



## eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday 4 June 2008

Email to the editors: [elife@life.ku.dk](mailto:elife@life.ku.dk)

Final deadline for editorial changes is Wednesday before publication of eLIFE on Thursday.

Editorial changes may occur in relation to the online newsletter.

As regards links in the newsletter, please refer to the Danish online version at the faculty's website [http://www.life.ku.dk/Maalgruppe/medarbejdere/life\\_internt/nyhedsbrev.aspx](http://www.life.ku.dk/Maalgruppe/medarbejdere/life_internt/nyhedsbrev.aspx)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Editor, Communications, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk)

## Life at LIFE

### **Restaurant Gimle**

There are probably a lot of people who have attended an Anniversary party, Christmas party or Gala party at Gimle and sensed a historical atmosphere in its rooms. And many have probably thought, no that can't be right. Well, I will now provide some of the history of the Gimle of yore, which is actually a major part of the history of Frederiksberg – including the Storm P. paintings at what is now A-vej.

Gimle was built in 1874 by the architect J.A. Stillmann as a seven-bay, two-storey building on land owned by Martin Hansen-Gisseman after the printer Christian Peter Bianco Luno (1795-1872) had parcelled out the property of the country house of Christianshvile for housing. In the basement, a public house with a bowling alley and shooting gallery were established, which explains the rather odd layout of the long, narrow room. Otherwise, Gimle is best remembered for its auditorium, with function and conference rooms, which was very important as a popular gathering place in Frederiksberg, especially for the local clubs and associations.

One of the first events to take place at Gimle was when 75 delegates from around Denmark met on 6 June 1876 to adopt the first party programme of the Social Democratic Party. The congress lasted three days, and the main speaker was Louis Pio (1841-1894), who was not, however, assigned the main role in the party that

he had expected. In 1877 he was bribed by the police to emigrate to America. The fact that the Social Democrats began their days as a political party at Gimle was most likely a matter of chance as it was simply the place where people gathered at that time. Gimle was also used by other political parties, clubs, associations (incl. Frederiksberg Police Association, Frederiksberg Social Club, Odd Fellows, the Danish Veterinary Association), choirs (incl. Frederiksberg Citizens Choir) and dancing schools, as well as for family parties such as birthdays, weddings, confirmations etc., not to mention banquets and the like.

The Gimle building is still visible in one photo from 1910, even though the beautiful gardens, at least in this particular area, are replaced by bike racks and asphalt. Here is an excerpt of a wonderful description of a Tuesday evening at Gimle in 1930: "A mild Tuesday evening, I turned and went through Gimle's monumental gateway, which was teeming with life. I hung my coat in the cloakroom and walked into the red room where the citizens' association met every Tuesday. It is 9 pm and through clouds of tobacco smoke I see that the room is crammed with card players."

The Frederiksberg Municipal Association celebrated its 5th anniversary at Gimle in 1913, with a stylish banquet where the gentlemen wore dinner jackets and white gloves and the ladies, bobbed hair and long dresses. In 1933, the association returned to Gimle to celebrate its 25th anniversary.

And now we come to the artist Storm P., whose full name was Robert Storm Petersen and who was born in 1882 – the eldest son of Olivia Storm and Carl Petersen. You could call him something of a 'multi-artist' who contributed to the creative worlds of books, painting, drawing and acting. He debuted as an actor in 1903, and he played parts in a variety of cabarets and silent movies where his humorous improvisations came into their right. He produced a large number of cartoons, including Peter and Ping, often spiced up with the typical Danish form of humour.

In 1922, he did the paintings of Prime Minister Niels Neergaard, the waiter and the Devil spiking the water with liquor and children rolling coconuts during a period in his life when he was trying to re-establish his position as a comic persona. He had just moved out to the country after an unsuccessful journey to America. Luckily, the paintings at A-vej can still be seen 'live', although the plexiglas could do with a bit of polishing.

Storm P. died on 6 March 1949 after a brief illness, and was buried in Frederiksberg Cemetery. A museum was created in his honour at Frederiksberg Circle (just outside the main entrance to Frederiksberg Gardens) in 1977, where it still stands today.

You could say that Gimle had been a gathering place for much of the social, political, cultural and association life of Frederiksberg until KVL took over the building in 1956. After that, it was turned into a canteen, and from 1989 until today, it housed the Department of Dairy Farming, with the MOP group also using rooms in Gimle for a brief period of time.

