

The Nordic Church in Liverpool (1883)

19th Issue

February 2011



Kyrkobladet

from

**Gustaf Adolfs
Kyrka**

and

Newsletter

from

LINC

Dear readers!

Not too long ago, in the run-up to Christmas, we sang beautiful carols and enjoyed all the traditional lyrics in them. One line that is especially close to our hearts here at the church is “good tidings we bring” and we can honestly say that we do:

At a meeting in London on 25 October between SKUT and chairmen of LiNC and church council, all parties signed an agreement stating that the Charity Commission should reconstitute the 1883 Swedish Church Trust in Liverpool. This trust now has full legal responsibility for the Church in line with the original indenture after the Charity Commission approved and appointed the new trustees on 29 December. An agreement between LiNC and this 1883 Trust will sort out the responsibilities for the running of the building. The purchase of the car park from Church of Sweden went through on 23 December.

It has been a long time since we were first told that the congregation had to move out and the building was to be sold. After years of uncertainty we are now moving forward towards an exciting future.

The editor wants to take this opportunity to apologise for any misunderstanding which may have arisen from the September editorial, this was never the intention. It is often unclear what happens when rules clash between two sets of rules, in this case Swedish church law and British charity law. The matter is now resolved by a Charity Commission’s ruling.

LiNC has to thank all the fantastic donations for the car park appeal. It is still ongoing, of course; we still need you to help us! Find out about all the details in the chairman’s report and on the appeal form inside.

23 December was also very dramatic but in a different way, water was discovered seeping into the basement from outside. Heroic efforts to keep the water at bay on Christmas Eve meant that Mette, Stan and many others had a very different start to their Christmas holidays.

An immense thank you for your work! But, since the blame is solely at United Utilities’ door, we hope to get a refurbished basement out of it.

A new future is ahead where all five Nordic nations are truly involved. A new name ‘Nordic Church in Liverpool (1883)’ reflects an up-to-date view of our situation in the north-west but also that it is firmly anchored in the past. The trust from 1883 is still valid and its objectives are the same today as it was then, it is only the name that has changed, but -with the Charity Commission’s future approval- it will have a broader aim of including cultural, social and educational aspects as well.

Join us in our work to keep this church building as a centre for the Nordic community. We will all be doing our best to keep it in as good a state as possible and to increase cultural and social sides of the activities. We invite you to come and enjoy it! The editor

The Chairman of the Church Council, Stan Royden:

“God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform.” These words from a well-loved hymn kept ringing in my ears on Christmas Eve, as we celebrated achieving our goal of sovereignty of the church and car-park by having to cancel the service that day, due to the flood in the basement. No doubt He will find a way to make His purpose clear!

Meanwhile, we press on, ever grateful for the enthusiasm of our Swedish clergy from London and the undiminished commitment of Lars Ruden at the Wednesday coffee-mornings. We have promises of more visits from Scandinavian clergy, including a Danish connection via Ulfar Norddahl.

Please don’t hesitate to phone if you aren’t sure what is happening on Sundays!

A sad event last year was the sudden and unexpected departure of our “own” vicar, Göran Capron Lundquist. We didn’t get to say goodbye properly, but we are grateful for what he did for us and wish him well for the future.

On a happier note (!) Phil Benzie has chalked up 100 services at the organ. Well done Phil; here’s to the next milestone!

The Lutheran initiative is progressing steadily. We should have some news very soon.

Some sad news: Sigrid Morgan, a formidable Swedish lady known by many, died in January in a nursing home on the Wirral. She would have been 100 years old on 15 February.

Anders Rune from Church of Sweden, London:

Första advent gjorde jag min första resa till Liverpool och har sedan haft glädjen att få återkomma tre gånger, en gång för luciafirande i katedralen samt två högmässor i Gustaf Adolfs kyrka. Den storslagna katedralen och gudstjänsten där är förstas mäktig och inspirerande men det är härligt att få komma till Gustaf Adolfs kyrka för att fira högmässa i “vardagen”, i de perioder där livet inte är lika hektiskt som i lucia- och jultid. Jag upplever gemenskapen i gudstjänsten och vid kyrklunchen som väldigt inkluderande och genuin.

Under våren kommer jag och Maja Inde att komma växelvis för att fira gudstjänst. Den andra söndagen varje månad kommer att vara den fasta dag som vi kommer samt att jag kommer att komma upp på kyrkoårets mest glädjerika dag – påskdagen för att fira Kristi uppståndelse. Vårens mirakel med knoppar som brister och slår ut och naturen som lever upp på nytt igen får påminna oss om att döden har mist sin udd och att livet är det som alltid segrar till sist. Jag ser fram emot nya möten och samtal under våren! Allt gott önskar jag er,

On 1st of Advent I travelled for the first time to Liverpool and since then I have had the pleasure to return three times, once for Lucia celebrations in the cathedral and twice for communion service in the Gustaf Adolf Church. The grand cathedral and the Lucia service are of course mighty and inspiring, but it is wonderful to arrive at the Gustaf Adolf church to celebrate mass in an ‘ordinary’ way, at times when life is not as hectic as it is at Lucia and Christmas times. I experience the togetherness in the service and at the lunch afterwards as something very inclusive and genuine.

