

Address secretaryship :

Stichting Familie Archief Donders
Antoine Artsplein 25
5037 RS Tilburg
The Netherlands

www.dondersnieuws.nl

E-mail secretary: info@dondersnieuws.org
E-mail general: dondersnieuws@planet.nl

Subscriptions:

*The subscription fee for 2004 is € 10,00
but any extra voluntary contributions are
very much appreciated.*

Dear Donders family,

On 24 October 2004 we will organize for the second time the "Donders Day"

Invitation

After the successful Donders Day in 2003 in the wine museum in Arnhem, we have chosen to organize the Day this year in the Textile Museum in Tilburg. We would like to invite all members of the Donders family and our subscribers.

Read more on page 3

Do you have supplementary data or contributions from your family? Has someone been born or passed away, married or divorced, went living together or separated? Can you report about a reunion, a jubilee, a special anniversary or another special event in the family?

If so please inform our secretary or e-mail the information to us. We thank you very much in advance for your cooperation.

Please give special attention to address changes!



Jacques Donders (GS 261)



Contents:

Who was that?	2
Dondersday	3
Royal orders	5
Turf in your knapsack	7
Donders artists	9
Water in their veins	18
And the winner is	20
Amazing feet	25
Read for you	29

Who was that?

You have seen in the last editions of the Donders Newsletter that articles are copied from newspapers. These articles naturally concern Donders affairs. Very often we are not able to find out where these persons belong in our archives. However, it would be interesting to include some of these stories in a next edition of "The Tilburg Dynasty Donders". We therefore call upon our readers to help the rest of the large Donders family and the Foundation with information on the person concerned. From the responses so far we should conclude that these persons should be very unknown, because the Foundation has not received many reactions.

But you do not make the newspaper just like that? It always concerns something special and should be known to a broader group of persons. Extensive messages to the Foundation are not necessary and it is also not necessary to send a running story. A short response can be easily passed to us by mail, e-mail or via the website.

If the reason would be the fact that among the Donders family there are too few people who are familiar with the Donders Newsletter, in other words that there are too few subscriptions, we can agree with this statement. We from the Foundation try our best to improve this, but we also hope for your cooperation and input. After much investigation we have been able to trace the following persons:

Donders Newsletter May 2003 – page 15

Brabant daily paper – Turf of Kaatsheuvel for Jos Donders
Concerns Jos Donders (GS 461)

Jos agreed to write something on his carnaval past (including years of "ton speech"). See his contribution on page 7

Donders Newsletter October 2003 – page 14

Internet – Internet, website design
Concerns Louis Donders (GS 944)

"De Vonk Communication Specialists" no longer exists. Louis now works at "(v)lnr) communication design".

Donders Newsletter October 2003 – page 15

Brabant daily paper – Donders Best



Concerns 'founder' Jan and aunt Jac (GS 931)

Yes, aunt Jac had seen herself in the Donders Newsletter. She told us that she is always looking forward to the next Newsletter.

Donders Newsletter October 2003 – page 16

Brabant daily paper - Popular play Berentand promises much passion

Concerns Piet Donders (GS 533)

Piet told us that he was very surprised to find himself in the Donders Newsletter. He might write something in the future, he told us.

Hein Donders (GS 809)

Donders Day 24 October 2004

This year we have chosen to organize the Donders Day in the Textile Museum in Tilburg. We would like to invite all members of the Donders family and our subscribers.

You will certainly visit the Textile Museum that day, where you will get a good impression of Tilburg as a textile city in the past and everything that has to do with textile. We think it is worth a visit.

Apart from that us as representatives of the Donders Family Archive we would like to provide you with all the information about our Foundation though information material, we would like to show our website and to show you who we are and what we do. We are currently elaborating the programme for this day, whereby we are thinking of showing films about Donders family members, e.g. Peerke in Surinam, art made by members of the Donders family. Perhaps you could provide us with your ideas.

The Donders Day is meant to gather as much family members as possible to meet each other, to talk to each other, to see to

what extent you are related, to look in the family tree where you are, to provide us with information or anecdotes of the family, etc.

We will also explore the possibilities to organize a walking or bicycling tour, which will lead you to well know buildings designed by Donders architects, or buildings in which Donders family members have played an important role.

How much does this day cost and what do I get for this price? The price for adults is € 6,50 and for youth up to 18 € 5,00. For this amount you can visit the Textile Museum, visit our stand, meet many Donders family members, while enjoying one free drink. If you wish, we can give you a walking or biking route.

How do you register? This can be done in several ways, for example by sending the response card to the secretariat or to send an e-mail to the secretariat or the Donders Newsletter containing the same information as the response card.

We will make sure that the entry tickets will be ready for you on that day. You can pick them up in the hall of the Textile museum at our stand and pay there if you have not yet done so.

Even if you have not registered in advance, you are most welcome at the Donders Day.

On our website we will keep you informed of the programme which is currently being prepared (www.dondersnieuws.nl)

We are looking forward to seeing you on 24 October in the Textile museum in Tilburg.

On behalf of the Board,

Corrie Donders (GS 965)



Royal orders



29 April 2004 Royal Orders in Leiden

Distributed in Oegstgeest

Donders-Duynstee, Mrs. Margaretha Adriana Maria (68)

'Knight of the Union of Orange Nassau'

Mrs. Donders (GS 570) has been active in voluntary work in Oegstgeest for more than 35 years. Mrs. Donders has been associated to the Foundation Well-Being Elderly Oegstgeest, for which she organises, among others, festivities, Christmas dinners, handicraft activities, home visits, transportation and purchases.

Mrs. Donders is furthermore actively involved in the religious community of the Holy Willibrord in Oegstgeest. She takes care of the correspondence of the community with missionaries coming from Oegstgeest; she is furthermore part of a group that decorates and cleans the church very week, and that distributes the envelopes for the 'Action Church Balance'. Mrs. Donders is also member of the Board of the Catholic Association of Elderly. Mrs. Donders can – bearing in mind the duration and meaning of her activities – be qualified as " someone who has exerted herself in favour of the community. The decoration was distributed in Oegstgeest.

In 2002, **John Donders** (GS 448) also received a royal order for his dedication as a volunteer in Leiderdorp and Leiden in several associations and acting groups.

