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ANGLO-NORSE SOCIETY
CENTENARY RECEPTION
QUEEN ELIZABETH II
& KING HARALD V

15TH NOVEMBER 2018

ANGLO-NORSE REVIEW

THE ANGLO-NORSE SOCIETY - LONDON

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Editorial

This is an unashamedly royal and celebratory issue of the *Review*, which speaks for itself, so as editor I do not intend to take up much space. However, our Centennial Scholarship Appeal is still open for contributions (see inside back cover), so perhaps those who were present at the celebration and enjoyed it, could consider making a donation which will help the Society increase the number of scholarships it supports..

The Anglo-Norse Centenary Champagne Reception on 15 November

By Marie Wells

This was a highly successful event, enjoyed by all who attended! But like all such events, especially one involving *two* monarchs, it took a great deal of planning and preparation. Planning had actually started in 2016, and the Society was fortunate, because its Chairman, Sir Richard Dales, as a former Ambassador to Norway had contacts in both Buckingham Palace and the Palace in Oslo. He also knew that the Norwegian royal family regularly comes over to London in November, so that would be the ideal month in which to hold the celebration. Even so initial planning had to take place without any mention of the possible attendance of the royals, not least because the Queen, who is now 92, only commits to engagements three months in advance, so the Council had to wait to start final planning till August. Even then there was one change of date, one change of venue and one of time, from a 18.00-20.00 pm reception in the Drapers' Hall to the 11.30-13.30 reception in the Naval and Military Club, better known now as the In and Out Club, which is also the home to the Norwegian Club.

Invitations were sent out by the Secretary, Irene Garland, to members, recipients of Anglo-Norse scholarships, donors, potential donors and members of associated societies such as CoScan, the Norwegian-Scottish Association, The Norwegian Club, the Norwegian-British Chamber of Commerce and the Anglo-Danish Society. It was particularly pleasing that 26 members of our sister society in Oslo came.

There were also two rehearsals with representatives from Buckingham Palace and the Norwegian Embassy in London to work out a detailed choreography for the event, for everything involving royalty has to be

planned down to the minute. As the day approached the Chairman and Secretary also had to work out who should be in the ten groups, each of ten people, who were to be presented to the two royals.

Finally the day arrived, Council members and others arriving at 10.30 to be ready to check the identity of guests and to guide them to the appropriate room on the first floor, either the King Harald Room or the Coffee

Room, which is normally the restaurant.

The first official person to arrive was the Lord Lieutenant of Greater London, Sir Kenneth Olisa OBE.

Looking very much as if he were a military man, I asked him about this, but he said no, he was a businessman (the founder of two technology merchant banks and the first British-born black man to serve as a Director of a FTSE-100 company (Reuters) and a philanthropist. As Lord Lieutenant of Greater London, Sir Kenneth is Her Majesty's representative in Greater London and is charged with upholding the dignity of the crown, so he or one of his team has to be ready to escort the Queen at the official functions she attends.



Photo credit: Phil McCarthy

The next official to arrive was the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Councillor Lindsey Hall, with her Consort, Robert Hall, who is a Chinese arts and antiques specialist. She told me that two days later they would be off to Oslo to cut down the Trafalgar Square Christmas Tree, an event she was looking forward to as she had not been to Oslo before.



The Lord Mayor of Westminster arrives with her consort. Photo credit: Phil McCarthy

Next it was King Harald who arrived. Unfortunately Queen Sonja who was due to accompany him was not well, so he came alone.



King Harald being greeted by Vice Admiral John MacAnally, Chairman of the Naval and Military Club aka as the In and Out Club. Photo credit: Phil McCarthy.

After being introduced to Lord McAnally, King Harald was taken by lift up to the Astor Room to await the arrival of the Queen. Escorted by members of the Anglo-Norse Council his entourage had to hurry up the grand staircase, as did the Queen's entourage when she was taken by lift to the first floor! Once in the Astor Room members of the Anglo-Norse Council were presented to King Harald.

