



ANGLO-NORSE SOCIETY/  
NORSK-BRITISK FORENING

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## ANGLO-NORSE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER 1/2015

The Earth turns and as it completes yet another circuit around the Sun I take the opportunity of our first Newsletter of 2015 to wish all members a Happy New Year. In our household the event is heralded by my younger son Lawrence changing all the calendars and reporting which of this year's national holiday fall on the weekend. He is of course disgusted to find 17 May yet again at the weekend, and no break in the school week.

Although the longest day is now behind us we are still deep in Winter:

The browns, the olives, and the yellows died,  
And were swept up to heaven; where they glowed  
Each dawn and set of sun till Christmastide  
And when the land lay pale for them, pale-snowed,  
Fell back, and down the snow-drifts flamed and flowed.

From "Winter Song" by Wilfred Owen

2014 was a good year for the society and we ended on a high at the Christmas Party in the Old Military Academy. The British Ambassador, regretting that the renovations to the Residence did not allow her to throw open her doors as usual, nonetheless joined in the festivities, arriving to hear some of the harmonica playing of Sigmund Groven, with his pianist Ivar Anton Waagaard. It is always special to hear someone who really is the best in the world, and can Sigmund make that harmonica sing! The evening passed all too quickly with wine, canapes and cakes, plus a great deal of hard work by the Committee to get everything ready. Not too much effort be me however, as I flew in that day from London and so I really cannot praise the rest of the Committee too much. I should add that the fact that Elisabeth won the Christmas Pudding for the second year in a row was pure chance! Photos are on the website: [www.anglonorseoslo.com](http://www.anglonorseoslo.com)

Our previous event, Ellen Wilhelmsen's talk on Bali, illustrated of course was reportedly excellent. (I was stuck in India before the Court of Appeal). So good was it that I think Bali will be on many members' "must go" destination list in 2015.

I did not make it to the Christmas Tree felling either, but those who did were treated to another good walk, joyous children singing, bonfires and hot sustenance. It is now a firm fixture on the Society's pre-Christmas events, and a good reminder of what Anglo-Norwegian friendship is all about. I did make a trip down to Trafalgar Square and can report the tree looked marvellous.

For those not at the Christmas Party I report the sad news of the passing of our devoted committee member Gerd Rosander on the morning of the party. She bore her illness bravely and was determined to contribute to the last. I was receiving ideas from her right up to December. Those at the party dedicated Silent Night to her during our carol singing and I am sure she was joining us!

The turn of the year does of course mean that it is time to pay your subscriptions. My thanks to those who have already done so without asking. For all others (including me) the Treasurer asks you to kindly pay your 2015 subscription as soon as possible but latest within March 1<sup>st</sup>. Kr.300,- (single membership) and kr.450,- (family membership) to:

Account Name: Norsk-britisk forening;  
Account number: 7020.20.02143;  
BNK : DnB

For your information the Society do not send out membership cards, but rest assured that you will be registered as soon as we have received your payment. Any questions in connection to your subscription can be answered by our membership secretary: Hanne Wong: [hanne.wong@gmail.com](mailto:hanne.wong@gmail.com) or to our Secretary: Sybil Richardson: [richardson.sybil@gmail.com](mailto:richardson.sybil@gmail.com). Telephone: 41510840.

I look forward to seeing you soon. We have a great calendar shaping up for 2015, which you will find on the next page.

Michael Brooks, Chairman, Anglo-Norse Society



## ANGLO-NORSE 2015 E V E N T S

### January – Christmas break

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 19.30.** Frogner Kirkestue. A talk by Gertrud Flermoen Stenbrenden, who is Professor of English language history at the University of Oslo. Gertrud will speak on “The History of Estuary English”, how it sounds, who uses it and what is the function of this South East England, Thames Estuary language?. Come and learn how to sound like a London cabbie!

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 19.30.** Frogner Kirkestue. The Anglo-Norse A G M – to be followed by a talk by the well-known historian Bård Frydenlund, his topic being : “Norwegian – British relationships from 1814 onwards- from the lumber trade up to the British spy: Charles Gordon” Bård promises to cover important events during the period when Britain was Great and Norway struggling to emerge as an independent country.

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 19.00.** St Edmund´s Church Møllergata: Our first joint musical event with St.Edmund´s Church. Not to be missed ! This will be a rare occasion to hear Beethoven´s complete sonatas for violin & piano, played on original instruments by two of Norway´s most eminent Baroque musicians of international fame: Knut Johannessen (pianoforte) and Tor Johan Bøen (violin ) whose recordings have won him “ the critic´s no.1. choice” in the prestigious “Gramophone Magazine “. Tea and biscuits will be served in the sacristy after the concert. Kr.100,- including refreshments. We hope for a good turnout for our first collaboration with the church and its members. Tickets at the door. Note the time.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 18.00.** A guided tour around the Oslo University Natural History Museum Botanical Gardens at Tøyen, which is a treat at this time of the year. Kr.50,- Meet at main entrance. ( *cover charge for the guide fee*)

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June.** The summer outing will be announced later. Serving of the traditional sparkling wine and strawberries will as always be included. Please note the date in your diary.

July & August – summer break

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 19.30.** Frogner Kirkestue. The annual Cheese and Wine party including Quiz and raffle. Members bring raffle gifts. No cover charge.

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 19.30.** Frogner Kirkestue. A homage to Queen Elizabeth II. By this meeting Queen Elizabeth will have surpassed Queen Victoria as the longest reigning monarch on the English throne. Details to follow in a later newsletter. Please note the date.

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November. 19.30.** Frogner Kirkestue. Film evening to commemorate the bicentenary of “The Battle of Waterloo”. We will be showing an excellent film starring Christopher Plummer as Wellington and Rod Steiger as Napoleon.

Further **November** dates: Remembrance Day date & Tree felling will be announced in a later newsletter.

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> December.** Christmas Party. Details to follow in our Autumn/Winter Newsletter.