



# Dondrite news

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**N° 6.**

**Nijmegen, Monday, June 24, 2019**

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ere we are again, at the last Dondrite News edition of the academic year.

It's been another whirlwind of a ride and I can personally say (Georgia here!) that I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know you all and experience being a member of Dondrite. Our Scribe committee has tried very hard this year to provide you all with a lovely yearbook - full of the best memories of the 2018/19 year. Looking back, we had many laughs at all of the jokes and top-notch personalities we have here at CNS. It's plain to see that Dondrite, although still in its youthful phase, is a student association full of passionate individuals wanting to better the experience of students,

present and future. We hope that we have provided you with the latest news on the goings-on within Dondrite.

In this final edition, you can find a write-up of some of the wonderful events Dondrite has put on for you - the informative Synapsium, the relaxed Utrecht Day Trip and the poignant discussion panel on mental health within academia. You'll also find information on what's left of the academic year and how to really make it go out with a bang!

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## **Synapsium**

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Saturday May 25th, the 6th edition of the Synapsium took place at the Elinor Ostrom Building. 'MASTERminds of Neuroscience' was the theme the organizing committee chose for this year's symposium, inviting MASTERminds to present their research for their peers.

The day was filled with presentations from 5 student speakers, poster presentations,

workshops, a panel discussion and, of course, a Keynote and student Keynote lecture. The organizing committee got Kartik Sreenivasan, assistant professor for Psychology at NYU Abu Dhabi, to give this year's Keynote lecture on the organisation of visual working memory. The student Keynote lecture was given by Floortje Bouwkamp, PhD candidate at the Predictive

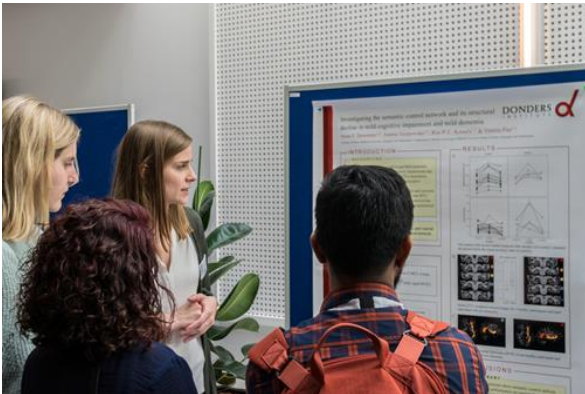
Brain Lab (DCCN).

Next to 5 master students that presented their work, there were also 15 students, both from several universities in the Netherlands as well as abroad, that presented their research during the poster presentation session.

In the afternoon, there was a variety of workshops participants could attend: from how to write a good grant proposal, to non-invasive brain stimulation, motor imagery BCI, and mindfulness. Next to these workshops, there was also the opportunity to actually experience some experiments: an out-of-body experience, the rubber-hand illusion, prism adaptation and the Stroop task. Lastly, the question “What makes a good research environment?” was discussed during the panel discussion with Kartik Sreenivasan, David Norris and Ella Bosch

(PhD student at the DCCN). To finish the symposium, the best student presentation and best poster presentation were chosen by the audience. Our fellow CNS student Sebastian Idesis was awarded the prize for best student presentation. Roos Voorvaart, from the University of Amsterdam, won the prize for best poster presentation. To celebrate the great symposium day, the day was closed with some drinks at the Sports Bar.

With around 90 attendants this day, the Synapsium was a great success! The committee made sure everything went smoothly during the day, resulting in a great and interesting symposium! Thank you Synapsium committee for all of your efforts put in to organizing this amazing event!



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## Recent Dondrite Activities

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### **Mental health panel discussion:**

On May 28th, Dondrite organized a panel discussion about mental health. The panelists were Prof. Dr. Harold Bekkering, two Donders PhD students and one CNS master student to represent the different stages in science. They discussed different questions posed by the moderator (another CNS student) about pressure, grading systems and the importance of taking time off. It soon developed into an interactive discussion between the panelists and the audience.

If you struggle with stress or mental health problems, you can always get help from the Radboud University. See the appendix of this newsletter for all official websites. Please do not hesitate to talk to a peer or a faculty member about your struggles.



though, Dondrite's very own Utrechters Juriaan and Charlotte led the way on a tour around the city center and its picturesque alleys. The group then had lunch in the historic Winkel van Sinkel building, built in 1839 as the first department store in the Netherlands. Nowadays, it goes as a "Cultural Culinary Department Store" during the day, and as a club at night. This was followed by exploring further into the city, while everyone waited (and prayed) for the heavy winds and downpour to end so they could go for canoeing around the city's canals. The two hour wait finally paid off, and it was all sunny skies, music, and beer after!



