

THE ANGLO-DANISH SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

No 1 : February 2017
www.anglo-danishsociety.org.uk
Reg. Charity No 313202



Painting of Aarhus by Carla Thonsgaard 1977

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Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II

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Margit Stæhr (Head of Committee)
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Birger Jensen
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Membership Subscriptions

as from 1.1.2016

Single membership £25
Family membership £40
Corporate membership £200

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The Anglo-Danish Society is a member of
COSCAN (The Confederation of
Scandinavian Societies)
[Www.coscan.org.uk](http://www.coscan.org.uk)

Dear Members

At the start of this new year there is indeed a great deal to look forward to in 2017.

Aarhus and Hull will both be very much in the limelight over the next year. This means a host of cultural activities in both cities and no doubt we will feel the reverberations from their innovative festivities wherever we are.

Right on our doorstep here in London we have our very own Nordic Matters Festival at The Southbank Centre. It promises a year-long exploration of Nordic art in many forms from all the Nordic countries.

Danish and Scandinavian food is currently much in focus and there are several new initiatives and openings, which promise to set the taste buds tingling.

The newly translated book The Naval War in the Baltic is due for publication in the Spring. We plan to bring those hitherto hidden gems of insight to your attention by inviting the author Poul Grooss to share his knowledge with you.

This is your magazine, so sit back and enjoy the articles, ideas and information your fellow members have contributed.

Perhaps it will be your contribution in the next issue?

Bette Petersen Broyd
Email: bettebroyd@gmail.com

News

THE PATRON'S FUND

THE PATRON'S FUND GIVES THE ANGLO DANISH SOCIETY £2500

The Patron's Fund has made a charitable gift of £2500 to the 93-year-old Anglo-Danish Society to support its Scholarship Programme, which gives grants to British and Danish graduates.

Queen Elizabeth and Queen Margrethe are joint patrons of the Anglo-Danish Society. To commemorate Queen Elizabeth's 90th birthday last year in June a picnic lunch was held in the Mall for all the organisations H.M. is Patron of. Members of The Anglo-Danish Society were present.

The Patron's Fund was derived from the generous donations and profits from this event. Sir Stuart Etherington, Chair of The Board of Trustees for the Patron's Fund, has informed the Anglo-Danish Society that they are to receive a charitable gift of £2500. It is an acknowledgement of the valuable work done by the Society.

Anglo-Danish Society Chairman Christian Williams said, "We are delighted to receive this gift from the Patron's Fund for our Scholarship Programme. During the academic

year 2016-17 nine British and Danish scholars have received awards to support their postgraduate studies. This gift will support and develop that work. It will help strengthen the co-operation and understanding between Great Britain and Denmark which is particularly important with the former leaving the European Union. We were delighted to be part of Her Majesty's 90th birthday celebrations last June and greatly value her continuing Patronage of the Society."

The Anglo-Danish Society was founded in 1924. The Objectives of the Society are:

- The promotion of closer understanding and friendship between the United Kingdom and Denmark by arranging or sponsoring social and cultural functions and events on a wide front;
- The administration of certain charitable funds for the assistance of selected Study and Research projects as well as charities of Anglo-Danish interest.

2 February 2017

European Capital of Culture

Hull has been named UK's City of Culture while Aarhus, the second largest city in Denmark, has been named European Capital of Culture 2017. Quite an honour and Aarhus is pulling out all stops to live up to the expectations.

Even without this latest accolade Aarhus has much to be proud of and is a very interesting and diverse city. It is a vibrant mix of old and new in so many ways. Aarhus is one of the oldest cities in Scandinavia, founded by the Vikings, but today one of the youngest due to the average age of the inhabitants, many of them students at the university.

The new Moesgaard Museum is a modern architectural gem in a beautiful setting, housing thrilling exhibitions of life as lived by Stone and Iron Age man. Most remarkable is the Grauballe Man, the world's best preserved bog body with hair, skin and nails intact.



