





Ahoy Intermaatjes! Welcome aboard the latest, and perhaps most infamous, edition of the Intermania. As there are only well-adjusted and law-abiding citizens here at Intermate, the Intermania figured it the perfect time to show you the world of pirates and pirating! I will be your captain Arrrrrne, guiding you trough the wonderous world of pirates. Both the filthy, rum drinking, swashbuckling types and the online, mom's basement dwelling, hacker ones, we will see the lot of them. However, before you dive into the contents of this booklet, a word of caution: 'The Intermania does not condone online piracy, copyright infringement, torrenting or hacking of any kind.' Therefore, the Intermania always creates its booklets using genuine licensed Adobe products. Now with that out of the way, here is all the treasure we have to offer in this edition!

On page 4 the new board, at the time of writing still called Duotalis, will introduce themselves! Then Julia is back with her famous pop 101 column, so if you need an update on the latest pop gossip navigate to page 8. Floor explores all the flavors that can be found throughout Eindhoven in her food column,

found on page 26. Lastly, turn to page 30, where Sjoerd writes about how our view of the classical pirate came to be, lets just say some PromoCie work was done to achieve this image. Now, this is just a drop in the barrel of rum of great articles in this edition, so read on to discover all the hidden treasures within.

I also want to welcome a new landlubber who will sail aboard the Intermania, the one and only Jasper van Haaster! Let us see if he has what it takes to join our hardy crew, or if he will get seasick at the sight of his first storm. Lastly, on a more serious and slightly sad note, I will be passing the chairmanship to Fasja after this edition. Even though I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here at the Intermania, the time has come for me to sail off to new adventures.

May the wind always be at your back as you sail through this edition of the Intermania! For the last time, signing off.

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Colophon

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Vesper: Lighting the Way



Meet Vesper, the 42nd board of Intermate! With fresh energy, a guiding vision, and a sprinkle of mischieve they're ready to steer us through a year full of fun and connections.

Text: Quincy Netteb, Secretary of the 42nd board of Intermate; Vesper

I am so excited to introduce you to the 42nd board of Intermate: Vesper! We, Annika or at this point better known as AnniVo (Chairman), Quincy (Secretary & Co-Commissioner of External Affairs), Hugo (Treasurer), Emma (Commissioner of Education), Marinus (Commissioner of Internal Affairs & Bar Responsible), and Max (Commissioner of External Affairs), are honored to take over the stick from Hescia and have an amazing year with you all.

So, our name is Vesper. Which still feels weird to say out loud since we had to keep it secret for so long, but the word is finally out! The name Vesper means "evening star" in Latin. The evening star rises just before nightfall, during sunset, marking the transition between day and night. In many cultures, this evening star is seen as a symbol of guidance. It is a constant in the sky that helps travelers find their way, just like we, as the 42nd board, aim to be a guiding presence for the members of Intermate: a source of support, direction, and belonging throughout their student time. Like the evening star, we want Intermate to be a place our members can always find their way back to, no matter where they are in their studies.

The evening star, better known as Venus, is the brightest planet in the sky. It represents love and connection, which are important values for Intermate. As Vesper, we strive to light the way and create meaningful bonds within Intermate.



Our color, a deep pink, is called raspberry wine. Which is inspired by the colors of a sunset, when the evening star can first be seen in the sky.

Now about the more serious stuff. We have worked very hard the last few months to make our policy, which can be found on the Intermate site. But let me take you through some of the highlights.

With two board members sharing the External Affairs role this year, we aim to broaden and strengthen our career network. By targeting a wider range of industries. We'll organize a mix of formal (e.g., company visits) and informal (e.g., career socials) events to boost professional development and make career orientation feel approachable and inclusive.

By inviting alumni to share their experiences and encouraging lecturers to take part in our career-related activities, we hope to build a network that truly supports students' future paths.



"Like the evening star, we want Intermate to be a place our members can always find their way back to"

We want to reach both new and currently less-active members. Through events like Freshman Fever, Master Mania, Introweek, Master Kick-Off, and International Welcome Day, we'll make sure every student feels welcomed from the start. For those who've become a bit disconnected, we'll diversify our calendar, offering different types of activities on varying weekdays to ensure there's something for everyone.

We're refreshing Intermate's digital platforms. Expect a more active social media presence with regular posts and exciting aftermovies of big events. We're also updating the Intermate app and website and hopefully add an online committee board.

This year, we're launching a personal and professional development portfolio. With support from partners like MyFuture and

Career Academy, we want to bring valuable workshops covering both soft and hard skills. Through initiatives like Skill Swaps, where members can share their expertise, we aim to support students who want to deepen their academic and professional skillsets.

But above all, we see Intermate as more than just a study association. It's a place where friendships are built, memories are made, and futures are shaped. Like the evening star in the sky, we want Intermate to be a constant that students can always turn to, no matter where they are in their academic journey.

Here's to an unforgettable year of growth, connection, unforgettable sunsets and starry nights!

 the 42nd board of Intermate, Vesper

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Beatifully Crafted or



Audaciously stolen?

Pûlse is Intermate's very own band, performing on all kinds of stages and slowly growing its fanbase. They are covering lots of great songs, but where do these songs come from?

Text: Naud Janssen

As Pûlse we currently only cover songs, instead of actually writing original ones. A beautiful art in itself, because some cover songs have become more famous than their originals. Think for example of Proud Mary, where we as Pûlse covered the Tina Turner version, which in itself was a more famous cover of the Creedence Clearwater Revival version. However, when we played the Sweet Dreams Seven Nation Army mashup, I heard questions about how we realised that these songs fit together. That version was made by Pomplamoose, however, not by us, but this did make me realise how easy it would have been to make people believe that we made it (although I doubt that many people would actually have believed that).

The music industry is full of examples of artists copying each other. The most famous example that comes to mind might be Ice Ice Baby, which notoriously copied Queen & David Bowie's Under Pressure. Funnily enough, Vanilla Ice denied that the bassline was a rip-off and claimed it to be different enough from Under Pressure (there is one extra note in Vanilla Ice's version). There are more examples like this, such as Bittersweet Symphony using a sample of The Rolling Stones' The Last Time, leading to the fact that The Verve did not receive any money for the biggest hit in their repertoire. But there is also so many strange cases, for example

Creedence Clearwater Revival frontman John Fogerty being sued for sounding too much like Creedence Clearwater Revival after he went solo - basically saying that he sounded too much like himself. A more recent artist who often receives backlash because of copyright claims is Dua Lipa, especially in her album Future Nostalgia. Funnily enough, the album was created to have an 80-s sound, but many artists from the 80-s sued Dua Lipa because of this (for example; Prisoner sounding much like Physical by Olivia Newton-John, but also like I Was Made for Loving You by Kiss).

"Vanilla Ice denied that the baseline was a rip-off and claimed to be different enough from Under Pressure."

There is a difference between blatantly stealing music and thoughtfully sampling it though. The Black Eyed Peas are a good example of this. Most of their most famous songs sample older work - Pump it sampling Misirlou or The Time sampling The Time of My Life - but these are still outright bangers and maybe even more famous than the



originals. Kanye West also does this a lot, for example in Stronger directly sampling Daft Punk's Harder, Better, Faster, Stronger. For these songs, this works for me. There are however also some samples where I can just only think of the original. An example of this is Madonna's Hung Up, which samples Gimme Gimme Gimme, but every time I hear Hung Up, I can only think of Gimme Gimme Gimme.

