

# THE DANISH • SOCIETY NEWS

## NØJ DET' FOR BØRN

### Så er der Legestue!

Så kan The Danish Society i Auckland endelig tilbyde noget for de små igen! Vi har haft flere forespørgsler specielt fra familier, hvor kun den ene forælder taler dansk, om at få en mulighed for at deres børn kan møde andre dansktalende børn (og voksne). Det vil komme til at foregå i leg og musik, mere end egentlig undervisning. Måske kan der senere blive en regulær sprogskole for de lidt ældre børn, hvis der er interesse for det.

I første omgang er vi interesserede i at høre, om der stadig er interesse for sådan en gruppe.

Hvor tit den skal tilbydes, om det skal koste noget osv. vil blive besluttet efter konsultation mellem de interesserede forældre, bestyrelsen for Danish Society og legestuelederen, Emma Tordsson.

Auckland fra Melbourne hvor hun har boet siden 2009. I Melbourne var Emma tilknyttet den danske skole, først som underviser for børnehavklassen, dernæst for de ældre børn og de sidste 5 år var hun også præsident for skolen. Emma har en Bachelor i audiologopædi (høre tale pædagogik) og Master i sprogpsykologi fra Københavns universitet, og arbejder til daglig i IT når hun ikke er på barsel med 6 måneder gamle Loke.

Så lad os høre fra jer, alle dem, der har små børn, og som gerne vil have, at deres børn lærer at "lege på dansk".

Når jeg har hørt fra et rimeligt antal forældre, aftaler vi de nærmere detaljer med Emma.

## PLAY GROUP

### Danish-speaking kids

Thanks to one of our members, Emma Tordsson, who

taught at the Danish School in Melbourne and has degrees in audiology-pedics and language psychology from the University of Copenhagen, we are now able to offer a new activity at Danish House.

This will be run as a play group with games and music, and will be especially aimed at families who struggle to "keep up the Danish" either because only one of the parents speaks Danish, or just because they have mostly non-Danish friends. Later on, if there's enough interest, we may offer Danish classes for older children. If you're interested in being part of this group, please contact Helle. When we have a sufficient number of interested members, we will discuss the details of how often to meet and price etc. with Emma.

### Contact:

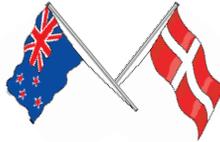
Helle 09 478 7016  
events@danishsociety.org.nz

## TOM NØRRING

In 2016, the previous Ambassador of Denmark to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji, H.E. Mr Børge Pedersen, retired; and in his place, Denmark appointed H.E. Mr Tom Nørring. He presented his credentials to the New Zealand Governor-General late November. Tom Nørring has a masters in Law from University of Copenhagen and has worked in exports and diplomacy for many years. He has previously been the the Ambassador to Greece and Hungary. He is now based in Canberra. He is married to Claudia Paggianni, and he has two adult daughters. In 2006 he received the Order of Dannebrog.

Come along and meet our new Ambassador at a lovely get-together at Danish House on February 7th. (more information under 'Events')

Med venlig hilsen, Inger (General-Consul)



# PRESIDENTS REPORT

## GODT NYTÅR

I have a confession to make: my Christmas fairy lights are still up on my balcony. It's my little rebellion and as long as they're still twinkling, it's still holiday time and none of the new year's stresses can touch me... yet. At least, that's what I like to pretend! But here I am, Queen of New Year Denial, here to give you all a gentle prod to get up from your sun-basking, glorious, summer bliss and jump back into some of our great summer events.

### FASTELAVN 26TH OF FEB

I'd like to encourage you all: big, small, old, young, with kids, no kids (or even if you're like me and would rather a cold, rainy day and hot mug of kakao than the beach) to come along to Fastelavn on the 26th of February at Long Bay Beach. It really is a tonne of fun no matter your age! There are games and races for adults AND kids – and it's

worth the visit just to see the little ones all dressed up in their fastelavn costumes. If you think you're too old (in body or maturity) to enjoy the day...

Firstly, you're wrong, and secondly – just bring a picnic and laze under the trees or out in the sun. It's rare to find a place at Long Bay during summer, and our booked site guarantees you a spot to relax.

