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Lundian

Vol. 20 No. 140, 2007

An International Magazine

Foreign Students, Researchers and other visitors: Welcome to Lund



LUND is one of the oldest cities in Sweden. It is built on a medieval network of streets and bears a cultural identity provided by old buildings and surroundings that have been preserved for centuries. The City of Lund has slightly more than 100,000 residents. More than 130 nationalities live here and the population of those between 20 – 29 is higher than the national average.

Lund is also the home of Lund University, founded in 1666 and Scandinavia's largest university.

THE CITIZENS of Lund opened their hearts and warmly welcomed the largest number of foreign students ever to arrive at one time in Sweden's "biggest little city." Foreign students filled the streets of central Lund and the halls of the AF building with their back-packs, books and thousands of questions to staff and anyone else who just happened to be in their paths.

If you are a foreign student or a guest researcher you will find Lund a charming city, and *The Lundian* a helpful newsletter. We provide tips and information in English on where to do your shopping, find restaurants, museums and other services in Lund so you can easily find the many places that make Lund Sweden's most enchanting city. You can add your own tips and advice for others by writing us at thelundian@hotmail.com. The Editor.

This Is Our 20th Year !

In 1987, a group of foreign students, researchers, regular immigrants and Swedish friends decided to publish a newsletter with information and news in English. This issue is dedicated to all those supporters, sponsors and volunteers who have contributed to The Lundian's survival in Lund. So, please accept my warmest thanks for the past twenty years.

M. A. Diakit , Publisher and Editor

What Will You Do this Autumn? Party...Party...Party'!

September: There are no big, major red-letter holidays in Sweden during August, September and October, but there are a number of days worth taking note of. September 20th is the day of the Autumn Solistice, and we lose an hour when we go off the daylight savings time we have been on since April.

October: *ALL SAINTS' DAY.* This holiday is of rather recent vintage in Sweden. Popular demand for a holiday honouring the memory of departed friends and relatives grew steadily through the course of the first half of the present century. Two world wars undoubtedly did their part in feeding the demand, as did increased contact with Catholic cultures. As a result, for the first time in modern Swedish history a holiday was reinstated in the Swedish calendar in 1952. All Saints' Day is now celebrated on the Saturday following the 30th October. Families lay wreaths and flowers on the graves of their loved ones. As night falls, graveyards are aglow with twinkling candles and lanterns.

November: *ST. MARTIN'S DAY,* or "Martin Goose". St. Martin's Day is celebrated on the 11th of November, especially in Southern Sweden. Originally in memory of St. Martin of Tours, the festival has also come to be associated with Martin Luther, who is celebrated the day before.



FATHER'S DAY is celebrated on the second Sunday in November. Modeled on Mother's Day, this festival has spread from Sweden to the other Nordic countries. Commercial interests have been the driving force behind this festivity from the beginning, and the Father's

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THE LUNDIAN - A 20-Year History Not Yet Published in Swedish History Books



Photo: Monique Fransen

THEY SAY that history is made by those who tell it, and if you're not telling your own history, you never will have one. I'm going to abide by that adage and tell you about the history of *The Lundian* myself. I do so because I sincerely hope that it will serve as an inspiration for others. Please read on.

When I came to Sweden as a foreign student back in 1970 there was hardly any information available about Sweden or how to deal with its countless bureaucracies. In Lund, the student cafeteria at AF-borgen was where everyone met and I made many friends there. In the interest of having a voice with university and government officials, a group of foreign students, researchers, regular immigrants and Swedish friends formed the Lund University Foreign Students' Organisation, which we called LUFSSO. We produced a newsletter in English that offered guidelines on how to survive in Sweden.

In 1973 we produced a 30-minute documentary examining those issues. The late journalist Gary Engman was the host in that documentary and it became a major part of a one-hour debate on TV2 about foreign students in Lund. The debate programme brought about some positive changes in the treatment of foreign students at that time.

