



# **INTERNATIONAL FORUM**

**OSLO, NORWAY**

## **September NEWSLETTER 09/2016**

<b>2</b>	<b>Forum Diary</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>President's Page</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Last Membership Reminder</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>From the Web Editor</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>New Members</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Coming Events</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Activities</b>

**Number 413**



# 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  
**Office Administrator** Gunvor Klaveness  
**Office Staff** Vicky Alme, Lillan Akcora, Sigrid Langebrekke, May Scott, Kirsten Wensell  
**Neighbourhood Contact** Office Staff  
**Auditor** Karin Skoglund  
**Website** [www.iforum.no](http://www.iforum.no)

---

## Forum Diary

DATE	EVENT	TIME	PAGE
October 3	Ambassador Truls Hanevold on Bhutan	18:45	5
October 6	Japanomania in the North 1975 - 1918	13:45	7
October 20	The Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation	10:45	5

---

### Committee leaders:

ART COMMITTEE	Bee Ellingsen	mob. 907 33 874
MONTHLY MEETINGS	Laila Hægh	mob. 957 54 282
	Ruth Klungsøyr	mob. 411 43 039
SPECIAL EVENTS	Wenche Mohr	mob. 901 14 259

---

## From the President



Dear members,

The autumn season of the International Forum opened this year with a lecture about the Vikings in Great Britain and especially in Wales. From a very engaging lecturer, we learned not only about the places to which the Vikings travelled and the way they behaved, but also about what they left behind for modern society, such as the names of places, jury systems in different areas and most surprisingly, Multiple Sclerosis!

We had an interesting and engaging evening and I think that we all can look forward to the coming Monthly Meetings, thanks to the excellent work of the Monthly Meeting Committee!

I would also like to recommend that you all participate in some of the interesting events that the different Committees are organising. We are fortunate that the committees have such dedicated members, who are using their spare time to give us all opportunities to learn more about different subjects; to be able to meet together, for walks and other activities; or to enjoy different cultural experiences.

Let me also remind you of the new website that now is up and running – [www.iforum.no](http://www.iforum.no). Thanks to Patricia Blackwell (and her son!), we are now able to promote and introduce the Forum, with all its different events, on the Internet. Hopefully you all will use the website and inform others about it. Since the site has been developed quite recently, the Forum is interested in getting feedback from you. Those of you who have any ideas for further improvements or any other suggestions, please let us know.

And with this, I wish you all the best for September.

Best regards from

*Siri S. Frigaard*  
President

## FROM THE OFFICE

### The International Forum Website

Have you looked at our website lately? Just write [www.iforum.no](http://www.iforum.no) in your browser window and explore the different pages.

Click on *Menu*: choose *Events* to see an overview of the exciting programme in store for us during the coming months or *Menu*: choose *Activites* for a full list of which activities are on offer for this year 2016 – 2017.

Your input and feedback are most welcome - also any photos which you would like to share. You can simply click on *Menu*: choose *About* and write your comments in the **Leave a Reply** box at the bottom of the page. Alternatively send an email to [int.forum@online.no](mailto:int.forum@online.no) with **IF website** as the subject.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Patricia Blackwell  
Website Editor

## COMING EVENTS MONTHLY MEETING

### Bhutan, the last Shangri-La?

**Ambassador Truls Erik Hanevold** is a former diplomat who has served in a host of countries, including Finland, Israel, and Canada. He was ambassador to India from 1999 to 2003 and to Ireland from 2003 to 2008. He worked for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1971 and was the Director General of the Ministry from 1996 to 1999. Mr. Hanevold has a degree in Political Science.

**DATE/TIME:** Monday, **October 3** at **18:45** (for 19:00)

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

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### The Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation, NRK

The Special Events Committee has the pleasure of inviting you to join us on a guided tour of NRK, Norway's National Broadcasting Corporation, at Marienlyst, Oslo. This will be a special visit because, as you may have learnt from the media, NRK is planning to move from Marienlyst to new and modern studios elsewhere. The future site has yet to be decided on. This could therefore

be your last chance of visiting the iconic buildings, the oldest of which dates from 1938.

Our guide will take us on a historical journey through a modern media-house. On our way, we will see how they work in the TV studios, for example in “Dagsrevyen” (the main daily newscast), the various workshops and studios, and the famous collection of costumes which have been/are used in productions. We shall also visit NRK’s theatre with its sound-studios. The tour takes about one and a half hours and involves a certain amount of walking.



We meet up in the reception of the **Radiohuset**, the large white building at the top of the slope up from Bjørnstjerne Bjørnsons Plass. You will see the big clock on the wall at the right end of this building where the entrance and reception are located.

