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Subscriptions

The subscription fee for 2003 is still € 6.35 but any extra voluntary contributions are very much appreciated.

See also page 4

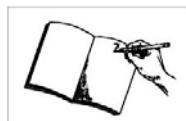
A new spring – a new DondersNieuws?

Back to the “old” A5 format.

It is our intention to publish the DondersNieuws from now on again in this handy format.

Moreover we want to send in spring a “thin” issue of the DondersNieuws.

Elsewhere in this publication you will find an explanation that we present with some pride the renewed DondersNieuws.



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!

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Donders stamps

Never did I read anything about it in the 'DondersNieuws' or in the last book, but in Surinam two stamps were released on the occasion of the beatification of Petrus (Peerke) Donders (GS 97) in 1982. These represented a value of 35 and 65 cents. I am not a philatelist. Nevertheless I bought myself a set because it did have something special with our family name.

There should be real philatelists within the Donders family I guess. Aren't they also not familiar with the other stamp with a Donders on it? Nosing around I found this one by chance: a stamp in nice dark green of 6 cents with professor Donders (GS 340). It is a Dutch release of the summer stamps in 1935. The 6 cents was released from June 20th until October 12th and carried a surcharge for cultural and social work.

Below you will find a picture of the stamps.



Still special, these Donders people on stamps!

very

Hein Donders (GS 809)

An unforgettable Donders-day!



Robbers & van den Hoogen bv

As a donor of our foundation, you have of course received an invitation (sent to Dutch, German and Belgium donors only) for a non-stop "family reunion" that we organised the 10th of May together with the wine house "Robbers & van den Hoogen" (DN: GS 594) in Arnhem.

Together with a visit to the Dutch wine museum and to the taste location, people had the opportunity to enjoy a good glass of wine and meet/talk with other Donders people.

The members of the Board of the Donders foundation were also present that Saturday. They have shown the Donders web-site and had the books of the "Donders family of Tilburg" available, as well as other books and writings connected to the Donders family and to Peerke Donders (GS 97), etc.

Moreover, it was a unique opportunity to make acquaintance with you. We would like to hear what you find important, if we are on the right track with the DondersNieuws, if you have nice ideas about "Donders activities", etc.

Henk Weijters



Jacques Donders



Corrie Donders



Hein Donders



Henk Weijters

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Contribution.

As you know the foundation kept the contribution for the "Family Archive Donders" for a great number of years at the same low level. One of the arguments at that time was that it was difficult to ask people more money for less DondersNieuws.

Meanwhile we have already been busy with the issue of an extensive DondersNieuws, a website on the Internet and with extra activities such as the "Donders-day" on May 10th in Arnhem. Besides, the postal costs have increased over the years and the maintenance of our database, in which the data of the family Donders is stored and updated, is also rather costly.

Bearing in mind these new activities, we would like to raise the subscription fee for 2004 to € 10,00.



This may seem a large raise, but as said it is reasonable and understandable, considering the increased work done over the last years. For the coming years the contribution will, if required, follow the general cost increase for living.

However, extra things will be done with the extra money. For example, we will upgrade our HazaData database and we will, after the successful activity with the wine house "Robbers & van den Hoogen" (GS 594), consider the possibilities for another such activity.

Moreover, the DondersNieuws will be issued twice this year, which will also be done in the coming years.

Furthermore, we will expand our website with links to other Donders-sites and we will try to reach also Donders people in the Far East, the West, the far south and north. You are more than welcome to help us!

Henk Weijters

We are also considering the idea to reserve a (limited) space for advertisement. Are you as a company or institution interested? In our autumn-edition we will come up with concrete proposals.

"The fastest woman of Switzerland"

In the past I heard about a Swiss' Donders who took part in the Olympic games. I started searching and came into contact with her. It appeared that she received the above title in Switzerland. I asked her (Mireille Donders, GS 236) if she could write a text for the 'DondersNieuws', with a positive reaction from her. She wrote the text in German, which was translated into Dutch and now into English.

