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REVOLUTION



CONTENTS Glimpse of the Past A word of difference 6 Green Island In The Grey Sea 8 National Climate Agreement 10 Nature picture 12 Sustainable facts 14 **Exploring Utrecht** 16 **UBV- A Sustainable Evolution** 18 A Sunset Over Great Arstotzka 20 Storm Update! 22 Upcoming events

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23

PREFACE

A sudden or momentous change in a situation. This is the definition of revolution according to the Oxford Dictionary. The quote I chose to accompany the theme is written below and I think a lot of us can recognize ourselves in it. I can imagine that a Stormer is often outraged by ignorance and other misfortune. Grab a hold of it while reading the magazine, hopefully we will inspire you.

The magazine committee, and hopefully the magazine itself, went through a revolution. Not only did we get new members, we also got new ideas. So far working with this committee has been a blast. The unique perspective of each member provides an interesting look into their mind, which keeps inspiring me to write my own pieces.

Andy, Jesse, Plamena, Stan, Yza, and I worked very hard to put this magazine together. In this magazine a wide variety of pieces can found. Some bad news, some good news, a piece about old friends, and a piece about new friends. It is always difficult to please everyone but I am sure there is something in there for you. At last, I'm proud to announce the new and revolted Storm Magazine.

I hope you enjoy. 🦫

- Eva

"If you aren't outraged then you just aren't paying attention"



Glimpse of the Past

by Yza de Ridder

Last December 12th, Storm turned 27 years old already, which Storm celebrated with you during our 'Dies Natalis Week', full of activities. In those past years, Storm has changed a lot, but also some things have always been present. Of course, Storm's very open character is something we think we can be proud of. Also committee-wise, it might surprise you which committees were present and active in Storm's early years!

To illustrate this, I took a look in our archives to dig for interesting and fun pieces of history. In this search for fruitful glimpses of the past, I came across a piece written by our programme coordinator of Global Sustainability Science, Margien Bootsma. This was one of the articles published in the Storm Magazine, then called "Stormmelding", from 1997. As can be seen on the cover page of this magazine, it says that it is volume 6 (jaargang 6). As the hardcore Stormers probably know (just as the people who can do some maths) this shows that from the foundation of Storm on we have had editors which were responsible for the creation of interesting magazines!

Coming back to the piece Margien wrote, in her piece she also mentions the LEX. Another committee that has been with Storm for a very long time. For the non-Dutch speakers amongst us, I'll try to shortly explain what her piece is about. Back then, the studies environmental sciences was much smaller. However, it was felt that the staff and the students did not know each other well enough. To help in this process, the LEX decided to secretly intervene in a lecture 'Nature and Environmental Policy in Practice, and to kidnap the students and teachers to take them for a tour about environmental practices in Fort Rhijnauwen. Quite a radical and revolutionary idea you could say.

At the moment that Margien wrote this piece, she was PhD candidate of Environmental Sciences (thanks LinkedIn for this information), meaning she was both connected to the students and the staff quite a lot. This glimpse of the past might give you some more insight in how Storm used to be, and who were already involved in what Storm did.



Below: Article written by Margien Bootsma Above:

Above: Storm magazine from 1997

Ontvoering als eerste kennismaking

Milieukunde gaan studeren betekent voor velen wennen aan een andere onderwijscultuur. Dat begint al bij de eerste werkcolleges van de Basiscursus in de jeugdherberg. Door dat groepswerk, dat weliswaar zeer ken-

merkend maar niet erg representatief is voor de milieukunde opleiding, leer je je medestudenten snel kennen. Vooral de eerste maanden blijft 'de vakgroep' echter wat onbekend en afstandelijk. En omdat de meeste docenten zelden of nooit op STORM-feesten komen, blijft dat ook meestal een tijd zo. Omgekeerd blijft voor de meeste docenten lange tijd onduidelijk wie de nieuwe lichting milieukunde studenten zijn.

