



INTERNATIONAL FORUM

OSLO, NORWAY

August NEWSLETTER 08/2020

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Number 456



INTERNATIONAL FORUM

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Forum Diary

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Page</i>
September 7	Monthly Meeting – the Norwegian ‘Oil Fund’	18:45	4
September 10	Roseslottet – The story of the Occupation	11:00	6
September 19	Virtual Oslo Marathon	NA	7
September 22	Deichman Library	12:00	5

LAST MINUTE UNAVOIDABLE CANCELLATION

To avoid unnecessary delays at events due to waiting for members who do not turn up, please telephone the contact person directly. No-shows will be charged.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES

For the September *Newsletter* is Thursday, **August 27**. Please send your contribution to Elizabeth S. Rasmussen and to int.forum@online.no.

From the President



Dear Members,

We leave behind a disturbing spring and an undisturbed summer. We know not what autumn and winter will bring. For six months, the pandemic has dominated our minds, our activities and our movements. It continues to do so.

But life continues ... as it must, and as it will. Babies are born, work life adapts, and Zoom weddings take place. Adversity does not end activity. Human beings are inventive and resilient, like dandelions squeezing through the cracks of pavements to soak up the energy of life.

Perhaps more than ever, this summer made us realise the gap between the natural rhythms of life and the relentless pace of the digitized, globalised world we live in. The sound of lapping waves, chirping birds, rustling leaves and falling rain, in contrast to clacking keypads and the ceaseless pings of emails and text messages.

Six months into the pandemic, we still wonder when and how it will end. The normal that we once knew may be the 'World of Yesterday' to quote Austrian author Stefan Zweig's powerfully moving 1942 memoir. Perhaps there is no going back. There is only going forward to an evolving new normal. The English stage actor Simon McBurney said recently, 'We need perhaps to think about the world differently, think about a new beginning.'

As the Forum's new season begins, our activities resume thanks to the joie de vivre of our group leaders and members. The advice given by the health authorities about hygiene and social distancing must be followed. As for events, please read on. We will also inform you by email about dates and venues.

I look forward to seeing you in person.

Take care and stay safe!

Best Regards,

Anita Pratap

President

COMING EVENTS

MONTHLY MEETING

Asle Skredderberget - The Incredible Story of the Norwegian 'Oil Fund'



Asle Skredderberget is a Norwegian writer works as a writer and creator of both TV and film productions, including one about the so-called 'Oil Fund' or the Pension Fund. He has a background as a journalist, economist and crime writer. His books often centre around the financial industry and the intricacies of corporate life. Mr Skredderberget will talk to us about the Pension Fund, its inception and development.

DATE/TIME: **Monday, September 7** at 18:45 (for 19:00)

SIGN UP: **All participants** must sign up with **full name and telephone number** (we must leave a list of everyone who participated).

Sign up by email to no later than **Wednesday, September 2.**

If you have **cold-like symptoms**, feel a bit under the weather, or if you have **come home from abroad less than 10 days before the event**, please **do not sign up**. You are welcome to wear a face mask. Everyone must wash their hands upon arrival with the Antibac provided. Please enter one by one, and make sure to keep the recommended distance. The refreshments and drinks will be served from behind the counter.

PLACE: Vinderen Seniorcenter, Slemdalsveien 72, 0373 Oslo

PRICE: NOK 100.- To be paid beforehand by VIPPS to International Forum Events, **Vipps 591747** or by bank to the IF account **1600 40 36631**. **No money will be handled.**

TRANSPORT: T-Bane 1 to Vinderen. Pay parking until 20:00 in the adjoining area.

Please bring your membership card.

No-shows will be charged.

For last minute cancellations, please call Laila Haegh, mob.: 957 54 282

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

New Deichman Library

Tuesday, **September 22** at 12:00



The Special Events Committee is pleased to invite you to a guided tour of the new Deichman Library. This is the end of your trilogy: first the Old Deichman Library, then the architect company Lund Hagem, which designed the new library, and now the new premises. Architect Einar Hagem will be our guide.

Further information and sign up details in the September *Newsletter*.

You can **reserve your place** by emailing the office: int.forum@online.no

Maximum participants: **20**

ART COMMITTEE

Roseslottet – The ‘Rose Castle’

Outdoor Exhibition – September 10

Welcome back to the Art Committee’s activities! Because of the Corona pandemic, we have chosen an outdoor event in September.

This year marks the 80th anniversary of Nazi Germany’s invasion of Norway in 1940 and the 75th anniversary of the liberation in May 1945. Overlooking the City of Oslo, a spectacular art project on Norway during World War II and the country’s loss of freedom can now be seen and explored. During the five years of occupation, the fundamental principles of a constitutional state, democracy and humanism were invalidated.

Behind Frognerstøien T-bane station, you can enter a wondrous and thought-provoking art installation – a gigantic golden castle that is visible from the city centre – designed by Eimund and Vebjørn Sand, who have worked on this art installation for a number of years, and the result is now displayed just behind Frognerstøien T-bane station.



Please buy your ticket at the entrance before joining our group.



Vebjørn Sand



Eimund Sand



DATE/TIME: **Thursday, September 10** at 11:00

SIGN UP: Please note that we are trying a new form of registration whereby you only sign up to **ONE PERSON**. You do **not** need to sign up to the Forum Office.

