



JaPeRoLi-News 2004



In recent years we have been talking a lot about us; what we were doing, how Ronja and Linnea were growing and where we all were going. This year we thought it would be time for a change and to give some other family members a chance to tell about their experiences with JaPeRoLi.

Question: Hi books, what are you arguing about?

Duden: Warum schauen Jan und Petra nicht in mich? Die beiden sagen doch jedes Jahr, sie würden nächstes Jahr die JaPeRoLi-News in verschiedenen Sprachen verschicken. Jetzt schreiben sie aber wieder nur auf Englisch die könnten doch einmal rechtzeitig mit den News anfangen.

Svensk ordbok: Du är inte ensam, det är ingen som bläddrar i mig heller.

English Dictionary: It is not that great getting tattered either.

Question: It is not as quiet in the house as it used to be, do you feel responsible for that?

Ronja's flute: I confess, but what shall I do? You just don't say no to someone so eager playing you like Ronja always is.

Linnea's violin: Both yes and no, but now more and more yes. Therefore even I am quite confident that I will stay here for a while.

Question: What was your most exciting trip this year?

The red Toyota: Going to Gotland was a highlight. We cars had a great party on the ferry. On Gotland I meet the new car of Petra's brother. What a hot beauty ... and with so fancy equipment from fridge to GPS. On the other hand, MY clutch¹ and doors did not fail.

The four bikes: we would like to say the tour along the Göta canal JaPeRoLi did together with three of Ronja's class mates and their families, but we were left home and they hired other bikes there – what a disappointment!



Question: Did you get some motion this year?

Petra's hockey (innebandy) stick: Once a week Petra took me out and beat the feet of other moms in Ronja's class.

The basketballs: It is always fun bouncing beside Ronja and now also Linnea.

The football: I got kicked all summer.

The Frisbee disc: I was flying a lot. It was fun to be in the air, for instance, on a beach between Petra's nephew and a sandy Jan, and of course when Jan's brother came from Hawaii to Sweden to play Ultimate.

Skis: We were impressed how elegantly Petra glided downhill after all the years and how quickly Ronja and Linnea were able to follow her. Only Jan restricted himself to cross-country skiing – and that is probably better so.

Question: Not everyone was happy, what happened?

Paintbrushes: It was just unfair, I was there all summer for them, windows and porch shine white, the blue door looks brand new and Mumsarby also got redder but then they just put us into a plastic bag and left us there. After months, getting more and more dry and sticky, we are now only waiting for the day when they will put the plastic bag into the garbage hardly remembering that it us inside. At least they let us meet Martin shortly in our last working days, his hands were soooo lovely, finally someone who knew how to treat a paintbrush

The old PC: I am just disappointed, I have been together with Jan for so many years and then, from one day to the other he just came home with a new one. Can you believe this, he has a love affair I have no clue what he sees in the new one, probably it is just that she is younger than me, ok she is good looking, but how could he forget that I always have been faithful it hurts to see him fondling this black beauty, but I have to be tough if he comes back I won't let him log on again!

Question: You have been around with JaPe for ages, have you observed any changes during the years?

Jans old sport bag (from SSV Breisach-handball times²): Jan sweats more now, but this may be caused by the fact that there is no goalkeeper in Ultimate Frisbee and lazy Jan now finally has to move.

Apart from the sweating Jan hasn't changed too much; I still have to serve as object for his frustration being thrown in some corner after a lost game. You might think Jan should have gotten wiser with age, but no. You won't imagine how disappointed he was when they missed the semi-finals at this year's national championship by one point. Couldn't he recognize that participating is more important than winning? This year Uppsala at least did neither come last in the indoor nor did they in the outdoor nationals.



The good old tent (one of the first items bought by JaPe, must have been 1986): I have been in most of Sweden with JaPe, this year I added Blekinge on my list and revisited Gotland. They seem to have it nice and cosy, but it

¹ Kupplung

² the one with the print 'Stammkneipe Treffpunkt' printed on it, luckily the text is in German, probably advertising for a pub on a sport bag is illegal in Sweden

gets a little harder to squeeze everyone in from year to year. Also I felt more comfortable at some lonely lake instead on campgrounds now – the other tents make always fun of me because I am smaller, older and without any camping furniture in front of me.