**DATE/TIME:** Thursday, **October 20**, no later than **10:45** for **11:00**.

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

# THE ART COMMITTEE

## Japanomania

The Art Committee has the pleasure of inviting you to the exhibition Japanomania in the North 1875 – 1918.

The first of its kind, this exhibition shows the wide-ranging influence Japanese art on Nordic art and design around 1900. The exhibition consists of two parts: at the Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, the attention is primarily on applied art; while at the National Gallery, the principal emphasis is fine art.

Japanese art and design had a profound influence in the Nordic countries during the final decades of the 19th century and well into the 20th. After Japan opened its borders in 1854, Japanese objects soon found their way into world exhibitions and famous department stores in Paris and London. It was in these metropolises, around 1860, that this East-Asian culture first had an impact. Internationally, the movement became known as Japonism, or the Anglo-Japanese style.

During the 1870s, interest in all things Japanese grew rapidly, becoming a veritable craze. Nordic artists who visited Paris and London in the 1880s – 90s also encountered this influence, often at major exhibitions of Japanese art.

By the 1880s, Japonism had reached the Nordic countries, both as a serious art form and as a popular cultural phenomenon.



of

on

of

in



Japanese art and design were seen as something new, fresh and exciting. The emphasis on asymmetry, simplification and stylisation – combined with a profound respect for the smallest of nature’s details – had a liberating effect on artists and designers, who increasingly wanted to consign older styles to history and create something new. Japonism

formed a prelude to Nordic modernism

The exhibition is a collaboration between Ateneum, Finland’s National Gallery in Helsinki, the National Gallery of Denmark in Copenhagen, and the Norwegian National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design.

See more at: <http://nasjonalmuseet.no/>

**DATE/TIME:** Thursday, **October 6** at **11:45** (for 12:00)

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

## ACTIVITIES

### **Forum Singers Choir: Sopranos wanted!**

The International Forum choir, the Forum Singers, is in need of more sopranos, especially mezzo sopranos. The mezzo sopranos sing a little lower than the sopranos, meaning that it is a voice that suits “mature ladies”! We practise once a fortnight on Wednesdays from 18:15 to 20:30 in Frogner kirkestue which is adjacent to Frogner church. We have a clever conductor, Eva Landro, who also sings in the prestigious “Norske Solistkor”. We have a varied repertoire and aim to give concerts twice a year.

So, if you enjoy singing and would like to join us, please contact the choir forewoman, Lydia Rostad: *For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

### **Norwegian Conversation (brush up your Norwegian)**

The only requirement is that participants have had a few Norwegian lessons and are prepared to have fun. We meet every fortnight (Fridays from 11:00 – 14:00) in private homes to give non-Norwegian speakers a chance to discuss daily matters with native speakers. We practice Norwegian in a relaxed and pleasant atmosphere. No fixed subjects, no homework. The hostess serves a light lunch and/or refreshments. Our first meeting this year took place on September 11.

If you are interested, please contact Trudy Brand-Jacobsen:

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

## **Duplicate Bridge**

This bridge group meets regularly at 10:00 on Mondays (except on official holidays) at the Ris Menighetshus (Peisestuen), Risbakken 20, 0374, Oslo. The number of players varies from 3 to 7 tables, and members sign up from week to week. We charge for the rental of the hall, and for coffee/tea and cookies on a seasonal basis or for each session. The simplest thing is to sign up along with a partner. However, there is usually someone who needs a partner on a certain Monday.

Come and try us out! Welcome! *For more information, please contact the IF Office.*

## **Monthly Wednesday Bridge**

The October Bridge will take place on the 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:30. The hostess is Inger Støtvig, and the address is Vestliveien 12, 0750 Oslo (Røa). We are a relaxed and friendly group, so do not hesitate to join us!

## **Standard Dance and Latin Dance (With Partner)**

**Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot, Viennese Waltz**

**Cha Cha Cha, Jive, Samba, Rumba**



**DATE/ TIME:** Every Tuesday from 13 September - 29  
November, 2016 (total 12 weeks): 19:00 - 20:30

**SIGN UP:** Vivian Hallaråker,

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



**Issued by the Board of the International Forum**

Dispatch:	Dispatch team
Editor and Layout:	Elizabeth Rasmussen and Editorial Team
Editorial Team:	Elspeth Walseth and Patricia Blackwell
President:	Siri Frigaard

The Editor and the Editorial Team reserve the right to edit all material.  
Printed by Utenriksdepartementets Hustrykkeri.  
September 14, 2016