



# The Mt. Tron Mail

July-August 2019 \* Mt. Tron University of Peace Foundation \* No. 1-2 Vol. 22



*Mt. Tron seen from "The View" at Tynset on July 25th 2019, at 10:12 hrs. Photo: BP.*

## Great pressure on Mt. Tron!

Pressure on Mt. Tron has been increasing over the last couple of years as - rather suddenly - it has become a place which almost everyone you could think of wants to utilize for some purpose or other - especially since the founding of the "Mt. Tron Experiences" organization whose apparent aim is to have as many experiences as possible as soon as possible on Mt. Tron. During "The Mid-Summer Days" the enthusiasts were awarded the "Alvdal Ambassadors of the year" prize, and they are currently being very successful.

New this year is that the landowners around Mt. Tron with pasture rights on the mountain, have managed at last to organize themselves into several joint ownerships, which constitute the basic authority on Mt. Tron.



# Many actors and great activity on Mt. Tron

## Tronsvangen and Nysætra Mountain Joint Ownership

All landowners at Tronsvangen and Nysætra summer mountain farm joint ownerships, with parcels of forest bordering up to the timberline on the mountain, have, by judgment of 02.07.2018, become organized into a common mountain joint ownership: “**Tronsvangen and Nysætra Joint Mountain Ownership**”. It has cadastral no. 4 and holding no. 348 in the Alvdal Municipality, and is divided among 34 parts. At present it has not yet got an organization number or own bank account. It is this joint ownership that administer “The Peace Plateau” (Flattron) and which The Mt. Tron University of Peace has to deal with from now on. It has the basic authority concerning all administrative cases relating to the area marked in yellow on the map on the next page.

## Mt. Tron Summit Joint Ownership

This joint ownership includes the very summit of Mt. Tron and is a common joint ownership for all the three joint ownerships at Mt. Tron. The two others are “Mt. Tron North-West Outfields Party” in Alvdal and “Tyllaldalen Land Owner Party” in Tynset. It is within this area that the telecommunication mast of Norkring and the civil avian radar of Avinor are situated, and where the planned view-point is meant to be.

## The Mt. Tron Road

The Mt. Tron Road was built in 1959 in connection with the construction of the telecommunication mast. It runs from Tronsvangen and all the way up to the very mountain summit at 1665 metres. Most of it is within Tronsvangen and Nysætra Joint Mountain Ownership, except for a short loop inside Tyllaldalen Land Owner Party. On the flat top it is within the common Mt. Tron Summit Joint Ownership. According to the court record of the Nord-Østerdal Land Consolidation Court in the case of 0420-1997-0027 TRON, the municipality of Alvdal is the owner of The Mt. Tron Road. It was also the municipality that engaged Jan Inge Gjermundshaug for the operation of the road on their behalf (lastly in May 2014). However, the road has never been separated from any of the joint ownerships so that the ground is still to be regarded as private. The municipality owns only the road itself and not the ground on which it is laid. In a meeting between The Mt. Tron University of Peace Foundation and Alvdal municipality on May 7th this year, however, the municipality asserted that it is not the owner of the road and that it also has not wish to own it. The municipality was of the opinion that it had to be the employer, now Norkring, of the contractor “Brødrene Gjermundshaug”, who built the road in 1959, who will be the rightful owner of the road. We have asked Norkring about

