

*Looking
for*



oases

Willy Leufgen & Marianne van Lier
International Wildlife Gardening Conference
November 23rd 2016, Natural History Museum, London

Looking for oases - and, in an *organic* way - to find , to share and to spread them, became for us, during all the years we are working now, a style of life.





Marianne and me were born in Rotterdam and Cologne with river Rhine as a connecting stream.



Being born in big cities explains probably our fascination for the autonomous power of nature, her dynamics, for all kinds of pioneers in cities or urbanized countryside.

We are
fond of
stone
breakers...



Oxalis corniculata
(Procumbent yellow woodsorrel)



Heemtuin Muntendam and nature development





Heemtuin Muntendam, some impressions



Research
instead of
frustration

Heem- en natuurtuinen geïntervieweerd

Een onderzoek naar de verscheidenheid in werkterreinen
in de Nederlandse natuur- en heemtuinen en -parken

Willy Leufgen
Marianne van Lier



IVN, vereniging ter bevordering van het milieubewustzijn

The early
beginning
of Oasis



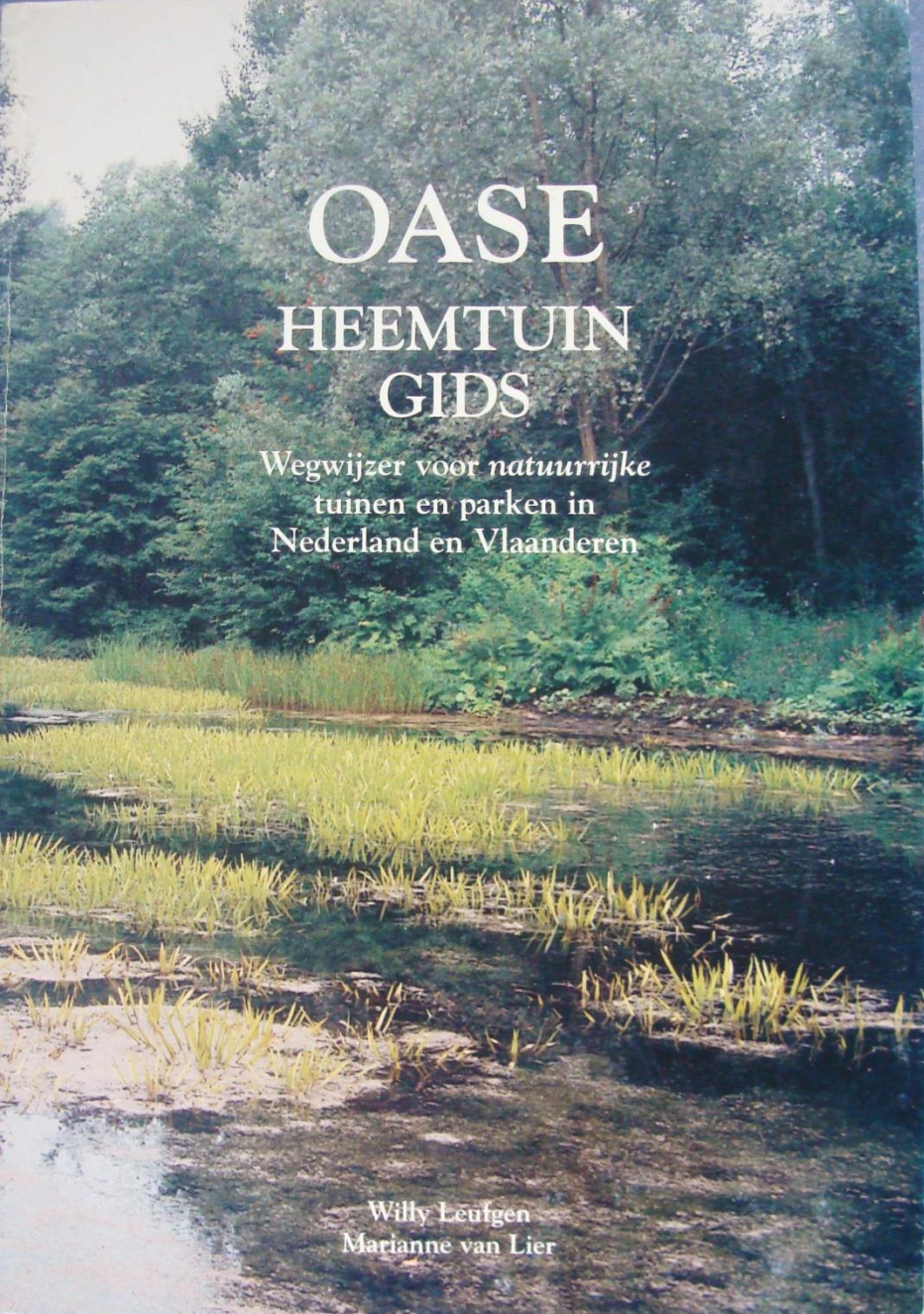
91 years of nature gardens and parks in the Netherlands



Public natural gardens and parks will care for:

- Biodiversity
- Education (learning and playing)
- Recreation (passive en active)
- Employment ‘in the green’
- Good for your health (mentally and physically)
- Good practice, “jewel-idea”





OASE HEEMTUIN GIDS

Wegwijzer voor *natuurrijke*
tuinen en parken in
Nederland en Vlaanderen

Willy Leufgen
Marianne van Lier



OASEGIDS

NATUURRIJKE PARKEN EN TUINEN *in Nederland en Vlaanderen*

Oase

Tijdschrift voor Heem- en Natuurtuinvrienden



- Graslandbeheer in heem- en natuurtuinen
- Samenwerking in Zuid-Limburg en Noord-Brabant
- Enthousiaste bezoekers in Eindhoven
- Van kinderwerktuin tot buurtnatuurtuin
- Een kruidenspiraal, voor ieder kruid de juiste plek

Eerste jaargang, nr. 1, lente 1991

...and a strong statement!

"Het is niet verwonderlijk, dat in een tijd waarin wij dagelijks geconfronteerd worden met de Jobstijdingen van een onderdrukte en leeggeroofde natuur, tuinen ontworpen worden van een bijzondere soort: wildgroeïende en bewust ongerepte natuurtuinen. Het zijn wens- en droomtuinen, aanklagende, weemoedige en hoopvolle tuinen, die wij ontwerpen in het aangezicht van verstikte bossen, vervuilde rivieren, vergiftigde bodem en stervende dieren. Zij geven uitdrukking aan onze betrokkenheid en ons gevoel van onbehagen, maar tegelijkertijd ook aan onze moed tot verandering en onze levenslust.
Wij verlangen naar zulke tuinen omdat we **het contact zoeken met het leven om ons heen.** Omdat wij hopen dat we in deze tuinen weer op een gelijkwaardige manier met de natuur leren omgaan."

