

The Arjeplog Times

Your weekly paper with news, views & interviews. Since 1990. 19th season

Back to the Olden Day Method of Apprenticeship

Madelene Larsson is one of six pupils in Arjeplog who is learning a new trade while studying at school. The result will benefit car testers as well as the local service industry.

In the olden days it was standard procedure to learn a trade while working together with a master. If you wanted to be a shoemaker, for example, you worked as an apprentice for a master shoemaker until he approved of your work. Now this old method of acquiring a trade has come to a more modern use in the secondary high school (*gymnasium*) in Arjeplog.



Madelene Larsson enjoys learning how to handle a knife and cut meat in the correct way. Her teacher is Daniel Lindström, chef at Hotell Silverhatten.

The aim of this education programme is to increase the number of skilled people in the hotel and restaurant business as well as in the construction business.

At Hornavanskolan in Arjeplog there is constant development going on. The purpose, of course, is to provide the best possible education for its pupils. The National Swedish Agency for Education has now made it possible for some schools to try what is known as *Lärlingsprogrammet* or Apprenticeship.

In Arjeplog six students are trying out this new programme. They spend half the time studying normal school subjects and the rest of the time is spent at different companies learning the trade first-hand from professionals.

Madelene Larsson is almost 18 years old and she always knew she wanted to work in the hotel industry. For her, this apprenticeship programme is perfect. At the moment she is working at Hotell Silverhatten. She will spend

seven weeks there before it is time to try another place, which will probably be Hotell Lyktan.

She says, "This is really nice, everybody treats me well and I get to learn a lot of things."

When we met her in the kitchen of the hotel she was learning how to handle a knife and how to cut meat correctly. Her teacher was Daniel Lindström, chef at the hotel. Madelene proved to be a very interested student.

This & That...

• YOU CAN go cross country skiing both at *Öberget* (2,5 km) at *Djuptjärn* in Arjeplog every day.

Starting at *Djuptjärn*, the long track is 7,5 km long and you can also ski 15 km to Rackträsk. For more information call the sports club at 108 74.

• THE SAAMI people from Arjeplog are offering a reward to anyone who reports having seen tracks from lynx or wolverine! They are prepared to pay 10,000 SEK for reports of recent sightings in the area of the Saami village.

The reason for this is that the government pays the Saami for the damage done by the predators. If the Saami can show that there are more predators, they will get more money.

• MANY OF THE German car testers wonder why the locals leave the lights on in their homes all the time. They also wonder why it is so warm in all the houses?

Is it because electricity is so cheap? They say that in Germany, people are used to saving energy and they are surprised that the locals do not.

One explanation may be that it is so dark here during the winter that people want to have on as much light as possible. Electricity is definitely not cheap in Sweden, so this cannot be an explanation.

FlyCar: Ten Years of Flying Car Testers

FlyCar has been running a direct flight for car testers from Germany to Arvidsjaur Airport and back since 1999.

Rainer Dreher and Michael Fender both own the company and run it. They say that business has increased almost every year and they fly from Stuttgart, Munich, Frankfurt-Hahn and Hannover to Arvidsjaur Airport and back.

FlyCar only operates during the winter test season from the end of November until the beginning of April. However, summer charters have been discussed and perhaps one day when everything falls into place, there could be charters even in the summer months. Arvidsjaur Airport is the only place where they have scheduled traffic.

Rainer says that Arvidsjaur is Number One but occasionally they get some 'ad-hoc' business because of their connection with the car industry.

This winter their main partners are XL Airways and LaudaAir with Boeing 737. Additional flights will be done with Hamburg International, Skyways, TUIfly, City Airlines and AirBerlin.

Although FlyCar's special business system gives the car testers full access to all flights, some seats are sold to leisure travellers and this number is



Rainer Dreher, joint-owner of FlyCar.

increasing. Many of the families of the car testers take the opportunity to fly up here for the weekend and visit the area where their husband or father spends so much time working.

Rainer says that their plans for the future are to continue developing the charter: more and better flight connections, season extensions and hopefully one day, flights all-year-round.

Rainer Dreher, joint owner of FlyCar, is 47 years old, married with 2 boys, 13 and 10 years. He lives in a small place called Sohren, about the size of Arjeplog and close to Frankfurt-Hahn in Germany.

