

Inga and Erik's Annual Report for 2021.

Covid-19 in Denmark.

One more year where Covid-19 has cast its shadow over all of us. This year worse than in previous years. The deathrate from infections by this virus for me (95 years old this year) are 100%. For this reason, I and also Inga have to be most careful. We have both been vaccinated twice this year and had our 3rd booster. But nevertheless, vaccinations don't give full protection. During periods (winter) where the infection rate was and still is high, we have isolated ourselves and only been out for necessary shopping, protected by gloves, face mask and keeping distance to others.

Our situation.

Just before New year we celebrated Chanukah with my granddaughter Rosa, her husband Lasse and their two children Jasper and Majka. I let Jasper lit the Chanukah candles while I said the prayers which I remembered from my childhood. I also told him the more than 2000-year-old story about the origin of Chanukah.



New Year we spent for ourselves. There was less firework around us than in earlier years because people did not have large New year's parties.



Early in January Rosa, her family and their dog came to see us, but because the infection risk had got worse they did not enter the house. We placed a gift for them outside our front door where they picked it up.

Inga and I made long walks even during the winter. When the ground was frozen and slippery, I used my rollator in order not to fall. Here I stand near the frozen lake Bagsvaerd.



In spring our walks took us into the Harre forest. Harre is an old Nordic term for a manmade stone structure. Here I am at one of these structures. Note the stone with a groove. There are many of these but only in this forest. It is evident that these structures were an ancient site for worshipping. Already Tacitus, the Roman historian wrote in his book "Germania" (chapter 40) "in an island of the ocean (the Baltic Sea) stands a sacred and unviolated groove...". This can only be the Harre forest.



We were also fond of the more than 1000-year-old oak trees found in the Harre forest. Here Inga holds on one of them, called the Grenadier.

In June the infection rate was very low. We decided to make a trip to Jutland. Our first stop was in Viborg where we took part in a party held by Anne, Inga's niece and her husband Michael for their daughter Kamilla, who just has finished high school and passed her entrance examination for the university.

Then we went to **Skagen**, the northernmost town in Jutland.

For me, one of the main purposes for going to Skagen was to stand at the northernmost point of Jutland, where the North Sea (in the

background) meets the Kattegat (center right) which is the outflow sea of the Baltic. In my opinion the pollution from the large German rivers e.g. River Rhine and Elbe passes north along Jutland's west coast in a current called the Jutland Coastal current from where it moves around the tip in Danish called "Grenen" in English "The Skaw". The later word now also is used for the larger area including the town of Skagen. My view, that the pollution of the Kattegat to a large degree comes via the Jutland Coastal Current is challenged by some biologists, who claim that the pollution of the Kattegat entirely is due to local sources. However, I cannot find any scientific evidence for this view.



Here I stand at the tip of Grenen with the North Sea to the left and Kattegat to the right.



Here is Skagen Museum, one of the best art museums in Denmark.

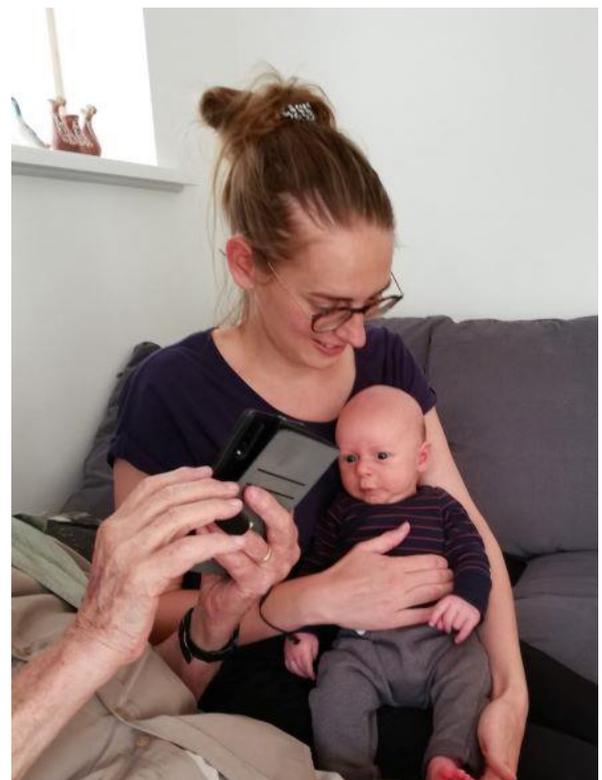
When we arrived, Inga saw the dress in the window to the right. She immediately shouted “This dress I most have” and she got it. The museum is famous for its collection of the “Skagen painters”, a