De leden van de LEX vonden dit ongewenst en verzonnen daarom in het diepste geheim een list. Met de mededeling 'het wordt hoog tijd voor een pauze' onderbraken ze op 25 september het, zojuist begonnen, 'college' Natuur- en milieubeleid in de praktijk en ontvoerden ze studenten en vakgroepmedewerkers. Tijdens de wandeling naar en de rondleiding door het Fort Rhijnauwen was er ruim gele-

genheid voor een eerste of nadere kennismaking. Vooreen enkeling was het bezoek een feest der herkenning, voor anderen een echte kennismaking. Waarin overigens, naast vele (cultuur)historische feiten, bleek dat sommige natuuren milieubeheersmaatregelen al eeuwenoud zijn. Zoals zuivering van drinkwater door infiltratie van neerslag in een zandbodem. Of frequent maaien en afvoeren van het maaisel van het hooiland. Oorspronkelijk bedoeld als brandpreventie, tegenwoordig noemt met dit verschralingsbeheer, bedoeld om soortendiversiteit te vergroten of te behouden. En wat te denken van het laten afsterven door ringen van kastanjebomen, omdat ze niet in het gewenste landschapsbeeld passen?

Kortom, een leuk initiatief dat navolging verdient. Een uitdaging voor de nieuwe LEX? En gelukkig is er ook nog het Smoelenboek als je onverhoopt niet meer weet wie wie is en waar hij of zij mee bezig is.

A Word of Difference

by Stan van den Bosch

Climate change causes many challenges for actors on all levels. Although this sounds like a very neutral sentence to introduce this article it does two important things. Firstly, it silently expresses the idea that everyone has the responsibility to act. More importantly, the word 'challenges' is used instead of 'problems', creating a positive look on the process of solving it. While Stormers' primary interests usually lie with how to tackle sustainability problems rather than a nitpicky analysis of a word, language cannot be disregarded in this context.

A place where language is most notably directly influencing our lives is at the United Nations. An often-criticised body where disrupting revolution is difficult to unleash. The platform for all states in the world to talk about mitigating and adapting to climate change is created by the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC). Parties to the UNFCCC have met in Conferences of the Parties (COP), most recently in Katowice in the COP24. During such a COP, delegations from all over the world come together and try to reach written consensus on how to deal with climate change.

While the inclusiveness of a conference like the one in Katowice gives it its importance, it makes it difficult to ensure progress. Delegates from everywhere realise that everything in a final document can impact the responsibility their country is given and will therefore try to influence every word.

During the Katowice COP24 it became clear once more that states are very well aware of these impacts. Saudi Arabia, together with Russia and the USA, they blocked the final document sentence that would 'welcome' the latest IPCC report, and argue it should only be 'noted'. A small difference like this could make it easier for these countries to ignore the IPCC altogether. Countries that have a less controversial place in the international order, however, do not always act in the planet's best interests as well.

"Australia has a strong interest in an effective global transition to a low-emissions economy while supporting growth and affordable energy." The stance by the Australian government is one many countries would agree with. In practice, the focus lies on the second part of that sentence.

Exemplary is the pride with which the Department of the Environment and Energy announced the repealing of the carbon tax in 2014.

"Fossil fuels are projected to be a source of energy for a significant time to come," Said by the Australian ambassador for the environment at the COP24, voicing the way in which several nations approach the negotiations. Attending a pro-fossil fuel event organised by the US administration, Australia's goodwill was further questioned. With coal and natural gas among the biggest export products of Australia, it is unsurprising to see resistance against an international climate revolution.

The power of words cannot be underestimated. Beside official documents where "welcome" or "noted" can make a big difference, words can be used to move an entire audience. With speeches of Ministers, other high government officials and even the United Nations Secretary-General, it was the words of 15-year-old Greta Thunberg that remain in the heads of anyone attending the Katowice COP. This teenage girl, standing tall while criticising the entire international order, shed a new light on what this revolution must entail:

"You all talk about moving forward, with the same bad ideas that got us into this mess, even when the only sensible thing to do is pull the emergency break."





Green Island In The Grey Sea

by Jesse Doomen

When we think of nature in the Netherlands, we think of beautiful forests. I went to the Veluwe to experience it for myself. The beautiful trees, the grass, the smell. It's a powerful and peaceful experience. However, in my opinion, the most beautiful thing about the forest is its sound. The scratching of the trees and leaves. The howling wind on open planes. The sound of rain hitting the trees and ground. It's magical. Walking through the forest with no distractions is pure and feels like something humans are supposed to do.

However, the purity of the forest is being disturbed. Not the visuals. Pictures can be framed to give the impression that the forest is big and untouched. The only thing that cannot be faked is the sound. The sound of cars driving on several highways surrounding the forest. The forest is trapped by sound. It frustrates me, because most of the time you cannot even see the road, but you can hear it. Always reminded that what you see around you is not really nature.

