karl könig

Karl König Institute for Art, Science and Social Life

Newsletter 7
Autumn 2026
including
Kaspar Hauser Research Circle

The Karl König Institute Newsletter is published by the Karl König Institute, Berlin, and the Karl König Archive, Aberdeen, Scotland. Editors: Richard Steel, Deborah Grace, Christoph Hanni. www.karlkoeniginstitute.org/ · r.steel@karlkoeniginstitute.org

Meet Dorothea Davis, the New Manager of the Karl Koenig Institute in North America!

We are delighted to introduce the new manager of the Karl König Institute in North America!
The work of the North American office began five years ago on Michaelmas Day 2021. And after a dedicated search, Dorothea Davis will assume the leadership of the Institute in North America in January 2027. Dorothea has been part of Camphill in North America since 1991, and her biographical sketch follows. Thank you, Dorothea, for taking on this important task!

I was born in 1967 in Schwerin, Germany, surrounded by the beautiful nature of lakes and forests which brought much joy and freedom. I experienced this freedom in stark contrast to the political system of the former GDR.

I grew up in a family where anthroposophical thought was fostered and taking an active part in the life of the Christian Community was a given. In adolescence I started to become active in the social and political resistance movement, which took on utmost importance in this phase of my life.

When the Wall fell and suddenly the possibility of changes occurred, I joined forces with the emerging Waldorf initiatives, co-created the first Waldorf Kindergarten in Schwerin-Medewege and trained in Waldorf education.

During a time of exploration in Community I first learned about Karl König and Camphill. Soon thereafter a letter from Camphill in the USA arrived asking for volunteers to take part in community life and work. During my time at Kimberton Hills starting in the fall of 1991, I learned many important life lessons, such as householding in community, and was fortunate to get to know and work with Hubert Zipperlen, Herta Hoy, and MC Richards amongst others. In the summer of 1992 I continued my Camphill journey in Beaver Run where I joined the Seminar for Curative Education. When in 1995 I joined my partner Gregg in Camphill Soltane I felt like I had arrived home. Coworking amongst friends was deeply fulfilling and meaningful. While householding I engaged in many facets of Community life especially in the crafts, arts and festival life. In 2008 our family spent one year at Emerson College in England, followed by a continuation of our Camphill journey for three years at Camphill Village Copake, where again next to householding, I took active part in the social, cultural and

Dorothea Davis



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Newest News!!

With the new phase of the Office in North America there will be a new address.

The Karl König Institute is moving to Camphll Ghent!

As from December 1st:

Karl König Institute
Camphill Ghent
2542 Route 66
Chatham, NY 12037

spiritual life of the community. We moved to the local Hillsdale area and I started to work at Hawthorne Valley School in the Early Childhood department with a special focus on Outdoor Education.

In my life I attempt to create deep connections with people and nature and value the fragile interconnectedness of life.

I love adventures, dancing, singing, creative and cultural pursuits and cherish time with a good book.

When reading from the work of Karl König, I feel deep gratitude to this extraordinary individual whose work encompasses a well of wisdom and a depth of inquiry within a multitude of disciplines. I feel drawn to Karl Königs spiritual impulses and time and again when working with the content of Dr König, I am astounded by his creative and imaginative ways of looking at any subject.

I feel honored and inspired to take on the work of the Karl König Institute in North America and will do my best to serve its aims and aspirations and to let Karl König's work and Impulses shine out into the world even more.

Dorothea Davis, Michaelmas 2026

A Farewell from Deborah

I will be stepping down from the Karl König Institute in January 2027 – exploring what it may be to 'retire', after 53 years in Camphill. I want to share that serving the Institute's work in North America has been one of the great privileges of my life. It has been blessed by daily inspiration, and I am grateful to have learned so much from Karl König, and from Richard Steel. It has also been a true joy for me to connect with so many beautiful people over the years. Good friendships have been made for the Institute, and also for my life. Please know, dear friends, that I treasure the connections I've made with you. And I wish you all the very best in the years to come!!

In saying farewell, I would like to offer some beautiful words Karl König wrote about the support he experienced from Rudolf Steiner for the work of Camphill. I offer them because I have also experienced, in a humble way, the support of Rudolf Steiner for the work of the Karl König Institute. And I have also felt Karl König's interest and support for the work of the Institute. For this inspiration and strength, I am truly thankful.

John, Carrie, Richard, Deborah and Eckart at the sculpture dedication during the Kaspar Hauser Festival at Fountain Hall, 2024



From Karl König's message to the Camphill Movement Council, 1963:

> *"We should not forget, dear friends, what some of us have experienced ever more strongly in the course of the last months – and this is the presence of Rudolf Steiner.*
> *I think I know that he has shown a remarkable interest – active interest – extended in love… for what we are trying to do…*
> *May our experience of this go on and become ever stronger and stronger – so that we are in the end a real tool in his hand and a mouthpiece for his message!"*

Yes! May our experience of the support of Karl König and Rudolf Steiner grow ever stronger and stronger!!

Deborah Grace

Book Review: **"The Life of Karl König", by Regine Bruhn**

From the **Newsletter of the Camphill Foundation of UK & Ireland**

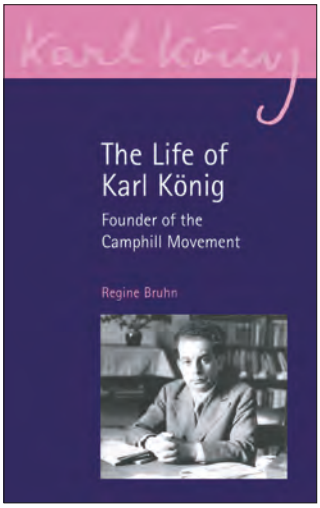
EDITOR'S NOTE: The wonderful new biography, "The Life of Karl König", by Regine Bruhn, is now available in English! Events are taking place across Europe and Britain to present the book, and we hope there will be a book tour next year in North America, too. "The Life of Karl König" can be ordered in North America from the Karl König Institute: karlkoeniginstitute@camphill.org *or from Steiner Books.*

In this biography of Karl Köinig, Regine Bruhn offers a rich and human portrayal of Konig's life, ideals, and struggles, from his early childhood to his pioneering work in the Camphill movement.

Regine has been involved with Camphill since the 1980s, working in communities across Scotland and Germany. Her work as an educator and founding member of the Karl König Institute reflects a life-long commitment to carrying König's legacy into the present and beyond.

Inspired by teaching confirmation classes and seeing the resonance of König's life among young people, Regine began the journey of writing this biography in order to offer a text that is both meaningful and readable by the general public. Unlike earlier biographical accounts that assumed a reader's familiarity with anthroposophy or König's medical and spiritual background, this work has been deliberately written in an accessible, narrative style. It invites a broad readership – co-workers, residents, parents, professionals, and anyone curious about the Camphill ethos.

The biography is structured into seven main chapters, including an extensive introduction focusing on the significant role of Vienna on König's life. It explores his early years and youth, education, time in Silesia, pre-emigration years in Vienna, arrival in Scotland and the founding of the first Camphill community, as well as including new material drawn from König's unpublished diaries and correspondence, and contributions from other archives such as the Christian Community. The final chapter reflects on later transformations in his work and legacy.