We hope that we learn to live equivalent with nature in our kind of gardens.

Andreas Winkler, Zwitsers tuinarchitect, auteur van: "Das Naturgartenhandbuch für Praktiker". Citaat uit bovengenoemd boek, vertaald door M. van Lier.

The primal number: 80 subscribers

The evolution of "Oase"

Oase

Tijdschrift voor Heem- en Natuurtuinvrienden



- * Graslandbeheer in heem- en natuurtuinen
- * Samenwerking in Zuid-Limburg en Noord-Brabant
- * Enthousiaste bezoekers in Eindhoven
- * Van kindertuin tot buurtnatuurtuin
- * Een kruidenspiraal, voor ieder kruid de juiste plek

Eerste jaargang, nr. 1, lente 1991

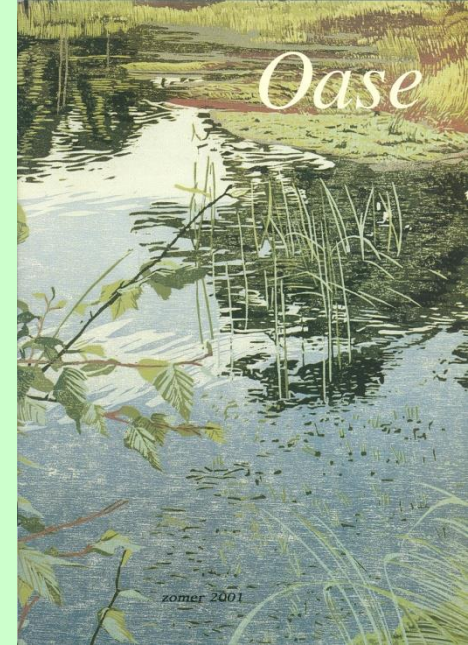
Oase

Tijdschrift voor vrienden van natuurlijke tuinen, parken en plantsoenen

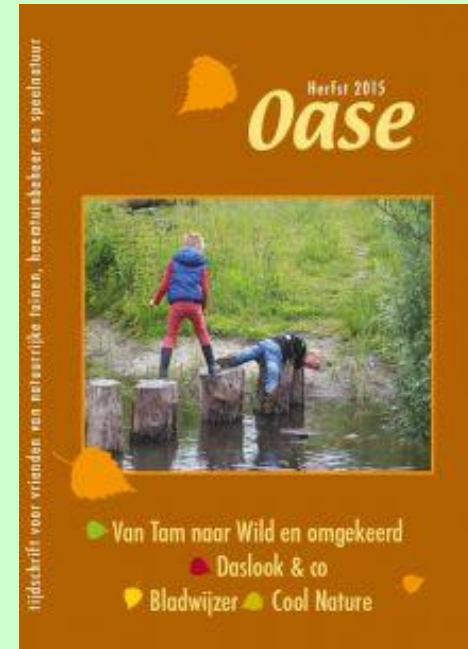
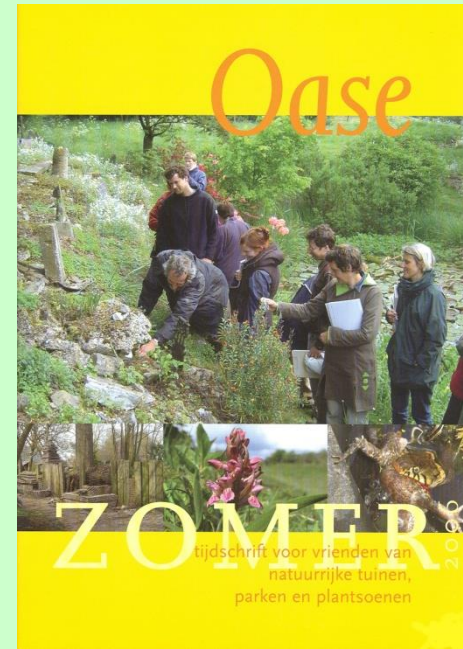
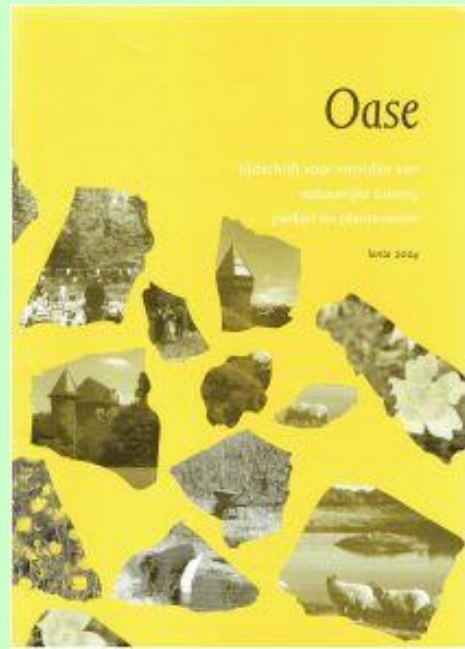
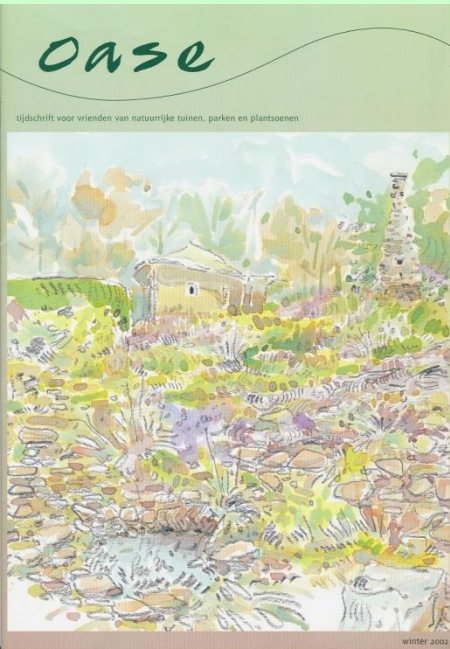
Oase
Oase
Oase
Oase
Oase



