

PHOENIX

Fresher's Issue 2017-2018



PROGRAMME MEET THE

Friday September 1st to
Sunday September 3rd

Introduction Camp

Monday September 4th

- 09.00 Walk-in
- 09.30 General opening and welcome
- 10.00 Teacher introduction round 1
- 11.00 Tutor group meetings
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.30 Quest through Utrecht and Committee Market
- 16.00 Teacher introduction round 2 and final notices
- 17.00 End of mandatory part
- 17.30 Dinner
- 20.00 Drinks

Tuesday September 5th

Party (time tba)

Thursday September 7th

- 15.00 Picnic at ICU
- 17.00 Pubquiz
- 19.30 Dinner
- 21.30 Karaoke
- 23.00 Partying at Tivoli

Extra activities

Traditional Game Night (date tba)

Speed Friending (date tba)

INTRODUCTION COMMITTEE

Dear freshers,

Welcome to the introduction of English Language and Culture at the UU!

The upcoming introduction activities, both today, this week and next week, will be about bonding with your study mates and getting to know more about the city and your studies. We will have a lot of fun, feed you delicious foods, and we will send you out on an adventure: don't forget your wands, magical animal sidekicks, tiaras or swords, as it will be a positively magical time!

We hope you will have a great day and a great time of studies ahead of you.

Should there be any questions, please ask any of us or your mentors.

Have a great time!

Love,





WORD OF THE BOARD

Hey everybody!

This summer I spent about a week in Ireland with two of my best friends. We had planned this trip for quite some time, so we were more than thrilled when we were finally able to live every bit of Irish culture – which apparently happens to be mainly drinking Guinness. Now we three met each other during our introduction week, which already feels ages ago by now. Back then I could not have even imagined that the people I met during this week would be the ones I would travel, or even live with. Of course, I do not want to put any pressure on you right now by stating this is the only week you can meet people and make friends. Hell no, many I have also met throughout the year. But I do believe it is one of the easiest ways to get to know at least a couple of other English students, on who you can rely during your first weeks at university. Therefore I really hope you have enjoyed our camp and/or will have an amazing time during our introduction week. This week is all about you, and getting to know other students of English and Albion. During this week I hope you get to like Albion as much as I do, and to see you often the next months during our activities and monthly drinks, or as member of one of our committees.

Hope to see you all!

Job Petersen

Chair of Albion

MENTOR

During the first block, you will be assigned a tutor and various mentors to help you with all of your problems and questions. Just to give you an idea of who they are, here's a handy guide to help you out!

TUTORS

ACADEMIC



Anna Poletti



Betül



Cat Aaftink



Heidi Klockmann



Floor Klein Hesselink



Laura Smorenborg



Simon Cook



Mia You



Lauren Reinhoudt



Franka



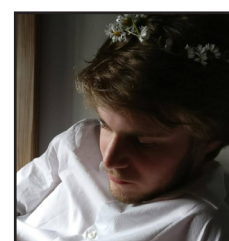
Nynke de Haas



Sanne Ongersma



Johanna Hoorenman



Bo Molenaar



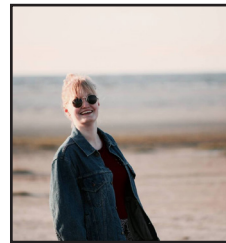
Hanka D

PARADE

MENTORS BUDDY MENTORS



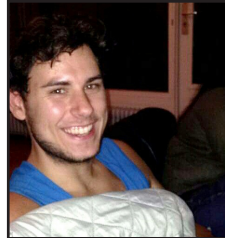
Boz



Anna de Roest



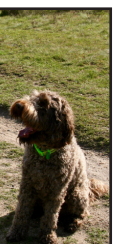
Mees Roelofs



Daan Jordens



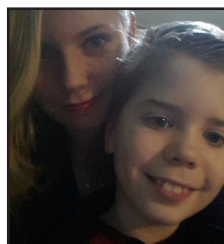
Eline Reinoud



a Smet



Anne Keulen



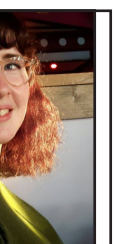
Desirée
Mastellone



Lotte
Inkenhaag



Geke Niemann



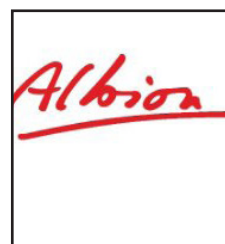
amsma



Iris Veldhuis



Ymke
Verploegen



Leda Serikoglu



Nurai Mertens

PHOENIX RANKS

BOOKSHOPS

It is a truth universally acknowledged that a student of English looking for books is in want of a perfect bookshop. Here, we have a couple listed.