The Old Town Museum depicts urban history and culture and has been awarded three Michelin stars. It is a living and breathing experience of what it was like to live and work in a Danish market town. You can taste, smell, try and experience history. The latest addition is "Life in the 1970s" which seems almost dated, yet strangely familiar!



Recently, Aarhus has also been selected as the number one shopping city in Scandinavia and Lonely Planet travel guides has put it at the top of Europe's hottest destinations. It boasts several Michelin starred restaurants and has a lively Café-culture alongside the river.

Curiously, until a few years ago, the river ran out of sight under a faceless, wide boulevard clogged up with cars and buses. Aarhus City Council decided to make the centre of town almost entirely car free and exposed the river, creating a much more attractive environment. It is now teeming with life, cafes and music along the water.

European Capital of Culture



The nearby harbour area has been radically redesigned and now includes the building AArhus – shaped like two capital As welcoming visitors to Aarhus. The shape of the building also enables every flat to gain maximum benefit from the sun and the views across the bay or the city.

Aros was the original old Danish name for Aarhus meaning 'where the aa (river) runs into the sea'. Yes, you

may wonder: For quite a while the correct spelling was with the last letter in the Danish alphabet Å, but these days Aarhus wants to appeal internationally - so they changed the official spelling.



ARoS is now one of the largest art museums in Northern Europe. It includes the fascinating 'Rainbow Panorama' by Olafur Eliasson.

www.visitaarhus.com

Hull : UK City of Culture

Thanks to being named UK city of culture the media tells us that Hull will be transformed in 2017. There are indeed a host of cultural activities on offer. They can be seen in more detail by checking the official website: www.hull2017.co.uk

However, Hull also has a Danish Seaman's Church, reaching out to the community in much the same way as the Danish Church in London – first and foremost as a church, but also as



a Danish centre of culture. They arrange Danish lessons, lunches, have a little shop and café, celebrate festivals and events and so uphold Danish customs and traditions. The

Hull : UK City of Culture



Norwegians celebrate their national day, 17th of May at the church and a special Icelandic Christmas service is also held, so encompassing other Nordic nationals as part of the Danish 'family' in Hull.

"The aim of the church is to be a safe and secure pillar for Danish Seafarers

who dock at one of the many ports in the Humber area." The pastor, Arne Kristophersen, does not wait for the seamen to come to his church but visits Danish and Nordic ships calling in to harbour in many parts of UK. On a regular basis he also arranges services in Danish at the Martin Luther Church Hall, Shieldfield, Newcastle.

It is indeed good to know that Anglo-Danish relations and Danish traditions and customs are also thriving "North of Watford"!



LEGO in London

Last November saw the opening of the largest LEGO store – anywhere! Right here in the heart of London by Leicester Square. The two-storey megastore even has a life-sized London Underground train made up of, very precisely, 637,903 bricks! There is even a 20-foot replica of Big Ben with a working clock face! For those of you who like precision: The clock took 2,280 hours to build.

You can even create your own Mosaic Portrait from bricks – and with instructions! I rather like this mosaic of London, though.



Dinner at Tower of London

On 11th October the Society's annual dinner took place at the HQ of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment in the Tower of London. Members of the Danish Guards Association and Den Danske Bank were also present.



Amongst the distinguished guests were Corporal Johnson Beharry VC and Cllr Carole Weston, Chairman of Rochford District Council who organised celebrations in Ashingdon, Essex commemorating the 18th October 1016 Battle of Assandun won by Canute the Great.



Booklets on the Battle were given to all diners. In his speech, our host, Colonel Wayne Harber, referred to the importance of regimental colours - or flags. He went on to announce that H.M. Queen Margrethe, the regiment's Colonel-in-Chief, would present his regiment with new colours in Canterbury on 23rd September 2017. (See further details in the section 'Dates for your Diaries')

Our Vice Chairman, Peter Davis responded and spoke of the Viking legacy of King Canute and stressed that, "With the surprise EU referendum result still fresh in our minds, there is a need for the Society to do ever more to increase co-operation and understanding between Great Britain and Denmark."

