



The demolition of the building in August 2017.



Mads Damgaard with his first used coffee machine, bought for Café Pitstop.



The young people in the club, when the project got the first million kroner from the self-endowed philanthropic association, Realdania.

After functioning for 32 years as a youth club, Møllevej 22 in Idestrup, the former cooperative store (brugsforening), was going to be torn down. The state of the building was too decrepit and the municipality deemed it unsafe for use. Idestrup could not let this happen – where would the young people then have to go?

The youth club was and is an important asset for the daily life of the village youth. The wish was therefore to revive it, and at the same time modernize it to become a multifunctional house with a café, youth club, overnight accommodation, and social activities. From 2015 to 2017 the organization Idestrup and Omegns Lokalråd (IOLR – Idestrup Local Council) worked tirelessly to procure funds for a large-scale restoration and rebuilding of Møllevej 22. Fortunately we succeeded!

Nowadays, the café is run by Mads Damgaard and Tea Skailand, to the delight of their many guests in Idestrup and the neighbourhood!

**WELCOME TO PITSTOP IDESTRUP!**

# PITSTOP IDESTRUP

## THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE PROJECT



THE BOARD IN 2021, FROM THE LEFT TO THE RIGHT SIDE:  
Thomas Sembach Hansen, Kaj Jørgensen,  
Louise Sparre Flørning, Klavs Hansen,  
Preben Dreijer Løj, Frode Vest Hansen,  
Anja Folkvard Petersen and  
Carina Bell Bastlund Woolhead.



[www.pitstop-idestrup.dk](http://www.pitstop-idestrup.dk)



### **Carina Bell Bastlund Woolthead**

I moved to Idestrup in 1995 and shortly after that, we had our two boys, Nicholas and Jonathan. It's a delight to see how much the town has supported the renovation of the old cooperative store and youth club. It has been exciting to rediscover the local history, which almost had been forgotten. This project has taught us how much local history means to a place, and how much we can thank those who came before us, living their lives in the lovely villages of Denmark. I was born on January 1st, 1965, on Christianshavn in Copenhagen. I have a master's degree in Japanese Studies and International Development. I work in Guldborgsund Municipality.



### **Preben Dreijer Løj**

I have been a member of the local community group, Idestrup og Omegns Lokalråd (IOLR) from its establishment in 2010. We started the council in order to increase the settlement in Idestrup and surrounding towns and settlements. Among other things, we have renovated the old cooperative store in Idestrup and this has given much more life and activity to the town. My family comes from the island of Falster and I moved to Idestrup in 1980. A funny detail is that the brother of my wife's grandfather, Carl Hansen Løj, was the first manager of the cooperative store, when it opened in 1911. I was born on the 13th of June 1948 in Tåstrup, close to Copenhagen.



### **Frode Vest Hansen**

My name is Frode Vest Hansen and I was educated as navigator. I work as a mate on the Lolland Ferries and, for the last several years, occasionally in Greenland. I have been a member of the local community group in Idestrup from the beginning, in 2010. First, as chairman, and during the first five years, we held meetings every Tuesday, and we have continued with these throughout the entire project. We founded the town council in order to create visibility and settlement in our local area. I was born in 1956 and I am the father of 3 children. Just like me, they have grown up at Havlykkevej in Ulslev on the island Falster, where I still live today.



### **Thomas Sembach Hansen**

When the town council succeeded in winning a million kroner to realise the project a meeting was held about how to go about it. During this meeting, the chairman pointed out that they needed manpower for the new working group. I applied as volunteer, and today I am very happy about this decision. It has, of course, taken many hours, but it has given just as many good hours back. A wonderful unity and a lot of good experiences. I was born on the 9th of June 1982. Educated as MP-sergeant and academic economist, I am currently working as a controller.



### **Louise Sparre Flørning**

I believe that everyone at some time in their lives wants to give something back, be part of something bigger and in some way make a difference. And in this project, I was given the opportunity to "give something back". Being part of the local community group and in several cases also representing Idestrup and the neighborhood has given something back to me, as well. I'm born on the 4th of September 1980. I am educated as finance economist and state authorized estate agent, and currently employed in Slots- og Kulturstyrelsen (Agency for Culture and Palaces).



### **Kaj Jørgensen**

I was born in Tjæreby on the 17th of February 1946, and I grew up on the farm Højgaard, which I own today, as the 5th generation on the farm. I have always been very interested in local community work, and through the years, I have had many, many positions in different associations, among them Landbo Ungdom (Rural Youth), the association LOF, the Danish Liberal Party, Venstre, the local community group for Idestrup etc. In 2011, I became part of the local community group engaged in this project and, since then, I have been engaged in this exciting project, Pitstop Idestrup.



### **Anja Folkvard Petersen**

I am a mother of three children and I love doing creative things with my neighbors. In my opinion, the history of the building is incredibly exciting and important. At the same time, I have been able to contribute with a lot of knowledge about building processes, due to my background and experience. For me, the most important thing is that Idestrup continues to be an interesting and attractive place to live, for children and young people, as well as for adults. Therefore, we needed a house, which could accommodate all of us. And I think that we have achieved this. I was born on the 18th of July 1980, educated as engineer, and currently employed in Guldborgsund Municipality.

Also many thanks to Klavs Hansen, who has been a vital part of the team, but he is too modest to perform on display here. Thank you, Klavs!