

The Gabriel Talks

About the Gabriel Talks

The Gabriel Talks enter their 12th year, with a stimulating and nourishing series of free public talks commencing in May.

These talks evolved out of the work of Joan Salter, an anthroposophical maternal and child health nurse, who established the Gabriel Baby Centre in 1976. Joan's books "The Incarnating Child" and "Mothering with Soul" remain in print as essential reading for new parents.

The program of talks offers an opportunity to explore the life of the young child, and the great joys and challenges of parenting in the context of the picture of the human being given by Rudolf Steiner.

Joan Salter wrote:

"Parents and educators must be deeply concerned for the whole body and the whole soul. Sense impressions, fantasy play, opportunities for being active in the limbs, heart and head *at the right time*, all these things take on new and wide-flung dimensions affecting each individual and thus the whole of humanity."

"It is an immense and urgent responsibility hardly yet recognised. Many parents today just begin to sense it as they seek 'to do the right thing.' Their children are the hope of tomorrow."

In this context given by Joan Salter, the Gabriel Talks seek to offer parents and early childhood educators inspiration, information and support.

The Gabriel Talks 2016

'Receive the child in reverence

Educate each one in love,

Let them all go forth in freedom."

- Rudolf Steiner

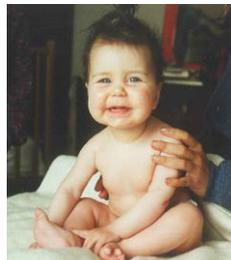
Parents of young children, early childhood educators and anyone interested in child development are warmly invited to attend.

When: four talks on a Monday evening during May to August - see individual talk dates.

Where: Kew Library, Phyllis Hore Room, Corner Civic drive and Cotham Road, Kew

Melway ref: 45 D6 No entry charge.

Information: Tiffany, tel. 9876 1092 or 0413 120 345



The Gabriel Talks 2016

Nurturing childhood

Based on the philosophy of

Rudolf Steiner

A series of free public talks

Gabriel Talks Program 2016

Monday 23rd May evening 7.30 p.m.

Presented by Annette Batchelor

“Caring for the Sick Child at Home”

Knowing how to support our children through sickness and imbalance can turn illness into a powerful ally for child development. Annette will provide an overview of the meaning of childhood illness, sharing insights to support home care and reduce the fear and uncertainty surrounding ill health.

Annette Batchelor is an experienced Anthroposophic Naturopath currently working in the Yarra Valley. Working with individual development in health and wellbeing, Annette has a particular interest in working with parents to support the healthy unfolding of the child.

Monday 30th May 7.30 p.m.

Presented by Paulene Hanna.

“The Importance of Movement in Early Childhood.”

Let us revisit the state of childhood by putting ourselves in the shoes of the energetic and inquisitive child. In viewing the world through the child's eyes, with freshness and without expectation, every life experience has important potential.

In discussing this topic together we can begin to understand that the child's free exploratory activity is not only wholehearted - it involves the whole body.

The theme of our exchange will be around the child's need for freedom of movement.

Paulene Hanna is an early childhood teaching professional who, though retired from daily teaching practice in Steiner education, is actively involved in mentoring and supporting teachers and parents.

Paulene works with the challenge of an increasingly fearfully orientated community, which lacks the time and space for children generally. She supports parents to understand their children's behaviour and to enjoy the blessings that being with children offers. Paulene is passionate about the promotion of child- initiated, free play as a means to a healthy foundation for later learning and life.

Monday 25th July 7.30 p.m

Presented by Terri McMillan

“Technology and its impact on early childhood development- a challenge for our times.”

Today we live in a world dominated by rapidly advancing technology. Some of us are comfortable with, and grateful for, such advances. Others of us feel overwhelmed at the pace such development has taken and struggle to keep up.

Directly and indirectly, children are being exposed to such technology, and at an earlier and earlier age. But what do we really know

about the effects of technology and screen time on the well being of children? How does it impact a child's emotional, physical, cognitive and behavioural development, influencing their capacity for creative and imaginative play? And what of the impact of screen time on family life and therefore the development of healthy human community?

Terri McMillan is a teacher of 30 years experience in a Steiner School and 5 years in the State system. She has a strong interest in and commitment to supporting healthy child development, at a time when childhood is being shortened in a climate of consumerism and materialism.

Monday 22nd August, 7.30 p.m.

Presented by Jules Ward.

“The Art of Homemaking: a presentation in pictures and words on the art of creating a home, that nourishes your family.”

We will explore topics including:

- What are the elements that make a home?
- What does this look like in different households?
- How can we create a home life that supports the development of young children?

Jules Ward is the Playgroup leader at Little Yarra Steiner School and the founder of Little Seeds, a parent support group auspiced by the Gabriel Trust.