

VED ÅEN BY THE RIVER

Keld Jensen

Nr. 38, september 2026

No. 38, September 2026

Ved åen

Jeg sætter mig på skråningen i det lange græs. Det strømmende, klare vand, en ørred, der hopper op og snupper et insekt, klynger af vegetation, der som små øer flyder forbi. Omkring mig hører jeg kun en svag susen fra vindens leg med planterne omkring åen.

Herfra ser man vandet skifte farve efter himlen, men aldrig helt: der er altid en grøn kerne i det, nede fra det strømmende vand. Åen er en kildeå. Den fødes i kildevæld og fodres hele vejen af Himmerlands kalkundergrund. Det er derfor, den kan være klar hele sommeren. Man kan se bunden på selv de dybeste steder.

Lindborg Å har oplevet mange æraer. Tunneldalen og åen blev skabt af enorme smeltevandsstrømme fra den smeltende is for tusinder af år siden. Senere blev ådalen til et mindre løb, omgivet af våde, sumpede arealer.

I 1900-tallet rykker menneske ind på arealerne. Høslæt og kreaturer på de højest liggende områder. Samtidigt begyndte bønderne at grave tørv til brænde langs åens bredder.

Nu gik det stærk. Der blev gravet grøfter, og bønderne forsøgte at omdanne engarealerne til ager. Åen blev mange steder rettet ud. Længst mod nord ved udløbet i Limfjorden blev åen endog omlagt til en kanal med et helt andet løb end det oprindelige.

Den historie er ved at blive skrevet om. Klimakrisen kræver, at ådalens omliggende, lave og tørvede jorder igen skal opsuge og fastholde drivgasser. Staten opkøber store arealer, og omlægningen er startet. Store arealer bliver taget ud af den konventionelle landbrugsdrift.

Nogle søer i ådalen bliver gendannet, og åen vil flere steder blive omlagt til sit oprindelige, mere snoede løb. Landmændene må ikke længere dræne eller gøde arealerne omkring åen. Den bliver renere, og om få år vil åen igen være hjemsted for et rigt fiskeliv og omgivet af vådområder fyldt med vilde planter og vilde dyr.

Men midt i alle disse forandringer fortsætter åen med det, den har gjort siden tidernes morgen; flytter det kolde, kalkholdige vand mod nord fra kilderne nede mod syd.

By the River

I sit down on the slope in the long grass. The flowing, clear water, a trout that leaps up and snatches an insect, clumps of vegetation drifting past like little islands. Around me I hear nothing but a faint rustling as the wind plays with the plants along the river.

From here, you can see the water change colour according to the sky, but never completely: there is always a green core to it, rising from below the flowing water. The Lindenberg River is a spring-fed river. It is born from springs and fed all the way along by the limestone bedrock beneath Himmerland. That is why it can remain clear throughout the summer. You can see the riverbed even in the deepest places.

The Lindenberg River has lived through many eras. The tunnel valley and the river were created by enormous flows of meltwater from the retreating ice thousands of years ago. Later, the river valley became a smaller watercourse, surrounded by wet, marshy areas.

In the 1900s, people began moving onto the land. Haymaking and grazing livestock took place on the higher ground. At the same time, farmers began digging peat for fuel along the banks of the river.

Then things moved quickly. Ditches were dug, and farmers attempted to turn the meadows into arable land. In many places, the river was straightened. Farther north, near its outlet into the Limfjorden, the river was even diverted into a canal that followed a completely different course from the original.

That history is now being rewritten. The climate crisis means that the surrounding low-lying, peat-rich soils in the river valley must once again absorb and retain greenhouse gases. The state is purchasing large areas of land, and the transformation has begun. Large areas are being taken out of conventional agricultural production.

Some lakes in the river valley are being restored, and in several places the river will be returned to its original, more winding course. Farmers will no longer be allowed to drain or fertilise the land around the river. The river will become cleaner, and within a few years it will once again be home to abundant fish life and surrounded by wetlands filled with wild plants and animals.

But amid all these changes, the river continues to do what it has done since the beginning of time: carry the cold, mineral-rich water northwards from the springs far to the south.



Lindenberg Å, januar 2020

Lindenberg Å, January 2020



Lindenberg Å, februar 2020

Lindenberg Å, February 2020



Lindenberg Å, januar 2020

Lindenberg Å, January 2020



Lindenberg Å, februar 2022

Lindenberg Å, February 2022



Lindenberg Å, februar 2020

Lindenberg Å, February 2020





Lindenberg Å, februar 2022

Lindenberg Å, February 2022



Lindenberg Å, oktober 2019

Lindenberg Å, October 2019



Lindenberg Å, september 2025

Lindenberg Å, September 2025



Lindenberg Å, maj 2023

Lindenberg Å, May 2023



Lindborg Å, maj 2023

Lindborg Å, May 2023



Lindenberg Å, maj 2023

Lindenberg Å, May 2023



Lindenberg Å, juli 2024 2023

Lindenberg Å, July 2024



Lindenberg Å, september 2025

Lindenberg Å, September 2025



Lindenberg Å, maj 2023

Lindenberg Å, May 2023



Lindenberg Å, december 2019

Lindenberg Å, December 2019



Lindenberg Å, september 2025

Lindenberg Å, September 2025



Lindenberg Å, juli 2015

Lindenberg Å, July 2015



Lindenberg Å, juli 2015

Lindenberg Å, July 2015



Lindborg Å, juli 2015

Lindborg Å, juli 2015



Lindenberg Å, juli 2015

Lindenberg Å, July 2015

KOLOFON

Ugens foto: Ved åen
Af Keld Jensen

PDF Version 1
Oprindeligt publiceret september 2026

Alle billeder og tekst © 2026 Keld Jensen

COLOPHON

Photo of the week: By the River
By Keld Jensen

PDF Version 1
Originally Published September 2026

All images and text © 2026 Keld Jensen