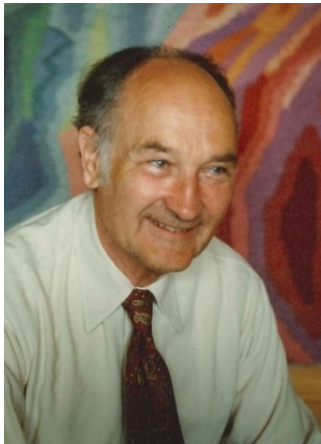


Dr. Alfred Baur

Alfred Baur is the creator of the Chirophonetic Therapy. In the 1970s he developed this new therapy as part of his therapeutic work with non-speaking children, based on the idea of metamorphosis taken from Rudolf Steiner's anthroposophy.



Alfred Baur was born on 31 August 1925 in Wels, Austria, and as a young man he was initially interested in mechanical engineering. After military service and imprisonment in Russia he studied German language, history and philosophy in Graz. During this time he encountered anthroposophy for the first time. Lectures by Prof. Otto Julius Hartmann impressed him very much. In a pedagogical-anthroposophical working group in Graz he met his future wife Dr. med. Ilse Schmid.

His doctoral thesis for the Dr. phil. in Graz was entitled "The crisis in the development of children and adolescents with examples from self-biographies".

He started his work with disabled people in the Haus Hohenfried, in the Sonnenhof in Arlesheim and finally in Zeist in the Netherlands. In 1953 he worked as a curative teacher for the Youth Welfare Office in Linz/Austria and completed an apprenticeship in the field of language treatment. In Linz he was working for many years as a speech therapist together with his wife as a doctor in a joint practice.

From this work with the children emerged numerous rhymes and language exercises, which were published in various books.

In 1972 he developed Chirophonetic Therapy from his therapeutic work with non-speaking children. At that time he was introduced to a three-year-old boy who did not make a single sound, although he heard well and understood to some extent what was said to him. The cause was brain damage. Obviously, the impulse to imitate speech was too weak. In order to reinforce this, Alfred Baur decided to "write" the sound formation on the child's back. With his hands, he recreated the forms which are shaped by the air flow in the mouth, while simultaneously toning each sound. In this way, the child could not only hear but also feel the sounds. After just a few weeks, the first improvements were noticed. The boy became more cheerful and began to speak.



By 1976, Alfred Baur had developed the new treatment method to such an extent that he was able to give the first courses for people who wanted to use this new therapy in their therapeutic or curative work. In the following years, up until the year 2000 he travelled from Austria for his courses in Chirophonetic Therapy many times, first into the German-speaking European countries area, but then also to Scandinavia, Holland, England, Italy as well as later to Brazil, Australia, New Zealand and the USA.

In 1989 Alfred Baur published in German his book "Healing sounds: Fundamentals of Chirophonetics". A second, revised edition was published in 1996. It has been translated into 12 languages so far. The translations into English, Italian and Portuguese are available.

Alfred Baur passed away at the beginning of 2008 in Kirchsschlag, Austria.