Vierde jaargang, nr. 3 - herfst 1994



zomer 2001

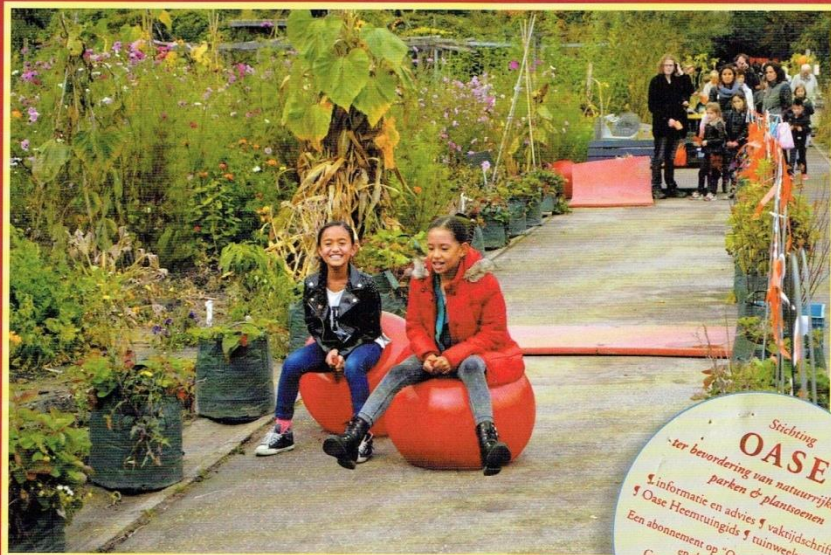




99...

Eerste jaargang, nr. 1, lente 1991
25e jaargang, nr. 100, winter 2015

Winter 2015
Oase



**Thema: mensen
maken het verschil**

100

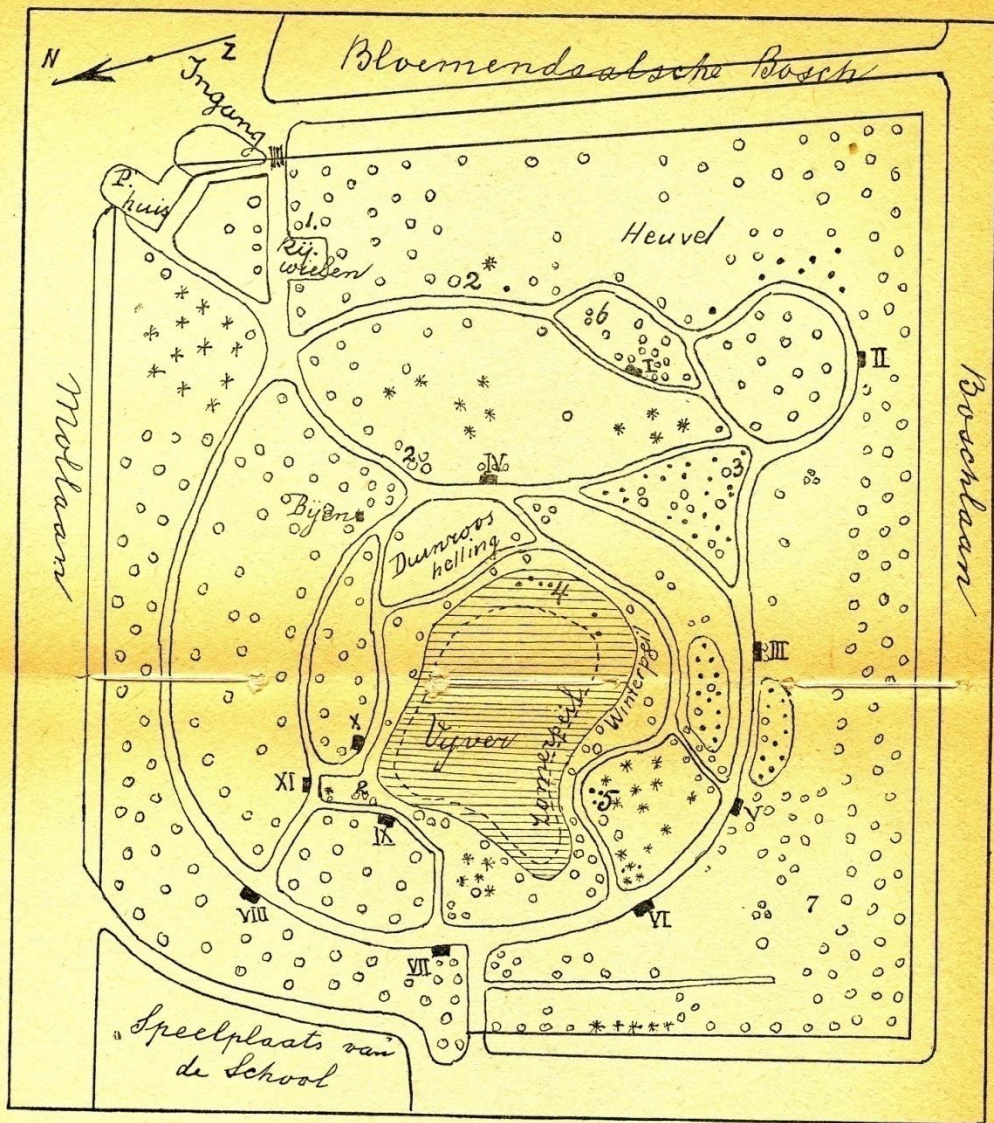
!!!



Hein Koningen, 25 years long chairman of Foundation Oasis, trying leaves and bulbs of *Campanula rapunculus*, *rampion bellflower*.



