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## The Last Page

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# The Last Page

Dear friends,

This issue turned out a bit different than I first planned.

Even though I knew that our Editor Emeritus Nils William Olsson was very ill, I still did not quite believe that he would pass away – he seemed to be indestructible, but so was not the case. A fragile body could no longer support a still clear mind, and he has definitely gone to his well-earned rest. But we are many that will miss him, and remember him for years.

Those of the SAG readers who had not made his personal acquaintance can still learn to know him from his articles in older SAGs and through his monumental books.

Right now, in the middle of May, the weather has become very nice, not very warm yet, but sunny, which

is important after a greyish winter. The trees are in full bloom and soon, very soon, the lilacs will also blossom. The cities will become empty on the spring weekends as we migrate towards our *sommarstuga* or *fritidshus* (house to spend spare time in). In the suburbs you have already started to smell the grilling of sausages and steaks on balconies and in the gardens, and the little children do not want to go to bed, as the evening is still light as day, even though it is past nine p.m.

It is a nice time of the year, and I am glad that many American friends have announced their plans to visit in the homeland of the ancestors. This is the time to travel around the countryside and visit the churches with their surrounding cemeteries.

Don't forget to look for the local Heritage Museum (*hembygdsgård*), where you might find people eager to share their stories about life long ago. Bring an ancestral chart, and maybe they know your family.

If you wish to plan ahead, a list of most *hembygdsgårdar* (plural) can be found at [www.hembygd.se](http://www.hembygd.se) Look for the British flag or click on the map of Sweden, or do both!

Summer is also a time of festivals, markets, outdoor auctions, and many other things. At the web site [www.sweden.se](http://www.sweden.se) you can find lots of useful information that will make your visit here a memory for life!

Välkomna!  
Elisabeth Thorsell

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