*By Noa Tims
Photos by Minthe Woudstra*



1. Boekhandel Erven J.

Bijleveld

This bookshop is by far the most convenient if you're lucky enough to have classes in the city centre; it's located just across the street and you may encounter students with some time on their hands spending money they don't have. 151 years old, the shop never lost its cosy, old atmosphere. Working together with an independent publisher, they offer a wide range of poetry, English literature and Dutch works, laid out so that you'll be browsing forever.



2. Steven Sterk

This bookshop resides next to the famous Dom. They display several works of art around their store, as they work together with an art gallery close by. What makes this shop so special, is that they offer whatever books the publishers have stopped publishing: new books, for the price of second hand ones, next to the regular books. Recently, they have dedicated a little corner especially to English YA.

HONOURABLE MENTION: AKO Utrecht Centraal, for some “my train is late so now I need something to read”-shopping.



3. Broese Boekverkopers

Sometimes, you don't want old and cute. Sometimes, you just want a huge assortment to choose from and hours of covers to read. This is what Broese offers, right in the city centre, with a huge section of English books. They also have an amazing offer of second-hand books: the entire basement is filled with them, and you can even sell your own.

4. Savannah Bay

You may not easily stumble across this one, hidden as it is in Utrecht's web of alleys. It's worth a visit though, as they have a wide variety of genres and a focus on gender identity and postcolonial works. They also offer books for Literature, Gender, Art, Spanish, Dutch and Linguistics studies. And sometimes they have a poodle, which is awesome.



5. Aleph Books & CD's

This little gem is also near the Dom. They have been there for thirty years and sell second-hand books as old as the 1600s. I'm not kidding: Byron's works, bound in leather and gold, stood back to back with Fifty Shades Darker. Stacks of books and rows upon rows of leather-bound beauties allow for endless exploration. And if books are not your jam, they have CD's as well.

MEET THE COMMITTEES

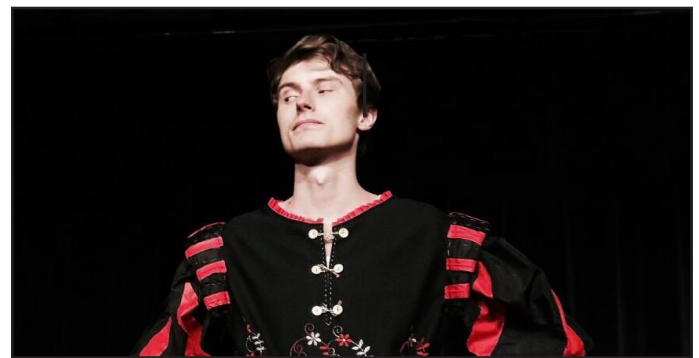
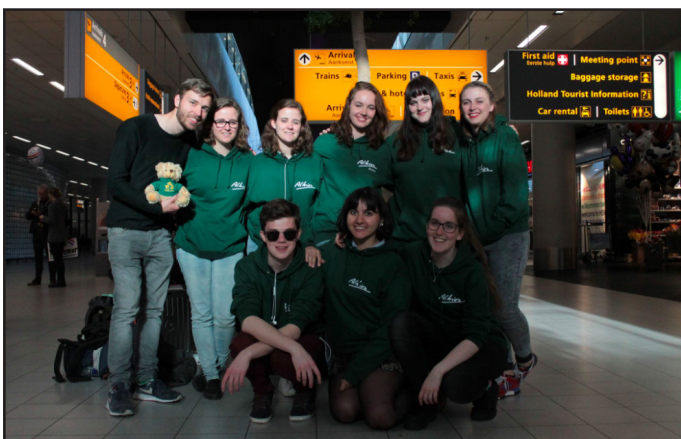
SUDS

This is a call for all of the theatre lovers among us. SUDS (Students of Utrecht Drama Society) is an English speaking sub-organisation of Albion which organises an array of drama activities throughout the year, including the Big Play by the great master Shakespeare and a One Act Festival. Even if you don't want to shine onstage, SUDS provides the possibility to unleash your creativity off-stage as make-up artist, director or production assistant. SUDS has its own board, so if you're interested in organising theatrical activities rather than -or alongside with- being on stage: this is your chance!



ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Whether it's the course material, the room that the seminars were in, or the limited amount of study spots available in the library: the academic committee is on it. As a member you help organise student assemblies, in which problems and ideas regarding the study program can be discussed. The AC makes sure feedback gathered during these assemblies reaches the right people within the department. The committee also organises study and career related activities, such as last year's visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. If you feel a burning desire to do everything you can to improve your education and the quality of the degree as a whole, the AC is the place to be!