Frans Donders (GS 448) also received a royal order

On the Internet I found an announcement according to which F. J.L. Donders had be decorated Knight of the Union of Orange Nassau. To find out who he actually was I picked up the telephone. Frans Donders told me that he would send me a letter from his brother Sjef Donders (GS 447), in which he tells his family that a tower has been named after him. With the permission of Frans you will find the story on the next page. In the book "The Tilburg Family Donders" a section has been included under the title "Sjef Donders, White Father".

Hein Donders (GS 809)

Dear all,

I remember that I started my letters like this already in Sterksel! I have just returned from a trip to a small village close to San Salvador in El Salvador. I had been there before for my work at the Washington Theological Union. Because I do not speak Spanish, I always had interpreters at place. Generally I can understand what they speak about, because of my knowledge of Italian from Rome, but sometimes I cannot.

I had been invited to do a number of things on the occasion of the opening of a conference centre that was totally built by the parishioners of the religious community there, in the diocese where Oscar Romero (and many other priests) were shot several years ago. Even now it is not without danger to go there. The last time I was there nobody came to pick me up from the airport and when I arrived by taxi (which was recommended by a policeman who saw me waiting endlessly at the airport) the priest of the religious community where I had to go was accompanied by two policemen who came to warn him that the night before a neighbouring priest had been kidnapped. The religious community where I went was an incredible festivity. We sat for hours in the new church that they had totally built and decorated themselves. The church they had was destroyed during the earthquakes of 13 January and 13 February 2001. There are literally hundreds of children and poverty is widespread. However, they have a community fishing farm, a chicken farm and large fields with vegetables, which are cultivated hydroponically, because the ground was poisoned during the civil war.

They also built a tower with a turning red light at the top to warn airplanes, including nine self-made bells. And to my great surprise the tower was 'dedicated', or how you call it, to me. Therefore a picture on the other side (see page 13) which has a text on it from the holy scriptures of Johannes that I often use, namely that Jesus did not only die for a people, but to unite the indignant children of God. And then it says, "The tower with the nine bells, which sound with different voices, has been dedicated to Jos Donders, missionary, teacher, writer and friend".

I thought this would be nice for you to know. **A Donders tower** in Central America.

All the best, and see you soon, Sjef (10 February 2004)

Turf in your knapsack

In the Donders Newsletter of May 2003 we placed an article from the Brabant Daily Paper concerning Jos Donders, who received the golden turf from Mr Weierink, Mayor of Kaatsheuvel. Below, Jos tells his story.



Jos (Josephus Pacificus Maria Donders (GS 461)

After I, as a true person from Tilburg, married A.M. Brent from Kaatsheuvel on 15 November 1968, I ended up in the hotel-restaurant-café Smit in Kaatsheuvel where Tonny (my wife) and me had our weekly Saturday night out with close friends. In the same year, end of 1968, spontaneously the carnival association "De Peperbuussen" (The Pepperboxes) was founded. The name was chosen because the hotel Smit was located in the Pepperboxstreet. As the initiator, I was chosen by al 45 members to be the chairman and prince carnival of the association. It was custom in Kaatsheuvel, where 17 carnival associations were established, that every year another association provided the "City Prince" and the "Council of Eleven". In 1974 I was given the honour. It was an incredible experience to lead the carnival for thousands of people.

Carnival is not, as many people who have never participated in this event, loading yourself with alcohol and chasing women; it is a party that is celebrated three days before the beginning of the abstention period in the Roman Catholic church. It should be celebrated with humour, music and respect. It is a play to be performed, as it where.

One of the peaks of carnival is the so-called "tonpraten" ("barrel talking" or "butredenen" in Germany). I participated eleven years (1983-1995). It is always organised approximately three weeks before carnival and the idea is to make a full audience laugh for 25 minutes. In Kaatsheuvel this takes place four evenings (two weekends on Friday and Saturday evening). For

my participation in eleven years of "tonpraten" I received the "Golden Pin". The attentive reader will have noticed that 1983-1995 includes twelve years instead of eleven, but because our son Roger unexpectedly died during our vacation in Spain I missed out one year.

Kaatsheuvel has also always had a carnival foundation. This is a body covering all carnival associations. This body, which among others organises the carnival parade in the city, ceased to exist in 1994, several weeks before the parade was supposed to take place. Seven totally new persons (among whom myself) have committed themselves to organise the parade. After the parade, we have established a new foundation: the "Foundation Cooperation Cut Peat Land" ("Stichting Samenwerkingsverband Turfstekersland", S.S.T.94), of which I was again chosen chairman. The foundation now works with 7 commissions and about 50 people in total. I was also named chair of the commission Princes Council of Eleven, which meant that I also had to gather a new Council of Eleven (Prince, Vice Prince, 11 Council members and 4 reserves): a large job, which I succeeded in six weeks. After eight years I received from the Mayor for all the above-described activities the highest decoration at carnival level: the Turf, a piece of art from Potters in Oisterwijk.

To spend my energy somewhat, I was also the chair of the catering industry soccer team "Mr Snack" (1976-1995). To complete my voluntary work I also became referee of "Show-Down". This is a table tennis association for blind people, in other words visually handicapped. These people have a hard time to remain a small association of about 20 people and I will be available for persons in our "family" who are willing to sponsor this association.

Jos Donders(GS 461)



Jos and Tonny showing their mark of honour

Donders artists

Again you meet people, this time an artist, of whom you did not know where they belong in the family. So, I cannot refrain myself, I start looking. What you encounter? A whole series of persons who express themselves in some way in art. Some of them were known, but most of them were not. And these are only the persons that work in art, without the graphical designers, architects, etc. If anyone knows more than what we have collected here, such as other artists or other specialities, we would like to receive such information. And perhaps we could come back to this topic in the future.