LUFSSO closed around 1985 but the Chairman at that time, the late Dr. Raouf Ressaissi, encouraged me to continue producing a newsletter as there was nothing else available for Lund's growing international community. So, in 1987 I put together a new group in order to launch a second newsletter

to carry on the ideals of LUFSSO. The first three issues were called "Torsdag", after the Swedish god of iron, Tor. But no one was happy with that name.

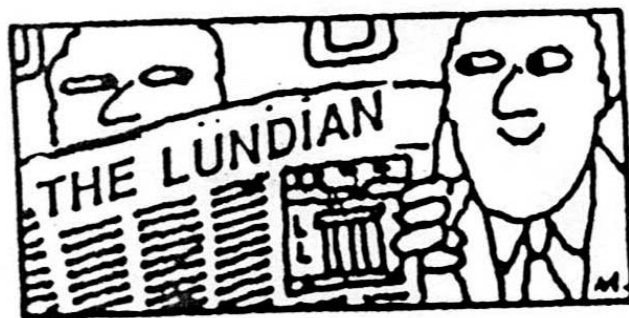
When it became known that we were looking for a new name, Ulf Wallin at Kursverksamheten (now Folkuniversitetet) suggested we call the new newsletter *The Lundian*, just as *The New Yorker* is named after New York. The name stuck, and the first issue with the new name appeared in March of 1988.

The *Lundian* now has many volunteers who send in articles, opinions, photographs, do the layout and help with distribution. We have an office at AF-borgen, a website and send news and information to our subscribers by email. We also have regular contact with university, municipal and national government officials. Some of our readers suggest that our articles and opinions inspire the actions and policies of those people, but I will leave the writing of that history up to them; my mission is to ensure that we have a platform for freedom of expression.

With this issue I would like to say "Thank You" to the many dedicated volunteers, supporters and subscribers who have contributed to the ideals of *The Lundian* these past twenty years. A warm "thank you" also goes to Lund's City Council and to Vipeholm School's Media Programme for their support of our efforts at free speech.

To those writing Swedish news and history I would like to say this: Please get all of our histories -- and get them right!

M. A. Robinson Diakit ,
Publisher and Managing Editor
thelundian@hotmail.com



Survival Guide Number 101

English - Swedish List of Foods You Might Buy to Survive*

*Originally translated by a foreign student, this list was revised by Elenor Axelsson of English International.

English Name	Swedish Name	Packaging
Dairy Products	<i>Mejeriprodukter</i>	
Eggs	<i>Ägg</i>	6 or 12 pack
Sour cream	<i>Gräddfil</i>	Blue/White Carton
French sour cream	<i>Crème fraiche</i>	Small round tube (color according to fat content)
Whole milk	<i>Mjök</i>	Orange/White carton
1,5% milk	<i>1,5% mjök</i>	Blue/White Carton
Skim milk	<i>Lätt mjök</i>	Red/White Carton
Buttermilk	<i>Filmjök</i>	Varied package
Coffee cream	<i>Kaffegrädde</i>	Green/White carton
Whipping cream	<i>Vispgrädde</i>	Red/White carton
Butter/unsalted	<i>Smör/osaltat</i>	Varied package
Butter/extra salted	<i>Smör/extra saltat</i>	Varied package
Margarine for baking	<i>Margarin</i>	Varied package
Liquid Margarine for baking	<i>Flytande Margarin</i>	Yellow plastic bottles
Margarine for table use	<i>Bordsmargarin</i>	Golden package
Extra-salted	<i>Extra saltat margarin</i>	Varied package
Dietary margarine	<i>Extra lätt margarin</i>	Varied package
Cheese spread	<i>Mjukost</i>	Blue/White tube
Mild common cheese	<i>Herrgårdssost</i>	See-through package
Cottage cheese	<i>Keso</i>	White package
Strong/sharp cheese	<i>Stark lagrad ost</i>	See-through package
Fish	<i>Fisk</i>	
Anchovies	<i>Ansjovis</i>	
Salmon	<i>Lax</i>	
Cod	<i>Torsk</i>	
Flounder	<i>Flundra</i>	
Plaice	<i>Rödspätta</i>	
Caviar	<i>Kaviar</i>	
Meat	<i>Kött</i>	
Ham	<i>Skinka</i>	
Liver Paté	<i>Leverpastej</i>	
Salami	<i>Salami</i>	
Liver	<i>Lever</i>	
Tongue	<i>Tunga</i>	
Brawn	<i>Sylta</i>	
Kidneys	<i>Njure</i>	
Ground beef	<i>Nötfärs</i>	
Ground pork	<i>Fläskfärs</i>	
Mixed ground meat	<i>Blandfärs</i>	
Pork chops	<i>Fläskkotletter</i>	
Lamb chops	<i>Lammkotletter</i>	
Beef brisket	<i>Oxbringa</i>	
Inner thigh of beef	<i>Ox innanlär</i>	
T-bone steak	<i>T-bone stek</i>	
Poultry	<i>Fågel</i>	
Chicken	<i>Kyckling</i>	
Goose	<i>Gås</i>	
Turkey	<i>Kalkon</i>	
Game	<i>Vilt</i>	
Moose	<i>Älg</i>	
Rabbit	<i>Kanin</i>	
Venison	<i>Rådjurskött</i>	