During the spring Maja Inde and I will celebrate alternatively the service. The second Sunday of the month will be the fixed day for this but I will also come for the church year’s most joyous day, Easter Sunday, to celebrate Christ’s rising. The miracles of spring, -the buds opening and nature’s re-emergence- remind us that death has lost its edge and that it is always life that is victorious in the end.

I look forward to many new meetings and discussions during spring! Wishing you well, Anders Rune

LiNC Charity Committee Chairman's Report:

I wish you all a very good new year. It is certainly a good new year for LiNC and the Church. There have been momentous changes in our situation since I wrote in the last newsletter.

Firstly for the Gustaf Adolf Church, there was a major development, when the Church of Sweden decided that they were not going to be able to close and sell the building. So, in conjunction with ourselves and the UK Charity Commission, the 1883 Trust that holds the lease of land and owns the building was reconstituted with the approval of the Swedish Church Abroad. We nominated all the names to be Trustees of the 1883 Trust. There are no Trustees nominated by the Swedish Church, in fact they have insisted that we remove their name from the Trust title. The Trust will be renamed the Nordic Church in Liverpool (1883), which truly reflects the all-inclusiveness that we have had as policy. It will work with the same objectives as in 1883. The first meeting of the Trustees will take place in February, when we will start to outline the way ahead. We have to set out how the 1883 Trust and LiNC will work together managing all the activities that you have been attending and enjoying over the years and at the same time looking after the building.

Currently the acting trustees are Roger Metcalf, Harriet Busby, Stan Royden, Robert Lee, Helen Metcalf, The R. Rev. Bishops Jana Jeruma-Grinberga of the Lutheran Church in Great Britain and Dr Rupert Hoare of the Anglican Church. I can therefore confirm to you that the future of the Gustaf Adolf Church is secure and under our own management.

Secondly, as you know, LiNC trustees made the decision to purchase the car park. This purchase eventually passed through the UK Land Registry just before Christmas. The purchase price of £97,500 was a significant reduction on the market price. In order to buy the land, we have had to take out a loan from the Charity Bank of £70,000, which we have to pay off over 7 years. We started the Car Park Appeal in our last newsletter and so far have received donations totalling £17,000 from the relatively small number of 45 generous families and individuals. I would like to thank all of you who have made donations. BUT our goal is to double the amount with this newsletter's appeal, so if you haven't thought to donate to us yet, please do it now. LiNC has put £30,500 in cash into the purchase, money that was planned to be used for maintaining and improving your building and activities. Please, we need your help to fill up our coffers again for the future.

We are currently endeavouring to hire out the car park spaces during the working day Monday to Friday to pay off the loan. The LiNC Car Park Appeal is still very much open for further donations, particularly if you have not yet donated -perhaps because you were concerned about the future of the Church. We want to pay off the loan as quickly as possible and then any rental paid will be income for LiNC to make up the cash already paid out for the car park.

So here we are in a new year 2011, with a new future. The Church is secured and the car park owned by LiNC. This enables us to look to the future and to start planning what new activities we want to have in the building. We must all think about new ideas, so that we can raise funds for LiNC to enable us to maintain the building and fund events. We are continuing all the existing activities, but we also have the option for new possibilities, so I would very much appreciate any new ideas you have. Please email me if you wish, see back page.

Many of you will have heard about the minor disaster we had on Christmas Eve, when a flood of water came into the basement from the street. We immediately got the insurance company involved and have used their process to get the building dry again. Virtually all the furniture was condemned as water damaged and of course the carpet was the first thing to go into the skip. The insurance company has now got the quotation for the repairs to the building. We are making progress on the refurbishment as quickly as we can and will hopefully be back with an improved basement by the end of March. I would like to thank all the people, who went in to church on Christmas eve and mopped up the water, but particularly Stan and Mette, who gave up many hours at Christmas to minimise the damage.

As always, we had a very satisfactory period of activity leading up to Christmas. The Bazaar was a significant success, with a lot of items being sold which were produced by our Saturday Bazaar group and food produced by LiNC ladies. The Lucia at the Cathedral was also a huge

event. This time, to save cost, the 35 strong Choir all stayed with LiNC members and at church. This was very successful and I want to thank all those who put these young people up in their own homes. Our own Lucia in the church was a beautiful ceremony as well, easily equalling the cathedral event, -if not winning by a whisker-, knowing how different the circumstances are for the two choirs.

I would like to thank all the people who gave their time and effort to make these events so successful.

We have replaced the central heating boiler, which was quite an expensive item. Unfortunately no grants were available, so we took the whole cost ourselves. However, the old boiler had to be replaced for safety and security of the heating system. The engineers, who did the work, had never seen a boiler that had been coal, oil and gas fired!