André Donders, Ekeren (Belgium) GS 786
DN jun-1985, page 7 DN jun-1989, page 7
Graphic art (aquarelles, silk-screen print, ink drawing, graphics)

Annelies Donders Plympton (Australia) GS V.216
DN jun-1988, page 4
Sculptor

Broer Donders † Tilburg 1999 GS 170
DN nov-2000, page 11
Author folk stories

Henri J.M. Donders † Venlo 1932 GS 125
DN jun-1985, page 8
Poems

Josine Donders Wageningen Probably NL/L- of BE-chain
Artist

www.culturele-ronde.nl/deelnemers/donders-josine/josine_donders_details.htm

Judith Donders Tilburg GS ?
Illustrative artist
www.nvk-keramiek.nl/leden/don/don1.htm

Liliane Donders Tilburg GS ?
DN nov-1987, page 8 ?
Artist (with disability)
www.aetenzo.nl/bekijken/liliane.html

Maarten Donders Eindhoven GS 972
Illustrative artist

Peter Donders Opitter (BE) GS ? (find out, is family of Peerke Donders!)
Artist
www.absolutearts.com/portfolios/p/peterdonders

René Donders Tilburg GS 994-1208
DN jun -1985, page 7 DN nov-2000, page 9
Illustrative artist
www.crytald.nl/rene/htm

René Donders Nijmegen GS 376
Art designer (illustrator, drawings)
www.wig.nl/expo/pers.html

Rob Donders Amstelveen ? GS 1054
Designer (would like to be illustrative artist)
<http://home.wanadoo.nl/robox59>

Ton Donders Gozo (Malta) GS 264
Illustrative artist and poems
http://sites.waldonet.mt/poetryongozo/poets/ton_donders/page.html

Xandra Donders Groningen GS 132
DN jun -1989, page 9 DN nov-1989, page 6
Graphic art (painting and linoleum)
www.xandradonders.nl



René Donders (GS 994 -> 1208)

Sculptor

In the Donders Newsletter of June 1985 (page 7) and of November 2000 (page 9) small articles are written about René Donders. But it is nowhere to be found where René belongs in the family. Eventually, with the help of his family, we have found out that it concerns René Donders of GS 994. In the meantime René has married with Marianne and they have three sons, which is why they are now together in the family line GS 1208. At our request René has sent a brochure, in which he describes how he arrives at his sculptures, which materials and techniques he uses, etc. It offers a clear picture of what inspires him and how he portrays his ideas. His art is often to be found in galleries or is made on command, of which some are meters high.

The brochure tells as follows:

René Donders finds his inspiration especially in the dualism in which the human being finds himself. On the one hand there are the manipulations by which he tries to control his surroundings, on the other hand is his inventive ability to adapt and behave like a chameleon in an ultimate attempt to survive. René uses the space of his sculptures to summon an atmosphere in which a sculpture finds its roots. Colour plays an important role, as well as the title. As such, every sculpture of René is a poetic translation of a personally experienced impression.

An encounter with the work of René seems to have a simple entrance because of the design. However, the title, choice of material and building pose questions and soon make one presume that there is a hidden world behind the façade of the sculpture. It takes time to find an answer to these questions and that is exactly what the work of René demands of the spectator: time.

However, it pays to search for answers, because every answer takes you deeper into a fairy-like world. Material, structure and choice of colours appear to refer to the context of the story. Nothing is coincidence; everything appears to have a "function". Nothing appears to be unambiguous. Every

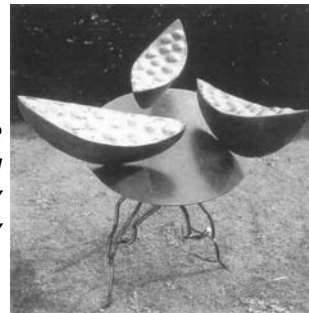


sculpture invites to a search for its reason for existence.

René uses the surface of the sculptures to give a reflection of the background. All René's sculptures are namely figurative. He is inspired by people and culture, animals, plants and landscapes. Is his starting point a sea fish, then the sea will be reflected in the surface of the sculpture. It is therefore not surprising that colours play an important role in his work. In this way, every sculpture of René is a poetic translation of a personally experienced impression. The spectator is invited by the titles to search for the hidden worlds in the sculpture. Thereby fortunately there is much room for impressions of the spectator, which are often very tangible as well as intangible.

A sculpture of a fish can also recall astonishment concerning the water life, or memories of a collective past in another dimension. In the illustrative measures also, within one picture, major contrast can be found.

Tenuous versus massive
Static versus moving
Mass versus transparency
Simplicity versus complexity



A large merit of the work of René is that it pleases or provokes the spectator and thereby has much more to say or to ask to anyone who can be open to a search through his empire of sculptures.

If you see the work of the Tiburg sculpture René Donders over the last 15 years, you recognise on the one hand the developments and changes in his work and on the other hand several always-returning elements attract the attention.

The developments in his work are marked by a search along all sorts of plastic measures by means of many different and diverse techniques. You could say that thereby the picture of

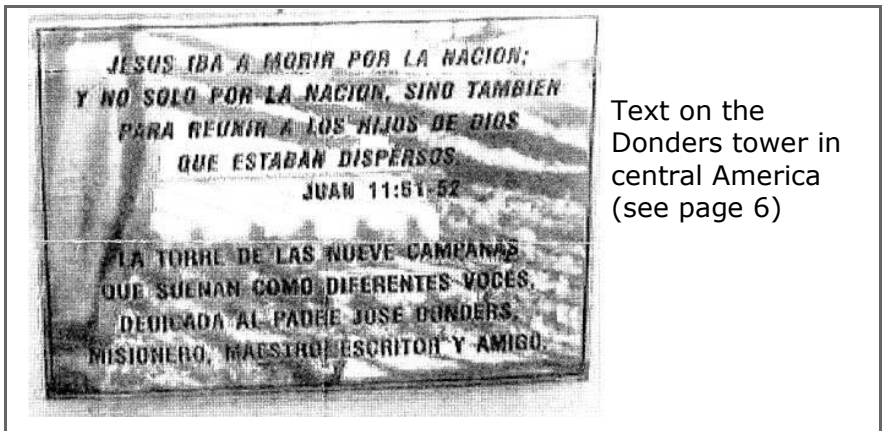


the artist becomes visible, who is so well trained that he sees in all kinds of material and techniques possibilities to create sculptures. His work has passed the following chapters: wooden sculptures made by found destruction wood, composed of various wood elements; stone, treated with a hammer and chisel or rectangular grinder; combination of stone and metal, slowly growing to sculptures composed of many materials. Afterwards we also see a simplification in the use of material with an increasing emphasis on steel. The form is also becoming firm and static to afterwards to into a more moving and more complex colour.