This publication builds on years of archival work, especially by Anne Weise of the Karl König Archive, whose research into König's ancestry, friendships, and the lives of early Camphill children has brought previously unknown details to light. Through thoughtful assembly of German and English sources, and attention to different perspectives, new dimensions of König's story emerge, bringing his personality and principles into sharper focus.

It is an honour for the Camphill Foundation UK & Ireland to support the Karl König Institute with this important piece of work.

The House of Peace Seeks New Leadership!

The House of Peace provides physical and spiritual shelter to victims of war in a small healing community in companionship with adults with special needs. It provides education for peace and moral awakening, and is organized around these four pillars:

- ***Refugees:* Providing hospitality for those uprooted by war**
- ***Adults with Special Needs*: Living in community with those who offer special gifts**
- ***Social Justice:* Upholding principles of human dignity locally and globally**
- ***Anthroposophy:* Working from an impulse uniting universal humanity and helpful spiritual insights.**

Carrie and John Schuchardt founded the House of Peace and have led it with others since 1990, and the time has come to find their successors. The House of Peace is looking to build a team of people who will bring passion, experience and expertise to these pillars.

For information contact thehouseofpeace@yahoo.com



Editor's note: The group work in China with the Calendar of the Soul is now in its fourth year and Richard meets with them regularly.

And on a personal note, I feel wonder and awe at the beautiful and deep reflections of the people working together around the Calendar of the Soul! Through their reflections and also their sharing what it means to them to be working together ongoingly in this way, I know that the healing power of the Calendar of the Soul is livingly felt around the planet! I am so deeply grateful to be part of this community of healing and I thank all of the friends in China, who at the moment meet three times each week at 5:30 am on Tuesdays to paint together, copying Karl König's pictures in order to experience the color and the soul mood. On Saturdays they reflect on their work over the past week and on Sundays they come together to listen to the talk for the new week.

The Very Special Work with the Calendar of the Soul in China

Mingyu
(who brought this group together)

Founded in 2017, Three-fold Translation Press has translated over 100 books on anthroposophy and Waldorf education and is now the largest independent Anthroposophical publisher in the Chinese-speaking region of the world. In fact, in 2021 we published a translation of the "Inner Journey through the Year" – The Calendar of the Soul and Karl König's accompanying drawings, compiled by Richard Steel. Many readers were fascinated by the commentary and beautiful pictures, and people often asked how to understand the Calendar of the Soul and the pictures.

In 2022, we were very happy to have Richard's 52 wonderful weekly talks, starting at Easter, to take us on this wonderful inner journey through the year with the Calendar of the Soul. This event attracted nearly 150 attendants from all over the world who could listen to Richard's talks translated into Chinese. We created a unique learning experience, not only uploading talks to the Internet for everyone to watch and learn, but also organizing online learning by zoom once and sometimes twice a week.

At the beginning of each zoom session, we would watch Richard's video together through the zoom conference room. It was an amazing process. Although everyone could watch videos on their own, watching them together at the same time, in the same zoom meeting room, brings different feelings and experiences. We followed Richard's talks with discussions in which we shared ideas and gained further inspiration.

To share a little more, this process of watching the video together resonated a lot because not all of the friends who participated in the discussion could find the time to watch the video before the event started, or if they did, they had forgotten things. And we also discovered that watching the talk alone was not as focused as watching it together, because people knew they would discuss and communicate after watching it.

And we experienced that even though our physical bodies were not in the same physical space, still, we created a common space in which we could feel that our hearts and souls were truly together. At the end of our one year of studying together, we summarized our journey for the year, and all agreed that watching videos together was very important. And therefore, we decided to continue this process and do another year of watching Richard's Calendar of the Soul talks and studying together.

Richard has also met with our group several times via zoom and responded to questions and comments from our big circle of participants. Thank you very much, Richard, for your guidance, which has given us more experience and connection with the Soul Calendar and soul images. We also look forward to connecting with you in our new round of co-learning, there will be more resonance and coming together of ideas.

It is our further vision to study year after year, to experience more and more deeply the rhythms of the cosmos, earth and humanity that are contained in the Calendar of the Soul and soul images. At the same time, we have launched a research project from this year to gather interested partners to explore the inner connection between Chinese and Western major festivals. We hope to present preliminary research results after this round of joint study and discussion, and we will also invite interested foreign teachers and friends to discuss and exchange with us.

Reflections from Some of the Friends Working in China

"In the spring of 2025, it was the first time that I truly "saw" the Calendar of the Soul physically. Before that, those pictures and words were merely beautiful existences for me. They were beautiful indeed, but they were shrouded in a thin veil. It was only after listening to the lectures from Richard Steel that these symbols suddenly came to life joyfully, and they no longer were just static patterns and the translator's words. Instead, they were the secret language written by the universe in time, and the divinity gently tapped my heart through colors and lines.

"I began to feel a wonderful resonance: the body is a small universe, echoing with the vast universe. And the Calendar of the Soul is precisely the bridge between them. I am at this end, while the stars are at the other end; this world is at this end, while eternity is at the other end. Standing on the bridge, the wind is gentle, the rain is compassionate, and the daily routine suddenly becomes a view that can be overlooked.

"The deeper gift is: when I myself experienced the scenery on the bridge, I could no longer forget those who were still searching for the ferry. Cultivating oneself is not only for ascending, but also for being able to become a bridge, allowing later people to walk through it steadily.

"I am grateful for all the beautiful encounters, making life colorful and splendid."

Changling Ma

"I have been studying The Calendar of the Soul with my friends for nearly a year. I re-read the book, 'The Inner Journey Through the Year', which says: 'Anyone who tries it feels a surge of power within him that gives new life and strength to his soul.'

"These forces do not protect people from daily hardships and troubles, but prepare people for them. It is only through experiencing the hardships and challenges of everyday life that the mind becomes aware of the subtle and important clues that connect it to the earthly world in which it lives, which is not its true home.

"The task of the Calendar of the Soul is not to answer on an intellectual, mental level: How do we find our connection with the world? Rather, it helps us listen to our own inner voice, which echoes in our hearts and souls. And we come to experience that each year has its own unique life!

"And so we study together as interested friends and accompany each other on the journey through the year. And through this, we come to feel how the inner soul life opens into a very new experience."

