

Christmas letter 2021

Albert & Beatrix



Dear friends,

For us, 2021 was a roller coaster of a year, with many great moments but also worries and grief. A year that was still in the grip of the pandemic and resultant restrictions, an intensive EU-project for Bea that requires a lot of her time and attention, two surgical operations and a new job for Albert, several culinary and cultural events, but also the illness, recovery and then unexpected death of Bea's father Cor.

At the close of this year, we wish everyone happy holidays and a healthy, safe and connected 2022.

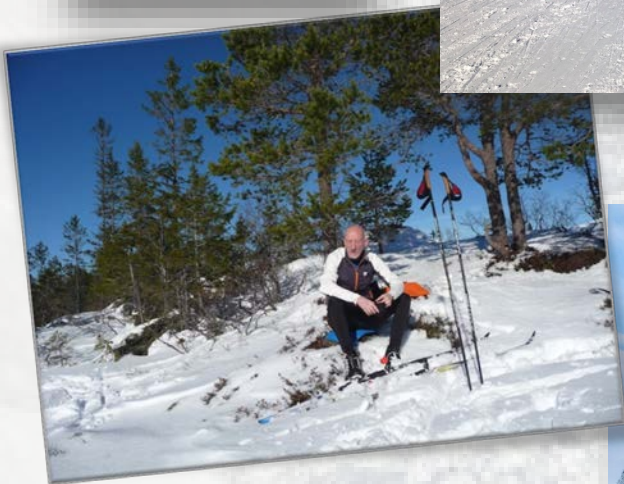
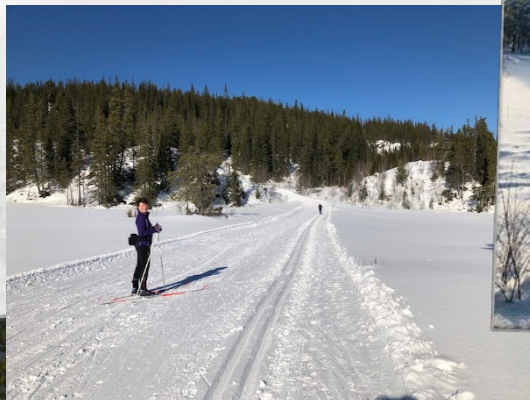
Love from Norway,

Albert & Beatrix.



Winter fun

One of the reasons we enjoy our life in Norway so much is the opportunity to play in the snow throughout the winter.



Musical 2021

Fortunately, thanks to sometimes less severe COVID-19 restrictions, we could again attend several beautiful concerts this year.



Baroksolistene – Alehouse Sessions



Tango with Trondheim Soloists



Leif Ove Andsnes & Lise Davidsen



Carmina Burana in the pool



Ingrid Bjørnov & Silja in Palmehaven



Truls Mørk



*Domkantor Petra Bjørkhaug
& jazz musician Kristoffer Lo*

TSO plays Oscar music



At Bea's work

It stays very busy at Bea's work with several European projects, supervision of many Master and PhD students, and all the committees and boards she is on. But she really likes all of it, so it won't quiet down any time soon...



By far the largest project she has ever been involved in is Mobilise-D, an EU-IMI project of almost 50 million €. Because she is part of the steering group, she is responsible for many things, so this project alone fills about half of her week.



Earlier in the year, one of Bea's 'exergaming' students, Phillipp Anders, defended his PhD thesis. Unfortunately, this had to be done online but fortunately, Bea and co-supervisor Nina were allowed to congratulate and celebrate him in person.

Culinary pleasures

It's no secret that we love to indulge in culinary delights. Fortunately, in a city like Trondheim, this is fully possible, both at and with friends, and in one of the many excellent restaurants ☺
We enjoy not only the delicious food, but also the craftsmanship of all those fantastic young chefs!



Animal life at Flatåstoppen

Our house lies at the edge of the forest, so we regularly get visits from wild deer, squirrels and birds. And this year, for the first time, we also saw a few moose close to our house!



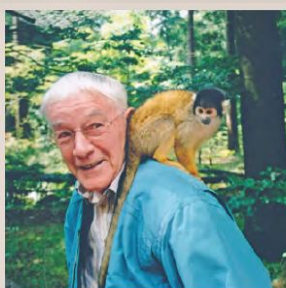
Plant life at Flatåstoppen

After last year's huge "driveway project", our garden is starting to take shape and color. We are greatly enjoying our new terrace to the fullest.



Farewell to Cor

In August Bea's father, Cor, passed away unexpectedly, even though the recovery from his surgery and radiation therapy in the spring seemed to be going so well. We miss this wonderful man terribly, but we are grateful for the many precious memories we have of him, the great holidays we had together, and the many beautiful things he built for us over the years.



Cor Vereijken 1933 – 2021



*En toch, telkens weer
zullen we je tegenkomen*

Albert's work

Albert changed jobs in 2021, and now works as director of health and welfare in the municipality of Melhus, just south of Trondheim. A challenging and exciting job, and he really enjoys it. Partly because of the pandemic, he has his hands full. In his new job, he is regularly interviewed both by the local and even the national press.



Har sagt opp lederstilling i kommunen - starter i ny sjefsjobb i sommer



Albert Verhagen starter i ny jobb i Melhus kommune 1. august. FOTO: JAN ERIK SUNDØY

Tronderbladet
Nyheter Marked Sport Livet Kultur Meninger

Har fått 3,1 millioner i bøter - akuttåpner sykehjemsavdeling

Prislappen for å åpne et tomt sykehjemsavdeling på Buen er 10 millioner kroner.



