

Port Betaald



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*December 2019*

# BULLETIN

*Winter Wonderland*





#### COLOPHON

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# WINTER WONDERLAND

In this edition you will see...

- 4 Editorial
- 5 Activity report
- 6 Tea time with...
- 8 Recipes
- 10 Quotes
- 11 Submission: Winter Spirit
- 12 Pinboard
- 14 Activity report
- 15 Submission: Sonorous
- 16 Film review: The Goldfinch
- 17 Series review: Anne with an E
- 18 In the spotlights
- 21 Winter Wonderland playlist
- 22 Submission: Christmas in Czech Republic
- 23 Submission: Chinese Winter
- 24 Horoscope
- 26 Fun Facts



2019

WINTER

BULLETIN





# Editorial

*By Mandy Huibregtsen*

The season that is Winter comes with many different associations. When I think of Winter, I think of wearing warm sweaters and drinking hot cocoa. I think of sports that can only be done in the cold, such as ice skating, skiing, and snowboarding. I think of the holidays which I spend with my family. We give each other presents, we sing along to seasonal songs and we have a nice dinner together.

This holiday season has magical aspects for everybody. That is why we chose the theme 'Winter Wonderland' for our first Bulletin. Keeping this theme in mind, the Bulletin committee started writing their own pieces and thinking of who to ask to collaborate with us on this issue.

We tried to bring Winter Wonderland to the forefront throughout this whole issue. As per usual, you will find activity reports, quotes, pictures taken at Itiwana's many activities, recipes that are perfect during this cold weather, and film and series reviews. Furthermore, you can enjoy some new rubrics. In 'In the Spotlights', Lin takes you with her to a charity that fits right in with the values of anthropologists, and in 'Tea Time with' you can read an interview Emma did with Rielly. Last but not least, enjoy the creativity of our members by reading the pieces submitted by Max, Viet, Finn and an anonymous reader.

Do you want to write something for the next Bulletin? Send an email to [bulletin@itiwana.org](mailto:bulletin@itiwana.org) with your own submission, a random thought for our 'Pin Board', or an idea for a piece. The theme for the next Bulletin will be 'Beauty', so keep that in mind!

Have fun reading this issue!

Mandy Huibregtsen,  
Editor-in-chief Bulletin 2019-2020





## ACTIVITY REPORT

### BEERPONG TOURNAMENT

*By Mandy Huibregtsen*

As their first activity of the year, the activities committee organized a Beerpong tournament during one of our bi-weekly Itidrinks in Studio de Veste. The tournament started a little later than planned, as some of the participants arrived a little late. The tournament started a bit past 9pm, hosted by Activities Committee member Anna. Eight teams, each existing of two or three people, took on the challenge and participated in the competition to be crowned Itiwana's first Beerpong king!

Four rounds were played to determine which four teams would go to the semi-finals. While the matches were played, DJ Luc played music that definitely added to the competitive vibes. Out of the semi-finals two teams would continue on to the grand finale. It was a sensational match, but only one team could be the winner of this evening. And the winner of this night and the Beerpong queen of Itiwana is: Vera de Groot! Congratulations!



## ACTIVITY REPORT

### PARENT'S NIGHT

*By Emma van der Plas*

Since it's already November, the first years are getting used to university life. Lectures, exams and deadlines, everything feels quite normal now. However, for the parents of the first years, university life is still a little unknown territory.

For this reason, Itiwana's First Years Committee organised a Parent's Evening on the 6th of November to show parents how it feels to be a student (for one evening).

At the beginning of the evening, the parents had the opportunity to see the faculty and "Het Hok". The programme officially started with talks by Isabel Freie to introduce the whole programme and by Jet Huugen to tell the parents something about Itiwana. After that, Anouk de Koning gave a lecture on the history of anthropology and she told something about her own research. Then there was space for some drinks and snacks, self-made by the committee. After the break, Tessa Minter gave a lecture on the Philippines which was similar to one of the first lectures of the first years course Diversity & Development. Luckily, this wasn't the end of the evening. After Tessa's lecture there was a "borrel" (drinks) in the central hall of the faculty where parents could meet other parents and the teachers, while eating some bruschetta and tortillas.

Overall, the Parents Evening was a successful night. The lectures were connected to each other and thereby gave a good image of the degree and the way university works. Some parents even stayed after the lecture for the "borrel" and talked with other students, parents and teachers. It was a very fun and enlightened evening, and not just for the parents!



2019

WINTER

BULLETIN

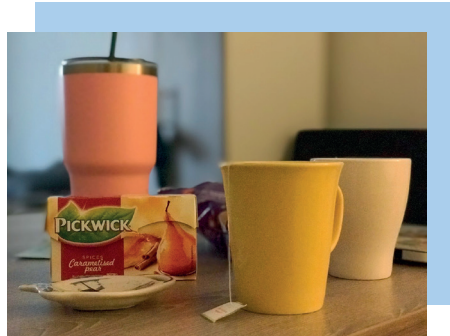
# TEA TIME WITH... RIELLY!



