

OVER A HUNDRED SHEEP ON WILLOW RANCH

Have you ever visited Willow Ranch? This particular ranch is located in South Rustica near the capital. It is the biggest ranch in Rustica covering 50 million hectars ground. The farm counts over 100 sheep! There are no cows in Rustica. That is one of the reasons why it is the most ecofriendly country. The farms don't use any pesticides and the farming techniques are also very ecofriendly. Even though there aren't any cows you can enjoy a fresh glass of goat or horse milk!

Rustica is aiming at creating sustainable land management systems and maintaining biodiversity in food production and farming. This is done by preventing soil erosion, water infiltration and retention. In Rustica you find a lot of subsistence farms. That means that the Caretakers farm to provide for their own families, as well as their servants' and Peacekeepers'. Willow Ranch on the other hand is a commercial farm which sells its products, especially to tourists. They practice mixed farming meaning that they grow crops while also raising animals.

A farming technique used is Aquaponics for example. Aquaponics is an ecofriendly farming technique. It is a combination of aquaculture and hydroponics. The Caretakers raise fish and other aquatic animals (aquaculture), while growing plants without soil (hydroponics). You can learn all about it on Willow Ranch but in short: The plants are fed by the waste of the fish or other aquatic discharge.

Willow Ranch is also an open-air museum and a Bed & Breakfast. In the daylight you can enjoy a tour around the farm. The Caretakers explain all about old farming techniques; you can feed the animals and shave the sheep. In the tour they also include history about the farm and a child friendly explanation of how all the machines work. If you decide to stay the night, you can sleep in a stable that has been transformed into a bedroom. For breakfast you can eat goat cheese, handmade bread and as many eggs as you would like. This ranch is the perfect place for children. They have the opportunity to pet as many animals as they want and go apple picking. There are activities for children of all ages.

Everything in Rustica is fresh and biological and you can really feel that atmosphere on this farm. Willow Ranch is also the biggest transporter of wool in Rustica. One sheep produces anywhere from 2 to 30 pounds of wool annually. When the sheep get old, they slaughter them and sell the meat so don't get too close with the sheep you feed because they can end up on your plate.

BY MARIE HANTSON

THE HONOUR CHRONICLES



THE WORST NIGHT OF VIOLENCE IN 10 YEARS

Disagreements, sometimes futile, between North and South aren't something new. They have been going on for decades. But the last game between the rugby team of the North and the South was something they hadn't seen in a while. Even though it is the end of November, it is a beautiful day for the decisive game between North and South.

It was an enjoyable competition. After a few games on each side, it became quite clear who would play the semi-finals. During those 2 games not 1 of the 4 teams really stood out and it were two thrilling games. When the two winners were known it was obvious that the finale would be a very stirring match, the two teams were very daring. The stakes were high, it was the 50th year the competition was organized, and the teams were well matched to each other. The South won the previous 2 years, and a strike of 3 years in a row has never happened before in the history of best rugby team of the year.

Before the game started you could feel the tension growing in our capital and in the surrounding cities. Every Rustican who could spare up the money wanted to follow the game in real life. Other Rusticans gathered around the few radios they had in their villages to follow the game. Especially in the capital and in the cities lying on the border between North and South the tension was growing.

Rightly so the game was, this being an understatement, thrilling. The teams were very well matched, but in the end the North was just a little bit better. With 2 points difference and a total end score of 29 for the South against 31 for the North,

he Northern team won! An outburst of joy in the Northern part of our country, a lot of disappointed looks in the South.

As the Peacekeepers felt this could get a bit out of hand, they wanted everyone out of the stadium as soon as possible. Of course everyone went to the pubs afterwards to celebrate they won or to forget they lost. Mixed with beer, the tensions that were already there before the game, heated even more. This resulted in a lot of fights. It was one of the biggest riots from the last decade. It wasn't just about the game anymore, a lot of disagreements from the past years came up.

It was a rough night for our capital, our Peacekeepers, our country. The havoc after last night is overwhelming. Broken glass, dirt and blood have taken over the streets of our beautiful capital and the streets of the cities lying on the border.

After the game the streets were packed with cheering North Rusticans and disappointed South Rusticans. The Peacekeepers did their best to restore the calm but they were outnumbered by the Commonfolk and didn't see it coming. The rest has returned for now, but for how long?

The grounds of our beautiful country are still a bit shaky. This wasn't a small fight like it happens sometimes. It continues to reverberate. It brought up once again animosity between North and South and we're not sure how long this will last. It's more serious than usual and you will certainly hear from us. But for now, stay safe!

BY DAGMAR VAN DE VELDE

FISHERMAN'S BACK HOME

Norman from Navis was finally able to return from Nucle-ria! A few weeks ago we had to report that one of our ser-vants from North Rustica was detained by the government of Nucleria for reasons unknown to us at that time. After negotiations between the Honourable Inner Circle and the representatives of Nucleria, which were kept under lock and key until a common solution could be found, Norman was able to return to his family and was received with tears of joy by his wife and six children.

How and why exactly Norman's apprehension by the Nuc-lerian authorities had come about had not yet been shared in detail with the public. When asked, an insider was able to tell us that a few weeks before the incident, Norman had discovered while working on the boat of his Caretaker Mas-ter Wilbur, that some of the fish he had caught were quite oddly shaped and had inexplicable tumours. Many of the catches turned out to be poor, which meant that the North Rusticans had little food to eat.

Norman's route had always led him into the waters between Rustica and Nucleria and after a seemingly suspicious in-cident he suspected that Nucleria might have dumped their nuclear waste in the sea in addition to their regular waste, heavily polluting the water and endangering the marine life. Nucleria itself had denied this and raised the objection that it could be a rare type of fish flu. The Nuclerian government had also seen the maritime law violated and had made the accusation of trespassing against Norman and Rustica.

After long and intense negotiations, the Honourable Inner Circle and the Nuclerian negotiators came to the following conclusion: because of the shared value of family above all else and the fact that Norman's daughter was seriously ill due to malnutrition, the decision was made to let Norman go back home.

It was also decided that a team of natural science specialists from Rustica will officially travel to Nucleria next year to study the fish with local experts and develop a process to dispose of the nuclear waste in a more sustainable and envi-ronmentally friendly way to avoid further accusations and possible legal proceedings. Nucleria also agreed, after some hesitation, to compensate Rustica properly for the loss of fish catches if it was found that the tumours on and in the fish were caused by Nucleria's nuclear waste.

The Honour Chronicles will keep you informed and for now we would like to welcome Norman back and wish his little daughter a speedy recovery!