



## Newsletter for NWO-I employees



# Inside NWO-I



**Nederlandse versie** van deze nieuwsbrief.

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## Highlight from ASTRON: major upgrade of Westerbork Radio Telescope

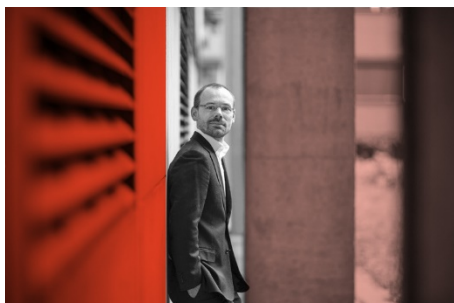
With an innovative new type of receiver, called Apertif, the field of view of the Westerbork Synthesis Radio Telescope in the Netherlands has been increased 37 times. Apertif, developed by the Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy (NWO Institute ASTRON) was officially opened on 13 September by executive councillor Cees Bijl of the Drenthe province. On this day, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the telescope was also celebrated.



*Credits: ASTRON/Harm-Jan Stiepel*

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## Meet NSCR researcher Stijn Ruiter: through different lenses



Prof. Stijn Ruiter, senior researcher at the Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NWO Institute NSCR), is completing a five-year Vidi research project that investigates where offenders commit crimes. Before the research project, it was generally thought that they mainly commit crimes close to home. Ruiter used data from a wide range of registers and even did a survey among offenders collecting data about the offenses for which they had not yet been arrested. He mapped where the offenders went to school, their family relationships, and he analysed the residential histories of the offenders, their parents, children and current and ex-partners.

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## Highlight from SRON: Dutch technology for direct observation of exoplanets tested in space

At the end of August near the Canadian city Timmins, the High Contrast Imaging Balloon System (HiCIBaS) was launched to an altitude of 37 km with Dutch technology on board to obtain direct images of exoplanets (planets around stars) in the future. The Dutch team from Leiden University and NWO Institute SRON supplied a new type of coronagraph, an observation instrument that filters out starlight. With this mission, the new technology now has been tested for the first time at such a high altitude that the Earth's atmosphere no longer forms an obstacle. The test is therefore comparable to a space mission.



*The Dutch HiCIBaS-team, from left to right Steven Bos and Frans Snik (both from Leiden University), Chris de Jonge (SRON) and David Doelman (Leiden University). Credits: SRON*

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## Peter Christianen new director HFML



*Credits: RU/HFML-FELIX*

Since 1 September, a new director heads the High Field Magnet Laboratory HFML in Nijmegen: Prof. Peter Christianen. He succeeds Prof. Nigel Hussey who led the lab for five years. HFML generates the strongest continuous magnetic fields in the world and is an international, open-access user facility. Christianen: "I am very excited about my appointment as HFML director in this crucial period. Together with the FELIX laboratory, we are building a national research centre of international repute with a genuinely unique experimental infrastructure that makes ground-breaking research in numerous research areas possible."

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## Would you like to find out more about 1,700 awards, 6,000 scientists and 15,000 publications? Then read the NWO annual report 2017

In 2017, about 5,800 research proposals were submitted to NWO, and about 1,750 of these were awarded funding. With these awards, NWO funded scientific research and infrastructure to the tune of € 873 million. NWO also (co)-funded almost 6,000 researchers and in 2017 alone they produced over 15,000 publications. You can read about these and many other aspects in the NWO Annual Report 2017 (in Dutch only). The annual report describes NWO's efforts to connect science, universities, research institutes, companies and other knowledge organisations at both the national and international level.



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## Looking back at the NWO sports day 2018



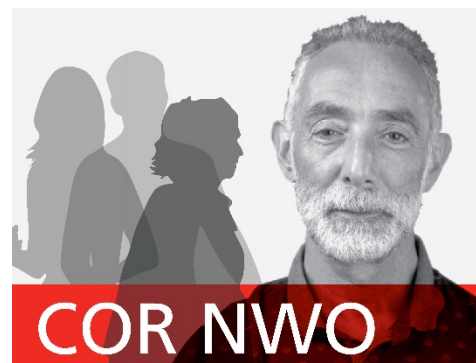
*The winning team 'Tricks and deception' from AMOLF. Credits: Lukas Helmbrecht*

On Friday 14 September, 240 NWO colleagues demonstrated their sporting prowess during the NWO sports day at the Delft University of Technology campus. The sports day attracted employees from nearly all NWO departments and units: Finance, the Executive Board Office, NWO-I, Communication, SSH, NRO, Science, TTW and the NWO Institutes AMOLF, ARCNL, DIFFER, Nikhef, SRON and CWI.

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## News from the NWO Central Works Council: introducing Fons Kuijk

The NWO Central Works Council represents the interests of all NWO and NWO-I employees in consultation with the NWO executive board. In this month's newsletter, we introduce you to Fons Kuijk, senior scientific researcher at NWO Institute CWI (Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica) in Amsterdam and deputy chair of the NWO Central Works Council.



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## Calendar: NWO Institutes open doors during Weekend of Science



During the first weekend of October, almost all NWO Institutes open their doors for the general public during the Weekend of Science. Saturday 6 October: open day at the Amsterdam Science Park (with the NWO Institutes AMOLF, CWI and Nikhef) and open day at NWO Institute ASTRON in Dwingeloo. Sunday 7 October: open day at NWO Institute DIFFER in Eindhoven and at NWO Institute SRON (Utrecht and Groningen).

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### **About NWO-I**

*NWO-I, the Institutes Organisation of NWO, is an independent foundation belonging to NWO. The following nine institutes are part of NWO-I: AMOLF, ARCNL, ASTRON, CWI, DIFFER, Nikhef, NIOZ, NSCR and SRON. The 200-plus workgroups in which physics research takes place at Dutch universities and knowledge institutes are also part of NWO-I.*

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