*By Emma van der Plas*

## **Since you are from Vietnam, why did you choose to study in The Netherlands?**

Well, I wasn't born in Vietnam, I was born in Singapore but I lived in Vietnam for almost all of my life. I was raised there and I learned all of my values and the way the world is organized. I already studied anthropology in Canada for a while, but studying there is very expensive. I decided to go back to Vietnam for 2 years to save some money. I was dying to get back on the academic side of things and since the Netherlands is one of the only places that does bachelors in anthropology, which is also affordable, I chose to start studying here.



## **So, do you like it here in the Netherlands?**

I really like it; it was not very hard to get used to everything like I had when I moved to Canada. When I was there, everyone thought I was Canadian because of the way I look and because of my English accent. I wasn't used to their context and I never thought they would think that I'm Canadian. Because of this, I felt some identity issues. In Vietnam, it was easy for me to say that I was born in Vietnam but that I'm also a little American although I've never lived there and feel no connection with America at all. In Canada, I didn't want people to know where I was from. I have to allow myself to enjoy a place and to be myself, this is what I do right now, which I'm also able to do because of the ambiance I feel in the Netherlands.





**Since you've also studied anthropology in Canada, do you see a lot of similarities or differences between the degree in Canada and in the Netherlands?**

The degree here is very different in comparison to Canada. In Canada, I had this teacher who used to teach us to forget all the Canadian ideas on how the world should work we were taught before. This shows that the degree was internationally related, all the teachers were English and all the students came from all over the world and could thereby also teach each other things. In the Netherlands, almost all of the teachers are Dutch and the majority of the students are too. So sometimes it's hard to fit in and figure out how you relate to the people around you.



**It's almost Christmas, would you like to go back to Vietnam during the holidays?**

To me, winter means getting out of my comfort zone, to create a home. My home is Vietnam. Here, it's the best environment for my education, but I wish I could go back to Vietnam. In Vietnam, there is no winter, but dry season. Though, I have experienced a cold winter in Canada already and it made me realize how small the world is. For now, I'm curious of what the Dutch winter has in stock and I'm looking forward to enjoying the sun again in Vietnam this December when I'm probably tired of the Dutch cold.





## RECIPE

# TRADITIONAL DUTCH PEA SOUP

*By Anouk de Jong*

### Ingredients

- 1 ½ l of water
- 300 g of dried split peas
- 200 g of uncooked bacon
- 2 pork shoulder chops
- 1 dried laurel leaf
- 1 celeriac
- 1 winter carrot
- 2 leeks
- 25 g of (fresh) celery
- 1 Dutch smoked sausage



### Method

Put the 1 ½ liters of water along with the split peas in a large soup pan and let them soak overnight.

The next day, take out the split peas and place them in a separate bowl. Put the dried laurel leaf along with the pork shoulder chops and uncooked bacon into the water. Add salt and pepper, but not too much. Bring the water to a boil and let it simmer on low heat for about one and a half hours.

Meanwhile, chop the celeriac and winter carrot into cubes (about one by one centimeter). Wash the leeks and slice them into rings. Finely slice the fresh celery.

Take the dried laurel leaf, the pork shoulder chops and the bacon out of the pan. Slice the pork shoulder chops and bacon into pieces and set aside. Put the split peas, celeriac, winter carrot and leeks into the pan, along with ¾ of the celery. Let it simmer on medium heat until all the vegetables are cooked through and the split peas start to

fall apart (about half an hour to 45 minutes, but check for yourself). Stir regularly.

Put the pieces of pork shoulder chops and bacon back into the pan. Slice the Dutch smoked sausage and add it to the pan. Add salt and pepper to your liking and let the soup simmer for a bit longer before serving. As a finishing touch, sprinkle the rest of the celery over the bowls of soup.

## RECIPE

# CINNAMON COOKIES

*By Anouk de Jong*

### Ingredients

- ▶ 260 g of flour
- ▶ about 5 g ( $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon) of baking powder
- ▶ a pinch of salt
- ▶ half a tablespoon of ground cinnamon
- ▶ 110 g of unsalted butter, room temperature
- ▶ 200 g of granulated sugar
- ▶ 1 large egg
- ▶ about 5 ml (1 teaspoon) of vanilla extract
- ▶ decorating cinnamon or sugar (optional)

- ▶ oven preheated to 160 °C



### The dough

Whisk together flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon in a large bowl and set aside. Beat the butter and granulated sugar in another large bowl (using an electric mixer) until light and fluffy. Then, beat in the egg and vanilla extract. With a mixer on low speed, gradually add in the flour mixture and beat until combined.

Divide the dough in half and form into two thick discs. Wrap each disc in plastic wrap and refrigerate until firm (at least an hour).

### The cookies

Take out the dough disks, one at a time. Place one of the disks onto a surface covered with flour and roll it out (about half a centimeter thick). Lightly dust the dough with flour as needed. Cut out shapes with cookie cutters to your liking. Sprinkle the cookies with cinnamon or sugar (optional) and place them onto a parchment-lined baking sheet.

Re-roll the dough scraps and repeat the process until you are out of dough. Do the same with the other dough disk.

### Baking

Bake the cookies at 160 °C, 10 to 15 minutes. Bake until the edges are golden. Let the cookies cool afterwards, especially if you plan on decorating them.

