

MANCHESTER 22/24 SEPTEMBER 2023

This time the trip went to Manchester in England. Anne Berit's brother turned 70, so we planned a surprise visit. We looked at direct flights from Gardermoen to Manchester. It was SAS who had the flights that suited us best this time. We ordered tickets for the 23rd of September with a return on the 24th. The departure from Gardermoen was at 09.00, but in order not to have to get up at the crack of dawn, we chose to spend the night at a hotel near the airport.



We drove to Gardermoen on the 22nd and parked the car here.



We had booked at the [Radisson Blu Airport Hotel](#), which is located right next to the terminal.



We had asked for an allergy-friendly room and got this on the 4th floor.



Good beds.



Good sofa.



We ate in the restaurant. I had entrecote.



Anne Berit had salmon.



I'm studying the dessert menu.



We chose espresso and Sambuca.



Anne Berit also had two scoops of ice cream. Here she has eaten almost everything. It was so much that I had to help her a bit.



Here we are the next day, waiting to board the plane.



We are sitting at Bar Oslo.



Our plane is arriving.



Food is loaded. We had ordered breakfast on this trip.



We landed at [Manchester Airport](#), which is a little south of the city. It was opened in 1938. It has slightly less traffic than Gardermoen.



After we had received our luggage, we ordered a taxi in a booth outside the terminal. We paid by card and it cost £37 to get to the hotel. The name of the taxi company is [Street Cars](#).



We had booked at [Premier Inn Swinton](#).



Next to the hotel is the pub [Henry Boddington](#). It opens at 12 o'clock.



Here we had a light lunch. Crispy Chicken Wings.



But first we had a lager.



Then we are waiting for the crispy chicken wings.



There were more guests at the pub.



In the evening we were going to have dinner at [Ristorante Puccini](#).

Debbie had booked a table at Puccini's with room for us as well, and it was agreed with her that we should arrive after everyone had sat down at the table. We were supposed to make our surprise entrance at 5:30 pm.

We took a taxi from the hotel to the restaurant. The taxi was a little late, so when we arrived a little after 5:30 pm, everyone was sitting at the table.



Here we have been given a place at the table next to Asbjørn.



Asbjørn and Anne Berit.



Debbie and Madelaine.



