

# THE ANGLO-DANISH SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

No 2 : May 2015  
[www.anglo-danishsociety.org.uk](http://www.anglo-danishsociety.org.uk)  
Reg. Charity No 313202



National Youth String Orchestra  
visits Denmark

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Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II

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Lone Britt Christensen  
Søren Dyssegård, R1  
Birger Jensen  
Dr Kristian Jensen, R  
Dr Claire Thomson

**Membership Subscriptions**

Single membership £15  
Family membership £20  
Corporate membership £100

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Reporting: Kaare Gade

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# Scholarship News

As we go to press, the Scholarship Committee is evaluating the shortlist of 25 applicants to be awarded a scholarship for the 2015/16 academic year. Margit Stæhr, Honorary Scholarship Secretary, recorded the receipt of 94 highly qualified applications, of which 85 fulfilled the criteria laid down by A-DS rules. It is interesting to note that this is a very similar pattern to last year. We are told that there is a good spread of subjects, so the final selection will be a difficult one.

For council members it is always very exciting to be presented with the final list, and we are lucky indeed that the 90th scholarship appeal enables us to be generous.



# Subscriptions

Dear Members,

We want to get your opinion on whether the moment has not come when we should be increasing our subscriptions. This subject was raised at our last AGM from the floor by a member who felt that we were undervaluing what membership of the Society offers.

Your Council has since debated the issue and has concluded that the membership should decide in the form of a vote at the forthcoming AGM in May.

Our subscriptions have now been at the same level for the last 12 years. While these years have not seen the rampant inflation that we have known in the past we have to accept that our administrative costs and those connected with publishing and distributing our newsletter have inevitably increased significantly. (Of course the time and many out of pocket costs connected with organising events and the other aspects of the Society's life continue to be provided on a voluntary basis.)

Some of you, especially those who contributed generously to our successful Scholarship Appeal, may be surprised at the timing. Our funds have not looked in better shape for a number of years. But your Council has

a responsibility to look to the future. We have been spending a minimum of £12,000 per annum on scholarships over recent years. This has reflected a consistently high quality of applicants and the undoubtedly growing need for students to seek help from private sources. Our programme has never been more vital nor our resources better applied.

However investment returns are low and likely to remain so for a while. So our expenditure for scholarships far exceeds the annual income we generate from our cash reserves.

While there is no formal restriction on the use of funds raised, the Council would also like you to consider whether it is appropriate that your contributions to the Scholarship Appeal should be used to subsidize the day to day running of the Society.

The new subscriptions which you will be asked to vote on are:

Individual	£25
Family	£40
Corporate	£200

This may look like a biggish jump but please bear in mind that:

- 1) these rates are simply bringing us closer into line with what comparable associations charge

# Subscriptions

2) we are seeking to have the maximum number of annual subscriptions paid by direct debit so we do not want to increase the rates again in a hurry.

We look forward to hearing your views. Please do come to the AGM (which will be followed by a reception

in the Ambassador's residence which H.E. and Mrs Susanne Fournier Grube are generously hosting).

But if you cannot, please use the proxy voting form which will be supplied with the invitation to the AGM.

Birger Jensen  
Vice Chairman

## Repat in Denmark

Are you considering to return to Denmark ?

The following are extracts from a document about a new organization 'Repat in Denmark' which we find well worth publishing:

Every year approximately 10,000 Danes, between the ages of 25-64, return to Denmark. About 21% of Danish repatriates have a higher education. The experience and knowledge gained abroad by repatriates provide Danish companies with a competitive advantage when competing on the global market. However, many repatriates experience unexpected difficulties when returning to Denmark. In fact, they often state that returning home is more difficult than living abroad. As a result, one in four of all Danes working abroad are considering not returning to Denmark.

Repat in Denmark is here to support Danish repatriates as well as Danish expats on their way home by providing them the possibility to be part of a social and professional network with like-minded people.

Repat in Denmark offers Danish repatriates and their families:

- A platform on LinkedIn, where the members can exchange experiences and information about returning home
- A homepage, including a repat guide with relevant information about moving back to Denmark (spring 2015)
- Professional and social events for Danish repatriates and their families

For further information please contact Anne Sofie Danekilde, [pa@internationalcommunity.dk](mailto:pa@internationalcommunity.dk)

## Past 2015 Events : EU debate

After the Royal Banquet at Drapers' Hall on 3 December 2014 it was difficult to fathom that there would be life left in the Anglo-Danish Society for 2015, and yet, as the pictures on the following pages bear witness we have had some memorable events already.

The exquisite Athenaeum Club in Pall Mall set the stage for a lively luncheon debate on the European Union 'good or bad'?