What strikes in this diversity of materials and techniques is the use of craftsmanship as a means to create poetic expressiveness. Every time the personal handicraft visibly contributes to the lyric of the sculpture. The skin of each sculpture also carries the sensitive clues of intensive design.



René Donders (GS 1208)



Text on the Donders tower in central America (see page 6)

I love my Brabant



In the Donders Newsletter of June 1985, page 6, a folk song was printed, written by H.J.M. Donders. At that time, it was not mentioned who he was. It appears to be Hendrikus (Henri or Harrie) Donders (GS 125), priest and trade union man. A short while ago, I saw the original version at a bookmarket, which I bought and have given to the Foundation. What was printed as the text in 1985, was far from complete. We can correct this now and it will be given in full.

The song was written by H.J.M. Donders (GS 125) with music of Adr. P. Hamers, published in 1923 by W. Bergmans in Tilburg. The publication was TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY "OUR BRABANT"

I love my Brabant

Ik houd van m'n Brabant!
Het is er goed volk.
In z'n dorpkens, z'n wei en z'n hei
met haar dennen in 't mos
rond de vennen in 't bosch;
Het is er goed volk, goed volk!

I love my Brabant
The people are good
In its villages, its meadow, its heathler
With its pine trees in the moss
Around the marches in the wood
Its people are good, they are good
people!

Ik houd van m'n Brabant!
Het is er goed volk,
dat er nijvert zoo blij en zoo vrij,
met z'n leutigen lach
van het zuiverste slag:
Het is er goed volk, goed volk!

I love my Brabant
The people are good
Which works so hard, so happy, so free
With its funny laughter
of the purest sort
Its people are good, they are good
people!

Ik houd van m'n Brabant!
Het is er goed volk,
in z'n eenvoud zoo echt en op-
recht,
met die prachtige kracht
van ons roomsche geslacht:
Het is er goed volk, goed volk!

I love my Brabant
The people are good
It its simplicity, so real and sincere

With that beautiful power
Of our Roman dynasty
Its people are good, they are good
people!

Doornakkers of Maarten Donders (GS 972)

(source: Municipality of Eindhoven)

On 4 May 2001 the work of art of Maarten Donders was put in place and it was exposed on 5 May.

The artist has concerned himself with the quarter of Doornakkers (Eindhoven) and the function of the area where the work of art should be placed. The history of the quarter did not directly offer him indications. The area used to be barren and unprocessed and the artist started to reflect on what would belong to such a wide landscape. Clouds, trees and birds, and nowadays also houses are important elements on which Maarten Donders based his image in Doornakkers. It concerns two large steel thorns. On top of one of them (6.3 meters high) several small pottery houses are assembled. On top of the other thorn (4.75 meters high) a swarm birds in bronze has been placed. The literary translation of the quarter placed against the decor of a monumental tree, make this image at this location a remarkable and associative work of art.

The quarter has named the work of art "home together" (samen thuis).

It is placed at the roundabout Hefveld/General Cronjéstreet



Foto:

"home together"

Hein Donders (GS 809)

Brabant books and poems



In my search for family relations, I received a letter from Grietje Donders-Van Langen (GS 409). She writes about the pleasure that she and her husband had reading certain books of Brabant and several (Tilburg?) poems. The Donders Newsletter would like to pass this on, to make sure it is not lost. It will certainly appeal to the sentiment of (perhaps elderly) people from Tilburg. If anyone would like to react, you are more than welcome to do so. Grietje wrote the following:

My husband and I have always read with much pleasure the following books on Brabant, and perhaps not everyone knows these books:

- Leer mij ze kennen....de Brabanders. [Let me know them...the persons from Brabant] Jan Naaijkens - A.W. Sijthoff/Leiden 1967
- Oorsprong en geschiedenis van de Brabanders. [Roots and history of the people of Brabant] J.G. Kikkert (perhaps more well-known)
- Brabantse sprokkelingen. [Wood gathering in Brabant] Ben Janssen.
- Tilburgs Prentebuukse. [Picture book of Tilburg] C. Robben, several parts.
- Brabantse volkshumor. [Folk humour of Brabant] Ben Janssen, several parts.

Hereby also two poems that my husband remembered from his childhood. Typically Tilburg? I always appreciate the Donders Newsletter and would like to sincerely thank you and all those that contribute to it.

Poem 1:

t Was zomers op een avond

*als pas gemaaid het groene gras het
groene gras,
dan zongen alle krekeltjes of 't kre-
kelkermis was. (2x)*

Wat zongen dan die krekels?

*Ze zongen boer bestel je hooi, bes-
tel je hooi
want morgen gaat het regenen,
stap vroeg dus uit je kooi. (2x)*

It was on a summer evening

if just mown the green grass the
green grass
than all little crickets sang as if it
were a cricket fair.(2x)

What were these crickets singing?

They sang farmer, order your hay,
order your hay
Because it will rain tomorrow, get
early out of your cage (2x)

*De boer lei op een oor,
zijn vrouw gaf geen gehoor
en 't hooi dat ging teloor
dat ging teloor.*

The farmer was sleeping
his wife did not respond
and the hay was lost
it was lost

Poem 2:

*Spetter de sputter de spat
de straten worden nat,
de juffie's springen wip . . . opzij
mijn schoen wordt nat mijn kous
erbij,
oh foei toch wat een last is dat
zo'n waterwagen door de stad.*

splash, splash, splash
the streets are getting wet
the ladies they jump...aside
my shoe gets wet, my stocking as
well
oh my, what a burden that is
a water car through the town

NB:A water car was a sprinkle car with a red water tank, which was drawn by a horse. When it was very hot, the streets were wetted with such a car.

Grietje also added a poem of around 1920.

