

Dear friends,

Delft, January 5th, 2009

time has come again to account for our goings-on during the past year...



Sunniva (now 5½) is growing up to be a feisty little lady. She loves to *move*, in all possible meanings of the word, and this results in remarkable progress on land (biking), in the air (ballet) and in water (swimming “in the deep”). Her motto is “I can do it – *by myself!*” There is considerable motivation to catch up with her big sister, which means that she eagerly grabs the violin or the piano to practice every day... never forgetting, however, to confirm that her promised “performance target” reward (a new Nintendo game or iPod) is still firmly part of the deal. New features in 2008 included ear rings and the temporary loss of several front teeth :-).



In spite of relentless work pressures during the past year, **Kristofer** found ample time to indulge in his musical hobbies. Amidst various orchestra projects, this year's Orlando chamber music festival was attended with a string sextet by Frank Bridge (see YouTube for results). In the fall, he even started taking private viola lessons. All this has come at the expense of sportive exercise, the resumption of which has become an Official Good Intention for 2009.

Ursula (11) is as busy as ever with her numerous musical enterprises. In the past year her choir activities alone took her to 15 abroad. The most memorable Royal palace in The Hague, broadcast on public on the viola and the piano. school, and next fall she will Consequently she is now series of aptitude tests, with



performances around the country and event was perhaps the concert at the face-to-face with the Royal Family, television. Advances were also made This is her last year in elementary enroll in a secondary school program. battling through a seemingly endless very good results so far.

As usual, **Marianna** is challenges. Some of the carillon concert in Den exultant cacophony of bells Taptoe in Delft. Having left in the Adelbert parish in three decades) enjoying some chance there is no request for Throughout the week, she teaches music and dance in kindergartens, which keeps her in shape :-). In June, she hip-hopped on stage together with Ursula and Sunniva in the dance performance *Sneeuwroosje*.

enjoying a wide spectrum of memorable events this year include a Bosch, and contributing with an in the “1812 Ouverture” during the her long-held job as church musician Delft, she is (for the first time in *quiet* Sundays – that is, when by her to substitute in other churches.

We spent once again some much-needed time off in the Norwegian mountains, and the ladies went on to spend the rest of the school holidays in Sardinia. Another family highlight was the celebration of Erling's 70th anniversary in December. For multiple exciting reasons, the family was almost completely scattered across the continent during the final weeks of 2008, so there was no family reunion for Christmas this year. Good thing we had managed to see everyone during the summer. And even more fortunately, 2009 looks very promising for gatherings with family and friends!

We wish you all the best for the coming year!

Sunniva, Ursula, Marianna and Kristofer

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