Know Your Rights

As a foreign student, researcher or a resident of Sweden, you have rights you may not be aware of. If you want to learn about your basic human rights in Sweden, attend our study circles on human rights.

To join up call: 070-654 2126 or send an email with your contact information to englintern@hotmail.com
Hurry, classes start soon.

The Lundian is published by

The English International Association of Lund, Box 722, SE-220 07 Lund.

Phone: +46 70 654 2126 or +46 46 222 1229

E-mail: englintern@hotmail.com

Website: www.thelundian.com

Publisher and Managing Editor:

M. A. Robinson Diakité.

Copy Editor: Elaine Bosak.

Art Director: Monique Fransen.

Also a **Special Thanks** to the Interns of Vipeholmsskolan's Mediaprogram, the Board of E.I., Rustan Florby, Johan Albertén, and many others.

ISSN: 1404-9511

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This Autumn

Day gift is a prominent feature of its observance.

December: *ADVENT* is the beginning of the ecclesiastical year, and it also marks the start of Christmas festivities in Sweden. More people visit Swedish churches on the first Sunday of Advent than any other time of year. They come to sing the well known Yuletide hymns. This first Sunday is also the day communities decorate their streets and squares with wreaths, garlands, lights and Christmas trees. At home, Swedes light one candle on each of the four Sundays leading to up to Christmas, in special four-pronged candelabra. Another way of counting the days until Christmas is the Advent calendar, a card with 'windows' that you open, one by one, for each passing day until Christmas Eve. These calendars, which were introduced as late as the 1930s, have become increasingly popular. Swedish radio and television broadcast daily Advent programmes for children based on a specially published calendar. During Advent many people hang luminous stars of paper, straw or perforated metal in their windows. Introduced from Germany around 1910, these stars have become a central feature of Swedish Advent celebrations. Candelabra are another common window decoration at this time of the year.

LUCIA is celebrated on the 13th of December. Originally the day was dedicated to St. Lucia of Syracuse, but the Swedish holiday seems to have little to do with her person. According to folk tradition, this date marked the longest night of the year—an artifact of the medieval calendar. It was thus a time when Man and beast needed extra nourishment. Originally, only men celebrated this festival, with much food and drink. Documents from the late eighteenth century, however, tell of young girls dressed in white with crowns of candles in their hair, serving the master and mistress. This ceremony has since spread, not least through the activities of clubs and mass voluntary organizations. In the 1920s, a Stockholm newspaper arranged a contest to choose a Lucia-girl to represent the city and, the custom spread like wildfire. Lucia morning is celebrated in practically every Swedish home, and every community, office, school or club chooses a Lucia, who, dressed in a white gown and with a crown of candles in her hair, brings a tray of coffee, traditionally shaped saffron rolls, and ginger biscuits. Lucia sometimes serves 'glögg', a mulled wine. She is generally accompanied by a train of white-clad attendants, the girls wearing glitter in their hair and the boys wearing tall paper cones with stars on them. All sing the traditional Lucia carols.

