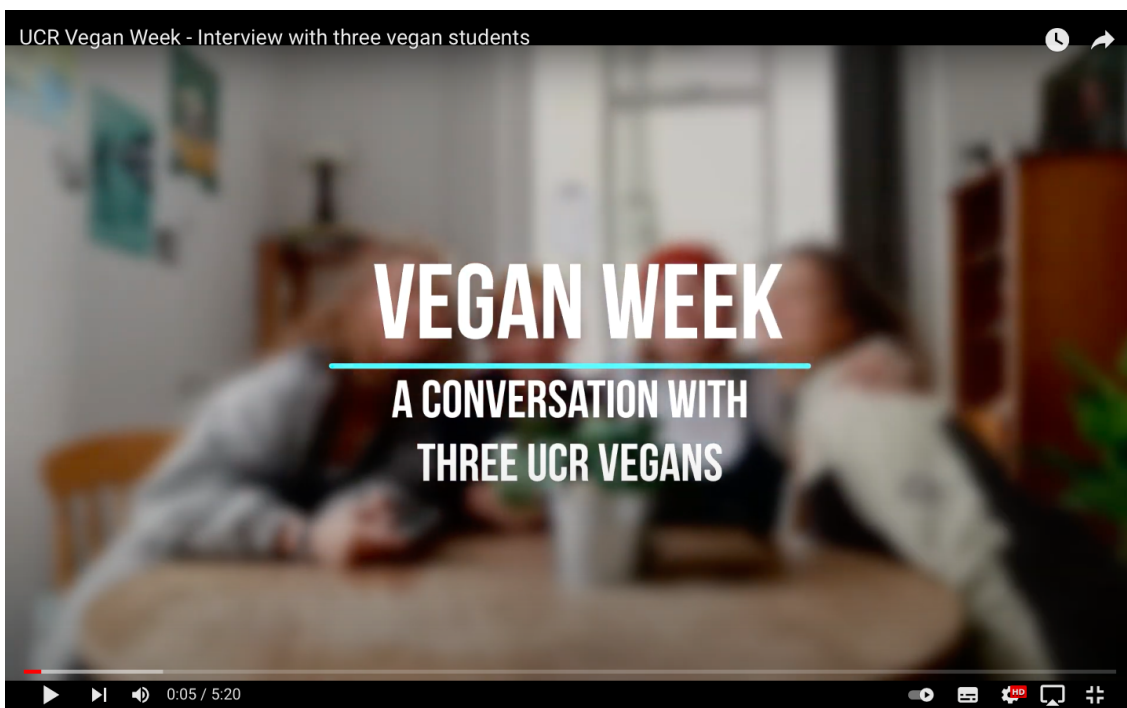
This is a map that represents the local farmers and growers, with the purpose of encouraging university students to shop local, organic, seasonal and cheaper.

- 1 Lovrendale-Ter Linde**
Oranjezonweg 1, 4356 EH Oostkapelle.
cheese from own cows, vegetables
- 2 Nijpjes**
Noordweg 516, 4333 KN Middelburg
Apples, pears, carrots, potatoes, onions, and eggs; environmentally friendly but not organic; payment with cash
- 3 Sheep Dairy Farm**
Mariekerke 24, 4365 NL Meliskerke
mainly sheep cheese and meat
- 4 Zeeuws Hof**
Zoutelandseweg 9, 4373 AM Biggekerke
potatoes, onions, broccoli, cauliflower, beetroot, pumpkin, celery
(one of the houses at Biggekerke's main square sells chicken eggs)
- 5 Noordweg 139**
Noordweg 139, 4333 GC Middelburg
potatoes, onions, and kale; payment with cash
- 6 Bioduin**
Perduinsweg 3, 4371 SC Koudekerke
vegetables, and other organic products
- 7 Pitteperk**
Breeweg 21, 4371 SB Koudekerke
milk, Gouda cheese, eggs, jam
- 8 Roelse fruit**
Ter Poorteweg 13, 4371 RL Koudekerke
fruits and vegetables; payment with cash
- 9 De Visser AGF**
Oude Vlissingseweg 135, 4336 AC Middelburg
vegetables, fruit, meat, dairy
- 10 Hof Eindelienge**
Zandweg 54a, 4389 TH Ritthem
vegetables

Map locations: Kamperland, Vrouwenpolder, Domburg, Veere, Middelburg, Vlissingen, Nieuwdorp.

As always, we invite you to the **Mindful Midday Meditations** session. Last week we had a lot of new faces - will we see you there this Friday?

To celebrate **Vegan Week**, we created a video on veganism which is now available via [this link](#). Also, our series on **MAPA representation** has begun - check out our instagram to learn more!



Lastly, a stats group is currently working on a [project on sustainability](#), focusing on attitudes and actions regarding food consumption, fast fashion and deposit-refund schemes. You can be an exceptional fellow student and help them gather enough data by filling out [their questionnaire](#). Thank you! :)

Climate News

Finally, what has happened in the [world of climate change](#)? (Right. That's our world too.)

Let's start with the good news: Last Wednesday, the [European Commission](#) proposed a legislation aimed at cutting back [deforestation](#). If enacted, the law would require companies importing soy, palm oil, beef, cocoa, wood, and coffee to provide proof that their [supply chains](#) do not contribute to the destruction of forests. Read more about the proposal [here](#).

Moving on to the realm of evil: [Shell](#) has announced that it would [move its headquarters](#) from the Netherlands to the UK, and drop 'Royal Dutch' from its name. The biggest energy company in Europe, Shell's share prices have been lagging lately, at least partly due to its [failure](#) to spell out a sustainable energy strategy. With the move and the subsequent restructuring, the company hopes to enhance its appeal to investors. Earlier this year, a [Dutch court ruled](#) that Shell had to reduce its emissions sharply. Shell is currently appealing, and the move would also bring the court's jurisdiction into question. The Dutch government expressed its regret over the announcement. More about this [here](#).



Wake up call: A new study has found that there has been a **steep decline in the number of birds** within the European Union. The study estimates that around **six hundred million birds** have disappeared since the 1980s - that's one in every six birds. Aggressive **farming** methods are at the root of the problem, but food shortages, diseases, and air pollution are likely to have contributed to it. The hardest hit species is the house sparrow, having lost half of its population. However, there might be signs of hope. **Conservation actions**, supported by EU legislation could potentially mitigate the problem - but they need to be scaled up in order to be truly effective. Get the full story [here](#).



And lastly, look to the future: The Economist published an article on [European trainlines](#). (Subtitle: *Disoriented express*.) The main takeaways?

- According to the [EU's mobility strategy](#), all scheduled travel under 500km needs to be carbon neutral by 2030.
- Electric passenger trains are an obvious solution, since their green house gas emissions per kilometer per capita is [one fifth of that of an airplane](#), and half of that of a bus.
- However, currently only [8% of all travels](#) by land is by train within the EU. (11% in the Netherlands.)
- This low percentage is the result of a number of problems, including [poor railway connections](#) between countries, and [stifled competition](#).
- More [fast trains](#) could be way out - trains running at 200kph can outcompete flights on trips up to 800km - however, building high-speed tracks is very expensive.
- Alternatively, countries could move to bring back the original face of long-distance railway: the [night train](#).
- Read the full article [here](#).

And that's all from us for now. Thank you for reading, and have a wonderful week,

Your Eleanor Green Office

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