Thijse's Hof, 1925



○ Loofhout
 * Naalddhout
 □ Kruiden

1. Vogelkers met afleggers.
2. Berberis.
3. Wintereek.

4. Parnassia.
5. Pirola.
6. De tweelingbeukjes.
7. Vogelboschje.

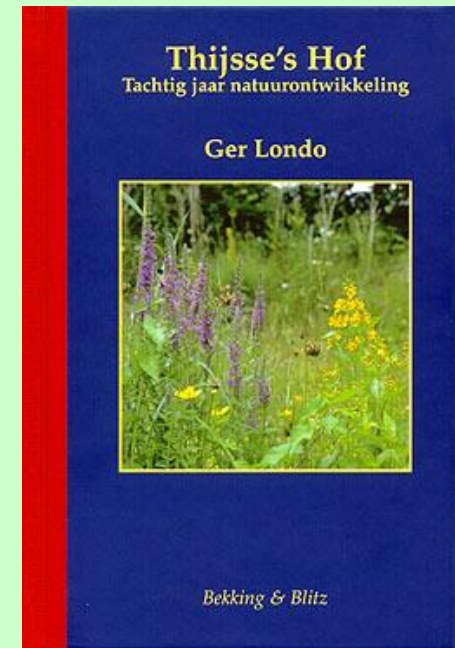
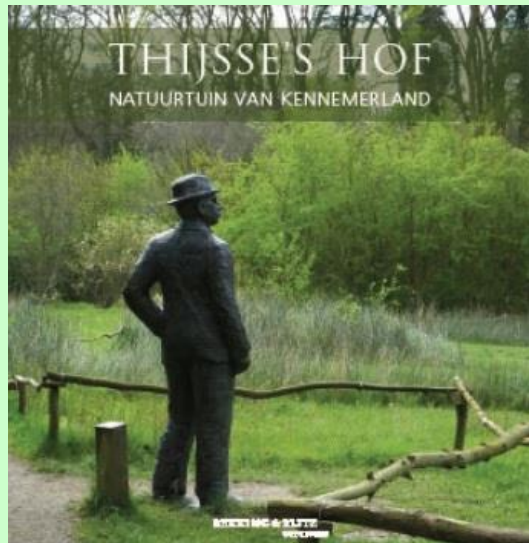
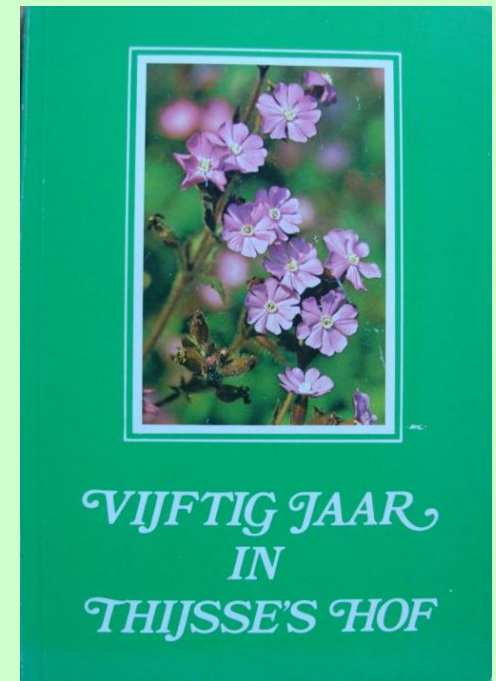
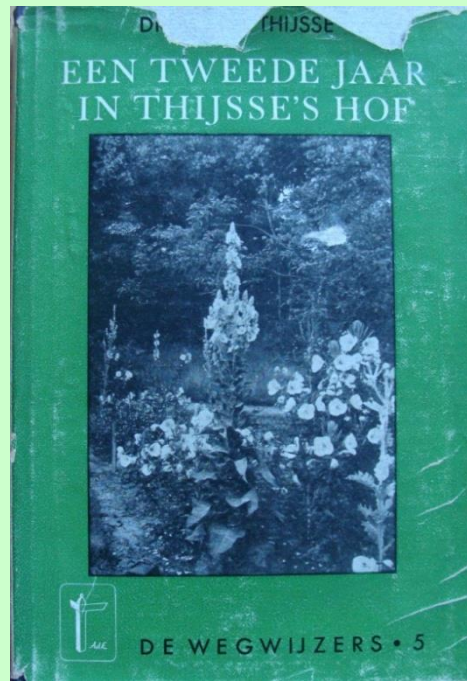
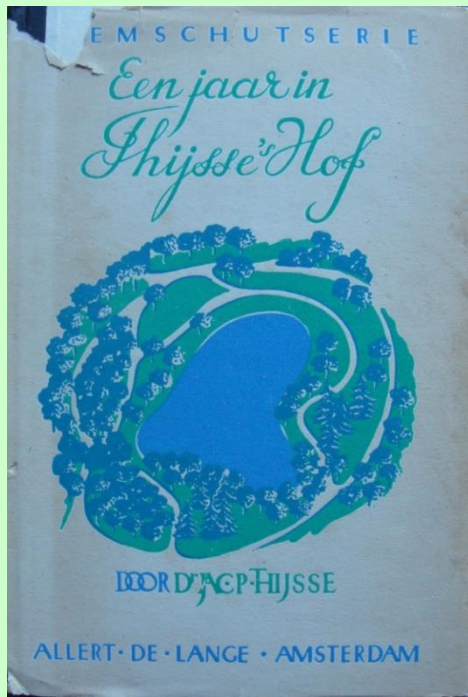


- A Onkruidakker
- B Duinbos
- D Duin
- Gd Droog duingrasland
- Gr Duinroooshelling
- Gs Schraal grasland met heide
- H Duinstruweel en hakhout
- L Instructielokaal
- M Moeras en duinvalleivegetatie
- P Pannenkoekenhuisje met werkschuur
- S Demonstratiestrook
- V Vijver
- Ingang
- Den
- Beeld
- Bank



Thijssse's Hof, Bloemendaal





Heemtuin Tenellaplas

Rockanje

Cees
Sipkes



AMSTELVEEN



plattegrond



Phyteuma spicatum subsp. *nigrum* and *Equisetum sylvaticum*: Black rampion with wood horsetail.