While sampling basically copy-pastes a segment of a song, a different form of copying music is interpolating. This is slowly becoming the new standard for modern music, almost every current pop-song features a form of interpolation. When interpolating, one takes for example the melody of a popular song and changes it just enough to fit their own style. An example of this is Vluchtstrook, which very clearly is an interpolation of Have You Ever Been Mellow. Funnily enough, Have You Ever Been Mellow, is a sample in itself from Olivia Netwon-John's identically named track. This means that Vluchstrook is the third iteration of that melody made. The question then becomes, does this melody get better with each iteration, or is it just the case of catching a piggyback on an already successful song?

For me personally, I have a bit of a love-hate relationship with this type of music. While some interpolations are absolute bangers or

really funny (Eg. Bankzitters interpolating L'Amours Toujours in their Je Blik Richting Mij), many of them for me feel unoriginal or even disrespectful towards the original. The best example that I can give for this case is Armin van Buuren's Euphoria, which is an interpolation of Beethoven's Für Elise. To me, this feels ridiculous, however, it does prove to be successful. The main hypothesis why this works is familiarity. We recognize the melody, sometimes subconsciously, which gives us a feeling of nostalgia towards this new song.

Where do we draw the line however between creative reinterpretation, and simply copying because you noticed the success of a song? That question is very difficult, and probably very different for everyone, but that's also the beauty of music. In the end however, I hope that all credit is given where credit is due for the originals. Otherwise, it is just blatant pirating.

PS. My apologies if I you love any of the songs that I have bashed in this article!

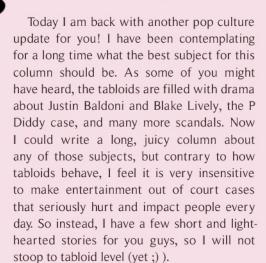


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POP CULTURE 101

Welcome back to class everyone. In this second edition of Pop Culture 101, Julia once again takes on the impossible task of making sense of the trends, icons, and internet phenomena that shape our collective reality.

Text: Julia Ellen, Professional Yapper



Case 1 - Lea Michele can read????

Now this first case is one for all the gleeks (fans of the ty-show Glee). For five seasons, Lea Michele was the star of Glee, portraying an annoying, but talented girl; Rachel Berry. This show is an absolute staple in pop culture, if you have not seen it; you should. But alas, in the years following Glee, many rumours have circled the actors, romances, problematic behaviours, and more. By far the funniest rumour of all though, is the one that Lea Michele actually cannot read. I do not know who started this rumour, but since she is said to be quite an annoying person to deal with, I reckon it could have been anyone who knew her. Now this rumour has steadily been going for about 10 years, and she has never



"Every time she tried to prove to people she could read, something would be off"

been able to debunk it. Every time she tried to prove to people she could read, something would be off; someone close to her mouthing the words, hair covering her ears (she could have an earbud in) or something else. It got to the point where Lea's illiteracy was the biggest joke of the fandom, and people would say stuff like "wow that was so funny, translation for Lea:

". However, recently, Lea Michele went on the Therapuss with Jake Shane podcast, and proved once and for all, that she can actually read. Too bad, or for

Case 2 - the METgala V

Every year, the Metropolitan museum of art in New York hosts a gala to raise money for their art exhibits. They do this by hosting

COLUMN -

Jul's Juice Channel

a gala on the opening day of their fashion exhibit. The MET gala. It is the biggest night in fashion, where millions of dollars are spent on outfits, make up, hair, and PR. And as a pop culture fan, watching the met gala is certainly a must. This year, the dress code was: Tailored for you, in line with the fashion

Carpenter is on the Short 'n Sweet tour, which is insanely good and popular for someone on their second album, Olivia Rodrigo is doing a festival tour, and she is absolutely killing it, Billie Eilish has people camping out for Hit me Hard and Soft: The Tour. Overall, the popstar girls are bringing it when it comes

"Guys give her a break, she's just an astronaut." 💙

exhibit that opened at the MET superfine: tailoring black style. This year's conclusion is pretty much as it always is: there were some good looks, there were some major flops, and too many men wore a boring black suit, with no statements or substance. Well, onto next year where we can watch this capitol-esque exhibit from district 12 again;)

Case 3 - Pop girlies on tour

Taylor Swift has the Eras Tour, which received the award for tour of the century, Beyonce is on the Cowboy Carter tour which is a tour of the highest quality, Sabrina

to fun and successful tours, and the past two years, they have really stepped it up and completely made up for all concerts we missed due to COVID. One popstar is drastically falling behind however, someone who used to be one of the biggest in the industry and was often seen as Taylor Swift's direct rival: Katy Perry. After her wasteful, weird and 14 second long trip to space, Katy has started with "the Lifetimes Tour", whose name (a cheap knockoff off Eras Tour) really set the tone for the flop this tour is turning out to be. Every clip I have seen of this tour shows a visual overload of poorly executed dance moves, cheap and weird costumes, and non-existent vocal abilities. Next to that,

she is blatantly copying everyone and everything in this tour; she is flying like P!nk did, butchering tate mcrea's flips, spinning for a surprise song like Sabrina, and much more. I highly encourage everyone to look up some clips if they are feeling inadequate, because I can guarantee you will feel better. Well, as someone already said: "Guys give her a break, she's just an astronaut".

Katy Perry in Space!!!





Intermania

The History of the Grog



As students, we are more or less the same as pirates. A drink or two (or three) is ever welcome after a hard days' work, some extra treasure is always nice and exploring the world is something both groups do on a daily basis. To teach the students a little bit more about the history of pirates, let me tell you about the Grog!

By Timo Beerman, Intermania alcohol (ir)responsible

With the rise transatlantic trade, sea voyages grew longer and longer, sometimes even lasting over eight weeks. This caused many problems for preserving the freshness of foods, just like you might have with that one bag of salad in the back of your fridge. Keeping water fresh on this journey was especially critical, which was done by adding small amounts of alcohol, like rum, gin, brandy, or others, to the barrels of water. In essence, sailors were drinking very weird cocktails throughout their travels across the world.

Moreover, sailors were often paid during their voyages with alcoholic beverages. Rum and gin were readily available at the ports, after colonizing the Caribbean and Latin America anyways, were also one of the main things being transported back from the colonies to Europe, were quite valuable, and most importantly, it could cure you from your boredom on the ship!

A well behaved pirate could thus get (up to) two rations of halve pints of alcohol per day, one at noon and one at the end of the day. Let me rephrase this, one pirate got 500 ml of rum per day!!! It is also speculated that the booze at this time was even stronger in alcohol, being roughly 60% ABV. And they say that students are dependent on alcohol...

But, clever pirates would do one other thing: stockpile alcohol. Over their lives,

pirates built up quite a resistance to alcohol, so they needed more in order to get by. So, they all told each other to hide part of their booze for a couple of days and then have a real party. As you can imagine, drinking a bottle of gin in a night could cause major problems...

To combat this, captains on a ship ordered the booze to be watered down, 1:2, booze to water. This not only made the rations last longer, it got the sailors drunk less quickly, and made the booze spoil much easier, creating the grog! Pirates would thus not be able to keep their rations for days at a time, and at some point in history, they even added some citrus fruits to their concoctions to combat scurvy! But that is a story for another time, dear landlubbers.

Hope you learnt something new about alcohol, and who knows, maybe ask on the next Thursday drink, ask for a shot of rum and some tap water!* Maybe you start to feel like a real pirate:)

*Intermania is legally obliged to not promote alcoholism. NIX18 kids. Stay safe out there on the ships

The Mysterious Magic of the Disco Ball



Captain Hook had always been searching for magical sparkles floating around like fairy dust that could make you fly. But guess what? Turns out, you don't just need fairy dust for that magical effect. The ultimate party icon can do it as well: the disco ball.