Finally the Queen, the person everyone had been waiting for, arrived,



A smiling Queen being greeted by our Chairman, Sir Richard Dales. Photo credit: Phil McCarthy.

and was greeted by Sir Richard Dales and the Lord Mayor of Westminster. Inside the Club the Queen was introduced to Vice Admiral John MacAnally before being taken by lift up to the Astor Room to meet King Harald. (The Astor room is so called because 4 St James Square once belonged to Nancy Astor, Viscountess Astor who stayed there when in London). The Queen recalled going there 'for wonderful parties when she was a child'. In the Astor Room, the two Royals were supposed to have five minutes together for a private exchange of greetings. This, however, proved unnecessary as they had met the previous evening at Prince Charles' 70th birthday celebration! But it was an opportunity for members of the Council to be presented to the Queen.



Rolf Christophersen who helped revive the Society after World War II, being presented to the Queen. In the background Her Majesty's Private Secretary, and her Equerry. Photo credit: Phil Mc Carthy



Members of the Council being presented to the Queen. From the left, Marie Wells, Irene Garland and Paul Gobey. Photo credit: Phil McCarthy

It was also an opportunity for the two monarchs to examine the Almanac, - a history of the Anglo-Norse Society prepared by Angela Christophersen, wife of Rolf Christopherson,



Photo credit: Phil Mc Carthy

Finally it was time for the the two monarchs to be escorted to the King Harald Room where the first groups were keenly waiting to be presented to their majesties. Sir Richard Dales was to escort the Queen round the groups in the room and Dr Wells was to escort King Harald who would follow one group behind the Queen.

Of the Oslo group that came over for the event, Celia Syversen wrote that 'it was entirely appropriate that the Norwegian contingent sipped its champagne expectantly in the King Harald Room under portraits of Kings Haakon, Olav and Harald and their consorts. Just over twenty had come over from Oslo, including almost the entire Committee, plus current and earlier Chairmen, Michael Brooks and Stephen Constant. Before leaving home we knew that some of us would be fortunate enough to shake Royal hands, but naturally enough felt guilty about fellow members having to stand on the sidelines.

A buzz of excitement, then a hush – and suddenly the Queen was

there! All of us thrilled at the prospect of seeing - even talking to - such an impressive 92-year old. Arranged in "casual" groups, we were presented and, all too soon, the Queen moved on. But then King Harald was amongst us, although disappointment was felt that Queen Sonja was not able to join him. A jovial conversation with Pamela Brooks about China, before he progressed to meet individual Oslo members.



Pamela Brooks presenting Gary Irvine of the Scottish-Norwegian Society, Glasgow. Kirsti Dinnis in *bunad* on the left of the picture. Photo credit: Phil McCarthy.

Another view of the event was given by Kitty Milward-Corbet who wrote, 'like many people in the room that day, I'd grown up seeing pictures of Her Majesty in magazines, newspapers and on the television. I knew that she would be small in stature, and that she was in possession of a brilliant wit which, if one was lucky, one could be directly party to. When I was invited to attend the Centenary Celebrations as a former Anglo-Norse Scholarship holder, I expected to watch and hear from afar and mingle with a group of fellow guests of Anglo-Norse heritage. I certainly did not expect that the Queen and I would exchange words, nor that she would tell me that, on account of my PhD research on Norwegian women's work with textiles (part-funded by the Anglo Norse), I was a 'one-off' and a 'true original'. To hear those words only a week before submitting my thesis was an unforgettable moment, and spurred me on during the final, difficult days.'



Sir Richard Dales with the Queen in the King Harald Room. Photo: PA Images



The Queen talking to Tulla Gobey. Photo:PA Images

One image that appeared both on the Royal Family homepage for 15 November and in the online *Daily Mail* was that of Tulla Gobey (see previous page) who is the same age as the Queen. She told the two monarchs who chatted to her that she sat in the NRK (Norwegian Broadcasting Association) car on the 7 June 1945 while her father was sat in a chair secured to the top of the car, commentating on King Haakon's triumphant return to Norway after the war. Not surprisingly the Queen seemed delighted by this story



Michael Brooks (with badge) presenting Marit Lande. Slightly behind Michael Brooks (in red dress) Julia Vance, then Linda Fevåg and on far right Elisabeth Aronson. Photo credit: Phil McCarthy

Yet another impression of the event was given by Dr Eva Robards Chair of CoScan, 'It was an honour to be invited to the Centenary Reception of the Society. Congratulations to a well organised and most festive event! I enjoyed the atmosphere and meeting many friends, not only from London but also from as far north as Scotland. (Sadly I never came across any visiting members from your sister Society in Oslo – a missed opportunity.) There must have been a myriad of worries for the organisers, but for me (a guest) it all felt calm and under control. The highlight was of course the Royals' tour around the club, and it was an honour to be presented and for people not only to be able to pay their respects but also to exchange a few sentences.'