Report by Peter Davis

Photos by DWF (Bill) Hallett

Reception at the Danish Embassy



In November the Anglo-Danish Society members were invited to a pre-Christmas reception by HE Claus Grube and his wife Susanne, which was held in their home at the Danish Embassy.

It was a very festive evening, well attended and elegantly hosted. Having thanked the ambassador and his wife, our chairman, Christian Williams, went on to welcome eight scholarship award winners. "They have already excelled in their chosen fields of study in their home country and now seek to push the boundaries of learning and skill development; we are delighted to support them in their

postgraduate studies through our successful scholarship programme."

The reception at the embassy was also an opportunity to thank two loyal and greatly respected council officers who have recently cast off their previous responsibilities as Vice-Chairman and Honorary Secretary.

BIRGER JENSEN

The Society owes grateful thanks to Birger, who has resigned from Council after many years of eminent service as Scholarship Secretary. During the last four years Birger additionally supported the Society as a very wise Vice Chairman. Fortunately, Birger continues on the Scholarship Selection Committee where his sage comments and succinct insights are greatly appreciated.

LISBETH EHLERS

Lisbeth was saluted for tirelessly working as a formidable central cog in



Reception at The Danish Embassy

the ever-grinding wheels of the affairs of the council. A great many events have taken flight thanks to Lisbeth's constant quest for detail and her host of connections, teamed with a tireless interest in the welfare of members of the Society. We are hugely grateful for all Lisbeth has done as a hard working Honorary Secretary and we are delighted that she has chosen to remain on the Council, and so continue to share her insights.



FURTHER CHANGES TO COUNCIL

Christian Williams went on to introduce our newly appointed Vice Chairman, **PETER DAVIS**, a former Director General of the British Plastics

Federation and a true Anglo-Dane: his parents were British and Danish and Peter is married to Anne, who is also a Dane.

The new Hon. Secretary **BETTE PETERSEN BROYD** met her British husband, Ian at the Student Section of our very own Anglo-Danish Society! Bette studied English and Drama at University of London and has years of experience in teaching. She recently retired as Lead Teacher at the Children's Wards at the Royal Marsden Hospital, where she also carried out research and wrote books on teaching pupils with cancer.



Photos by Sarah Theil Pedersen

Membership News

We welcome the following new members to the Anglo-Danish Society:

Robert Smith
Corinne Fischer
Amin Amirian & Jessica Whitburn
Mette & Frederik Fabricius
Joan Sabatini & Rory Walker
Alan & Glynis Davey

Allan & Emelissa Engelhardt
Stephen Yarde
Kate & Klaus Grønholm

We are sorry to report the death of two longstanding members:

Hugh R Moser – RIP
Patrick A Nott - RIP

An unexpected memorial



We were driving in Normandy last Summer, when suddenly we came across a large, Danish flag waving in the wind. Curious, we turned around to inspect.

We were about a mile inland from the main memorial site of the Utah Beach, part of the American sector of the Normandy landings in June 1944.

What we found was a very well presented and well-maintained memorial commemorating the 6,000 Danish merchant seamen who fought with the Allied Forces in the Second World War, and many of whom sadly lost their lives.

Most of the Danish ships in international waters on the 9th of April 1940 were made available to the Allied powers, with the support and agreement of their Danish owners, including A P Møller.

During the invasion of Normandy, more than 30 Danish ships took part, most under the Danish Flag, Dannebrog.



King George VI said in the House of Commons in November 1944, 'This would not have been accomplished without the splendid bravery of our merchant seamen and those of the United Nations and Denmark.'