The asphalt revolution is not a danger anymore, it has already done its

"Walking through the forest with no distractions is pure and feels like something humans are supposed to do"

damages. Dutch forests are not nature. They are what the government hasn't destroyed yet. The picture doesn't show a forest powerful and free. It's a picture of a hostage situation where powerful asphalt monsters are trying to destroy its beauty.

But are all Dutch Forests therefore ruined? After the previous paragraph you might think the answer is yes. And even though I believe the Dutch forests will never be what it once was. For that single second, it's quiet on the road, and there you stand in the middle of the forest. It's peaceful, and you are in the most beautiful place in the world.



National by Yza de Ridder Climate Agreement

Some reflections on the National Climate Agreement (Klimaatakkoord)

Friday 21st of December 2018: Ed Nijpels, a former minister who had the environment in his portfolio (and member of Storm's Committee of Recommendation!) and currently chair of the climate agreement, presents the concept of the National Climate Agreement (Klimaatakkoord in Dutch). In this agreement, the ultimate goal is to reduce the carbon dioxide emissions with at least 49%, based on the Dutch emissions from 1990, before 2030. Finally, there is an agreement which is supported by many stakeholders. A revolution and breakthrough in environmental politics you could say. The agreement is made in such a way that this transition is financially attainable for both households and big companies. Of course, the Dutch want to keep their great competitive position and it would be a problem if this position would deteriorate due to climate

agreements, right?

Here, different views upon the effectivity of the national climate agreement appear. Our patron Klaas van

"Finally, there is an agree-ment which is supported by many stake-holders"

Egmond explained his view in an interview in De Volkskrant. According to him, this is not a revolution at all. For over the past decennia, the prevalent idea is that the private sector will

solve most problems as long as the government gives them some incentives to do so. However, that promise did not hold. Companies' intentions might be good, but the shareholders of the companies want to see money in the end. Those shareholders are focused on quick money and in general not really concerned with the environment, because they believe that

"According to him, this is not a revolution at all"

some 'higher hand' will act when this is necessary, as with most problems. You see where this is leading to...
Van Egmond also mentions that including industries in the shaping of the agreements, how democratic this may sound, only slows down the process, since they are only concerned with their competitive position. Nev-

ertheless, he does believe that a lib-

eral, market driven, system could work

by imposing a price on carbon dioxide. This would automatically stimulate competition; production would be cheaper with less emissions. Nijpels agrees with Van Egmond on this carbon price, just as many other experts. However, if the Netherlands is the only country introducing those high prices, it is argued that our Dutch economy will suffer from it. It should be introduced on a bigger scale, so that it has a bigger impact and countries can support each other.

Thus, it is not sure how big and real this 'revolution' actually is. Though, it is good food for thought whether big stakeholders like industries should have a say in the construction of such an agreement. What do you think?





Sustainble facts

selected by Eva Rekkers

China announced that it would invest

\$360 billion

in renewable energy by 2020 and scrap plans to build 85-coal fired power plants



Beer company creates six pack rings that feed turtles instead of killing them

German
banking giant
Deuvtsche
Bank won't
finance any coal mining projects any longer

The number of tigers in the wild in Nepal have almost





in under a decade The world added nearly

50%

more solar energy capacity
in 2017

France becomes the first country in Europe to ban all 5 pesticides killing bees



was the first country to
ban supermarkets
form throwing
away excess food,
they must donate

unused food or face a fine

The United Kingdom, France, Norway and India all agreed to ban the sale of any new petrol and diesel cars and vans by

2040

Two companies in London and Vienna are turning leftover bread into beer to fight food waste

Adidas recently revealed that it has sold more than

1,000,000

pairs of sneakers made from ocean plastic



In 2018 the ozone hole over Antarctica shrank to its smallest size since 1988

We're 5 years away from harnessing power from 'miniature suns', nuclear fusion reactors that could provide abundant, cheap and clean energy

The carbon footprint of the average American's diet has shrunk by about 9%, largely because people are eating less beef and more vegetables



Utrecht is a peaceful and thriving place. Its wharf cellars, old buildings and hidden alleys constitute one of the most beautiful cities you can find. National and international appreciation have boosted the tourist industry, but Utrecht's habitability still far exceeds that of Amsterdam. Whether you love 5amfries or canal-side dining, a vibrant shopping centre or tranquil parks, being a football hooligan or all of the above, Utrecht has something to offer everyone. Although there is much to say about important is-

sues here (e.g. student housing), the overall state of the city can be called prosperous.