The Queen with Sir Richard Dales in the Coffee Room (normally the restaurant)
Photo credit:PA Images

Another guest was Aud Dixon who wrote, 'when the Queen arrived at the reception, we were all standing at our designated places while she walked around the room being introduced and shaking hands with members who had made a special contribution to the Society over the years. The Queen was absolutely charming and when told of my long service as secretary to the Society, (Ed. note: Aud served as secretary for 23 years) commented that that must have been interesting, which I could confirm that it had been. She then shook hands with me and my daughter Camilla whom I had brought as a companion. Camilla is now a monarchist as she was totally won over by the Queen's charm.

King Harald then proceeded to greet and have a word with most guests. He was very jolly and seemed to have a really good time with our members. I had met the King on several occasions when I was *Russ*, as we are the same age, but I resisted the temptation to remind him. (Ed note: *Russ* are sixth formers who celebrate in various ways between the end of exams and the arrival of the results.)

A final comment on the day comes from Rebecca Pearson, who writes, 'I was delighted to be asked early in 2017 if I would join the Anglo-Norse

Council and was welcomed into the Society in May 2017. I was then told about the Centenary celebrations and was quickly put to work researching artists working in both Norway and the UK. I must say the Council had a very busy six months with the preparations, working hard to make the event a success. While I am used to defending decisions in the Family Court and presenting members of Cabinet to local authority, I admit to feeling a great pressure to present my group well, which included Kjell Torriset, Natalie Holland, Kristin Hjellegjerde, Nina King, Marius Styczen and Frøde Gjerløw, to each of the Patrons not forgetting their names or their accomplishments! It was truly an honour to meet Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and King Harald V who I find inspirational. Feedback from guests has confirmed that the event was valued by all and will stay in our memories for a long time!



Lady Elizabeth Dales (back to camera) with from left to right: Dr Ellen Hagen, Aud Jepsen (between Lady Elizabeth and the Queen), Lady Mountevans, Lord Mountevans and Lady Robson, widow of Sir John Robson, former Ambassador to Norway and Chair of the Anglo-Norse Society. Photo credit PA Images.

All that remains to be said about the day is that it was a great occasion and the Anglo-Norse, which is a small society, feels very privileged indeed. that its centenary was honoured by the presence of not one, but two royal patrons!

The Green Howards and Norway

By John Mills, volunteer at the Green Howards Museum

The Scandinavian link with Yorkshire goes back to the 9th century with the invasion of the Vikings. AD 793 saw the attack on Lindisfarne in Northumberland and in AD 866 the Vikings captured York. They would rule parts of England well into the 10th century.

Scandinavian influence continued when the Danish King Cnut became King of England in 1016. The last Viking invasion was crushed by King Harold at the Battle of Stamford Bridge on the 25th September 1066. The toll put on Harold's army may have been a factor in their defeat by the invading Normans, three weeks later, at Hastings.

Geography

Many Yorkshire towns and villages have Viking roots which include in their name words such as 'keld', meaning spring as in Threkeld, 'thwaite' meaning woodland clearing as in Slaithwaite and 'by' meaning farmstead or village, as in Whitby. There are, in fact, hundreds of English words with Norse origins. The word 'lass' in the local Richmond song 'Lass of Richmond Hill' is from the Norse 'Laskura' meaning unmarried.

Richmond is twinned with Vinstra in the Nord-Fron Kommune area of the Gudbrandsdal valley central Norway. It lies in an area very much like the Yorkshire Dales and is renowned for dairy products, especially cheese. Vinstra's connection to Richmond dates back to the Second World War when, in April 1940, troops from the Green Howards were trying to defend the Gudbrandsdal valley from invading German troops. In doing so they would lose some 370 men, killed or taken prisoner.

