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H.R.H. Princess Leonore

Her Royal Highness Princess Leonore Lilian Maria of Sweden was born on 21 Feb. 2014 in New York, U.S. Her parents are Mr. Christopher O’Neill and his wife, H.R.H. Princess Madeleine of Sweden, the youngest daughter of the king and queen. Little Leonore was given the title of Duchess of Gotland by her grandfather the King. (Photo by Mr. Christopher O’Neill [Royalcourt.se]).

A million Vikings in Britain

Almost one million Britons alive today are of Viking descent, which means one in 33 men can claim to be direct descendants of the Vikings.

Around 930,000 descendants of the warrior race exist today – despite the Norse warriors’ British rule ending more than 900 years ago.

A genetic study carried out by Britain’sDNA compared the Y chromosome markers - DNA inherited from father to son - of more than 3,500 men to six DNA patterns that are rarely found outside of Scandinavia and are associated with the Norse Vikings.

(SKÅNTHISTORIA 2/2014; MailOnline 2014 Mar. 11)

King Erik sees the light of day again

The little casket in Uppsala cathedral that has contained the bones of King Erik was opened again on 23 April 2014. This was done so that his few remains can be inspected by modern methods, and shed light on his eating habits, as compared with information from poor medieval people, found in mass graves.

The casket contained the king’s head with a gilded copper crown on his head.

King Erik was king of Sweden from some time in the 1150s until he was killed in battle just outside the cathedral in Uppsala on 18 May 1160. He was succeeded by the Danish prince Magnus Henriksson, who was killed 1161 in the battle of Örebro.

Erik’s picture has been on the coat of arms for Stockholm since 1376. (Svenska Dagbladet 24 April 2014, and Wikipedia).

The American Swedish Historical Museum meets Pippi!

The American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia opens a new exhibition all about the strongest girl in the world – Pippi Longstocking! She was introduced in 1945 by Swedish writer Astrid Lindgren and has been a favorite ever since.


Skolt Sámi Archives Candidate for UNESCO List

The National Archives Service of Finland and the Sámi Archives have proposed including the Skolt Sámi archives in the UNESCO Memory of the World Register. Only 301 items have been listed in the register so far.

The archives from Suonjel, Pechenga, are the most significant body of documentation in the cultural heritage of the Skolt Sámi. The oldest document in the archives dates to 1601 and the most recent document to 1775.

(Geneanet Blog 3 April 2014)

The Swedish Genealogy Convention 30-31 Aug. 2014

Welcome to Karlstad for two days of genealogy fun! The theme is “Migration – past, present and future.” See link on p. 30.

"A child doesn’t belong to the mother or father; a child belongs to his ancestors.”

The new season of Allt för Sverige

The casting is done, but unfortunately the names of the participants will not be released until the fall, according to the producers.

The Emigration Center of Karlskrona lives on

The Migration Center of Karlstad has stepped in to save the Karlskrona part of the Swedish Emigrant Institute. In Karlskrona they have been working for several years to research the emigration from southern Sweden to northern Germany. Poor farm laborers who did not have funds to go to America were recruited to work on the huge estates in, for instance, Mecklenburg and Schleswig-Holstein. (Slakthistoria 2/2014).