This is an event for everyone. It's especially great for new members to be able to come and meet existing ones, so come and make some new friends! We've extended the invite to the Finns and Swedes, so it'll be one big Scandi Day Out, and (if you all come) we'll be guaranteed to best them in the traditional tug-of-war. Hopefully my blatant pitch here has won a few of you over to the fun side!

In other news, keep an eye out for the regular events starting up again – the Wednesday Morning Group has another year of interesting talks planned, Hygge Klub is inviting new members of all ages

to come along and hygge, Open Houses are always open on the first Sunday of the month, and Folk Dancing and Card Players will soon be back in full swing.

### MEET THE DANISH AMBASSADOR

At the beginning of February we'll have a visit from the new Danish Ambassador, Tom Nørring, and all members are invited to a free cocktail evening to meet him on the 7th.

On the night of Fastelavn we're hosting a concert in conjunction with the Austrian Club who have some world-renowned Austrian musicians coming to give a concert for us – see inside for details! Then, after the overwhelming response we've had from our concerts showcasing the new piano, we've got another concert coming up on the 12th of March with Gemma Lee and Jane Horder who'll be giving musical theatre lovers a treat.

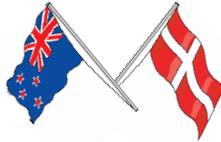
I'd also like to take the opportunity to welcome our newest members – those who have been born into

the club! To the ones we know of: Loke, Mikah and Asger – VELKOMMEN! Welcome to your unique experience on this earth as a DanNZ-ker.

That's all from me this month, I'll probably still be in denial that Jul is over when you see me in February so be gentle and don't shatter my holiday dreams. Come and say hej and visit the presidential picnic blanket at Fastelavn – I'll be there!

See you at the club... soon...

Anna



# VALHALLA

## A TRUE PARADISE

We are so lucky to have something so Danish at one of the most stunning spots in New Zealand and even better, it's so close to Auckland.

### NOT JUST A SUMMER HOUSE

Valhalla is the Danish Society's Coastal Retreat at Leigh; one hour drive from Auckland.

You can book Individual rooms or the whole house for a group holiday all at below market rates. The property is perfect

for special functions such as weddings. There are various areas on the property that are ideal for a wedding ceremony, with lots of room for the Marquee closer to the house.

We would love to receive photos and stories about your stays at Valhalla which we can publish in our newsletter. Please email

**Send stories to:**  
[editor@danishsociety.org.nz](mailto:editor@danishsociety.org.nz)



### RATES FOR VALHALLA

There is a \$5pp per night Development Levy on all members and guests over 2 years of age

| <b>Peak</b>     | <b>Member</b> | <b>Guest</b> |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Adults.....     | \$20          | \$35         |
| Children.....   | \$10          | \$25         |
| <b>Off-Peak</b> |               |              |
| Adults.....     | \$12          | \$30         |
| Children.....   | \$6           | \$20         |

### Whole house daily rate

Off-Peak \$120 - Peak rate \$300  
 Christmas season \$330 - Functions \$330

**Off-Peak:** Mid-week only excluding Christmas season and school holidays

**Peak:** All school holidays, Christmas season and all weekends.

**Christmas season:** Christmas Eve to the end of Anniversary Weekend.

The house can only be hired for 7 days at any one time.

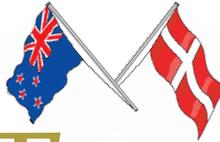
### For bookings and further information:

Christine Futterup 09 299 6985  
[valhalla@danishsociety.org.nz](mailto:valhalla@danishsociety.org.nz)

### See pictures or read more about Valhalla:

[www.danishsociety.org.nz](http://www.danishsociety.org.nz)





# CRUISING THE HARBOUR

## PACIFIC MERMAID

The final event of the Wednesday group on 26th October 2016 was a wonderful cruise on the Harbour on board the luxury super yacht "Pacific Mermaid." This arose from a generous invitation from Ken and Bente Winter, when they gave a talk to the Wednesday Group in 2015 about shipping the Pacific Mermaid to Denmark, and spending a summer cruising in Danish waters.

We were about 38 members of the Danish Society and friends from the Wednesday Group, plus the crew of six who were all members

of the Winter family. The vessel is beautifully furnished and in immaculate condition throughout. We had lunch on board, near the Chelsea Sugar refinery, then returned under the harbour bridge, cruised through West Haven marina, past the wharves, and back to Orakei marina. A presentation was made to Ken and Bente, with warm thanks to their family for a memorable day on the Waitemata.

