

Christmas letter 2008

Dear friends!

2008 was our first full year together in Norway. Well, together ...
A major part of the year was spent with many friends and family
visiting us in Norway. We'll soon be opening a full-service hotel 😊



In this Christmas letter, we want to share some of the highlights
from the past year, and send you our holiday greetings.
Happy reading!





Vindøldalen, in Trollheimen



Snow walking east of Trondheim

Winter fun

This year brought us 4 months of deep snow. Terrific! We spent lots of time skiing or walking on snow shoes, both close to home and in Trollheimen, a national park just south of Trondheim. Sometimes just the two of us, but mostly with Dutch visitors or Norwegian friends. Very nice and lots of fun ☺



Where's the ski tracks?



Cocooning ☺

Storlidalen, in Trollheimen



Party time!

We had many parties in 2008, several big family parties in the Netherlands, several other parties in Norway. Always nice ☺

Neighbors' party



Celebrating turning 45 in Stockholm's Ice Bar



**Julebord", the big Christmas dinner*



1000-days-together celebration



The biggest party every year is May 17th, Norway's national holiday, filled with parades, concerts, and costumes.



Folk culture

Norway has a rich culture full of traditions that we enjoy being part of. Here's some examples!



Catch your own fish



Pick your own berries



Make your own jam



Find your own edible mushrooms



Make your own hot dog: bread dough wrapped around a sausage



Help friends build a new veranda



Do as the Norwegians: "gå på hyttetur" ...



... or "på skøyte"

Cultural events

The past year was also filled with many cultural events:



SBUN-NGA, cultural performance from Thailand



The Samic singer Mari Boine



Our monthly concerts of Trondheim Symphony Orchestra



The cultural highlight in Trondheim each year is the “Olavsfestdagene”, a 1-week historical/cultural festival with concerts, historic market, and a knights tournament.



A Cirque du Soleil happening in Amsterdam

Holidays

We spent our summer holidays camping in the Norwegian mountains of “Sunmørsalpene”, where we made many walking and hiking trips.



Later this year, in the autumn, we were a week in Greece, mostly lying by the pool ☺
But we also enjoyed some Greek culture.



Kalitea Springs

Rhodos city



Work...

For those who might think that all we do is play and have fun, and that there's no work to be done at all: we actually do work a bit 😊



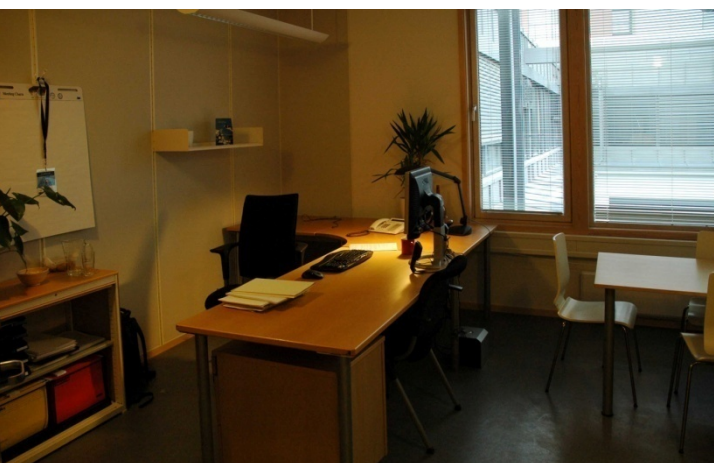
Bea's office at Dragvoll

She also does a fair bit of travelling, mostly to conferences and meetings, and to visit other researchers she's collaborating with.

Beatrix is still on "forskningstermin", or sabbatical, and enjoys having time for research again. She's finishing old papers, designing new experiments, and writing new research papers at last ...



Campus Dragvoll



Albert's office at Gløshaugen

His main responsibilities are budgeting and economics, personnel management, facility management, HSE, and organisational development of the institute.

At the end of 2007, Albert began in a new job as "stand-in" head of administration of the Department for Civil and Transport Engineering at NTNU. In September this year, his job was changed to a permanent position with far more responsibilities.

Campus Gløshaugen



We wish everyone
happy holidays and
a new year filled
with peace and joy.
Hope to see you all
in 2009!



Beatrix & Albert

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