In 1973, twenty-nine men of the 1st Battalion The Green Howards retraced the steps of their 1940 comrades. The route took them from Otta, in the south of the valley, to the re-embarkation port of Åndalsnes, a distance of about 100 miles.

Royalty

The Scandinavian Royal connection with the Green Howards
(article continues on page 18)

More images from the Anglo-Norse Centenary



Ingrid Christophersen (with badge) watching while the Queen shakes hands with Anne-Sophie Marwa of *Kvinneforeningen*. Photo credit: PA Images



Sue Keane presenting Robert Pearson (who wrote and lectured on the Gold Run to the Anglo-Norse Society. On his right Elspeth and Hans Andreassen. Photo credit: Phil McCarthy

Champagne Reception on 15 November 2018



King Harald talking to Wayne Harber, (Chair of the Anglo-Danish Society). Between them Mark Elliot (former Ambassador to Norway). To the right of Wayne Harber, Alexander Malmaeus, (Chair of the Anglo-Swedish Society), Peter Cawthorne and Roger Crane (ex-Treasurer of the Anglo-Norse Society).
Photo credit: Phil McCarthy



John Birch (with badge) presenting members of his group, including in the foreground, Annie Birch and Professor Godfrey Fowler. Photo credit: PA Images

began in 1875 when the Danish Princess Alexandra, wife of the future Edward VII, presented new colours to the 1st Battalion and consented to the Regiment being designated 'The Princess of Wales's Own'.



In 1914 the now widowed Queen Alexandra became the Regiment's first Colonel-in-Chief. It followed on when her daughter Maud married Prince Charles of Denmark on the 22nd July 1896. Charles became King of Norway in 1905, and so the Norwegian Royal connection with the Green Howards and Richmond began. Haakon himself became the Colonel-in-Chief in 1942, followed by his son Olav and in turn Harald V.

In early 1955 King Haakon gave consent to an unofficial affiliation of The Kings Guard (Norway) with the Green Howards stating that it would be warmly welcomed by all members of the Regiment, and at the centenary

celebrations of the forming of the Hans Majestet Kongens Gard



Company, in November 1956, representatives of the Green Howards, including the Colonel of the Regiment Major General A.E. Robinson CB DSO DL were in attendance.

King Haakon VII died in 1957. At his funeral on the 1st October in Oslo there was a march past by a detachment of Green Howards. He was succeeded by his son who became Olav V. He too would become Colonel-in-Chief and would have a close affiliation with, and interest in the Regiment. On the 25th July 1973 King Olav opened the regimental museum in Richmond.

Olav V remained Colonel-in-Chief for 32 years until his death in 1991. In 1983, on the 25th anniversary of his appointment, he wrote: 'Above all, I want to assure you of my enduring sense of attachment to the Regiment started by my Grandmother, Queen Alexandra, over a hundred years ago. The relationship between my family and the Green Howards is indeed unique, extending beyond this personal connection



King Olav at the opening of the regimental Museum in 1973 with Major General Desmond S. Gordon CB, CBE, DSO, Colonel of the Regiment 1965 to 1975.

to the wider context of friendship between Britain and Norway.'

History

Although a regiment named the Green Howards no longer exists - it was amalgamated with the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment and the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment in 2006 to create The Yorkshire Regiment, the link to Norway will always be cherished. Portraits of Princess Alexandra, King Haakon and King Olav feature prominently within the museum, with visitors intrigued by our Scandinavian connections.

The Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration of H.M.King Harald V and H.M.Queen Sonja of Norway.

By Sybil Richardson

On August 29th 2018 the King and Queen celebrated their 50th Anniversary in a very special way by walking down the aisle of Oslo Cathedral exactly as they had done on the same day in 1968. The only marked difference being that in 1968 it was Crown Prince Harald and



Miss Sonja Haraldsen who walked down the aisle.