This gathering was the last to be organised by Karen Andersen Yates, who started the Wednesday group in 2007 and has been the leader for nine years. The Wednesday Group will continue in the future, guided by those who worked with Karen. A special presentation was made to Karen, who had the vision and

enthusiasm to plan and produce a wide range of talks on interesting topics related to Denmark and Danes who migrated to New Zealand.

Our gratitude to Karen was expressed in a poem composed by Carlo Mikkelsen



### KAREN`S BOUQUET.

A floral bouquet is an amassment of beauty,  
arranged to complement an occasion.

To celebrate your life with agreeable flowers, your bouquet will abundantly embrace an array of nature`s wonders. Picking your life`s bouquet, it will hold :-

A single red rose, illustrating pristinely the brightness you always bestow  
with your presence.

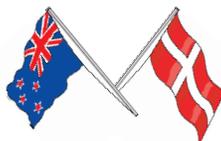
A group of white gardenias, declaring your honesty and the fragrance  
emphasising your charm.

A cluster of the delicate frangipani, exuding the warmth of your personality.

A host of busy lizzie, exemplifying in a colourful manner  
your uncomplicated nature.

A solitary edelweiss, persistently blooming even after the harshest of winter.

Lavishly it will be covered with the common daisy,  
to ardently proclaim your unreserved love for your friends and family.



## CLASSICAL DUET

### 26th February @ 7.30pm

Susanne Reichl & Bernhard Weis  
This classical duet are visiting New Zealand in the New Year and during their trip will perform an evening of traditional classical music playing a selection of Mozart, Schubert, Strauss and others.

In addition to the wonderful music, wine & nibbles will be served upon arrival, with coffee and traditional biscuits available during the break.

#### Practical Info

Tickets are \$15 per person and limited to 150 seats.

Venue is Danish House, Penrose.

Secure your tickets by contacting Helle at [events@danishsociety.org.nz](mailto:events@danishsociety.org.nz) or ph. 4787016

Should you have any special music requests, please advise at the time of booking.

# EVENTS

## MEET THE DANISH AMBASSADOR

### 7th February @ 7.30pm

The President of the Danish Society, Anna Gilderdale, warmly invites you to a complimentary cocktail evening to meet the new Danish Ambassador, Tom Nørring. Mix and mingle with your fellow members and catch up with our Honorary Consul-General Inger Mortensen and Trade Commissioner, Sarah Lund.

#### Practical Info

As this is a popular free event, RSVP's are essential for catering purposes.

Dress: a little bit swish...

RSVP: [events@danishsociety.org.nz](mailto:events@danishsociety.org.nz) by 3rd of February

## ADVANCE NOTICE

### 12th March @ 2pm

Concert with Gemma Lee and Jane Horder

An exciting and inspiring programme of musical and show tunes from Chess, Les Miserables, Show Boat, Kiss Me Kate, and Sweeny Todd.

The concert will be followed by afternoon tea.

More details in the March Magazine, but bookings are open now.

#### Practical Info

Entry: \$15

Book with Helle at [events@danishsociety.org.nz](mailto:events@danishsociety.org.nz) or ph. 478 701

## WEDNESDAY MORNING GROUP

### 22nd March @ 10.30am

Meet Inger Mortensen, Royal Danish Consul General. Inger will speak of her background in Denmark, migration to New Zealand and her official role as Consul and what it means to her.

# REGULAR EVENTS

### Danish House

An Open House is held on the first Sunday of each month from 2pm

### Committee Meeting

Are held on the second Monday of the month at 7.30pm

### Valhalla Working Bees

Working bees are usually held on the weekend of the second Saturday of the month.

### Cardplayers

Meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month 11am to 3pm  
Contact Paul Marquart 09 528 8119

### Hyggeklub

Meet on the second Thursday of every month

### Wednesday Morning Group

Meet fourth Wednesday of the month from March to October at 10.30am  
Fran & Graham Wright 09 575 8027

### Folkdancers

Meet at 7.30pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month

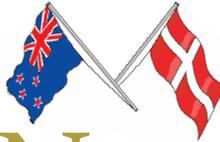
Contact:

Finn Nielsen

09 625 5533

### Film Evenings

Are held on the third Friday of the month at 7.30pm



# EVENTS & NOTICE BOARD

## FASTELAVN AT LONG BAY

**26th February @ 9am**

Fastelavn is one of the most important events in the Danish cultural calendar. If you've never been, you need to come and experience it, and if you have been before, you'll want to return!

