



ANGLO-NORSE SOCIETY/
NORSK-BRITISK FORENING

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Anglo-Norse Society Newsletter 1/2016

Welcome to 2016! I hope that all had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. Mind you with the temperature going up and down like a yo-yo it has sometimes been difficult to believe it really is supposed to be the coldest part of the year. With a green Christmas followed by a fortnight of temperatures that even Amundsen would have struggled to enjoy and now green lawns before the end of January. I now wonder which wardrobe to open each morning and long for the certainty in the season immortalized by the lines

“January brings the snow.
Makes our feet and fingers glow.
February is ice and sleet.
Freeze the toes right off your feet.”

Perhaps not the most erudite poetry, but as the source is Flanders and Swann I expect you to be all humming the tune, and completing the rest of the song.

Looking back we completed the year with our Christmas Party at Schafteflokken. This was tremendous fun, with all our usual trimmings of carols, Christmas cake and the Chairman's "chair" prizes. After winning the Christmas pudding for two years in a row, I was determined that Elisabeth Aronsen would not enjoy a third, and spent some time endeavouring to put the top prize well away from where she was planning to sit. I was delighted that the top prize went elsewhere only to be told later in the evening that the lucky winner had invited Elisabeth for Christmas dinner! The highlight of the evening was our entertainment: "Fifty Shades of Grieg" presented and performed by Tor Espen Aspaas. He really is a tremendously talented pianist. That we knew from his international career, but it was a delight to hear him play in such intimacy. His knowledge of Grieg, his life, his friends, his inspirations and his works is astonishing, all related in a charming and personable style. AND not a scrap of sheet music in sight! How we will top this is going to stretch the Committee's collective thinking.

For those who could not make it, you missed a treat. Book early for this year. The British Ambassador, Sarah Gillett, believes that her Residence will by then be refurbished and if so, she has already extended her invitation to allow the party to return "Home".

Other end of year meetings saw us enjoy the epic "Waterloo" complete with Rod Steiger as perhaps the silver screen's best Napoleon, thwarted on the day by Christopher Plummer as the Iron Duke. Your Chairman added an introduction to put the events into an historical perspective and so it was not all entertainment!

My apologies to those who tried to reach the annual Trafalgar Square Tree felling. The distance from car park to the site was not as originally advised, a couple of hundred meters, but more like a couple of thousand. For those that made it a great time was had with the children's choirs, speeches from the Mayors of Oslo and Westminster, hot drinks, blazing fires, etc. For those who started out but fell short, I hope you at least enjoyed the walk.

We have a lot on offer for this year. Please see over for the full program. NOW REMEMBER: to enjoy the programme we need SUBSCRIPTIONS, and now is the time of year to pay. See over for the details.

Michael Brooks, Anglo-Norse Chairman.

2016 Subscription renewal:

For net bank and giro payments, please make the amount payable to:
Norsk-Britiskforening. c/o Michael Brooks. Nils Collett Vogtsvei 7.0766 Oslo
Account number: 7020.20.02143. Kr.450,- family and kr.300,- single. Please
state your name when paying.

ANGLO-NORSE SOCIETY - 2016 EVENTS CALENDAR (2 pages)

Please note that all events in 2016 (apart from May) will start at 7pm.

Tuesday FEBRUARY 9th at 7.00 pm Frogner Kirkestue. “ *Stranger in a Strange Land-the move to Norway*”, as told by a remarkable storyteller: **Georgiana Keable**, who has been a pioneer for the renaissance of storytelling in England and Norway . In 2002 she started **Fortellerhuset** with eight storytellers from three continents. She has been teaching storytelling at Oslo University for eighteen years and is also the Director of the Norwegian Storytelling Festival. She received the Oslo prize for outstanding contribution to Art in Oslo in 2015.

Tuesday MARCH 8th at 7.00 pm Frogner Kirkestue. Anglo-Norse **AGM** to be followed by a talk on “ *Thor versus Christ- the Battlefield of Scandinavia*”. We are very happy to be able to welcome Associate Professor **John McNicol** from the Dept.of Archaeology, Conservation and History at Oslo University. John is an authority on Viking and Medieval history. He was awarded the Oslo University prize for outstanding teaching in 2014. The ANS- AGM will be held before the event.

Tuesday APRIL 19th at 7.00 pm Frogner Kirkestue. A talk by Professor **Ian Damerell** who works at The Norwegian Institute for Technology, Art and Design. Ian, educated from the Royal College of Art in London is a cosmopolitan artist and teacher who works in Norway, England and Lithuania. His works are on display in museums and galleries in England, Norway, Sweden, Japan and Wales. He will give a talk on “ *A new look at art*” about his ideas around how to educate artists. Ian is in great demand as a lecturer and is known for his inspiring fresh approach to the world of art. **Ian has a profile painting on the cover of the latest Review + interview.**

Tuesday 3rd. May at 5.00 pm
Please note change of programme & time !
The National Gallery. Universitetsgate 13. Hans Gude’s exhibition “*Langs Kysten*”. A guided tour by Art Historian Nicolai Strøm-Olsen who has recently launched his book “ **Hans Gude –En kunstnerreise**”. Admission kr.100,- and for seniors over 67 kr.50,-, which includes the guided tour. Tickets to be purchased at the National Gallery. We hope you will join us on this spectacular maritime journey around the Norwegian coast. Meet by **4.45 pm**.

Tuesday . JUNE 14th at 7.00 pm Guided tour of Kvadraturen and Akershus area with Oslo Guide Marianne Bockfeldt . Strawberries and sparkling wine afterwards.

Tuesday SEPT. 6th at 7.00 pm Frogner Kirkestue. Talk by Dr.Lionel Carley. Many members will recall the enthralling talk on Frederick Delius, given some years ago by Dr.Lionel Carley, President of the Delius Society. Dr.Carley has kindly consented to make a special journey to Oslo to talk about Delius' friend, Edvard Grieg, and his visits to Victorian England, based on his extensive research, which resulted in an acclaimed and highly readable book: "**Grieg in England**". Dr. Carley has much to tell us.

Tuesday OCT. 4th at 7.00 pm Frogner Kirkestue. Our popular Cheese and wine / quiz/ raffle.

Tuesday NOV. 15th 7.00 pm Frogner Kirkestue. A talk on British Theatre and Music Hall by the actor **Andrew Raymond Barnes**. Details to follow.

NOV. Remembrance Day & Tree felling.

Tuesday DEC. 6th. 7.00 pm. Christmas Party

Our members will be informed of any changes in the 2016 programme.