

THE

DANISH • SOCIETY NEWS



SANTA'S WORKSHOP

An article from North Harbour News, December 2016

Christmas preparation is a year-round event in Svend Fanefjord's 'Santa's Workshop'. And its Coatesville craftsman is a real-life santa too, creating wooden toys to give away at Christmas 12 months a year, using donated wood and materials.

Fanefjord keeps a cracking pace and has made no less than 1500 toys this year. He says his main motivation is to give to children in need at Christmas. "I like kids to have something for Christmas. A lot of kids - their parents don't have money, so I like giving them toys," he says. A cabinet maker by trade, Danish-born Fanefjord has been creating his toys since 2009.

And every year since, the number of toys made climbs. The first year he made 300. By 2014, he'd reached over 1000. Production has also increased thanks to the donation of wood and dowel from two Silverdale businesses. Having already been in business for a decade making wooden playhouses before retiring in the mid-2000s, Svend's Kiwi wife Nicola Fanefjord says they decided from the outset to give away the toys.

The workshop - aptly named Santa's Workshop - gives to all kinds of groups including toy libraries, kindergartens and clubs. This Christmas, they're supporting the City Mission, Salvation Army and Foster Hope among others.

Auckland City Missioner Chris Farrelly says it is not common to receive hand-made toys and describes Fanefjord's work as "stunning". "They are amazing. I just don't know how much time he puts into each one but they are works of

art," he says. Farrelly says the gifts are matched to children in need, and Fanefjord's contribution will given with this in mind.

Fanefjord says he doesn't start with a particular design, but creates based on the materials available.

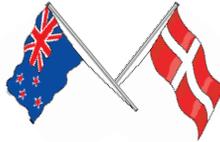
He makes use of whatever is around, including using mustard bottle tops as road cones and mascara brushes for chimney sweeps.

To speed up production, he makes many single toy parts at a time before assembling them as a whole.

Nicola says she can hardly get her husband to leave his workshop for a holiday.

"Svend's present is being left alone to work at his own pace. He's got one of those minds that just never stops working," she says.

"I just think all Danes have this magic design in them... they're just so clever. It just amazes me what they can do with nothing."



PRESIDENTS REPORT

HAPPY MARCH

Happy March everyone!

I can't believe we're already 3 months into the year, and it feels like we've hardly begun. I hope you all took the opportunity to fill out the survey that was part of last month's magazine – it was a great initiative and will give us (as a committee) some insight into the kinds of events you're interested in and what you can help us with.

We have had a cracker February which started off in style with the visit from our new ambassador, Tom Nørring. For those of you who missed out on the free champagne and canapes made by our Events Coordinator Helle, the event was a success! It gave members the chance to ask our Honorary Consul-General Inger Mortensen and

the Ambassador Tom Nørring all the questions they had been burning to ask.

By the time you receive this magazine, we will have celebrated Fastelavn and joined forces with the Austrians to hold a concert featuring some famous visiting Austrian musicians. I hope you managed to make it to one or both events!

This year I'd like to encourage you to join something new – we'll probably have a Danish Conversation group starting soon, so watch this space. But, for now, I'd like you to think about trying a regular event like Wednesday Morning Group, Folk Dancing, Open House or Hygge Klub. If, like me, you work during the day and can't make events during work-days Hygge Klub or Folk Dancing might fit the bill. If dancing isn't your thing, I'd take a look at Hygge Klub... It's a relaxing night (the second Thursday of the month) of hygge, often

with the bar open. Leave your work woes at the door and come in and 'slap af!' Some people bring craft, colouring, bake things – you could even tee up a sports stream or Danish TV show if that's what floats your boat. It's all about hygge, and that's really the only rule!

We also now have a gardening club which has just started up on Saturdays (see dates in the magazine) to keep our Danish House property in Penrose looking in tip-top shape. This will help spread the load of maintenance as it can get to be quite overwhelming when it's just one or two volunteers trying to keep things going. Please contact Pam Logan for details if you're interested.

Take care out in the sun and I look forward to seeing you all soon at the club...

Med venlig hilsen,
Anna

NEW ACTIVITIES

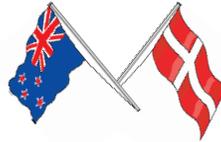
Do you have ideas for new activities for the Danish Society? Or anything that you would like to see repeated (pub quiz, auction)? Are there any interests that you feel we haven't covered?