Please sign up to **Bee Ellingsen**, e-mail (NOT the Office!) before **Monday 7**.

PLACE: Frognerseteren, behind the end station of the T-bane.

PRICE: The entrance fee is NOK 140.- for adults and NOK 70.- for seniors.

TRANSPORT: T-Bane Line 1 to Frognerseteren or by car to Øvresetertjern parking by Tryvannstårnet (free parking). Follow the signs to 'Frognerseteren'.

Maximum number of participants: 20 ('First come, first served')

For last minute cancellations, please call Bee Ellingsen, mob.: 907 33 874



There is good news and bad news. The bad news is that the Oslo 2020 Marathon has been cancelled, understandably, due to the pandemic. The good news is that a ‘virtual’ marathon will take place on September 19.

You can choose the time, pace, distance and the place to run between 00:00 and 23:59 on the day of the event (worldwide). You can run alone or with friends so long as you maintain your social distance. On completing the run, you can get your medal. What happens if you cheat? The organisers reply: ‘You can try. We promise you: it will not be pretty!’

Since it is a virtual race this year, there will be no Ambassadors for Peace team registered. You must therefore sign up individually. Registration costs NOK 150.-. Your family and friends in other parts of the world may register and run in their location.

Oslo Marathon cooperates with the charities *Aktiv mot kreft* (‘Active for the cancer cause’) and *Right to play*. When you register to participate, you have the option to support one of these organisations with a donation.

For more details, please click one of the links below:

Info: <https://oslomaraton.no/en/deltagerinfo-virtual-edition/>

Sign up: <https://secure.onreg.com/onreg2/front/step1.php?id=5040>

If you have any questions, please do get in touch.

Anita Pratap

ACTIVITIES

Cooking Group I

Nine members of Cooking Group I enjoyed a wonderful lunch at Frognerstøen Restaurant, to mark the end of the season. The weather was sunny and warm, just right for an outing. The chef presented us with a super lunch, and we chose different dishes, all very tasty.



The next cooking morning will take place at Inge Pedersen's home in September. The date, time and address will be sent separately to each of the group's members.

Liss R. Laan

Global Outlook Norway 2020



‘Arendalsuka’, Norway’s much acclaimed annual political festival, usually draws 75,000 people to beautiful Arendal on the southern coast of Norway. This year, it was cancelled due to the pandemic. However, the political Party Leaders’ Debate and Global Outlook Norway, were held as scheduled. Global Outlook, normally arranged on the opening day of Arendalsuka, was held as a ‘hybrid’ event on location in Arendal, connecting live to speakers in London, Singapore and Brussels. This year’s theme was Conflict or Cooperation in the 2020s: US-China relations. The first speaker is always the Foreign Minister of Norway. This was the third time Foreign Minister Ine Eriksen Søreide made a keynote address to the gathering. The event was moderated by Anita Pratap.

In case you wish to see, please go to <https://www.globaloutlook.no/> or click on Global Outlook 2020 or

[https://livestream.com/accounts/26229563/events/9248144/player?width=640& height=360&enableInfoAndActivity=true&defaultDrawer=&autoPlay=true&m ute=false](https://livestream.com/accounts/26229563/events/9248144/player?width=640&height=360&enableInfoAndActivity=true&defaultDrawer=&autoPlay=true&mute=false)

ACTIVITY GROUPS AUTUMN 2020

The various activities offered to our members will start in August and September, provided that the activity leaders ensure that the participants follow the recommended safety measures such as social distancing and hand hygiene.

The leaders will also have to decide on the maximum number of participants.

The leaders of the different groups will inform their current members by email about time and place. New members are invited to contact the leader of the activity that they want to join.

NORWEGIAN CONVERSATION (norsk samtalegruppe).

Contact: Eva Øglænd, emailor
Mona Bækkelund Reinboth.

DRAMA READING GROUP

Contact: Suzanne Garman-Vik.

INTERNATIONAL BOOK CLUB

Contact: Dorota Steensland^I

INTERNATIONAL BOOK CLUB

Contact: Signe Lise Howell^{II}

COOKING GROUP I

Contact: Liss Laan.

COOKING GROUP II

Contact: Gerd Berit Lavik.

MONDAY DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Contact: Kirsten Whist
or Tone Fredrikson.

MONTHLY WEDNESDAY BRIDGE GROUP

Contact: Ida Tschudi Heilemann.

PHOTO GROUP

Contact: Anita Solheim.

Contact: Kerstin Petersen.

SWIMMING AT LYSEBU

(The Danish Cultural Centre at Voksenkollen)

Contact: Anita Solheim.

A R O U N D O S L O

Two-Hour Guided Walk Through Medieval Oslo

From Ashes to Rebirth

August 19, 14:00 - 16:00 (Small Group Tour)



In 1624, Oslo was in ruins after a devastating fire. Centuries later, the old town has been ‘recovered’ by historians and archaeologists and now is a witness to its former glory. Step off the beaten path and go back in time, away from the large crowds of the main tourist attractions!

Fees:

- NOK 300.- for adults
- NOK 150.- for children

Information: <https://ourwaytours.com/our-tours/tour/medieval-oslo-walk/>

Booking: <https://ourwaytours.com/our-tours/bookings/medieval-oslo-walk/>



INTERNATIONAL FORUM

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Anita Pratap

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

Date: August 17, 2020



Photograph by Gunnel Anita Solheim