### **Dondrite goes to Utrecht:**

The (a)TrActivity committee organized a highlight event together to take Dondrite to Utrecht for the day! Does that sound like a daily commute? It probably does. On June 8th

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## **Upcoming Dondrite & Donders Activities**

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### **Donders Graduate School Day 2019:**



On June 28th, the second annual Graduation School Day will take place. The initial idea was to strengthen the bond between Master students and PhD candidates of the Donders Institute. Last year was a complete success so the committee is more than excited to repeat the fun this year.

The day will be filled with two rounds of workshops, several walk-in hours, coaching sessions and finally a joint BBQ with drinks. The best part is: you can tailor the content of the workshops, walk-in and coaching sessions to your individual needs and interests.

Make sure to sign up now as the amount of spots per workshop is limited. Registration is required in order to attend the event. See the link for further information.

**Info:** June 28, 1-9pm, Honigcomplex  
**Website:** <https://www.ru.nl/donders/gsd/>

### **End of Year BBQ:**

Herbivores, omnivores, and carnivores alike! Please join us for our End of Year BBQ! We'll have the grill ready for the ultimate cookout. Bring whatever foods you wish and enjoy the company of your fellow Dondrites as we celebrate the end of the academic year. We hope to see you there!



**Info:** June 29, 4-9pm, Waalstrand

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### **Upcoming Donders Events:**

### **Date:**

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**Donders Lecture Catherine Harmer  
(Cognitive Neuroscience Oxford)**

How do antidepressant drugs work? [[url](#)]

Thursday, June 27,  
16:00-17:00

**PhD Defence**

Towards deeper molecular insight into familial exudative vitreoretinopathy: Zinc-ing deep into the vessels [[url](#)]

Thursday, July 4,  
from 10:30

**PhD Defence**

Neuro-computational modeling of the gaze control system: recreating firing patterns of superior colliculus populations [[url](#)]

Tuesday, July 9,  
from 10:30

**PhD Defence**

Molecular dissection of medial prefrontal cortex development in health and disease: How serotonin makes up our mind [[url](#)]

Tuesday, July 9,  
from 12:30

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For more information see: <http://www.ru.nl/donders/agenda-news/agenda/>

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## A Word from the Board

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Hey there fellow Dondrites!

The exams are ending real soon, the sun is shining (unnaturally) bright, and the many summer picnics and festivals await us! In this edition of A Word from the Board, let's reflect together on the year that we have had, in this final edition of Dondrite News for the year 2018-19.

We started this year with Tineke, Viola, Tabas, and Wessel as our board members, who gave us just the right start to our Dondrite experience here at Radboud! Charlotte, Karolis, and I joined the board last November, and we have all had a steep learning curve to be able to work on the positions we're fulfilling today. Dondrite also celebrated it's 2nd birthday this February! And for the first time since the establishment of our study association, all the founding members have since retired to pave the way for a young board to step in and carry forward their legacy!

This month in our meetings, we have been discussing all the end of the year tasks we need to complete before we disperse for the summer,

and already planning ahead to another awesome year starting this September! We on the board sincerely hope that you had the best of experiences with Dondrite this past year, and made memories to last a lifetime! If there is anything you would like us to improve upon, we always appreciate your feedback. Leave us all your comments and suggestions via the Contact tab on the Dondrite website.

Are you also going to be back for another year of activities, travel, movie nights, and so much more of that fun? Keep an eye out for the Dondrite questionnaire at the beginning of the semester, we need all your input we can get to make your Dondrite experience next year just as unforgettable if not more! For those who signed up last September for a year, don't forget to sign-up to be a member again for the upcoming year! You can do so via this link: <https://dondrite.ruhosting.nl/membership/>

Do you want to go a step further and become a buddy for all the freshmen joining our master? Get in touch with us before the summer and

we'll pair you up with the new students to give them a great orientation experience to start the academic year!

Cheers!

Harshil.

Signing off until then,

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## **Shout-outs!**

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As it's a slow month and all students are finishing up, be it their exams or thesis, the Scribe committee decided to give a well-deserved shout-out to all of you hard working people that made it through the year! If you are leaving us we wish you good luck in your future endeavours and if you're sticking around for another year, we look forward to seeing you again!

going to give ourselves the last shout-out of the year; for making these editions of the Dondrite News and the yearbook! Go Scribees!

