

## We Feel Called to Help and Support

Neumühle Trainings Centre, Bad Camberg, Germany, 5. - 7. September 2014



*36 Delegates from Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Holland, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Spain, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, and the U.K.*

*Susan Crosthwaite Reporting on the Annual BFD Meeting. (Thanks again to Pavel Piskáček for the photographs)*

Looking over the last 3 years of reports about our Annual Meeting, I read the headings:

2011: "Building the EU-BFD Together"

2012: "Growing as a Team"

2013: "Annual Meeting brings together 43 Delegates from 19 Countries"

This was our 8th Annual meeting and the first to be held in the newly refurbished Neumuehle, Camberg. The staff there cared for us so warmly with delicious and healthy food and excellent accommodation, and it was great to be in 'our own' place where we could feel more free and embraced by the lovely atmosphere.

Our MC, David Perry spoke of and offered a moving prayer about it, and the words of our songs often

echoed the sense that we feel called to this work, and seriously seek God's help to improve our effectiveness and quality of understanding of and care for the Blessed Families. This then seemed to me to be the theme of our meeting this year. We listened to presentations and brainstorming sessions with this heart.

Our main focus was four-fold:

- Hearing reports from the Strategic Conference and Family Educators' Seminar in Korea
- Learning about the Sunday School Curriculum presented by teacher Mr. Tim Atkinson
- Networking with one another; progress reports and offering spontaneous contributions
- Questions and Answers about the matching and Blessing process

## Sunday School Curriculum created by Mr. Tim Atkinson



Tim Atkinson's Sunday School Curriculum, which he developed in Sweden over 21 years was presented with an animated talk by him. It is available for your use for children from 3 to 11 years of age and can be ordered at a very reasonable price by emailing him at [timothy.atk@hotmail.com](mailto:timothy.atk@hotmail.com). It consists of almost 300 tried and tested lesson plans having already being used in several European countries. Tim is generously offering to come to any community to teach those interested in being Sunday-School teachers, asking only for the hosts to cover transport and accommodation costs.



We also enjoyed what we call 'Healing Components' which this year included sessions about 'Empathetic Listening' by Kurt Sattlberger and the 8 Practical Steps to improve Relationships from Mr Yuji Otomo's work, presented by Susan Crosthwaite.

Physical Health presentations were given by Liliana Karlsson and Marietta Bruffaerts both emphasising the importance of harmonising good food, exercise, fresh air and water for good health.



*Dr David Hanna, with Mrs Susan Crosthwaite who convened the meeting with our MC, Mr. David Perry*

David and Susan also reported about the Strategic Meeting and Family education Seminar in Korea which was held from August 15-17.

In several sessions we posed statements, questions and brainstorming topics to stimulate everyone to contribute their ideas. The topics covering areas such as the 2nd Gen. matching process and how to support those who have fallen, developing comprehensive 'life-long education' programs and how we ought to restructure the European BFD Committee.

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*Mrs. Liz Bramsen posing a question and Mr. Geros Kunkel giving answers*

**Progress reports from the Nations and Departments**



*Mrs. RosieTijsterman on behalf of the German BFD - Mrs. Betty Cali from Italy - Mrs. Gabi Zoehrer from Austria - including about the 'Gender Mainstreaming' seminar - Mr.Patrick Hanna - on summer activities of the ESGD*




**Parents Matching Support Coordinator Europe**

**Jane Toresen**

please contact me if you have any questions regarding 2nd gen. matching – I am happy to help you!

[janetoresen.bfd@gmail.com](mailto:janetoresen.bfd@gmail.com)



*Mrs. Jane Toresen on progress and challenges she is facing - Mr Hans Karlsson updating us on the progress of the Jacob Childrens' Initiative which is now in its third year*

**Networking, sharing, bonding and learning from and about one another**

...the joy of being together again!