Text: Bram Swaans, Promoslet of the AdoptCie

But where did the disco ball even come from? Why do we have it? And maybe most importantly... why did no one bother telling Captain Hook?

The origin of the disco ball is as mysterious like fog over the ocean. But once the clouds started to fade away, somewhere in the late 19th century, a shiny mirrored sphere slowly emerged. At an electricians' union party in Charlestown, Massachusetts, someone pointed lights at the ball for the first time and the magic began. That first beam of light scattered in every direction, and after WWI, the idea of the disco ball started to catch on.

In 1924, someone even filed the first patent for the "myriad reflector", described as: "a ball, preferably hanging from a string on the ceiling, with a surface covered in a multitude of tiny mirrors."

Right as we were nearing solid ground, the fog rolled back again in during times of crisis and war. But in the 1970s, the disco ball really made its grand entrance. disco culture booming in New York, the ball was brought back hanging above crowds in dark clubs, where all other lights were turned off. Suddenly, this shimmering globe of light was the star of the show, encouraging everyone to

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lose themselves to the rhythm of disco. It was like someone dug up a long-lost treasure from the roaring twenties, gave it a new name the disco ball and a true icon of dancing and partying was born.

And even though disco eventually disappeared from the charts, the disco ball refused to go down with the ship like a real pirate. These days, you'll find one in almost every club, big or small. What is more, eagle-eyed students might've even spotted one in the Internaat and no, we're not talking about the pirate (... or are we?).



Borrel Legend: Kasteel Rouge



The observant borrelaar might have noticed a change in our beloved bar fridges; the Intermate classics plank is home to two new beers. Next to GP, Tripel Karmeliet, Hoegaarde Wit, and Orval, we will now always serve Orchestra of Angels and Kasteel Rouge!

Text: Quincy Netteb, old Borrel Board

There are many beers that pass through the Intermate fridge, hoppy IPAs, mysterious saisons, sour experiments, each appearing for a brief, flavorful fling. But every now and then, a beer earns its place among the greats. The chosen few. The Intermate classics. Always cold, always available, and always worthy of a second (or third) round.

Kasteel Rouge along with Ochestra of Angels (see Intermania, Year 25, Issue 3, April 2019) has recently claimed its seat at this legendary round table. With its seductive cherry aroma, deceptively smooth taste, and dangerous 8% punch, it's no wonder this ruby-red elixir keeps calling people back. Whether you drink it out of curiosity or by tradition, know this: behind every Intermate classic, there's a story. A legend. And the story of Kasteel Rouge?

"It begins, as all good legends do... in a castle."

In the misty hills of Ingelmunster, long before there was a brewery or even a town, there stood a castle. The castle's lord was no ordinary noble, he was Count Aldegon, a man of great appetite, both for battle and for indulgence. But while his sword arm was legendary, it was his secret cellar that truly made him feared among the ruling class. For Aldegon brewed potions. Not just any ale, but

elixirs strong enough to rouse the dead and sweet enough to trick the living into loving their fate.

One autumn, Aldegon fell in love with a wandering healer, a woman named Rouja. She was not just a herbalist, but a keeper of ancient brewing lore. Her specialty: wild cherries. She spoke of old magic that could capture desire in liquid form, of fermentation that teased the line between poison and pleasure. Together, in the depths of the castle's cellar, they crafted a potion that was bold and red as spilled wine on white cloth. Cherries, crushed by hand under moonlight. Dark malts, thick with warmth. A brew so smooth it danced across the tongue, and so strong it could silence a knight mid-song. But as legends go, things never end sweetly.

When the neighboring lords learned of Aldegon's potent red ale, the drink he named for his beloved, Rouge, they plotted to steal the recipe. One by one, they sent spies, tricksters, even sorcerers. Each was given a goblet of the drink, and each failed. The ale was too pleasurable. Too dangerous. Some fell into drunken sleep, dreaming of long-lost loves. Others wandered the castle halls for days, entranced by its flavor. None returned with the secret.

"Then, war came."



The castle fell during the Great Winter Siege. But rumor holds that Aldegon and Rouja, on the eve of destruction, sealed the last barrel deep beneath the ruins, locked behind a wall of stone and a kiss of magic. Only when the time was right, when someone of pure thirst and curious heart would find it, would the recipe return.

Centuries passed. The castle was rebuilt. And in 1991, a brewer by the name of Xavier Van Honsebrouck stumbled upon an old, bricked-up tunnel beneath the castle floor. Behind the wall: a single cask, cracked open by time. Inside, sour cherries. Still fragrant. Still dark. Still dangerously sweet.

All thus, Kasteel Rouge, a beer that still tastes like forbidden love and forgotten spells, was reborn. It is no coincidence that those who drink it often find themselves talking too loudly, laughing too freely, or dancing despite themselves. It's the spirit of Aldegon and Rouja, reminding us that strength is nothing without seduction, and that sometimes the sweetest drink carries the sharpest edge.

Cheers!

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Wordsearch

Ahoy, matey! Can you find all the hidden treasures in this wordsearch filled with pirates, pirating, plunder, and the high seas?



- AHOY
- COMPASS
- CUTLASS
- HACKER
- MALWARE
- WALWAKI
- PIRACY
- RUM

- SHIPWRECK
- TORRENT
- CANNON
- COPYRIGHT
- DDOS
- HOOK
- MUTINY

- PLUNDER
- SCURVY
- STREAMING
- TREASURE
- CAPTAIN
- CRACKED
- DOWNLOAD

- LEAK
- PARROT
- RANSOMWARE
- SEA
- -SWASHBUCKLER

Fit Check: a Breakdown of the Iconic Pirate Look



Ahoy Intermaatjes! We from InterMERCH know damn well how hard it is to find and express your style. Therefore, for this edition of the Intermania, we will try to inspire you by highlighting a style that is often overlooked. We present to you a deep dive into the unknown waters of pirate fashion. These are the fundamental pieces that you can't miss!

Hat and/or Bandana - The Crown of a Pirate

No pirate look is complete without something on the head, whether it's a bold tricorn hat or a weathered bandana. It's more than just sun protection, it's a symbol of status, flair, and fashion. These pieces of headwear are extremely customizable and give the opportunity to show off your personal style. You can intertwine beads and trinkets into your bandana like Jack Sparrow, or you can go for a plume that will get you recognized from miles away. The possibilities are endless!

Eyepatch - More than Meets the Eye

Eyewear has always been an important part of fashion. Forget sunglasses, eyepatches are the way to go! Wearing an eyepatch not only makes you look mysterious and cool, but it also tells your personal story. It displays your experience and commitment to the pirate lifestyle. It exhibits the fierce battles you have gone through and the unknown challenges you have faced. Other pirates will respect you for wearing one!

Parrot – The Eye-Catcher of the Look

As a pirate, you can't be seen with undecorated shoulders. The parrot adds

the exotic touch to the outfit, it gives the look some spice and character. With vibrant feathers and colorful apparel, including a parrot in your appearance, gives a statement of eccentricity and audacity. Furthermore, your parrot will also be a reflection of who you really are, as it mimics your behavior and echoes all your thoughts.