INTRODUCTION COMMITTEE

The introduction committee is responsible for the introduction period at the start of the academic year. They organise all types of events to make sure new firsties feel as welcome as possible. Being part of this committee means you are in charge of a wide variety of activities and parties. You also work together with teachers from the English department to make sure the introduction is useful to new students as well as fun. Activities include: registering new students, making sure meals are in order, contacting teachers and tutors and scheduling their introduction speech, reserving rooms at the university, setting up a budget and making sure everything runs smoothly.

Albion

TRAVEL COMMITTEE

The travel committee, alternatively known as the ReisCie or Albion Tours, organises two annual trips. As a member of this committee you will be busy thinking of a travel destination, creating and planning an exciting, cultural, educational and above all: fun programme for your fellow students. To make it all affordable you will spend some time scouring the internet for a - hopefully - cheap yet cozy hostel. You'll experience travelling with a group while responsible for the activities and everyone's well-being. You make sure the trip runs smoothly and have an unforgettable experience to write home about for yourself.

CAMP COMMITTEE

The Camp Committee, or KampCie, is responsible for the organisation of the introduction camp, which takes place just before the introduction week. It's a great opportunity for first years to get to know each other before their uni life truly begins. As a member of this committee, you organise a weekend full of fun, competitions and teambuilding. This starts with arranging all of the practical aspects, such as the location and the food, but a huge part of it contains thinking of the best ways to make the new first years feel at home and welcome. Do you want to watch fond memories being made? Join the Camp Committee!



ACTIVITIES AND PARTIES COMMITTEE

The best parties and the most exciting activities are organised by Albion's APC. This committee consists of two sections: the parties section and the activities section. The latter provides the Albion members with fun activities such as pub crawls, laser tag, a karaoke night and escape room, just to name a few. Of course there is enough room left for other awesome ideas that you might come up with. The parties section makes sure you can dance in style 'till the sun comes up several times a year. They organised last year's Night of the Professors, the famous party where our own teachers of English play a DJ set for you to dance on. You also get to organise parties with students from other degrees, so before you know it you'll see familiar faces all over town!

PHOENIX

May I present to you: Albion's very own magazine! It is stuffed with interviews, reviews, stories, bookshelves and critical essays. Right now you're holding the product of its making. If you're into journalism, writing, editing, or anything that is related to the process of creating a magazine, Phoenix will welcome you with open arms. You can choose to join the committee as editor, writer or graphic designer. If you're excited to read more of this magazine by now (which I know you are), just visit the Albion website, where you can find all editions published so far.



SKI TRIP COMMITTEE

Albion's exciting skiing trip is a wonderful, epic week where "slopes were destroyed, trees were crashed and storms were conquered". Both experienced and inexperienced skiers and snowboarders are included in the travelling party. After a thrilling day of skiing there is plenty of time left to drink some hot chocolate, or beer, or both. Does this sound like your cup of hot chocolate? The skiing committee might just be the thing for you! You'll plan the trip, do the promotion and make sure everyone is taken care of. Above all, you'll be there to enjoy every last minute of it.



SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

The symposium committee makes sure that we are educated beyond the boundaries of our course descriptions. This committee organises interesting in-depth lectures and symposia on a variety of subjects. You get to brainstorm on a central theme and make sure you find speakers from all over the world to have their say during the symposium, and also take care of the location and promotion. You might also work with people from other degrees in a joint symposium. This is the committee that gives you a diverse insight into the wonderful world of the English language.





Rias' Favourites

“I’ve outgrown the idea of a favourite something or other, but I’ll give it a try.”

Favourite film

“The Wedding Banquet could be considered a favourite. I like Ang Lee’s films.”

Favourite music

“Tough one. There are some musicians I feel inspired by; Bowie, The Smiths, and some other artists from the 80’s, I suppose. But I also listen to soundtracks, like Whalerider and Himalaya, and some trance and classical music.”

Favourite Food

“I love Indian food. We eat that a lot. When you asked me about favourite books I was almost going to mention my favourite curry cookbook: Vegetarian India, by Madhur Jaffrey.”

Favourite book

“I don’t really have a favourite book. In different times in your life you focus on different things. There’s one writer whose work I think is still very relevant: Ursula Le Guin. Take, for instance, her gender-questioning science fiction novel *The Left Hand of Darkness*. But if you want me to mention the book I’ve read most often, I’d almost be honour-bound to say *Sounding Better*. Or alternatively, *The Lord of the Rings*, which I read a lot when I was younger. At the same time, the sort of books I’m reading at the moment are totally different, like Barry’s *Days without End*.”

Favourite TV-series

“There are a couple of series that I’m into: what I’ve watched most often is *Star Trek*. Part of the appeal is that it’s an idealised work environment; all those people working together harmoniously. And if you’re interested, my favourite captain is Janeway.”