If any of you are reading this newsletter as a printed and posted version when instead we could be sending it to you by e-mail, please let me or Helen know, so that we reduce the number of copies that are printed and also save postage!

We are taking over control of the LiNC website ourselves, so that we can keep it up to date and accurate. I am hoping we can add some pages, so that we can communicate better about new activities, and when something happens, like the flood!

So, all in all, after 3 years of doubt, a lot has happened quickly over the last 3 months. We are secure in our Gustaf Adolf Church. We need you all to spread the word about our LiNC charity to keep Nordic culture alive; a challenge from me is to ask all of you to get at least one new member each to join us and make sure you yourself have paid the annual fee for 2011!!!

We are now masters of our own destiny. This new future has been made possible by the work of the joint committee of the LiNC trustees and the Church Council members. LiNC will be supervising all the activities in the church, bar purely religious ones which will be the church council's responsibility.

This really requires that we ALL now get involved in the continued activities of LiNC and/or church. We are going to need more people actively involved in the day to day running of all that is going on in 138 Park Lane in Liverpool. Interested in keeping this Scandinavian centre going? Start by joining us and fill in the subscription form in this letter!

Thank you for your support and looking forward to seeing you

Roger Metcalf.

Did you know? In 2010.....

The average attendance at a Sunday service was 26 persons, 267 chairs have been arranged into neat rows for all the film attendants, At least 1 364 cups have been washed after all the coffee mornings,

On 62 occasions an average of 21 students per class sat down for language lessons; More than 8 500 people came through the church door.

Take note! As you know, **LiNC has bought the adjoining car park** from Church of Sweden.

As a means to pay the bank loan interest, it is necessary to have some income from the car park. From 1 March LiNC hopes to have rented 10 spaces to local businesses.

This means that fewer spaces are available for parishioners on **weekdays during working hours** and that the car park needs to be kept locked for optimum security. We all have to remember to lock it behind us when we leave and to hand back the keys to church.

On big occasions we hope to have volunteering attendants on the car park.

Lines have been painted to mark out the spaces and we ask that all of us make sure cars are parked properly and not encroaching into next door's space.

2 cars can be parked inside the garden, 2 cars 'double-parked' next to Doreen's wall, which leaves two spaces left. It is advisable to leave the space in front of the garden gate free as long as possible. If you do park there, tell staff so they can contact you if needed.

Winners of the LiNC Christmas lottery, drawn on the 15 January at the church.

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. 2 Return tickets Manchester-Gothenburg, City Air: | 169 Stan Royden |
| 2. Digital photo frame | 54 Gunvor Denton |
| 3. Orrefors glass sculpture | 184 Helen Metcalf |
| 4. Orrefors salad servers | 266 Joan Reece |
| 5. Dartington Glass sugar and milk set | 69 Keith Cederholm |
| 6. Chocolate Fondue set | 43 Ann Redford |
| 7. Champagne glass flutes | 111 Lena Chapman |
| 8. Child's travel case | 11 Gunvor Denton |
| 9. Decorated egg picture | 182 Unni Webster |
| 10. Cava Brut bottle | 171 Stan Royden |
| 11. Cava Prestige bottle | 288 Anna Hultgren |
| 12. Porcelain mugs | 255 Francis Bonnet |
| 13. Floating candles | 272 Ulfar Norddahl |

Congratulations to the winners and commiserations to the losers, better luck next time!

LiNC would like to thank all the donors for the generous prizes given and hopes that Stan Royden will enjoy some days away from the church!

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Hej alla svensktalande damer i alla åldrar, kom och ha lite roligt på kyrkan en gång i månaden. Den tredje fredagen i månaden kl 19.30 har vi knytkalas och knyter även vänskap. Just nu prövar vi på folkdans! Det finns egen bilparkering för oss på kyrkan, så det känns tryggt. Emaila Kicki, adress jkiki.el@gmail.com så kommer du på info-listan.

Care to join the LiNC charity in its work? -Talk to Roger.

We have always a need for people who can spare a few hours now and then. If you are good at computers, with a paint brush or anything in between, we need you!
 The church is a big place to clean and we do organise now and then a cleaning Saturday for the jobs that the cleaning lady doesn't do, all with a lovely lunch provided. Call Katrine at church if you want to come and give a hand.

Thank you to all, who volunteered for all the activities in November and December and to all who gave generous donations for all the lotteries.

These are the results:
Christmas Fair: £4014.98 in takings, (£2990.78 goods and £1024.20 cafe)
Lucia concert: 444 tickets sold, (£1605.00 additional tickets from cathedral £584.25 Our share of the collect at cathedral: £117.93
Car park donations: £16049.06

The car park appeal is still on-going, buy a "paving stone" for £50, please see form.