Hook - Captain Hook would approve

Nothing screams pirate like a hook for a hand. One of the most famous pirates to ever do it is Captain Hook, a style icon among pirates. He represents the haute couture of pirate fashion with his slick costume and refined moustache. However, what made him most famous is his hook. The shiny element of his attire made him stand out from the crowd. So if you want to be known for your look, you know what you've got to do!

Hopefully, we've inspired you to try one of these pieces. However, if you feel like these aren't quite you, keep your eyes open for upcoming treasures that the Intermerch will bring to you, as hopefully they can find a way into your heart!

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To Klus or to Klok 3



lunch break in the Internaat. But they aré back nonétheless with á new árticle; the highly Did you miss them? Probably not as they are loudly present every Friday during the anticipated seguel to "To Klus or to Klok" and "To Klus or to Klok 2". Here it is. Aye to! Text: Jonna (Schaamteloze Schuurmachine & Kabouter Klus), Joep (Makkelijjke Multitool), Martijn (Tactische Trapladder), Emma Eigenwijze Emmer), Luc (Hardnekkige Holpijp), Meijs (Botte Bout), Timo (Ranzige Radio), Rik (Brakke Blaffer) & Morris (Funzige

remainder house god has, and see my clother are outly and agged. Yesterday water?! like spanish people always say sit see sis, in the se! don't see anyone elee on the island or in the sea Iden't was a long night of drinking, but I wouldn't have expected this to I lost all my brain alls. However, I will gather all my courage background "wholkholking I wook working around but I in standing on the beach and hear the sea in the the the result. My self-made raft is laying on the beach, shattered into pieces and accompanied with but I don't see Water, any sea. I think I drank to much, suspersonated a big pile of empty cans of klok It I want to add one this beach. I need to repair my caft My wead haves what wonderons how could make that she?

heaven of unlimited pulling materials and lukeworm cans of kink bey till 15 the world flot all olong, and what is occoss the edge, is that where , I, as a (rekius Klus veteran, 12, together with my book - will each up in the and last 3 brain cells to come up with an amazing plan. After a stortfinishing touch I stack my last cans on top of one another to crease a peciale. With the vally now functional Wanted to know what I can find at the adge of the water When an after be that well be is going through my head os I paddle for my light on the great wide sea is not that to bad I think to myself, as I sail into the horizon with my raft of klokjes... necessory companents for the raft, which the Klok cans a repair the I sail For a while, but after not too long I see the edge of the water coming near & was I start to endsul faster, I have always up - sisi instead of already drinking Klok again, I stort with gothering the & bottom and make it waterproof. I som up some coms, especial plum of, and crooke a multishit suit. For a I bake a last look around this beach of angluming belove selling off.

BLACKBEARD: A PIRATE STORY



Discover the thrilling tale of Blackbeard, the infamous pirate whose fearsome tactics, legendary ship, and mysterious end left an enduring mark on maritime history. Dive into the life of a man who turned terror into an empire on the seas.

Text: Kwoenk & TeamO

To get you as excited as we are, I will share an insight into the life of one of the most notorious pirates in history: Blackbeard. Edward Teach or Thatch, as some records suggest, later known as Captain Blackbeard, was born somewhere in the north of England in the late 17th century. Not much of his early life is known, except that at some point he settled down on the island of New Providence in the Bahamas. The island, at that point in time, was described as 'a home for a literal floating population', or more commonly referred to as a Freetown.

At some point, probably around 1715, he joined the crew of Captain Benjamin Hornigold (most pirates could choose their own pirate name :)). From the get-go, Blackbeard was known as an "uncommonly bold and courageous" individual, which earned him his own vessel very early on in his pirating career. Though this was still a one-master and under the discretion of Hornigold, Blackbeard quickly made a name for himself. He rose up the ranks using daring tactics and by making use of fear as his main form of attack; for instance, he used to light fuses under his hat and in his beard when attacking other ships to appear like a hellish demon emerging from smoke and flame.

In 1717, Blackbeard was successful in capturing his infamous warship *La Concorde* from the French, a three-mast vessel with over 40 cannons and a crew of more than 300

men to man it. He would keep this vessel as his flagship, later renaming it *Queen Anne's Revenge*. With this ship, much of the West Indies, what we now call the Caribbean, saw the plunder of the skull-flagged ship. During this time, under mysterious circumstances, Captain Hornigold was discharged from his captain duties, and Blackbeard became a self-employed entrepreneur once again.

Turning north, they sailed through the Bahamas and proceeded up the North American coast. In May 1718, the pirates arrived off Charleston, South Carolina, with *Queen Anne's Revenge* and three smaller sloops. In perhaps the most brazen act of





his piratical career, Blackbeard blockaded the port of Charleston for nearly a week. The pirates seized several ships attempting to enter or leave the port and detained the crew and passengers of one ship, *The Crowley*, as prisoners. As ransom for the hostages, Blackbeard demanded a chest of medicine. Once delivered, the captives were released, and the pirates continued their journey up the coast.

Later that year, tragedy struck when *Queen Anne's Revenge* ran aground near Beaufort Inlet, North Carolina. Some historians believe this was intentional, as Blackbeard may have been looking to downsize his crew and keep a greater share of the loot. Regardless, the wreck left him with fewer resources and an increasingly narrow path forward.

Nevertheless, Blackbeard established his base in a North Carolina inlet, forcibly collected tolls from shipping in Pamlico Sound, and made a prize-sharing agreement with Charles Eden, governor of the North Carolina colony. His semi-legitimized piracy irritated neighboring colonies. At the request of Carolina planters, the lieutenant governor of Virginia, Alexander Spotswood, dispatched a British naval force under Lieutenant Robert Maynard. In a brutal close-quarters battle aboard Maynard's ship, Blackbeard was finally defeated and killed. By some accounts, he sustained over twenty wounds before succumbing. His decapitated head was hung from the bowsprit of Maynard's ship as a grim warning to other would-be pirates.

Apart from the luxuriant black beard which earned him his nickname, the most enduring element of the Blackbeard legend is his supposed hidden treasure, vast riches buried somewhere in the Carolinas. To this day, no treasure has ever been found, and most historians believe it never existed. However, the wreck of *Queen Anne's Revenge* was discovered off the coast of North Carolina by divers in the mid-1990s. Hundreds of artifacts were recovered from the site in the following decades, including navigational devices, cannons, pewter plates, and even a sword hilt, offering a glimpse into the dark and daring world of piracy's most infamous name.

September 2025

Navigating the Stormy Seas of Online Lectures



Come along as Annika takes us on her BEP journey. Instead of sailing the seven seas, she and her crew set out to tackle a modern challenge: how to keep students' attention during online lectures. What they discovered was not only strategies for focus.

Text: Annika Valkering, Preases

Arrr, mateys! While the Intermania sails under the "Pirates & Pirating" flag this half-year, I'm on my own voyage: hunting down the treasure of attention during online lectures. Let's be honest, staying focused during a boring lecture when your biggest distractions are your phone and your mates? That's a real pirate challenge.

The mission for my BEP crew and me was to test clever strategies to improve students' attention in online lectures. We deployed two secret weapons. First: the Attention Bar, a tool that shows students their focus level in real-time, kind of like a fuel gauge, but for your brain. The second method is a bit more... aggressive. If a student's attention drops too low, a pop-up appears and automatically pauses the lecture, basically yelling, "Wake up, ye landlubber!" We ran an experiment with these tricks to see if we could uncover a hidden gem that might help students stay focused in their lectures and sail smoothly toward their diplomas.

