

FOR HALVTREDS
GENERATIONER SIDEN
FIFTY
GENERATIONS AGO

Keld Jensen

Nr. 42, oktober 2024

No. 42, October 2024

For halvtreds generationer siden

Forleden inviterede arkæologerne fra Nordjyske Museer til åben udgravning ude ved vores naboby, Vaarst.

Udgravningen blev indledt i foråret 2018. Det var udgravningen af en stor gravplads fra Jernalderen. Dengang besøgte jeg også stedet. (se [her](#).)

Nu har arkæologerne tæt på gravpladsen fundet spor efter en jernalderlandsby. Under besøget bliver vi fortalt om fundet og ser de genstande, de har gravet op.

Nationalmuseet fastsætter Jernalderen til perioden år 500 f.Kr. til år 800 e.Kr. Ofte opdeles Jernalderen i to hovedperioder, hvor den Ældre Jernalder strækker sig fra år 500 f.Kr. til år 400 e.Kr., og den Yngre Jernalder så resten af perioden.

Vi betragter udgravningen af husene. Det er jo svimlende mange år tilbage i tiden at holde styr på. Husene lå her for mindst 1.600 år siden. Hvis vi fastsætter en generation til at være på 30 år, så levede vores forfædre her i

disse huse for mellem 50 og 100 generationer siden.

Knogler i og omkring husene viser, at de lige som os har spist okser, geder og får, og de andre dyr, som vi også spiser i dag. Ved den bålplads der op mod ydervæggen i huset, har de tilberedt den gode oksesteg. Ved siden af er en morter dukket op, en forudsætning for at knuse hvedens korn til mel.

Om sommeren har jernalderbefolkningen nok opholdt sig mest ude, men i den kolde, våde og mørke vinter har de opholdt sig inde i deres huse. Vi kan se, at de overalt har benyttet kalk til at lysne de mørke rum op med.

Jernalder menneskene har ikke levet så afsondret fra omverdenen, som man kunne tro. En heldig arkæolog fandt med sin metalsøger en romersk mønt og et spænde lavet af bronze. Begge må være kommet hertil fra fjerne egne ude i Europa.

Se oversigt over jernalder fund i Østhimmerland [her](#).

Fifty generations ago

The other day, archaeologists from the North Jutland Museum, invited the public to an open excavation near our neighbouring town, Vaarst.

The excavation began in the spring of 2018. It was an excavation of a large Iron Age burial site. At that time, I also visited the site. (See [here](#).)

Now, close to the burial site, the archaeologists have found traces of an Iron Age village. During the visit, we were told about the discovery and saw the artefacts they had unearthed.

The National Museum dates the Iron Age to the period from 500 B.C. to 800 A.D. The Iron Age is often divided into two main periods: with the Older Iron Age, which lasted from 500 B.C. to 400 A.D., and the Younger Iron Age, which lasted the rest of the period.

We observed the excavation of the houses. It is dizzying to try to keep track of so many years back in time. The houses were here at least 1,600 years ago. If we define a generation as 30 years, our ancestors lived in these

houses between 50 and 100 generations ago.

Bones in and around the houses show that, like us, they ate oxen, goats, and sheep, as well as other animals we still eat today. By the firepit near the outer wall of the house, they would have prepared their tasty ox roast. Nearby, a mortar has been found, which was essential for grinding wheat into flour.

During the summer, the Iron Age population likely spent most of their time outdoors, but in the cold, wet, and dark winter, they stayed inside their houses. We can see that they used lime everywhere to brighten the dark rooms.

Iron Age people were not as isolated from the outside world as one might think. A lucky archaeologist found a Roman coin and a bronze brooch with his metal detector. Both must have come from distant parts of Europe.

See an overview of Iron Age finds in East Jutland [here](#).



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaorst, oktober 2024

Vaorst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaorst, oktober 2024

Vaorst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024



Vaarst, oktober 2024

Vaarst, East Himmerland, October 2024

KOLOFON

Ugens foto: For halvtreds generationer siden
Af Keld Jensen

PDF Version 1
Oprindeligt publiceret oktober 2024

Alle billeder og tekst © 2024 Keld Jensen

COLOPHON

Photo of the week: Fifty generation ago
By Keld Jensen

PDF Version 1
Originally Published October 2024

All images and text © 2024 Keld Jensen