*Koosje Koosje zo is mijn naam,
ik heb vaak in mijn broek gedaan.
Ik heb mijn ouders vroeg verloren
als ik sterf dan ben ik dood
en lig ik in mijn kisje bloot.
Dan komen de engeltjes bij me zingen
en zal ik uit mijn kisje springen.
Oh dat voel ik aan mijn hartje
juffrouw geef me toch een kwartje.
Ik heb gezongen en niks gehad
snij 'n stuk van 't verken z'n gat.
Snij maar diep, snij maar diep
maar snij in uwe vinger niet.*

*Koosje, Koosje is my name
I wetted my pants often
I lost my parents at a early age
When I die I will be dead
And lie in my coffin naked
Then the angels will come and sing
And I will jump out of my coffin
I feel that in my heart
Miss, please give me a quarter
I have sung a got nothing
Cut a peace of the pigs bottom
Cut it deep, cut it deep
Bu do not cut your finger*



NB: (supplement Hein Donders:)
This last poem I recognised. I knew that it was sung in Tilburg as a begging song that children used to sing at the doors during the festival of innocent children (child murder by Herodus in Bethlehem) on 28 December. The children were for the occasion dressed as adults.

Dear Hein,

Thank you for your e-mail in which you informed us of the Donders Newsletter. I am expecting the next Newsletter with great interest.



If there are spelling mistakes, please forgive me, because it has been forty years and I do not have a Dutch spell check on my computer. Your interest in Donders articles made me think of a part of a book concerning the river captains on the "Murray", Australia's largest river, about our son who unfortunately died in an accident. Hereby an abstract of the book, I hope it will interest you.

Best regards for now from Australia.

Roland Donders.(GS 588)

R.J.& E.M. Donders.

Mannum S.A. 5238

The following is an extract from a book compiled by *Graham Studd* about early and current river captains and crews

Titled "**Water in their Veins**"

Profiles

*Skippers and Crews of
Murray river Paddleboats*

Captain **Eric Donders** was born on 14th April 1972 in Adelaide, and passed away 14th April 1996 as the result of a car accident. He started on the riverboats at Mannum as a deckhand and achieved his M.E.D. 2 Coxswains No. 100296 (5th December, 1991 and his Master Class IV South Australia Certificate No. 100625 (2nd December, 1992). Eric worked on "M.V. Wallamba", "P.V. Pride of the Murray"; "M.V Dragonfly", "P.S. Marion", "M.V. Proud Mary" and "M.V. Captain Proud" in the Mannum and Echuca areas.

At an early age Eric would bring the boats from where they were moored to his Dad's workshop. Ray Weedon, had seen Eric grow up in the town, and knowing that work was scarce offered Eric a position on his boat the *M.V. Lady Mannum*. Eric worked part time so he could complete his schooling,



completed the required courses and logged 'up the appropriate amount of time needed, working mostly with Ray Weedon on *M. V. Lady Mannum* and was granted his Master IV Certificate of Competency, Eric became skipper of the *Lady Mannun*.

Eric applied for and got the position as Skipper on the *P. V. Pride of the Murray*, at Echuca where he stayed for about nine months until he was offered the position as engineer on the *M.V. Proud Mary*; to take over as skipper, as soon as the original engineer was able to return to work after being on sick leave. So Eric returned to Mannum. Eric had spent a lot of his spare time, on a voluntary basis, helping restore the 100yr old *P.S. Marion* and after he gained his Masters Certificate he was asked to skipper her on several occasions.

On the 14th April 1996, his 24th Birthday, Eric was a passenger in a car that rolled over and he was tragically killed. At his funeral service the crew of the *M.V. Proud Mary*; formed a guard of honour. There were River people from as far away as Echuca, members of the Murray Skippers Association (of which Eric was a member) and others who had come to say their fond and final farewell to a friend and a workmate. As the Church service started, the *P.S. Marion* sounded her whistle as a mark of respect, and when the funeral procession started she sounded her whistle once more.

It was Eric's wish that when he died he would like his ashes scattered on the Murray so a few weeks later his family and a few very close friends went aboard the *M V Lady Mannum* and his wish was carried out at "Wall Flat" a place where Eric spent a lot of time camping in his youth.

(Paddle steamers started plying the Murray River in the 1850s, the first of these the PS Mary Ann was launched at Mannum. Between 1853 and 1930 as many as 72 Paddle Steamers were a major transport mode on the Murray. Today some of the remaining boats operate as tourist vessels.)



Addendum:

MV stands for Murray Vessel

PS stands for Paddle Steamer

PV stands for Paddle Vessel (not steam driven, usually diesel)

Running is also art

Huub Donders (GS 348), hobby: running

If once and a while you search on the Internet on "Donders", you come across the strangest things. This time I saw the name of Huub Donders, a runner in heart and soul who has had several successes lately. Huub is not much of a talker or writer, but his sister Harmie liked the idea that something would be written about Huub in the Donders Newsletter and she spontaneously gave us more information.

Huub has been a member of the athletics association STB Landgraaf (municipality of Heerlen) and according to his sister he is truly addicted to running. He has had several injuries over the years. He currently runs in the category M40, which means that his achievements are measured with persons of the same age (men of 40-44 years old). If you only consider his latest successes, it is clear that Huub is a runner with special qualities.

- 2001 "Brabant Marathon": Huub finishes at the half marathon first place in the category M40. His time was 1h10min35sec.
- March 2003 "The Thirty of Tilburg" is as the name suggests a match over 30 km. "Many start too fast and realise after 20 km that it is long after all". The experienced Huub Donders passed his last competitor during the last kilometres. He became the winner in 1h47min51sec.



Foto: Huub winner of "The Thirty of Tilburg"

- September 2003 "Jungfrau Marathon". This is an exceptionally difficult marathon in Switzerland over mountainous track. Huub finished the 42 km in 4h9min49sec.
- December 2003 "Kapeller Woodrace" (7200m). During the 20th edition of the Kapeller Woodrace in Landgraaf,



with a very strong participation, Huub managed in the last four rounds to reach first place and the fighter did not give it up. He ran the mountainous track in 24min50sec. Hubb said: "The last two kilometres I had to give everything and had to tire myself out completely. Consequently, such a beautiful victory gives extra satisfaction".

I think that Huub does not consider stopping yet. He enjoys the exertion and the achievements all the time, and we will therefore regularly hear from him.

NB: Are there any other sportsmen/women who would like to tell something about their sport? The Donders family are not lazy are they? In the (probable) family arms a saying has been included that says "never budge". We do not and, to say so, we hope you do not either.