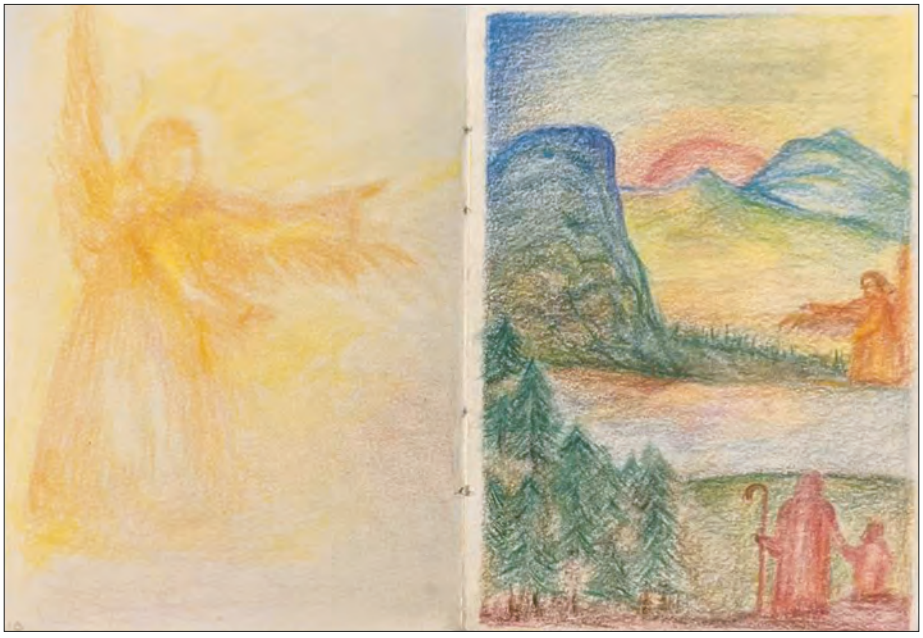
Anonymous

"Throughout one's life-journey of growth, many doors need to be opened so that light can converge and illuminate one's soul. This year, participating in the Three-fold Organization (Sanyuan), under the guidance of Mr. Richard Steel and Dr. Karl König's perspective on the exploration of the spiritual development path presented in the Calendar of the Soul, is an important door for me.

"One year's cycle is very short, and for me, it is just the beginning. But within the rhythm of the year, I have vaguely experienced how the spiritual power leads a person to transform their usual earthly experiences into spiritual ones. My own life experiences have somewhat involved some hardships, so I am grateful for the learning process of the Calendar of the Soul, which has helped me to have some new understandings of these life experiences, with a warm and spiritual light."

Yingxu

From the painting work in China



"After two years of study, I feel that The Calendar of the Soul has given me a great deal of strength. My mind has become increasingly clear. Now I feel that studying the Calendar of the Soul is my mission. I hope it can continue year after year."

Qingling

"The study of the Calendar of the Soul gives me an opportunity to establish a deep connection with my own self. Because it is measured in weeks, I can have a profound dialogue and insight with myself during every week.

"Another benefit is that it also helps me establish a deeper connection with external nature, this time-space, and this cosmic space. Before learning this, I merely experienced nature, but did not truly understand its characteristics or how closely it is connected with me. However, by studying and observing every week like this, it enables me to understand the similarities between this vast universe and the small universe of human beings.

"I also realize my own insignificance and understand the laws of the universe. I have gained more acceptance and patience towards life. Life becomes stronger and more determined, and my understanding of the entire framework of my life becomes clearer and more conscious.

"That's what I want to share. Thank you."

Hui Zhou

"Like a painting or poem, the Calendar of the Soul is like a classic of life's four seasons, enhancing the lives of the mundane world! It guides me to gaze at the aura of the spiritual world from this earthly perspective. It nourishes my journey of exploration - in the vast universe, the small universe, in the four seasons, the day and night, the rhythm and cadence of light and darkness, in the flowing of time and space, and in the soulful rotation within it!

May

Eurythmy Festival Celebrating 52 Colors of the Soul

A US premier of All 52 Verses

Maria Ver Eecke (Eurythmy Therapist)

Imagine seeing all 52 verses performed in eurythmy!

The Eurythmy Festival took place from August 12-16, 2026, hosted by the Threefold Community. The "52 Colors of the Soul" culminated on Sunday morning with all 52 verses performed in sequence, in Rose Hall at the Green Meadow Waldorf School! The speech artists announced the groupings by number or time of year, beginning and concluding with Verse 1 for Easter.

Each morning, keynote speakers set the tone of the day. Mary Stewart Adams enlivens our awareness of the starry realm with current astronomical event. Mac Mead, biodynamic farmer, knows firsthand the rhythms of nature, heavens and earth. Rev. Daniel Hafner delves into his subject with deep anthroposophical wisdom. Thomas Sutter works with Steiner's indication for lighting eurythmy that Ehrenfried Pfeiffer set up at the Goetheanum, similar as in the Threefold Auditorium. Stutter was joined by Jan Ranck, who translated and then gave a eurythmy demonstration on the theme of Color.

Reverand Hafner spoke of the eurythmy forms as expressions of nature forces surrounding the human self. His insightful suggestion was to look for the figure of the 'self' that can be found in the center of the form, as outer forms on the periphery are cosmic or nature forces, depending upon the verse. This is apparent in the Michaelmas verse, created for five eurythmists. The eurythmist in green veil holds the center as the other four move in pairs around this central figure. The next verse for Autumn has the central figure dressed in a red veil, surrounded by two eurythmists, each wearing a green or yellow veil. How do we experience colors outwardly? Blue surrounds us, as the heavenly dome of the sky. Yellow is radiant as sunlight. Green covers the earth and is expressed in eurythmy as the balance between light and darkness, heaven and earth. Pure red is not fiery red, but the red of Mother Mary's dress under her blue robe. Color is a portal to a soul-spiritual landscape and can be studied with the eurythmy forms.

Rudolf Steiner gave indications for soul moods (in color!) to the actors in the *Speech and Drama Course*, CW 282 (See Lecture 14). Since the 52 verses are performed in veils of every color of the rainbow, I find it helpful to read Steiner's glorious descriptions of the soul quality of each color. Here I paraphrase:

> *In violet I feel a mood of prayer. In luminous blue rests soul calmness. In green I understanding all the beings and things of the world. In radiant yellow I realize my humanity. In glowing orange pulses human warmth. In pure red is joy and love for all creation. In peach-blossom lives my soul image. In whiteness manifest spirit being.*

Although lilac is a night shade below the seven rainbow colors, Steiner speaks of lilac as part of soul life within the soul-sphere. "As you know, a certain part of the soul-sphere, of the soul-land, has been given the name soul-life. This substance of it would have this violet color, this lilac, and forms in humans a part of our soul-spiritual being." (See *Mysteries of the Sun and of the Threefold Man*, CW 183, Lecture III). Now we can consider the colors for the central figure, the 'self' of each verse as a progression in the following. For Easter, simple read in reverse.

Verse 52, Palm Sunday:
Soul calmness rests in luminous blue.

Verse 26, Michaelmas:
In green I understanding all the beings and things of the world.

Verse 27, Autumn:
Love and joy for all creation is experienced in pure red.

Verse 1, Easter Sunday:
Lilac forms part of my soul-spiritual being.

Karl König named the thirteen crosses within the 52 verses. It was König who identified and elaborated the reality of the 13 crosses, through deep meditative work with the *Calendar of the Soul* over seven years, beginning in 1933 as a conscious response to the darkness entering the world at that time. König intuited this connection, as Dr. Steiner gave such an indication with a corresponding letter for each verse. For the four verses above, verses 1 and 27 (Easter and Autumn) both were given the letter A, while verses 26 and 52 (Michaelmas and Palm Sunday) have the letter Z. Another cross to contemplate would be the Christmas Mood with St. John's Mood.

König named these four verses, the "Cross of Jesus" that holds a balance between Passion week and Michaelmas. Working daily with four verses creates a soul structure, as my consciousness of the four cardinal directions strengthens my center in time and space, which is truly grounding. For me, the four verses together speak to the heights, the depths, and the encircling round. It is especially revelatory to recognize the Christ force within these verses.

