

## ANGLO-NORSE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER 2/2015

I write this sitting in Southern France on what is a windswept day with rain falling heavily from the leaden skies. This is I should add the first such day in eight weeks, well here in any event. However, I hear Norway has not been blessed with the best of summers, and Autumn is just around the corner:

*“Coldly, sadly descends the autumn evening! The field  
strewn with its dank yellow drifts of withered leaves, and the elms  
fade into dimness apace, silent;-hardly a shout from the few boys late at their play!”*

From “Rugby Chapel” by Matthew Arnold.

We should not perhaps dwell on the weather since we “broke up” for the summer, but on past events. We completed our season on a hot sun-filled evening in Frognerparken, guided by our very own Lise Høst, who amazed me not only with her knowledge of the park and its creative genius Vigeland, but just how much there was to observe in a place which I passed through daily to and fro to work. If only every day I could also enjoy our traditional sparkling wine and strawberries. Well done Lise!

Earlier, in April we had the first of our concerts held in conjunction with the English Church, St. Edmunds, Møllergate. This was a well supported event and those who made it were entertained to a wonderful recital by the eminent pianist Knut Johannessen and violinist Johan Bøen. Not only were we treated to the first of Beethoven’s sonatas for violin and piano, but played on original 18<sup>th</sup> Century instruments which gave us the opportunity to listen to the music as Beethoven actually intended it to be heard. On top of that both musicians spoke about the instruments and some of us tried a few notes ourselves.

Our May event saw kind weather for our guided tour through the Botanical Gardens. Late May proved to be an almost perfect time for this visit as the gardens were fully awake after the Norwegian winter, full of fresh greens and flowers. I am sure some of those who made it went home eager to get out and transform their own garden with some of the interesting and unusual plants that were on display. If you missed any (or dare I say all) of these events, all is not lost as with Autumn approaching, so too is our program. All the events are listed overleaf, the first only a few weeks away is our traditional wine cheese and quiz night. I am working on the questions.

Anglo-Norse Chairman: Michael Brooks



## ANGLO NORSE SOCIETY: FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2015

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 7.30 pm at Frogner Kirkestue:** Annual Wine and Cheese Evening. Join in the fun with the Quiz (I promise you will be able to answer some of the questions) and raffle. Any donations to the raffle on the night would be gratefully appreciated. No cover charge for food and wine, but we hope to encourage members to buy raffle tickets galore!

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 7.30 pm at Frogner Kirkestue:** To mark the occasion of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II becoming the longest reigning monarch on the British throne (she beats Queen Victoria). We will show the film "A Monarch for All Seasons".

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2.00 pm:** Annual Remembrance Day wreath laying at the Commonwealth War Graves in the Western Graveyard, to be followed by a Remembrance Service in Frogner kirke at 3:00 and thereafter a tea hosted by HM Ambassador of Great Britain. The venue for the tea will be announced later as regrettably the Embassy Residence, the usual venue remains under renovation.

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 7.00 pm (repeat 7.00 pm, or half an hour before our usual start time) at Frogner Kirkestue:** It is 200 years since Boney was sent packing at Waterloo, and not a Society to let this go uncelebrated we will show the epic film "Waterloo" complete with Christopher Plummer as Wellington and Rod Steiger, magnificently playing that little Corsican corporal! The film is about 2 hours long, hence the earlier start.

**Date to be announced late November:** Annual Trafalgar Square Xmas Tree felling. As usual the venue is a closely guarded secret by Fabian Stang's office, but we will be informing our members as soon as we receive confirmation, so come and enjoy a real celebration of Anglo -Norse friendship, with children's choirs, bonfires, hot refreshments and a few speeches.

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm: Christmas Party!** We have the pleasure of informing our members that we have booked the lovely "SchafteLøkken" mansion in Frogner, which can trace its history back to 1799. A venue which the British Embassy are presently using for some of their events since the Residence is still not available. "SchafteLøkken" is a short walk from Frogner Church in Bygdøy Allé to Zahlkasserer Schafts plass 2, opposite to Frogner Senior Centre. We can promise our members and friends an evening in the true British Christmas spirit, with delicious food, wine and top entertainment. Booking information and entrance fee cost will be sent to our members as soon as possible. Don't forget to cross the date off in your diary.

**NB!** We hope all our members have enjoyed reading the latest [ANS Review](#) which was sent to you directly from London. If any of you have not received your copy please don't hesitate to get in touch with our Secretary: Sybil Richardson, 415 10 840.