He visits this area 3 or 4 times during the season mostly on business but he has been here on a private trip with his family and they really enjoyed the Nature and all the different activities.

Got Stuck with a Car on the Ski track

Some skiers in Arjeplog were surprised to find a car stuck on the ski track by *Djuptjärn*. Some Asian car testers in a rented car had mistaken the well-kept ski tracks for a snowy road. They made it as far as the beginning of the long track which goes up the mountain. They got stuck and had to walk back to find help.

Some skiers were irritated but this is again an example of being lost in

totally unfamiliar surroundings and a very different culture. There are no signs in English that say it is a ski track. Things that are obvious to locals are not as clear to foreigners.

A car got stuck on the ski track last weekend, leaving some skiers surprised and irritated. This is an example of being lost in unfamiliar surroundings.

The sign says keep to the right.

Photo: Ann-Christin Samuelsson.



Candid interview with a car tester

The Hot Seat

Name: Tillmann Düser.

Age: 28

Married: I am not married but I have a girlfriend, Katia.

Home: Stuttgart, Germany.

Company: Knorr Bremse.

Occupation:

I am a cybernetic engineer and work with ESP function development.

Favourite food:

“Pytt-i Panna”. See footnote*. I also like Asian food.

Dream car:

I don't really have a dream car, but a fast electric car would be nice.

Present car:

Renault Clio that i share with my flatmate.



Tillmann Düser, Knorr Bremse

Spare time activities:

I play volley ball and beach volley, which I enjoy very much.

In Arjeplog we play darts, and do the activities that are available here such as dog-sledding and snow-mobiling.

What is good in Arjeplog?

I enjoy the landscape and the light here. The people are friendly. It is nice to see something different.

What is bad in Arjeplog?

Nothing really. Arjeplog is Arjeplog, I don't think it should be changed.

Music you enjoy?

Modern rock. A group that comes to mind is 'Sublime'.

What is important in life?

Humour. Friendship. To be able to be enthusiastic about something, to burn for something.

I think that it is important that you don't go through a day without feeling strongly about something or someone.

* *Pytt-i panna* is a traditional Swedish dish consisting of potatoes, onions, and sausage or ham, diced and then pan fried. It is often served with a fried egg and beetroot. Leftovers can be re-fried in this way.

Serious Accident in Arjeplog

Six people were involved in a dramatic accident on Monday, on the road to Slagnäs near the road that goes up to Silverhatten.

Taxi driver Peter Johansson was driving from Slagnäs and his passenger was a car tester. The driver of the oncoming vehicle lost control of the car and skidded sideways into the taxi.

“Suddenly the other car was right in front of us”, says Peter who has been driving taxis for 25 years. “It felt like he came from the sky. There was nothing I could do to avoid the crash”.

The driver of the oncoming car was a young man from Umeå who is studying in Arjeplog and recently got his driving licence.

The fire brigade, ambulance and police arrived on the scene just minutes after the accident. The car belonging to the teenager had to be cut open to get the four youngsters out and everyone was taken to hospital.

The taxi driver and car tester left the hospital the same day, but some of the students are still in hospital. No one was seriously injured, according to police reports.



The collision was very dramatic and the one car, a Nissan 299 Sx, had to be cut open to get the people out. Photo: Simon Avenia.

Am I repressing or what?

I just wonder... Is it some kind of denial?
Is it fear? Am I ashamed?

Many such questions are running through my mind. They are spinning faster and faster and making me more and more stressed out. Is it simply that I don't want to get older?

It must be some kind of repression on my part that I am constantly postponing dealing with decisions I have to make about my 40th birthday. I have to find a date, hopefully as close as possible to my birthday, to have a party and I have to invite people to the party.

These issues are quite nice to solve, but they are stressing me. And the pressure is also making me anxious in other ways. For example, if I am getting so stressed out by the fact that I am getting older, this could be proof that I have been lured into the trap of the glorification of youth, of being young.

Another thing that has crossed my mind is that I am getting anxious about not being able to find a weekend when it's possible to have a party. This leads to other questions: Am I living my life in the right way? Have I chosen the right priorities in my life?

Or have I simply been hit by a middle age crisis? I never thought that it was possible for me to be stressed out by this. I have been looking forward to getting more days of vacation as I turn 40. I have been enjoying the idea of giving a big birthday party. Am I simply a victim of this well-known and common crisis?