Dr. Steiner states that *"Nature is permeated with spirit, and spirit forming and*

shaping naturally. Then the anthroposophical impulse would consist in perceiving in the Easter season the unity of science, religion, and art; and then at Michaelmas perceiving how the three – who have one mother, the Easter mother – how the three become 'sisters' and stand side by side, but mutually complement one another. Then the Michael thought which should become living as a festival in the course of the year, would be able to work inspiringly on all domains of human life." (From *The Cycle of the Year*, CW 223, Lecture 3)

Essential to the study of the verses are Karl König's drawings, which were presented by Richard Steel at the Threefold Educational Foundation and School in March 2024. Titled *An Inner Journey Through the Year,* a three-day conference featured eurythmy performances of four crosses (16 verses), with lectures by Richard and an exhibition of Karl König's 52 drawings for the Calendar of the Soul, and 13 drawings of the Metamorphosis of the Cross.

Although Richard was not available for this summer's festival, the following was written to him by Melissa Lyons, coordinator of the Pisces Eurythmy Group on April 23, 2026: "Your presence at the festival would have contributed greatly to the mood and substance of the event. I feel that your visit to Spring Valley in the spring of 2024, and your subsequent tour around the country, gave the impetus to deepen the work with the *Calendar of the Soul* in eurythmy, planted seeds and gave inspiration for what led to the creation of this festival. I thank you for this, on behalf of everyone involved in the festival."

At this summer's festival, evening performances included poetry, music, and eurythmy. Many in the audience were grateful to see sections of the *Calendar of the Soul* verses over three evenings leading up to the final performance of all 52 verses. One person told me that he finally can see eurythmy forms in movement. I asked if the eurythmy spoke and he nodded enthusiastically. A eurythmy student wrote: "It was so lovely to see the verses all interwoven. What I noticed was the movement of the Summer Verses, which were so quick and fleeting. In some of those forms there was so much activity it was hard to track. The Fall into Winter forms seemed to be very collected or organized and slowed down so that they became more exact in their movements. The Michaelmas verse form was amazing! The power that came off the stage during that verse, I could feel very deeply."

When the audience has lived with the content of a performance, imagine the fruition of such a meeting. It was a Soul-Spiritual Event!

A thank you to the Council members of the Eurythmy Association of North America, who conceived and prepared this Eurythmy Festival. The Festival Organizing Team was comprised of eurythmists Susan Hiertz, Monika Leitz, Melissa Lyons, Carrie Mass, Marjorie Taliano-Nordås, and speech artist Beatrice Voigt.
Thirty-five eurythmists from the USA, Canada, Mexico, and Taiwan prepared the verses for performance at the festival. Six speech artists practiced with and spoke for the 52 groupings of eurythmists. Although living far apart, six members of the EANA Council prepared and performed together.

Thanks to all!

US premier of all 52 verses of Rudolf Steiner's Calendar of the Soul



Jonthi
One of the pre-Camphill Pioneers now identified

Vivian Griffiths

In one of the best known pictures of the early Camphill Group there appears a boy (in a jumpsuit; in the second row on the left in the picture) with an angelic face with the founders and other children. It puzzled some early Camphill historians as he was not strictly speaking a person with special needs, but we learn that he was under Dr. König's medical care. He is Jonthi, Jonathan Sommervell, son of a remarkable and vital supporter of the early Camphill founders, Betty Sommervell. She smoothed the technical arrangements necessary to bring a group of Viennese students and their doctor colleague from Nazi occupied Austria to the relative safe haven of Britain and Scotland.

Betty was part of the director's family of *K Shoes*, the Westmorland artisan shoe factory in Kendal, gateway to the Lake District.

In one sense it is the perfect English landscape for it is here that "The Picturesque" was actually invented with the birth of The Arts and Crafts Movement, with William Wordsworth and John Ruskin and the vicar Canon Hardwyke Rawnsley, who knew the Sommervell family from Oxford University and was involved in the early environmental protection of this special part of England. Rawnsley went on to become one of the co-founders of the National Trust and a plaque was made of him by sculptress Edith Maryon, who went on to work with Rudolf Steiner on the significant Representative of Humanity sculpture that is in the Goetheanum.

Two generations later we come to Jonthi, whose mother deeply appreciated Dr. König's work as a children's doctor and sent Jonthi to live at Kirkton House with the Camphill founders who had gathered in Aberdeenshire after their arduous journeys of escape from persecution in Vienna. And so these refugees took on another group of refugees and outcasts – the first group of children with special needs.

Betty decision to place her son in the medical care of Dr. König and the pioneering group came about because his illness had become life-threatening. The women left to do the work, with König having to be at university all week to gain British recognition of his Austrian MD, were rather worried as Dr. König had prescribed not only a jump suit in order to minimize Jonthi's skin irritation and asthma, but also a treatment diet of only bananas all week – and how bananas were obtained in wartime Scotland is another story! Betty also found accommodation for Carlo Pietzner, another Camphill refugee pioneer, who then lived on the lakeside of Windermere where she often went to see him before he was sent to internment camp in Canada. He had wanted to finish his novel before joining the others at Kirkton House.

Many decades later in a house with beautiful views on the edge of a south Lakeland village the author is in conversation with Jonthi showing him the picture in *The Candle on the Hill* book where he is unnamed! Despite the omission he has great pleasure after all these years to see the photo of this remarkable group gathered together who would become Camphill when they moved to Aberdeen.

A subsequent life as a senior employee of K Shoes Jonthi saw post war expansion of the Kendal factory and then the navigating of the difficult merger of K Shoes with the Somerset shoe makers Clark's. Jonthi wrote the official history of the K Shoes company and was invited to mount an extensive exhibition of the company's archives in 2011 in a new Kendal Shopping Centre where the accompanying photograph was made.

Betty Sommervell who died in the mid 1980s was the subject of a very personal and grateful obituary by Peter Roth appearing in *The Camphill Correspondence*. She had kept a special interest in Camphill and especially the new village community at Botton where she was friends with Peter and Kate Roth. She even made an offer of a small fell farm at nearby Crook village for Camphill students which would have begun in the early 1960s as an English north west Camphill... but it was not to be.



Jonthi (Jonathan Sommervell), in the second row on the left

Coworker couples were however invited to their home, Plumgarth, for rest and refreshment in this holiday making area. Her daughter Johanna, Jonthi's sister, became a craft teacher at the Edinburgh Steiner School and later held weaving courses in The Lakes. In 1974 at the invitation of another Kendal factory owner, the Cropper family, the Camphill based Garthwaite Community was established in the town on Kendal Green with the children of a local special school. Betty was a Trustee.

Jonthi died in 2018 and in his eulogy in Kendal Parish Church, his Steiner Education was referred to with reference to it's fine outdoor education character - probably in an effort to understand it! That might have referred to them playing on the beach at Minehead where the school, Michael Hall, was at the time!



K shoes Exhibition Kendal 2011 (From: The Westmorland Gazette)

A Researcher Friend in Scotland

Richard Steel

It's always nice to have friends! Robin Jackson is a longtime friend of the Karl König Institute, whose research has drawn him closer and closer to Camphill throughout his life. His help in Scotland – both for research and for Camphill training – has been immense, even though he himself prefers to stay in the background.