It is extremely interesting that the people of Frederiksberg have used A-vej as a bowling alley and pub, and the Council and Gimle canteen functioned as a meeting place for parties and for thinking great political thoughts. You could say that the place has really experienced a renaissance, with today's young people creating in its rooms almost the same atmosphere as back then. So the next time you sense the special atmosphere in the rooms of Gimle and the Council, it is probably the real deal.

#### References:

Mørch, Palle: *Frederiksbergs Gimle, Frederiksberg gennem tiderne*, XX (20), 1997, p. 53-63.

Bing, Jens: *En udsmykning i "Gimle" af Storm P., Frederiksberg gennem tiderne*, XXII (22), 1999, p. 97-103.

<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/4865/stormp.html>

<http://home.worldonline.dk/bhm/stormp.htm>

*Morten Kjærsgaard*

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 4 June 2008*

## **Experience the large animal hospital and experimental farms in Taastrup**

Open house on Sunday 15 June, 12 noon-3 pm, Højbakkegård Allé 1-30:

Pack a picnic and bring family and friends for a variety of unique family experiences with animals, plants and the foods of the future. Visit the experimental farms and the brand new University Hospital for Large Animals at the Faculty of Life Sciences when they open their doors to the public (a rare occasion indeed) in celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Frederiksberg Campus.

[Read the press release](#) (in Danish)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 3 June 2008*

## **Animals and birds in the Faculty Gardens**

By animals I most certainly do not mean the dogs, which it has for some reason become popular to walk in the Gardens, even though dogs both on and off leashes are strictly forbidden. To nip this problem in the bud, we have made arrangements with a sealer from Greenland who would be happy to experiment with dogs from Copenhagen as sled dogs at the North Pole. Another option is the local Chinese restaurant which has expressed an interest in adding some exciting new dishes to its menu.

Foxes are more a part of nature, and for many years we have had a family of foxes living under a rhododendron on Skyggehøjen. We were not particularly fond of the foxes, because their curious nature caused them to check out whether we had planted the tulip bulbs properly, so they often spent their nights digging up new beds. At the same time, they also saw it as their duty to see whether anything edible could be found in the rubbish bins, where leftover pizza would often be scattered about in a few hundred smaller and well-licked pieces. The foxes have not actually been seen for a while or at least they have not bothered us.

However, we do regularly see squirrels, which especially like to hang out in the area in front of the main building under the large hazel bush on Thorvaldsensvej. It is always fun to watch the young squirrels, and they are all – young and old – happy to go about their business with an audience.

Now, there is actually nothing that forbids horses in the Gardens, and in the past it was perfectly legal as horses undergoing treatment were often taken down to the pond to cool their sick hoofs. A couple of years ago, when the Gardens were still locked at night, I went to lock the gate myself one night and somehow managed to miss sight of someone out airing their pony. None the wiser, I went home, only to hear the story the next day of how someone had gone through a good deal of trouble to get a pony over the gate.

The bird life is particularly well-represented by a large flock of geese in the pond, which are fed daily by visitors with young children. Ducks are birds, too, and we have to live with them for better or worse. They are not always popular with us though as they have a habit of messing about in the newly planted beds on the lawn in front of the pond.

A few years ago, we had reached a point of near-desperation as we found each morning the little name signs in the rockery pulled up and scattered throughout the Gardens. We thought it must be kids' pranks and so we established a guard patrol to catch the culprits. When they were finally captured, the culprits turned out to be a flock of magpies which would peck at the signs and then fly off with them, dropping them just any old place to the great frustration of the rockery gardener.

For many years, we have had a sparrow hawk couple living in the Gardens, where they normally built their nests at the top of one of the trees. But last year, the hawks built their nest only 3 metres up in a cedar next to one of the garden paths. When a guest or gardener approached, the hawks would get restless and often dive-bomb them, dropping out of the sky in a flash and hitting people with a wing in the neck. During the brooding season, I was personally attacked three times, and once with claws in my head, so we were forced to post a warning stating 'Proceed at your own risk'. Because there was great interest in the sparrow hawks on our tours, I would take guests past the nest, only to discover that larger groups of people were never attacked. But the guests must have heard about the attacks, because many of them turned up their hoods and opened their umbrellas. The hawk couple produced three lovely chicks all of which left the nest, and I hope that they will also be nesting in the Gardens this year, but preferably higher up this time.