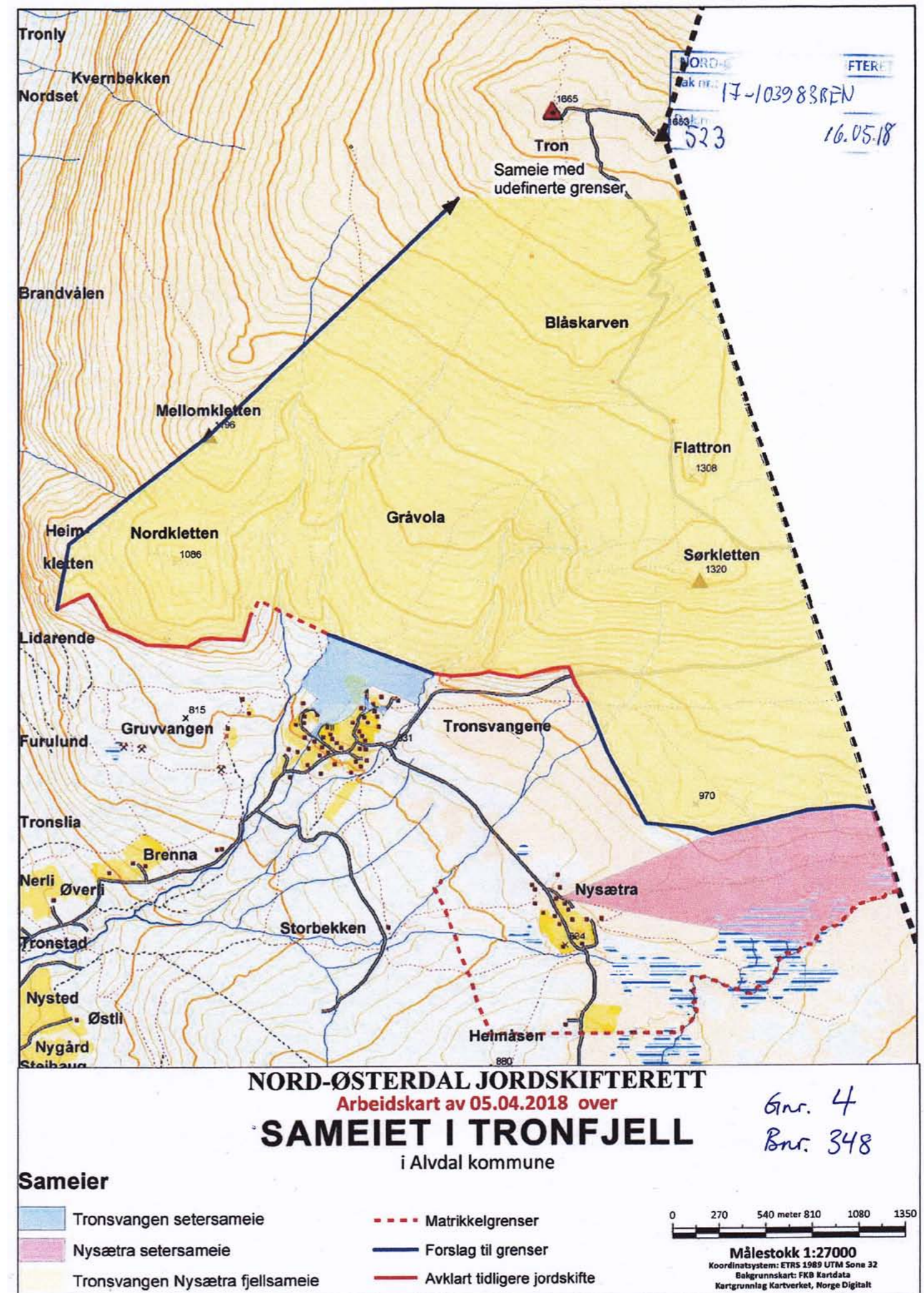
the matter but we have still not received any answer to our enquiry, so the ownership appears unclear. However, recently Jan Inge Gjermundshaug publicly declared that the road belongs to him.

## Viewpoint Mt. Tron Summit

On June 20th this year Alvdal municipality passed a resolution for a detailed regulation of a viewpoint at the summit of Mt. Tron. The enterprise is by Tronfjell Maskin and Mt. Tron Experiences by Jan Inge Gjermundshaug. The project proposal is drawn up by Alvdal municipality. “The purpose with the regulation is to contribute to increased added value for the municipality’s business community, by more people halt, takes a trip to the mountain and thereby spend more time in the municipality. What is already happening on and around Mt. Tron today will thereby be made known.” The plan includes building viewpoint at the absolute summit, a ramp for hang-gliders, footpaths for walks and parking places, together with a service building - everything accessible for disabled persons.