We'd love for you to share them with us, so we can help you make them happen for the benefit of the Club. It could be anything from cooking classes to sports games (for instance: Why hasn't the Danish Society got a hand ball team?) or sing-along sessions to genealogy research.

Last year we had a very varied programme and only had to cancel one event due to lack of interest/time,

but it was hard work for the Events Team, and we were very stretched and close to burn-out at the end of the year. So this year we will only organise a few events – the rest has to come from you, the members! We look forward to hearing from you!

Please contact: Helle on events@danishsociety.org.nz or phone 478-7016



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



RATES FOR VALHALLA

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

Peak	Member	Guest
Adults.....	\$20	\$35
Children.....	\$10	\$25
Off-Peak		
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.

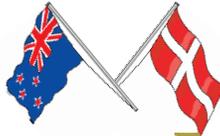
For bookings and further information:

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

See pictures or read more about Valhalla:

www.danishsociety.org.nz





MUSICAL MARCH

JANE HORDER
SOPRANO

12 March 2017, 2 pm. Entry: \$15.
Concert followed by afternoon tea.

Gemma Lee and Jane Horder will perform a selection of musical theatre and light classical favourites, ranging from Show Boat to Les Miserable, and from Kiss Me Kate to Chess.

For catering purposes please book with Helle

events@danishsociety.org.nz or
phone 478-7016.



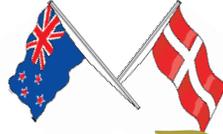
Jane is a consummate performer and singer from stage musicals, jazz band/covers vocalist, jingles to concerts, such as the surprise concert in 2009 for jazz legend Russ Garcia. Since 1999, she has been singing with Prima Swing Riot – Auckland swing band. Jane has an extensive background in Musical Theatre as a

performer and musical director. In the mid 1990s, she toured NZ and Australia in Harry Miller's production of Jesus Christ Superstar and the NZ tour of Stetson Productions' Chess – The Musical. In 2008, she won the NAP-TA Award for Best Female Actor, performed in Putting It Together for Auckland Music Theatre, and in 2009, she played Mrs Robinson in Court Jester's production of The Graduate. Other performances include: Witch in Into the Woods, Mother in Ragtime, Roxy in Chicago, Dolly in Hello Dolly, Sheila in HAIR, and Mary in Jesus Christ Superstar. Jane was the Director of Vocal Studies at Takapuna Grammar School for five years, successfully directing four choirs, teaching singing and a Musical Theatre course for senior students. She is currently Head of Performing Arts at St Kentigern School.



Born in South Korea and raised in New Zealand, Gemma holds

a Master of Music with First Class Honours from the University of Auckland. During her tertiary studies, she received numerous awards and scholarships including the Anne Bellam Scholarship, Arts & Cultural Blues Awards, and the 2011 Pettman/ROSL International Chamber Music Scholarship. As a collaborative pianist, she has performed in venues across Europe including the Edinburgh Fringe and the Musikverein, and has been involved in masterclasses led by international talents, including mezzo-soprano Lucy Schauer (USA) and oboist Gordon Hunt (UK). Gemma has built a strong connection with the local music scene and is regularly seen accompanying at Opera Factory, Takapuna Grammar School, and the University of Auckland School of Music. Performance highlights include: World premiere of Helen Bowater's Rangitoto for solo piano, Austrian premiere of David Hamilton's Luz Ultima for triple choir and piano, and collaboration with Scottish writer Janice Galloway for the 2013 Auckland Writers Festival. Gemma is also the recipient of the first Pettman/DARE Scholarship in Music Education, which resulted in an internship with Opera North in Leeds.



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

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Thanks to all who have paid their subscription renewal promptly. If you're unsure whether you've paid already, you can check the address label on the envelope containing your posted newsletter. If the address label has an asterisk (*) against your name, then it means we haven't received or recorded your payment. Any queries, please email: membership@danishsociety.org.nz or treasurer@danishsociety.org.nz

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome our new members:

Gina & Nicolas Rossi family
Nicolai & Paola Pedersen family
Jacob & Katrina Smidt family
Rass Tolstrup

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Thanks to everyone who took the time to fill out the membership survey in the last newsletter.

