ASSOCIATION RECOGNISES ONE OF ITS PAST PRESIDENTS

The Committee recently considered a member’s proposal to formally acknowledge the service of long-serving past presidents of the Association. The decision was made to grant the award of life membership of the Association to any president who has served for a period of three or more years accumulated service.

As a result of this decision, at the Over 50s Christmas Lunch in December, the honour of Life Member was conferred on Kåre Bjelland, who served as president of the Association from 1988 to 1990 and again from 1992 to 1993.

During his time as a member and president of the Association, Kåre used his practical skills as a carpenter, making tables and other items for the Association as well as providing much practical help around Nordic House when it was first purchased. In addition, he was one of the main organisers of the Association’s legendary Dinner Dances, spending much time planning these events and helping to provide the wonderful dinners that were associated with these events.

The announcement of Kåre’s award was met with great approval by all present at the Over 50 Christmas Lunch. On behalf of the Association and all its members, we acknowledge Kåre for all his work and
effort over many years and congratulate him on this great honour.

SCANDINAVIAN NEWS

QUEEN MARGRETHE MARKS 40 YEARS ON DENMARK’S THRONE

A weekend celebration to mark Queen Margrethe II of Denmark's 40th jubilee on 14 January drew to a close with a gala dinner for European royalty at Christiansborg Castle in Copenhagen. The weekend's events included a church service on Sunday morning, a City Hall reception on Saturday preceded by a horse-drawn carriage ride through the streets of the city and followed by a jubilee concert at the Royal Concert Hall.

Tens of thousands of flag-waving Danes turned out Saturday to cheer the popular 71-year-old Queen, known familiarly to them as "Daisy." She rode in an 1840 horse-drawn carriage, escorted by mounted Hussars, from Amalienborg Castle to a reception at City Hall.

Among the royalty and heads of state attending the festivities were King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden, King Harald and Queen Sonja of Norway, the deposed monarch of Greece and family and Icelandic President Olafur Ragnar Grimsson.

The Queen, who can trace her lineage back to the Vikings, became Queen on 14 January 1972 after the death of her father, King Frederik IX.

From CBS News 16 January 2012

NEW ART MUSEUM RISING IN OSLO

After years of planning and construction, the new home for Oslo’s Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art now seems to suddenly be rising quickly on the capital’s western waterfront. The museum building and an adjacent office building behind it were designed by Italian architect Renzo Piano and are due to open in 2012.

The privately owned museum, which initially opened in the historic area behind Akershus in 1993, has a roof that appears to slope into the sea. The Tjuvholmen complex features offices, some of Oslo’s most expensive residential units, restaurants and art galleries, along with a new landmark tower that is still under
construction.

The Astrup Fearnley Museum will offer changing international exhibitions and a permanent collection of Norwegian and international contemporary art. The building behind it will soon house the Oslo law firm BA-HR. Just behind it is the framework for what’s billed as being a new five-star hotel. Tjuvholmen is due for completion in 2014.

From Norway International Network 26 November 2011

DENMARK TAKES ON EU PRESIDENCY

For the first half of this year, it is Denmark’s turn to take responsibility of the rotating presidency of the European Union.

On 1 January 2012, the rotating duty went from Poland to the Scandinavian country of 5.6 million people, whose political scene is currently controlled by one of the few left-leaning governments in Europe. Experts say the responsibility comes with heavy baggage, including the ongoing and all-important euro debt crisis.

Euro powerhouses Germany and France are still being seen as leaders in debt crisis management, with the importance of the rotating EU presidency having dwindled with the creation of the European Council presidency via the Lisbon Treaty.

Ritzau news agency said in an article released on Sunday, “Politically, Denmark will have little impact on the aspect of European co-operation that, for now, is mainly attracting attention.” It went on to say, “Formally, Denmark cannot and should not resolve the euro crisis.”

However, Ritzau has praised efforts by Helle Thorning-Schmidt, Denmark’s Prime Minister, and Nicolai Wammen, the Danish European affairs minister, to help mediate issues dividing the 17 countries of the eurozone with the full 27-nation bloc.