## Mt. Tron University of Peace

The Mt. Tron University of Peace Foundation was already established in 1993 and has thus been active for nearly a generation. In 1995 the local council passed a resolution stating that the municipality was to include our plans as soon as they would start the work with the municipal plan. But that wasn’t until fully ten years later, in 2005, and it was finished in 2009. Then an area on the Peace Plateau on Mt. Tron had been determined for the University of Peace in the municipal area plan and the Foundation started making a detailed regulation plan in collaboration with the municipality. It was passed and sanctioned in May 2012. In the mean time a sketch project and a model had been made, together with the formulation of a charter, a contents plan and an activity plan, for the University of Peace. After that we made contact with the then Tronsvangen Seterhotell seeking to buy the property for the use of the University of Peace. After a few years of negotiation Tronsvangen Seter was bought privately by Knud Larsen so that the Foundation could begin using it for its activities. The Foundation has now sent a written request to Tronsvangen and Nysætra Mountain Joint Ownership (17.07.2019) for the purpose of working out an agreement of intent for buying land for the Mt. Tron University of Peace within the regulated area on the Peace Plateau. With a sanctioned regulation plan and an agreement of intent settled, the Foundation will have what it needs to go out and make the project sufficiently known and to bring about the necessary finances for the building project. So far we have not received any response from the mountain joint ownership.



A representation of the working map of the Nord-Østerdal Land Consolidation Court showing the joint ownership (yellow colour) in Mt. Tron of 05.04.2018.



# Many actors and great activity on Mt. Tron (cont.)

## Mt. Tron University of Peace (cont.)

As mentioned in the previous pages an area on the Peace Plateau at 1300 metres has been regulated for the Mt. Tron University of Peace. Altogether 109,2 decares have been regulated for the purpose, including 34,2 decares to the building itself; 12 decares to the car parking; and 63 decares to recreation ground between the building and the car parking, in which the Peace Monument is placed today and where footpaths will be made for people to walk on (see map on the previous page). In addition there will be a road for cars to reach the building from the existing Mt. Tron Road via the car parking. All of the regulated area of 109,2 decares is of current interest for purchase by the Mt. Tron University of Peace Estate Inc., which is a company that will handle real estate development and building construction regarding the University of Peace on Mt. Tron.

## Other actors and activities

Mt. Tron Experiences by Jan Inge Gjermundshaug, after gaining permission from the municipality for a trial project, this winter started tours by weasel from Tronsvanggen to the top of Mt. Tron. However, the county governor put a (temporary?) stop to the activity because of uncertainty regarding law and regulations, but among the public it appeared to be a popular facility. Otherwise, the Solan Gundersen's Test of Strength has an annual bicycle race from the Aukrust Centre in the village up to the very top of Mt. Tron. This race follows the county road, the Tronsvanglia Road and the Mt. Tron Road. The annual rock festival Livestock in Alvdal has mountain biking on paths on Mt. Tron as one of their activities. This year they also arranged a concert on the top of the mountain with a huge audience.

