



NEIGHBORHOOD PARTY 2023

What a great party! From 10 o'clock, participants of the flea market were already dragging their stuff down from the attic. Blankets were spread out on the sidewalk at Sassen. The street was too short for the enormous amount of stuff! Many items changed owners.

At 12 o'clock, Wiltje (head of the playground-association) gave the starting signal for the many other activities on the small square in front of the playground. In the playground, huts were built, and high jumps were made on the bouncy castle. The opening act was performed by Batuque Capoeira Leiden. It was amazing how the girls and boys executed complex dance and combat movements. A unique Brazilian combination of martial arts, acrobatics, and music.

The workshops for basketball, soccer, yoga, painting, drama, Technika 10, painting stones, and building birdhouses were well attended. Beautifully made-up and face-painted children came out of the beauty corner. Meanwhile, music played by Brasativa, Ischa Nowa, and the Buskin Belters. About 150 people participated in the street meal, sharing the most delicious dishes with each other. Afterward, there was a pub quiz organized by last year's winners. There were fun prizes and a beautiful trophy for the winning team.

At the Maredijkhuis, DJ Crucial Warrior Sound provided dance music and concluded the evening. All in all, it was a very successful day, thanks to the beautiful weather and the support of the municipality of Leiden, Fonds 1818, and the Druckerfonds.

Next year, of course, we'll do it again! We'll start organizing from February '24. Who will help?



WEDDING RING LOST ... AND FOUND

On 6 October 2023 Aaf Verkade (Leiden's underwater expert) searched for a wedding ring along the Marewijksepolderpad. Local residents had asked her because they had lost their wedding ring. Aaf did the rounds of Adventure Island. And she found a lot more!

- 1,000 three-spined sticklebacks kept an eye on her and at times kept her company
- she spotted a dozen red American crayfish; 7 were caught, of which one was a female (pregnant with 150 eggs), and 6 were male (one of which had just shed its shell)
- four crayfish escaped, they dived deeper into the reeds
- she also saw a tumbler (a ground beetle)
- and lots of back swimmers/water boatmen, which were too quick to film or photograph properly
- for more impressions of the crystal-clear water under the duckweed, see the photo show on the website <https://onderwaterinleiden.nl/wijken/marewijk>
- in addition a child seat for on the bike and 5 pieces of litter
- ... oh yes, the wedding ring was found within 10 minutes!

Incidentally we are extremely curious as to how you can lose your wedding ring in that spot. Perhaps the person who knows more about the loss of the wedding ring can pass that on to us via marewijkbuurt@gmail.com



THE FEAST OF ST MARTIN

Friday-10-November

15:30 – 17:30 Making Chinese lanterns in the Marewijkhuis. Of course walking St Martin is most fun with a self-made lantern. The playground association will provide materials and a number of nice and new ideas for a beautiful lantern. Members of the playground association can take part for free. We will sell lantern sticks.

Saturday-11-November

18:00 – 19:00 Children will go round to the houses in the neighbourhood which are taking part. With their self-made lanterns in hand, they will sing a song for St Martin and in exchange will get some sweets from the "rich people" whose doorbell they ring.



Do you want to take part and give something special to the kids?

In that case put a lamp, lantern or candle next to your front door on 11 November at 6 p.m. to indicate that it's o.k. to ring your doorbell.

Of course other decorations are also possible, perhaps someone may even have space for a St Martin's fire.

St Martin gave away a piece of his cloak, nowadays children prefer to get something sweet. So make sure you have something nice on hand to give to the children.

Will you join in?

NEIGHBOURHOOD VISION 2023-2028

At long last, on 6 October, the Neighbourhood Vision was presented to the alderman, in a festive sphere with coffee and delicious Marewijk cake! In the presence of several city councillors, the district director, the neighbourhood special investigating officers (BOA buitengewoon opsporingsambtenaar), neighbourhood police officers and residents, alderman Jermoumi accepted the Neighbourhood Vision. The alderman expressed his admiration and appreciation of the quality of the work, a magnificent result. In a further explanation he shared his view on participation and the importance of active, involved citizens. Soon after 6 October the Neighbourhood Vision was delivered to all local residents.



CONVERSION OF PROPERTY INTO APARTMENTS

This summer, the draft "housing regulation 2023" was available for perusal. With this regulation, the municipality aims to tackle the issues arising from private rented housing, nuisance due to the conversion of property into apartments, and the buying-up of houses by investors.

The regulation comprises measures that are intended to protect tenants from fraudulent landlords and abuses. Among other things, the draft states that landlords are required to get a permit in order to rent out property in the Maredijkbuurt. Needless to say, we can only welcome this plan with open arms. The regulation also aims to preserve the liveability of the neighbourhood by establishing new rules with regard to property conversion. Although this sounds promising, the proposal will not benefit the Maredijkbuurt at all. On the contrary, it will lead to an increase in property conversion. Currently, the municipality allows for 8% of the properties in the Maredijkbuurt to be converted into apartments, although in fact, there are some streets where 30-40% of the houses have already been converted. However, the new measures would let go of the maximum of 8% entirely. If implemented, it would result in even more local residents who are not involved with the neighbourhood, which undermines social cohesion. Being acquainted with your neighbours, helping each other and cherishing the environment, etc. are pre-eminently things that contribute to liveability.