But the real treasure? My BEP group. We didn't just work together: we became a real pirate crew. We laughed, played games, shared far too many memes, and even shared life stories, surviving both academic storms and personal ones together. I'd gladly set sail into the future with these newfound friends.

Here's to better attention and the best pirate crew on campus!





How to run Pirate Company Inc.



In light of recent developments with Intermate studies, it seems to me that we will need to cross bridges to the other side of our department. To make this booklet inclusive for the more industrial side of our studies as well, I will tell you something about the workings of Pirate company Inc!

By mr. Beerman, quartermaster of the 40th board of sv Intermate and IM student*

So, you probably all see the captain of a pirate ship as the CEO of Pirate company Inc. Yet, nothing could be truer. Pirate ships are actually quite democratic, or horizontal, entities. Before departing, all crew come together and decide on the rules of the voyage, such as who leads, under what terms, who gets paid what, and other administrative things. In this process, a captain and a quartermaster are elected by the complete crew. Note that even though it was uncommon, even females were able to be part of the crew, thus they could vote! Take that feminism! Anyway, the elected captain is in charge of supervising the daily operation of Pirate company Inc, plundering the high seas, and the quartermaster is in charge of keeping the ship afloat.

The captain, Chief Operations Officer/COO, is often portrayed as the leading figure, needing absolute obedience from the crew, or else their tongue gets cut out, or something of the sorts. Yet, it was often the case that with a simple majority, a new captain could be elected, rather than needing widespread mutiny. The only time it is not possible to overthrow a captain is when in an actual battle, even if he was leading the crew to their waking death. Oh well, you should have known not to follow a reckless pirate anyway.

The other half of the administrative duo is the quartermaster. Unlike the captain, many of the crew kept good relations with him throughout the travels, as he was responsible for handing out pay at the end of the plundering spree. More importantly, he was in charge of handing out the rations of alcohol throughout the day, so getting on his bad side could leave you sober while your colleagues got hammered.



So, what does the business plan of Pirate Company Inc look like? For that we have to turn to the books of the quartermaster. The main expense of Pirate Company Inc is its crew. Instead of being paid by the hour, like on a ship of the empire, sailors on pirate ships get paid a fixed, almost equal, share of the total booty, however high that might be. This way, pirates get motivated to go for more risky, higher valued raids. Think of it like your investment portfolio, where you select the highest risk possible for the highest yields.

Another expense that can turn out to be quite big is the repairment of the ships. Risky raids can cause quite some damage to the ship, which

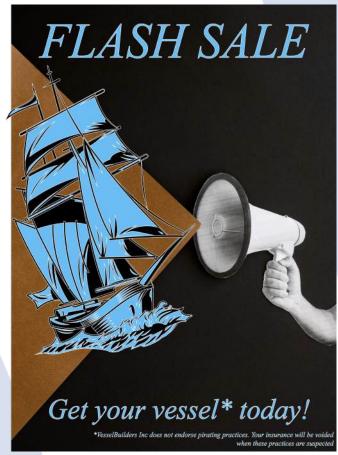
will be deducted from the total booty at the end. Though, needing repairs to your pirate ship is not as simple as docking in whatever port. Pirate ships need to be repaired away from the eyes of the empire, and thus the dockworkers in these ports can monopolize pirate ships repairs, driving up the prizes massively.

Analyzing the process of raiding, we again see the power triangle of the captain, the quartermaster, and the crew, where the captain decides what booty to chase, and how much that that would benefit the crew. The quartermaster calculates the income and costs afterwards, and informs the crew what this raid has done to their earnings. The crew, thereafter, can decide how happy they are with the initial decision from the captain.

Another important business strategy to discuss is marketing. Pirate ships can brand themselves in two ways. Firsly, they can fly their iconic black flags with white skulls, or anything of the sorts. This marketing strategy has the benefit that the crew on regular ships become scared by a pirate ship approaching fast, which might make them decide to just hand over their valuables without a fight. A disadvantage of this is that they are easily seen by enemy ships, who can start to hunt them down. Secondly, pirate ships can go undercover, flying the flags of the empires to creep up and unexpectedly enter a ship. Though, this strategy usually only works the first time, after which other ships are on the lookout for imposters.

This cycle of raiding, repairing,

restocking, captains being changed, crew members leaving, and some other unlawful activities goes on until the contract has run its time, the ship is sailed totalloss, too many sailors have left, or no eligible captains are left over. Then, the quartermaster tallies the total loot and finally pays out the sailors. The sailors are brought to go to land, where they are once again free folk, but now with some hard-earned gold in their pockets. Pirate Company Inc is now officially dissolved. Captains, however, often kept ownership of the ship, which they can sell in addition to their booty to get some extra gold. Or they could make the ship go all around again and form a new Pirate Company Inc and do it all over again. So, the cycle continues.



September 2025

ntermate schijf > Intermania > Y31 (2024-2025) > 5. B Is generative AI piracy? By Maarten van Sluijs, programming wizzard In his column, Maarten will go through the history and implications of to read more about the ethics of generating 'new' information! It all started in 2017 at a small company some people might know called known paper titled "Attention is all you need" and it all went down fro (the "T" in chatGPT) kicking off the rapid development of Generative Ar GenAI models take some sort of input prompt, usually text; and give an shelves its accomplishments felt like otherworldly black magic; but now don²t know how it does what it does. The way it creates the things you human. This is likely why a lot of artists claim that AI models are pir that that's stupid and those people are wrong. Ever since the dawn of time people have tried to find shortcuts to comp creating the next cool meme. Technology is usually at the center of thi between two competing parties trying to one-up each other. It should be prey to this behaviour. GenAI is simply the latest tool in this viciou however is that artists are now claiming that AI is pirating their art on the matter it feels like artists think that models like Dall-E simp that is not true. If "ctrl-c ctrl-v" were the case then this discussio press. Of course Gutenberg in his day also just made that to copy the a pirate. Furthermore, proposing the press learns anything from what i strong case can be made that GenAI actually learns simply because it l prompt, followed by part of an answer. The teacher asks Chat if it can the end our model gets feedback on how well it did and if it improved. routine. The little green shit asks me what "apple" is in Polish, and So basically, generative AI models learn in the same way as we do, they a clever way to do something faster than the competition and earns a l

> try to bully the government to help them by screaming piracy. This may but faster. This can only mean one thing. Have you spotted it yet? We right any time we open our eyes and see something new. We're pirating might not look like anything we've seen before, but the words are the and have seen for the past two decades. We should be ashamed of oursel

I don't feel ashamed. If anything I feel empowered! I can now go throug using vulgar language. This realization has greatly improved my life in

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's for me!

Floors Foodie column

Foodie Floor: Foodnotes



Some of you might have heard me talk about food. Some of you might have heard me talk about food in Eindhoven. Some of you might have even asked me where to go for food in Eindhoven, but this will no longer be necessary, for I am about to present to you all the best food spots in Eindhoven (in my opinion) for all different occasions, à la my favorite influencer: Snackspert.