Hein Donders (GS 809)

German

Als Hein mich fragte ein paar Zeile über mich als Leichtathletin zu Schreiben, fand ich das eine leichte Aufgabe und habe spontan zugesagt.

Wenn man dann aber vor dem Blatt sitzt, sieht das alles anders aus.

Mich nennen auf dem Sportplatz alle Mireille oder Doendi (abgeleitet von Donders).

Ich bin bis heute die Schnellste über 100m in 11.34 Sekunden und habe auch die beiden Rekorde über 60m (7.27) und 200m (22.96) in der Halle. In meiner 12jährigen Karriere durfte ich 2x an den Olympischen Spielen teilnehmen und an verschiedenen Europameister- und Weltmeisterschaften. Mein grösster Erfolg ist aber der Gewinn der Bronze- Medaille an der Universiade (Studentenweltmeisterschaften)in Peking 2001 über 100m. Mit meinem grössten Erfolg habe ich dann meine Leichtathletikkarriere beendet. Es war aber bis jetzt meine intensivste und schönste Zeit. Ich habe fast die ganze Welt gesehen und viele Freundschaften über die ganze Welt verteilt geschlossen. Dem Sport verdanke ich viel. Ich habe gelernt auf ein Ziel zu arbeiten und an mich zu glauben. Ausserdem habe ich gelernt Niederlagen wegzustecken und daraus neue Kraft zu gewinnen. Das sind Eigenschaften, welche mir auch neben dem Sport helfen ein erfolgreiches Privat- und Berufsleben zu führen. Ich bin Primarlehrerin und darf Kinder bis zum 16 Lebensalter unterrichten. Daran habe ich sehr viel Spass.

Ich arbeite aber an zwei Tagen auch bei meinen Eltern im Büro. Meine Eltern führen eine traditionsreiche Schweizer Farbfabrik. Tönt das nicht lustig...Eine Holländerfamilie führt eine Schweizer



Unternehmung... Nun mittlerweile haben wir alle den Schweizerpass. Nur bin ich da der Ausländer der Familie. Weil ich des Sportes wegen früher den Schweizerpass benötigte, bin ich Bürger der Gemeinde Laupen und der Rest der Familie Bürger von Ostermundigen. Übrigens ich bin auch Niederländische Meisterin gewesen. Da ist Holland sehr loyal und ich durfte als Doppelbürgerin starten. Wie erstaunt waren da einige, als das Mädchen aus der Schweiz fließend Niederländisch sprach...

Stolz habe ich damals beide Flaggen geschwenkt auf dem Podest... Nun bin ich zurückgetreten und besuche eine Weiterbildung. Denn wer einmal gelernt hat sich immer zu verbessern, tut dies auch im Beruf. Nebenbei kümmere ich mich um den Behindertenleichtathletiksport in der Schweiz und bemühe mich für eine bessere Integration. Dieses Jahr sind die Europameisterschaften in Assen und vielleicht werde ich da unser Team unterstützen.

Sport wird mein Leben immer wieder begleiten und manchmal vermisse ich das Herumreisen von Wettkampf zu Wettkampf, aber dann schaue ich meine Fotos an und träume vom Laufen...ans Training denke ich weniger, denn das war oft sehr hart. Aber eben doch schön... Ich hatte Glück und schaffte den Sprung ins Nationale Team... und ich wünsche allen jungen Sportlern das gleiche Glück. Sport kann Berge versetzen...ob wohl deshalb so viele in der Schweiz sind?

Liebe Grüsse aus der Schweiz!
Mireille Donders (GS 236).



Englisch

When Hein asked me to write some lines about myself as an athlete, I thought it was an easy task and agreed spontaneously. However, sitting in front of the desk, it looks totally different.

On the sports field I am called Mireille or Doendi (derivation of Donders).