And, as the egotistical maniacs we are, we are

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## **Fun Fact**

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Were you aware that the CIA once attempted to use a cat as a spy on the Soviets? Apparently, they actually wired up a cat in a 5-year long project, costing possibly around \$20mil. However, unfortunately the cat was struck by a taxi as soon as it left the van from which it was released :(



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**Looking for new members!**

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Last week, we handed out the 2018-2019 Dondrite Yearbook. We worked



hard on it all year and hope you enjoy reading it!

Would you like to make the **yearbook** next year

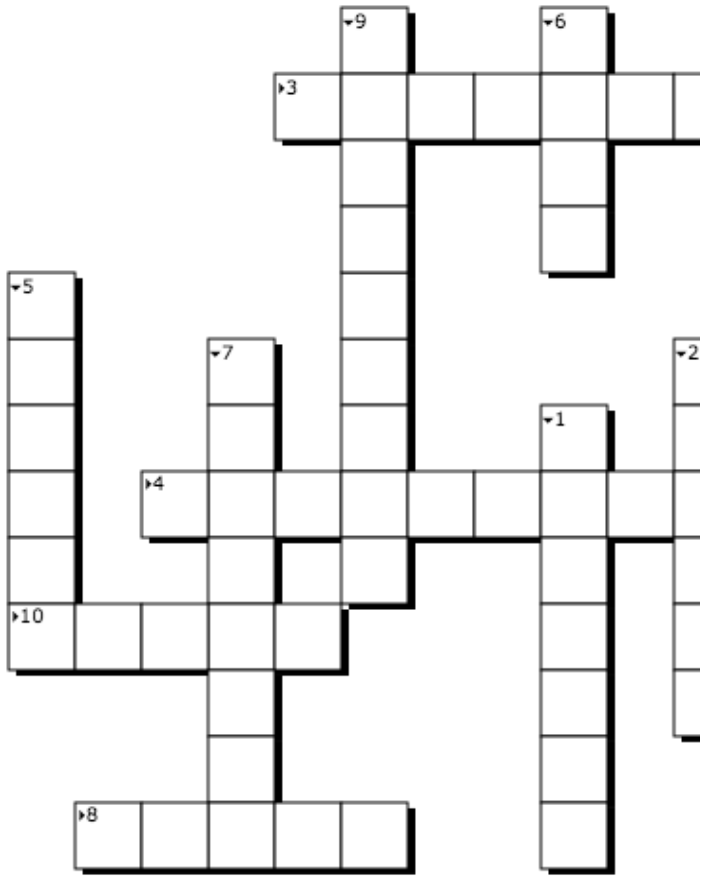
and keep your fellow Dondrites updated on all important events through the **Dondrite news**? Do you like **writing** or **lay-out**? Then join the **Scribe** committee! As quite a few of our members are graduating, we are looking for new members. If you are interested, don't hesitate to reach out to one of us!

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## Crossword

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The BBQ: a staple year-end event for all student associations. If you're stumped on what to bring on the 29th, here's a little list to inspire you (because we know Dondrite is your favourite association, so you gotta be at this one!).