When walking on the Domplein, it is hard to imagine the chaos it hosted the 7th of March, in the year 1580. The resistance against the Spanish Catholics had grown to unprecedented heights. A year before, the Union of Utrecht had been signed in the Academiegebouw. The northern part of what would later become the Dutch Republic agreed to drive out the Spanish Empire. When Groningen betrayed the rest

of the Union on March 3rd, 1580, the Calvinists went berserk. Calvinist reformists breached through the Dom Church's gates, and – as the Dutch say – did some housekeeping. Catholic representations were destroyed wherever they could be found.

"We must remain careful however, that we do not decapitate everything others have so carefully built"

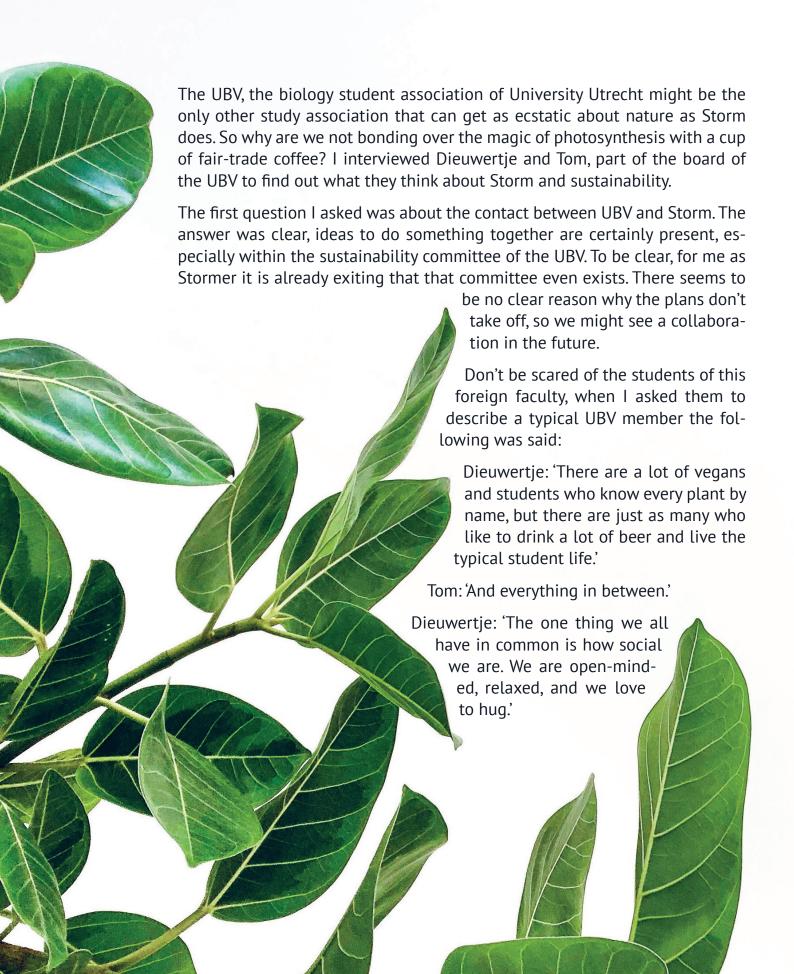
Although pieces of history like this can sound quite abstract, the impacts of this story can be clearly found within a stone's throw from café Walden. As the patron of the city of Utrecht, Saint-Maarten is depicted above an ancient door inside the Dom Church. Since March 7th,

1580, however, this stone representation is without head; a physical reminder that the immense shared anger of the Calvinists led them to become true Reformists.

Unleashing a climate revolution requires organised anger, not unlike in 1580. We must remain careful however, that we do not decapitate everything others have so carefully built.



UBV-A Sustainable



Evolution

by Eva Rekkers

Luckily, they aren't scared of us either. Of course, they know the sustainability stereotype, and they are partly true, but that doesn't mean we are not alike. They see a typical Stormer as a social, open-minded person, who happens to be environmentally conscious.

The UBV is a very old association. It was founded in 1924, so there might be a lot we can learn from them. For example, they have an astonishing amount of 33 committees which all function like a charm. They also have long term relationships with other associations and companies, leading to projects that are a blast year after year.

