

## **Report of the 1st Cranes Club Education Conference**

 $\sim$  27. – 29.10.2017, Seebenstein, Austria  $\sim$ 

From the 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> of October 2017 the 1<sup>st</sup> Cranes Club Education Conference took place in Seebenstein, Austria. It was attended by 45 educators, parents and interested people from 11 different countries. Around two thirds of the attendants were second generation and the rest were first generation members and one guest.

The main aim of the conference was to bring together like-minded individuals to discuss issues in the field of education and exchange innovative ideas that can help change and revolutionize the education system and inspire projects in this field.

The conference program covered a variety of different topics to which the participants voiced a lot of positive feedback, as it represented a good first effort into the direction of bringing together people with many different experiences in the field of education. The participants were welcomed by William Haines' talk with the title "Teach your children", followed by some ice breaker games, consisting of a variety of questions that participants discussed in pairs. The main day of the conference was filled with a number of presentations and simultaneous workshops.

The topics included Tim Atkinson's presentation of his Sunday School Curriculum, the peace curriculum, talks on translating the principle into a course for schools, education to responsibility, home schooling, purity education, teaching methods, behavioural challenges, early education, communication, prenatal education and alternative teaching methods (Montessori, Lais, Pikler). The conference also allocated time for networking, both on the main day and on the last day of the conference.

The final day of the conference provided the participants with time to reflect on the conference and discuss future projects and ideas for the next conference. One of these discussions generated a big debate about the idea of creating a school for blessed children in

Europe. Moreover, several other projects were voiced, including the plan to hold a Sunday School Teacher Training Workshop by Tim Atkinson, which is now on its way of being implemented.

The overall feedback of the participants was positive and included an array of suggestions for the next conference and other future events. We are confident that this was only the beginning of great series of conferences and hopefully many projects and events generated as a result from that.

The Education Conference Committee

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