Amstelveen – horticulture with native plants





Nartheicum ossifragum,
bog asphodel



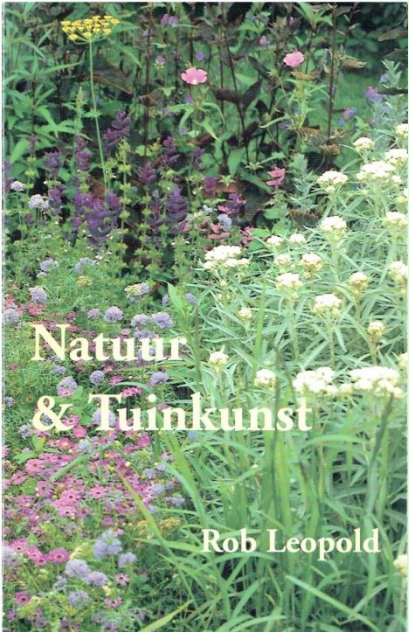
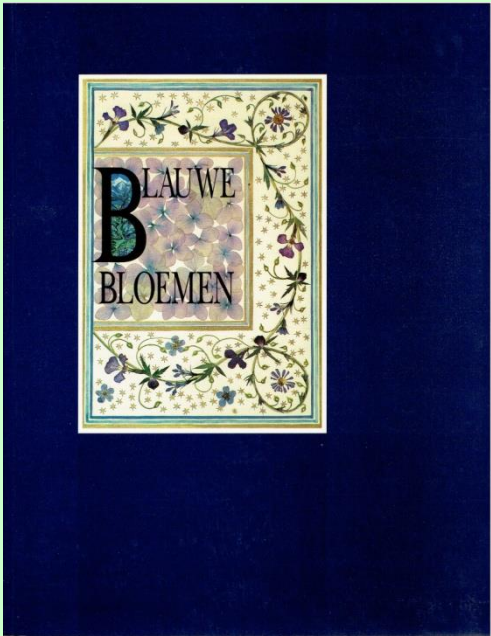
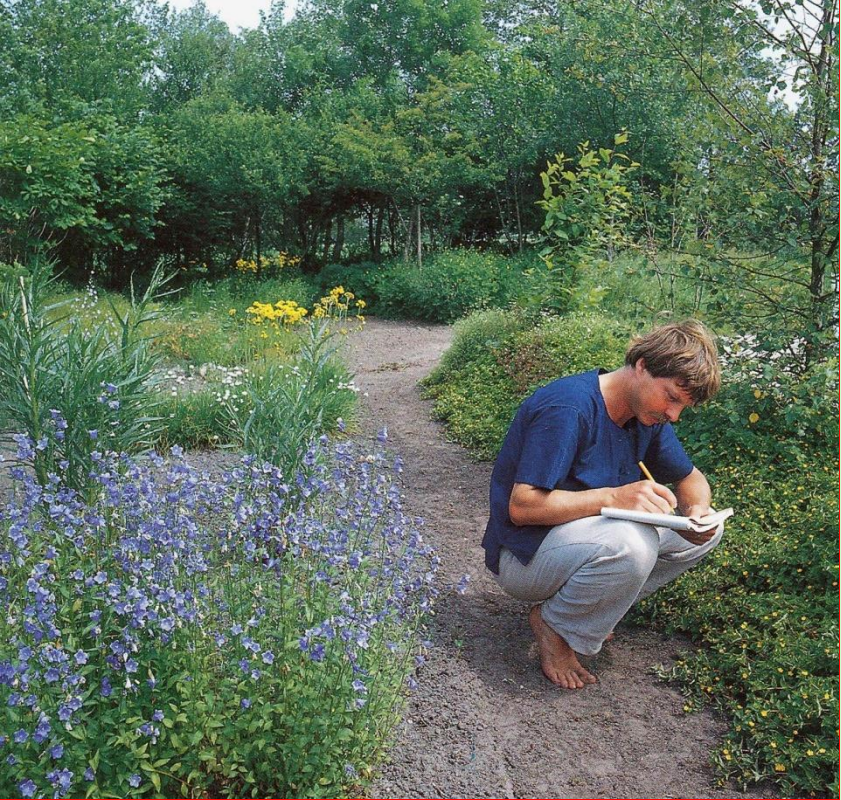


Amstelveen, plant nursery

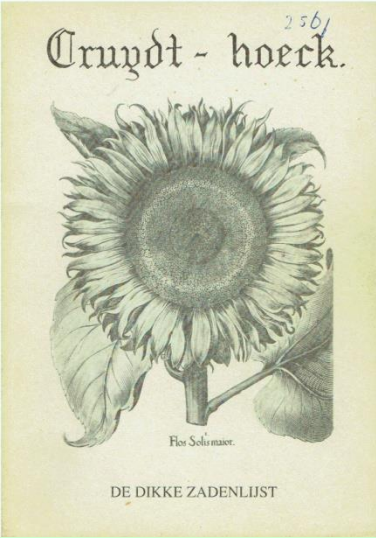


High quality of horticulture with vegetations on the smallest scale: "Biotoopschalen"