CHRISTMAS. Christmas is the biggest and longest holiday of the year. Schoolchildren are on holiday for a couple of weeks. The height of the celebrations is Christmas Eve, the 24th of December, followed by the two holidays Christmas Day and Boxing Day. *CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES* involve numerous traditional activities and attributes, the most important of which are the Christmas tree, the Christmas meal and the visit of the 'tomte' or Christmas gnome. Introduced into Sweden from Germany, the Christmas tree has been a part of Christmas in Sweden since the 1700s. It was not until well into the present century that the custom became general, however. Nearly every Swedish household now brings in a tree one or two days before Christmas and decorates it with sparkling objects, gaily wrapped candies, glass bulbs and other small

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SFI - Svenska för invandrare



Photo: Moa Egertz På Komvux i Malmö finns det något som kallas SFI, Svenska för Invandrare. Där arbetar Susanne Egertz med att lära ut svenska till Sveriges nykomlingar.

Susanne Egertz (till vänster på bilden) arbetar som SFI lärare på Komvux i Malmö sedan 12 år tillbaka. Hon valde yrket eftersom hon gillar människor, undervisa och tycker om att se när folk utvecklas.

I yrket får hon stöta på en hel del olika kulturer från andra länder, de flesta av hennes elever är araber, kurder eller afghaner, många av dessa är analfabeter men det finns också akademiker, bl. a. thailändska kvinnor som gift sig med svenska män och följt med dom till Sverige.

Det är lättare att lära en högskoleutbildad än en analfabet, säger Susanne och menar att när hon får en analfabet blir det mer jobb, en högskoleutbildad kan redan läsa och skriva, men en analfabet kan ingenting och då får man försöka börja någonstans, kanske börja med att lära ut betydelsen för ett äpple.

En sak som fascinerar Susanne är att hon får se andra kulturer i klassrummet, detta ger henne insikt över att skillnaderna mellan svenskar och invandrare ofta är väldigt små, den stora skillnaden är att invandrarna varit utsatta för krig eller liknande, men inte alla.

Hur lär du ut svenska?

Pratar, läser, skriver, lyssnar, jobbar utifrån olika teman. Exempelvis Hälsa, friskvård, Malmö stad, boende, familj och så vidare

Just nu sysslar Susanne med temat "hur känner du dig" med en klass, men de sitter inte alltid i ett klassrum, många gånger åker de ut någonstans och tittar på saker. När dom gör detta får eleverna diskutera om det dom precis har sett, därför tar Susanne eller en annan lärare fotografier på utflykterna för att man lätt ska kunna återberätta utflykterna i klassrummet igen.

Hur lång tid tar det att lära sig Svenska?

Det finns ingen tidsgräns innan man kan någorlunda bra svenska vilket menas SFI-svenska, varje elev lär sig svenska i sin egen takt däremot finns det 3 studievägar och varje studieväg har olika nivåer, A, B, C och D, Susanne undervisar under spår 1, nivå B.

De riktiga kickarna är när man inser att eleverna har förstått, säger Susanne och ler. Hon tycker om sitt arbete och är glad på sina lektioner.

Text: Moa Egertz

The Lundian - 20-års Jubileum

The Lundian fyller 20 år!

"Det forum för icke svenskpråkliga lundabor, *The Lundian Magazine*, fyller 20-år i år", säger ansvarig utgivaren M. A. Robinson Diakité.

