

## News from the DLN

The summer holidays in Denmark are gone. Harvesting is nearly ended. In August the peach trees blossom pink in Lesotho and announce the new spring. By September autumn arrives in the northern part of the globe and spring does south of Equator. Yet another edition of Lumela.dk is ready to be read by people in the North and in the South. Please enjoy the reading.



Sommerferien i Danmark er slut. Høsten er næsten i hus. I Lesotho blomstrer ferskentræerne lyserødt og bebuder et nyt forår. Med september kommer efteråret til den nordlige halvkugle og foråret til alle syd for Ækvator. Endnu et nyt nummer af Lumela.dk er klar til at blive læst af både folk i nord og i syd. Rigtig god fornøjelse med læsningen.



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Membership of DLN

## News from the board

The Board has held two Skype meetings since the previous edition of Lumela.dk. That's the way the Board meetings are conducted. It is efficient and practical since the Board members are spread throughout the country.

On the agenda has been mainly following up on the work done during spring. During summer not much work has been done since we have been on vacation one after the other. Then, something has happened anyway. A letter has been written to University of Roskilde, International Development Studies and to University of Copenhagen, Centre of African Studies. In the letter we encourage students to help DLN finalizing the applications for Rural Self-Help Development Association (RSDA) and Development Peace and Education (DPE). This wish for help is founded on the fact that within DLN we do not have enough volunteers to do the amount of work it is to live up to the requirements of Projektrådgivningen for approving applications.

We have been taking up cooperation with Seniorer uden Grænser (Seniors without Frontiers). Those seniors work a lot with applications for projects. They have succeeded in slipping through the needle's eye of Projektrådgivningen. They have offered to read the applications and to give their advice to DLN.

Karen Steffensen has requested to leave the group working on the application for RSDA. In the Board, we regret but accept this.

Anders Hedegaard would like to continue the work for RSDA along with one or two students. Signe Hedegaard is joining the group.

## Dear members in Denmark and friends in Lesotho,

I am sorry to inform you that I am not able to continue working with the RSDA project. In the past I used to be unemployed about 3 months every winter, but since 1<sup>st</sup> of April this year I am full time

## Nyt fra bestyrelsen

Bestyrelsen har holdt to Skypemøder siden sidste Lumela.dk udkom. Det er den måde, de fleste af bestyrelsesmøderne bliver holdt på. Det er en effektiv måde at gøre det på, og det er praktisk, når bestyrelsesmedlemmerne bor spredt ud over landet.

De punkter, der er blevet behandlet, er fortrinsvis opfølgning af det arbejde, der har været i løbet af foråret. I løbet af sommeren har det meste arbejde ligget stille, fordi vi på skift har holdt ferie. Dog er der sket lidt. Der er blevet udarbejdet et brev, som skal sendes til Roskilde Universitets Center, Internationale Udviklingsstudier og til Københavns Universitet, Centre of African Studies. Det er en opfordring til studerende om studierelevant hjælp til DLN for at få skrevet ansøgningerne til Rural Self-Help Development Association (RSDA) og Development Peace and Education (DPE) færdige. Det er et ønske, som udspringer af, at der ikke er frivillige kræfter nok i DLN til det store arbejde, det er at leve op til Projektrådgivningens krav til ansøgningerne. Der er indledt et samarbejde med Seniorer uden Grænser. Det er folk, som arbejder meget med ansøgninger til projekter. De har formået at komme igennem nåleøjet hos Projektrådgivningen. De har tilbudt at hjælpe med at læse ansøgningerne igennem og rådgive DLN.

Karen Steffensen har bedt om at blive fritaget fra gruppen, som arbejder med ansøgningen til RSDA, hvilket vi i bestyrelsen beklager, men accepterer. Anders Hedegaard vil meget gerne fortsætte arbejdet i RSDA sammen med 1 eller 2 studerende. Signe Hedegaard melder sig til gruppen.



employed. That leaves me with less spare time in the future. Less time to produce a proposal which seems more complicated after the refusals.