Rob Leopold

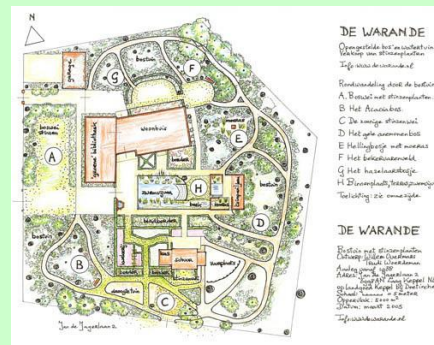


Cruydt Hoeck

WILDEBLOEMENZADEN

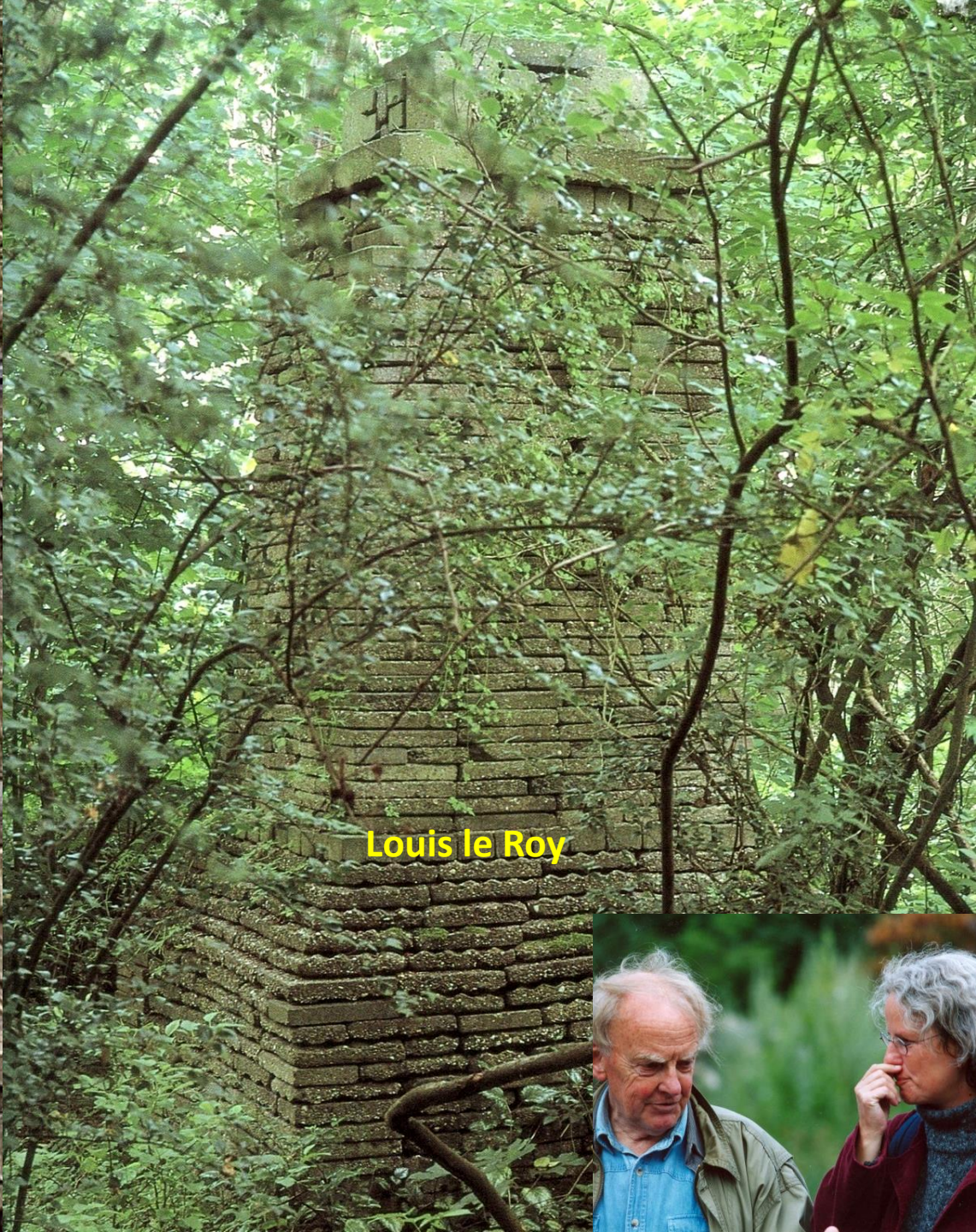
CATALOGUS &
HANDLEIDING
2015 - 2016





About 10 little
 companies are
 growing
 professionally
 wild plants in NL



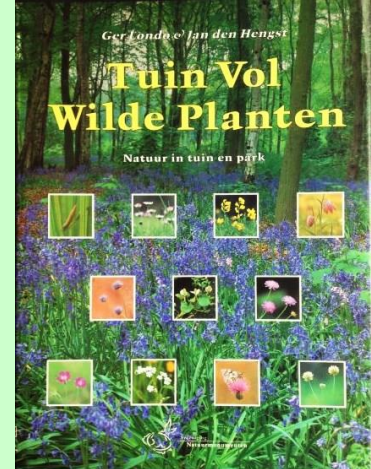




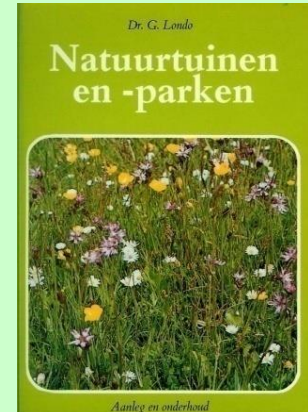




Ger Londo



Ger Londo & Jan den Hengst
Tuin Vol Wilde Planten
Natuur in tuin en park



Dr. G. Londo
Natuurtuinen en -parken



Aanleg en onderhoud



Naar meer natuur
in tuin, park en landschap



Ger Londo



Oase bestuur = board



Left above: Our founding fathers and one mother, 3-9-93





A special garden house
from loam, wood and straw
with a **green** sedum roof





COMMUNITY GARDEN



HEEM WORK

THE OASE GARDEN IN HOLLAND IS AS BEAUTIFUL AS IT IS ECOLOGICAL. NIGEL DUNNETT DISCOVERS AN URBAN OASIS. PHOTOGRAPHS BY JANE SEBIRE

Holland has a long tradition, stretching back to the 1920s, of gardens that bring nature into the heart of its towns and cities. These so-called heem parks and gardens (*heem* literally means home or habitat) first started out as educational gardens, providing a refuge for the wild flowers that were rapidly disappearing from the countryside, but today are valued as much for their innate beauty as their ecological value.

The Oase garden near Arnhem is a fine example of the movement. Created just ten years ago in the grounds of a 19th-century monastery, Oase is a magical place where wild flowers flourish in glorious profusion giving an air of permanence that belies its relative youth. This urban oasis is the creation of Willy Leufgen and Marianne van Lier, who live as part of a creative community of artists, writers and musicians at the monastery.

English visitors called what we were creating: *Artistic Ecology*. (*Garden's Illustrated*, March 2005.

Money to fund the garden is raised from subscriptions to their magazine about their work, as well as from training events and study tours. "I have always wanted to find ways of bringing nature close to people, especially children," says Marianne. "Our garden here is a valuable resource, combined with our office and library, for anyone who wants to create a community nature garden."

The first thing that strikes any visitor to Oase is how water is the essential element, as in much of the Dutch landscape. A straight, narrow canal near the entrance leads into the small lake at the heart of the garden, its formality making an effective contrast with the naturalistic character of the rest of the garden. Standing as a bold focal point is a nature garden pavilion. This building has a bold contemporary appearance, yet was made using traditional timber-frame building techniques.

THIS PAGE AND OPPOSITE: MARIANNE VAN LIER AND WILLY LEUFGEN (INSET, FAR LEFT) HAVE CREATED A GREEN SPACE THAT EPI TOMISES THE MIX OF ART AND ECOLOGY IN DUTCH NATURE GARDENS.



Its most eye-catching feature is the sweeping green roof planted with sedums and dianthus. Water drains after heavy rainfall down chains suspended from the lower lip of the roof and collects in small bog gardens and pool areas that themselves overflow into the main lake, making a clear connection between building and garden.

The lake itself only comes into view when you reach the end of the canal, where it opens out to reveal the wider garden. It is hard to believe that the presence of water is entirely artificial – held in place with a synthetic liner. Willy is a little apologetic about this. "It is the only part of the garden that breaks our ecological rules," he says. "But the beauty of the water and the rich wildlife it supports means that it is the real heart of the garden."

