

## **When we caught the thieves on board «Gamle Salten»**

This event is from the summer 1980. We had a fine 16 foot boat and we had a mooring in the harbor.

The day this happened we had been sailing past Nygårdsjøen up to Kjellingbrua. We went on shore and lit a fire on the beach. We caught fish from the beach and had a very good time. Participating on the trip were Eva, Kate, and Asgeir. Kate was 15 years old and Asgeir was 14.

We went back home in the evening, and close by where we should moor the boat in the harbor the ship «Salten» were moored alongside the dock. We soon noticed that something unusual was going on on board the ship. Two men were about to break the lock on the door between the foredeck and the cabins. We were quick to get our boat moored, and then get on to the pier in order to check what we thought was happening. At first it was very quiet, but then we got sight of the forelock of a fellow crawling along the deck from the bridge, and we now realized that the fellows were afraid we should detect what they were up to.

Now it started to get exciting, no one of us had ever been participating in catching thieves. We drove straight away to the police station which at that time was located furthest down in the street Sjøgata. However, the police was kind of slow to get started, and before they were able to get down to the pier the thieves had vanished. But this was not the end, I was joining the police in their car as they were driving around in the city to look for the thieves. At this time we did not know what they had stolen, but they were most probably looking for the medicine chest. We had noticed that one of the fellows wear a dark red T-shirt, and that was a good description. Asgeir, Kate, and Eva had been posted down near the harbor to look out there, and now the excitement really started. The police car in which I was located was a bit up in the city when we got the message that Kate and Asgeir had found the thieves lining up at the Mathisen hot dog stand. We drove at once to the place, but I had to leave the car before the police could catch them.

Thanks to the detective work of Kate and Asgeir the thieves were found at once, and it was no use to deny because one of the men participating in the burglary on board the ship had a cabin key from «Salten» in his pocket.

This fishing trip got more exciting than we had expected when starting, and I believe Kate and Asgeir were very proud of having been able to track the thieves in the hot dog queue.

At the end I would like to mention that when the above told event happened the name of the ship was «Salten», but today the name is «Gamle Salten» (Old Salten).

**November 2008, Jarle**