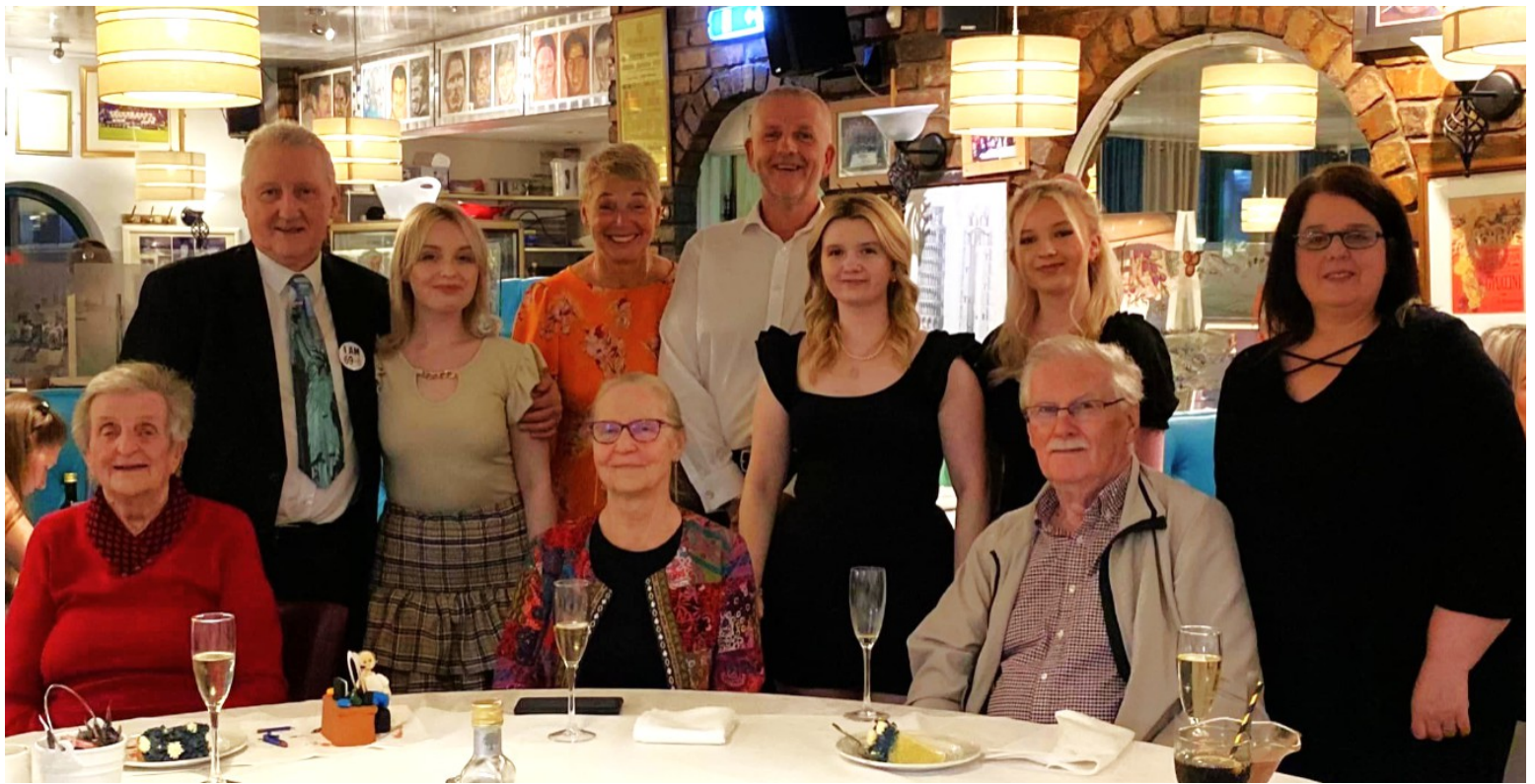
Madelaine, Leela and Evelyn.



Evelyn, Madelaine, Leela and Debbie's mother.



Andy (Debbie's brother) and Carolyn Webb.



Here we are all gathered.



After dinner a birthday cake appeared at the table.



The candles were lit.



The candles are blown out



Managed to blow out the candles!



The decoration on top of the cake.
It is depicting Asbjørn late at night, sitting with his feet on the table, writing a book and drinking whiskey.



The last time we stayed at the Premier Inn we could have breakfast at Henry Boddington, but they had stopped serving breakfast and didn't open until 12 o'clock. We therefore took a taxi over to [Red Lion Pub](#) to have breakfast.



Here we are at the pub.



We ate something like this.

ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST

Our Breakfast Deck includes all your favourites such as pork sausages, back bacon, free range eggs, hash browns, baked beans, plum tomatoes, fried bread, Belgian waffles, black pudding and toast and jams.



I was hungry.
After we had eaten, we took a taxi back to the hotel. We had to check out before 12 noon.



Then we visited Asbjørn. There were a lot of birthday decorations there.



We brought Christmas presents and goodies that they can't get in England, such as Kornfi flatbread, brown cheese, Freia milk chocolate, Maarud potato crisps with cheese and onion flavor, etc.

We also got a birthday present for Anne Berit, Christmas presents and a couple of books that Asbjørn has written.



After the visit, it was time to book a taxi back to the airport's Terminal 1. The driver was in a hurry and was driving well over the speed limit of 110 km/h.

After we had checked in we had a Pepperoni pizza to share. We ate at [PizzaLux](#). We could place an order at the table by scanning a QR code on the table and order by phone. Labor saving for the restaurant.

The flight was supposed to leave at 18.20, but was an hour late.

Anne Berit waited at Gardermoen while I picked up the car at Gardermoen Parking.

We weren't home until 11.30pm.