# QUOTES



*"I've never met Goffman, but I know what he would say."*

*"Is that, like, a vegatable-bowl?"*

*"Yeah, a salad."*

*"Take a waterpipe out for dinner or something."*

*"They never told me so now I'll tell you."*

*"Tom Holland is bald, it's witchcraft."*

*"We tend to think of our fridges as \*terrified oooh sound\*."*

*"GoOgLE."*

*"Please laugh at me when I make a bad joke."*

*"The more ice creams are being sold, the more people are being attacked by sharks."*

*"HUMMUUUSSS."*

*"I don't know which way my own office is."*

*"I'd tell you to discuss that with your tutor, but that's me of course."*

*"fetCh tHe mAngOeS."*

*"For a fish it would be like talking about the water."*





# WINTER SPIRIT

*By Max Kortekaas*

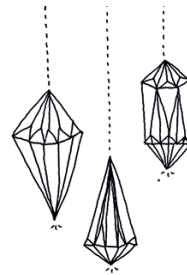
*Cold city canals  
Icy idyll industries*

*Welcome to the winter spirit  
Another poem by me  
The time of the year, with warmth in it  
Everybody feel and see*

*The snow is falling  
The water freezes  
Everything gets cold  
Everybody drippy noses  
Everybody multi-layered  
Be nice is what you've been told*

*The Christmas spirit, love and holiness will occur  
Charity, presents and winter coats, some still made of fur  
We ride sleds, throw snowballs and drink hot cocoa all day long  
We have nice diners, gala's and sing a Christmas song*

*So this is the coldest time of the year, you can't deny.  
Also the time when everybody cares, why?  
Is it because it is dark so early, so you can overthink?  
About the less fortunate, those who always sink.  
I like this time as well, don't get me wrong, please.  
However, this is a critical note, because nobody sees.  
Can we grab this spirit and stretch it out.  
This spirit of caring, love and all that Christmas is about.  
Can we let it fall, without the snow, all year maybe.  
So that everybody will just have this spirit and let it be.  
This happiness, warmth in these cold days.  
So when the winter leaves, the feeling stays.  
Be humble, be grateful and share a little more.  
Grab that spirit, inject it in yourself and learn to adore.*



# PINBOARD

I need  
more  
sleep tbh

I f\*cking love hating  
myself #emo

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
\*And a happy New Year\*

I miss  
Erik

JAN  
JANSEN

Who had this  
GREAT idea of  
having a lecture  
on the 24th?





If only job chances were as  
great as anthro people

Questioning  
my whole  
life

Let's all cele-  
brate Christmas  
in the retakes  
room

YOU ARE   
AWESOME!



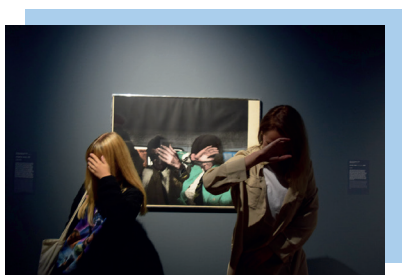


## PHOTO MUSEUM



*By Emma van der Plas*

On November 8th, Itiwana's Photo committee organised its first activity, a trip to the photo museum in The Hague. Everyone who joined gathered at "Het Hok" around 12pm to travel to The Hague together. First, we took the train to The Hague Central Station, followed by the bus to the photo museum.



At the photo museum were multiple exhibitions to watch. The first one we saw was the exhibition by Richard Learoyd. Learoyd makes portraits, landscapes and still lifes which are related to paintings. Because of the fact that he takes pictures with his self made camera obscura, there is no negative. This means that every picture, just like a painting, is unique.

His pictures are very beautiful but gave a sad vibe since all the people on the portraits looked like they were sunk into their own thoughts.

The second exhibition we saw was "De soep van Daguerre". The title of the exhibition refers to the work of the artist Marcel Broodthaers, *La soupe de Daguerre*. The main point that the artist wants to make is to focus more on real pictures instead of the "simple" pictures we take with our smartphones. Most of our pictures are not printed, but we share them online. We don't experience these pictures as real physical objects but

as immaterial images. Also, pictures we do print are not always seen as objects though. One of the reasons for this is that pictures almost show us a direct, real image of, for example, a person. The material of the picture becomes invisible, but the characteristics of the picture's material have a big influence on the story that the picture tells.

The last photo exhibition we saw was "Fotografie wordt kunst" (photography becomes art). This exhibition showed old pictures taken right after photography was invented. It shows that between pictorialism and New Photography, there is no border, but a transition.

This exhibition was different from the others we had seen, which was quite fun. It was strange to see old pictures taken at the beginning of the 20th century instead of modern pictures taken with innovative cameras.

In conclusion, this photocom activity was a lot of fun. We could look at pictures by ourselves and talk about them with others. All the exhibitions had a great message, which is for each of them important to take in mind. We learned more about photography and ways to take pictures so I would really recommend going to this photo museum once!