The one and a half hour ceremony led by the Bishop of Oslo, Kari Vieteberg was attended by 200 invited guests from the Norwegian Government, Military, Diplomatic Corps and a host of friends, and last but not least their whole family: Crown Prince Haakon, HRH Princess Mette Marit and their two children HRH Princess Ingrid Alexandra and HRH Prince Sverre Magnus followed by HH Princess Märtha Louise and her children: Miss Maud Angelica Behn, Miss Leah Isadora Behn and Emma Tallulah Behn. HRH Ingrid Alexandra and Miss Maud Angelica Behn shared the reading of the sermon. The welcoming atmosphere in the cathedral was set from the start by the tone of Egil Hovland's "Psalm 118" which led the procession. The Oslo Cathedral Boys Choir together with musicians, dancers, singers and the celebrated organist Kåre Nordstoga all added to the ambience of this very special occasion



King Harald and Queen Sonja leave Oslo Cathedral after the service. Photo credit for the above image and the one on previous page: Sven Gj. Gjeruldsen, Det kongelige hoff.

The crowds had gathered outside Oslo Cathedral eager to greet their popular Monarchs with loud cheering and a sea of Norwegian flags. The King and Queen drove in the same Lincoln Continental Limousine as they had done in 1968.

King Harald, born in 1937 was the first Prince to be born on Norwegian soil in 567 years. His parents King Olav V and Crown Princess Märtha had two older daughters: Princess Ragnhild and Princess Astrid. The family spent many tranquil years together until 1940 and the start of the Second World War in Norway when everything changed drastically and three-year old Harald fled first to Sweden and then to America with his mother and sisters, returning home on June 7th 1945. He attended an open public junior school (Smestad) continuing his education at The Oslo Cathedral School, The Norwegian Military Academy and Oxford University where he studied science, history and economy. He has always shown a great interest in sport, especially sailing and has represented Norway in the Olympics three times. At 20 he lost his Grandfather King Haakon which immediately hurled him into an official life and many duties as Norway's Crown Prince (the law of the land at the time only permitted the royal male line to ascend the throne).

Queen Sonja's story is quite different and can be likened to something out of a fairytale where the handsome Prince comes along and sweeps the lovely maiden off her feet. Born to a well-to-do business family she first attended a private school (Roll & Ihlens) and developed a great interest in sport and art, later studying Haute Couture in Switzerland and Art History. In later years she has shown her artistic talents as a photographer and painter.

The road to the altar was to be a thorny one and it wasn't until August 29th 1968, after a nine-year-long wait that they were at last to become man and wife. King Olav was of the opinion that royalty must marry into royalty even though both his daughters married commoners. However, after much turbulence Crown Prince Harald demonstrated his determination by announcing : "Sonja or no one, I will simple not marry". This swayed the pendulum and on August 29th it was King Olav who led his daughter in law down the aisle. Two children arrived, Princess Martha Louise on September 22nd 1971 and Crown Prince Haakon on July 20th 1973. The royal family were

extremely active in sports and enjoyed skiing, sailing, hiking and loved to travel. Both their children were sent to their father's old junior school at Smestad, both married commoners, producing five grandchildren, all born within five years of each other, much to the delight of their proud grandparents.

King Harald celebrated his 80th birthday in 2017 and in the Queen's speech she said the following " We have stuck together through a long journey, through adversity, love, frustration, friendship, laughter with a good pinch of stubbornness!".



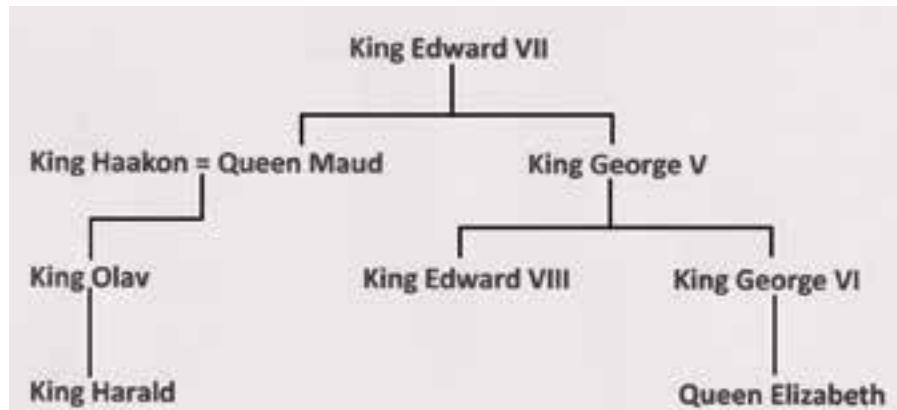
Photo credit *Se og hør* magazine

HRH King Harald chose the same motto as his grandfather, which is "Alt for Norge!". We wish them a long and happy reign with many more wonderful years to come.