## "Rally Tron"

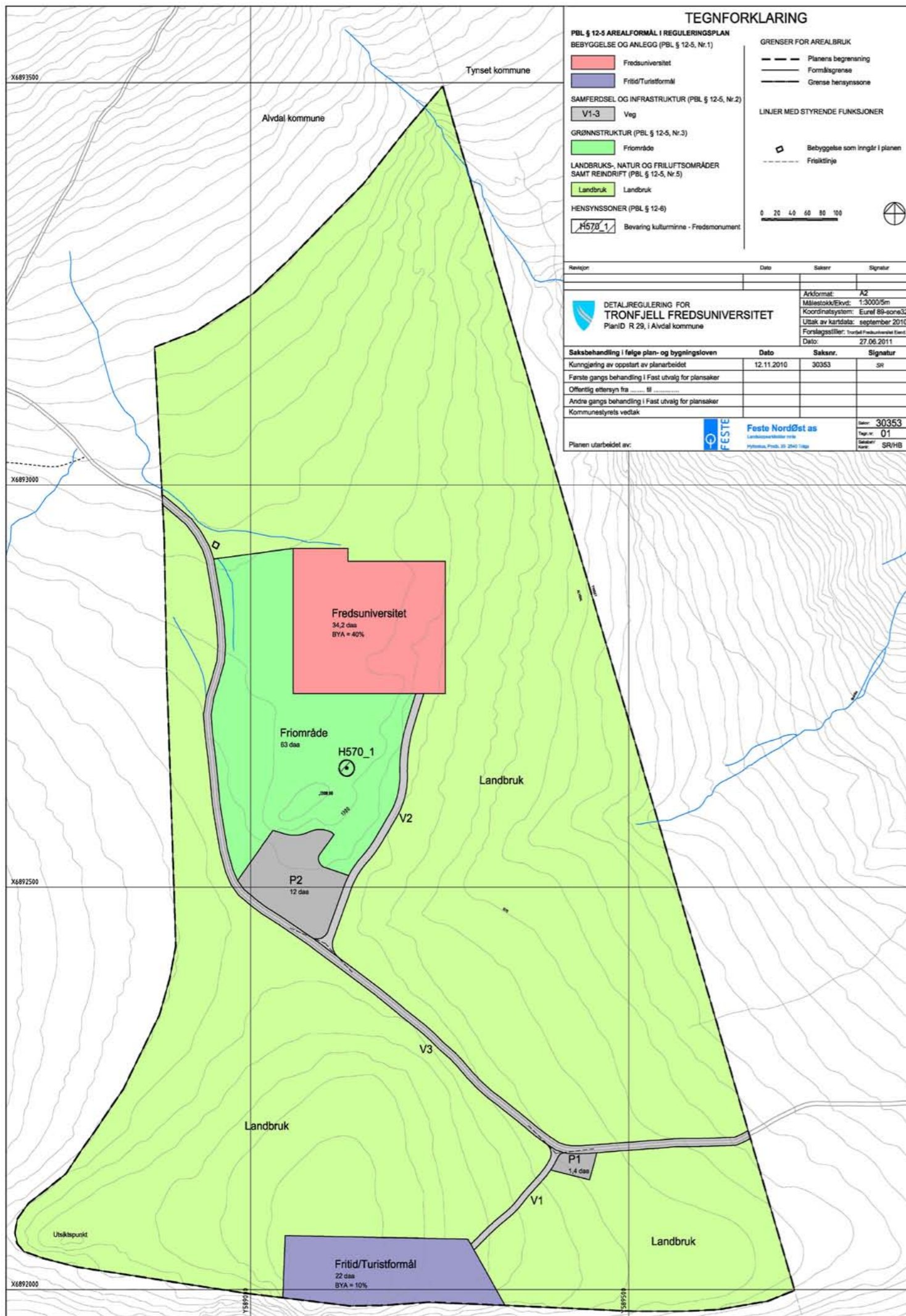
The so-called "Rally Tron" was extensively discussed in the previous edition of The Mt. Tron Mail (No. 3-4, Vol. 21). They started their planning and preparations last year, and the event is scheduled for September 7th this year. According to the local media they are on track, and they seem to have huge support from sponsors and the public. But in this case it appears that the responsible authorities are being quite compliant. Alvdal municipality says they have investigated the matter and found that there is nothing they can do about such an activity. Instead they have granted the project financial support from the municipality's cultural fund. Also the county governor appears to be passive, and the local ground owners also seem to be okay with this arrangement. Of the many local road parties who have been asked for the use of their roads for the various legs of the rally, Tronsvanglia Road

Party is the only party, as far as one knows, who have denied use of their road to the rally. And at the time of writing the University of Peace is one of only two instances of public protest against the arrangement. This is both weird and alarming! However, as far as one knows, an endorsement from the police and from the national road authorities are still to be granted, but it is important that those who are against - and they are many - raise their voices and make themselves heard.

It is beyond doubt that motor sport on Mt. Tron will be utterly detrimental for the Mt. Tron University of Peace, if this becomes an annual event as the organizer hope. At the meeting with the municipality on May 7th this year we have already mentioned, we made it completely clear that the University of Peace and motor sport on Mt. Tron are irreconcilable. Then suddenly the mayor, deputy mayor, the chief administrative officer and the assistant chief administrative officer, all became quite silent for a long time as they had all calculated that both could thrive together on Mt. Tron. We stated clearly that if in future Mt. Tron will be known as a 'Mecca of motor sport' in Norway, then absolutely no one will have any interest in the Mt. Tron University of Peace, because these two represent diametrically opposed extremes of human interest and activity and cannot co-exist within the same limited area. Further it was emphasised that we are not against other activities on Mt. Tron, but that "Rally Tron" and motor sport is definitely beyond the acceptable limit.