# SONOROUS

*By Anonymous*

*Each night, when the red sky was wrapped in a darker one, that covered the world in a patchwork quilt to bring about the night, the clear tones of a deep piano sounded.*

*They echoed through the void of the starless sky.*

*Some nights cheery, others gloomy.*

*Not only did I hear the sounds when the chilly winds carried them inside my window, but I also read them.*

*The person behind the piano opened up to me, someone I had never seen but solely felt, like a deep rooted but forgotten memory.*

*It was self-evident that they would play, that the waves of the tones would lull me to sleep so that I could be someone else just for a moment, namely, her.*

*It felt extraordinary.*

*And when I realised that what I felt for them, her, was love, I realised the impermanence of everything and that one night, the tones would disappear.*

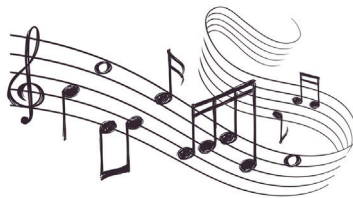
*And she would leave me.*

*Now I looked forward to the night, I craved it as time passed by as slowly as snowflakes fluttering down from the cloudy skies.*

*But that night she was not there.*

*Neither the night after.*

*Or any other night.*





## FILM REVIEW

# THE GOLDFINCH

*By Mandy Huibregtsen*

Based on the novel by Donna Tartt (2013), *The Goldfinch* is the coming-of-age tale of a boy called Theo Decker (Oakes Fegley). At the young age of thirteen, Theo survives a terrorist bombing at an art museum. His mother, unfortunately, passes away during this attack. Theo's father having already left them because he was an abusive drunk, the boy is seemingly all alone in the world.

*The Goldfinch* refers to a painting by Dutch Golden Age artist Fabritius, one of his only surviving works and an item the museum proudly owns. This particular painting disappears after the terrorist attack and is deemed ruined by the violent attack. However, nobody knows that young Theo is actually the one that has taken the painting after an elderly man told him he has to protect it.

This particular painting becomes a token of safety for Theo. When his dad eventually comes back to have Theo move in with him, Theo takes the painting with him. He keeps it safely hidden away wrapped in newspapers. Nobody can ever see it and Theo cares so deeply about this painting, cuddling it whenever he remembers what happened that dreadful day. When he is living with his dad, he meets Boris (Finn Wolfhard), a Ukrainian boy that hates the sun, only dresses in black and is usually either drunk or high. They form an unlikely, yet beautiful friendship that heavily impacts the following years of Theo's life.

After some more terrible events that turn Theo's life upside down yet again, Theo moves back to New York where he will stay for the rest of his adolescence and grow up



to become an antiquarian. He has left Boris behind, but is now himself an alcoholic, or as Boris calls him, "a black-out drunk". *The Goldfinch* is safely locked away and Theo goes to the storage container often to hug this special painting that keeps him somewhat sane, and gets high.

Adult Theo (Ansel Elgort) is an addict whose life so far has mainly existed of loss and hurt. *The Goldfinch* represents these feelings of grief and remembrance of the person he has lost. However, the painting's incredible value is an underlying problem in this whole affair. After all, how long can you keep such a valuable object hidden?

*The Goldfinch* hasn't gotten amazing reviews so far, and personally I don't see why. Yes, Finn Wolfhard's Russian accent is not perfect, but besides that, the actors do a terrific job of portraying their characters. I would advise you NOT to listen to the reviews and instead go and see *The Goldfinch* without pre-existing ideas. It is in fact a beautiful film that tells a story of loss and what it can do to a grieving person.



SERIES REVIEW

# ANNE WITH AN E

By Mandy Huibregtsen



Are you looking for an aesthetically pleasing, emotional and adventurous show that is perfect to watch with some hot cocoa and a fireplace? Then look no further! *Anne with an E* (also known as just *Anne*) – based on the classic novel *Anne of Green Gables* – tells the story of a young orphan girl in the late 19th century called Anne. She has been living in an orphanage ever since her parents passed away, but at the start of her puberty she is adopted by two elderly siblings, Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert. Matthew had decided to take in an orphan boy to help him out on the farm, but instead, he finds Anne, a red-haired, talkative girl at the train station. At first, Matthew and Marilla want to send her back, but they quickly start caring about this young girl and decide that she can stay.



Here, Anne's adventurous young life can finally start. After all the horrible bullying and punishments she encountered in the orphanage, the Cuthberts provide a safe environment where she is loved and cared

for. She goes to school, gets her first actual dress that Marilla makes her and makes a best friend in rich girl Diana (whose family are not that fond of the wild Anne). I will not go into too much detail about the events in the show, but looking at life through the eyes of Anne is a lovely experience. Her worldview has not changed due to her horrific past and that is what makes Anne such a beautiful spirit.

Besides Anne being the most wholesome character you will ever encounter, this show is not scared of highlighting diversity. It takes place in the 1890s, so you would expect little representation, but that is not at all the case! In season 2 the series introduces both a African-American main character and a gay character and in season 3 the series introduces Native Americans. The series shows a critical look on the treatment of these minority groups as a subtle undertone, which gives it a nice touch. It is a show set in the late 19th century but it doesn't shy away from spreading an important message about equality.

So, are you interested in a lovely, heart-warming show with feminist undertones and a lovely soundtrack to go along with the whole vibe? Then Anne is the show for you! It has three seasons and is available on Netflix (the first two seasons, the third will arrive in January 2020).





IN THE SPOTLIGHTS

## FRIDAYS FOR FUTURE LEIDEN



By Lin Hovenga

The global movement Fridays For Future, started by Greta Thunberg back in August 2018, soon gained popularity all over the world. It brings people, mostly students, together and aims to spread awareness on the climate crisis. Every week, millions of students use their voices to protest against the lack of action taken by local and national governments.