The Norwegian Kings at Balliol College, Oxford, *By Godfrey Fowler OBE and John Jones**

When Prince Carl of Denmark was elected King of Norway in 1905, taking the regal name Haakon VII, he was already married to Princess Maud of Wales, who was said to be the favourite daughter of our King

Edward VII. After their 1896 wedding in Buckingham Place, King Edward had given them Appleton House on his Sandringham Estate as an English home. Their only child Prince Alexander was born there in 1903. In 1905 King Haakon renamed him and he became Crown Prince Olav. Through his mother, he was a first cousin of Edward Prince of Wales (briefly King Edward VIII) and King George VI: King Olav's son King Harald is a second cousin of our present Queen Elizabeth II.



The Royal families of Norway and Great Britain are thus intimately connected at the highest level, but there is much more to the mutual affection and regard of our two nations than royal genetics. It has a lot to do with Balliol College Oxford. Lest any bias be suspected, the authors admit that they are both Balliol people, and share with King Harald, who is an Honorary Fellow of Balliol, nearly 60 years close association with the College. Fellows of Balliol do not do bias, but they do not expect anybody outside our circle to believe that!

Crown Prince Olav's cousin Edward Prince of Wales had been at Magdalen College Oxford before the Great War, and had enjoyed himself there. It would have been natural enough and expected for Prince Olav to follow him there, but in 1920 his Norwegian tutor advised King Haakon that Balliol would be more suitable. Discreet enquiries were made about the possibility of the Crown Prince being admitted. AL Smith, who was then Master of Balliol, replied that the College would be honoured '... to be invited to help in the education of one who will have in his hands so much of the future welfare of a

whole nation,' but 'At the same time we should in his own interest, as well as in accordance with our own principles, expect evidence that he would be up to our standard in intellectual capacity'. Three years later King Haakon was still minded to send his son to Balliol despite its left wing image, pressure from the Prince of Wales in favour of Magdalen, and concern that Norwegian universities might take offence. He was persuaded that Balliol was 'one of the best if not the best'. He admitted that 'perhaps the boys got very socialistic ideas there', but his resolve was not shaken when AD Lindsay, a Christian Socialist and an active member of the Labour Party, was elected Master in 1924: '... it does not look as if he is trying to enforce his personal point of view on the young people under his charge, so I do not see any reason why I should change my mind on sending my son to his college'.



Prince Olav (circled) with the Balliol College Oarsmen 1926. Photo copyright Balliol College, Oxford

It all worked out very well. Crown Prince Olav took a full part in the sporting and academic life of the College 1924-1926 on an equal footing with the other young men, and enjoyed it, recording the regard he came to have for Lindsay by contributing a handsome Foreword to Lindsay's biography .

He visited Balliol, which made him an Honorary Fellow in 1937, numerous times. When the Nazi invasion of Norway took place, he came to England with his father, although it is well known that he would have stayed behind as a resistance leader if that had been allowed; and when in the Oxford area during the War he dined quietly in Balliol Senior Common Room. As King he came to grand Balliol occasions like the College's Septcentenary celebrations in 1963, and also made several private visits.

On one of these low key private visits, King Olav was chatting with the Master late in the evening when a threatening phone call was received. It was immediately obvious to the Master and the King that this was a hoax call from neighbouring Trinity College pranksters, and



Prince Harald (circled),'a formidable oarsman' with the Balliol College 1st VIII in 1962. Photo copyright: Balliol College Oxford.

they carried on regardless. But the bodyguard, who had been provided by British security, got very excited and, rather unsteady on his feet, with his hand on his gun, insisting on searching the vicinity, with the Dean in tow. It was comically clear that the bodyguard had no need to worry: the King would have looked after him in the event of trouble.