We once had a swan couple visit our little pond in the Gardens. They were there for a few days but never left the water. A bit of background searching revealed that they needed about 50 metres of free water in order to take off, which they certainly could not find in our little pond. The swan couple looked lovely in the middle of the pond, and they brought a Hans Christian Andersen atmosphere to the Gardens, but the fact was they could not escape. Denmark is a free country, however, and a kind of prison-like atmosphere had begun to develop in the Gardens, so a rescue mission was launched, and we tried to capture the swans. Now, swans that do not want to be caught can make it very difficult. So after about an hour, one of the rescuers had to call the fire department for backup, and even though all the gardeners pitched in, the swans could not be caught.

After the swans had been given a few days to recover, and we had overcome our embarrassment, we called Copenhagen Zoo for their assistance. Two well-trained representatives from the zoo arrived, and two minutes later the swans were each in their own big cardboard box. I considered releasing them at Utterslev Mose, but was afraid they might find their way back to the pond in the Gardens. Then I had an idea. I live in Central Zealand near Lake Kimmerslev, where there are often swans, and since so many other Copenhageners have joined us out in the country, there ought to be room for a couple of swans as well.

I grabbed a service car, and despite the hissing in the boxes, managed to carry the swans down to the edge of the lake and open the tops. The swans immediately jumped out and waddled down to the water where they majestically floated about and explored their new surroundings. Apparently, they were not impressed by what they saw, and after five minutes they again took flight, bound for Copenhagen.

The next morning, I couldn't wait to get to the pond to see if the swans had returned, but luckily they had found an appropriate lake along the way, and who knows, maybe something close to an idyllic manor house. One thing is certain, swans will not let anyone else decide where they should live for them. Now that is a true story.

*Kim Greiner, Senior Gardener*

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 May 2008*

**Music at Café Væksthuset on Danish Constitution Day**

The orchestra from LIFE's anniversary day, Sunding Allstars, will be playing at Café Væksthuset on Thursday 5 June from 3-5 pm. The music and the café are sponsored by the Danish Agricultural Advisory Service (*Dansk Landbrugsrådgivning*).

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 May 2008*

## Announcements

### **AEU course on staff administration and HR policy**

Røsnæs, 15-17 September – registration by Friday 1 August.

The course is geared towards:

Employees with HR administration functions (appointments, payroll, registration of absence, committee support etc.).

The [information folder](#) can be found in Danish on the website under "kursusmateriale".

To register online, visit [www.aeu.dk](http://www.aeu.dk).

**Torben Knudsen, HR development, [tkn@sdu.dk](mailto:tkn@sdu.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 3 June 2008*

### **Final deadline for registering activities for the Night of Culture 2008**

This is the final call for registering activities for the Night of Culture 2008, if they are to be included in the official printed programme.

The Night of Culture will take place on Friday 10 October, and Frederiksberg Campus will be open from 6-10 pm.

Contact Lykke Thostrup [lyt@life.ku.dk](mailto:lyt@life.ku.dk) or Gudrun Lau Bjerno [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) for more information on registering activities.

Night of Culture 2008 – registered activities as of 4 June

*Bülowsvej area:*

Awaiting final title

Contact: Geoffrey Houser, Department of Small Animal Science  
Small Animal Hospital

Museum of Veterinary History exhibition

Contact: Hans Henrik Smedegaard, Museum of Veterinary History

Experience Bindsbøll's beautiful main lecture hall  
Minna Rappold, Buildings & Maintenance

Dean Per Holten-Andersen talks about the 150-year history of the Faculty of Life Sciences  
Main lecture hall, 8-9 pm

Climate tent – Costa del LIFE  
Events group, LIFE students' association – Green Network  
Riding ground

Go on a treasure hunt in the zoology collection  
Contact: Jan Martin, Department of Agriculture Sciences and Ecology  
Zoology collection

What caused the animal's death?  
Contact: Henrik Elvang, Department of Veterinary Pathobiology  
Pathoanatomical Theatre

Deformed specimens collection  
Contact: Henrik Elvang, Department of Veterinary Pathobiology  
Ridebanevej 3, basement

Café Væksthuset  
Food and drinks; live music  
Café Væksthuset

Gastronomic/sensory experience  
Department of Food Science  
Café Væksthuset

*Thorvaldsensvej:*

Uninvited guests on plant seeds  
Contact: Jan Torp, Department of Plant Biology and Biotechnology  
Vandrehallen

Genetically modify a plant – how hard can it be?  
Contact: Anna Haldrup, Department of Plant Biology and Biotechnology  
D-71

Plants with an impact  
Contact: Søren Bak, Department of Plant Biology and Biotechnology  
D-66