I am also no more single and I need to spend holidays with my husband. We would like to go to Lesotho and spend some time being tourists.....

For the time being, I am happy to continue the ordinary work in the committee being the treasurer.

All the best from Karen Steffensen

## Pitso i Pejrup



### Pitso in Pejrup

By: Karina Ruby

The party for members of Denmark Lesotho Network, which took place 13th of June in the small village Pejrup on the island of Funen, was a real Lesotho-near-experience. People wearing Basotho-hats and shoeshoe-dresses slandered around

### Pitso i Pejrup – DLN fest

Af: Karina Ruby

Medlemsfesten i Denmark Lesotho Network, som fandt sted d. 13. juni i den lille landsby Pejrup på Fyn, blev en rigtig Lesotho-nær-oplevelse. Folk med basotho-hatte og shoeshoe-kjoler slentrede rundt på Pitsoground hele eftermiddagen, mens de



Pitsoground drinking beer and wine the whole afternoon. Brenda Fassie's mega hits roared out of the loudspeakers and turned the atmosphere into something very Lesotho-like. The sun was there (most of the time) – only the mountains and the peach trees were missing. And some Basotho people, only one was there, Cecilie. On the big braai stand a whole lamb was turning around, slowly being roasted. The braai master was Preben Eskerod, and he did a perfect job.

Pitsoground was the garden of Anna Marie and Michael Haslund who live in Pejrup. The whole set up could as well have been in Lesotho.

New and old members of DLN was sharing experiences of their time in Lesotho some years back, and sharing experiences of how it is to visit Lesotho again after many years. Once you have lived in Lesotho, you will always want to go back to visit friends and to see how the country is doing. Some of the very young participants in the party were small kids when they were in Lesotho, and they enjoyed meeting some other Danes with the same childhood experience.



Anna Marie found her big pot and cooked a huge share of papa, real white papa, and some moroho.

Together with the perfectly well braaied lamb it turned out to be a fantastic meal. Just like we know it from the parties in

drak øl og vin. Brenda Fassies mega-hits drønedede ud af højttalerne og skabte den helt rigtige Lesotho-stemning. Solen var fremme (det meste af tiden) – kun bjergene og ferskentræerne manglede. Og nogle Basotho'er, der var kun en enkelt fuldblods mosotho, Cecilie. På den store grill drejede et helt lam rundt og blev stegt langsomt. Grill-mesteren var Preben Eskerod, som klarede jobbet perfekt. Pitsoground var Anna Marie og Michael Haslunds have; de bor i Pejrup. Hele arrangementet kunne lige så godt have været i Lesotho.



Nye og gamle medlemmer af DLN delte erfaringer fra deres tid i Lesotho for år tilbage, og ikke mindst blev der udvekslet erfaringer omkring, hvordan det er at vende tilbage til Lesotho på besøg efter mange år. Når du en gang har boet i Lesotho, vil du altid have lyst til at komme tilbage og besøge venner og se, hvordan landet klarer sig. Nogle af festens meget unge deltagere var børn, da de boede i Lesotho, og de nød at være sammen med andre danske unge med samme barndomsoplevelse.

Anna Marie fandt sin store gryde frem og kogte en kæmpe portion papa, rigtig hvid papa, og noget moroho. Sammen med det perfekt grillede lam udgjorde det et fantastisk måltid. Helt som vi kender det fra festerne i Lesotho. Hen på aftenen, da vi havde spist, blev vejret lidt for dansk, dvs. lidt for koldt, og vi rykkede inden døre. Det var ikke noget problem, Anna Maries og



Lesotho. After we had finished eating, the weather turned out to be a little too Danish, that means a little too cold, and we had to move inside the house. No problem, the house of Anna Marie and Michael Haslund is big enough to house a party of 25 people. When the clock had passed midnight and it was time to sleep, Michael found his guitar and played some goodnight songs – and even though we had not quite finished the South African wine, we understood the clear signal and slandered to our tents in the garden to go to sleep.