Helle Thorning-Schmidt said in a statement on New Year’s Day, “We will get involved so European countries, together, can control the economy and return to healthy economic growth. That is what is needed to recreate jobs in Europe,” AFP reports.

From IceNews www.icenews.is 4 January 2012

Thank You

Miss Maud’s Swedish Restaurant
and
SBS Radio

For your kind donation of prizes for the annual Christmas Party raffle

Supporting the Scandinavian Association of WA
NORTHERN LIGHTS OVER SWEDEN

Sweden's far north was treated to a spectacular northern lights display during January as a massive storm of solar energy bombarded the earth's atmosphere. The solar storm, billed as the strongest in six years, treated stargazers to an incredible display of pulsating colours that ebbed and flowed across the night skies.

"It was the biggest northern lights I've seen in the five-six years that I've worked here" Ice Hotel tour guide Andreas Hermansson told the Associated Press (AP) news agency.

According to Hans Norén, head of the Swedish Tourist Association's Abisko Mountain Station, bookings at the station have more than doubled since last year as increasing numbers of tourists venture past the Arctic Circle to catch a glimpse of the northern lights. "December 2011, which kicked off the start of the northern lights season, was the best ever," he told Sveriges Radio (SR).

And things are likely to only get better, as scientists predicting a peak in an 11-year cycle of solar eruptions during 2013

From The Local  www.thelocal.se  26 January 2012

FROM THE COMMITTEE

Although not rushed off our feet following the recent calls for more volunteers to help run the Association, we are delighted to welcome two new members to the Committee. Geraldine Pedersen and Charlotte Falk have both put their hands up to help out and we all look forward to working with them both for the rest of 2011 to 2012.

Again we remind all members that the events that you so enjoy do not just happen without thought and planning. But sadly, it is always left to the same few people each time to contribute. If every member helped out at just one social event each year, it would hugely relieve the work load on these same few people. Our weekly Saturday roster still remains largely understaffed so please decide what you can contribute and come forward to assist your very willing committee members.

The lead up to Christmas proved, as always, to be a busy social whirl for many members. The annual Christmas barbecue was again well patronised with around 38 people enjoying the chance to catch up over some wonderfully good food. The weather was kind to us too so people could enjoy the evening in the cool of Nordic House garden. Thank you to Susanne and Palle for helping out with preparations, shopping and the cooking and thanks also to everyone else who brought food and helped make the evening so enjoyable.

The Association set up a table at the Austrian Club’s Christmas Market in late November, selling paper hearts and stars that had been made over the previous months by members of our Association. Sales, however, were very low, but Rita and Marianne enjoyed taking part in the festive atmosphere.
The Over 50’s Christmas Lunch was its usual resounding success making a profit of around $500 including raffle income. More than 30 people attended and once again, the “Bring a Plate“ format worked very well. During the lunch, Kaare and Aasne Bjelland were surprised with the announcement of Life Membership of the Association and this made the day a very happy event. Many thanks go to Edith, Tove and their helpers for again running a very special occasion.

The Christmas Party and Lucia Parade again brought the magic of a Scandinavian Christmas to Perth and everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed the evening. Many thanks to Bjørn and Margaret Hovland who officiated at their 15th and final Lucia and a big welcome and thanks to Yvonne Wiltshire who has taken over the organisation of the Lucia event.

Thanks also to the many people who helped make the event a success: to David for providing such a wonderful Christmas tree, to Rita on the door, to Ed, Robert, Kat, Per and Tiffany for setting up and their general help throughout the afternoon and evening, to Karen and Edith for entertainment and special thanks to Thomas who stepped in as Father Christmas in thongs and Santa suit. In the kitchen, Hella and her granddaughter Ingrid were in charge of the hot dogs and they did a great job too.

It takes a large number of people for an event like this to happen and we thank all our helpers for making this year’s Party and Parade such a successful event.

