



# **INTERNATIONAL FORUM**

**OSLO, NORWAY**

## **January NEWSLETTER 01/2016**

<b>2</b>	<b>Forum Diary</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>President's Page</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>New Members</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Coming Events</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Activities</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Reports</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Around Oslo</b>

**Number 406**



# INTERNATIONAL FORUM

P.O. BOX 1505 VIKA, 0117 OSLO, NORWAY  
Org.nr. 994 566 806

Visiting

**address** Arbins gt. 2, Victoria Passasjen, 5th floor  
**Telephone** 22 83 62 90  
**Office email** [int.forum@online.no](mailto:int.forum@online.no)  
**Office hours** Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10 - 12  
**Neighbourhood Contact** Office Staff  
**Auditor** Karin Skoglund  
**Office Administrator** Gunvor Klaveness  
**Office Staff** Sigrid Langebrekke, Vicky Alme, Anita Solheim, Kirsten Wensell

**Website** [www.iforum.no](http://www.iforum.no) (temporarily unavailable)

---

## Forum Diary

DATE	EVENT	TIME	PAGE
January 14	Visit to the Vigeland Museum	11:45	Dec.NL
January 21	Woodcuts at the National Gallery	11:45	Dec.NL
February 1	Monthly Meeting – Natteravnene	18:45 for 19:00	4
February 11	Take it personally	11:45 for 12	7
February 16	The Mini Bottle Gallery	11:45 for 12:00	5

---

## From the President



Dear members,

I wish you all a very happy and prosperous New Year, and I extend my wishes from Christmas for a better tomorrow.

January is a month filled with hope, new beginnings, and new resolutions – it is just like a clean page. However, let us not take on too much, but be happy for any small change that is for the better.

The International Forum can promise you an eventful spring season, and January starts off with visits to both the Vigeland Museum and the National Gallery.

And may I just remind you that the Monthly Meetings are the backbone of International Forum, so please join us at Vinderen once a month for an interesting evening.

Let us make the most out of January; put on your skis, go for a sleigh ride, or simply enjoy the wonderful winter landscape!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Berit Lindstrøm". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Berit Lindstrøm  
President

## *COMING EVENTS*

### **FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING**

#### **Natteravnene**



“Ravens” is a non-profit organisation composed of parents and other volunteers who patrol the streets of Oslo at night during weekends to help young people who are in trouble or unable to take care of themselves. Inspired by a similar Swedish association, the group was founded in 1990, when people started to realize that certain parts of central Oslo had become too unsafe during night-time. The organisation has since established other groups all over Norway.

The main idea is to have sober adults on the streets during weekend nights. Their main mission is to be visible and available for the public and especially young people to help prevent violence and anti-social behaviour. The group works in close cooperation with the police and is trained in first aid and how to handle the many conflict-filled situations that may arise.



Mrs. Gry-Jannicke Nordby, the organisation’s coordinator has worked for the group since August 2015. She will talk to us about the organisation, the volunteers and the (predominantly) young people it seeks to help.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

### **The Mini Bottle Gallery**

Christian Ringnes was the speaker the May Monthly Meeting last year. Following the successful turnout for his talk, the Special Events Committee now has the pleasure of inviting our members to a special visit to the Mini Bottle Gallery, of which Christian Ringnes is the founder. His interest for miniature bottles probably stems from his ancestors Amund and Ellef Ringnes who founded the Ringnes Brewery in 1877.



At the age of seven, Mr. Ringnes started collecting miniature bottles and registered the collection over the years in his 'Mini Bottle Book'.

In 1996, Christian Ringnes took the step from hobby to professional collector and realized his dream of showing his collection to the public. He bought Kirkegata 10 in the heart of the museum district of Oslo. He started developing his project in the spring of 2000, and the doors of the museum opened in May 2003. It is not just a museum: you may also book a room for some truly fine dining!

Today, the Mini Bottle Gallery has the biggest collection of miniature bottles in the world. The collection contains some 53,000 bottles, 12,500 of which are exhibited over 1500 m<sup>2</sup> and three floors.



