

## NEWSLETTER No. 2/2018

Can that glorious summer be at an end? The golden days stretched from early May to mid September, before the rains finally washed down the dusty streets of Oslo. With garden and park scorched brown with heat, and trees shedding leaves burnt by the brightening sun we left the Riviera to its soggy June, as mad dogs and Norsemen were out in the midday sun! Even as I write the sun is still in full bloom and the mercury above 20 C in my thermometer. But those winds of the past few days tell us it will not last for ever. Autumn is upon us:

“ Green upon the flooded Avon shone the after-storm-wet-sky  
Quick the struggling withy branches let the leaves of Autumn fly  
And a star shone over Bristol, wonderfully far and high.”

From “Bristol” by Sir John Betjeman.

And yes, Autumn is upon us, the telltale signs evident; not the least being the annual Anglo Norse Cheese and Wine evening complete with the Chairman’s devilish quiz, and a fantastic raffle. Congratulations this year go to the team led by Tom and Celia Syversen and Hanne Wong, who just pipped Pamela Brooks’ table. So popular was the evening that at one point we were in danger of overflowing into the street, and I noticed the catering team praying that the cheese and wine would prove as elastic as five loaves and two fishes. Many thanks to all who donated to our raffle. There were some very good prizes. I had my eye on a rather interesting book on Norwegian art, but my ticket just would not come up!

Looking forward, this November sees the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the First World War. It all ended at 11 am on 11 November, and this year that date falls on a Sunday. There will be a Service of remembrance at St. Edmunds at that hour, and the wreath laying in the afternoon. I commend you to make this special event.

Our own programme is well set for the Autumn and into 2019. The program is attached which the Committee hope you will all find interesting, so come along to enjoy the company of like minded souls.

A reminder too of our annual Christmas Party, which is on **Tuesday 4 December**. As you know it is a very popular evening, so **PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY NOW!** The usual letter with full details and booking details will be circulated in November.

Michael Brooks. Chairman

## **ANGLO-NORSE SPRING & SUMMER EVENTS 2019**

As of February 2019 our new venue will be The Assembly Room at Mogens Thorsens Trust, (**MT**) situated on the corner of Niels Juel's gate and Bygdøy Allé. Easily accessible by bus 31/32 & tram 12/13. **Please note the change.**

**FEBRUARY 5<sup>th</sup>** (Tues) 7pm at **MT. Iori Roberts "Wales and the Vikings"** . We had the great pleasure of a guided tour of "Gamlebyen" in 2017 by Oslo Guide & master story teller **Iori Roberts**. "More of Iori!" was the unanimous request from our members, so luckily for us he has agreed to open the 2019 season by giving his pictorial talk on the fascinating subject of Wales and the Vikings.

**MARCH 5<sup>th</sup>** (Tues) 7pm at **MT. Tore Gautneb "The History of the Harding Fiddle"**. For all lovers of the Harding Fiddle we are delighted to be able to welcome Tore Gautneb to demonstrate his skills as a master fiddler and to enlighten us on the history of this special instrument whose origin can be traced back to Hardanger as early as 1651. Tore has performed together with Anne Marit Jacobsen and Toralf Maurstad during the Ibsen Festival.

**APRIL 9<sup>th</sup>** 7pm ( Tues ) at **MT. Professor Axel Bernd Müller "The Cultural History of Mermaids"**. A fascinating title for a fascinating subject which actually started out as a joint research project between the Natural History Museums of London and Oslo. Our speaker is a professor in Geology at UiO, and a Scientific Associate of the NHM in the UK. His passion and knowledge of these aquatic creatures is formidable. Their history goes back to Assyrian times and even Christopher Columbus was convinced of their existence and made an official report in 1493 declaring he had seen three of them..!

**MAY 6<sup>th</sup>** 6pm ( Mon) at **Frogner Church**. A guided tour of the church will be given by Minister Margunn Sandal. The church was renovated in 2017 and a new organ was installed ( built by the same organ makers who made the magnificent organ in Westminster Abbey). As an extra treat for our members we will be given a special organ recital. **Please note the date and time!**

**JUNE 18<sup>th</sup>** 5pm. (Tuesday) **Kongsgården** at Bygdøy. A guided tour through the new gardens and green houses. The traditional strawberries and wine will be served in these lovely surroundings. Cover charge kr 50,-. Meet outside Kongsgården by 4.45 pm. Bus 30. **Please note the time.**

Guests are heartily welcome to our events. A cover charge of 50,- is requested. Should you have any other enquiries please contact our Secretary:  
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