Report by
Traute and Niels Ring Andersen

Danish Food in London

There are a few new places in London which serve Danish or Nordic food. The craze for 'cinnamon buns' and 'hygge' has seemingly not yet blown over, despite over-exposure and (misguided) attempts to emulate the style and design ideas picked up from watching Scandi-Noir films and TV series. Rick Stein recently took BBC2



viewers to Copenhagen on a 'Long Weekend' and a veritable feast for the eyes it was, too!

OLE & STEEN

If you have visited Denmark in the last few years you will no doubt have seen or visited Lagkagehuset, a



hugely popular chain of bakeries where baking is done by hand using the very best ingredients. Well, now

they have opened up an all-day bakery in St James' Market in Haymarket, London. They call it 'Ole and Steen – Lagkagehuset' and serve fresh bread and cakes all day - for breakfast, lunch and dinner!

AQUAVIT

Another 'import' to London's Scandi-food scene, this time from New York, is the restaurant Aquavit.

Probably more of a Swedish restaurant, but let that rest, the buzz is that this new venture is a five star experience with prices to match. It boasts "food inspired by Scandinavian nature; the land surrounded by water, providing an abundance of seafood, and the forests rich in game, berries, mushrooms and other wild foods." It is also situated in the recently redeveloped St James' Market.

Perhaps we should arrange a visit for the Anglo-Danish Society?

ASTER

Another newly opened Nordic/French experience is 'Aster' in London's Victoria Street. Offering a cafe, deli and restaurant overseen by a Finnish born chef in modern surroundings, the menus are expansive and varied. It seems that all the Nordic countries are represented in an imaginative fusion with classic French culinary traditions.

Scholarship Applications

ANGLO-DANISH SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIPS AND THE OVE ARUP FOUNDATION AWARD

We welcome scholarship applications from British graduates planning to study in Denmark or from Danish graduates arranging their study in the UK.

The closing date is Wednesday 1st March 2017.

Scholarships for postgraduate study or research will be awarded this spring for studies during the academic year 2017-18. Awards are non-subject specific with the exception of the Ove Arup Foundation award for advanced studies in the “Built Environment”.

For more details and an application form please visit www.anglo-danishsociety.org.uk/scholarships.

Nordic Matters Festival

The Southbank Centre is a multi-venue arts centre in London comprising Royal Festival Hall, Hayward Gallery, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and The Poetry Library. This is where the 2017 Nordic Matters Festival is situated and where we are invited to look more closely at Nordic art and culture as found in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Iceland and Finland. Apparently they have all been voted the best countries to be a woman and we already know that Denmark keeps being voted the happiest place on the planet - according to the United Nations.

Nordic countries are at the forefront of social change and their fresh approach to parenting and education puts young people's rights in the limelight. Investment in sustainable

energy sets inspiring benchmarks and so this festival invites us to look more closely at what is happening in Nordic culture and art.

“There’s music, dance, theatre, literature, spoken word, visual art, design, fashion and food from the Nordic countries to explore. You can also join us for talks and debates about what the Nordic countries are doing right, and the challenges they still face.”

There are many varied activities and performances, aimed at both the very young and the old alike. I heard on the grapevine that the Lego section is a great hit!

www.southbankcentre.co.uk

Anglo-Danish Society Events : 2017

TUESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2017

AT 18.00

**DRAPERS' HALL,
THROGMORTON AVENUE
CITY OF LONDON EC2N 2DQ**

Founded over 650 years ago, the Drapers' Company is incorporated by Royal Charter and is one of the Twelve Great Livery Companies in the City of London. The unique collection of silver and works of art at Draper's Hall has been created and developed over the centuries and is the embodiment of history, opulence, tradition and heritage.

We are delighted that, once again, we have been given a limited number of tickets to the Drapers' 23rd Concert Series. The Guildhall School of Music and Drama provide the talented musicians who play the harp, flute, clarinet, violins, viola, cello, double-bass and piano. The concert includes works by Beethoven, Debussy, Ravel, Vaughn-Williams, Finzi, Franck and Ravel. The concert is preceded by a supper in the lavish surroundings of Drapers' Hall. The price is £50 members / £60 non-members to include supper, concert and interval drinks.