Until today I am the fastest on the 100m in 11.34 seconds and have also both indoor records on the 60m (7.27) and the 200m (22.96). During my 12-year career I participated twice in the Olympic games and various European and World Championships. My greatest success however was gaining the bronze medal at the Universiade (world championships for students) in Peking in 2001 on the 100m. With my greatest success then, I ended my career as an athlete. Until now it was my most intensive and most beautiful period. I saw almost the whole world and made a lot of friends all over the world. I owe sports a lot. I have learned to work towards a target and to believe in myself. Moreover, I learned to take defeats and to draw new strengths from them. These are qualities that help me also outside sports to have a successful life, privately as well as professionally. I am a basic teacher and teach children up to 16 years of age, which is very satisfying for me.

Two days a week I work in the office of my parents. My parents manage a traditional Swiss paint factory. Doesn't that sound nice . . . a Dutch family manages a Swiss company . . . Meanwhile we all have a Swiss passport. I am just the foreigner of the family. Because of the sports I needed a Swiss passport in the past. I am an inhabitant of the municipal Laupen and the rest of the family live in Ostermundigen. Besides I have been Dutch champion also. At that time, the Netherlands was very loyal and it was permitted that I participated as a citizen of two countries. How surprised some people were when that girl from Switzerland talked Dutch fluently. At that moment standing on the platform I waved both flags proudly.

Now I have stopped and follow continuation schooling. Because when someone has learned to always improve herself, she will do the same in her profession. Furthermore, I am occupied

do the same in her profession. Furthermore, I am occupied with athletics for handicapped people in Switzerland and I promote a better integration. This year the European championships are in Assen (the Netherlands) and maybe I will support our team there. Sport will always be a part of my life and I often miss the travelling around from game to game, but than I have a look at my photos and dream of running . . . about training I think less, because that was often very hard. Nevertheless still nice . . . I was lucky and could make the jump to the national team . . . and I wish all young sportsmen the same luck.

Sport can move mountains . . . is it that why Switzerland does have so many of them?

Kind regards from Switzerland!



*Mireille Donders
(GS236)*



Old news

Some newspaper items from the “Tilburgsche Courant”:

2-3-1876 One of the trainees in the “Atelier der Spoorwegen te Tilburg” (DN: workshop in Tilburg of the railway company), got a spark of glowing metal in one of his eyes. Immediately he went with the first coming train to Utrecht, where however Professor Donders (DN: GS 340) judged the preservation of the eye impossible and immediately decided to remove it.

10-2-1881 Near the factory of J.L. Donders & Zn (DN: J.L. Donders and Son, GS 125) Mr. A.M. Canter, Mayor of Oisterwijk, stumbled with the fatal consequence that the pin of the umbrella penetrated his left eye that torn totally with the result of a enormous bleeding. He was brought to the private house of Mr. L.J. Tulder, one of his family members, where he died about one o'clock.

A new spring – a new DondersNieuws?

As a new working group we have started in 2000 with a more extended issue of the DondersNieuws. At that time we have chosen for a publication in A4 format because a.o. the implementation of an article in columns from a newspaper is possible without extra cutting and pasting and therefore does not "spoil" the article. In order to get a coherent arrangement we have chosen at that time for a lay-out in columns for the entire publication. In our opinion, putting pictures within the text improves the pleasure of reading. The choice was also made, because copying and stapling of A4-format papers is easier.

Some people asked from the beginning to return to the old format because it was easier to file and nicer to read than the "stapled" A4 publication.

So we worked it out in this spring edition, which is also specially meant to invite you to inform us about family changes and to send your copy for the autumn-edition.

Now that we can download texts of e.g. newspapers from the Internet, we can easily adapt the layout. Furthermore, we thoroughly studied the total design and present the DondersNieuws again in A5-format. In our opinion this format and a spring-edition are there to stay.