Fortunately, I am comforted by the Swedish pre-selections for the Eurovision Song Contest which starts on Saturday. It soothes my stormy mind and brings me a lot of joy. Six weeks of lovely music, fabulous TV-shows, and weeks of glitter and glamour. What more can you wish for?

There is always a light somewhere in the darkness, even for a man hit by the middle age crisis!

*Bengt-Urban Fransson,
Mayor of Arjeplog.*



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Meet Charlie Westin, Coop Konsum – this week's local

Name: Charlie Westin

Age: 22

Family:

Sambo (cohab - a person you live together with).

Home:

Arjeplog. I moved here about 2 years ago. I was born and grew up in Laisvall, a village 37 km from central Arjeplog.

Occupation:

I work at Coop Konsum, doing different things: at the cash desk (for a maximum of 1,5 hours), putting goods on the shelves and ordering. I am responsible for the cold drinks, beer and water.

It is amazing how much bottled water the car testers buy. We even tell them that the water in the tap here is better than bottled water, but they still prefer to buy water.

Favourite food:

Entrecôte and potatoes au gratin.

Dream car:

Ford Mustang, metallic silver.



Charlie Westin, Konsum in Arjeplog.

Present car:

An old beige/brown Mercedes.

Spare-time activities:

I play *innebandy* (floorball) for the team here, Argentum. We are doing pretty well. We train twice a week and then play matches. I also play guitar and spend time

with my friends, watch films, play TV games.

We drive snow-mobile into the mountains and often spend time in a cottage that belongs to my girlfriend's family.

What's good in Arjeplog?

Most things are good here. People are easy going. I know most people in Arjeplog but I know everyone in Laisvall.

What's bad in Arjeplog?

The worst thing is probably the distance to the cities. If you want to go to a music concert, for example, besides the price of the ticket, you have to travel to the place and stay over and this costs a lot extra.

Music:

Rock music from 60's and 70's. The Beatles, Led Zeppelin, Kiss and Iron Maiden.

What's important in life?

To be healthy.

My family and friends.

It is also important to enjoy your work because you spend so much time at work.

Don't Forget Warm Clothes!

Remember to keep warm clothes with you in the car. Perhaps you think that you will not need them in a warm car, but you just might get stuck.

If this happens and you have to walk or wait for help then you will need your warm clothes.

So be smart and don't go out without winter boots, a warm jacket, a hat and gloves.

Friday February 6

Sunrise: 8.43

Sunset: 15.51

Length of day: 7 hours 7 min



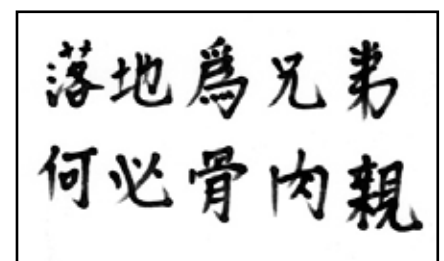
Calligraphy, correctly written

For those of you who can read Chinese, you might have noticed that the calligraphy in some of last week's papers of The Arjeplog Times (nr 5) was the wrong direction.

Sorry about that, it is not so easy to get it right when you cannot read what it says.

Rhee Seong Ghee from Hyundai Mobis, last week's car tester in the 'hot seat' wrote a message of peace for our readers.

Here is the correct calligraphy. The meaning is so good that we will write it once again in English as well.



It does not matter that we do not have the same blood or come from the same mother.

Because we are born on to this earth, we are all brothers and sisters.

'Laisvik Tracks' Provides Test Tracks and a Moose

The importance of winter testing in Arjeplog and Arvidsjaur cannot be emphasized enough. The vehicle and component industry is providing job opportunities even in the smallest of villages.