These days, the lake's wide, shallow margins and open swampy areas support beautiful displays of orchids in



About the association of green
garden experts:
Wilde Weelde

After a year of preparation with some founding meetings and an excursion to the Prionagarden in Schuinesloot we **founded Wilde Weelde** in The Hague, **december 1994**





The frontgarden of Foundation Oasis (78 m² small)



A lot of support by Wilde Weelde-members, spring 1998





Floriade 2012, Venlo,
Wilde Weelde Wereld



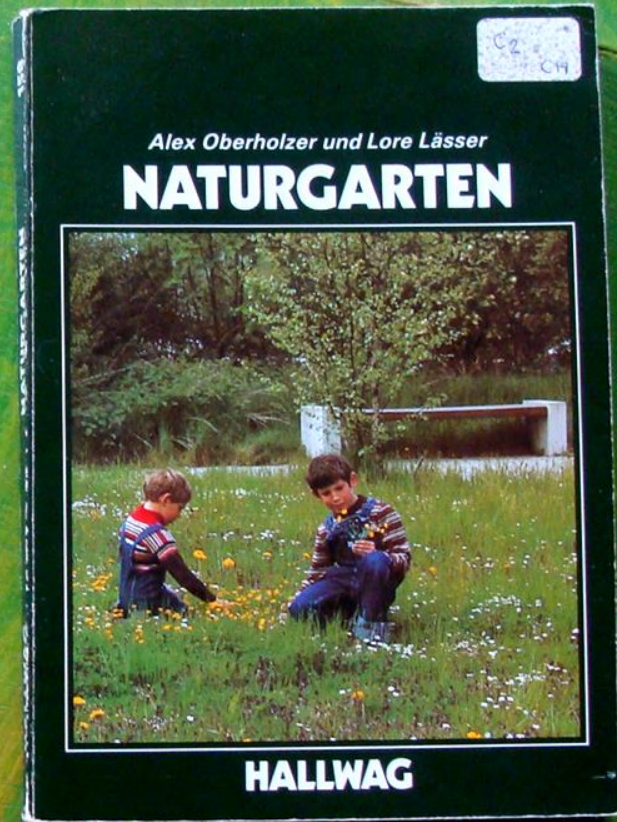
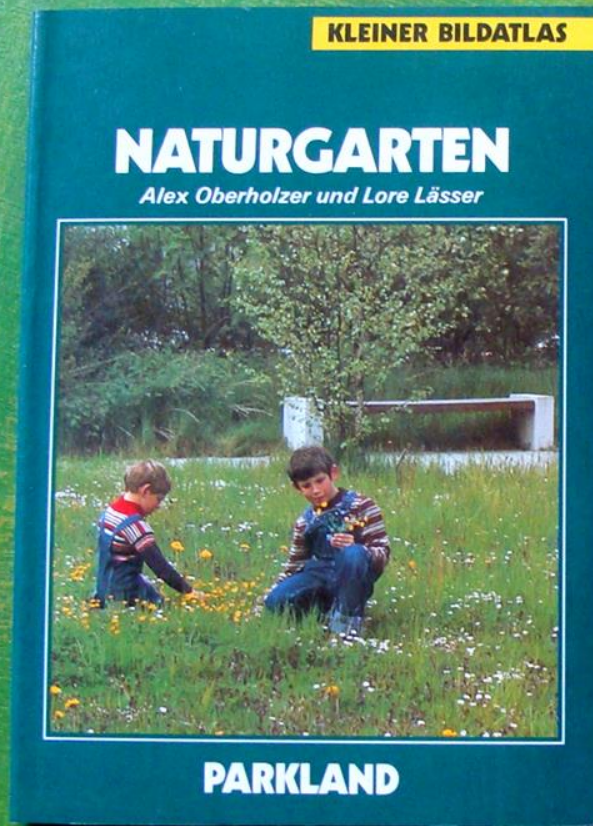


Vakgroep Heemtuinbeheer, founded in 1995
Excursions of the branch of professional nature garden managers



**Hein
Koningen**





Small books, big impact...



Following
the path
of Alex
Ober-
holzer



A part of the books , published around the millennium change in german language, written by Alex Oberholzer and Reinhard Witt, who had quite an influence on our work!





...and from Reinhard Witt





Freiburg – A Mecca of natural playing grounds in south-west Germany.





Berlin – 'Green makes school'





Coombes School

Arborfield





Palatine School,
Worthing
(above and left)

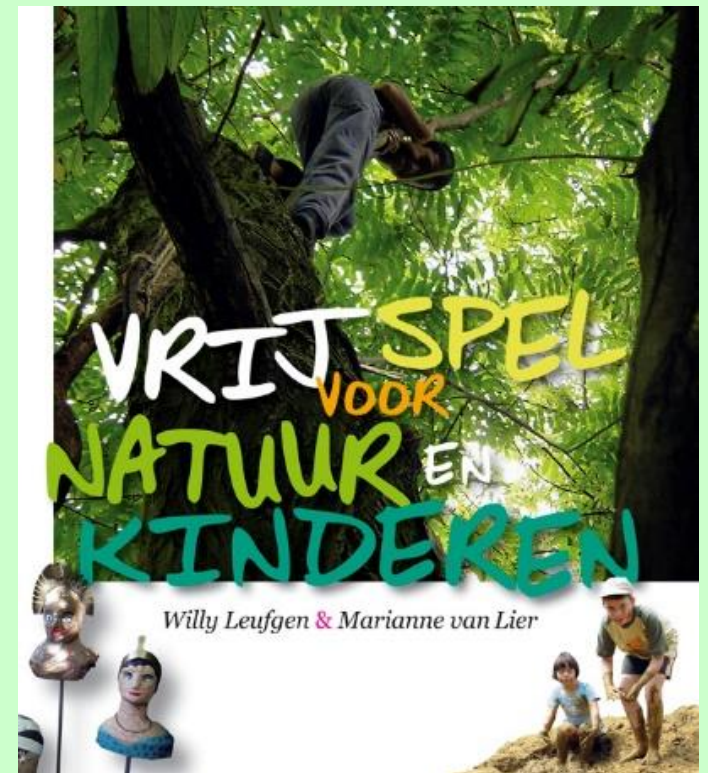
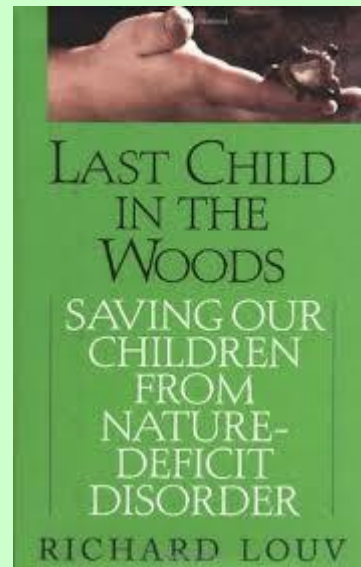
Jessie
Youngusband
School, Chichester





Stehat, Morocco

If the children don't come into nature anymore,
let's bring nature to the children!





