



THE DANISH • SOCIETY NEWS



Sankt Hans at Valhalla

Saturday 24th June, 2023



As a new initiative the Danish Society will celebrate Sankt Hans at Valhalla this year. If you have not been to Valhalla this is the perfect opportunity – more information here: <https://danishsociety.org.nz/valhalla/>

Valhalla is a perfect venue for our Sankt Hans bonfire as it set on 7 hectares of land near Goat Island a leisurely drive from Auckland. This event is open for both members and non-members - come and experience one of the most magical events on the Danish calendar for both kids and adults.

Agenda for the day

- 2.00pm** – Arrive at Valhalla any time after 2pm to enjoy the site (including two beaches and bush-walks) and help make the witch for the bonfire
- 5.00pm** – Gløgg and Hot Chocolate is served
- 5.30pm** – Bonfire is lit followed by a speech and song
- 6.00pm** – Dampers on a stick & Hotdogs available
- 7.30pm** – End

Tickets are \$10 per person (covers Gløgg/Hot Chocolate and Dampers)

As a fundraiser for Valhalla, we will also be selling traditional Danish Hotdogs for \$6 so you do not have to worry about dinner!

Single room hire is available for members participating in Sankt Hans. If you would like to stay for

the weekend 23-25th June please email valhalla@danishsociety.org.nz to book a room (first come first served).

Should you need transportation up to Valhalla, we might be able to find you a ride with other participating members please contact Jacob to discuss at president@danishsociety.org.nz

Bookings for the Sankt Hans event are essential so please put in your calendar now and RSVP by 10 June to events@danishsociety.org.nz

With the support of members this will be a day to remember!

Read more about the history of the Sanks Hans Celebration inside this newsletter.

We need you!

Events Sub-committee



Contact events@danishsociety.org.nz if you can spare some time and be part of a fun group to help organize events. Any help is appreciated.

We have a team of dedicated helpers who tirelessly put up their hand every time but we need new people too.

The more volunteers we can call on, the better it will be for our club!



Sankt Hans Celebration



In Denmark, the solstice is tied to the feast of Saint John the Baptist, known in Denmark as Sankt Hans ("Hans" being the diminutive for Johannes, or John), who was born on June 24th.

The meaning of the summer solstice has varied through time: the Viking visited water wells and held bonfires to ward off evil spirits. In medieval times, curative herbs were gathered for the year.

The bonfire tradition continues to this day. In the 1920's, people began affixing a straw witch to the top of the fire to remember the witch burning of the 16th and 17th centuries. The story goes: when the witch is burnt, she flies to Bloksbjerg, Germany, where a witch-gathering was believed to be held.

Speeches are often followed by singing. Though church hymns were previously sung, in 1885 "Vi Elsker Vort Land" (We Love Our Country) by Holger Drachmann became the patriotic anthem of the holiday and is still sung today.

Sankt Hans Aften, is one of the highlights of the Danish calendar. Because Sankt Hans is at midsummer, the power of nature is at its highest according to folklore, giving the connection between Sankt Hans and magic.

May Movie Night!

Friday 19th May at 7.30pm

Meter i sekundet (2023)



We have a premier movie in May. Most seen movie by a record high number in Denmark this year.

Comedy. Directed by Hella Joof 2023

Marie reluctantly moves from Copenhagen to rural Velling because the love of her life, Rasmus, has taken a job as a teacher at a college. While Rasmus is quickly sucked into the life of the college, meeting Velling is a culture shock for Marie.

No English subtitles!!

Served with coffee, cake and hyggeligt selskab.

Everyone welcome: Members \$8.

Non-members \$10

Quick Check Calendar

MAY

Sun 7th – Open House, 2-4pm

Fri 19th – Film evening, 7.30pm

JUNE

Sun 4th – Open House, 2-4pm

Sat 10th – Frank Hvam, beer tasting, smørrebrød (event in Danish), 5-10pm

Fri 16th – Film evening, 7.30pm

Sat 24th – Sankt Hans at Valhalla (see full ad)

JULY

Sun 2nd – Open House, 2-4pm

Fri 21st – Film evening, 7.30pm

Sun 30th – Lunch - Smørrebrød, 1pm

AUGUST

Sun 6th – Open House, 2-4pm

Fri 11th/Sat 12th – Winter Warm Up, Folk Dancers

Fri 18th – Film evening, 7.30pm

Sat 26th – Bingo, 2-4pm



**THANK
YOU!**

Thanks!