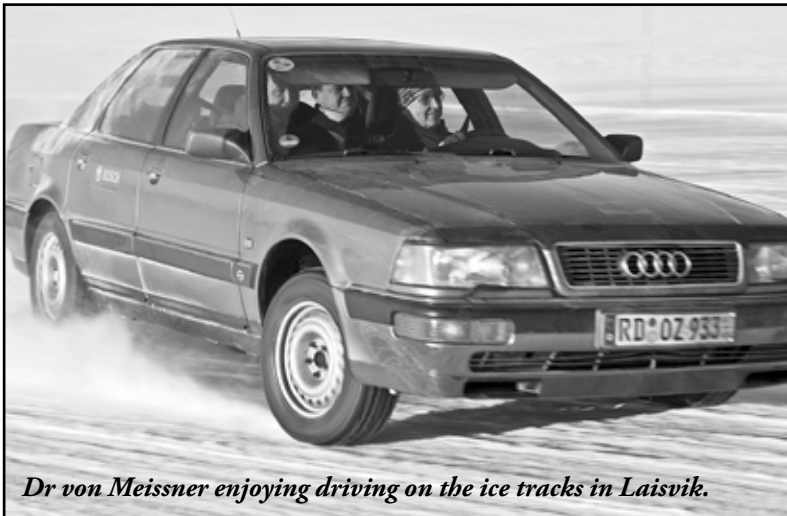
In the little village of Laisvik some 40 km north of Arjeplog, Micke Wiklund and his *sambo* Tina Lundqvist have been providing test tracks on Lake Hornavan for events and test companies for some years.

Doctor Volker von Meissner from Germany has based his driving school in Laisvik for many years. He is very happy with the service they provide.

Not only do Tina and Micke make good ice tracks, but they also provide unusual services like a resident moose that you can meet.



Micke and Tina are walking their dog Sune on Lake Hornavan. In the background you can see most of the northern part of Laisvik.



Dr von Meissner enjoying driving on the ice tracks in Laisvik.

"We feed the moose the whole winter, so that they will stay", says Micke, whose real name is Mikael, though no one calls him that.

This year they have finished building a new garage for their customers. They can now provide full service for smaller groups of car testers and others who are looking for good tracks in a secluded area with beautiful surroundings.

Laisvik has no more than a handful of people and the name comes from the Lappish word for clay and the Swedish word for bay.

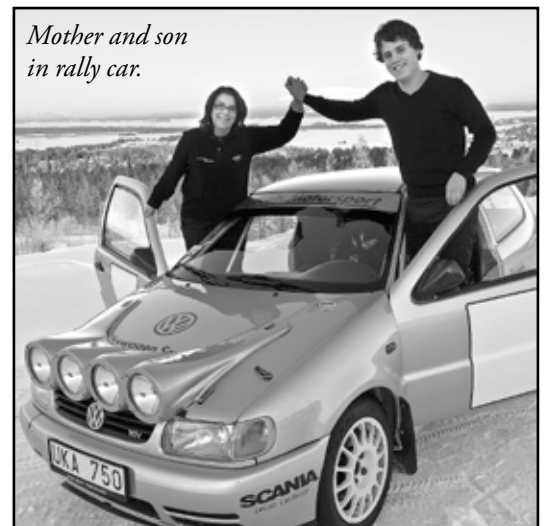
The 'Bay of Clay' was a brick-making centre in former days. In the 80's there was an attempt to start a modern clay industry, but it failed and now there is an empty factory by the road to Laisvik.

Like Mother, Like Son

Fredrik Åhlin, a 17-year-old student at Hornavanskolan is a budding rally champion. His heart is in rally sport and he also has it in his blood. His mother and co-driver Susanne Kottulinsky was the Swedish champion in 1990.

In 1991 she was leading the competition when she found out that she was pregnant with Fredrik. She gave up competing then, but is now back in the car. This time she is holding on for dear life as her son wins rally after rally in his VW Polo. His father Jerry Åhlin also lends a helping hand or three in Fredrik's rally career.

He has participated in 23 competitions and was placed in 20 of them. He has won several of the competitions. "That's very good", says mother and co-driver Susanne Kottulinsky, you need a lot of mileage to become really good".



Mother and son in rally car.

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www.handelskammer.se.

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Hahn, Munich, Hannover, Paris.
www.fly-car.de

What's on?

Friday, February 6

- **EXHIBITION OF SAAMI** things at The Silver Museum 10-12; 13-15 to celebrate the Saami National Day.
- **AFTER WORK** - Asian Buffet at **Kraja** in Arjeplog. 19-22. 125 kr.
- **AFTER WORK** - Taco Buffet. **Hornavan Hotell** in Arjeplog. 95 kr or 120 kr incl. beer or wine. 18-22. For children 39 kr.
- **AFTER WORK** - Taco Buffet. **Hotell Laponia** in Arvidsjaur. 89 kr. 17-21.
- **PUB EVENING** at **Pub Källa'n** in basement at **Mathörnan** in Arjeplog.
- **PUB EVENING** at **Capsicum Bar & Bistro** in Arvidsjaur. 22-02.