Recently, the movement has also reached Leiden. I spoke with first-year students Thirza, Gaia and Johanna and they informed me on the local division of Fridays For Future, shared their views on it and what it means to make a difference.

It all began with the idea of Thirza, first year anthropology student. Back in August, when she realized she missed being part of an organization after her experience of working for an NGO in Spain last year, she decided to do something. The environment as main focus seemed like a logical choice, regarding the urgency of the climate crisis and the fact that there wasn't a division of the student movement in Leiden yet. It was also a topic that had always been of interest to her, when she read about it on social media for example. Soon, Thirza got help from friends (shoutout to Lauren!) to kickstart the movement and the group of students interested to help and join keeps growing. They began striking in the beginning of October, and joined the big strike on November 29th as well.

*"I always had the idea that I couldn't really do anything because I'm just a single person and way too young. But then I realized that's basically bullshit and I do have a voice. The trigger to become active was when I saw the braveness of people who are standing up for what they care for, people like Greta." – Thirza*

### **Mission**

The main goal of the group is to spread awareness and find ways to educate. "A lot of people out there don't view the climate crisis as something so urgent, since the consequences are not affecting them directly. We are taking on a provocative role, following the global movement of Fridays For Future with the strikes as a method", Johanna explains.

They also want to break down the fear of 'not knowing enough', which is kind of a barrier, by taking on an educating role and being as accessible as possible for everyone.

In the end, they would like to see governmental changes in policies, so that actual improvement for the environment can be realized. Johanna mentions the declaration of a 'climate emergency' in Amsterdam, which could help and add to the seriousness of it. Most of all, it's about gaining momentum "so that more and more people hear us and join us."



### A nice way of community building

So far Thirza, Gaia and Johanna are positive about their experiences. "To me it really feels like a relief being part of this group. It's comforting to know that there are more people concerned and passionate about the climate like me", Gaia says. Johanna confirms this: "It's a way to connect with people with the same ideals. It's motivating. Everyone is creative, and even if you're not, there is a role you to fill." Thirza agrees that it's good to connect with people who share the same mindset. She talks to many strangers on the street when she is selling stuff for work, which is, according to her, a bit depressing at times: "It's like a lot of people don't seem to care about topics like climate and environment. To me it's also a relief to meet people who actually see and care about these problems."



They also remind me that Fridays For Future is not only for students: it's for everyone. "At one meeting there was an older woman", Johanna says. According to her this is a good thing, since many (older) adults don't feel responsible and tend to make excuses for their actions. Thirza adds to this that older generations might be too 'fixed' in their mindset. "It would be cool to convince the parents of our generations to do more," she argues, "regardless of the fact that a lot of them are already supportive, like my mom".

### How to get involved

Joining the strikes and other actions is most important, and easily accessible for anyone. Even if you feel like you might have insufficient knowledge on climate change and policies, being present and showing compassion is the first step. There are many more ways to contribute and help spread awareness. For example by joining one of the committees:

- 1) Action committee
- 2) Friday Strikes committee
- 3) Promotion committee
- 4) Green New Deal committee: doing research on environmental policies with the goal to gain more knowledge and propose a green policies for the local and national government
- 5) Workshops committee: contacting schools and institutions and creating workshops to spread awareness).

It is also possible to suggest your own committee, just assist during the actions or organize your own action. If you want to stay informed on the local actions and plans, you can join the WhatsApp group or attend the weekly meeting.





### **Making a difference**

Johanna points out the quote: "I can't make a difference, said seven million people". Perhaps cliché, but for a reason. According to Johanna, people are underestimating the impact that they can have by just opening up and speaking about things that matter, things that you care for. "It gives other people the opportunity to open up their minds."

What they all agree on, is that you don't have to change your whole life. That would only result in more pressure. For example, feeling peer-pressured, not wanting to disappoint your friends, is a huge barrier for many to change their lifestyle. "But we should allow ourselves to ease into it", Johanna says. We all have our limits. "We shouldn't feel guilty, it's just the way how the society is right now," Thirza adds, "but it's good to become aware of our impact."