.....
LiNC Film is a society which aims to present the best in contemporary Scandinavian films. Films are shown mostly on Monday evenings in their original languages and with subtitles. Refreshments are served before the films, which start at 19.45. Subscription fee £28 for the whole season 2010-2011. Visitor's fee £4.50 on the door. Book a seat by phoning 0151 336 2176
 Films for the spring:

- | | | |
|----------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| 21 March | Jadesofuri (Jade Warrior) | Finland |
| 18 April | Flammen & Citronen | Denmark |
| 23 May | Tatt av kvinnan (Gone with the woman) | Norway |

Financial statement of the car park purchase and bank loan as of 23 February:

£40,000
Bank
Loan
£600 per month
For 7 Years
£11,000
Loans to LiNC
Paid 16 Feb
£3,000
LiNC Cash
Paid 16 Feb
£17,000
Car park
Donations
Paid 17 Jan
£27,500
LiNC Cash
Paid 23 Dec

As you can see LiNC has to fund interest and repayments for the outstanding loan of £40 000. Interest-free loans of £11 000 have also to be repaid over 10 years to individuals. LiNC has so far paid a total of £30,500 in cash.

We aim to raise another £17 000 in the next 6 months. Can you help by giving a donation, especially if you have used the car park over the years? It is an asset for all the parishioners and visitors to use, but, as you can see, it is not for 'free'.

SCANDINAVIAN CHURCH CAR PARK APPEAL:

There are two ways of offering to help in reducing the bank loan and monthly interests:

1. You give the charity an **outright gift** of money.
2. You give the charity an **interest-free loan**, 1/10 to be paid back every year for 10 years.

Any individual donating £500 or more will have his or her generosity acknowledged by having their name written on a plaque in the church.

For every £50 donated we will put the donor's initials on one 'paving stone' in a drawing of a 'parking lot' picture hanging in the coffee room.

If you don't want these acknowledgements, please tell Harriet or write a note on the form.

If you pay tax in the UK it is **vital** that you sign the GIFT AID declaration for our

added tax benefit.

EACH individual must sign a form

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

PHONE..... EMAIL.....

Please put a cross to indicate one choice or more:

1. ... **I donate** to LiNC, Liverpool International Nordic Community, reg. charity 1104837
 the sum of(Words).....
2. ... **I give an interest-free loan** to the charity, of which a tenth is to be paid back every year, the sum of £..... (words).....

for the specific purpose of decreasing the amount of bank interest payment needed.

Signature.....

Tick your choice of payment:

..... **Cheque: Make it payable to: Liverpool international Nordic Community**

..... **Bank transfer: For UK accounts and for non-UK accounts:**

For security reasons please contact treasurer Harriet Busby for LiNC's bank details. See back page.

Return this form to LiNC, 138 Park Lane, Liverpool, L1 8HG or hand it to staff in church

GIFT AID: If you pay UK tax and would like the charity LiNC to benefit from a tax rebate on your donation please sign below: **I WISH THE CHARITY LiNC TO RECLAIM TAX ON MY DONATION. My tax bill will be more than my donation.**

Signature.....**Date**.....

Events in Liverpool

On the 1st Sunday of the month an Anglican priest or others will conduct the service. Most services in Swedish will be conducted by a priest or deacon from London, usually on the 2nd Sunday of the month. On the 3rd Sunday of the month there will in general no longer be a service.

On the 4th Sunday we will endeavour to invite a priest to conduct a service, but often it will be on a short notice. Always phone nearer the times for more information on 0151 709 7763

**There will be a coffee morning every Wednesday at 11.00
a bazaar group every Saturday at 11.00**

February

27	Sun	11.30	Service, lunch afterwards
		16.30	Official opening of an Art exhibition: Sylvia Hikins' paintings of Icelandic landscapes. (Ending 14 March)

March

5	Sat	14.00	Finnish School
6	Sun	11.30	Lenten Sunday Service, lunch afterwards
9	Wed	12.30	Norwegian service
11	Fri	19.30	Linnea evening
13	Sun	11.30	1st Sunday in Lent Service in Swedish (AR), lunch afterwards
		18.00	Student evening
18	Fri	20.00	Local band night with Laura
19	Sat	14.00	Finnish school
20		NB!	2 nd Sunday in Lent ---- No service
27		11.30	3rd Sunday in Lent/Jungfru Marias bebådelsedag Service, afterwards lunch

April

2	Sat	14.00	Finnish school
3	Sun	11.30	4th Sunday in Lent Service, lunch afterwards
8	Fri	19.30	Linnea evening
10	Sun	11.30	5th Sunday in Lent Service in Swedish or Norwegian (MI or Norwegian student priest), lunch afterwards
		18.00	Student evening
13	Wed	12.30	Norwegian service
15	Fri	20.00	Band night with Harvest Sun
16	Sat	14.00	Finnish School
17	Sat	NB!	Palm Sunday ---- No service
24	Sun	11.30	Easter Sunday Service in Swedish (AR) Easter lunch afterwards, £5.00
30	Sat	14.00	Finnish School

May

1	Sun	11.30	2nd Sunday of Easter, Spring and Valborg celebrations Service, Jansson's and meatballs on menu for lunch.
7	Sat	14.00	Finnish School
8	Sun	11.30	3rd Sunday of Easter Service in Swedish (MI), lunch afterwards
		18.00	Student evening with barbeque