Dress code: Lounge suit
Please contact Bette
bettebroyd@gmail.com
Mob: 07934 236686

TUESDAY, 21 MARCH 2017

AT 12 NOON

**THE DANISH YWCA
43 MARESFIELD GARDENS
LONDON NW3 5TF**

Last year we had a fantastic Easter lunch at The Danish YWCA in Maresfield Gardens. We filled the place to capacity for one of the most authentic Danish meals in all of London. We must have behaved impeccably as we are fortunate to have been allowed back again this year!

You can expect a lavish traditional Danish lunch to include pickled herrings, seafood, homemade delicacies including warm and cold dishes and salads. Accompanied by beer and snaps and later in the lounge for coffee and Danish pastries.

Flemming Kloster Poulsen, the new pastor at The Danish Church and a member of the Anglo-Danish Society Council, also happens to be a hugely popular storyteller who has published several books. He will entertain us with one or two of his tales, which are often surprising, but always entertaining.

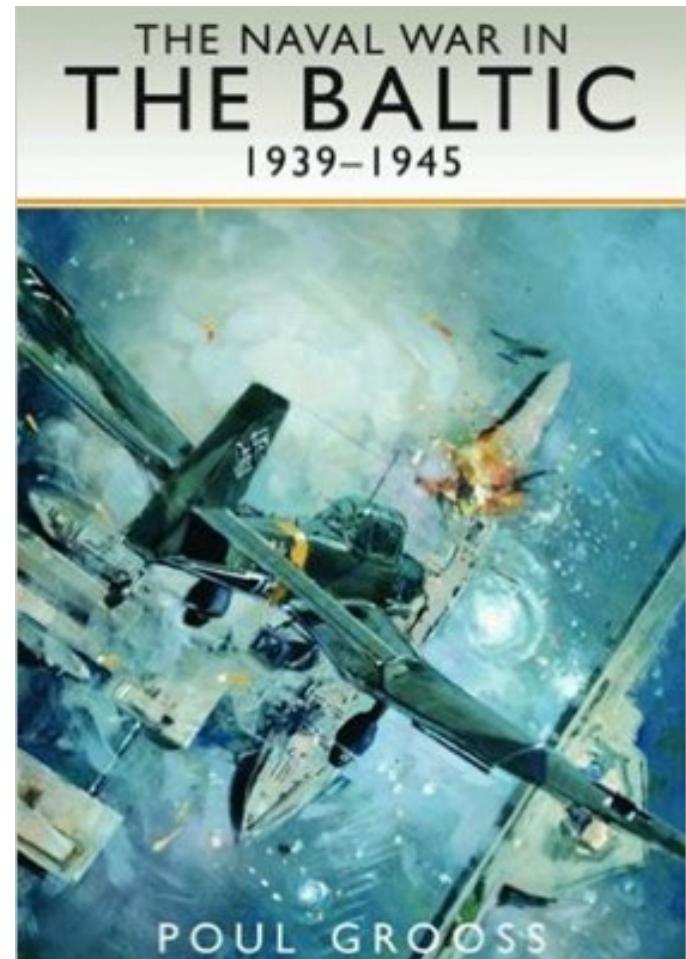
Price: £40 for members / £50 for non-members (includes drinks)
Contact: Bette by 15th March at the latest: bettebroyd@gmail.com
Mob: 07934 236686

Anglo-Danish Society Events : 2017

**THURSDAY, 1 JUNE AT 18.00
FOR AGM, REFRESHMENTS AND
TALK BY POUL GROOSS
NORDEA BANK
6TH FLOOR, 5 ALDERMANBURY SQ.,
LONDON EC2V 7AZ**

Poul Grooss was a Captain in the Royal Danish Navy and at one time the Danish Defence Attaché in London. Since his retirement he has been a military researcher for the Royal Danish Defence College where he also taught modern military operations to budding new officers. During the Gulf War he was military advisor to the Danish media and has reviewed a number of books on national and international security and military strategy. He is a practiced speaker and the author of a much acclaimed book, 'Krigen i Østersøen, 1939 – 1945', published in 2014.