Saturday, February 7

- **DANCE** at **Hornavan Hotell**. 22-02. Live local band: **PAINTERS**. Entrance 70 kr. Happy hour: 22-23. À la carte menu.
- **DISCO IN THE NIGHT CLUB** at **Hotell Laponia**, Arvidsjaur. 22-02.
- **DISCO** at **Hotell Silverhatten**, Arjeplog. 21-02. Entrance 80 kr. DJ Macke.
- **PUB EVENING** at **Capsicum Bar & Bistro** in Arvidsjaur. Free. 22-02.

Sunday, February 8

- **CHURCH SERVICES** at **Hotell Lyktan** at 11.00. Rev. Martin Reen. Translation into English or German.
- **CONCERT** at 19 at *Medborgarhuset* with Norrbottens Big Band & others. 120 kr.

Tuesday, February 10

- **THE SILVER MUSEUM** in Arjeplog is also open on Tuesday evenings 20-22, besides usual opening hours. 60 kr.

Wednesday, February 11

- **PUB EVENING** in basement, **Mathörnan**.
- **PUB EVENING** with a troubadour at **Hornavan Hotell**. 22-01.
- **PUB EVENING** at **Kraja** open to 01. Pub Buffet 99 kr. 19-22.

Thursday, February 12

- **PLANKA** at **Hotell Silverhatten** 19-22. Planked steak: 195 kr, Book a table. Igloo bar open 21-23.
- **PUB 15% DISCOUNT** on beer at **Capsicum Bar & Bistro** in Arvidsjaur.

Where to Eat & Drink in Arvidsjaur

Arvidsjaur Area code 0960 -

• **AFRODITE** Tel 173 00. Pizzeria, restaurant, Greek grill. Fully licensed. Lunch special: Mon-Fri 10.30-14. All day: À la carte, Italian pizza, reindeer meat, fish, Mexican food, salads, pasta. Storgatan 10.

• **CAPSICUM BAR & BISTRO** Stationsgatan 14. Tel/fax 108 08. Lunch special: Mon-Fri 11-13.30. À la carte 17-21.30 every day. Women 25% discount on Mondays. Pub evenings, free entrance.

• **HOTELL LAPONIA** Tel 555 00. Lunch: Mon-Fri 11-14. Restaurant: Daily 18-22. Book a table! SPA: book in advance. Sameland and Laponia hut open for bookings. Information: www.hotell-laponia.se.

• **SIBYLLA, TORGGRILEN** Market square, Arvidsjaur. Tel 216 60. Lunch special: 10-14. Fast food. Beer and wine. Mon-Fri 10-21, Sat & Sun 11-21.

Where to Eat & Drink in Arjeplog

Arjeplog Area code 0961 -

• **FRASSES Grill & Pub**. Tel 101 01. Mon-Thurs 10-20, Fri 10-19, Sat 11-19, Sun 12-19. Lunch special: Mon-Fri 10-14. Also hamburgers, fast food, à la carte. Beer & wine. Drottninggatan 2.

• **HORNAVAN HOTELL** Tel 777 100. Fax 777 199. Skeppsudden. Lunch special: Mon-Sat 11-14. Evening buffet: 18-22. Sundays: Brunch: 8-11. 75 kr. Pub evenings Wed and Sat. À la carte - book one day in advance.

• **HOTELL SILVERHATTEN** Tel 107 70. Lunch special: Mon-Sat 11-14. Evenings: Mon-Sat 19-22, Sun 18-22. À la carte, pub menu and evening menu. Pub: every night till midnight. Thursday: *Planka* and drinks in igloo.

• **KRAJA RESTAURANT** tel 31500. Lunch special: Every day 11-14. Wed: Pub evening 21-01. Restaurant, every evening: à la carte. Mon-Sat 19-22, Sun 18-22.

• **LAISDALEN HOTEL** Tel 200 30. Laisvall, 30 minutes from central Arjeplog. Fully licensed restaurant and pub.

• **MATHÖRNAN** Tel 614 44. Lunch special: Mon-Fri 11-14. Mon-Fri: 16-22, Sat open from 12, Sun open from 13. Wed & Fri: Pub evening at **Pub Källa'n** in basement. Drottningg. 4.

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