9	Mon	19.00	Norwegian Music Evening
11	Wed	NB!	NO Norwegian service
13	Fri	19.30	Linnea evening
15	Sun	15.00	4th Sunday of Easter 17e Mai celebrations, starting at Pier Head, then at church. Please phone Mette for more info
22	Sun	11.30	5th Sunday of Easter Service, lunch afterwards
29	!!!! Sun	11.30	6th Sunday of Easter Service, Tomas Grunnesjö,



June

5	Sun	11.30	7th Sunday of Easter Service, lunch afterwards, celebrations of Swedish and Danish national days
8	Wed	12.30	Norwegian service
12	Sun	11.30	Whit Sunday Service in Swedish (MP), lunch afterwards
17	Fri	19.30	Linnea evening
19	!!!! Sun	11.30	Holy Trinity Sunday Service conducted by Rt. Rev. Bishop Jana Jeruma- Grinberga, lunch afterwards
26	Sun	11.30	2nd Sunday after Pentecost/Saint John's Day Midsummer service, afterwards herring plate, cake and then dance.



July and August

Coffee mornings every Wednesday, dates for services will be announced nearer the time. Please phone 0151 709 7763. We hope to be back to normal schedule in September:

September

4	Sun	11.30	11th Sunday in Trinity, Service, a Norwegian men's choir will participate, lunch afterwards
11	Sun	11.30	12th Sunday in Trinity Service in Swedish, lunch afterwards
14	Wed	12.30	Norwegian service
16	Fri	19.30	Linnea evening
18	Sun	NB!	13 th Sunday in Trinity ---- No service
23	Fri	19.00	Swedish choir concert, £5.00, including refreshment. Please ring for confirmation
25	Sun	11.30	14th Sunday in Trinity Service, lunch afterwards



October's schedule will follow the same pattern, however, always ring first for information!

Look on LiNC's website: w.w.w.nordicliverpool.co.uk for more up to date information. English Heritage Open Days will be announced in the summer.

Future dates: LiNC AGM is provisionally set for 6 November;
Christmas Fair 26 November; 1st Advent 27
November; Lucia on 10 and 11 December

An autumn newsletter is scheduled to come out in October.

**2011: A new year, a new name, a new annual fee to pay for subscriptions
The Nordic Church in Liverpool (1883)
Our new name for an old establishment**

There have been some uncertainties among members regarding payments to the church. LiNC is in the process of taking over the running of the church building and will have to pay all 'household bills', e.g. gas and electricity. Therefore we ask you to change the amounts you donate to church and LiNC to reflect this. You might want to be more generous to LiNC in the future and give less to the church.

But the main thing is that you stay as a paying member of our congregation. Your church donations are now under the newly appointed local 1883 trust's responsibility, according to a ruling from the Charity Commission.

List of acting members of the Nordic Church in Liverpool (1883):

Roger Metcalf, Harriet Busby, Stan Royden, Robert Lee, Helen Metcalf, The R. Rev. Bishops Jana Jeruma-Grinberga and Rupert Hoare.

Our church is wholly dependent on our members and no longer has any financial support from SKUT.

As a paying member you have the right to vote at the AGM.

Please take note there will be an AGM of the church council in March or in April, dates have not been fixed at time of going to press. This will be advertised in the church.

You are free to pay as much or as little as you wish.

I wish to make a donation of £..... **OR** make a standing order for £..... / month/year

I wish to be a **member**..... or a **sponsor**..... (tick appropriately)

Make cheques payable to Gustaf Adolf Church.

Send this form to 138 Park Lane, Liverpool, L1 8HG.

If you want to use a Standing Order Mandate: For security reasons please contact the treasurer Harriet Busby for the church's bank details. See back page.

Name/s.....

Address.....

Phone.....Email.....

Other names in the family/household

I am/we are willing to volunteer and can help in these areas:

GIFT AID: If you pay UK tax and would like the church to benefit from a tax rebate on your donations, please sign below.

I WISH THE NORDIC CHURCH IN LIVERPOOL TO RECLAIM TAX ON MY DONATIONS.

SIGNATURE:.....**Date:**.....

2011- Subscription form to renew or apply for membership of LiNC -2011

'When do I renew my payment? Please, tell me!' We hear that very often and the simple answer is: A new year, a new payment, please!

We ask for a minimum of £10 per person and year, this is in view of inflation over the last 5 years and the much more financially committed position LiNC now has. Many pay more to LiNC than to church and LiNC is very grateful for the generosity shown.

By becoming a member of the charity you have the right to vote at the AGM.
IN CAPITALS, please!

First name _____

Surname _____

Partner/spouse

First name _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

I am/we are willing to volunteer and can help in these areas: _____

Payment is a minimum £10/person and year but we do appreciate if you pay more!

Make cheques payable to: Liverpool international Nordic Community (LiNC)

I/we enclose a **cheque** for £_____ or will pay £_____ by **standing order**.