By: Floor van der Velden; resident Snackspert

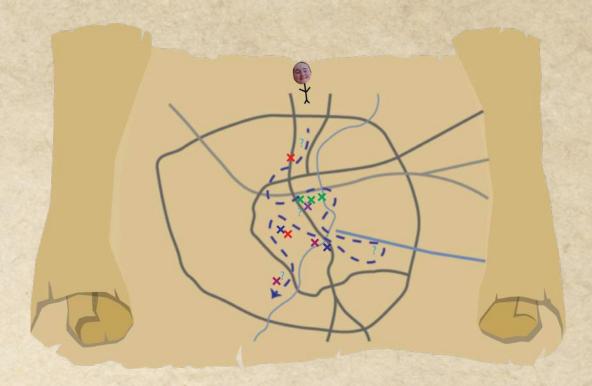
I have long been an advocate for awarding Hizmet the title of best kapsalon of Eindhoven. Already during my high school days, was Hizmet the place to go for a good, cheap kapsalon. Nowadays, they've become a bit more expensive, but the quality still stands. However, my eyes have since been opened to the kapsalon of the Döner Dream, which at least matches the level of the Hizmet kapsalon. Another quick dinner that can be bought on a budget is the wok meals of Tony's, where you can choose your desired protein, carbs, and sauce to create a box of cheap deliciousness.

Because we are students, some restaurants might be better to visit with your parents. For the past 15 years, there's been one restaurant where my parents and I have always come back: Sushi Haru. This cozy Japanese restaurant serves authentic Japanese cuisine with incredibly fresh sushi, but also great noodle soups, and yummy Teppan-Yaki. Run by a Japanese couple, Sushi Haru delivers great flavour while providing attentive service. For delicious sushi, you could also go to Kyoto, where the menu is a bit more creative. However, the service here is significantly worse than at Haru. Good to keep in mind when considering where to go. If you're ready to splurge on Italian food, La Dolce Vita should be your place to go. A semi-fancy, authentically Italian place for slightly upscale but very delicious food. Another

great option is the **Effenaar**, which serves seasonal and creative food. My favorite dish here is the extremely fresh calamares; not the battered kind, but the floured kind.

A restaurant that's also slightly more pricy but very suitable for a date night is Lucie Cocina. This Spanish 'boutique bar', as they call themselves, has earned the BIB Gourmand accreditation for its amazing food and extensive wine list. While they don't serve typical tapas, Spanish flavours can definitely be found. Another great restaurant with this accreditation is OST Kitchen & Bar. They focus on creating a unique culinary experience for guests without the formal pressure of a traditional fine dining restaurant. This is reflected in their seasonally switching menu, which highlights locally sourced ingredients that limit waste as much as possible. Overall, a vibe that matches Intermate's mindset.

For more date night opportunities, I recommend La Casera and World Kitchen by Shiran. La Casera is a wine and cheese bar with extremely knowledgeable employees on both topics. The establishment is very cozy (and small, so there is a chance that it's full) but also has great vibes. World Kitchen by Shiran is also a small restaurant, but here you get a surprise menu for 40 euros per person with dishes from two different world kitchens. These kitchens rotate every two months, leading to a lot of creative surprises. Due to many positive stories about how great the



Floor 's Food Treasurers through Eindhoven

experience was there, I went there as well. My experience was not as great as the stories, but I still believe in its potential. If you want me to elaborate, do not hesitate to ask, but this story is too long for these pages.

For amazing burgers, go to Dr Feelgood's Smash Burgers. They serve smash burgers that withstood the test of delivery. According to their website, they also have an omakase concept at their restaurant, which I have not tried, but I am extremely curious to do so. For those who don't know, with an omakase concept, you leave the choice of food up to the chef. A more well-known amazing burger spot is De Burger, which also does a good job of satisfying your burger craving. For amazing American-Mexican food, visit Nico's!! The spoken language here is either Spanish or English, which is always a good indication of quality. I cannot stress enough how great their food is, partly because everything is homemade. One last wildcard I want to leave

you with is the dim sum at New Oriental Food City. In this authentically Chinese restaurant, where you can mostly find Asian people, you are given an absolutely enormous menu filled with authentic Chinese dishes. My favorites among this menu are the dim sum, which are small dishes that are either steamed or fried. These include, for example, dumplings and fluffy buns. However, the larger dishes also do not disappoint.

Of course, even I have not visited every establishment in Eindhoven. So, to wrap up this extensive list, I will leave you with some places that are next on my list to check out:

- Django's Pizza & Bar
- Takumi Ramen Noodles Nieuwstraat (the one with tonkotsu style broth)
 - Restaurant Iris
 - SuperMARKT

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High seas & hidden cameras – the piracy of theatre



The digital age is taking over more and more aspects of our lives. A cosy evening in the theatre was one of those last things to be savoured in real life, or so we thought. Miryanna will tell you about bootlegging!

By: Miryanna Bonenberg

I'm a fervent enthusiast of going to the theatre, and especially watching musicals. There are however a few things that annoy me when sitting in the audience. These things include for example, loud eating, people talking and singing along or children waving those light wands during the musical in the seat next to you that they just bought from the stand while you are trying to enjoy the show but get constantly blinded by that stupid turning light. But the thing that annoys me most is people making pictures and videos even when it is being said before the start of the show that it is not allowed. Sometimes these videos even get uploaded to the internet, this is what you would call a bootleg.

A bootleg has a long history. It first appeared in the seventeenth century as hiding something illegal in the shaft of a boot, but it became widely popular in the US during the prohibition in the 1920s. It was mostly used as a phrase of smuggling illegal rum from the islands of Cuba, the Caribbean and the Antilles to the US. From that point on the term bootleg became to grow as the term of smuggling illegal stuff, Later it became popular with stealing or using illegally obtained music. This came to light in different ways like recording live performances, reuploading existing recordings, and DJs who made remixes of existing music. Today it is also wildly used as recording or making videos during a show and putting it online. These videos can be found on YouTube under the title of slime tutorial [musical].*

There are some advantages to watching and creating bootlegs. First of all, it is free, so if you do not have a lot of money to spend, you can still enjoy a show. Second, it could be used as a way to make the show known to the audience as it gets shared on social media, so it is a free opportunity for the

company to market the musical which could help with the ticket sale. Lastly, it is also a way for the cast and creatives to archive the show so that they are able to watch it back later.

There are also some disadvantages of bootlegs. The most important one is that it is illegal, and there are high fines on spreading and making a bootleg. When someone is making a bootleg, it is distracting the people in the audience sitting around this person, and for the cast onstage as they can see what happens in the audience, and filming is a distraction as a phone always emits light. It also a violation of copyright and intellectual property. When seeing a bootleg on the internet, it might potentially deter away possible audience members as they have the feeling they already saw the show, but watching a video does not equal the experience of going to the theatre.

Concluding, watching and creating a bootleg is an illegal activity with a long history. Watching a bootleg would never be better than going to the theatre and creating a bootleg in said theatre is disturbing the experience of other people. So the next time (or the first time) you visit, think about this article and enjoy the show even more knowing that you are enjoying something magical. And if you really cannot help it or don't want to wait to see the musical, you might find it on You-Tube.

*only for educational purposes.

STEALING



June 2025 29

Arrr you kidding me? Pirates: Reality and fiction

Imagine this: you are aboard a creaky wooden ship at the turn of the 18th century, when suddenly a cold shiver travels down your spine. A small ship full of wild looking, sword-bearing, maniacs is about to board your vessel... Fast forward to the present day, and a 'pirate' is more likely to be a guy named Morris who goes brassing at Stratum than a rough unshaved brute. Somewhere along the way real piracy got lost at sea and was replaced by--although more charming--largely inaccurate stereotypes. Pirates have given us some of the most iconic imagery in pop culture history but is that image reality or just very good PromoCie.

The book "A General History of the Robberies and Murders of the most notorious Pyrates" (1724) is often described as one of the largest and earliest influences of the current misconceptions we have of pirates. In the book, author Captain Charles Johnson describes the lives of early 18th century pirates, based on newspaper stories, trial records and interviews with former pirates, however he did make use of a fair amount of artistic license to make the plot and persona more exciting. The book's vivid descriptions and illustrations had a large influence on our current perception of pirates. Hidden treasures, parrots, wooden legs, or missing they all find their eyes,

pop-culture origin in Johnson's stories.