Miss Mauds Swedish Restaurant and SBS Radio never fail in their support of our Association and we acknowledge and thank them both for providing prizes for the evening’s raffle. We encourage you to show your support and thanks to both of these generous sponsors.

The lead up to Christmas culminated with the annual Christmas Church Service at St Johns Lutheran Church in Northbridge where over 80 people in
church attended the service given by Denmark’s priest in Australia, Jesper Engholm. Most people stayed afterwards to enjoy the coffee and chat and of course to buy the Danish sweets Jesper had brought to Perth for sale. There was also the chance to farewell Jesper who has now finished his time in Australia and has already begun work in his new parish of Valby in Denmark.

Despite numerous appeals for prompt membership payment for the current financial year, the Committee regrets to advise that 18 members have not responded to this call and have sadly been removed from our Membership listing as of 31 December 2011.

Arrangements for the first social events of the year are well underway. Fastelavn will take place towards the end of February and late in March will be our first social barbecue of the year at Nordic House. We hope that you will join us for some of the coming events and welcome you also to come along to the busy bee planned for late April.

With best regards

The Committee
Join us on 31 March at Nordic House for our first social barbecue with good food and tea/coffee. Cost is $20 for members and $25 for non members. BYO beer and wine whilst soft drinks can be bought for $1. Please book with either Marianne on 9295 4248 or with Hella 9293 1149 no later than 3 days before the barbecue.

The Over 50s Lunch will be held on 27 April at Nordic House at 12 noon. It will again be “Bring a Plate” format. Cost for lunch will be $10 if you bring some food and $17 if you don’t. Please book with Tove on 9337 3215 or Edith on 9335 1768. Any donations for the raffle will be greatly appreciated.

If anyone knows of a teacher of Norwegian language, please contact Marianne Attfield on 9295 4248.

We have an interested family who would like to maintain their Norwegian language following a 5 year stay in Norway.

Danish lessons for children aged 12 years or under are available from Anne Nielsen, a qualified school teacher. If you are interested, contact Anne on 0449238346 or by email at anneroland@hotmail.com

Birthday wishes are sent to Edith Christensen on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

Best wishes to Barry Taylor on the celebration of his 60th birthday.

Greetings to all members from Alec Percsy who has now settled into his new home in Lovikka Sweden. Whilst the summer was wet and the winter has been very cold, Alec has been enjoying the scenery and the location where he is living as well as...
the friendship and help he has received from people in the area. Alec unfortunately has not yet been able to secure employment and is still fighting his way through the Swedish bureaucracy to fully establish himself in his new home.

Alec sends his best regards to all his friends at Nordic House.

The DVD *The Protectors*, kindly donated by SBS Radio as a prize for the Christmas Party raffle, can be purchase in stores for $50.

**BUSY BEE**

Another busy bee will be held at Nordic House on Sunday 22 April from 9.00am to undertake general maintenance and cleanup around the House.

Please contact Henry Jensen on 9452 0854 or h.jensen@bigpond.com to advise of your availability to help out on this day.

If anyone wishes to bring some cake or salad to share, you are most welcome.

**NORDIC HOUSE ROSTER**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Edith Christensen</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Kari-Mette Taylor</td>
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<td>March</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Rita Wilson</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Nina Herrero</td>
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<td></td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Kari-Mette Taylor</td>
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There are still vacancies for the Saturday afternoon roster at Nordic House. If you can help out as host, please put your name on the list in the kitchen or ring one of your committee members to let them know that you can help out.

We look forward to seeing some new faces helping out on Saturday afternoons.

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**SCANDINAVIAN ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM**

Membership of the Scandinavian Association of Western Australia is open to all persons and families with a Scandinavian background, and anyone with an interest in Scandinavia. The Association organises cultural and social events throughout the year and members usually receive a discount at all functions. Membership is from 1 July until 30 June each year.

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<th>Type of membership fees</th>
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Name(s): __________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________

Suburb: _________________________________ Postcode: ____________

Phone (home): ______________________

Email: _____________________________

Nationality: _________________________

Please find enclosed: Cheque / Credit Card / Bank Transfer / Cash of $ _____

Bank transfer: BSB – 086 699, Acc No – 688807549, Acc Name – Scandinavian Association of WA.