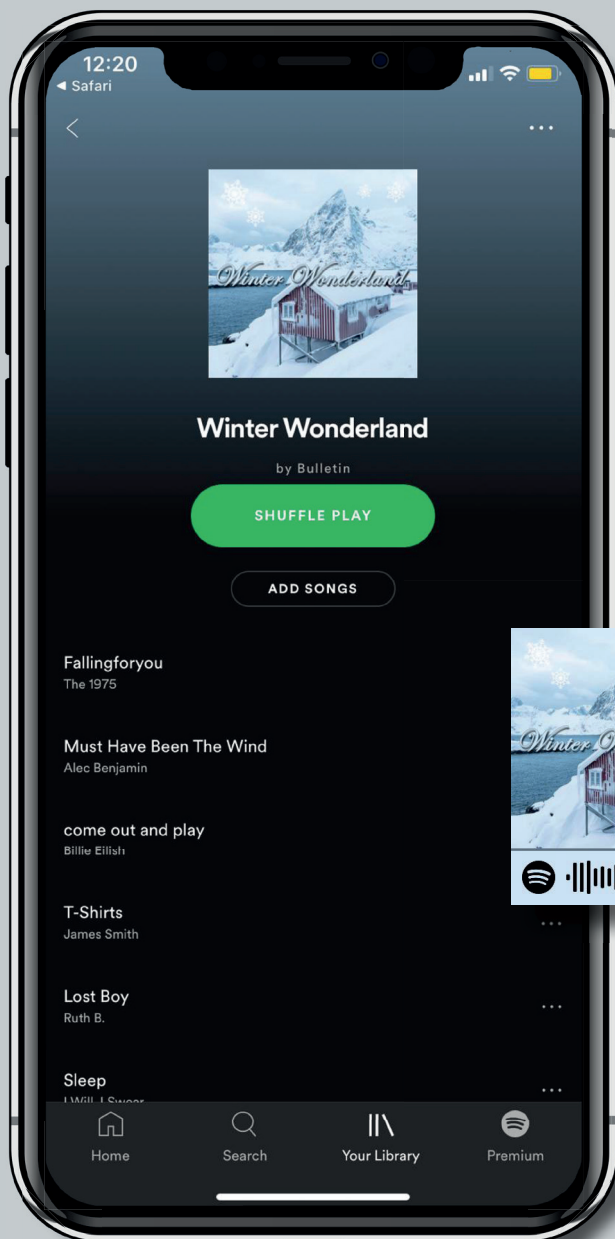
*"Realize raising your voice, even as a young person, can mean something. Being brave is the only thing you can do." – Thirza*



*"It's hard to convince people to do the right thing. But I think it has to start with yourself. Start with the little things, it doesn't have to be big."*

# WINTER WONDERLAND PLAYLIST

*By Mandy Huibregtsen*



Scan me!





## CHRISTMAS IN CZECH REPUBLIC

*By Viet Dang*

Growing up in Czech Republic as a Vietnamese person made my Christmas experiences quite different from other Czech families, while retaining some of their traditions with slight twists to them.

When I was a kid, I used to make gift wish lists for Baby Jesus (Ježíšek) like I saw the other kids doing. However, unlike them I never actually believed in him so my parents would just sit me down and let me choose one of the toys on the list. We also practice other Czech traditions such as buying a fresh Christmas carp and keeping him in a bathtub, preparing a potato salad, decorating a Christmas tree and funnily enough, we also sing Christmas carols in Czech with a broken Vietnamese accent. Along with typical dishes, we also had fried spring rolls, fish-gut soup to not waste any parts of the carp and of course rice. Christmas is heavily commercialized in Vietnam, so it is mostly used for advertisement purposes only.



My family, though, does try to invite distant relatives over for Christmas Eve to have a wholesome family dinner. Czech people don't have Santa coming down their chimney, but instead they have Mikuláš (the equivalent to St. Nicholas) who walks around houses with an angel and a little demon called Čert (similar to Krampus) who looks like the Dutch Zwarte Piet, but without the subtle controversial racist history. The Čert usually grabs the bad kids into a potato bag and no, the parents cannot stop him from doing that, trust me on that one.

For NYE we have a huge advantage in the fact that we have an enormous supply of fireworks since we sell them. So, if you're ever in Prague for NYE, you'll have a blast (no pun intended) among the Vietnamese community there. My family also has this strange "tradition" of going to this particular KFC in the city center every NYE before the fireworks. We've been doing this ever since I was born. Yet, I still don't know why we do it or how it even began.





## CHINESE WINTER

*By Yefu Pan (Finn)*

In China, though people celebrate the new year in solar calendar, the lunar new year event (spring festival) which is always in January or February, is considered more important and also the formal end of a year. The main traditions are a family reunion, a big family feast, fireworks and 'Miao Hui', which is a new year open market with a variety of entertainments. There is no standard menu for the new year feast, but dumplings are indispensable. Kids can receive red bags from their parents and elder relatives, which is a red envelope with cash in it.



*Photos by Zhang Zhaoyang*

It is a treatment for their growth and a wish to them to be safe and lucky in the coming year, it can be kept as pocket money and that is the reason why receiving red bags was my favorite tradition in my childhood. Since 1983, Chinese biggest official TV channel CCTV started to broadcast the Spring Festival Gala annually on the eve of Chinese new year, a big TV show featuring music, dance, comedy, and drama performances. It was so successful that watching the Spring Festival Gala soon became a Chinese new year tradition. The reunion of all family members, the aroma of Chinese dishes, the noisiness of firecracker outside and the TV program playing make people burst into laughter. That's the feeling of Chinese new year, or the feeling of home.

2019

WINTER

BULLETIN



# HOROSCOPE



By Anouk de Jong



## Aquarius

January 20th – February 18th

Winter break is almost here! Everything is going great studying-wise and you cannot wait to hand in that last paper and take that last test. You have many plans with friends and family this December. Christmas dinners and weekend trips, you are so excited! But don't forget to take some time for yourself as well. A couple of days of rest will do wonders. That way you'll have enough energy to face the second semester without a problem.

*Lucky day: January 30th*



## Pisces

February 19th – March 20th

You are experiencing some problems right now. These problems are troubling you and you're having difficulty focusing on more important things. But don't worry, your troubles will go away soon. Just don't run away from them. You have to face them, only then you will be free. Don't doubt yourself too much, you can do it!