We think that it lacks all a sense of history and respect on the part of the organizer for the 100 years' tradition after Baral on Mt. Tron, and to the project of the University of Peace which has been going on for nearly a generation. Furthermore, the municipality of Alvdal should act to protect the detailed regulation plan on the Peace Plateau which they themselves have collaborated to prepare, and not extend direct support to this activity by granting it otherwise highly sought-after cultural funds.

"Rally Tron" is only entertainment and won't contribute anything of value either to the mountain or to society. On the contrary it will provide the area with a huge strain in the form of wear and tear, noise and pollution. There is also a considerable risk to life and health both for participants and for the spectators. This is circus and extreme-sport which does not belong in vulnerable nature. It is sad that entirely unnecessary activities, which in addition are very resource demanding and stressing, always have to be at the expense of nature. Alvdal has such a wonderful nature which one should do one's utmost to preserve for the future and not consume it short-term. Are the inhabitants of Alvdal sufficiently aware of the value they have acquired by birth?





# What kind of development is desirable on Mt.Tron?

By Bjørn Pettersen

(Reader's letter published in 'Alvdal Midt i Væla' April 15th 2019  
and in 'Arbeidets Rett' April 17th 2019)

In the municipal plan of Alvdal all of the area east of the river Glomma has been defined as an area of development in the village, while all of the area west of Glomma is to be preserved and protected against further development. Having the vast, relatively intact, areas of nature in Alvdal Vestfjell in mind, where parts of the last remaining population of the original wild mountain reindeer in Europe resides and for which Norway has an international responsibility of governing, this decision was wise. After all it is nature that constitutes our foundation of existence, and the need for near virgin nature with its silence and harmony, will only increase in the future.

But society also needs possibilities of development, and in Alvdal these have been directed to all the area east of the river Glomma, where the Mt.Tron area especially has been pointed out as an area of commitment for the municipality. Bearing the University of Peace in mind, together with the building of cabins and adaptation for hanggliders, who were the only actors at the time when the plan was formulated, this is quite fine. It mainly represents long-term thinking and lasting values. But lately, suddenly a great strain has come on Mt.Tron with several actors on the scene. That regulation for a viewpoint with adjoining footpaths and a ramp for the hanggliders now is being made on the top, is fine. But the municipality should make a halt now and reflect on what kind of development we wish for.

Is everything OK if it only generates money or that

the village is put on the infamous 'map'? Is the strategy merely that if only outside people spend a little more time in the village so that they spend more money, then everything is OK? And is almost all of circus offerings, both to the locals and to the visitors, fully fine within these frames? Even though all of Østkjølen in Alvdal has been set aside for development, it shouldn't mean that anything may roam freely there. It should be a well considered and directed development in which one is taking the necessary consideration to both people and nature, because we do not want fully urban development, do we?

In these times, on a national and international level, our school children have begun to strike and protest because they think that we, the adults, have gone too far - that we are short-sighted and irresponsible. When our children wish to take the progress in their own hands, then it is time that we adults wake up from our comfortable sleep with fleeting dreams of ever more money, "prosperity" and entertainment at any cost.

Unfortunately nature has no intrinsic value. And therefore some people are now working internationally that nature should have human rights. Our species, the human being, is the only species in history that has put itself outside the order of nature. Nature was never good enough for the so-called civilized man. This has happened many times through history and it always went wrong for the humans. But it was isolated happenings. This time it is global ...



*The Monument of Peace on Mt.Tron.  
(06.07.2011).  
Photo: BP.*



*Mt.Tron with the rivers Folla and Glomma, and the centre of Alvdal village in front, 11.07.2011, at 09:57 hrs. Photo: BP.*

## What kind of development is desirable on Mt.Tron?

### Some further reflections ...

The present large amount of activity on Mt.Tron is a wanted development from the side of the municipality, ever since the municipal plan was finished in 2009. The level of to-day's activity is the result of a gradually increasing focus on Mt.Tron through the last ten years. It was a wise decision that time, but now is the time to define further the purpose of this focus and development.