Remember to include your name and what you are paying for, i.e. Kurt Nielsen family membership and send an e-mail to: scanclub.wa@gmail.com to notify that you have paid.

Please make cheques payable to the Scandinavian Association of WA and post payment to the Membership Secretary: Rita Wilson, 18A Rolland Court, Leeming WA 6149

**Card Holder Information**

Card Type: Bankcard / Visa / Mastercard (Please circle) Amount ____________

Cardholder’s Name: __________________________ Expiry Date: __ / __

Signature: __________________________________________

The existence of the Association is dependent on your annual contribution.
IF WE’RE NOT FLYING THERE, IT’S PROBABLY NOT IN SCANDINAVIA

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*Source: Flightstats.com 2009 and 2010
## SOME USEFUL ADDRESSES AND CONTACTS

### SCANDINAVIAN EMBASSIES IN AUSTRALIA

**DENMARK**
Embassy of Denmark  
15 Hunter Street  
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600  
Phone: (02) 6270 5333  
http://oceanien.um.dk/en

**FINLAND**
Embassy of Finland  
10 Darwin Avenue  
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600  
Phone: (02) 6273 3800  
www.finland.org.au

**ICELAND**
Honorary Consulate General for Iceland  
16 Hann Street  
KINGSTON ACT 2604  
Phone: (02) 6295 6819

**NORWAY**
Royal Norwegian Embassy  
17 Hunter Street  
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600  
Phone: (02) 6273 3444  
www.norway.org.au

**SWEDEN**
Embassy of Sweden  
5 Turrana Street  
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600  
Phone: (02) 6270 2700  
www.swedenabroad.com/canberra

### SCANDINAVIAN CONSULATES IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**DENMARK**
Mr Henning Jacobsen  
1 Pensioner Guard Road  
NORTH FREMANTLE WA 6159  
Phone: 9433 9100  Fax: 9433 9197  
henning.jacobsen@maersk.com

**FINLAND**
Mr David Greatwich  
5 Alford Rise  
LEEMING WA 6149  
Phone: 0433 082 284  
davidmg@westnet.com.au

**ICELAND**
No representative in WA

**NORWAY**
Mr Rob B Lynn  
20 Mews Road  
FREMANTLE WA 6160  
Phone: 9335 9155  
robl@wiltrading.com.au

**SWEDEN**
Mr Bruce Morgan  
Unit 4, 105 Broadway  
NEDLANDS WA 6009  
Phone: 9223 0580  Fax: 9223 0588  
chperth@iinet.net.au
# COMMITTEE 2011/2012

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY</strong></th>
<th><strong>MEMBERSHIP</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Both Vacant</td>
<td>Rita Wilson ph: 9332 5247</td>
<td>Hella Hackett ph: 9293 1149</td>
<td>Nola Cray ph: 9362 6297</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:nawilson@cygnus.uwa.edu.au">nawilson@cygnus.uwa.edu.au</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:hhackett@smartchat.net.au">hhackett@smartchat.net.au</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Øystein Albertsen ph: 9379 2337</td>
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<td>Marianne Attfield ph: 9295 4248</td>
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<td>Charlotte Falk ph: 0405 730 252</td>
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<td>Geraldine Pedersen ph: 0400 785 871</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marianne Attfield ph: 9295 4248</td>
<td>Neil Wilson ph: 9332 5247</td>
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<td>email: <a href="mailto:attfield@iinet.net.au">attfield@iinet.net.au</a></td>
<td>email: <a href="mailto:nawilson@cygnus.uwa.edu.au">nawilson@cygnus.uwa.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Jensen ph: 9452 0854</td>
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<td>email: <a href="mailto:h.jensen@bigpond.com">h.jensen@bigpond.com</a></td>
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<td>Karin and Tim Cooper email: <a href="mailto:kulstrup@gmail.com">kulstrup@gmail.com</a></td>
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