"Treasure
Island" (1883),
by Robert
L o u i s
Stevenson,
is another
book with

a great influence on the current image of pirates. The book basically invented the template for pirate stories; containing treasure maps marked with an "X", hidden islands, and mutiny. The later Disney movie adaptation (1950) gave pirates their signature accent. In the movie actor Robert Newton, who plays Long John Silver, exaggerates his own West Country accent to create the now iconic accent (arrr). The later movie "Pirates of the Caribbean" (2003) took this now already famous image and made it iconic. Johnny Depp's character Jack Sparrow, including eyeliner, is still, more than 20 years after the first movie, one of the most popular Carnaval outfits.

However, real piracy was nothing like how it's depicted on screen. Many of the now infamous pirates actually started out operating with blessing of their governments using a so called "Letter of Marque"; official permission to rob enemy ships. However, when governments decided that legalized piracy was not a good foreign policy, many turned rogue. Now, with no rules to bound to, rape, murder and torture became a part of their daily routine. Life at sea was also incredibly unhygienic. Pirates suffered from scurvy due to vitamin deficiencies, dysentery from contaminated food and water (often causing severe diarrhea), and malaria from mosquito bites in tropical regions.

So, the next time you hear someone yell "Arrr!", you'll know it's not all treasure maps, eyeliner and parrots. But rather an image built on centuries of survival, storytelling and a bit of PromoCie.

Text: Sjoerd Arts, de Kietelaar



The Treasures of Intermate

Follow along the journey of a young girl finding her true purpose. With riddles, adventures across campus, and a dash of humor, she shows us that the real wealth of Intermate lies not in its vaults, but in its people and traditions.

Text: Femke de B, Treasurer of the 41ste board of Intermate

To become the treasurer of our amazing association, one must embark on a difficult and noble journey. A journey filled with mystery, courage, and a bit of budgeting.

It all began a long time ago. A little girl floated gently along the Dommel in a tiny wooden boat. The water whispered secrets as the wind danced through the trees. Clutching a faded treasure map, she studied it carefully. She was searching for something very special, the legendary treasure of Intermate. You see, she wasn't just any girl. She was the chosen one. The one destined to become the guardian of the gold, the ruler of the receipts and invoices. Or as she liked to call herself... the Treasurer.

But before she could guard the treasure, she first had to find it. The map led her over the Dommel, were she solved riddles and followed clues. Finally, she arrived at the TU/e campus where she solved riddles at the Metaforum, navigated the mysterious corridors of Flux, and crossed the legendary bridge of "Oopsl-forgot-my-student-card-again". Through



it all, she kept asking herself: What kind of treasure could possibly lie at the end of this journey? Gold? Jewels? A perfectly balanced spreadsheet?

Finally, after countless steps and a few budgeting jokes no one laughed at, she reached the X on the map. With bated breath, she opened the final clue...And there it was.

Not a chest of coins. Not a vault of riches. But something far greater. The warmth of laughter. The joy of Thursday drinks. The chaos of TostCie Tuesdays. The friendships that feel like family. The true treasure of Intermate... was its gezelligheid.

And from that day on, she knew: her mission as Treasurer wasn't just to guard money, but to protect the spirit of Intermate, one budget at a time.



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Laugh, life, live music



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ALT SCOTCH WHISK

Tales of the SjaarS(Cie)eas



Out on the wild seas of Sjaarsdom, between the islands of SOG-ing and asking too many questions, a lone boat sails. This boat holds the SjaarsCie committee, who have been tasked with entertaining the masses in their quest to be the best first-year committee.

Text: Jasper van Haaster; professional Sjaars

Today we've set sail, to organize the greatest Sjaarzen activity of the entire yearr!!!

And I won't do it alone, there be fine fellows manning my crew, and I took stock o' them before we set sail.

So here's a quick introduction to our crew.

To start, I'll report on my first mate, Morris Boers.

He seems to be an experienced sailor, weathered by the years as well as the seas.

Although I doubt that his advice always hold water.

The we have our Quartermaster, Finn Linssen.

He is like a bloodhound when it be coming to the corporal punishments.

When there be in an infraction o' the rules, ye be sure he'll find it.

Then we have our Merchantman, Mees Meijers,
He always says that he is busy, either working or studying. So it
doesn't come as a surprise that he hasn't found a single trading
partner.

And at last we have the boatswain, Justin Jansen,
Ill start of by saying the only reason he got the job, is because he's
the only one on board thats not a crippeling alcoholic. Nuff said I
believe.

Arrg, ye Mate'ys, the SjaarsCie has a hoard o' wealth so large, most dragons would be jealous.

But there be one thing above al, that we love the most.

The crown jewel in our collection o' plunder. It be the elixir o'life, the steam o'nature, it be non other that the Monkey's Shoulder.

I believe that Monkey shoulder is the drink that summarizes the 2024/2025 SjaarsCie better than any other thing could.

It was our first gathering for the SjaarsCie. And as all responsible adults do, our first-mate Morris told us that it would be very immature and counterproductive to bring any kind of beverage to such a momentous occasion.

So naturally, all member of the SjaarsCie brought various kinds of alcoholic beverages.

The captain Jasper brough a six pax o' Amstel beer to lighten the mood, while the deck swab Justin brough half a liter "klokjes". Our quartermaster Finn brought a six pack of kordaat, and not to be outdone, Mees brought an entire bottle of tequila.

But all of this pails in comparison to the treasure of kings that Morris brought us on that fateful day.

The first smell is one of immediate distaste. It's deep smokey scent pierces your nose to dig deep into your mouth and lungs.

But after a few whiffs you begin to notice that you don't get used to the smell at all.

After you carefully take a sip, you also realize that the taste is not that great either.

But please, take it from me as someone who has had to drink WAY more Monkey Shoulder than any reasonable person should ever drink in their life.

Once you've drank enough Shoulder monkey, you really do start to enjoy the taste and smell.

(Mind you, that also just might be a pavlovian reaction to the fact

that I drank that filth for 6 months every time I got to day-drink with my friends for one to two hours.)

Just like Monkey Shoulder, the SjaarsCie members of this year were loud, and abrasive and not to everyone's taste. But we really did have fun, and we did our best, and once you've gotten to know us, we're quite alright if you ask me.



Pirating Japanese Culture??



Every year there is a study trip to a foreign country for students to get to experience the nation and the companies it houses. This summer students will head to Japan!! The Study Tour is busy preparing and learning all about Japan and would like to teach you some new stuff as well.

Text: Marike Jaspers; Day Commissioner for Study Tour

Pirating can come in many forms, and while often it is associated with something negative, it can also be something positive (as many students probably know). Pirating can be interpreted as using something that you did not necessarily make yourself;).

This year the study tour will go to the amazing country of Japan! We are very excited to visit, and to prepare for this trip, we thought it might be nice to look back at some of its history. Japan is known for its rich culture, but also for its inventions! With the aformentioned (vague) interpretation of pirating from Marike Jaspers, this years day commissioner of the Study Tour, we have compiled a list of the 5 most influential inventions from Japan that you just might be using.