*Lucky day: February 26th*

## Aries

March 21st – April 19th

You are optimistic about the future. Your grades are fantastic and you can already feel that this school year will be a breeze. That is great! But do not get so optimistic that you lose your focus. Plan your daily tasks well and study when you have to. Don't put things off until the last minute, but also don't forget to take short breaks when you can. Finding the right balance is key. If you keep this up, summer will be here before you know it.

*Lucky day: March 16th*



## Taurus

April 20th – May 20th

Lately you've been neglecting your creative side. When you were a kid, you would come up with masterpiece after masterpiece. Now all that has been replaced with studying and binging Netflix. Don't hesitate to try again. You might be a little rusty, but you'll get the hang of it after a while. And don't be afraid to try new things too, who knows what will happen.

*Lucky day: December 21st*

## Gemini

May 21st – June 20th

You are planning on buying your friends and family loads of presents for the upcoming holidays. You already have many great ideas and you cannot wait to head into town and splurge like your life depends on it. However, it is best not to spend all of your money at once. You have a tendency to do so every year when the holidays come around. And while everyone greatly appreciates the things you get them, you always tend to run into some financial trouble when the new year starts. Maybe this time you should keep it small. Sometimes less is more.

*Lucky day: February 3rd*



## Cancer

June 21st – July 22nd

Your life has changed a lot over the past couple of months. You met new people and learned a lot of new things. But you're not sure whether or not this is the right path for you. You don't know if you're making the right decisions, or if you're setting yourself up for failure. Don't worry too much about it. Stay true to yourself and let life unfold for you. Be patient, great things are going to happen.

*Lucky day: January 8th*

## Leo

July 23rd – August 22nd

Next year will be full of surprises for you. Most of these surprises will have a positive impact on your life, but you have to stay true to what you believe in. If you don't, things might take a turn for the worse. You are stubborn and have a powerful voice. Use it for those who don't have a voice and you will be rewarded in the long run.



*Lucky day: December 29th*

## Virgo

August 23rd – September 22nd

Try to take some rest the upcoming winter. You have been working very hard lately and it is best to give yourself some time to recharge. You are not one to ask others for help, but give it a try. You might be surprised at what comes out of it. Letting others carry some of the weight on your shoulders is not a bad thing. You don't have to do everything on your own.

*Lucky day: February 12th*



## Libra

September 23rd – October 22nd

Lately you've been spending a lot of time inside. Go out more! Get some fresh air, experience nature. Even taking a stroll through the park in the middle of a city will do you some good. It can help get rid of some of the restlessness you've been feeling in the past couple of weeks. But don't forget to put on enough layers, the temperatures will drop soon.

*Lucky day: March 9th*



## Scorpio

October 23rd – November 21st



The past couple of months have been rough for you. You worked hard, but did not always get the results you hoped for. Don't dwell on it too much. Everything will eventually turn out fine. The upcoming winter will offer you the rest you have been craving so much and it will be the best Christmas yet. Keep on going and it will all be worth it in the end.

*Lucky day: February 19th*

## Sagittarius

November 22nd – December 21st



You tend to speak your mind, which can sometimes get you in trouble. You simply say whatever you want and you don't care too much about the consequences. Try to think more before speaking. While it is good to express your opinion, it is also good to take others into consideration. Try listening to other people. Who knows what interesting things you'll learn.

*Lucky day: January 26th*

## Capricorn

December 22nd – January 19th

Soon you will be faced with a challenge, and you will have to make some life-altering decisions. These decisions will leave you confused and tired. But do not worry about it too much. Your choices will eventually work out in your favor. Keep the people you love close to you and you will come out stronger than ever before.

*Lucky day: December 24th*





# FUN FACTS

*By Emma van der Plas*

Did you know that...

...the largest snowflake might have been 15 inches wide?

...snow has never been reported in Key West (Florida)?

...New Years is first celebrated on the small island nation of Tonga, Samoa and Kiribati?

...in Germany, Poland and Ukraine, finding a spider or a spider's web on a Christmas tree is believed to be a harbinger of good luck?

...children in the Netherlands receive presents from Sinterklaas on December 5th, pakjesavond, which literally means "presents evening"?

...instead of a sleigh pulled by reindeer, Sinterklaas rides a white horse named Amerigo?

...Aomori City in northern Japan receives more snowfall than any major city on the planet?