About his biography:

Dr. Robin Jackson spent 10 years at Aberdeen College of Education where he lectured in the Sociology of Education. Then he was tasked with the establishment of the first Master's Degree in Special Education in the UK at the University of Winchester.

After 10 years in Winchester he returned to Scotland taking up the post of Principal of a residential special school and farm training centre. Five years later he went on to set up an advocacy service in South Aberdeenshire, where most of his clients were adults with an intellectual disability. Drawing from this experience, he co-edited the book *Advocacy and Learning Disability*, Kingsley, 2002.

He then became Training Co-ordinator for Camphill Scotland – a body representing the ten Camphill communities in Scotland. Robin is known as an "unrepentant advocate of intentional supportive communities" – including Camphill villages – and a critic of the way that the policy of community care/ inclusion is currently being implemented.

He has written extensively in professional literature. He has edited two books on Camphill: *Holistic Special Education: Camphill principles and practice* (Floris Books, 2006) and *Discovering Camphill: New perspectives, research and developments* (Floris Book, 2011). He has a particular interest in the history of Camphill and Karl König and has written on these themes for a number of peer-reviewed journals (for instance for: *Communal Societies; Scottish Medical Journal; Journal of Austrian Studies; Educational Review; Journal of Moravian History).*

He co-edited with Maria Lyons *Community Care and Inclusion for People with an Intellectual Disability* (Floris Books, 2016). In 2011 he guest reviewed a Special Issue of the Journal of Intellectual Disability Research on the theme of 'Residential and community support' and in 2015 guest edited a Special Issue of the *International Journal of Developmental Disabilities* on the theme of *Community inclusion and intellectual disability: meanings, means and myths.*

Robin has also been very active in promoting and preserving the artistic estate of the Camphill artist Hermann Gross.

His other interests include local history, the Scots language and bird watching (which led to the publication of *A Guide to Scots Bird Names* which, to his astonishment, was nominated by The Guardian as one of the best nature books of 2014!) And with Scots language poet Liz Niven, Robin wrote a pamphlet entitled *Language, Law and Liberty* in which the case for legal recognition of the Scots leid (language) was presented.

Robin has recently looked into the question of what the first press coverage of Camphill was about. Here are some examples of what he found.

These are the earliest accounts we have so far:



Robin Jackson

Aberdeen Press And Journal
Monday 21 October 1940

Aberdeen Weekly Journal
Thursday 24 October 1940

AUSTRIAN REFUGEES' WORK FOR CHILDREN

Hounded from two countries by the Nazis, Dr Karl König, an Austrian refugee, is now carrying on his life's work at Camphill House, near Aberdeen, where he is in charge of a new home for children who need special care. It will be the first institution of its kind in Scotland to apply the principles of Dr Rudolf Steiner, another Austrian expert whose work has aroused world-wide interest.

Dr König has recently been released after being interned in this country for five months.

He has support from many influential quarters. His work has the approval of the Home Office, and the moral backing of the Church of Scotland. The house, with its twenty-two acres of grounds, has been rented for the purpose by a member of a famous London publishing house. The home will be carried on under the supervision of a local committee which includes education and psychology experts.

A grant of £1000 has been made for the work by the Scottish National Council through the Scottish Christian Council.

FLIGHT FROM NAZIS

In 1929 Dr König started an institution for backward, feeble minded and epileptic children at Pilgramshain in Silesia. It began at

much the same scale as Camphill is beginning now.

By 1936 the institution was regularly caring for 150 children from all parts of Europe, and obtaining a remarkably high percentage of cures.

Then came the Nazi "purges". Dr König and his wife and three children had to leave Germany with just twenty marks in their possession.

Returning to their native Austria, they had to flee again from there after the Anschluss.

FIRST OF ITS KIND

With him went six men and six women assistants. Two of them had gone to Canada, three others are meantime interned in this country, but Dr König hopes to have their services soon at Camphill.

A keen-eyed dapper man, he told a "Weekly Journal" representative something of his plans.

"I have several English and refugee children at present, but I hope to be able to do something for Scottish children especially," he said.

"I was told by the Board of Control in Edinburgh that this is the first private institution for such children in this country."

FIT FOR ORDINARY LIFE

"In addition to about twenty-four children we will be able to care for some adults at a lodge and cottage on the estate."

"The children become part of a community under our system – and it is, of course, a Christian community. We eat with them, live with them and sleep under the same roof."

"We try to make them fit for ordinary life by training, especially their will-powers. We do this by various artistic methods and also by work in the gardens and the fields – all done in a strictly rhythmic way."

Aberdeen Press And Journal

Wednesday 19 July 1944

SPECIALIST'S AIR DASH TO SICK CHILD. ABERDEEN TO HARROGATE IN RESPONSE TO PARENTS' CALL

An urgent call from Harrogate yesterday came to Dr Karl König at Camphill House, near Aberdeen, to go there in an effort to save the life of a child suffering from meningitis. He answered it by flying from Aberdeen Airport. In about three hours he was at the bedside of the sick child – a three-year-old girl – whose parents, of Dutch origin, are friends of Dr König. A plane was chartered from Mr Gander Dower, of Allied Airways, who sent Dr König south in his racing Puss Moth, which has competed in five King's Cup races.

Dr König returned in the plane to Aberdeen last night. The air journey south took two hours and forty minutes. The pilot was Captain R.P Peyton. When the child first took ill the parents wanted to bring her to Camphill House but she was too ill to make the journey. Until recently the child was staying in London.

Dr König an Austrian refugee carries on the home at Camphill House for backward children on the principles of Rudolf Steiner. He was a children's specialist in Vienna when the Nazis hounded him from the country and when he founded a community at Camphill to continue his work of curative education among children. It is the first institution of its kind in Scotland.

An urgent call: Racing Puss Moth which has competed in five King's Cup races, took Dr König from Aberdeen to Harrogate to a three-year-old girl suffering from meningitis.



Aberdeen Press And Journal

Friday 10 December 1948

TRAINING DEAF AND DUMB TO HEAR

Music plays big part in the experiments

New experiments in the teaching of deaf and dumb children and those completely or partially paralysed at Camphill Rudolf Steiner Schools, near Aberdeen, have enjoyed encouraging success. It has been found that training deaf and dumb children to listen to the music of a specially-made lyre has enhanced their ability to hear to a degree hitherto not thought possible. In September the schools opened a special unit for paralysed and partially-paralysed children. The results have been encouraging.

Telling Aberdeen Business and Professional Club yesterday of the experiments, the schools superintendent Dr Karl Konig said that these physically incapacitated children also had musical exercises, massage and underwater massage. The first glimpse of good results was being seen.

RESEARCH CENTRE

"I know that such a unit will have to work for at least four or five years before it is possible to see what can be achieved," he added. Of experiments with deaf and dumb children, Dr König emphasised that what he said applied only to children suffering from congenital deafness. In twelve months' experiments children had increased their ability to hear and learned to put the organ of their inner ear to a certain kind of use.

"But children born deaf or partially deaf can, to a certain extent, regain their hearing possibilities if day after day a special musical education is introduced," he said. The Rudolf Steiner Schools were becoming more and more a research centre for children who were a problem for the whole of society... What they wanted to achieve were new and better methods of carrying out their work.