When King Olav died in 1991, the respect he commanded in the UK was marked with a Memorial Service in Westminster Abbey, at which we represented the College together with the then Master.

We can only speculate that it was King Olav's affection for his old College that led him to point Crown Prince Harald towards Balliol, but we suspect that the College's Senior Fellow AB Rodger, had something to do with it: they had known each other since 1924.

Crown Prince Harald spent the years 1960-1962 at Balliol, and like his father has put on record that he enjoyed it, entering fully into College life, especially its rowing life. He was a formidable oarsman, who rowed in the College 1st VIII.

He too was made an Honorary Fellow while still Crown Prince, and as King the University conferred an Honorary Doctorate on him



Leading members of Balliol College Boat Club greeting King Harald after he had received an Honorary Degree by Diploma in 2006. Photo Copyright: Balliol College, Oxford

by Diploma (an honour reserved for special Heads of State) in 2006. The occasion was very grand, with all of us bedecked in academic finery. After speeches and formalities in the University's Sheldonian theatre, there was a formal luncheon. It was a University entertainment, but it was staged in Balliol's Hall. The University dignitaries assembled in the Hall first, and it fell happily to one of us to greet His Majesty at the College gates and escort him to the Hall. As a surprise, leading members of the Balliol Boat Club had been tipped off to be standing by the Hall entrance. He was obviously delighted by this unofficial diversion and stopped to talk with them for several minutes.

In accepting his Honorary Doctorate, the King made a gracious and thoughtful speech, reminding us in passing that King Haakon the First had been brought up in the Court of the English King Athelstan more than a thousand years ago. But mostly he spoke of the great and multifaceted affinity between our countries. His speech should be required reading for all members of the Anglo-Norse Society:
<https://www1.ox.ac.uk/gazette/2006-7/weekly/231106/notc.htm#1Ref>.

*GHF and JHJ are both Emeritus Fellows of Balliol. GHF was a Balliol College Doctor 1959-1991, and was elected a Professorial Fellow of Balliol in 1978 when he became a senior academic member of the Oxford Medical School. Sissel, his wife of more than 50 years, is Norwegian. JHJ was admitted to Balliol as a Commoner in 1961 (HM King Harald was admitted as a Commoner in 1960), and was elected a Fellow of Balliol in 1966; he was Dean of the College 1972-2002, Archivist and College Historian from 1980, and was the Senior Fellow and Vice-Master when he retired in 2009.

Kvinneforeningens Centenary Lunch for the Anglo-Norse Society

By Paul Gobey

As part of the events to mark the centenary of the ANS, a splendid lunch, laid on, and heavily subsidised by *Kvinneforeningen* - took place at the Norwegian Church in Rotherhithe, London on Thursday, 18 October. 54 members (some of whom, of course, belong to

both societies) and guests enjoyed a marvellous 'koldtbord',



and an array of calorific *bløtkaker* which had been donated by a benefactor. One was decorated with a '100-shaped sparkler, which was duly lit by Irene Garland.



Irene Garland also presented a fascinating illustrated talk on the history of the Society from 1918 to the present day, with meetings initially held at the vegetarian “Food Reform Restaurant” via Norway House to the Embassy and, of course, the Norwegian Church. George Bernard Shaw and Thor Heyerdahl were among many eminent speakers engaged by the Society.

After a break during World War II, the ANS was re-constituted on 27.5.1945 and initial meetings took place at the Duchy Hotel, Lancaster Gate. Annual dinners were held, for example at the Waldorf Hotel or Café Royal, and annual ski trips were to Norway or Hampstead Heath! A big expansion in the Society’s activities had taken place in the 1970s with fundraising, awarding bursaries, selling books, arranging bi-annual language seminars for teachers and the launch of the *Anglo-Norse Review* in 1975. With the passing years, some of these activities have inevitably subsided in favour of other events, notably Musical Evenings held in recent years at the Norwegian Ambassador’s Residence.

Many thanks to Irene and to the Norwegian Church and Kvinneforening for making this event so enjoyable and successful. A raffle in aid of the ANS Centenary Appeal raised £153.

You can donate to our Centennial Scholarship Fund

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QUEEN ELIZABETH & KING HARALD SIGNING THE ALMANAC