The Lundian, en engelskspråkig publikation på åtta sidor med Lund som bas, startades i januari 1987 först under namn 'Torsdag'.

"Först efter rådgivning från Ulf Wallin på folkuniversitetet fick vi namnet *The Lundian* – efter *The New Yorker*", som är staden där Diakité är född. Bakom tidningen står föreningen English International liksom flera engelskspråkiga medlemmar i Lund och resten av Skåne.

Under sina första 20 år har tidskriften fungerat som ett forum för den del av befolkningen som inte talar eller skriver svenska. Man hittar reportage om historiska sevärdheter i Lund, artiklar om företag i orten, upplysningar om begivenheter i kommunen, nyheter från universitetsvärlden och om mänskliga rättigheter.

The Lundian har en hemsida och distribueras via post och email till föreningens medlemmar och prenumeranter. Tidskriften kommer ut 8 gånger per år i ca. 10,000 ex. Gratis ex finns på Universitets International student expeditionen, AF Cafeteria, ISUs reception, UB-1, student nationer och kårer, Lunds Stadsbiblioteket och fler av universitetets institutioner där utbytes



Photo: Monique Fransen

studenter och forskare kan hitta de. Gratis ex skickas till fler invandrarföreningar.

Lunds kommun bidrar med lite stöd som räcker till ett mindre kontor på AF. Tidskriften har hjälp av frivilliga medlemmar och praktikanter från Vipeholmskolornas Media Program.

"Det är Kommunråd Tove Klette som har hjälpt The Lundian mest, detta p.g.a. hennes förståelse för det fria ordet," tycker Diakité. "Ett 20-års Jubileum planeras senare under hösten."

Hemsidan: www.thelundian.com.

Bessie Harris

thelundian@hotmail.com

This Autumn trinkets, many made of straw. The tree is also adorned with lights - usually electric these days, although some still use stearin candles. The tree is kept watered, and many households keep their trees until the very end of the holiday, which falls on the twentieth day after Christmas - Knut's day in the Swedish calendar (more about this day later). Lighted trees outdoors have become increasingly common, and every town and village decorates a community tree. Christmas Eve, then, is the height of the festivities. Traditionally it is a day when no work should be done other than seeing to one's livestock. This is the day of the Christmas feast, which comprises a 'smörgåsbord' including a few traditional dishes such as ham, jellied pig's feet, 'lutfisk' and rice porridge. 'Lutfisk' (literally 'lye-fisk') is most likely a throwback to a period of fasting from pre-Reformation time. It is a dish prepared of ling that is dried and the boiled. The Christmas feast also includes a tradition called 'dipping in the kettle', in which the assembled family and guests dip bits of bread in the broth left over after boiling the ham. Both 'lutfisk' and 'dipping in the kettle' are actually poor man's fare from the olden days, but they live on thanks to their role in holiday festivities. After the meal, it is time for a visit from the 'tomte' or Christmas 'gnome'. He was

believed to live under the floor-boards of the house or barn. The 'tomte' was credited with looking after the family and their livestock. Toward the turn of the past century a Swedish artist began producing greeting cards illustrated with gnomes. Her figures were a tremendous success, and soon the 'tomte', had assumed the role comparable to that of other countries. He is believed to come with presents. In many households nowadays someone disguised as a 'tomte', a big sack over his or her shoulder, appears on a doorstep sometime toward the evening of Christmas Eve. By tradition Swedes attend church in the small hours of Christmas morning. In olden days it was customary to race in sleds or horse-drawn wagons home from the services. The winner was believed to have the best harvest the coming year. Otherwise, the day is spent quietly within the family circle, with Christmas parties and get-togethers the following day and on through the holidays until Knut's day a week after Twelfth Night.

Source: *The Swedish Institute*. A wider range of publications on various aspects of Swedish life can be obtained from Swedish diplomatic missions abroad or directly from the Swedish Institute, Kungsträdgåden, Box 7434, S-103 91 Stockholm, Sweden.