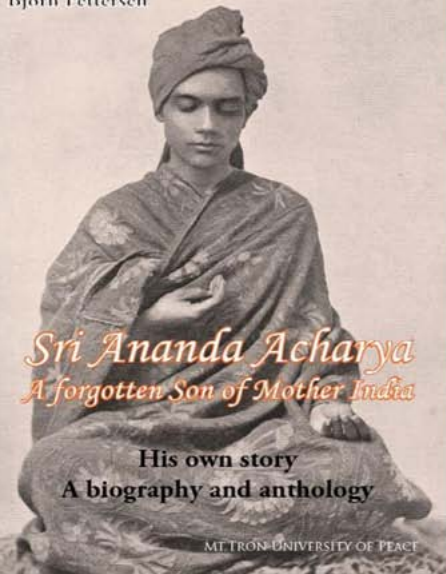
The municipality cannot just let all forces and interested parties loose. One needs to elevate the sight a little and look forward, and to think through thoroughly what kind of development one wants, and not just further development for the sake of development. That which is development for some may soon become de-development (phasing out) for others on Mt.Tron.

In these times it is important to think long-term - to take the great questions of society seriously, like climate change, loss of bio diversity, waste problems and alternative energy sources - so that one can stay ahead of the general development. This holds good also for Mt.Tron and Østkjølen, where the municipality can already now make out a sustainable and good course for ideas and progress.

Even if Mt.Tron has been defined as an area of commitment, and all of Østkjølen as an area of development for the municipality, it is important that all activity and expansion is made as sympathetic as possible, in the greatest harmony with the nature of the area.

Nature is our common mother whom we all live by. To take care of nature is the same as taking care of our own body and health. To exploit nature ruthlessly is the same as digging your own grave. All are dependent on the viability of the diversity of life, so therefore nature must never be overrun.



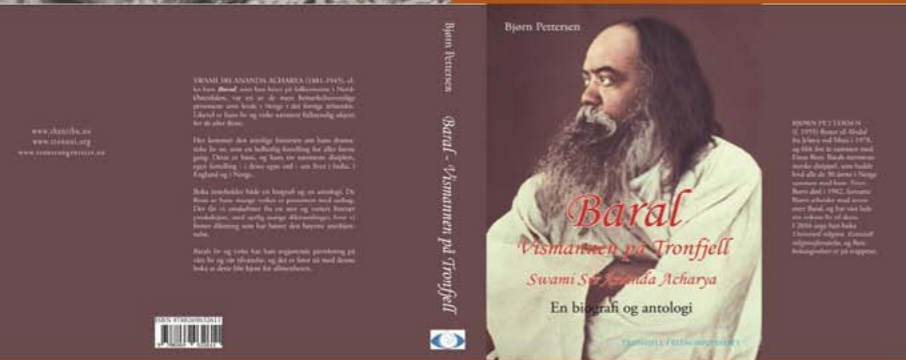


SWAMI SRI ANANDA ACHARYA (1881-1943), was one of the most remarkable persons living in the previous century - spending the first half of his life in India and the second half in Northern Europe. Still his life and work is almost entirely unknown to the world.

The incredible story of his dramatic life is hereby published as a complete narration for the very first time. This is Sri Ananda Acharya and his three nearest disciples' story - in their own words - about his life in India, England and in Norway.

The book contains both a biography and an anthology. Most of his published works are presented with excerpts where we get samples of a huge and varied literary production. His poems, when they were published, reaped the highest recognition and placed him among the greatest poets of all times.

The life and work of Sri Ananda Acharya has had a crucial influence on our life and being, and only now by this book it is being known to the public. This forgotten son of Mother India deserves to be widely known and to have his rightful place in the collective memory of humankind.