Tactile paving

Everywhere in the Netherlands we see these tactile pavements to help visually impaired people finding their way. The tiles consist of a dotted or barred surface and helps alert visually impaired people of dangers, such as the edge of a train platform. A Japanese man, Seiichi Miyake, actually invented these to help his friend who was slowly going blind. Tactile paving was invented in 1965, since then this invention has helped many people finding their way, as it was implemented in western countries in the 1990s.

VHS, Floppy disks, CDs and DVDs Although some of us may not use these anymore, we should thank the Japanese for most of the entertainment we used to have. All of these ways to listen and view entertainment are credited to the Japanese. The VHS (Video Home System) was developed by JVC in the 1970s, and it became the standard for watching movies at home way before any streaming service came into the picture. disks were introduced Floppy by Sony in the early 1980s, and though they're now a thing of the past, now mostly known for being the saving icon on Word, they were once the go-to method for saving stuff on your laptop. CDs and DVDs, developed by Sony and Philips (but heavily pushed and innovated by Japanese tech), revolutionized how we listened to music and watched movies. So next time your parents complain about "back in their day," just remember: their nostalgia runs on Japanese innovation.

Revolving stage

This one's a bit more theatrical, literally. The revolving stage—used in plays and performances to change scenes smoothly—was first developed in Japanese kabuki theater in the 18th century. It's called mawari-butai in Japanese. Today, you'll find rotating stages in everything from Broadway musicals to Eurovision performances. Only thanks to Japan the iconic musical 'Soldaat van Oranje' can exist as we know it. So I believe we as the Netherlands owe Japan a big thankyou.

Emojis

Some people with knowledge of the Japanese language could have already predicted this, because the actual word emoji is also Japanese. E (picture) + moji (character) are a staple for texting nowadays. These tiny icons help us express ourselves when words fall short. Invented in 1999 by Shigetaka Kurita, emojis were first used on Japanese mobile phones. At first, they were just a set of 176

simple icons, but today they've evolved into a full-blown universal language.

Gel pens

Last but absolutely not least: the humble gel pen. Students everywhere should be grateful for this. Invented by Sakura Color Products in the 1980s, gel pens combine the smooth glide of a ballpoint pen with the vivid colors of ink. They're perfect for taking notes, making colorful to-do lists, or doodling when lectures get boring (oops). Bonus points if your gel pen has sparkles or smells like fruit just like back in the day.

So, whether it's the DVD's you grew up watching, the pen on your desk, or even the emoji-filled text you sent this morning, Japan

played has pretty big role in our daily student lives. As we get ready to visit this incredible country, let's not forget how much of OUr daily comforts and distractions come from Japanese creativity.



September 2025

Not Jack Sparrow: Real, Modern Pirates



The closest most of us get to meeting pirates are meeting those of us with adobe suite on an SD card, but for those working out at sea pirates are a very real threat.

text: Fasja, professional "I know a guy"

For many of you, what comes to mind when pirates are brought up are either the online kind, or the Jack Sparrow kind. For the film connoisseur under you, it could even be the Tom Hanks movie, Captain Phillips — but it might surprise you how widespread pirating still is.

Both modern and ancient piracy often started from a place of local political instability and poverty. Today, the three main zones of piracy are perfect examples of that.

In Nigeria, oil drilling platforms in the Gulf of Guinea mostly employ foreigners and provide little to no economic benefit to the local communities. This, along with government corruption has lead to extreme poverty only exacerbated by the pollution coming from the drilling operations. Due to this, there has been a rise of kidnappings and other violent attacks on the platforms, as well as damage being done to the oil infrastructure. The oil companies spend



millions to secure their platforms, often hiring ex-military or special forces from all over as well as the national coast guard.

Another region with active piracy is the Strait of Malacca, close to Indonesia. Here most of the attacks happen to shipping vessels. The route is often used to import oil from the Persian Gulf to China, as well as importing Chinese products to the West. This region has been a piracy hotspot since pre-Colonial times, and has managed to evolve through times to continue to be a risky place to sail.

The most famous cases of modern piracy seem to all originate off the Somalian coast. This notability could in part be due to the aforementioned Tom Hanks movie, but possibly also due to the length of time some prisoners have been stuck there. The political instability in Somalia allowed for foreign exploitation of the fishing off of Somalia's coast, which many of the pirates use to justify their attacks. Not only this, but Somalia itself is divided into multiple territories who are in conflict with eachother, making policing and control from a National level near impossible.

These cases of modern piracy may be far from home for a lot of us, but they have far reaching impacts. The costs of security, such as armed personnel and additional boats is high, not to mention dangerous. Due to the various territorial waters the boats cross through, it is also difficult for militaries to police the area without accidentally invading the country.

The Pirate's Guide to Preventing Scurvy

Ahoy, ye scallywags! If ye want to sail the seven seas and keep alive to spend yer plunder, ye better start learning the one thing that's more dangerous than a cannon-ball to the gut - SCURVY! (Dutch: niet schurft

maar scheurbuik)

Text: Hugo Baas, renaissance man

Arrrr, many fine pirates have met their end by the slow, painful grip of this cursed disease. But fear not, I'm here to teach ye how to keep them teeth in yer skull and the strength in yer bones!

Scurvy is caused by a lack o' vitamin C, the magical treasure found in fresh fruits and greens. Without it, a pirate's gums start bleedin', legs go weak, and soon enough, they be deader than a sunken ship. Now, ye don't want to be the soul who keels over before the treasure is found, do ye?

A small tip for ye, there are some ways to keep scurvy at bay. Mostly come in the form of the best treasure out there, food and drinks! Arrr, here are some tips to prevent you from feeding the fish:

1. Lemon & limes! Some British buckos had figured out that drinkin' lime juice kept them healthy and ready to plunder. Mix it with rum and water, and ye got yerself a proper pirate's grog! Yo ho ho! 2. Sauerkraut saves lives! This sour cabbage might not sound like a feast, but it is packed with the good stuff. A barrel o' it on deck will prevent ye droppin' dead anytime soon.

3. Loot the fruit! If ye be raiding a ship or port in the future, grab the dubloons.

Aye, but also grab them oranges, pineapples, and peppers! Packed full of vitamin C, these can really keep ye going for a while.

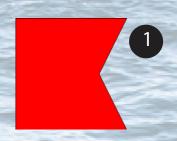
4. Herbs and greens for the win! Even a pirate's stew can be made healthier with spinach, parsley, chili peppers, or whatever else ye got!

So trust me, if ye don't want to start walking the plank soon, better start looking at yer diet. Make delicious stews using the previous tips, and there ye have it - feasts fit for a captain that will keep scurvy at bay!

So, me hearties, eat smart, plunder wisely, and drink yer citrus-infused grog! Or ye might just find yerself buried at sea before yer time! Arrr!!!

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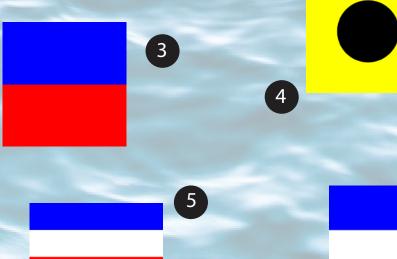
GUESS THE MEANING OF THE NAUTICAL FLAGS



Has the Intermania taught you enough to head out to sea?
Match these meanings with the nautical flags:

A: altering course to port
B: taking or discharging dangerous goods
C: on fire/leaking dagerous cargo
D: altering course to starboard
E: affirmative
F: diver underwater

18' JE' 3D' 44' 2E' 9C





40

WANTED

NEW INTERMANIA MEMBER



ARMED AND READY TO KILL THE PROMOCIE

REWARD OF BEER