“Free play for nature and children”

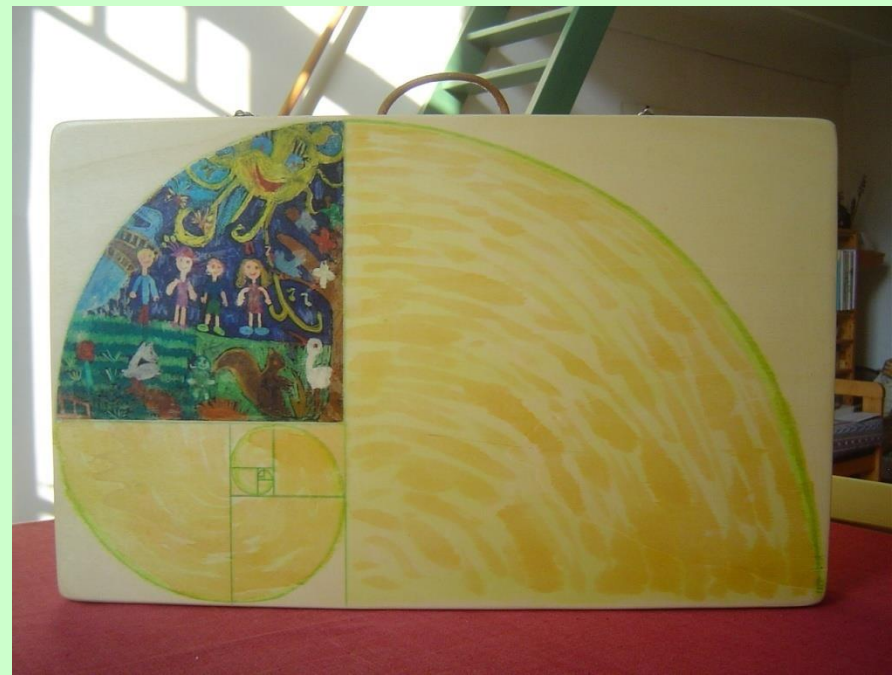


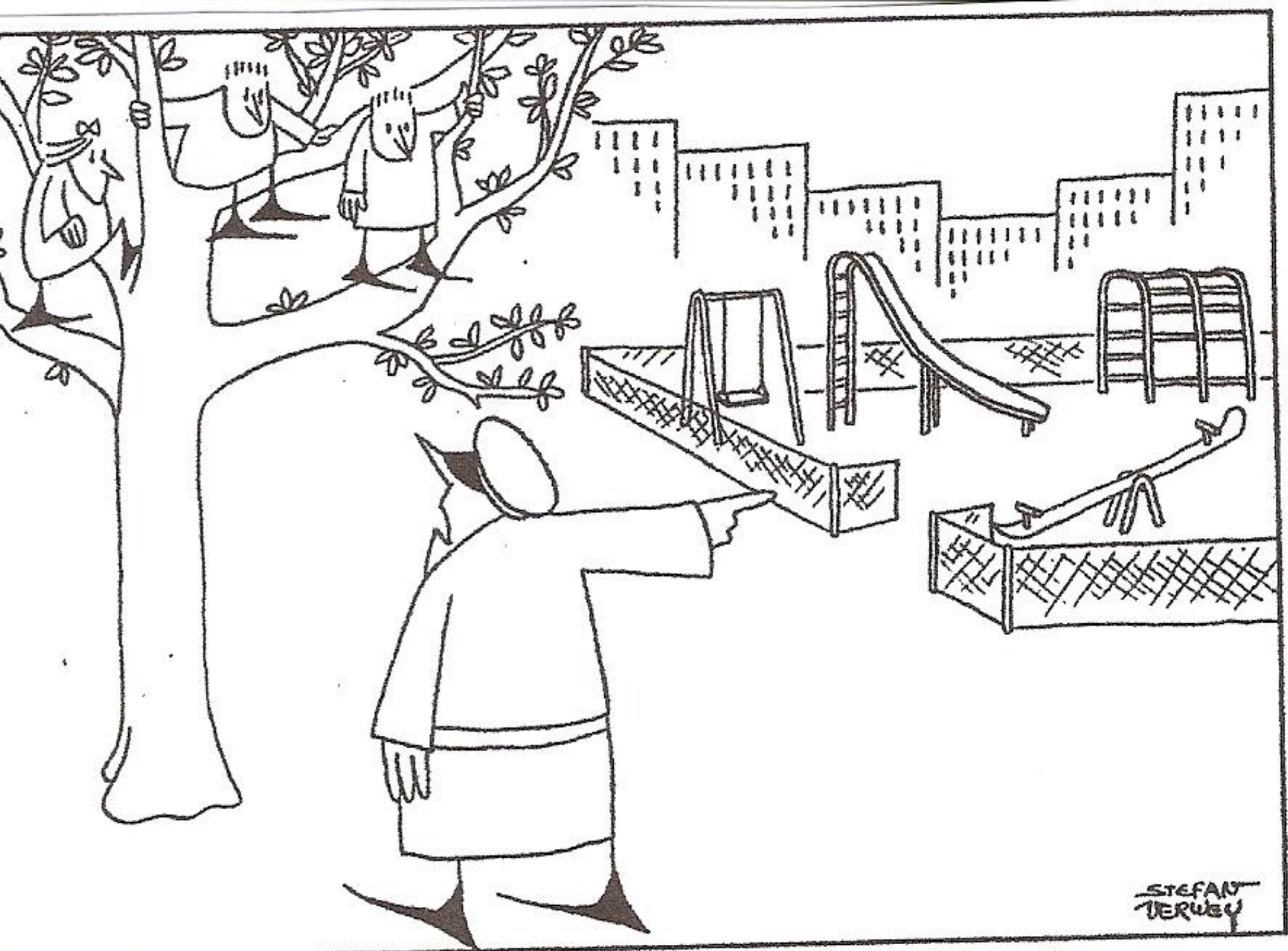
October, 18, 2007, Castle Groeneveld





A suitcase full of ideas









De Speeldernis in Rotterdam





Green schoolyard,
Primary school in
Zoetermeer



Seminar with 10 professionals following the process of planning, realizing, maintaining and using educational **green playing and learning landscapes** around schools each in his or her own surrounding all over the Netherlands, 2016.





International caravan, 2014



Elyseum, 2-years training for ecological gardeners in the Netherlands (started in 2006)





**Museum island Hombroich
nearby Duesseldorf (D)**





**The oldest wildflowergarden in Belgium,
Nortus Michel Thiery in Gent**



**Verbeke Foundation,
Kemzeke, België**