Kommunalsjef Albert Verhagen og dagansvarlig Hildegunn Kvaloy står etter kommunestyremøtet at det er viktig å ha fokus på helsebygg. Kilde: GUNN HEDIN NAKREIM

Øker bemanning etter smitte

Det blir satt inn ekstra bemanning etter at seks pasienter og en ansatt ved sykehjemmet på Høland, samt en ansatt ved hjemmesykepleien, har testet positivt på koronavirus.



Sykehuset Melhus

Sitt oppgjør: 15. november 2022 (08:16)



Seks sykehjemsbeboere og en ansatt smittet

Smittebruddet på Høland helse- og omsorgssenter fører til at kommunen bemanner på sykehjemmet i tillegg til Høland helse- og omsorgssenter. Albert Verhagen er kommunalsjef for helse og velferd i Melhus kommune.

Vi setter inn ekstra bemanning for å sikre at vi har forvalgt tjenesten i ansett tilhørende personal fra fridagene, og vil vurdere om vi må tilkalle flere, forteller Albert Verhagen.



I 2018 betalte kommunen sør for Trondheim nesten 1,2 millioner kroner i dagbøter til St. Olavs hospital i Trondheim fordi de ikke tok imot utskrivningsklare pasienter. Det viste VG kartlegging av situasjonen i kommunene etter samhandlingsreformen.

Les mer: Når kommunene ikke klarer å ta imot pasienter som skrives ut av sykehusene, betaler de bøter

BØTER: Melhus kommune sliter med å ta imot ferdigbehandlede pasienter fra St. Olavs Hospital. Virksomhetsleder Albert Verhagen sier at kommunen ser en coronaeffekt på kommunens skjeppelste. Foto: Privat

Dette var bøter for pasienter som ble liggende ekstra døgn på sykehus, etter at de var ferdig behandlet. Botene for ikke å ta imot pasientene, ble innført med samhandlingsreformen i 2012.

I år koster det kommunen 5167 kroner døgnet å la en pasient ligge ferdig behandlet på sykehus.

– Per utgangen av september i år hadde vi betalt 4,3 millioner kroner i dagbøter til sykehuset, sier Verhagen.

Mener pensjonerte sykepleiere blir snytt for lønn

– Når en ser behovet i Melhus for at sykepleiere melder seg til tjeneste, er det underlig at kommunen ikke betaler dem den lønna de skulle ha hatt.



Buen helse- og omsorgssenter er ett av flere sykehjem i Melhus kommune. FOTO: GUNN HEDIN NAKREIM

Sliter i lederjakten: - Det er ikke mulig å ha jobbintervjuer

Melhus kommune leter etter ny leder for hjemmetjenesten.



Ulf Albert A. Verhagen i Melhus kommune. FOTO: GUNN HEDIN NAKREIM

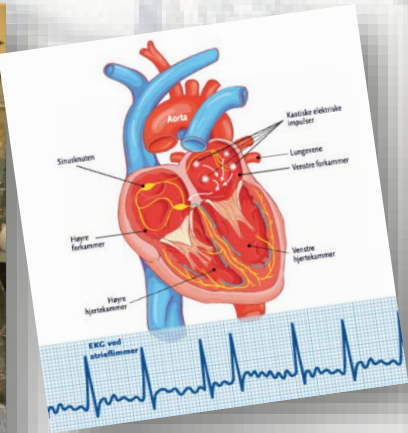
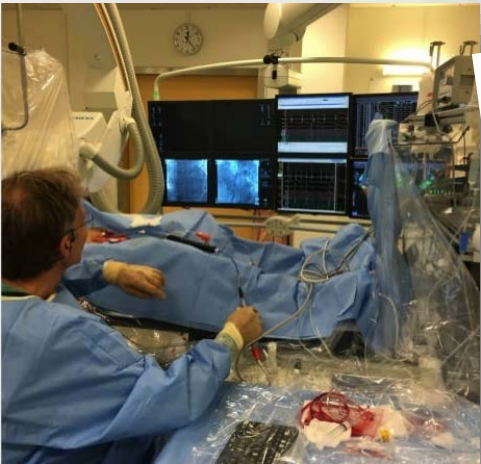
Hospital adventures

In June, Albert had surgery done on his shoulder to fix a number of torn tendons. After the surgery, he had to use a brace for 6 weeks to avoid putting any strain on his shoulder. He was warned about a rehabilitation trajectory of 6-12 months, but after just 5 months the mobility is almost completely back, and the muscle strength is also largely back already.



Our own private training center

Less than three weeks after his shoulder surgery, Albert was back in the operating theater. This time for a long-awaited surgery to fix his arrhythmia. The procedure lasted more than 3 hours under local anesthesia. One night at the heart monitor and then he was allowed to go home, where he had to take it super-easy for 10 days. So far, it seems that this operation has been successful as well 😊



Summer in Norway

Due to Covid and Albert’s surgeries, we spent the summer in Norway this year as well. Thanks to the beautiful summer weather, that was no hardship at all, and we were able to walk and swim in Bymarka, the nature reserve that borders our house. We also took a trip across the fjord with friend Hroar.



Visitors from the Netherlands

In August, the entry restrictions for Norway were lifted and we were again able to receive visitors from abroad. Mark kicked off in August, followed in October by Maartien and Anco. Unfortunately, neither time the weather was really nice, but that didn't spoil the fun ☺



Chaîne des Rôtisseurs

After a long period with many restrictions, towards the end of the year it was again possible to participate in excellent culinary events with the Chaîne des Rôtisseurs.



Beatrix got lots of attention on her birthday



Northern Lights

This year as well, we were treated to the Northern Lights a number of times. An amazing and enchanting spectacle that we can't get enough of!