We were greatly honoured to have as our guests of honour and speakers our honorary president, H.E. Claus Grube, and Sir Richard Ottaway, Chairman of the Commons Foreign Affairs Select Committee.



Claus Grube said that seen from a Danish perspective the initial question 'good or bad' was a wrong question. For an exporting, outward-looking European country like Denmark, there was no real alternative and pointed out that Danish Foreign Policy had three very clear objectives: To strengthen Denmark's security, increase Denmark's wealth and



## Past 2015 Events : EU debate



promote Danish values. The important tools to achieve these objectives are international cooperation within multilateral organisations like the EU, NATO and UN, of which EU is the most important for us.

Sir Richard Ottaway's answer to the 'good or bad' question differed slightly: "The EU is more good than bad, but not all good," he said. He hoped for a referendum on the UK membership rather sooner than later. "When the referendum comes difficult divisions will appear, but I am confident the British people will vote yes to remain in the EU."



He said that the EU had been very successful in terms of keeping war, communism and hunger away from

Europe. He had no doubts Britain was safer and better within the union, and he expected the majority of voters would agree if the referendum comes.



Photos: Bill Hallett and Kaare Gade  
Reporting: Kaare Gade

# National Youth String Orchestra

As a prelude to the Orchestra's Danish Tour in August, members of the Anglo-Danish Society were invited to the launch party in the exquisite surroundings of the law firm Linklaters' near the Barbican, hosted by Partner Charles Clark, Chairman of the Orchestra's Trustees.

Starting with a drinks reception where we had the privilege to meet leaders and musicians, the evening took the format of a masterclass led by the violinist Diana Cummings, one of the Orchestra's expert coaches and presented by the conductor Damian Iorio, the Orchestra's Music Director who worked in Denmark for a number of years and through whose connections the Danish tour has been organized.

We Anglo-Danes were greatly honoured that works by Niels W Gade and Carl Nielsen had been chosen for the masterclass given to two quartets of young musicians who had arrived straight from their Easter Course in West Sussex. The first quartet of youngsters aged 12 – 16 had just started to play together; the second group was an established quartet.

It was a memorable evening, and we wish NYSO a successful tour of Denmark. For further information please access [www.nyso.uk](http://www.nyso.uk) or phone 07902 223019.

## DANISH TOUR PROGRAMME

Tuesday 11th August:  
The Old Chapel, St John's School,  
Leatherhead

Thursday 13th August:  
Thisted Kirke, Denmark

Friday 14th August:  
Vendsyssel Festival, Denmark-  
a major festival that will receive wide-ranging press coverage

Saturday 15th August:  
Esbjerg Koncerthus, Denmark

Sunday 16th August:  
OrkesterEfterskolen, Holstebro,  
Denmark- a specialist music school,  
where NYSO players will rehearse and  
enjoy shared activities with the young  
Danish music students

Tuesday 18th August:  
Schubertiaden Festival, Roskilde,  
Denmark- a major festival celebrating  
the works of Schubert

Thursday 20th August:  
Kings Place, London- one of London's  
most exciting new chamber music  
concert halls.

# Past 2015 Events : Vintners

On 26 March 18 members of the Anglo-Danish Society visited the Worshipful Company of Vintners in Upper Thames Street, a fascinating company rich in history, beautiful works of art, and properties, humorously related by the general manager, Major Stephen Marchand, CBE.

The Vintners' Company is eleventh in precedence of the City Livery Companies. It began as a trading fraternity which undertook religious and charitable duties on behalf of its members. Its first charter – 1363 – was a grant of a monopoly of the wine trade with Gascony. Throughout the Middle Ages the Company controlled the wine trade in London, and dominated that in the rest of the country.

Much has happened since then; Vintners' did not escape the Great Fire of 1666, and one wonders whether the beautiful wood carvings and paneling stem from Scandinavian timber imported to rebuild London after the Fire !

For me the story of the Swans - and you see pictures and sculpture of these majestic beasts all over the Hall – is probably the most fascinating:

Vintners' has the right to own swans on the River Thames. The first mention of swans in the Company Archives dates back to the Great Frost of 1509 and 1522 when the Company was paid to look after them. The welfare of the swans has always been of first

importance and is entrusted to the Junior Warden who supervises the Swan Marker. On an annual "Swan Upping" voyage in July the swans are counted and the cygnets ringed with two Company coats of arms.

A Swan Feast Banquet is held every year in November, but Major Marchand assured us that Swan is no longer eaten even if it appears on the menu for the sake of tradition.