Hein Donders (GS 809)

How my great-grandfather died

(source: Tilburg Daily Paper)

I have developed a sort of inner-alarm system for the name Donders. As soon as I read that name somewhere I am alarmed, because it may be interesting material for our Foundation and the Donders Newsletter. I found a note from the Tilburg Daily Paper of 4 December 1904. It concerned the following story of someone named B. Donders.

Mr B. Donders was walking in the street when he suddenly felt sick and could not go further than the first house, where he entered and asked for a glass of water. When the woman of the house had brought what he wished for, he had fallen from the chair and lay dead on the floor. A heart attack had ended his life. The body was brought to the hospital by police stretcher.



Searching for who this B. Donders could be, I could only reach to one conclusion. This had to be **Bernardus Donders** (GS 805), my great-grandfather, who had died on 2 December 1904. The message was published in the newspaper two days after. This is a way to find out about your family.

Hein Donders (GS 809)

Opinion Poll?

You have no doubt noticed that we as the Board are undertaking new attempts to assure the continued existence of the Foundation. One of the measures to try to better involve our subscribers is the Donders Day. We would like to hear your opinion, also concerning the following matters:

Frequency of the Donders Newsletter

What do you prefer?

- 2 times a year, like now
- 3 times a year
- 4 times a year

The amount (or rather lack of) copy could be a problem, but in that we count on you. However, with a higher frequency, the Newsletter could be comparatively thinner.

New edition of the book "The Tiburg Family Donders"

As you know the last edition was published in 1996. All exemplars have been sold out for quite a while. Perhaps it is time to publish a new, updated edition? We have done several first "explorative moves" in that field.

If it would be possible technically, financially and time wise to publish, let us say within three years, a new Dutch edition (presumably a print of 350 as in 1996 and a price of about € 65), would you buy it?

You will find both questions on the registration card of the Donders Day. Even if you can or will not come to the Donders Day, we would much appreciate it if you could fill in this informal opinion poll and return it to us. You are not obliged to anything, it is mainly for us to know whether we should continue our efforts or not. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Henk Weijters



Addition Family Archives

From Frans P.J. Donders (GS 771) we received a valuable addition to our archives, a book with works of Professor Donders (GS 340). We thank him sincerely.

Petrus Donders song (GS 97)

(Sources : The Newspaper of the South and the Periodical of the Diocese of 1982 and the Father Donders Association)

On the occasion of the canonisation of Petrus Donders (GS 97) the Grand Men Choir Tilburg together with 135 guests travelled by plane to Rome for a one-day trip (23 May 1982). The canonisation of Peerke Donders took place on the numerous stairs and the steps in front of the Grand Church of Holy St Peter. The Grand Men Choir Tilburg was not permitted to sing there at place. A not announced song would not be appropriate, the master of ceremonies stated. "Now or never" thought choirmaster Paul van Hoeken and he started the many-voiced 'Peerke Donders song". The moment on which the choir outside at the St Pieter Square started singing is not very clear. One source speaks of "immediately after Mgr. Bluysen van Den Bosch at the beginning of the ceremony had read the life of Petrus Donders" and another source says "while Pope John Paul II did several announcements at the end of the three hour long ceremony". In any case, the choir has sung with all its enthusiasm after all.

"We had agreed that we would let them know that we were there. That is why at the end we have started to sing the Petrus Donders Song", members of the choir said. But if a choir spontaneously starts a song which is almost hundred-voiced, even the St Pieter Square is not too big to, above the noise made by a crowd of ten thousands of people, capture the attention for a while.

In the article, one verse has been published as it was sung then. Was this the whole song? One verse?

To verify this, I contacted the Father Donders Association in Tilburg. They were friendly enough to send me several Donders songs. The (probable) first sing is written by H.A. van



Foto:
The choir in front of the Super DC8 on Ciampino airport in Rome.

Rijthoven and put to music in 1945 by Jon Hombergen. This has been edited for a big choir by Harry Swinkels and this is probably the version that was sung in Rome. This version is as follows:

Petrus Donders, grote held,
Tilburg wil uw naam vereren,
Gij in eenvoud groot en sterk,
wil ook ons die eenvoud leren.
Hoed ons voor de hovaardij,
maak ons simpel zoals Gij.
Hoedt ons voor de hovaardij
maak ons needrig zoals Gij.

*Peter Donders, great hero
Tiburg would like to honor your
name
Thee in sobriety big and strong
Teach us the sobriety
Protect us from haughtiness
Make us humble like thee
Protect us from haughtiness
Make us modest like thee*

Petrus Donders Tilburgs roem,
Eens trokt Gij uit naar verre lan-
den,
'r zieke mensen bij te staan
met liefdevolle handen.
Gij in liefde sterk en groot
maak onze liefde even groot.
Gij in liefde sterk en groot
maak onze liefde even groot.

*Peter Donders Tilburg fame
Once thee left to far countries
To help sick people
With loving hands
Thee in love big and strong
Make our love just as strong
Thee in love big and strong
Make our love just as strong*

Petrus Donders eens zo arm,
nu de rijkste van ons allen,
wil van Uwe rijkdom ons
altijd weer ten deel doen vallen.
Tilburgs voorspraak bij de Heer,
zegen Tilburg immer weer.
Tilburg's voorspraak bij de Heer,
zegen Tilburg immer weer.

*Peter Donders, once so poor
Now the richest of us all
Wants to always share Your rich-
ness
With us
Tilburgs advocacy with the Lord
Bless Tiburg again and always
Tilburgs advocacy with the Lord
Bless Tiburg again and always*

One woman's amazing feat

| By Jyoti Kalsi | 09-12-2003

*Dutch national **Lilianne Donders** loves the desert and its inhabitants. Accompanied by her beloved camels, she is trekking 3,000 kilometres from Tehran to Oman to raise money for a clinic in Jordan. She spoke to Jyoti Kalsi during a stopover in Dubai*

She was wearing a traditional Arabic dara'a (long dress) and sirwal (trousers). Tiny gold camels dangled from her ears and her head was covered with a headscarf. She squatted in the sand near the Nad Al Sheba Camel Souq, sipping kahwah and talking to her camels and dogs in colloquial Arabic. She looked completely at home. Lilianne Donders is Dutch, but she has chosen to live the life of a Bedouin.