# BOKLANSERING



Rishi Raj Manglesh og Taru Vangen  
intervjuer  
**Bjørn Pettersen**  
om den første inderen som bosatte seg i Norge:  
**Sri Ananda Acharya**

Sted:  
Ellingsrudåsen Skole, Harald Sohlbergs Vei 17, 1064 Oslo  
Tid:  
Lørdag 11. mai 2019, kl. 18:00—20:00

Program:  
Velkomsttale og innledning av Poorani Ganeshamoorthy  
Klassisk indisk musikk fremført av yoga-studenter  
Intervju med forfatteren om boka  
Åpne spørsmål fra publikum til forfatteren  
Servering av te og forfriskninger  
Klassisk indisk dans fremført av yoga-studenter  
Signering og boksalg

Åpent for alle! Gratis entré og servering! Norsk og engelsk! Velkommen!  
Arrangert av: Universal Kriya Babaji Yoga Sangam, Oslo



**Previous page, below:**  
*The author Bjørn Pettersen being interviewed on the stage by Rishi Raj Manglesh and Taru Vangen, who had each prepared ten questions.*

**This page, above:**  
*Hari Pirajan Mahalingam  
Llaxmanaa Adam Umesh  
Sangeeta Sathyaruban  
Kathiya Mohanraj  
Taraneka Srielango  
Abiramy Suntharampillai*



**To the right:**  
*Harshiny Surendra  
Kathiya Mohanraj  
Mathuri Murali  
Taraneka Srielango  
Puurani Mohanraj*

Poster for the book launch in Oslo in May this year. Design BP.

## Book launch in Oslo, Saturday May 11th.



### Great book launch

On Saturday May 11th the author Bjørn Pettersen attended a book launch held in the festivity hall of Ellingsrudåsen School in Oslo of both the Norwegian and the English edition of his biography of Baral (presented in detail in the previous editions of The Mt. Tron Mail). The organizer was Universal Kriya Babaji Yoga Sangam, Oslo, in collaboration with the publisher, Mt. Tron University of Peace, and Tronsvangen Seter. There was an interview with the author within the context of Indian culture for nearly three hours, with performance of music and dance, and the serving of food for the more than one hundred people present.

Nearly half of the impression of 1000 of the Norwegian edition was sold already last year, and the printing cost was covered. In the area around Mt. Tron alone about 200 copies were sold, and the book is still selling. And that is without a single advertisement being placed anywhere. We reckon that is quite good for a factual prose book of nearly 500 pages!

The English edition was published this year in an impression of 300. So far no steps have been taken to introduce the book to an English market.



### Brit Dolve Høgdahl

Responding to her invitation to the event **Brit Dolve Høgdahl**, together with her two daughters, attended the book launch. She was the only one among the audience, and indeed one of the last remaining overall, who has actually met Baral! That happened when she was a little girl during the last war when she and her family lived in Alvdal. She regards herself as a good friend of Baral and the two English ladies who stayed at Gaurisankarseter, and, during the open questions session, she provided important information about the life there, to the great appreciation of the audience. Here, together with Knud Larsen.



# News from Tronsvangen Seter



**SWAMI VIVIDISHANANDA**

For three weeks from Midsummer Eve we were lucky to be visited by Swami Vividishananda from Paramananda Mission in Bengal, India, who came together with his sister, Shubhra Gabel, who was raised in Hanau, Germany, near Frankfurt, where Vividishananda's aunt and uncle also live. The two of them, together with Erlend and Bjørn from Tronsvangen Seter, went on a five day car trip to the Western Coast and the Central South Norway. Here Vividishananda is seen at Trollstigen (above), and together with his sister Shubhra at a halt by the river Rauma (below to the left), and in Oslo. All photos: BP.



## New door and veranda

In the beginning of July an opening was made in the wall to the East, at the furthest end of the Dining Hall, and a specially built double veranda door was fitted. Thereafter, a veranda with a ramp for wheelchair, but also wide enough to transport Euro pallets, was built. This veranda has now become the favourite place of both residents and visitors because of the appearance of the morning sun there, and in the afternoon, when the sun is too strong on the front side, it is cool and comfortable there. Indoors, in the Dining Hall, thanks to the window of the veranda door, the room has become a lot brighter and pleasant, with a finished and more complete feel than before.





**Above:**

*Tronsvangen Seter,  
08.06.2019,  
11:47 hrs.  
Photo: Sonny  
Wadstedt.*

**To the left:**

*View from  
the front veranda of  
Tronsvangen Seter  
on 12.07.2019  
18:09 hrs.  
Photo: Sonny  
Wadstedt.*

The Mt. Tron Mail - the newsletter for those interested in the establishing of the Mt. Tron University of Peace

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