With a small group of people, we have reviewed the draft regulation and concluded that the municipality has misjudged the situation. We have made a formal response to the draft, which you can read on www.maredijkbuurt.nl. Now we need to devise a plan for further action in an attempt to turn the tide. Our committee is still looking for people to think along with us during this phase. Please sign up through the board! Our next meeting is on November 23!

It goes without saying that we are not opposed to having students and other young people live in our neighbourhood. Quite the contrary! However, we do not want the current balance to be disrupted!

SINTERKLAAS IN THE MAREDJKHUIS

Sinterklaas will visit the Maredijkhuis again this year. Before he arrives, we're going to make drawings for him and practice songs together with Piet. When Sint appears, each child will be called forward, so that they can give their drawing to him. We will also sing Sinterklaas songs, and of course all kids will receive a present.

In order to give a personal touch to the party, we ask parents to fill in the form for kids up to 8 years old, so that Sint will have something to say about each child. Please make sure to send it to naarledenmaredijk@gmail.com before November 15.

In the email, please state your child's first and last name; age; description of a fun incident; description of skills/hobbies/interests your child has. Participation is free of charge for members of the *speeltuinenvereniging* (playground association).

Of course, there will be hot chocolate and *pepernoten* etc. You and your kids are all welcome to join us in the Maredijkhuis. We hope lots of our members will be present, so that Sint and Piet will enjoy their time with us.

Date: Sunday, November 26

Time: 13.00-15.00

Location: the Maredijkhuis

PLAYGROUND RENOVATION

The construction of both the water playground and the new play castle is going swimmingly. The new castle can already be seen. It might take until December for the castle to be open for kids to play in, because on completion it will need to be checked for safety. So even if it looks finished, we still need to be patient for a little while. The expectation is that it will be ready on December 22 at the latest.

SHORT NEWS

Basketball at the playground

Every Sunday afternoon, a group of enthusiastic local residents plays basketball in the basketball court near the playground. The entrance is at the little bridge on the Maredijk. Anyone is welcome to join us, regardless of age and experience. Time: 16.00



Eating on the Maredijk

On Friday, November 17, you are welcome to join us for *etenopdemaredijk*. This time we're eating stews, and the chefs always make meals that are surprising and delicious! There will be a range of options for vegetarians and flexitarians.



To sign up, mail us at etenopdemaredijk@gmail.com.

Costs: € 5,- for adults, € 2,50 for kids.

Time: 18.00

Location: the Maredijkhuis



Report second participation meeting Maredoren (for now still the Schipholweg 101)

On July 3 2023, the second participation meeting, which concerned the plans for Schipholweg 101, was held. The report of this meeting can be found on our website (<https://www.maredijkbuurt.nl/maredoren-verslag-2e-participatieavond/>). The third meeting was on October 31. The report of this meeting will also be uploaded on our website.

Activities Calendar

Weekly activities in or organized by Maredijkhuis

Monday	11:00	Sing-In'	Joke Spanenburg, 071 5222509
	14:00	Walking with neighbours	Meet-up at playground
Tuesday	10:30	Coffee (walk-in) Books in de neighbourhood Crafts and needlework Get more out of your iPad (tips&tricks)	Christa de Boer, 06 52649828
Wednesday	10:00	Speel-O-Theek Klapstuk (toys for rent)	06 24211018, www.sot-klapstuk.nl
	10:00	Books in the neighbourhood	
Thursday	10:30	Fit with Kit, get moving	Sigrid Jansen, 06 11524565
Saturday	10:00	Speel-O-Theek Klapstuk	
	10:00	Books in the neighbourhood	
	11:00	Neighbourhood clean-up	Meet-up at playground

Planned activities

10 November	15:30	Crafting lanterns for St. Maarten (Martinmas)	Maredijkhuis
11 November	14:00	Second-hand toy sale	maredijkbuurtmarkt@gmail.com
11 November	18:00	St. Maarten (Martinmas),	
17 November	18:00	Dinner at the Maredijk	etenopdemaredijk@gmail.com
22 November	7:30	Polling station for the national elections	Maredijkhuis
27 November	13:00	Sinterklaas visits	ledenmaredijk@gmail.com



Other contact information

Neighbourhood garden Tamboerpad	Bert van Sprundel, 06 13681169
Façade gardens	Marian Smit, mariansmit@caseam.nl
Dinner at the Maredijk	etenopdemaredijk@gmail.com
Playground	Open Monday through Friday 10 – 17 Usually also on Saturday and Sunday www.svmaredijk.nl
Community police officer	Lakhdar ben Taieb, 0900 8844 Langegracht 11, 071 5258865 Area report number 14071

These pebbles were left after the block party. Now there placed along the Singelpark.

Second-hand toy sale

During the afternoon of the 11th of November, we're organizing a second-hand toy sale at the Maredijkhuis. We're looking for neighbours with toys they're willing to sell.

If you have some toys you're willing to sell, you can let us know by sending an email to: maredijkbuurtmarkt@gmail.com.

Between 14:00 and 16:00 you are more than welcome to come by to get sustainable Sinterklaas and Christmas presents for a small price.

See you then!

Become a member!

We need your support!

The neighborhood association has approximately 225 members, people who feel connected to each other and to the neighborhood. Furthermore, we are an active neighborhood association that organizes many activities for and by residents.

Are you not already a member of the neighborhood association? Then fill out the registration form on our website www.maredijkbuurt.nl.

It only costs €7.50 per year.

You can also pick up the form from Christa de Boer, Aloëlaan 41a.