This outlines the content of his remarkable book: From the shelling of the Polish coast, on 1 September 1939, to the loss of thousands of German refugees at sea in May 1945, the Baltic witnessed continuous and ferocious fighting throughout World War II. Poul Grooss chronicles naval warfare in the region and covers major events such as the siege of Leningrad, the Soviet campaign against Sweden, the three wars in Finland, the Soviet liberation of the Baltic states, and the German evacuation of two million people



from the East as well as the Soviet race westwards in 1945. Grooss explores topics such as Swedish cooperation with Germany, training of U-boat crews, secret weapons trials, the RAF mining campaign and the role of Bletchley Park. The political and military context of the war in this theatre is set with references to ships, radar, artillery, mines, and aircraft."

In June, as the English version is published, we are delighted to have secured Poul Grooss to share with us his reflections on a life in uniform. To register your interest in attending please contact Bette bettebroyd@gmail.com Mob: 07934 236686

Anglo-Danish Society Events : 2017

BOOKING FUTURE EVENTS

Please contact Bette Petersen Broyd
(Honorary Secretary)
9 Whitethorn Gardens,
Croydon CR0 7LL
bettebroyd@gmail.com
Mob: 07934 236686

Either send Bette a cheque made out to 'Anglo-Danish Society' or arrange a direct transfer to the Anglo-Danish Society Account:

Bank: NatWest
Sort Code: 55-70-13
Account No. 78325285
Name: The Anglo-Danish Society

Please add your postal code after your name and notify Bette and /or the treasurer that you have made the transfer.

COSCAN TRAVEL AWARD

The Travel Award helps young British people between the age of 15 to 25 to visit a Scandinavian country while undertaking a worthwhile project of a broadly educational nature. The closing date for applications is 31st March.

For more information, donations and an application form:

www.coscan.org.uk/travel-award

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Thursday, 9 March

National Theatre Live in Cinemas:
Hedda Gabler

Saturday, 13 May

Danish Church Bazaar, Regents Park
from 11 am to 5 pm.

Friday, 9 June

Concert at St Clement Danes:
Part of Nordic Matters

September

Tour of Houses of Parliament with afternoon tea or reception (date to be confirmed)

Saturday, 23 September

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, Canterbury. Presentation of New Colours by the Colonel-in-Chief, HM Queen Margrethe II. Taking place at The Spitfire Cricket Ground, the event will start at 10.30ish.
(Organised by Lisbeth Ehlers - Further details to follow)

Thursday, 26 October

The Annual Black Tie Dinner at the HQ of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment at the Tower of London, starting with a reception at 18.30.
(Organised by Lisbeth Ehlers - Further details to follow)

We serve clients who choose to live and do business outside the Nordic region



Our private banking colleagues in London have been meeting with entrepreneurs, financial professionals, families and individuals who have different kind of requirements to inform them of important questions that need to be addressed in this challenging world. If you would like to find out how we can help you with many UK related queries regarding mortgages, investments, savings and day-to-day cross border planning, feel free to contact our Private Banking office in Luxembourg at +352 43 88 71 or contact our colleagues in the UK.

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Nordea 
Private Banking

This financial promotion is made by Nordea Bank S.A. which is based in Luxembourg and passported into the UK to provide cross-border services, although most of our investment services are carried on from Luxembourg. Nordea Bank S.A. is authorised by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (CSSF) in Luxembourg and is subject to limited regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority. Details about the extent of our regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority are available from us on request. As a consequence, certain of the rules made under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 for the protection of retail clients in the UK will not apply (although there are rules in place for the protection of retail clients in Luxembourg). The Financial Services Compensation Scheme will not be available with regards to any investment business we carry on for you.