We have again secured site 6 at Long Bay Regional Park. There is parking on site, but if we run out of space there's more parking across the road.

### Practical Info

**9 am:** Picnic site opens. Feel free to come and claim your spot, have a swim and picnic lunch.

**2 pm:** Children's dress up parade  
Lots of prizes!

**2.30 pm:** Tøndeslagning (Hitting the cat out of the barrel). This tradition is a very important part of the festivities: It symbolizes warding off all evil in preparation for Lent.

There will be three barrels: one for the children, one for the women, and one for the men.

**3 pm:** Games – running races, sack races, potato-on- spoon races, tug-of- war, etc.

Please note that all times are approximate – it is a party after all, and of course, proceedings will also be affected by how many people turn up. In case of heavy rain, the event will be held at Danish House, Penrose, instead and will start at 2pm

If you're in doubt, please ring Helle on 478 7016.

## ROOM FOR RENT WANTED

Hey my name is Magnus Riisgaard Joergensen I'm born and raised in Denmark where I still live. I'm 25 years old and a open-minded, joyful and social person. In Denmark I live in a houseshare with five other people. I like being around other people sharing life. I'm studying to become a welfare worker my passion lies in working together with young people or humans in general. It is for this reason I'm coming to New Zealand to explore and learn about the culture and people.

At this stage I plan to arrive in NZ late May and I'm searching for a room to rent through until late November of this year.

I basically have no criteria for the room just somewhere affordable that I can sleep, shower and make food.

So, if you have a room or you know someone who has a room that I can rent I would be stoked to hear from you.

Brg Magnus

Please contact [president@danish-society.org.nz](mailto:president@danish-society.org.nz) if you can help

## THANK YOU DANISH SOCIETY

A contribution that I have been meaning to send for years!

When Torben and I first arrived in Denmark for our OE, I got a job at the British embassy and each morning I would walk through the cemetery on my way to work. At that stage of my life I was a young kiwi wife embarking on a new adventure. I could not understand why so many of the Danes were called "fred". I now know better.

Kind regards, Guinny Sorensen



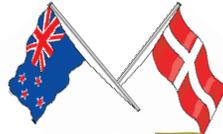
Thank you to the Society for the beautiful flowers delivered personally by Vibeke Courtenay to the Library at the Danish House when I celebrated my 95th birthday with family and friends. A special mention to Vibeke for the years of managing to get the flowers to the celebrating recipients, a job well done over many years. Thank you, Vibeke.

Best wishes Lilly Sorensen



Thank you for the flowers delivered all the way to Puhoi to mark my 70th birthday. Very much appreciated and containing sunflowers, which are a personal favourite.

Thanks again, Torben Sorensen



# NOTICE BOARD

## DANISH LESSONS

Taler du dansk?

Connie Kristensen is teaching Danish lessons from her Tiny House at Earthsong Eco Neighbour Village in Ranui. Saturday mornings and Wednesday evenings.

### For more information:

Connie Kristensen 0274 757 565  
danishlessons@danishsociety.org.nz

## LOOKING FOR A VENUE?

Did you know that you can hire out Danish House in Penrose?

Member rates for hiring the hall for the whole day:

Sunday to Friday..... \$120

Saturday..... \$180

Half day hire is 1/3 less

No charge for funerals.

Member rates for hiring library \$55

Bond is \$150 per booking.

### For more information:

Antony Barret 09 444 0930

## GARDENING CLUB

### 9.30-12 on Open House Days

If you'd like to help out with keeping the grounds of Danish House looking good, why not come along to a hyggelig morning of pruning, weeding & coffee.

The Saturday morning before each Open House. All welcome.

We'll start on Saturday 4th February.

### RSVP to Pam Logan

Pam Logan 09 480 9883  
pam.richardlogan@gmail.com

## WELFARE COORDINATOR

This important role, which at its core shares the celebration of those members who wish to make known their major anniversaries with the Society, is now vacant. The Committee would love to hear from anyone interested in organising the dispatch of cards and flowers to congratulate or commiserate members' major life events. Information is supplied by the Membership Coordinator; there is no need to sit on the Committee.

