# 2021 Season's Greetings from Ingrid & Frank Bason

# Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Life in Denmark had been slowly but surely getting back to normal after a very long time with COVID issues popping up almost every day. Unfortunately, as I write this in early December, a new wave seems to be upon us. Nearly 80% of the population here has been fully vaccinated and a great effort is being made to give boosters to all adults and to protect children as well.

## **JANUARY**



During the corona virus shutdown of schools we grandparents were often asked to step-up and assist with home schooling of Norah and Lillian. Here they are with us in our "summer house" in Ordrup doing their lessons. At other times the guidance was provided on Zoom sessions.

## **FEBRUARY**



In February we enjoyed a Netflix film "The Dig" about an archeological excavation of an iron age grave mound at Sutton Hoo in Suffolk, England (from about 600 AD). The film starred Ralph Fienes and Carey Mulligan. It turns out that here in Denmark not far from our house in Linå there

is an iron age burial site from about the same historical period. The picture shows Ingrid on a clear, sunny day exploring this site, Høj Stene, near Kongensbro.

#### **MARCH**



For the past few years we have been considering downsizing and moving closer to the children and grandchildren - all in Copenhagen. So we found a suitable house in the town of Asnæs. It is quite near our "summer house" - just 10 minutes away - and there are convenient railway connections to Copenhagen. We have just moved to Asnæs in mid-November.



An important day in March was Lillian Bason's birthday. Christian and Malene's youngest daughter was born on March 21st - same day as Frank's dad, Charles, and her name is after her great grandmother - Frank's mom - Lillian.

#### APRIL-MAY





When spring arrived in early April, we could travel to our summer house (via the Molslinjen catamaran ferry) with the option of staying in the car to minimize the risk of COVID. At the summer house there were plenty of chores around the house and garden to keep us busy.

Ingrid and her colleagues in the Linå Church board of governors had the task of selecting a new minister. Here she is, Maria, beside Frank's colleague Per from teaching days and chairman of the church governors.



This was one of Ingrid's last tasks during her over 13 year tenure on the governing board (menighedsråd).

In spite of COVID restrictions, most of the time there were also plenty of repairs and projects at home in Silkeborg to keep us occupied. Thankfully, the building supply folks stayed open, and UPS Express and other logistics firms have made it possible for SolData Instruments to continue business as usual with our customers.

As soon as we put our house at Linåbakken 13 on the market, there were a wide range of jobs to do. Documentation of the condition of the house, legal documents, repairs and painting to make the house as presentable as possible. Selling a house and moving is no easy task - and that is before all the packing, moving and unpacking even get started!



Here is Frank doing roof repairs while Ingrid was busy painting to get the house in tip-top shape for sale. A lot of work! (Safety line is in use.)

#### JUNE-JULY

Our summer house is on the island of Sjælland only an hour's drive from Copenhagen. That makes it easy for our children and grandchildren to visit with us or vice-versa. Here is Christian and his family - except for Christopher.



On another occasion Ingrid and I took Christopher on an excursion (including a train ride which he loves) to see the Frederiksborg Castle and Park in Hillerød. He can be quite a handful at times!



In mid-June Ingrid and I enjoyed a holiday on the island of Bornholm. Lots of hiking trails and sights to see. We took a ferry to Christiansø.

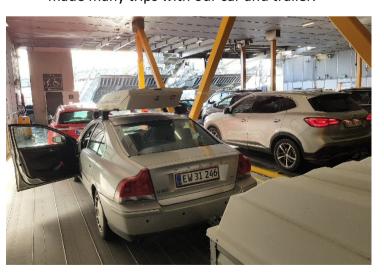


We can look forward to spending more time with Peter, Iben and family now that we have moved closer to Copenhagen.

We were fortunate to have our house sold to a very nice couple, Torben and Ulla, after just one month on the market.



The next big job has been to get everything sorted and packed and moved to the island of Sjælland. This is not so easy as a ferry trip is needed each way. It is expensive and door-to-door it takes around 3 hours each way. We have made many trips with our car and trailer.



#### **AUGUST**

In August we managed to take a trip to Norway - to Tromsø and Trondheim. We had planned to take the "Hurtigruten" down the coast but they cancelled at the last moment.

We flew from Tromsø to Trondheim. The trip went well with the "corona passport" an essential item. We like hiking in the Norwegian mountains and did nearly 20 kilometers in one day. We are thankful that our health permits us to do this.





#### **SEPTEMBER**

As a break from the arduous work of packing up for our move we spent a few days in Helsingfors (Helsinki) Finland. We were there together in the summer of 1968 but this time we concentrated on the city and enjoyed many museums, exhibitions, churches and - believe it or not - the library. It is 3 stories high, each floor the size of a football field.



The Finns place great emphasis on cultural institutions - and take great expense to care for their children. They spend 30.000 dollars for each child in it's first year of life on pre-natal care, child care, health care and maternity leave. Nice folks. A very happy country.



Here is one of Frank's last flying trips from Viborg Airport before leaving for the new home in Asnæs. Will try to keep flying after the move.

#### **OCTOBER**

Ingrid never ceases to amaze me. In the midst of our last weeks of packing she put on a Thanksgiving dinner (a bit early) for friends and then once again for family pictured here. This was the last Thanksgiving in our Linå home after 50 years of living in the Silkeborg area.



Here are Ingrid's sister in law, Ketty, her brother Jens Ejvind, her brother Karsten plus Ingrid and Frank after a nice dinner.

## **NOVEMBER-DECEMBER**

Here we are finally in the new house after over half a year of hard work. Time will tell if we can get everything downsized, given away or disposed of in the coming months.



# **CHRISTMAS GREETING**

Warm regards to family and friends in this holiday season. Unfortunately, as I write this in early December, at new wave of corona virus - with a threatening new version omicron - appears to be spreading worldwide. We hope that scientific research will be able to keep abreast of the spread and keep this public health challenge under control. It will be a long winter!

We wish all our friends continued control of the pandemic. And also the continuation of the political healing process in the US which is needed if the US is to maintain its quality of life and standing in world affairs.

With warm Season's Greetings, Ingrid and Frank

#### **OUR NEW ADDRESS:**

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# Family overview:

Peter Bason married to Iben their children: Norah (25. November 2013) Nicolai (1. July 2017)

Christian Bason married to Malene their children: Christopher (28. April 2004) Julia (17. May 2007) Lillian (21. Marts 2013)

All of the family are in good health and thriving with jobs, school work and activities. Each family has carried on the tradition of Christmas Newsletters which they can share if of interest. Here are their e-mail addresses and other info:

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