Monstrous plants and scary infections  
Contact: Eigil de Neergaard, Department of Plant Biology and Biotechnology  
Main collection in the basement at stairwell 8

Why do the apples rot in the fruit bowl?  
Contact: David Collinge, Department of Plant Biology and Biotechnology  
G-66

Plants – What are they used for when they can't be eaten?  
Contact: Kiki Lyster Jensen, Department of Plant Biology and Biotechnology  
Marble Hall

From farm to fork – great garden compost, red radishes and strange mutants  
Contact: Rikke Pape Thomsen, Department of Agricultural Sciences and Ecology  
Vandrehallen

Monster rain, flooding and water in your neighbour's basement  
Contact: Line Wadum, Forest and Landscape  
Marble Hall

Softice – at the molecular level; taste tests  
Contact: Thomas Janhøj, Department of Food Science  
Vandrehallen

Lecture on food safety(?)  
Henrik Siegumfelt, Department of Food Science

Three topics – to be announced soon  
Contact: Torben Ingerslev Roug, School Service

The Dexa scanner and experimental chambers (final title?)  
Contact: Martin Kreutzer, Department of Human Nutrition

*Rolighedsvej:*

Taste the diversity of the fruits and seeds of the world  
Contact: Johannes Kollmann, Department of Agriculture Sciences and Ecology  
Villa Rolighed

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 4 June 2008*

## **University Life 2007 – e-pages version**

Universitetsliv 2007 at <http://www.e-pages.dk/ku/91/>

University Life 2007 at <http://www.e-pages.dk/ku/92/>

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 May 2008*

# Education

## **Gain an overview of your Bachelor project or thesis**

Student Services offers to help you gain an overview of the rules, possibilities and resources available to you in connection with your Bachelor project or thesis. Friday 6 June, 1.00-3.30 pm at the Marble Hall – [see here in Danish](#) – and [here in English](#)

Preliminary programme:

Introduction for all (1.00-1.40 pm)

Library

Statistics support

Project support

Projektøren (LIFE's project database)

Presentation about Bachelor projects (1.45-2.30 pm)

Writing a Bachelor project

Presentations about Master theses (1.45-2.30 pm)

I: Master thesis based on experimental work, incl. possibilities for writing a thesis with a company/abroad

II: Master thesis without experimental work, incl. possibilities for writing a thesis with a company/abroad

III: Writing a master thesis (general rules and possibilities)

"Market Place" in the Marble Hall (2.30-3.30 pm)

Departments, Student Services and LIFE's student incubation centre, Katapult, will be present – ready to give you the information and guidance you are looking for.

**Søren Hedegaard Sørensen, Student Services, [shs@life.ku.dk](mailto:shs@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 29 May 2008*

## Staff news

### **Leaving: Brian Dennis, Head of the Department of Agricultural Sciences**

Head of Department Brian Dennis is retiring after more than 17 years as head of the Department of Agricultural Sciences. There will be a farewell reception on 26 June, 2.30-4.30 pm, in the Marble Hall – [read the invitation](#) (in Danish)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 4 June 2008*

### **Marianne Nielsen new HR Manager at LIFE**

Marianne Nielsen has been appointed HR Manager at LIFE – she has been acting HR manager since Lisbeth Møller became HR Manager for the entire University of Copenhagen.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 29 May 2008*

## Research

## Research scholarships in India within Biotechnology

As part of the bilateral partnership agreement within biotechnology that was concluded in 2004 between the Danish Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation and the Ministry of Science and Technology in India, the Danish steering group hereby issues a call for applications for ScoutIndia 2008. The deadline is 23 June 2008.

Read the English call for applications for ScoutIndia 2008 under 'Apply for funding' on the website

<http://fi.dk/site/english>

The call for applications contains information on subject areas, grant types, assessment criteria, procedures for application, contacts etc.

**Annica Nielsen, Internationalisation and Developing Countries, [anie@life.ku.dk](mailto:anie@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 3 June 2008*

## Grants

### Grant awarded

The Skovbrugsfonden grants were awarded on 3 June 2008. Recipients were notified directly. Letters of rejection will not be sent.

**Annette Guildal, Study and Students' Affairs, [ag@life.ku.dk](mailto:ag@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 3 June 2008*

### Grant awarded

The H.P. Christensens Mindelegat scholarship was awarded on 3 June 2008. Recipients were notified directly. Letters of rejection will not be sent.

**Annette Guildal, Study and Students' Affairs, [ag@life.ku.dk](mailto:ag@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 3 June 2008*

## News from Research and Innovation

See the updated information on the Research & Information website.