

Older Multiple

Seminar Feed-back

By Jean Reah (Organiser)



A very successful Seminar on Older Multiples took place at Trinityhouse School in Randburg on Saturday 29 August 2009. We invited all current as well as old SAMBA members to whom this course was relevant. We had a fantastic response with over 100 adults including exhibitors, nannies and assistants as well as 38 children (including 3 sets of triplets!) attending on the day.

Feed-back was very positive with many ex-members rejoining. A need was expressed for there to be get-togethers especially aimed at the families with older multiples. Baby-sitting/child-minding was again a popular feature. The kids aged 0 – 8 years old flooded the gradie's play area leaving some very exhausted child-minders in their wake. SAMBA items such as the t-shirts, crèche diaries, pamphlets and new car stickers were again on sale. There were awesome Goodie bags which also included the useful AMBA pamphlet on "Multiples in School".

The speakers are all teachers at Trinityhouse as well as veteran SAMBA members from the 80's & 90's. Ria van Niekerk, a former West Rand Chair-lady (Top photo) has a 18 year old daughter Che as well as 16 year old pigeon pair Kelson & Kayla van Rie (2nd photo) who were brave enough in joining their mom to give us a unique insight into being a twin. They spoke of how fiercely they will stand up for each other. These two were a hit on the day and the audience really grilled Ria & her children with many enthusiastic questions. Ria, a primary school teacher gave us some good food for thought on what are good reasons for and when is a good time to separate multiples into their own classes.



Tessa Mew (3rd photo) has identical twin boys, Stephen and Tim who are now 20 years old and studying at university. She spoke of the "big divorce" when her then 8 year old sons decided it was time to separate into their own rooms. It is clear that twins, especially identicals have an extremely close bond. It is possible for them to be proud of each other's achievements and it is comforting to know that in general they seem to turn out as the best of friends and life-long mates.



Christa van Rooyen, has 53 year old twin brothers, as well as 23 year old fraternal twin girls Carla and Nadia who are starting work. She emphasized the importance of helping multiples to develop as separate individuals with their own interests as well as spending individual quality time with each child. Quite a tough goal to aim for, but definitely one worth achieving she assured us. Each of the speakers told us of some of the lowlights & highlights of their

experiences with many helpful tips along the way. I am hoping to get these ladies to write an article or two for us to share some of their insights with us.

The seminar was bigger & better than before with many exhibitors including "Equip for Life" & "Refilwe" who as community upliftment projects were our guests on the day. Thank-you to the speakers as well as all who assisted with the seminar, donated the fantastic raffle prizes or amazing items for the Goodie bags. Congratulations to our prize winners:

1st prize One free term's worth of swimming lessons per multiple from **Sam of Aquatots (Randpark Ridge)** won by Corne Swarts

2nd prize A photo shoot from **Esther Helm Photography**

3rd prize CPR kit, course & manuals from **Reeva de Fleuriot of CPR Consulting**

4th prize A starter pack from **Helen of My File About Me** won by Aditi Sinha

5th prize An Eastern Cape Puzzle from **Coral Tree Guest House** won by Deepti Vallabh

6th prize Kiddies story book from **Exclusive Books** won by Shaun McMahon

7th prize Kiddies game from **Correine Rens of Kiddie Junction & Smile Educational Products**

8th prize 4 X **100 things to do in 702 land CD donated by Carol** won by Jeanne Wiggill, Heida Fourie, Felicia Paterson & Frik Boonzaaier

9th prize **Mila & Dlala Activity chart** discount voucher from **Anel Beneke** won by Felicia Paterson 10th prize 7 X Kids Cookbook from **Bafhni (co-author)** won by Alice Piktija, Bryan Ho Dunne, Fiona Roberts, Karen Hamilton & Aditi Sinha

Goodie bags sponsors: **Coral Tree Guest House** Seminar Special: 2 pay, 4 or 5 stay!!!

Your Child & Your Family magazines, Kids National Geographic magazines, Aupairs Exclusive SAMBA discounts & Bump Maternity seminar & SAMBA discounts.

Other sponsors: **Trinityhouse School** (venue), SAMBA members **Zainub & Khalil Vasgaray** of the **Hanover Bakery** (catering), **Janine's Skin & Body Clinic** (gift vouchers for speakers) & **Heidi Vorster from Merck Serono (Fertility Drug Company)** for gift vouchers for speakers.

Thank-you to all the **SAMBA** helpers:

Niki Buissine, Fiona Roberts & Gerida Furstenberg: for behind-the scenes work & help on the day. **Marion Smith** for the awesome Goodie bag sponsors, assistance and some prizes. **Bryan Ho-Dunne:** camera man. **Renee Kleinhans, Valerie Ho-Dunne & Lydia Jonker** for help on day.

At the request of absent members, the seminar was filmed and will shortly be available on DVD at a nominal cost from our secretary Niki Buissine. We hope to see more of these kinds of events in the future.