Tea Time

with

Rias van den Doel

*By Kiki Drost
Photos by Minthe Woudstra*

A new year offers many new chances and experiences, but for us at Phoenix it offers something more: many more Tea Time interviews. We thought it would be an excellent way to start of the new school year by sharing a cup of tea with Rias van den Doel, and luckily for us, he agreed. So, as many times before, we found ourselves ringing the doorbell of one of our beloved teachers. After Rias poured us some tea and served some delicious cakes, we end our small talk and start our interview.

What did you study yourself?

“I studied English at Utrecht University. I decided to go to Utrecht rather than anywhere else, because there was also a Celtic department here; the only one in the country. So I ended up doing a bit of Middle Welsh as well. As part of my degree I went to Dublin for a year, to Trinity College, with the

Harting Programme. That's also the reason why I'm Chair of the Harting Programme, because I have such fond memories of my own stay and I'd like that pleasure to be extended to new generations of students. So I went to Trinity for a year, returned to Utrecht and then went back for another year in Ireland. In both years I focussed on literature, and this was also my specialisation in Utrecht.

When I came back from Ireland I had some kind of reverse culture shock. I didn't want to be back in the Netherlands, so I found a scholarship to Iceland. I thought 'how different can it be from Ireland? After all, it's also a wet island in the Atlantic, so how different can it be?' It was very different, obviously, but one attraction was to learn Icelandic: it's the Latin of the Scandinavian languages."

And how did you end up teaching at Utrecht University?

"At some point when I came back, I was offered a position at both the University of Leiden and the University of Utrecht, and I took both, because they were part-time positions. I ended up doing that for about 14 years. . It's interesting, because you get to compare different institutional styles, and ways in which students identify with their universities. And I spent a lot of time on the train between Utrecht and Leiden. I still have fond memories of Leiden, but I wanted to write my PhD, and it made more sense to have one place of work. One thing I particularly enjoyed doing in Leiden, though, was directing student plays. I was involved in a production of A Midsummer Night's Dream, in the botanical gardens: one of the highlights of my time in Leiden. I've always been interested in student theatre. I'm a founding member of SUDS; I helped come up with the name. Originally the name we came up with was STUDS: Students of Utrecht Drama Society, but then some of us thought that that sounded a bit sexist, so we ended up with SUDS instead."

Do you have any hobbies?

"No. None whatsoever. No, I think everybody has hobbies, don't they? It's nothing very exciting, but one thing I do like is cooking, especially food from around the world. In the same way that you can have



"I am a founding member of SUDS"

World Englishes, you can also have world dishes. Cooking is a way of exploring diversity. What else? Oh, hiking, especially anything involving mountains or cliffs. When I went on the Albion trips with students, I always asked for a hiking trip to be included. Something like Arthur's Seat in Edinburgh, or the cliff walk around Howth in Dublin. But since there are no mountains or cliffs anywhere near Utrecht, we often go to the Arboretum near Doorn. That has quite a bit of scenery from around the world, at least in terms of trees."

After the interview is done, the pictures are taken and our bellies are full of tea and cake, it is time for us to leave. Rias, thank you once again for your hospitality!



The
perks of being an
Albion member

EAZIE

Whether you feel like having a fresh wakame salad, or crave some bombay curry, Eazie is where you should go. They open at noon so you can satisfy your hunger all day long. The fresh ingredients and fair prices guarantee a guilt-free meal. Besides, you will get a 10% discount on the order if you flip around that dashing membership card of yours!

CELIL CITY BIKE

Even the most Anglophile students can't do without this glorious piece of Dutch culture: the bicycle.

As a student in Utrecht, you'll most likely go from A to B on your bike, so we've arranged a nice discount at one of the friendliest bike shops near the Drift. Celil City Bike is located at the Voorstraat and will give you a 10% discount on all bikes and accessories, and 15% off on all repairs.

DE STADSGENOOT

This cozy place, located just a few steps away from Neude, is where our monthly drinks take place.

It's the best place in town to have some (or many) beers with your fellow Albioneers after a day of studying. Don't forget your membership card, for it will give you a 10% discount!

Not convinced yet?

Well, they have really good cider. There you go.

DRESSME

Specialised in promotion, the people at DressMe (located at the Singeldwarsstraat) will print your shirts, sweaters and much more. Whether you want to get matching shirts for your pub quiz team, or you've just always wanted a 50% cotton, 50% polyester heavymill poloshirt with your name on it, your time is now! You'll even get a 10% discount if you show your Albion card.

Colofon

This issue of Phoenix was made possible because of:

Inge van Nimwegen, Job Petersen, Alessandra Polimeno, Noa Tims, Esther Ulfman, and Emma Wasser.

With special thanks to:

Rias van den Doel

Would you like to contribute to Phoenix on a freelance basis? You can! Did you write a kick-ass column or review, or would you like to share your incredible hobby with the world in the next Phoenix Showcase? Contact us via albionphoenix@gmail.com and we'll see what we can arrange.