group of impressionistic painters who worked here in the 19th Century.

This picture, called “Hip, Hip, Hurrah” shows the Skagen painters. The original picture is in Gothenburg’s Art Museum, but Skagen has a sketch.

After five days in Skagen, we went to Aarhus where my son Steffen lives with his wife Marianne. In a suburb called Hjorthøj we met Steffen’s daughter Amanda with her newly born second child, a boy called Vilfred.



The grass on our large lawns in front and behind (the picture) our house had grown high while we had been away. As always, it was my duty to trim the grass. It corresponds to a walk of nearly 3 km. In the background you can see our lake "Nydam".



In July our daughter Eva, her husband Peter and their youngest son Alex came for 3 weeks to visit us as well as family and friends elsewhere in the country. Here is a picture of Peter and Alex on a bridge in a park nearby.

In August I had to prepare for my 95 year



birthday. I wanted to have a large party with family and friends and dinner at a Moroccan restaurant nearby, which I hired exclusively for this party. I sent out invitations, but the number of positive responses was too low for having the dinner exclusively for ourselves. I tried to find other solutions. But in the meantime my son Steffen became infected with Covid-19. This meant that my family in Aarhus could not take part. In the end only my granddaughter Rosa with her husband Lasse and their kids Jasper and Majka came here. We had a nice afternoon and evening together.



My good friend and former colleague Ole Have Jørgensen and his wife Else could not come for my birthday due to other commitments, but they came here two days later.



They had a nice present for me, a rose plant called “Else” produced particularly for Else by a friend, who is Rose producer. It is now planted in one of my rose beds.

In **October** I took part in the Equinor prize festivity. Here I tell the story about the prize.

In 1964 I received the Esso-prize for my work as head of the Danish Isotope Center



Here I am with my first wife Nete and my children Lone and Steffen.

When Esso was sold to the Norwegian Statoil company, the prize became the Statoil prize. A couple of years ago Statoil became Equinor because it sounds “greener”. I am the oldest prize winner both in age and by seniority. As the oldest prize winner, I receive a bouquet of flowers and am asked to make an oral

contribution.

The prize party usually takes place in spring with a superb lunch in the hall of the National Museum. Due to the Corona situation the party in 2020 was cancelled. Thus, now in 2021 the prizes for both 2020 and for 2021 should be presented. As the National Museum still was closed, the party took place in a branch of the museum in Brede, a suburb of Copenhagen.



Here we are in front of the Brede restaurant with coffee and brandy after the lunch.

During an intermission I had a talk with Professor John Leif Jørgensen, who got the prize in 2005 for his development of a star camera for determining the direction of the movement of satellites through space. In the later years his main job was to develop several important instruments for the Mars

rover “Perseverance”. Several cameras and amongst others an X-ray fluorescence spectrometer. I told him that we around 1970 had developed such an instrument at the Isotope Center. That impressed him. I also told him about my friend the astrophysicist Kjartan Kinch, who also worked on the “Perseverance”. He was fond of his co-operation with Kjartan.



Here stands Professor J.L. Jørgensen to the right with the two prize winners.

And here I deliver my speech.

After coming home the traditional picture at the front door of our house with my flowers.

And now it is winter again with very high numbers of corona infections including the new omicron variety.

No Christmas parties. Several of my family members have within the last days been infected. So, this will again be an isolated Christmas and New Year.

This ends our report for 2021. We wish you our best Seasons Greetings.