She is currently camping in Dubai, which is one of the stops on her Caravan of Hope, a 3000-kilometre trek through deserts and mountains, from Tehran to Oman. The aim of this walk is to highlight the plight of Palestinian refugees and to raise money to build a Mother and Child clinic in Jordan near the Palestinian territories.

"I also want to clear Western misconceptions about this part of the world and create an understanding and appreciation of the warmth, hospitality and culture of the Arabs," said Lilianne. "The Middle East is being portrayed by the international press as a centre of war and insecurity. I want to demonstrate to the world that a woman walking through the desert is absolutely safe here."

Lilianne's romance with the Gulf region began in 1980, when her husband, Robert Weener, was posted as Shell's Country Chairman for Oman. She felt an immediate bond with the desert and its people and set out to make friends with them.

"Shaikha Laila", as her Bedouin friends call her, was adopted by Al

Jenaba tribe. During her eight-year stay in Oman, she helped the tribal women to sell their beautiful handicrafts in Muscat and abroad. Since then she has lived in Syria and Iran, where her husband is currently posted. "I have been accepted into so many tribes that practically everyone I meet on my travels is related to me by tribal bonds," she said.

Lilianne loves the desert and its people; she loves to walk and she loves animals. She has combined all these passions in her mission to help people. In 2001, she walked from Damascus to Tehran with her camels Zubeida, Zahra, Zenobia and Sheba.

Her Caravan for Cancer raised over \$35,000 from sponsors, for a Well-Woman clinic in Palmyra, Syria. "The clinic provides medical support to nomadic women in the Syrian desert, using mobile clinics to serve communities living deep in the desert," said Lilianne. Her feat seems even more remarkable when one realises that she undertook this challenging trek just two weeks after her last chemotherapy treatment for breast cancer.



Foto: Lilianne and Camel

This time, her sons Jasper and Sander have also joined Lilianne, the camels and her dogs, Farah and Zanzibar. Her old travelling companions from Syria, Ghassan Saleh and Taha Muraweh insisted on coming too.

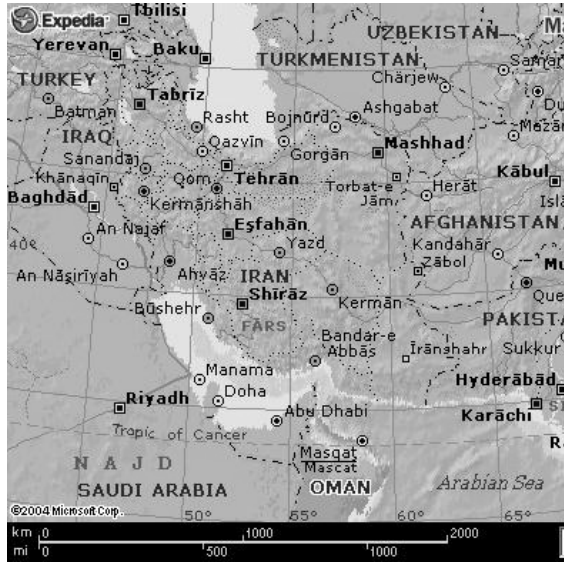
Her husband joins her whenever he can. "He is my main pillar of support. He has always stood by me and is always there when I need him, whether it is for financial or logistical support," said Lilianne. "I also appreciate the support I have had from Shell and other sponsors. We have raised over \$130,000 already," she added.

The Caravan of Hope started from Tehran in mid-August. The group walked across the length of Iran to Bandar Abbas and took a boat to Ras Al Khaimah, where they camped for two months. They came to Dubai via Sharjah and will stop in Al Ain before visiting various areas in Oman and returning to the UAE.

"I have always been fascinated by tales of travellers to the Middle East such as Richard Burton and Jane Digby. In Syria, Robert and I retraced several of these journeys. But it was always my dream to retrace the camel caravan trade routes that connected the Arabian Peninsula with the ancient court of Tehran. That wish has been fulfilled with this trip," said Lilianne.



Planning for the trek began three years ago. Lilianne and her husband drove extensively through sandy, mountainous areas to study and map every inch of the route. Sponsors were found and visas organised. Lilianne had to train her Syrian camels to negotiate the steep Iranian mountains and handle the soft sand of the Emirates and Oman.



The logistics are simple. Taha and Jasper travel in the truck that carries all their supplies and travels along tarred roads wherever possible, while Lilianne and Ghassan walk through the desert with the animals. The truck is fitted with a kitchenette, a refrigerator and a water tank. Like traditional Middle Eastern homes, this mobile home too is protected by an evil eye charm.

"We carry enough supplies for three days and stop for water at mosques and buy what provisions we can along the way," said Lilianne. In areas inaccessible by truck, a car driven by Jasper joins the caravan. Most of their expenses have been borne by Robert and they raise some funds through sale of commemorative T-shirts.

Their day begins at 5am. After a light breakfast comprising mostly fruits, they start walking. They usually have dates and camel milk for lunch. "Dates have all the nutrients we need and camel milk is the most energising drink you can have. It also has amazing curative powers," said Lilianne.

The caravan covers 25 to 40 kilometres every day and they settle down for the night in the open desert. Ghassan cooks a simple, traditional Arabic meal. The camels are fed a special power mix of grains formulated by Lilianne. "We like to sleep under the stars and do not bother with tents," said Lilianne.

In most places, the local tribesmen come over to Lilianne's open air

majlis to enquire about them and to chat with them. "People are so friendly and helpful. They get us homemade food and tell us about their culture and traditions," said Lilianne.

"This trip has been fun. I have learnt falconry and hunted houbara bustards and I have learnt to recognise tracks of different desert animals," added Jasper, who recently finished his master's in computer science.

Lilianne usually visits the homes of the desert tribes to talk to the women about health, giving them pamphlets on self-examination for breast cancer. In return, they teach her traditional cooking and handicraft making. In Ras Al Khaimah she gave several talks about various aspects of her trek and the lessons of life that she has learnt in the desert.