A great party! Thanks to the party committee of Ditlev Krause, Preben Eskerod and Michael Haslund. For the first time a party was held without being part of the Annual General Meeting. Should this be a new tradition in DLN? Apparently many members found it a pity that no party was to follow the AGM this year. Therefore the decision was taken on the AGM, that a party had to be arranged, and the three members volunteered to be the party committee. They did a great job. The question for the future is whether the members prefer to gather only once a year and combine the AGM and the party, or whether it is better to separate the two activities into two different days?

Looking forward to next years party with or without AGM,  
Karina Ruby

Michaels hus er stort nok til at rumme en fest med 25 mennesker. Da klokken godt og vel havde passeret midnat, og det var tid at gå i seng, fandt Michael sin guitar frem og spillede nogle godnat-sange. Skønt vi kun næsten havde drukket alt det sydafrikanske vin, forstod vi et vink med en vognstang og slentrede ud til vore telte i haven for at sove. En glimrende fest! Tak til festudvalget, som bestod af Ditlev Krause, Preben Eskerod og Michael Haslund. For første gang blev der holdt en DLN-fest, uden at den var en del af den årlige generalforsamling. Skal det være en ny tradition i DLN?



Tilsyneladende fandt mange medlemmer det en skam, at der ikke var noget fællesspisning eller fest i forbindelse med generalforsamlingen i år. Derfor blev det på generalforsamlingen besluttet at holde en fest, og de tre ovennævnte medlemmer meldte sig til festudvalget. De gjorde et fint stykke arbejde. Spørgsmålet til fremtiden er, om medlemmerne foretrækker at mødes kun én gang om året og kombinere generalforsamling og fest, eller om det er bedre at adskille de to aktiviteter på to forskellige datoer?

Jeg ser frem til næste års fest, med eller uden generalforsamling,  
Karina Ruby

## How my first six months have been so far in the UK

By: Palesa Mohasoa

I must say having worked in MS for eight years, helped me a lot with lessons on international relations and cultural diversity, which put me in the good position I am in today. It's almost months since I moved to the UK.

I can now safely say I have settled in my job. I have managed to secure and rent a place of my own, which is great, but I still do not believe what I am paying for the house and bills.

The first two to three weeks at my new office were mainly introduction. I was getting to know people, their ways of working and how their roles in the organisation would be linked to mine. My line Manager made all this very easy by holding my hand through out the process. The Oxford office, where I am based employs about 800 people. I work in the International division, and I am part of the International Finance Team. My role in the team is that of finance controller (operations and business development), with the main focus being on improving and developing the work of the finance communities across the world, where we work (partnerships, risk management and systems improvement). Even though I had already worked for the same organisation for two years the introduction was quite worthwhile, seeing that this new job entailed exiting new challenges.

For the first three months I was a lodger in a colleague's two-bedroomed apartment. My host and I had met on through the organizations daily messaging system. I advertised that I was looking for temporary accommodation and she responded back along with many other people. I chose her for close proximity to the office, so I could walk to and from the office. To my delight I had made a good choice, her flat was

## Palesa Mohasoa fortæller om sine første seks måneder i Oxford

Mine otte år i MS gav mig stor ballast og viden om internationale relationer og kulturelle forskelle. Derfor er jeg havnet, hvor jeg er i dag - næsten seks måneder efter jeg flyttede fra Sydafrika til Storbritannien

Jeg tør sige, at jeg er faldet til i mit nye job i Oxfam. Det er lykkedes mig at finde en bolig, hvilket er herligt, selv om jeg stadig ikke kan fatte de beløb, jeg skal betale i leje og til regninger.