Many thanks to The Danish Society for the lovely flowers I recently received for my birthday.

They were a lovely surprise.

Thanks also to courier Kirsten who made a special trip to deliver them!

Donna Barrett

Thank you!

Thank you so much for the lovely surprise on my 70th birthday.

It made the day feel even more special.

Mette Jaegersborg

Open House

Sunday 7th May, 2pm-4pm

Complimentary coffee and tea will be served.

All welcome - no need to book.

Frank Hvam / Beer tasting / Smørrebrød

Saturday 10th June, 2023 - 5pm-10pm



This event will be held in Danish.

One of Denmark's funniest comedians is spending a year in New Zealand. Frank Hvam (Klovn, Casper & Mandrilaftalen, Langt fra Las Vegas) has agreed to pay us a visit for a 15-20 mins talk followed by a Q&A session.

Prior to this, Søren Eriksen from 8-Wired will take us through a beer tasting. If you've been to one of these previously, you'll know they'll never disappoint.

And to top it off, our president Jacob (Danish Delicacy) will cater for us with his delicious smørrebrød.

What a night!!! Limited number of tickets available, so book now to avoid disappointment!

Tickets \$60 for members and non-members.

To book, email editor@danishsociety.org.nz or text on 027 4988 933.

REGULAR EVENTS

CARDPLAYERS

They meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month - 11am to 3pm.

Contact: Paul Marquart (09) 528 8119

FOLKDANCERS

They meet at 7.30pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month.

Contact: Finn Nielsen (09) 625-5533

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

These are held on the second Monday of each month at 7.30pm.

OPEN HOUSE

An Open House is held on the first Sunday of each month from 2-4pm.

Complimentary coffee and tea will be served
All welcome - no need to book.



Valhalla Working Bee

April results and call for helpers for May

The helpers at the first working bee were a hard-working crew who managed quite a bit as you can see from the before and after photos.

Of course, there's also all the work which the photos don't show but that helps keep Valhalla running smoothly.

So, next time you're at Valhalla and you can walk the dry paths easily, the lights in the kitchen all work, there's firewood in the shed and shade over the patio – someone at a working bee did this.

A big thank you to Adrian & Mia and their friends Jeremy, Sarah and Celina, Steve & Birgitte Harris, Jack Jansen, Peter, Patricia & family, Emma, Andrew & kids, Antony, Michael.

The next working bee is 20-21. of May. At the mo-

ment of writing this there are still a couple of rooms available for those wanting to stay overnight.

Saturday workers are always most welcome.

The exact list of jobs is not ready yet, but we can use many hands to:

Continue stacking fire wood, clearing cut branches from sides of the lagoon beach track and dragging them out of sight, clearing tracks heading up to the water tank on ocean beach side, removing fallen branches and raking off leaves from paths, of course looking for weeds as usual.

At some point there might also be repair work on the jetty, and depending on the arrival of another free load of logs there might be cutting up logs and splitting firewood.

**Before****Before****Before****Before****After****After****After****After**



Our Awesome Autumn Party!

Our first party of the year was held on Saturday 29th April.

It was great to see so many familiar faces and also welcome new members.

We were treated once again to delicious smørrebrød, prepared by Danish Delicacy Catering.

A highlight of the evening were the mu-

sicians, 'The Fantasticoes'. They entertained us with a nice mix of easy listening and dance music.

Member, Jasper Kane surprised us with his wonderful piano skills.

A huge thanks to all those who helped make this such an enjoyable evening.

Annette Jorna





INFO

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Facebook/danishsocietynz/

Bank a/c: ASB 12-3036-0671539-00

Subscription (2022/23 financial year)

Youth Club (0-17)..... Gratis
Student Member (18-24).....\$10/pp
Full Member (25-64).....\$65/pp
Senior Member (65-89)\$55/pp
Senior+ Member (90+)Gratis
Family Discount (off total)....\$30/pc

Financial year runs from 01/10/
2022 to 30/09/2023

Contribute to our magazine

The next magazine deadline is
20 May. The magazine can
also be read (in full colour)
online at
www.danishsociety.org.nz
Mail: editor@danishsociety.org.nz
Articles can be either in Danish or
English.

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09 579 4490

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dkchurchsubs@gmail.com

Danish lessons

If you are interested in learning
Danish, (beginner and intermediate
levels) then this is for you.

Contact by email
danishlessons@danishsociety.org.nz