Any input is always welcome and we are hoping to see a lot of active members throughout the year. It is our members that make the club a good and fun place to be.

HYGGE CLUB

The Hyggeklub will start up again on the second Thursday of the month (see more under Events) Anyone keen to 'hygge' is welcome to come along. At the end of last year there were about 12 regulars (male and female!), so while we don't want the group to become too big, there's still plenty of room to expand without losing the hygge. Bring your knitting, a board game, your guitar or whatever you feel belongs at a hyggelig evening among friends. We take turns at making coffee/tea and bringing (often home-made, but not necessarily) cake. So why not give it a go?! We'd love to see you, and if the day doesn't suit, let us know! There may be enough interest for another group meeting on another day.

VALHALLA BALLOT SYSTEM

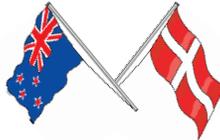
Please note that there will be a ballot system for Valhalla for the Christmas week 2017 as well as New Years 2017.

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



EVENTS

GARDENING CLUB 1ST OF APRIL

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 first Saturday morning of each month. 9.30am to midday. All welcome

Dates

4th February
4th March
1st April
6th May
3rd June
1st July
5th August
2nd September
7th October
4th November
2nd December



Contact Pam Logan for more information.
Phone 480-9883 or pam.richardlogan@gmail.com

LECTURE ON SIRIUS 26TH OF APRIL

The Wednesday Morning Group will be presenting a lecture on the 26th April about the Sirius Sled Patrol in Greenland. The patrol was activated in 1941 and saw combat during The Second World War. It is the smallest unit of the Danish Special Forces and members have to pass a 5 month selection course before being accepted. Crown Prince Frederik was a member of the Sirius Sled Patrol after his service with the Royal Danish Navy.



The presenter will be Colonel (R) Graeme Wilson ONZM,ED. It will start at 11am, coffee and tea will be available both before and after the presentation. Remember to bring your lunch and invite friends as well.

See you on the 26th April at Danish House.

Contact Carlo Mikkelsen for more information
Phone 377-6322 or carlonamvet@xtra.co.nz

MEET THE DANISH CONSUL 22ND OF MARCH



Meet Inger Mortensen, Royal Danish Consul General.

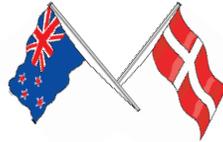
Inger will speak of her background in Denmark, migration to New Zealand and her official role as Consul and what it means to her.

See you on the 22nd of March at 10.30am for the Wednesday Morning Meeting.

HYGGE KLUB 9TH OF MARCH

The Hyggeklub will start up again on the 9 March, and anyone keen to 'hygge' is welcome to come along. Bring your knitting, a board game, your guitar or whatever you feel belongs at a hyggelig evening among friends.

See you on the 9th of March at 7.30pm
Just turn up or ring Helle for more info: 478-7016.



EVENTS

MOVIE NIGHT 17TH OF MARCH

Come along for the first movie of the year:
“Der Kommer En Dag” / “The Day Will Come”

Drama from 2016

Just won “the years best movie 2016” at The Robert prices in February in Copenhagen

Synopsis ‘Der kommer en dag’ is a movie about an orphanage where violence and humiliations is a part of the everyday life. The history is based on real stories from a boy home called ‘godhavn’, where lots of boys were victims of violent and sexual abuse and medical experiments.

See you on the 17th of March at 7.30pm at The Danish House for coffee, cake and hygge

SAVE THE DATE UPCOMING EVENTS

- 4th of March Gardening Club
- 5th of March Open House & Ballot for Valhalla
- 9th of March Hyggeklub
- 14th of March Folkdance
- 15th of March Cardplayers
- 17th of March Movie Night
- 22nd of March Meet the Danish Consulate
- 28th of March Folkdance
- 1st of April Gardening Club
- 26th of April Lecture on Sirius

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

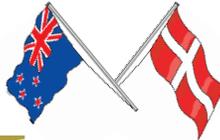
Meet fourth Wednesday of the month from March to October at 10.30am
Fran & Graham Wright 09 575 8027

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



INFO

THE DANISH SOCIETY INC.

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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 March. All contributions welcome - in English or Danish (with a short summary in English).

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

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

editor@danishsociety.org.nz

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