They might be old, but they are certainly not rusty. Like said before, they have a sustainability committee, and they are conscious about their impact as a whole. Their crossing borders

trip and fieldwork weekend are vegetarian and have a vegan option. Their coffee and tea are fair trade and yes, their beer is sustainable. Apart from a sustainable beer tasting, they host a sustainable lunch a couple of times a year made of food otherwise thrown away which they collect at supermarkets. They recently switched their bank account to a more sustainable bank, and like Storm, they are conscious of their plastic and paper use. The broad spectrum of people within the UBV will for now not allow them to become a fully vegetarian association, but they don't rule out the possibility for the future.

I think biologist and environmentalist are more alike than we usually think, and we could have a lot of fun together. So who's up for a sustainable picnic in the botanical gardens?



A Sunset Over Great Arstotzka by Jesse Doomen

Dear Comrade, I've created you so there is someone that can listen to me. I need someone to hear my thoughts. I have been thinking alone for too long.

I am in a terribly confusing situation. I will try to understand and explain it, but first I need to tell you about my world. In the land of Great Arstotzka, we have this saying: "A fool tries to prevail. A Comrade will endure". The saying was meant to encourage the citizens of Great Arstotzka. It helped many citizens go through darkest times. Sadly, I am one of the fools.

My name is Vladimir Reneva, 32-year-old single man without any family to care for. My entire family was deported when the government decided they didn't fit in. I was spared but not because I was only 8 years old at the time. I was spared because according to the great institution of knowledge on intellectual capabilities, I lack the intelligence to form any threat against the great nation of Arstotzka. Too stupid to form any bad thoughts. The sad part is, they are right. I don't know what is wrong with great Arstotzka government. I just know my family hated the government, and that is why I secretly hate them too. I don't know what do about that belief, but I have it. It's frustrating to belief something but you're not free to act upon it. My mind won't let me.

My current situation all started as I was going through my standard morning routine. Our morning routine is set down point for point by the great government of Arstotzka. The great government of Arstotzka periodically checks if their citizens actually perform their routines point by point. That is why all citizens do their routine. Not me, I do the routine because I like it. It keeps me calm because I always know what to do. However, this is where my problem arised. Checklist point 5.12 states: thy citizen (me) shall put on their national red attire (a red jacket) allocated on the corresponding date (3/7). But my red jacket was missing. It wasn't in the package it's supposed to be. I didn't have any other red jackets because it was washing day the day before. There was only one other jacket in my house. The national black attire allocated for yearly mourning day. It's used at the national holiday where every citizen wears black to mourn about the death of billions of people after the Great Atom War in which Great Arstotzka reigned victorious. It's a sad day because according to our government many good citizens were murdered by the enemy in that war. I chose to wear that jacket again today, in the believe that my government would appreciate it.

A fool tries to prevail, a Comrade will endure.

After my morning routine I walked out the gigantic flat complex on my way to work. I was wearing my freshly cleaned black jacket. I didn't feel ashamed, I actually felt proud. I was showing respect toward the the death of murdered citizens one extra time and it felt good. I quickly made it to work,

as I was running late. At the entrance, you have to leave the jackets at a jacket pickup point. The lady working there looked at me with wide open eyes. "You are wearing the wrong attire, Comrade." she said. "Yeah I know, I had no red jacket anymore, Comrade." I replied. She told me to wait and walked up to a man with a stern look on his face. I knew he was important because he was wearing a black band diagonally across his red jacket. My colleagues told me you need to be careful around those people. I waited and looked around the big crowded hall. As I looked closer at the people, I realized most of them were looking at me. A girl I had never seen before walked up to me and said: "I think you are very courageous." Before I could ask her what she was talking about, I felt a strong pull on my right arm. I was being taken away by the man with the black striped jacket. A person at the back of the hall screamed at me: "We'll spread to word" It was followed by screaming and applause. I ended up in a dark room. The man left and shut the door. This is where I am now. The fool alone in a dark room.

Until you arrived.

I can't understand what happened this morning. Do you understand? I've been trying to figure it out for what now must be 6 hours but nothing that happened makes sense to me. Can you tell me anything? I am again trapped by my mind. I want to understand, but can't. Why can't you talk back to me? I look around the room to get a hold of my surroundings. It's so dark, I don't notice a difference between my eyes being wide open or closed. Just like my brain this room gives me nothing. It's completely barren from any information. I start to feel sleepy as the hours go by...