For security reasons, please call or email the treasurer Harriet Busby for bank details. See back page.

Return the form to LiNC's postal address, 138 Park Lane, Liverpool, L1 8HG or hand it to staff in church.

GIFT AID: If you pay UK tax_ and would like the charity LiNC to benefit from a tax rebate_ on your donations please sign below:

I WISH THE CHARITY LiNC TO RECLAIM TAX ON MY DONATIONS. (I WILL INFORM THE CHARITY IF EVER THIS IS NOT SO.)

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Review of autumn and winter events:



- A Bergqvist and R Metcalf signing-

In **October**, at a meeting with SKUT in London, the agreement to reconstitute the old trust from 1883 was finally signed. A new direction for the church and its building lies ahead. Many questions will have to be resolved in the near future for the new set-up between the trust and LiNC to function in the best possible way.

Also in **October**, we were regaled one evening with Swedish Folk Music by two players from Medelpad, Sweden, with fiddle and guitar, and two dancers to demonstrate the various dances. It was a delightful music that made at least the Swedes full of nostalgia - and dance-itchy legs. Remedy was a long-dance for all as grand finale, its way woven through the church and coffee-room until all were exhausted and pleaded for it to stop.



It was a busy time at the Christmas Fair in **November**, the takings on the day was £4000 and ca 380-400 people came through the door during the 3 hours of opening. We were very pleased that a very special lady, Dame Lorna Muirhead, wanted to come and officially open the fair for us and we hope that she had a nice day with us. The fair takes a lot to organise, much needs ordering well in advance and many car boots are filled with goods bought only days beforehand. People started baking breads and cakes early in the autumn, filled the freezers in the church or stayed up half the night before the event in order to sell really fresh buns and cakes. It is a very popular stall and only an empty space is soon left behind; luckily there are many more tempting things to buy!



The Saturday bazaar group meets at 11am throughout the year and does various projects for the handicraft stall. Mette and Vicky are the champions in the needlework department and you can enjoy and buy all the beautiful things the group produces. During Bazaar day ca 30-35 people turned up to help out with serving, selling, washing-up and cleaning. It is a fixed date in their calendar for a fun day out and they often travel a long way to us. The church and LiNC can only say thank you for coming, your efforts are much appreciated.

December had the usual events and the biggest is always Lucia. Our choirs from Sweden are fantastic to see and hear in the impressive cathedral, but to sit down and watch our own people, from little Anna to star boy Jan, sing so beautifully in the dark church with only candlelight, is something else!



In the picture are all the members of the Veitch family, along with starboy Jan. The family lives in Derbyshire and they always say that Christmas holiday without Lucia celebrations is unthinkable and that is something that can only be done properly at the church.

December had more up its sleeve -an unwanted surprise: Probably because of the very cold weather, a pipe had burst deep

in the ground outside the side street of the church. It is a fact that most businesses close down for Christmas, but someone was watching over us and we found a plumbing firm who promised to turn up at 9 on Christmas Eve morning. They had to take the big mallets out, smash a hole in the outside wall of the church, dig a hole in the pavement to find the leak, only to discover that there was no leak "our" side of the main tap. It was the United Utilities' duty to set things right, but they didn't turn up until late on Christmas Eve. Poor Mette, Stan and many others left very late to start their festivities at home with their families. It is only for us to express our gratitude, they went beyond calling in their efforts to hold the water at bay.



January started in a very nice way with our service and Christmas tree plunder party for the kids. After his first service taken by our new priest from London, Anders Rune, all able-bodied parishioners set out to dance the Christmas out and along with it the tree. It is always scary to think that the church is now 126 years old, can the beams cope with "The Rocket"? So far it has been all right, but.....

Jultomten, who had acquired a Danish accent during the year, gave out bags of sweets to all the good children and then waved good-bye till the next time...

The finale was of course the grand draw of the Lottery 2010. The lucky winner was Stan Royden and we can't think of anyone more deserving to win the top prize.

The Linnea evening, a get-together of Swedish-speaking ladies of all ages, had arranged for a British (!!) lady to come and teach some Swedish folk dances. It was hilarious to see how adept or not so adept the ladies were in sorting out the outside and inside feet in the right order.

Pat, our teacher was very patient and said it was a bit of a novelty for her too, normally people are so intense and serious to learn, whereas this evening was quite chaotic with many laughs, a few bruises and perhaps blisters.... It is hoped that Pat can come back for some more teaching, but before



then, students have to practice at the next Linnea evenings! Interested to learn folk dance? Perhaps on a Friday or Saturday lunch time? Email mhelenmetcalf@hotmail.com

The 100+ club:

We haven't achieved reaching the 100 yet, how about joining now?

Have a gamble and a bit of fun, LiNC's monthly lottery gives something extra in the pocket for the lucky winners and is at the same time a good support for the charity.

For every £1 per month you pay, 50p goes to LiNC, 40p to the winner and 10p to the runner-up. On the 2nd Wednesday in the month there will be a draw at the church's coffee morning. The cost is £1.00/month and share. You can pay either **£6.00** every six months or **£12.00** annually per share held.