De første uger var mestendels introduktion til det nye kontor. Jeg lærte folk og deres arbejdsmetoder at kende, og hvordan deres roller i organisationen skal "linkes" til min. Min chef gjorde det nemt for mig, idet han støttede mig gennem hele processen. Oxfordkontoret, hvor jeg er ansat, beskæftiger omkring 800 mennesker. Jeg arbejder i den internationale division som finanskontrollør med fokus på at forbedre og udvikle de samfund verden over, hvor vi arbejder.



This was in June; a colleague's sister was getting married in London. With me in this picture is my daughter Mpinane and Helen, a colleague of mine.

Selv om jeg allerede havde arbejdet for Oxfam i to år, var introduktionen værdifuld. Det nye job indeholder en mængde udfordringer. De første tre måneder boede jeg i en kollegas to-værelses lejlighed. Min husvært og jeg mødtes på Oxfams daglige elektroniske opslagstavle.

Jeg havde annonceret, at jeg søgte en

beautiful with two bedrooms and I was to temporarily occupy the second (smaller) bedroom fortunately it was nicely furnished. Through the duration of my stay at her flat, we became good friends, the highlight being when we celebrated my birthday in May over dinner, just the two of us.

Good as it was, I had to leave her and move to a place of my own. What a struggle that was!! The biggest shocks while house hunting were the sizes of the rooms in some of the houses, and how much the small spaces cost!! Fortunately I had enough time to compare homes and eventually settled for the 1930s semi detached house, in great condition having been recently renovated.



*My cousin (Tseleng) from my home village, who is married here and is based in Wakefield, came to Oxford, to help me move into a new house in this weekend in May. We took a break from the hard work in the house to chill in the river.*

So far I have visited Leeds, London, Manchester and a few towns surrounding Oxford City. I still have a lot to learn about Oxford itself and will do this in small steps. There is no hurry after all; I may be here for a long time. I have also managed to spend time with a few people from home (Lesotho and South Africa). I have made new friends from work, which has helped my settling in. It has been amazing to see the culture of giving that the people here possess. When people heard I was moving to my house, they were more than willing to offer me small items to help me start up, e.g.; toaster, lawn

midlertidig bolig, og hun svarede tilbage ligesom flere andre. Jeg valgte hende, fordi hendes hjem ligger inden for gåafstand til kontoret. Det viste sig at være et godt valg. Det var en fin lejlighed, hvor jeg boede i det mindste soveværelse, som var hyggeligt møbleret. Vi blev gode venner i løbet af mit ophold. Højdepunktet indtraf, da hun og jeg fejrede min fødselsdag i maj over en middag. Men alligevel var jeg nødt til at finde mit eget hjem. Og sikken en kamp! Det største chok under boligjagten fik jeg over de høje priser for kun få kvadratmeter. Heldigvis havde jeg tid til at sammenligne priser og besluttede mig til sidst for den ene halvdel af et dobbelthus fra 1930'erne, nyrenoveret og i god stand. Indtil videre har jeg besøgt London, Leeds, Manchester og nogle få steder omkring Oxford. Jeg har stadig meget at se af byen Oxford og vil gøre det skridt for skridt. Der er ikke noget hastværk. Måske bliver jeg her længe.



*This was an occasion of a wedding in Manchester. The two ladies Refiloe, who lives in Doncaster (standing) and Semakaleng, who lives in Leeds, are both from Lesotho. Semakaleng is actually from my village back home.*

Jeg har tilbragt tid med nogle få mennesker hjemmefra (Sydafrika og Lesotho). Jeg har også fået arbejdskammerater, som har hjulpet mig med at falde til. Det har været fantastisk at opleve, hvor hjælpsomme folk er. Da folk hørte, at jeg skulle flytte, blev jeg



mower, coffee machine, plates, portable TV etc. this made my settling in easier than I had anticipated. The new environment takes some time getting used to but I am fast getting there. I now plan on travelling a bit around Europe and hopefully Canada in the near future. My first destination should surely be Denmark. I look forward to the day.

straks tilbudt alt muligt til at hjælpe mig i gang: Brødrister, plæneklipper, kaffemaskine, tallerkner, et tv-apparat osv. Alle de ting gjorde det nemmere for mig at flytte ind, end jeg havde forventet.

