

ICASSI 1977, Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands



For the second time, the Netherlands was chosen as the site of this commemorative tenth International Summer Institute. Although the Congress Centre was in the process of renovation, the welcome was warm and the surroundings were familiar to many returning participants and staff. Ideally located amongst colourful bulb farms, near the North Sea and the resort town of Noordwijk, the Congress Centre was within a small kilometre radius of Amsterdam, The Hague, and Rotterdam.

Registration and opening ceremonies presented a format similar, for the most part, to previous years – a fully packed program of choices. Ombudspersons were available for suggestions and concerns and the daily Newsletter pinpointed the events of the day. The showing of Dr Dreikurs' excellent films throughout the two weeks was an educational bonus – and the ICASSI library was open for the loan and sale of books.

The Congress Centre had many spacious areas for togetherness – for dining and special gathering, for musical evenings, concerts and cultural exchanges.

Among the highlights was the Children's' Concert featuring the entire spirited troupe in an evening's entertainment. Many birthdays and anniversaries were celebrated, with multi-national singing, dancing, flowers and refreshments. Art work from the Art Therapy classes was on display, and the proceeds from the sale were donated to the Scholarship Fund. The Psychodrama demonstration was a moving experience.

Tours were a part of the activities planned for this visit to the hospitable Netherlands (many described for ICASSI '74), and the Flower Parade in Noordwijk was a spectacular profusion of colour.



Although none of the participants and staff would know, this was the last year “Bill” Pew led the Summer Institute. He and his co-author Janet Turner had just published “*The Courage to Be Imperfect: The Life and Work of Rudolf Dreikurs*”. Bill’s spirit and guiding hand had been a potent force in the continuation and growth of the Summer Institutes after the death of Dr Dreikurs. After a sudden illness “Bill” Pew died, before ICASSI '78 would take place in England.