Prize money will depend on the numbers who participate every month.

Fill in the form below and return it to a committee member or send it to LiNC's postal address. Copy this form, if you know anyone else interested in joining the club!

September's winners Geoff Anthony and I Kristiansen

October's winners Kicki Eriksson-Lee and Cinna Hughes

November's winners Oskar Lee and Karen Woolen

December's winners C & M Hayes and Helene Lindstrand

January's winners Doreen Johansen and Cecilia Haastrup

To the charity **Liverpool international Nordic Community (LiNC) 100+ Club: CAPITALS, PLEASE!**

I wish to become a member of 100+ Club and would like to buy shares.

I would like to pay (tick your choice)£12.00 annually or £6.00 every six months for every share.

Make cheque payable to: Liverpool international Nordic Community (LiNC)

SIGNED : _____

Address _____

_____ Phone _____

Email address _____

Care to donate £10 for altar flowers? You can pick a particular Sunday, perhaps to commemorate someone or something. -Talk to Mette.

LiNC is now featuring on a blog: <http://nordicliverpool.wordpress.com>. It was set up in last November to aid us in the campaign to save our church and the intention is to provide a little of everything. We want to show the world - and each other - what we do at Gustaf Adolf's church and why it's important that Scandinavia is 'advertised' in the north-west of England. The best way of contributing is to email something you've written to ann Giles@mac.com.

A BIG THANK YOU to all for the good wishes and gifts on my "big" birthday. METTE

Ann Giles: How many languages do you speak?

We have just received the last ever Bilingual Family Newsletter. After many years for us - and many more years for them - the need for bilingual advice has come to an end. At least on paper. Now if you want to know something you google it, which is why this family-run newsletter is no more.

BFN was started by a Finnish woman married to a Briton, and who has brought up two perfectly bilingual sons. At Gustav Adolf we are used to multilingualism, but even so it felt comforting to have this support, and support from another Nordic mother at that. Marjukka even phoned up one time and we had a mutual moan - in English - about people of certain other nationalities.

But we are all the same, deep down. Recently Marjukka became a grandmother, and I was interested to hear what her Finnish speaking son would do about his baby's language, especially seeing as he married an American. I had to laugh at his reply on being asked by his mother-in-law 'what on earth his mother was saying to the baby'. 'Exactly the same gibberish as you, only in Finnish'.

Our own first baby has come some way from the gibberish stage (maybe), but although he has now tasted most of the Nordic languages at university, I feel slightly guilty for treating our conversations more as family communication than as lessons in grammar. And why didn't I put a Swedish book in front of him as soon as he could read? Well, because I doubt he'd have been very impressed, and Enid Blyton and Roald Dahl (at least we have the Norwegian connection there) in English had to suffice as entertainment for him. But if I had, some of the knowledge a child picks up in their first language would obviously have been strengthened.

It's the reading as such which is important, though. Not where it comes from. Mind you, what the football results in our holiday newspaper in Sweden did for baby number one, I now find baby number two receiving from Alexander Rybak on Facebook. If you're interested in something you will soon pick up enough words to get by. And the winner of the Eurovision Song Contest is of course Norwegian, so what baby number two is doing is deciphering yet another language, and one she has never been taught.

We are immersing ourselves in Danish, yet again, with the recent crime series Forbrydelsen on BBC4. For this we all read the subtitles. But at least we are used to doing that, unlike the British who supposedly don't like foreign films for this very reason. And subtitles can be a nuisance, too, like with Wallander where all but one family member would rather it was possible to remove them. What is positive is that baby number two has realised that she does understand Wallander without reading any subtitles. That's why she was confused by a film clip featuring Stellan Skarsgård which she found online. She understood him perfectly, but could barely grasp what any of the others were saying. I explained that they were speaking Norwegian. And of course, we are used to this happening; one person using one language and getting a reply in the other language.

It's this natural acceptance of things that are different that made me see red when I came across a blog reading challenge for 2011. The challenge was to read as many British books as possible. That's not a challenge. Not in this country.

'Motvalls kärning' that I am, I immediately set up my own challenge, which is to read at least one book a month from another country. I will read one each from the Scandinavian countries, hopefully all in the original. Because I believe I can. I think we all can if we take time over it.

Our community at Gustav Adolf has already proved useful in finding suitable books. The rest will have to be translations, which, like subtitles, is something Britons shy away from.

And I don't understand that.

A.G

A WOOD & CO, 53 Jordan Street, LIVERPOOL, sponsors our Lucia concert in the cathedral every year. **THANK YOU** for beautifully printed tickets, posters and programmes!

Finnish Language School in Liverpool

Three years ago five Finnish mothers had a meeting about having a Finnish Language School in Liverpool. They found it important that their children meet and talk with other Finnish-speaking children. There were 17 Finnish Schools in Great Britain, why not to have one in Liverpool, too. We didn't have one single coin of money, but that shortage was covered by great enthusiasm. It would be worth trying.