Henk Weijters

Reaction to our puzzle picture; we asked you who knows which Donders in the Paleis-Raadhuis (a former palace in Tilburg of King William II) in 1937 did furnish the Mayors room.



.....*Many thanks for your reaction!*

From **Th.B. Donders** (DN: GS 161) from Tilburg we received the following e-mail:

The furnishing of the Mayors room at that time was taken care of by "Donders-Smulders Woninginrichting" (DN: "Donders-Smulders Domestic-decoration") Zomerstraat 26 in Tilburg. The in 1896 started business is now managed by my son J.M.B.Th. Donders (DN: GS 162) under the name of "Donders Interieur" (DN: "Donders Interior") (Wilhelminapark 29 in Tilburg).

More about this can be read in the book "Geslacht Donders" (DN: "Family Donders") issued in 1966 under GS 155 page 138 and 139.

Whishing you a lot of success with the interesting DondersNieuws!

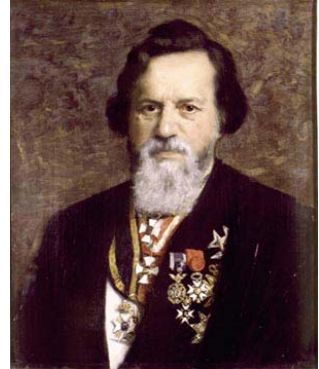


Professor Donders (GS 340)

In the "Old news" on page 8 Professor Donders is mentioned. Who was that famous namesake?

(with thanks to the exhibition "Oog voor Donders" ("Eye for Donders") of the university of Utrecht.)

Franciscus Cornelis Donders (1818-1889) was a curiosity at his time. Whoever met him was hit by his large and dark appearance, his wild shock of hair and his dense beard. Besides that, his cultured way of gesticulation and talking were remarkable. When entering a room his fellow researchers stopped talking; his patients liked him very much. Many of them still remembered their meeting many years later.



In 1847 Donders got a post at the University of Utrecht. He specialised himself in ophthalmology. Because of his enormous interest in science, he did not become a practical working eye-surgeon, but he specialised his research in far- and short-sightedness, colour-blindness and astigmatism. With the foundation of the "Gasthuis voor behoeftigen en mindervermogene ooglijders" ("Eye-disease hospital for people in need and poor people"), in short "Ooglijdersgasthuis" ("Hospital for eye-diseases"), he did not treat from a science point of view only, but he also let his heart speak. Hundreds of persons were given a (free) treatment.

Meanwhile, the exhibition is over, but still to be found on the Internet:

www.uu.nl/uupublish/tentoonstellinge/wisseltentoonste/oogvoordondersge/14323main.html



The editorship of the DondersNieuws would like to use an own logo on e.g. the DondersNieuws publication and possibly also on the web-site and correspondences.

Do you have any creative abilities and do you like a good glass of wine? We gave a bottle of delicious Donders-wine for the designer of the winning logo.

Thomas de Beer (manufacturer of woolly fabric)

And the Donders connection

Norbertus and Johanna de Beer-Donders (GS 124)



During a visit to the "Regional Historic Centre" (the former municipal archive) in Tilburg lately, I saw to my astonishment the painted portraits of my great-grand-parents Norbetus de Beer (1831-1915) and Johanna Maria Huberta Donders (1840-1909). The "Regional Historic Centre" is since the second half of the 1980ties housed close to the St. Josephstraat, in the restored part of the under King William II built "Lancierskazerne" ("barracks of Lancier"). In the long passage a series of portraits hang of prominent people of Tilburg at that time. Because I knew little of my great-grandparents, I decided to search for information about them.