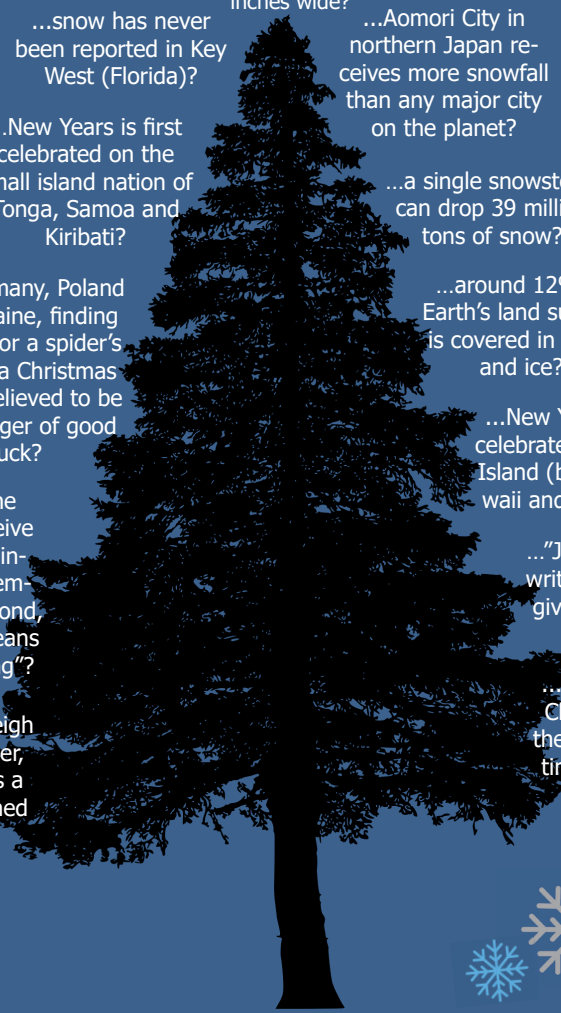
...a single snowstorm can drop 39 million tons of snow?

...around 12% of Earth's land surface is covered in snow and ice?

...New Years is last celebrated on Bakers Island (between Hawaii and Australia)?

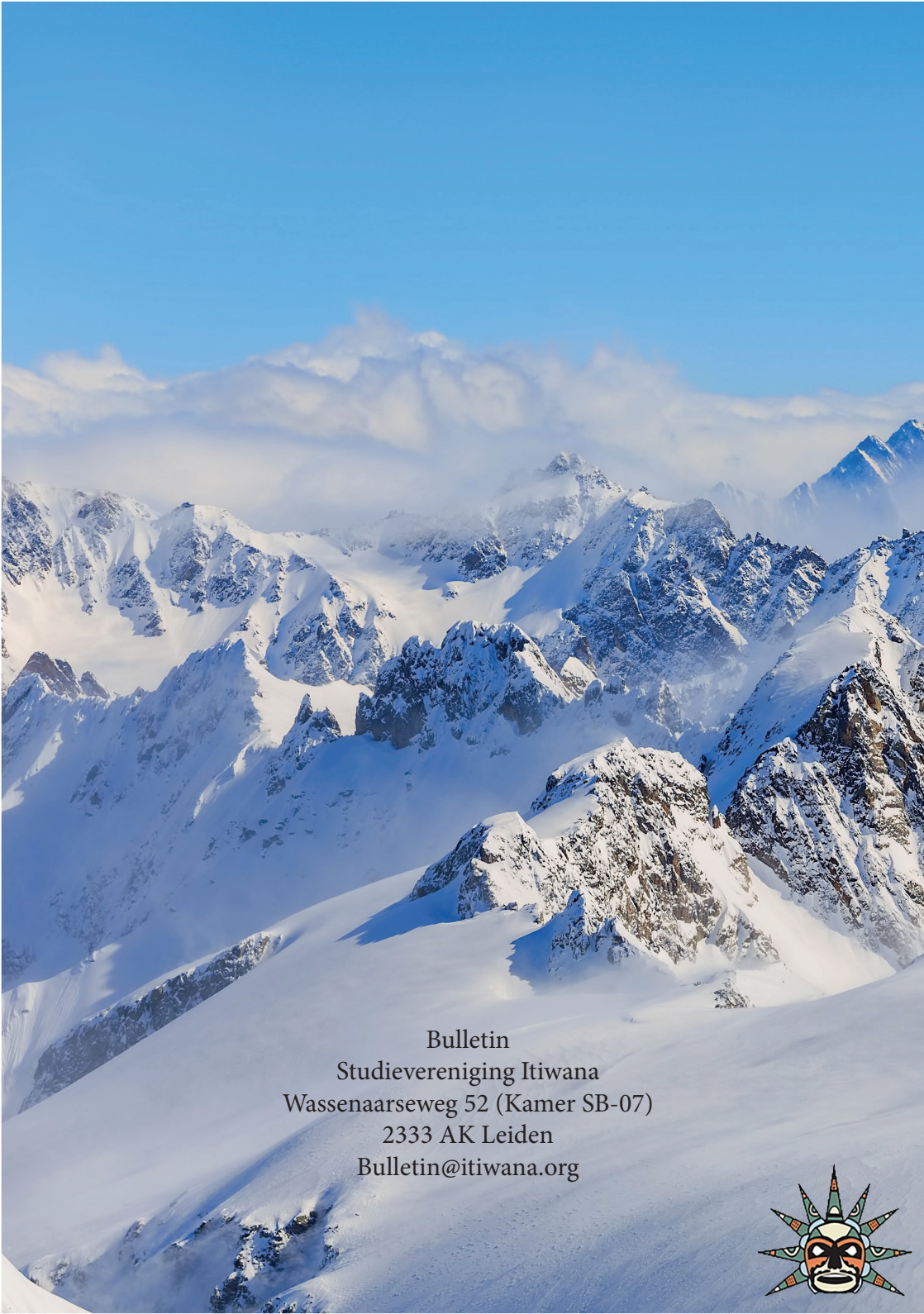
..."Jingle Bells" was written for Thanksgiving, not Christmas?

...two weeks before Christmas is one of the two most popular times for couples to break up?









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