We are looking forward to exploring his collection with a guide and will end the tour with a taste of sparkling bubbles.

**DATE/TIME:** Tuesday, **February 16** at 11:45 for 12:00

*For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

## ART COMMITTEE

### *Take it personally*

The Art Committee has the pleasure of inviting our members to the Museum of Cultural History (Kulturhistorisk Museum). *Take it personally* is a project in which we may study people's relationship with personal adornment across time and space. We shall be guided through a fascinating exhibition of archeologic and ethnographic collections full of personal objects worn on a daily basis or for festivals as well as for different religious and traditional rituals.



The union of the body and adornment creates a force that in some cultures connects to magic. A great deal of cultural history is linked to personal ornamentation. Who did one decorate oneself for? And why?

Just like today, how a person adorned himself or herself gave an important message about the person and pointed out the similarities or the differences between that person and others. Adornment tells both an economic and a cultural tale. It can also convey a personal as well as a collective message.

Welcome to the world of adornment!

DATE/TIME: Thursday, **February 11** at 11:45 for 12:00

*For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

# *A C T I V I T I E S*

## **Indoor Golf Group**

The Indoor Golf Group has started up again. We meet every Thursday at 10:30, usually starting with a coffee. We have a special price for balls and private lessons can be arranged. All levels of golfers are welcome – also those who are beginners - so do come along!

**TIME:**                    **Thursdays at 10:30**

*For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

## **Monthly Bridge**

The monthly Wednesday Bridge in February will take place on February 17 at 10:30.

**Inger Støtvig**

*For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

## *R E P O R T S*

### **THE CHRISTMAS MONTHLY MEETING**



This year the house was indeed filled to capacity, as 60 ladies had signed up for the Christmas meeting. The ladies seemed to enjoy the good food from Elvebredden, presented by Ruth Klungsøyr. We all joined in the singing, led by members of the Forum Choir and pianist Mrs. Synnøve Lockert. Our special guest was Laila Bokhari, who had brought her adorable

little daughter Stella, the youngest participant.



As usual, we held a raffle, the proceeds of which went to Natteravnene, a non-profit organisation run by parents and other responsible and sober volunteers who patrol the streets of Oslo at night during weekends. A representative of the organisation will speak about their work at the February Monthly Meeting.

We thank all of you who contributed with raffle gifts and all of you who bought tickets. In all, we were able to give Natteravnene NOK 9000.- . A new record!



The



Monthly Meeting Committee also presented President Berit Lindstrøm with flowers, as a show of appreciation for the work she puts in for the Forum.

I also wish to thank the fabulous members of the Monthly Meeting Committee. You are such good company and you always deliver!

On behalf of the Monthly Meeting Committee, I wish you all a peaceful and prosperous new year!

Elizabeth S. Rasmussen

## *A R O U N D O S L O*

### **Sledging down the Korketrekkeren**

Monday to Friday from 10:00 to 21:00, Saturdays from 09:00 to 21:00, and Sundays from 10:00 to 18:00.



For those of you who have children or grandchildren, this is a fun activity if you do not ski. Korketrekkeren is a 2000-meter long slope, constructed at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It runs from Frognerstøien to Midtstuen T-bane, which will take you back up for a new go.

The run is free. You may either bring your own sledge or toboggan, or rent one for

NOK 80.- to 100. You can buy a 24-hour pass for the T-bane.

On Saturdays and Sundays, up to 4 children (4 – 15 years) may travel free if accompanied by an adult with a valid ticket.

The Sledging Association also organises courses. For more information, contact the association by email: [info@akeforeningen.no](mailto:info@akeforeningen.no) or look up: [www.akeforeningen.no](http://www.akeforeningen.no).

Issued by the Board of the International Forum

Dispatch: Dispatch team

Editor and Layout: Elizabeth Rasmussen and Editorial Team

Editorial Team: Elspeth Walseth, Patricia Blackwell, and Marguerite Ugland

President: Berit Lindstrøm

The Editor and the Editorial Team reserve the right to edit all material.

Printed by Utenriksdepartementets Hustrykkeri.

January 14, 2016