Belfast Newsletter

Friday 12 February 1954

CONCERT
TO HELP SCHOOL PROJECT

Handicapped children

It is hoped to open a residential school for mentally and physically handicapped children at Glencraig Curative Schools, Helen's Bay, Co. Down, on April 21, and in aid of the project a concert was given in the Ulster Hall, Belfast, last night, when more than 1000 people attended. All the artists gave their services free.

Mrs V.F. Nelson, president of the Parents' Association which has been formed, said that such a school was needed in Northern Ireland because there were about 20,000 handicapped children, and as far as could be ascertained about 500 were provided for in the Province, and about 100 were accommodated outside Northern Ireland. Approximately 800 special care patients were in the mental hospitals in Northern Ireland, and several hundred of these were children.

The "Friends of Glencraig" were convinced that a Rudolf Steiner school, established on a provincial basis would make an invaluable contribution towards achieving their objects. An initial sum of £10,000 was required to pay for the property – a building in a 40-acre estate. Mr C. Pietzner, who has been appointed superintendent of the school, will be in Northern Ireland from March 1 to select the first 21 children. He is at present assistant superintendent to Dr König of the Camphill Schools, Aberdeen.

We would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Robin on his 90th birthday!

Soon you will be able to read more of his Camphill research as we are preparing to publish a volume of his essays.

Audiobooks of Karl König's Literary Works

Deborah Grace

The audiobooks of Karl König's literary works are a rich, inspiring resource! We are pleased that 10 of 25 volumes are now online – more will follow thanks to our dedicated volunteer recorders!

When we think about audiobooks, we could reflect on what it means that Rudolf Steiner wrote some 30 books - but gave 6,000 lectures, speaking directly to people. Karl König wrote 15 books and gave nearly 2,000 lectures. Do we perhaps understand in a different way when knowledge is received through the spoken word and our sense of hearing, in relation to how it is received through reading and our sense of sight?

I am listening to all of the audiobooks – and when I was about to begin "Social Farming" I asked myself, "What will you get from this book?" The reality is that I am very inspired by what Karl König brought. And when I came to the end of this volume, as I heard Bernie Wolf read the notes Karl König had made in preparation for an address at Botton Village, they sounded like poetry, and I was moved by them. I probably wouldn't have read the notes myself.

Here are some excerpts:

I) It is July 18, 1964. It was exactly 40 years ago that Curative Education was inaugurated by Rudolf Steiner.
II) He gave the Agriculture Course in Koberwitz. And the Youth Addresses in Jena. And the Curative Education Course in Dornach.
The connection between curative education and agriculture was 33 years in 1957 when the village initiative began in Botton.
III) Our work in Germany.
Brachenreuthe... with farm.
Föhrenbühl... with orchard.
Lehenhof... with dairy.
Everything is connected to land and work on the land.
A home is important, but what we should be creating more and more are life communities, where old and young, big and small can work together. Families of olden times: extended families.
Now: families of spirit. Why?
IV) A visitor in any of our villages notices one thing straightaway: the profusion of destiny.
Villages of old: natural development of community out of family structures.
New villages: Community brought together coincidentally out of destiny.
And it is often difficult to bear the amount of destiny one encounters there.
For this, however, there is a counterbalance:
The beauty of landscape.
Landscape is however only truly beautiful, when the human being adds his love to it through work.
Fields, gardens, footpaths, trees, meadows, hedges, bushes, copses.
Just as plants provide the oxygen that we need to breathe, the landscape gives grace that human destiny needs.
Today's cities and suburbs are without grace; destiny becomes death and decay.
V) This is the day of June 18:
Curative Education and the blessing of the earth.
Destiny becomes Grace.
This is the Village Initiative.

The audiobooks are on the Institute's website at Audiobooks of Karl Koenig's Literary Works

1. Karl König: My Task
2. Becoming Human – A Social Task
3. Ita Wegman and Karl König
4. The Child with Special Needs
5. At the Threshold of the Modern Age
6. Brothers and Sisters
7. Kaspar Hauser and Karl König
8. Animals
9. Social Farming
10. Before Birth and Beyond Death

Dear friends and supporters of the Kaspar Hauser Research Circle!

Another year is slowly drawing to a close, a year in which the Research Circle carried the message of Kaspar Hauser's fulfilled mission to many countries and cities. And more and more people are being touched, comforted, and strengthened by the act of love performed by the "Child of Europe", who has long since risen to become a child of the world.

A phrase that sums up Kaspar Hauser's fulfilled mission – and one I often choose to conclude my lectures – is: "No power of evil could prevent Kaspar Hauser from loving."

And it is this gift, as we know, that we must all attain in order to ascend into a future cultural epoch that, in the Apocalypse of John, bears the name *Philadelphia*. At that time, according to Rudolf Steiner, human beings will develop their 'I' to it's appropriate state, so that they become truly independent and can freely extend love to every other being.

One of the highlights of the year was the Kaspar Hauser Festival in Ansbach, which celebrated its 28th anniversary this year. Around 3,000 guests from 15 nations were in attendance – a truly remarkable achievement!

Once again, the Kaspar Hauser Research Circle provided significant inspiration through numerous lectures, readings, and theater performances, as well as two small but exquisite art exhibitions featuring works by Greg Tricker and David Newbatt. And the book table was also incredibly well-stocked and served as an important gathering place for exchange and conversation.

In 2028, the Festival will have been in existence for thirty years – coinciding with the 200th anniversary of Kaspar Hauser's appearance in the world. Perhaps a good time to declare it complete? We'll see!

Another highlight related to Kaspar Hauser took place at Michaelmas in Stroud, England. Three fulfilling days of lectures, discussions, theater exercises, eurythmy, and art therapy workshops. I am immensely pleased that, now after the third year of my visits there, so much has already been able to flourish – a reflection of the ever-growing presence of the "Child of Europe", especially in the English-speaking world.

And so we are already very much looking forward to another Kaspar Hauser Festival on the East Coast of America in April of next year, through which we remain true to the impulse we began years ago. Yes, Kaspar Hauser increasingly seeks to find a place in the hearts of all those people who are far from having "given up" on the development of true humanity. With his help, from the one who appeared in Nuremberg at Whitsun we receive support from the heights in this development – which is one of the possible "interpretations" of the concept of the *Paraclete*. With this spiritual support we may continue to remain on the path that leads to this geat achievement.

Warmest greetings to you all, also on behalf of my dear colleagues in the Research Circle, and heartfelt thanks for your interest and support of our work!

Eckart Böhmer from Ansbach

The Kaspar Hauser Festival in Ansbach 2026

Bernard Jarman

Where then is the true spirit of Europe today? This is a question we can ask ourselves when considering the mystery of Kaspar Hauser. He was born two hundred years ago while the Napoleonic wars were raging. His mission was to transform Europe and bring about peace, but as we know the opposing forces ensured that this could not happen, and the child suffered a fate that no normal human being could survive. Miraculously

Foyer in the 'Onoldia-Hall' of the congress center, Ansbach, with the 8 drawings by David Newbatt



Eckart lecturing



however, he emerged with such pure innocence and child-like humanity that he became known as the child of Europe. It is this spirit of Europe, of the whole of Europe that we are in such need of today.