Det tager sin tid at vænne sig til et nyt miljø, men jeg skynder mig og er godt på vej. Jeg planlægger at rejse i Europa og forhåbentlig Canada i den nærmeste fremtid. Min første destination bliver helt sikkert Danmark. Det er et besøg, jeg ser frem til.

The next article is a discussion on the issue: Is DLN going to have a youth group? It is only in Danish.

## DLN-Ungdom

*Af Anne Andersen*

På generalforsamlingen i foråret fremkom der en ide om at prøve at lave en ungdomsafdeling af DLN. Det resulterede i, at unge, der engang som børn har været med deres forældre i Lesotho, blev inviteret med til den store fest Pitso i Pejrup. Efterfølgende er de to primus motorer i arbejdet med DLN-ungdom Marianne Harfot Nielsen og Anna Marie Haslund blevet spurgt, hvordan deres indsats er gået.

Marianne svarer: Jeg havde besøg af min datter, da mailen fra Anne kom. Jeg foreslog noget med,



at hun kunne skrive, om der er folk i Københavnsområdet, der vil være med til at mødes. Men det kunne hun vist ikke rigtig lige overskue. Hun synes vist mere, det er os/foreningen, der skal indkalde til et ungdomsmøde.

Jeg tror, vi skal have et eller andet at byde ind med for at få de unge engageret - f.eks. en rejse eller en oplysningskampagne/happening eller et projekt med at samle penge ind. Eller det kunne være et "lær hinanden at kende" arrangement, hvor nogle fra bestyrelsen fortæller om foreningen og vi to (Marianne og Anna Marie red.) sørger for forplejningen?

Anna Marie svarer: Under festen talte jeg med en mor, som fortalte, at hendes datter slet ikke var klar til den slags ungdomsarbejde. Mine egne børn er nok heller ikke klar til det endnu, men vil nok gerne være med, hvis der bliver arrangeret noget.







De tager ikke selv initiativ. De er for unge og verden er fyldt med så mange udfordringer som f. eks. efterskole og gymnasiestart. Det fylder godt op for dem.

Til festen blev etableret en god kontakt mellem de unge, og de hyggede sig. En god base, når/hvis vi laver et nyt arrangement! Hvis vi skal lave noget for de unge, skal det være med et arrangement, hvor der KUN er fokus på dem. Jeg synes, ideen med et lær hinanden at kende arrangement er god. Så kan vi altid tage den derfra, når vi ser interessen.

Hvis der er andre, der gerne vil dele deres mening med os om de aktiviteter, der kunne være interessante for en ungdomsgruppe, er I velkomne til at henvende jer til DLN på [dln@lumela.dk](mailto:dln@lumela.dk)

## What is Denmark Lesotho Network?

The NGO Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN) was founded in 2002 by former Danish development workers in Lesotho and other good friends of the tiny mountain kingdom in Southern Africa. DLN aims at supporting NGO's in Lesotho in their work to develop civil society. DLN uses its network of people and organisations in Lesotho to pinpoint beneficiaries of DLN's support – and to keep an eye on that funding is used according to agreements made. DLN wishes to enhance knowledge of the living conditions in Lesotho and to seek funding from foundations, business enterprises and organisations for actual projects in Lesotho.

## Membership of DLN

Anyone, who can support the aims of DLN, can achieve a membership. Members contribute to support initiatives in Lesotho that develop and better living conditions in the country. Members will receive an electronic newsletter four times a year and be invited to DLN's annual general assembly. The cost of a membership is 100 Danish kroner yearly.

For membership contact cashier Karen Steffensen, tel.: +45 97578252, e-mail: [karen.steffensen@mail.dk](mailto:karen.steffensen@mail.dk)

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**KHOTSO – PULA – NALA**