"We always insist on living out in the desert," she said. "People often invite us to their homes, but I request them to come and meet us at our camp because I feel responsible for my camels and do not like to leave them.

Lilianne is often asked why she opted to walk rather than use a car or ride the camels. "I love walking because you meet more people and you develop a deeper understanding of the place. Every dune presents amazing views and every day brings new experiences," she said.

And how does she handle the fatigue? "A cup of sweet tea and some dates are all we need to revive us," she said.

The group has not had any major medical problems so far, but they are well equipped with medicines and emergency surgical equipment. "I rely mainly on homeopathy, particularly Arnica. I also carry a specially-formulated dose of Arnica for my camels," said Lilianne.

Their only bad experience has been in Na'in, where the Iranian police detained them for two weeks. "The best part of the trek is the fantastic people we have met. The world can learn about trust and hospitality from the Arabs. I want to live in this region for the rest of my life," said Lilianne. "We have had a lot of support from the people of the UAE. I hope they will help us to raise more money for this good cause," she added.

Art Hall revives in FAXX

By Ben Ackermans

Monday 19 January 2004 – The Art Hall Donders is going to re-
vive. The first exhibition hall where Tilburg artists could go to
after the Second World War, will as much as possible be copied
in the FAXX building. This will be done in December, under the
name of Art Hall Donders, art in rebuilding.

Director R. van Leeuwen of the Tilburg Art Foundation (TKS) an-
nounced this yesterday during the New Year reception. For the
exposition cooperation will be established with the City Museum
in being.

Furniture shop

In those days, Art Hall Donders was located in the Zomerstraat
[Summer Street], on the top floor of a building with the furni-
ture shop of the same name. Works of, according to Van Leeu-
wen, 'a monumental generation' of artists who displayed in the
Hall, 'a breeding place for after War art' will be shown in the
FAXX.

(part of the New Year speech of Mr R. van Leeuwen)

FAXX

*FAXX a collection of small (socio)-cultural organizations
and enterprises (amongst which the Tilburg arts library
and CAST an architectural bureau), housed in a former
bank building*

Go-card

Perhaps the best old picture that we have received so far after our call for own made go-cards (zeepkisten) was sent in by Ria Donders (GS 741) (56) from Tilburg. We see a typical Tilburg courtyard, in full sunlight and against the background of a shed (a rabbit cage?) a boy is princely sitting on a beautiful go-card. That boy is Theo Donders, Ria's husband. It is the year 1960, so he must have been around twelve years old. "He build it together with his brother Piet, who was several years older and was already going to craft school ", tell Mrs Donders. She adds the sad history of Piet who died already at age 40. "In front of his daughters eyes, he was run over by a car on his bike".

As is the case with many go-cards, the chassis of this example appeared also to be build of orange cages. Theo Donders himself wrote on a note that the steering wheel was coming from a car-breaker and that the wheels once belonged to a baby buggy. But how was the card made to move? Very simple: "you have to ride with one leg outside".

By the way, Theo is still a big handyman. His wife proudly shows some examples on photographs. There is a beautiful wooden stove for his twin granddaughters Aniek and Lisa. "He goes to a toy store, brings some leaflets and simply copies them". If only you could have such a grandfather.



• Theo Donders in zijn fraaie zeepkist.
Foto collectie Donders

CD-ROM

As you may know, the Foundation does not have any more books for sale. And the plans for a new edition are only in a very preliminary stage. There still appeared to be people who turned to the Foundation with questions concerning the availability of the last (1996) book or even older editions. To meet these demands we have been able, as announced before in the Donders Newsletter, put the content of the red 1996 edition on CD-ROM. To serve also the non-Dutch speaking persons interested, the genealogical information has been translated into English. The printing of the CD-ROM and the cover are provided with a new more attractive graphical design. There are two versions available:

Dutch: genealogical information including stories, no pictures: € 18,00 including forwarding charges.
English: genealogical information, no stories and no pictures: € 13,00 excluding forwarding charges.



The data on the CD-ROM are in a Microsoft Word file. We strive for the processing of all data in the book. You can buy a CD-ROM by contacting the Secretariat or by e-mail.

Donders Newsletter (Dutch) appears in a print of 300

Donders Newsletter (English) appears in a print of 50

How to contact us :

E-mail: secretaryship

info@dondersnieuws.org

E-mail: News/internet/contributions

dondersnieuws@planet.nl

Do you know a nice Donders story?

Would you like to respond to one of the articles in the Donders Newsletter?

Do you know more about the background of persons in the articles that we have copied from the Newspapers?

Let us know, mail or write to us!

translations Yvonne Donders (GS 771)

Subscription on the 'DondersNieuws' bulletin.

For subscribers outside the Netherlands.

The subscription for 2004 amounts €10.

Please consult your bank and make sure that the following procedure is followed:

Mention for a payment to the Dutch 'Postbank' account:

PSTBNL 21 Postbank N.V.

Financial – Plaza

Postbus 1800

1000 BV Amsterdam The Netherlands

Mention the account of the addressee:

IBAN NL02 PSTB 0000 0035 82

Stichting Familiearchief Donders

Antoine Artsplein 25

5037 RS Tilburg The Netherlands

Payment condition:

In € at 'Our costs'

In this way we are sure to receive the €10 on our account. Please check the payment conditions with your own bank. In most cases subscribers from outside the Netherlands do meet extra costs for payments. In those cases we offer you some possibilities:

- you may make the subscription payment for 1, 2 or 3 years
- you may make the payment for more subscribers (family members?) at the same time
- you may pay at the same time for extra ordered items (e.g. a CD-ROM)
- you may send the subscription fee cash in banknotes (in an envelope with greetings card) addressed directly to the Foundation in Tilburg. It is advised to inform the foundation when this payment took place. And of course this procedure is at your own risk.
- you can make arrangements with family or friends in Holland

Copyright (C) Stichting Familiearchief Donders

(Foundation Family archive Donders)

Alls rights reserved. No part of this publication/CD-rom/Internetsite may be reprinted, reproduced or made public in any form or by any electronic, mechanical or any other means, including photocopying, microfilm, digital file and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system without preliminary permission in writing of the Foundation.

Stichting Familiearchief Donders
Antoine Artsplein 25
NL-5037RS Tilburg
The Netherlands