Anna-Karin and Ulf, the vicar couple at the time, gave us all support and welcomed us to the Scandinavian Seamen's Church. In those days we could only give just some coins as donation to the church, but they didn't mind. That was the beginning.

There are now 15 children of all ages and 15 adult learners. The children are divided in groups according to their age. The youngest ones are under 3 years old and they have a baby music group. Toddlers (3 – 6 years) have a play group and older ones do real school work. Adults are divided according to their language skills. There are absolute beginners, intermediate and advanced groups.

We have five teachers and two assistants. But there are also mothers, fathers and other volunteers who take care of library, shop and café. Altogether 15 active people are working for our school. Teachers are paid £24/school day and assistants £12. All other work is done voluntarily.

The school is governed by an Executive Committee. Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Head teacher are sort of permanent members, but children's parents and adult learners have their own representatives. Our umbrella organisation is the Ministry of Education in Finland, which gives us an annual support, which is 2/3 of teachers' salaries, 2/3 of rent and £20 for teaching materials for every child aged 3–18 years. Adults are not supported.

School fee for one child is £10 per term and families with more children pay £15 per term. Adults pay £40 for the autumn and £50 for the spring term. There are 7 school days in autumns and 10 in springs. Lessons start at 2pm and end at 4.15.

Our shop and café staff are absolutely marvellous. We get money from Finland and from school fees, but we could never do without the help of our shop and café people. Some money comes from other events like bazaars and Independence Day Dinners. The local Supporting Committee consists of Finnish ladies who make all kinds of handcrafts for us to sell in bazaars. Our school is not rich, but it will survive.

We are deeply grateful first to the Scandinavian Seamen's Church and now to Linc and to all those people who work for Linc. Without their help we couldn't offer to our children the chance to use and strengthen their – usually – mother's language. Language is an important part of one's identity, and these children are either all Finnish or half Finnish. And it is so nice to go to the church to drink Finnish coffee and eat homemade cinnamon buns. Marja

What if other languages can be accommodated in the same way?

Would you be interested? Do you have family or friends who want to learn or you know someone who has? Can you teach your mother-tongue? Please email Marja on marjanurmikko@aol.com – as a first line of finding possible interest from you to start schools teaching Swedish, Danish, Norwegian or Icelandic languages and customs.

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The new trust 'Nordic Church in Liverpool (1883), need a new **logo** alongside LiNC's own. Have you any ideas? It must reflect 'Nordic inclusiveness' in a simple way. It is always easiest these days if it can be done via computer and internet. Email mhelenmetcalf@hotmail.com with your efforts, they are all most welcome!

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Have you got an opinion about this newsletter, what do you want to change, what is good? Would you like to contribute? Have you visited one of the Nordic countries and you want to tell us about it? Or do you have a poem lying in a drawer? Email mhelenmetcalf@hotmail.com

The regular events of the week:

MONDAYS Once a month LINC FILM. Nordic films shown with subtitles
Phone 0151 336 2176 or go to [www.nordicliverpool.co.uk /film](http://www.nordicliverpool.co.uk/film) for more info.

TUESDAYS Swedish book club at 7pm once a month. Info mhelenmetcalf@hotmail.com

WEDNESDAYS Coffee morning 11am-2pm. Norwegian service 2nd Wednesday in the month

THURSDAYS Norwegian language course 7.30-9pm. Info stan.royden@hotmail.co.uk
Swedish language course 7.30- 9pm. Info m.farnworth@btinternet.com

FRIDAYS Linnea evening on 3rd Friday of the month. 7.30pm Swedish-speaking ladies have knytkalas'. Info jkicki.el@gmail.com

SATURDAYS Bazaar group 11am-1pm Info Mette.
Finnish school every 2nd Saturday Info Marja 0151 632 6189

SUNDAYS Service at 11.30am followed by a light lunch. Please see programme for details.

Opening hours:

Tue:	18-21	Wed:	11-14	Thur:	18-21
Sat:	11-14	Sun:	10-14		

The church council will endeavour to have the church open on other times, but you need to arrange this first. Ring church, Stan or anyone on the contact list before you attempt to visit. See below.

Services in Stockport, Dublin, Belfast and Middlesbrough are now the responsibility of the Swedish Church in London. Phone 0207 723 5681 or email office@swedishchurch.com for information.

Contact details:

Postal address for church and LiNC:
Scandinavian Church, 138 Park Lane, Liverpool, L1 8HG

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Robert	0151 6528534	w.r.lee@liverpool.ac.uk
Harriet	0151 3345431	harriet@busbyonline.co.uk
LiNC	email	linc_gakyrka@yahoo.co.uk
Church	NEW email	nordic.church.l-pool@hotmail.co.uk

OLD email address @svenskakyrkan.se is NO LONGER working

Websites www.nordicliverpool.co.uk
w.nordicliverpool.wordpress.com
www.swedishchurch.com, klicka AKTUELLT; ÖVRIGA ORTER, Liverpool/ click on NEWS;
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