

January 2002

A Little in English

Kofi Annan, UN Awarded 2001 Peace Prize

On September 28, just a few weeks after the events in New York and Washington, the Nobel Committee in Oslo decided that the United Nations (UN) and its secretary-general, Kofi Annan, would receive the Peace Prize this year. This is the same year the Committee celebrates its 100th anniversary.

The decision was received very positively around the whole world. Many think the prize will strengthen the UN's role as a key organization in the fight against terrorism. This is the first time the UN has received the Peace Prize.

From Aftenposten and Norway Times

Sons of Norway is 107 years old

On January 16, Sons of Norway celebrates its 107th anniversary. It was started in 1895 by a group of Norwegian-Americans living in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They gathered together in the midst of a terrible economic depression to create an organization for Norwegians to support one another and to maintain their ties to "the old country."



SONS OF
NORWAY

Januar 2002

Litt på norsk

Kofi Annan og FN tildelt fredspris

28. September, noen få uker etter hendelsene i New York og Washington, ble det vedtatt av Nobelkomitéen i Oslo at de forente nasjoner (FN) og dens general-sekretær Kofi Annan skulle få fredsprisen i år, samme år som komitéen feirer sitt 100-årsjubileum.

Vedtaket ble mottatt meget positivt over hele verden. Mange mener FN's rolle som nøkkelorganisasjon i kampen mot terrorisme skal styrkes gjennom å få prisen. Dette er første gang selve FN har fått fredsprisen.

Fra Aftenposten og Nordisk Tidende

Happy Anniversary!



SONS OF
NORWAY

History of our Name

One thing that the founding members focused on at their first meeting back in 1895 was what to name this organization.

It came down to a vote between 'BRØDRE AV NORGE' (Brothers of Norway) and 'SØNNER AV NORGE' (Sons of Norway). By a vote of 14 to 2, the name we use today won.

The name was inspired by a line from a famous song by Eskild Pedersen:

Sønner av Norge, det eldgamle rike,
Synger til harpens den festlige klang.

This translates to:
Sons of Norway, the ancient kingdom,
Sing to the harps with festive sound.

Norwegian Winter Word Find

L S K I H O P P N
F I N M A S N Ø O
Å S O Ø N L Y N R
J T L A S L U D D
W A T I K T U R L
Ø P K Æ E P O E Y
B P J K R V K R S
K O F T E O Æ K M

Words to find:

- Snøstorm - Blizzard
- Skihopp - Ski jump
- Sludd - Sleet
- Istapp - Icicle
- Kofte - Norwegian sweater
- Jakke - Jacket
- Lue - Hat
- Hansker - Mittens
- Nordlys - Northern Lights

God fornøyelse!
Have fun!

Travel Benefits

Celebrate Syttende Mai in Oslo With New Sons of Norway Tour

There is no better place to celebrate Norway's constitution day than in its capital city, Oslo. You can be part of the festivities on May 17, 2002, with our new member tour, Viking Capitals, offered in conjunction with Global Holidays.

This fabulous 10-day tour takes you to best of Oslo, Stockholm, and Copenhagen, and includes a cruise on Norway's famous and breathtaking Sognefjord. Best yet, you'll be in Oslo on May 17th, to witness first-hand the awesome annual celebration of Syttende Mai.

Airline, accommodations, most meals, and experienced guides create a worry-free, wonderful spring trip through beautiful Scandinavia. The cost per person starts at \$2,349. For more information or to reserve your spot, call Global Holidays at 1-800-842-9023 today.



February 2002

A Little in English Friends for Life

A heartwarming story recently appeared on Oslo's main newspaper, Aftenposten. Six-month-old Jørgen Slettaløkken and his mother were driving from Isfjorden to Åndalsnes in Møre and Romsdal County when their car plunged into the fjord.

The boy's mother was unable to save both herself and Jørgen, but luckily 73-year-old Inge Kavli came at the right moment, and he quickly came to the rescue. Now thanks to him and the First-Aid skills of another passerby, Jørgen is again a smiling and healthy baby boy. For here on, it seems likely that Inge and Jørgen will be friends for life.

From Aftenposten



Februar 2002

Litt på norsk Venner for Livet

En lykkelig historie dukket nylig opp i Aftenposten, Oslos største avis. Seks måneder gamle Jørgen Slettaløkken og moren var på vei fra Isfjorden til Åndalsnes i Møre og Romsdal fylke da bilen stupte ned i fjorden.

Moren klarte ikke å hale bade seg selv og gutten i land, men heldigvis kom 73 år gamle Inge Kavli i rette øyeblikk for å redde ungen fra drukningsdøden. Takket være ham og en annen tilskuer med førstehjelpskunnskaper, er Jørgen igjen en frisk og smilende guttunge. Fra nå av ser det ut som om Inge og Jørgen kommer til å være venner for livet.

Fra Aftenposten

Princess Mette-Marit's Purse Stolen

Royal bodyguards assigned to the newest Norwegian royal, Crown Princess Mette-Marit, are trained to protect the crown princess from physical harm. They never expected, though, that they would have to watch out for purse-snatchers.

The princess and a friend, along with three bodyguards, made a surprise appearance at the Ullevål School flea market. She laid her purse down as she went to try on a coat, and when she returned, the purse was gone. A short time later a woman shopper found the purse and turned it into officials, who then gave it back to the princess. Her bankcard was apparently still in the purse, but other items, which the Palace has declined to name, were missing.

From Norway Times

The Confusing Politics of Norway

The Norwegian political scene can be perplexing at times, with its wide array of parties. Traditionally, the Social Democrat Party ruled Norway, but for the second time in a decade, a coalition of other parties has formed to counter them.

The Christian Democrats, Liberals, and Conservatives have teamed up, although they do not have a majority in Parliament. The new government is having to cooperate with the other parties on a range of issues. One example is their cooperation with the controversial far-right Progress Party on the 2002 budget. This also means that other ideas besides the traditional Social Democrat views are being represented in Norway's Parliament.

The composition of Norway's Parliament now looks like this:

Social Democrats	43 seats
Conservatives	38 seats
Progress Party	25 seats
Socialist Left	23 seats
Christian Democrats	22 seats
Center Party	10 seats
Liberals	2 seats
Coastal Party	1 seat
Independent	1 seat
Total	165 seats

Bad Coffee Becomes a Crime

Once in a while we run into some pretty bad coffee. But seldom is it so bad that it has to be reported to the police. That's what the staff at Andenes Shipping Service in Nordland County had to do.

After the staff got so sick that four of them had to go to the hospital, it was discovered that the coffee contained paint-thinner or something of the sort. The injuries were nothing worse than stomach pain, nausea and weariness, but nonetheless the police are on the case to find the culprit of this prank.

From *Nytt fra Norge*

War Children Lose Reparations Case

A famous and tragic story to come out of Norway's World War II occupation concerns the some 10,000 offspring of Norwegian mothers and German soldiers. These children, now in their 50s to 60s, are known as krigsbarna, or the war children.

After the war, many frustrated and hurt Norwegians chose to take their frustrations out on these children. Unfortunately, the Norwegian state did not do much to stop it. Recently, a group of seven of these war children sued the Norwegian government in Oslo Municipal Court for the abuse and harassment they were subjected to.

On November 16, the court reached a verdict rejecting the group's claim. The group had demanded between 500,000 and 2,000,000 kroner (\$55,000-\$225,000) in compensation for the harm they endured. This is possibly one of the most controversial issues in Norway concerning the war era, and it will probably not go away.

From *Aftenposten*