Goodnight, Comrade.

I suddenly feel right awake as I am being blinded by a light on my face. Many hours must have past by now, maybe even a day. Two figures enter the room behind the light. I cannot make out their faces, can you? "What have you done, Mr. Reneva?" says one of them. Breaking the silence in the room. "I don't know what you are talking about, Comrade." I reply. "What have you done, Mr. Reneva?" "I don't understand!" I say again. "It's about the jacket, why were you not wearing your jacket, your proper jacket!" "Mine was missing." "I don't believe you!" "I swear, I am speaking the truth, Comrade." "You can stop your play, it worked." The silence reemerges. Why don't they trust me? One of the figures turns off the lamp and turns on one of the telescreens in the room. Are you seeing what I'm seeing? Several shots flash by of a large crowd. They are waving flags, screaming, dancing on the big square next to the Red Palace. It is breathtaking to see. But most important of all, they are all wearing... black jackets. "What are they doing?" I say. "They are protesting, Mr. Reneva" replies one of the figures. "What are they protesting?" "The government" replies the other figure. "I can't believe it." "Well it's happening, Mr. Reneva. A Revolution." I can't believe it...

You understood all along, didn't you Comrade? That is probably why I'm the fool.

A fool tries to prevail, a Comrade will endure.

I hear the sound of someone loading a gun. The silence returns for what probably will be forever. My family would be proud.

Farewell, Comrade... 🦫



Storm Update!

by Yza de Ridder

SAC, also known as Study Active Certificate. Many of you still wonder what this is and how you can acquire those so-called 'SAC-points'. As of last year, you can earn 'SAC-points' by taking part in certain activities and by joining committees, which in the end all contribute to your

activeness in
extracurricular activities within
the university. The SAC is
thus an official document
which you receive when graduating.

In total, in order to receive a certificate, you need to collect 26 SAC-points, which then again are divided over three categories: committees, education, and career.

6 points need to be collected by joining committees. Education and career both require at least 10 points each.

This means that going to a Storm party, although this might be very 'functional' for other goals in your life, is not considered to be a legitimate activity for which you receive a SAC-point. I hear you wondering, how do I ever reach those ten points per

category? Well, for attending (and contributing to) a Course Evaluation Panel, you already receive one SAC-point. There are four each year, so some quick maths will show that by only doing this, you

already meet
the 'education
criterium'. But
also, joining a
LEX activity,
when mentioned in
the description of that

specific activity, can give you

some SAC-points.

Concerning career, going to the workshops and the symposium are fun, functional and help you reaching the ten points!

Still curious about the specifics? Storm now has a 'SAC-tab' on the website! Here you can find the overview of the categories. Under your 'My Storm', you will find the 'SAC Point Division', where your current SAC-status will be updated every period!

With this short information update, we hope that Storm can hand over your SAC at your graduation!

Upcoming events



by Yza de Ridder

Next to the beautiful overviews in the weekly mail, Storm's website and Storm's Facebook group, here you can also find (some of the) events that will keep you Stormers busy until our next issue!

Just right after your well deserved "breekweek", it is time to evaluate the courses you followed in period 2. During these CEPs (Course Evaluation Panels), the Education and Promotion Committee will listen to you, while they provide you with something delicious. Thereby, you will receive a SAC point for taking part in these sessions.

On the 7th of February, the Crossing Borders Committee will finally tell us where they will take us this year. Excited!

In the same week, the Outdoor Committee provides you with a new cool activity! Keep an eye on the Facebook page and the website for updates about this.

Monday the 11th of February, the LEX bundled their strengths with Hygieia: a study association from veterinary sciences, focused on the relationship between humans, animals and the environment. Together, they will provide you with an interesting reading about the effect of medicine on animals and its consequences for the environment.

The 14th of February, Storm has its gala together with Helix and V.U.G.S. on a boat! We are looking forward seeing you at your finest;)

From Monday the 18th of February on, the Bee G's (Sustainability Committee) have a week full of activities all focused on a certain sustainability challenge. Of course, they won't let you figure this challenge out by yourself: they will provide you with all tips and tricks necessary!

Where's Wally

Wally is hidden somewhere in this magazine.

Can you find him?

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