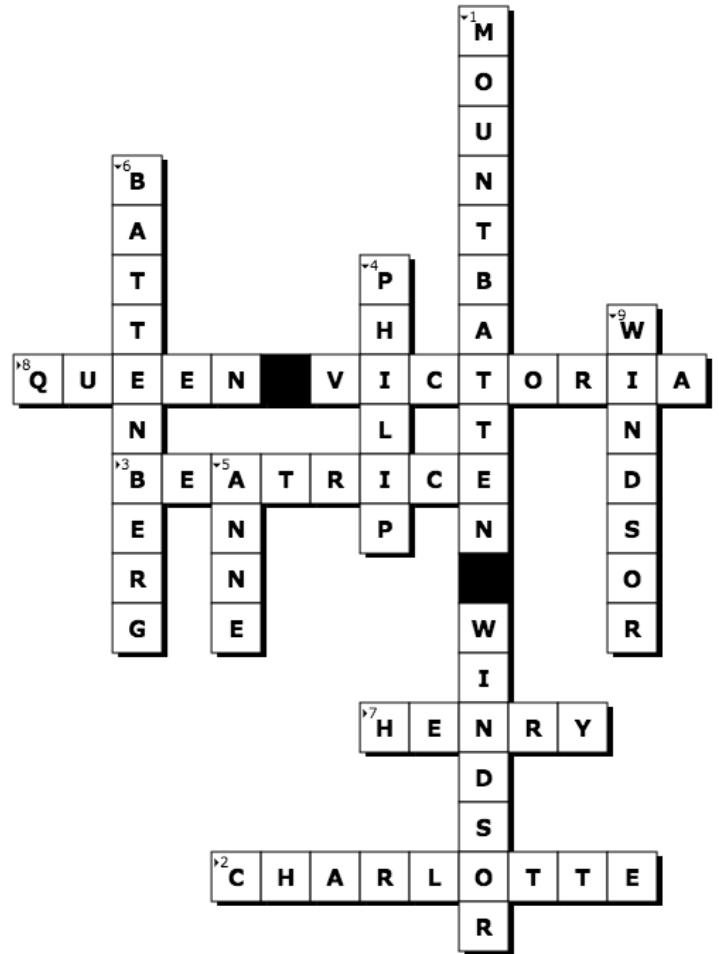


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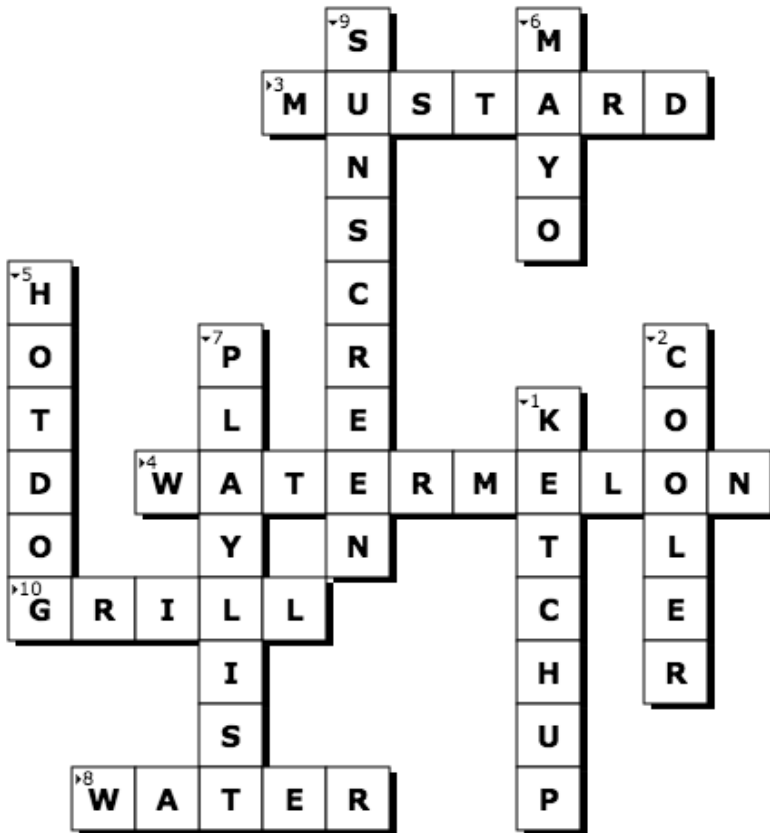
## Solution

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Here are the solutions for last month, and this month already. We didn't want to keep you waiting all the way until August - no peeking!



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3.  
4.  
5.  
6.  
7.  
8.  
9.  
19.



1. A tomato-based condiment.
2. To keep your biertje from getting warm.
3. A spread from Dijon, France.
4. A pink and green fruit.
5. Unpopular opinion: this is a sandwich.
6. Frites met \_\_\_\_\_.
7. A sweet collection of tunes.
8. H2O
9. SPF 50 because safety first.
10. The centrepiece of it all.

## Appendix

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### Where to find help within Radboud University:

- For an overview of counselors and advisors at our university, see:  
<https://www.ru.nl/currentstudents/during-your-study/overview-counsellors-advisors/contact/>
- On the CNS Brightspace page, you can also find information about counselling.
- RU has student psychologists to help you with personal and study related problems. To get in touch with them, you fill in a questionnaire, after which you will be invited to schedule an intake:  
<https://sis.ru.nl/osiris-student/StartZaak.do?zaak=ASB-INTAKES&kenmerk=Studentenpsycholoog>
- For urgent and more serious problems: contact your GP, who can refer you to a therapist.
- For study-related problems (that may cause stress): contact study advisor. They may also be able to redirect you to someone else (study trainer, student psychologist) when you aren't sure where to go with your problem.  
<https://cloud.reflexappointment.nl/appointment/RadboudFSW/en-GB/start?spx.StartPageIndex=2&ftr.5.FacilityFilter.DefaultValue=41708>
- There are also student counsellors, study trainers, confidential advisors and a student pastor.