First I contacted my brother Joop, our keeper of family records, who sorted out a lot of information about our family and also published for the family. He could provide me the required data. Moreover, he told me that there are more portraits of our great-grandparents, which was not uncommon in those days. So the word 'the' in the first sentence is in fact not correct. Norbertus (usual name Norbert or Bart) was also called Bartje or Nopke because of his small figure. In 1865 he married Johanna (usual name Joke) Donders. They had 11 children: 8 boys and 3 girls of which 4 boys and 1 girl did already die in the cradle or as a child. The youngest of the sons, Charles Joseph Maria (1876-1948) became my grandfather.

foto: Joke de Beer-Donders



Joke, according to a good habit in Tilburg called 'Sjoke' (contraction of 'ons (our) Joke'), is by mistake called Marie in the book of Van der Eerden about the Donders family (DN: book published in 1938, GS V.17). I remember that around 1982 I draw the attention of Peter Donders in Haarlem (DN: GS 766) to that matter after having heard that he was working on a revised version of the book. 'Sjoke' was possibly involved in

the foundation of the St. Elisabethvereniging (DN: association of St, Elisabeth) of the parish Goirle. She was definitively part of the first board of management of this association in 1904. Furthermore she and her husband are registered as the generous sponsors of the neogotic organ-case (developed by architect F.C. de Beer, no family) of the Smitsorgan of the church of Goirke, used since 1905. No small present indeed! In the same church Petrus (Peerke) Donders (DN: GS 97) celebrated his first mass with a large attendance and held his parting preachment before leaving for Surinam.

Norbert was a son of Thomas de Beer (1785-1863), the founder of the factory for woollen fabrics with the same name. In fact, the two sons of Thomas, Norbertus and his much older brother Johannes Cornelis (usual named Jan, 1818-1899) are mentioned as founders of the factory. When in 1892 the unmarried Jan retired from the factory, Norbert and his sons continued the meanwhile close to the Wilhelminapark established factory. This task fit Norbert well, since he was known for his enormous power of work and energy. Besides, he was a very simple man who moved little or not at all in public life (the Tilburgsche Courant, at his death in 1915). He could furthermore count on his four sons who all worked in the factory. Most of the buildings of the strongly expanding factory block were designed by F.C. de Beer. The eldest son of Norbert and Joke, Lambert, became well-known for his role over the years as chairman of the "Vereniging van Tilburgsche Fabrikanten van Wollen stoffen" (DN: "association of manufacturers of woollen fabrics in Tilburg") and because he was member of the chamber of commerce for a long time (1899-1921).

My grandfather retired already in the 1930ties from the family factory. He was also the first person who was going to live "far away" from the factory. He moved together with his family all the way to ... the Goirkestraat. The rest of the family for a long period stayed in the Wilhelminapark. Norbert also lived at least as a widower in 1911 still in the house at the Wilhelminapark 4 (which was demolished in 1936) with his unmarried son Thomas junior. As many other factories in woollen fabrics, it appeared that the one of Thomas de Beer was not viable anymore. The spinning-mill was active the longest period. This part of the buildings still exists and accommodates now the foundation for contemporary art De Pont, financed by the inheritance of and mentioned after the lawyer



and manufacturer J.H. (Jan) de Pont LL.M. He also played a role in the activities of the factory.

No, I did not find much information during my research on Joke de Beer-Donders. However, were not all wives (of manufacturers) relatively invisible? In the background they ran the housekeeping and the upbringing of the children in accordance with the catholic ethics and traditions. What struck me the most when I saw her portrait was how her eyes looked at me severely and even chilly. As if all the hardship of the loss of so many children were consciously pressed together in that portrait.



Still something about the relation with the Donders people: My brother Joop has found out that the family-line of Joke went back to Willem Donders (1628-1697)(DN: GS 93), a son of the in 1655 died Peter (DN: GS 13). This Peter had another son Cornelis (DN: GS 335) who's great-granddaughter Clasina Donders (DN: GS 397) married Adriaan de Wijs in 1769. A great-granddaughter of theirs married Hendrikus Eras, of which daughter Constantina married with the eldest son of Joke Donders (my grandfather). Is it not amusing how two Donders-branches met each other via the female line in de Beer family? Had it not just started with Jan de Beer van Belver?