Lisbeth Ehlers



# Jerwood Makers Open 2015



Photo: Sylvian Deleu

Jerwood Makers Open 2015

Jerwood Visual Arts Space

171 Union Street

London SE1 0LN

OPEN from 8 July to 30 August 2015

Since graduating from the Royal College of Art in 2011, Danish artist, Malene Hartmann Rasmussen, now resident in London has explored the use of alternative narratives within her mixed media works. Expanding on these initial experiments, for Jerwood Makers Open Malene will stage a theatrical installation, immersing individual ceramic sculptures in a surreal woodland setting. Combining sculpture and photography, the piece will play with viewer's perceptions of reality.

## Recital at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

**WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE 2015 @ 2.15PM  
ROYAL CONSERVATOIRE OF SCOTLAND,  
100 RENFREW STREET,  
GLASGOW G2 3DB**

Those of you who attended our Royal Anniversary Banquet last December will remember our musical scholar, Emma Oemann, soprano, entertaining us with her brilliant singing. Emma has nearly completed her first year of vocal studies for a Performance Masters at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

If you are in Glasgow this spring you are very welcome to attend her Recital which will include French, German, and Danish music amongst other languages. There will be operatic arias and art songs. Admission is free and the concert will last 35 minutes.



# Danish Summer Bazaar



The Danish Summer Bazaar will take place in the Danish Church on Saturday 16th of May from 11–17. Please reserve the date and bring family and friends for a fantastic day filled with Danish delights. For more information: [www.danskekirke.org](http://www.danskekirke.org)

## Carl Nielsen Birthday Concert

**THE DANISH CHURCH IN LONDON**

**TUESDAY 9 JUNE 7.30PM**

Abroad Carl Nielsen may be best known for his symphonies, but in Denmark he is first and foremost loved for his songs. Nielsen set more than 300 poems to music, many of which are still used for communal singing in Denmark.

On Carl Nielsen's 150th birthday the Danish Church in London invites all Nielsen fans to a concert, celebrating Nielsen's vocal music. Using a new, complete translation of the songs into English, this concert is a unique

opportunity to experience Nielsen as the Danes know him. There will even be a chance to sing along to some of Nielsen's most popular, communal songs.

Songs performed by Guildhall students Christian Valle (bass/baritone) and Ilar Rees Davies (mezzosoprano).

Introduction by Andrew Mellor, music critic, Gramophone.

Tickets £ 6, [www.danishchurch.org](http://www.danishchurch.org)

## New Danish Restaurant : Snaps & Rye

For Danish food with a modern twist why not try the new restaurant 'Snaps & Rye', 93 Golborne Road, London W10 5NL.



# Anglo-Danish Society Events : 2015

**WEDNESDAY 27 MAY AT 6.00PM  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
THE ROYAL DANISH EMBASSY,  
55 SLOANE STREET, SW1X 9SR  
FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION IN THE  
AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE FROM  
7PM – 8PM IN THE PRESENCE OF  
HRH THE DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER,  
GCVO, PROTECTOR OF THE SCHOLAR-  
SHIP PROGRAMME**



We are delighted to announce that HRH The Duchess of Gloucester has accepted our invitation to meet new and old scholars as well as members at a Reception generously hosted by H.E. Ambassador Claus Grube and Mrs Susanne Fournais Grube.

Please note that the AGM will take place in the Canteen of the Danish Embassy and is for Members only. The Reception takes place in the Ambassador's Residence where guests are required to arrive by 7.00pm. The reply coupon should be returned by Saturday, 9 May 2015.

**THURSDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2015  
THE PRINCESS OF WALES'S ROYAL  
REGIMENT IS HOSTING A DINNER AT  
THEIR H.Q. IN THE TOWER OF  
LONDON.**

Further details to follow.

**MONDAY, 7 DECEMBER 2015 – EARLY  
EVENING  
A CHRISTMAS CONCERT IN AID OF  
THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME,  
FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS.**

We are most grateful to the violinist, Gina McCormack, who has generously offered to play at our Christmas Party together with Catherine Yates and Nicholas Trygstad. The Programme will include Mozart's magnificent Divertimento for String Trio. Venue to be announced.





## Vi bor i udlandet. Nordea udarbejder vores skatterapporter.

Nordeas skatterapport gør det lettere at lave selvangivelsen, også hvis I har en relativt kompliceret kontostruktur. Den giver jer og jeres rådgivere en klar oversigt til brug over for skattemyndighederne. Vores formuerådgivere og netværk af eksterne specialister kan hjælpe med at få et overblik over jeres situation og lægge en plan for jeres aktiver, der imødekommer jeres behov nu og i fremtiden. **En rådgiver, mange specialister – gør det muligt.**

Besøg os på [www.nordeaprivatebanking.com](http://www.nordeaprivatebanking.com) eller ring +352 43 88 77 77 for at aftale et møde.

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