The theme chosen for the Kaspar Hauser Festspiele this year concerned the kingly nature of Kaspar Hauser, and in a talk entitled ‚*It Is the Time of Kings No More*', Richard Steel addressed the nature of this kingly quality. A sovereign is one who is beholden to no one but himself and the spiritual world. To be responsible for oneself is to be a king over oneself and to have charge over our destiny. Despite all that befell him, Kaspar Hauser possessed this kingly quality to the extent that he never accused or blamed anyone for what happened to him and even declared after he had been mortally stabbed that no one had done him any harm.

The Kaspar Hauser Festspiele takes place in Ansbach every two years and draws in people from all over the German speaking world. In alternate years there is a music festival celebrating Johann Sebastian Bach, who also had a deep connection with Ansbach. This connection between Kaspar Hauser and Bach was the subject of a talk by Peter Selg, in which he also spoke of Albert Schweitzer's connection to Bach as a "poet and painter in sound", whose music acts as a direct conduit for the human spirit.

The talks and events of the festival were spread out over a whole week and this allowed plenty of time to explore the art exhibitions connected to the theme that were on display in the town and at the conference venue, or to engage with daily sessions of eurythmy, visit the park with the monument to Kaspar Hauser that was erected on the spot where he was so cruelly stabbed, or take a walk to the cemetery where he was buried.

It was the second time that my wife Karin and I have attended this festival and this time we had the privilege of addressing these kingly qualities by running a workshop on the theme of the three kings who came to honour the Christ child's birth and who brought with them the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. These substances, images of the refinement of the three human faculties of wisdom, devotion and sacrifice were explored in a painting workshop using the refined colours of gold, indigo and magenta which the ikon painters used to work with. While the painting was being carried out using oil paints applied with a cloth – a new experience for many – the three substances were ground down and potentised for the 'Three Kings Preparation'. The preparation material is then kept in a little bottle until 6th January when it is sprayed out on to the earth as a blessing for the elemental world.

It was of course Eckart Böhmer, the founder of this festival that began as a biennial event 28 years ago, who produced not only a deeply moving play but shared insights in his lectures that are highly relevant to our time. The mystery behind the being of Kaspar Hauser has been explored and meticulously investigated by Eckart over a great number of years. Drawing on the insights of Rudolf Steiner, as well as his own intuitive capacities, Eckart has been gradually building a picture of Kaspar Hauser that affirms the eye witness accounts given at the time of his being 'like an angel' or 'coming from paradise'. The title of his final lecture was 'Kaspar Hauser's Deed of Love and its Counter Image in the Twentieth Century'. The crime committed against the child was, Eckart said, an occult experiment that sought to destroy the human soul. The experiment failed and the humanity of Kaspar Hauser was potentised to such an extent that his innocence and love could overcome the hatred of those opposed to him and furthermore ensure that the connection between humankind and the spiritual world could be maintained. Eckart then went on to describe the activity of the counter forces that came to expression one hundred years later through the rise of Adolf Hitler.

Earlier during the week Terry Boardman described many of the detailed historical events surrounding the tragedy of Kaspar Hauser as the heir to the throne of Baden and the role played by Lord Stanhope. He described the intrigue around the succession as being played out on several levels – the inter-dynastic jealousies, the fear across Europe of having a successor connected to Napoleon on the throne and on a more occult level the desire on the part of opposing forces to prevent the emergence of a more spiritual culture in Europe. He also explored the recurring attempts to discredit Kaspar Hauser that have continued to the present day, now using modern DNA testing, to prove that he had no connection to the House of Baden. That even today such attempts are made demonstrates the power and importance of this 'child of Europe'. Why otherwise would a dynastic quarrel that took place two hundred years ago be of interest today?

When we consider all that is happening today, how children are being treated, how our lives are being increasingly mechanised, how Europe is experiencing the closeness of war, and how our humanity is being threatened with artificial intelligence, we can reflect on the statement made by Rudolf Steiner to Ehrenfied Pfeiffer: "*Had Kaspar Hauser not lived and died as he did, the connection between human beings and the spiritual world would have been completely severed*".

The threat of transhumanism, the barbarism and the outright greed we experience around us in today's world would be all encompassing, were it not for the deep compassion and love that is also present and which gives real hope for the future.

Could this be the legacy that Kaspar Hauser has left us?

Kaspar Hauser's Deed of Love – the 2027 Festival in Columbia County (USA)

Deborah Grace

Dear friends of Kaspar Hauser, we are pleased to invite you to the *seventh* Kaspar Hauser Festival in North America and hope you can join us for KASPAR HAUSER'S DEED OF LOVE, in Columbia County, NY, April 15-18, 2027.

Participants can join the Festival both in-person and online, for which high quality livestreaming will be provided. The livestreaming will be done by Martin Schwartz, who is traveling from Germany with Richard Steel and Eckart Böhmer to do the technical work for the Festival, as well as the simultaneous translations of Eckart Böhmer's lectures.

And after the Festival, Martin will produce high quality videos for viewing online, available through the Karl König Institute.

Martin has a long-time connection to Camphill. He is very much looking forward to being part of the festival and helping make the work of the Karl König Institute and Kaspar Hauser more visible to the world!

The Karl König Institute and Kaspar Hauser Research Circle also extends an invitation to groups in other areas to join this Festival online by hosting concurrent events for your group. If you are interested in hosting a concurrent Festival, please contact: karlkoeniginstitute@camphill.org

If you would like to sign up to participate in KASPAR HAUSER'S DEED OF LOVE, please contact karlkoeniginstitute@camphill.org for registration and payment information. For full Festival participation the Institute requests a $ 50 contribution, or a $ 40 student fee.

Upon registering, people will receive program updates and all pertinent information.

And people are also welcome to join the Festival only for single events, for a contribution of $10-15 per event.

We hope to see you there!!!

A Meaningful Legacy Leads to the 2027 Festival!

There have been six previous Kaspar Hauser Festivals in North America:

2016 in California: Kaspar Hauser As A Teacher of Humanity

2017 in NY: The Unfulfilled Mission of the Hereditary Prince and the Fulfilled Mission of Kaspar Hauser

2019 in California: Kaspar Hauser – Protector of Human Spirituality in the Face of Evil.

2019 in NY: Kaspar Hauser and the Grail

2022 in NY: Kaspar Hauser and the Apocalypse (*Festival videos available online)

2024 in NY: Kaspar Hauser– His Message of Hope for the Future of Humanity (*Festival videos available online)

To Register for viewing the 2022 and 2024 Festival videos, please contact karlkoeniginstitute@camphill.org

A contribution is requested.

Also, to enjoy past Festivals – the programs and an amazing array of photographs – visit the Kaspar Hauser Festival website created by Takeshi Suesada: https://www.kasparhauserfestival.net/

Kaspar Hauser's Deed of Love – the 2027 Festival!