The short-wave radio: Well, they still turn me on from time to time on Saturdays but not as regularly as formerly. They also seem to be less focused when listening and most times I get turned off after a short time again just because the SC Freiburg is behind by some goals. As it looks now I am afraid I have another lonely year to look forward to³.

Playing cards (for 'Doppelkopf'): Finally we are back in business. Too bad for JaPe that Tasse and Kevin did not need much practice before they started beating them.

Question: Did anyone else notice any change during the last year?

Toothbrush: The gap in Linnea's teeth disappeared. The gap suited her well for the last 4 years but now she is seven and it was time for the gap to disappear.

Petra's bike: My daily trip changed, now I am going each day to the Department of Philosophy where Petra is working with the economic administration.

Jan's bike: By the way, I also will take a new tour soon. It's a bit scary because Jan will leave me with all these other bikes at the train station when he will take the train to Stockholm University.

Question: You look different from last year, what happened?

Ronja's clothes: We agree that we look smaller, but we claim that we didn't shrink. Her parents simply have to recognize that Ronja is eight, soon nine, and not their little girl anymore.



The small cottage in Mumsarby: As the smallest of the three small buildings around the weekend-house in Mumsarby I didn't expect too much but had accepted my slow decay. Two years ago I got a new roof, but that was nothing compared to this years efforts. For more than a week Petra, Jan and his dad hammered, sawed and screwed, and only left me when Jan's mom tempted them with tasty food. Once the hammering stopped it got really warm. Now during winter some warmth now and then is nice, if they only could keep the door closed instead of running in and out and jumping naked into the snow.



Question: Did you have a chance to see any old friends?

Scythe⁴: I was glad to see Jan's dad Axel again, unfortunately he is spending less and less time with me from year to year. Three years ago we had 10 wonderful days on the meadow in Mumsarby, this year we were down to three days.

Paintbrush: Hi Hannah, nice to meet you again for your annual painting visit.

Some things did not get a chance to speak here. For instance, the visits of Jan's uncle during the recent years brought a lot of things to JaPeRoLi, often judged as not really useful and too many. When he sadly passed away this year these things suddenly became appreciated memories.

Question: One last question: what do you expect for 2005?

Memory game: Jan might win once or twice that is if Linnea plays with him many, many times.

Midsummer pole in Mumsarby: 2004 was the first sunny Midsummer Eve JaPeRoLi and their friends had in Mumsarby; after this luck I don't dare to expect anything else than pouring rain for 2005.

Alarm clock: They will continue to smash me angrily as if it was my fault that they are tired ... will they never consider to go to bed earlier?

Duden: ... oder früher mit den JaPeRoLi-News anzufangen, so dass Zeit für eine deutsche Version ist.

Svensk ordbok: och kanske till och med en på svenska.

English Dictionary: There will still be the English-only-speaking friends, so I do not expect any change for 2005.

As you see we have wonderful things, still "The best things in life aren't things" applied very much to our year 2004. There were laughing children, flowers in Mumsarby and sunny days on Gotland. Most important, Jan's brother and his wife miraculously survived a car crash with hardly any scratch. The JaPeRoLi hotel was again booked for a large part of the year⁵ and we enjoyed spending much time with friends and relatives in Uppsala, Mumsarby and other places. We are looking forward seeing all of you (again) in 2005.



God jul och gott år,

JaPeRoLi

³ There is no soccer broadcasting from the second league

⁴ Sense / lie

⁵ We are now accepting bookings for 2005: Eksoppsv.44, 756 46 Uppsala, +46 18 501674, japeroli@telia.com or petra.seibert@filosofi.uu.se or jan.seibert@ma.slu.se (soon probably jan.seibert@natgeo.su.se)