### For more information:

Roselle (membership coordinator)  
Pam (secretary)

## DANISH SOCIETY SURVEY

Dear Member, in this newsletter please find attached a survey. The purpose of the survey is to assess how members prefer to receive our newsletter as well as understand your particular interests and activities you can help out with.

Please have each member of your household fill out the survey.

Return by 15th of February.

### How to return

Use online link

Use attached form, mail to PO Box

Use attached form, scan and email to kamper\_nielsen@hotmail.com

Use attached form and hand it to one of the committee members

Your feedback and support is appreciated.

## VALHALLA BALLOT SYSTEM

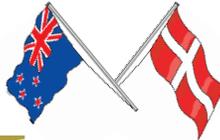
Please note that there will be a ballot system for Valhalla for the Christmas week 2017 as well as New Years 2017.

Also Auckland Anniversary Weekend 2018 and Waitangi Weekend 2018 will be run at the same time.

The ballot will be drawn at the Open House 5th of March 2017

### For more information:

Christine Futterup 09 299 6985  
treasurer@danishsociety.org.nz



# INFO

## THE DANISH SOCIETY INC.

P.O. Box 12 279 - Penrose 1642  
6 Rockridge Ave, Penrose  
Auckland  
Ph 09 580 3103  
[www.danishsociety.org.nz](http://www.danishsociety.org.nz)

 Facebook/danishsociety

Bank a/c: ASB 12 3036 067 1539 00

## SUBSCRIPTION (2016 FINANCIAL YEAR)

Member..... \$65/pp  
Senior Rate (65+)..... \$55/pp  
Youth Rate (18-25)..... \$10/pp  
Children under 18 ..... Free  
Family Discount.. \$30 discount total



Financial year runs from 01/10/  
2016 to 30/09/2017

## CONTRIBUTE TO OUR MAGAZINE

The next magazine deadline is  
February. All contribu-  
**12** tions welcome - in En-  
glish or Danish (with a  
short summary in English).

The magazine can also be read (in  
full colour) online at [www.danish-  
society.org.nz](http://www.danish-society.org.nz)

Note: ads for events must be in a  
calendar month before the event.

[editor@danishsociety.org.nz](mailto:editor@danishsociety.org.nz)

# CONTACTS

## DANISH SOCIETY

The Danish House 09 580 3103  
Valhalla, Leigh 022 322 6194

## COMMITTEE

### President:

Anna Gilderdale 021 022 96802  
[president@danishsociety.org.nz](mailto:president@danishsociety.org.nz)

### Vice-President:

Brian Kamper Nielsen 021 620 918  
[vicepresident@danishsociety.org.nz](mailto:vicepresident@danishsociety.org.nz)

### Treasurer:

Christine Futterup 09 299 6985  
[treasurer@danishsociety.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@danishsociety.org.nz)

### Secretary:

Rolf Siggaard 021 229 9761  
[secretary@danishsociety.org.nz](mailto:secretary@danishsociety.org.nz)

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kirsten Jensen 09 479 2249  
Helle Gilderdale 09 478 7016  
Annette Jorna 09 630 8722  
Leon Bro 021 083 77645  
Jacob Thuesen 027 705 3201  
Mike Kofoed 021 799 752

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[membership@danishsociety.org.nz](mailto:membership@danishsociety.org.nz)

### Webmaster:

Kurt marquart 022 476 0245  
[webmaster@danishsociety.org.nz](mailto:webmaster@danishsociety.org.nz)

### Mailout:

Helle Scott 09 521 2844

## ADDITIONAL

### Royal Danish Consulate:

Inger Mortensen  
022 0473 500  
47A Normanby Road, Mt Eden  
Auckland 1024  
[danish-in-auckland@mail.com](mailto:danish-in-auckland@mail.com)

### Danish Trade Council:

Sarah Lund  
021 812 226  
PO Box 2154, Shortland Street,  
Auckland 1140  
[dtcauckland@um.dk](mailto:dtcauckland@um.dk)

### The Lutheran Church:

1 Harris Road, Mt Wellington  
PO Box 85-014  
09 579 4490

### Danish Lutheran Church of NZ:

Pastor Anja Groenne Mathiassen  
03 464 0218  
[www.danishchurchnz.org](http://www.danishchurchnz.org)