Attend In-Person – *or Via High Quality Livestream*

Co-hosted by the Karl König Institute and Kaspar Hauser Research Circle

And the Camphill Communities of Columbia County, NY

With Support from the Berkshire-Taconic Branch and the House of Peace

Date	Time	Event	Place
Thursday April 15	6:30 pm	Registration	Fountain Hall
	7 – 9 pm	Festival Welcome – Dorothea Davis Lecture – Richard Steel *Kaspar Hauser as Helper for Our Path Today* Eurythmy, Music or Song	
Friday April 16	10 am – 12 pm	Lecture – Eckart Böhmer *Kaspar Hauser's Threefold Deed of Love, part 1* Eurythmy, Music or Song	Fountain Hall
	12:15-2pm	Lunch by Reservation*	Copake Cafe
	2:30 – 4:30 pm	Poetry and Short Stories for Kaspar Hauser Richard S and Eckart With Conversation, Eurythmy, Music or Song	Fountain Hall
	4:45 - 6 pm	Dinner by Reservation*	Copake Cafe
	7 – 9 pm *Arrive at TSL by 6:40!*	*Kaspar Hauser: The Open Secret of the Foundling Prince* Play by Glen Williamson	Time & Space Ltd 434 Columbia St, Hudson, NY
Saturday April 17	10 am – 12 pm	Lecture – Eckart Böhmer *Kaspar Hauser's Threefold Deed of Love, part 2* Eurythmy, Music or Song	Fountain Hall
	12:15-2pm	Lunch by Reservation*	Copake Cafe
	2 – 3 pm	*Time for walking and talking*	
	3 – 4:30 pm	Lecture – Carrie Schuchardt *Kaspar Hauser and the Divine Sophia – A Deed of Love Unfolding* Eurythmy, Music or Song	Fountain Hall
	5 -6:30 pm	Dinner by Reservation* *Time for conversation*	Copake Cafe
	7 – 9 pm	*...And from the Night, Kaspar,* Play by Carlo Pietzner Introduced by Richard Steel and Produced by Stephen Steen	Fountain Hall
Sunday April 18	8:15 – 9 am	Festival of Offering (*for those who wish to attend*) *- Coffee is available in the Phoenix Center during the Service*	Triform Falcon Hall
	9:15 – 10:30 am	Introduction to Karl König's Story of Community and Kaspar Hauser – Dorothea Davis *'Also, A Christmas Story'*, by Karl König. Produced as Puppet Theatre by Takeshi Suesada	
	10:45-11:15	Refreshments	Phoenix Center
	11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Sharing from the Kaspar Hauser Research Circle And Conversation Richard Steel and Eckart Böhmer Festival Closing – Deborah Grace	Triform Falcon Hall

To Register for the Festival: karlkoeniginstitute@camphill.org (Program Subject to Revision)

Reflections on Kaspar Hauser and the Festival in April 2027

Jeanne Simon-MacDonald

Editor's note: Jeanne-Simon MacDonald is a free-lance eurythmist, therapist, and teacher. She and her colleagues from Grasshopper Productions have contributed eurythmy to all of the Kaspar Hauser Festivals in Columbia County, NY and are honoring him at the 2027 Festival. Jeanne is deeply connected with Kaspar Hauser's being and shares with us some reflections on his life.

For the upcoming Kaspar Hauser Festival in April 2027, a group of eurythmists in Harlemville, NY will prepare some pieces to honor Kaspar Hauser. The Festival is centered on Kaspar Hauser's Deed of Love. I would like to share some thoughts I have in preparation for the Festival.

It is astonishing that so many are deeply moved by this individual who lived in the early part of the 19th century, 1812 to 1833 – only 21 years – and who led a life of innocence and kindness in the face of extreme abuse and cruelty in his early life, and then later was considered by many to be a fraud. He was held as a child in a close, dark space for years, with no human contact – no touch, no sound of a loving voice, no engagement of any kind with another human being. Being chained to a wall, he could not move. The only contact he had was with a little wooden horse. Then - one day - he was taken out of his cell, taught to walk, and then abandoned, appearing in one of the squares in Nuremberg, Germany in 1828. Though he was a teenager, he could hardly speak or walk. He repeated a sentence he did not understand. His feet were bloody in his boots. No one knew what to do with him and he was placed in a prison cell, which was possibly helpful in some ways as it was similar to the space where he had been kept as a child. When he found himself in the prison cell, he became a public spectacle and received much unwelcome attention. He was stared at and prodded, questioned and laughed at. Was he confused and disoriented? I am filled with a profound sense of the tolerance he brought to this situation, and the openness he showed.

Soon he was moved to the home of a Professor Daumer where he was closely observed and began to receive an education. He learned very quickly and displayed many surprising gifts and an incredible memory. He learned to read and write and paint – and he learned to write a fine script. He grasped the German language so well that he was able to write rhyming poetry within the first year. His paintings of plants and fruits are sensitive and delicate and beautiful. He had many friends and had a large correspondence. He kept a diary and there are entries where he writes of his thoughts and shows an incredibly positive and buoyant personality.

There is an innocence and open heartedness in all his dealings with people. He was not resentful of the sometimes crude and insensitive treatment he was given. He thought sadly of the perpetrator who had incarcerated him when he was a child. He had an incredible ability to feel his way into the suffering of another human being and was never bitter.

As I think of him and of the life he lived, I wonder whether the being of Kaspar Hauser could inspire and guide us now toward greater resilience, generosity and courage.

Please make **Donations** for the Kaspar Hauser Research Circle!

International Donations:

Karl König Institut, GLS Bank, Bochum

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Please visit their donations page: https://camphillfoundation.org/kki-donation/

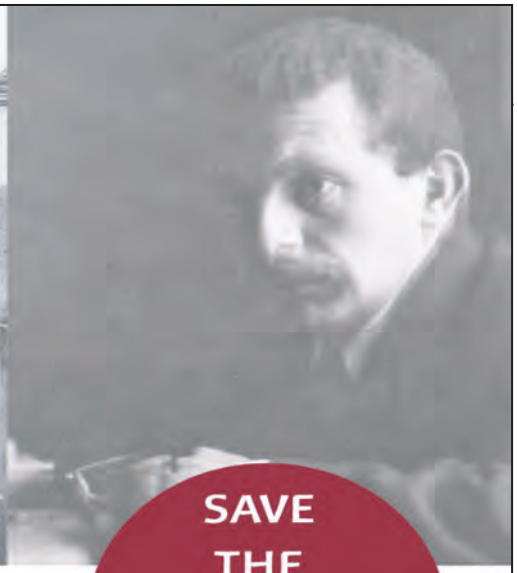
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If you have any questions please contact karlkoeniginstitute@camphill.org.

Via the Institute's website:

https://www.karlkoeniginstitute.org/en/donations.asp





SAVE THE DATE 16.–19.09.2027

Karl König in Wien

In the Footsteps of Karl König

To mark the 125th anniversary of Karl König's birth, the Karl König Institute invites you to a three-day conference in Vienna. Follow in Karl König's footsteps through this vibrant city and immerse yourself in his life, his vision, and his enduring impulses.
Programme highlights include a specially produced film about Karl König, lectures on his biography, and presentations exploring key stages of his life at historical locations throughout Vienna.
The conference is intended for approximately 60 participants; some lectures will also be open to the public as an additional opportunity for attendance. The conference will be held in English and German.
A detailed programme and registration information will be announced soon. If you are interested, please contact us at office@karlkoeniginstitute.org.

Please Donate to Support the Karl König Institute!

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