Tilburg, 26 February, 2003

Karel de Beer

(with thanks to my brother Joop with regard to the family data)

To inform Donders people abroad and to keep them informed about DondersNieuws we would like to send an e-mail with a reference to our web-site.

Maybe you did it already, or maybe you do not have access to the Internet.

Please send us their e-mail addresses so that we can ask them to pass on changed data regarding the Donders family.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Henk Weijters



www.dondersnieuws.nl

Yes, after having some trouble we are back in the air with our Donders web-site, and now definitively! The coming period we will work intensively to keep the site up to date, but do not be afraid, we do not have the intention to replace the "real" DondersNieuws by the Internet DondersNieuws.

We will only publish small parts of articles, just to interest the non-subscribers. Moreover we want to include "links" to other Donders web-sites, so please inform us of any sites you know.

Internet as a tool for communication can possibly be a solution for Donders people abroad, however they must be familiar with the Dutch language. However, as you know, we are working on English and German translations or parts of them. Are you fluent in a foreign (other than Dutch) language and are you willing to contribute for the foundation of the Donders Family Archive, you are kindly invited.

In any case we noticed that the number of e-mails to us is increasing rapidly.

Henk Weijters



Kaatsheuvelse Turf (DN: a kind of decoration of the village Kaatsheuvel) for Jos Donders (DN: 461)

By our correspondent

Monday January 6 2003 – KAATSHEUVEL – The yearly prize for the person or institute that has particularly contributed to the public carnival in Kaatsheuvel in the past period was this year given to Jos Donders.

Saturday evening, during a well-visited new-years reception of the Carnival Foundation, he received the decoration from Mayor J. Weierink. The 57 year old person from Tilburg received the prize for his special devotion to the public carnival. The other day, Donders retired the function of chairman of SST '94 because of private reasons. Donders, his wife was born in Kaatsheuvel, was active in the carnival of Kaatsheuvel for more than 35 years. Already in 1974, he was "prince of the village" and for 10 years he was prince of De Peperbussen (DN: Pepperboxes). When at the end of 1993 the Brabants Dagblad announced that in 1994 there would be no carnival in Kaatsheuvel anymore because it had come to a dead end, Donders took various initiatives together with the carnival for the youngsters and the associations 20 cc De Hoveniers (DN: Gardeners), de Troubadours, de Duinpiepers (DN: Tawny pipits) en de Kromme Noten (DN: Warped Notes) to raise the foundation "Stichting Samenwerkingsverband Turfstekersland '94" (DN: Foundation Co-operative Bond Peat-cutters-land).

Dash away a tear.

Until 1995, he was the chairman of the foundation. Under his supervision, the Kaatsheuvel carnival flourished again. Donders also ensured that there was again a yearly procession on the Sunday afternoon and a fruitful collaboration developed between the various carnival associations. The ex-chairman was notably impressed. "I could never have dreamt that I might receive the prize I established myself. I had to dash away a tear", the leaving chairman stated. Donders will be succeeded by Stefan Ossewold from Waalwijk.

The books "the Donders family"

The green issue of 1982 as well as the red issue of 1996 that are published by our foundation are totally sold out. Printing a new edition with all adaptations since that time is an extreme costly operation. The same goes for a reprint of the 1996 issue. If anyone would like to sponsor such an activity, please do not hesitate. However, until that moment we tried to find a solution in putting the last red issue on CD-ROM.

In those days the texts were produced with a text processor and stored in a computer, but this is not done for photos, which were added during lay-out and printing. That is why this CD-ROM contains only texts. We presented this CD on 10 May at the Donders-day and we offer it for sale.

Jacques Donders

Data changes of the family Donders

Because we would like to keep the spring edition small and to keep the up-dating of new data surveyable, we decided to publish the up-date only in the autumn edition.

Jacques Donders

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