

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 8

L'Arche Perth - Update

165, Alexander Drive, Dianella

National Leader's Visit



National Leader David Treanor spent a week with us in June and thoroughly enjoyed sharing a live-in weekend with Robbie, Sarah, Yolanda and Nora. Justina and Leemonique were a great help preparing for the Gathering on Saturday and we enjoyed a

lovely lunch in the garden. Marie was able to join the household on Saturday night for a delicious meal provided by Julie Britton. Nora enjoyed the soccer world cup and David was pleased that Ireland won the rugby final. The Gathering on Saturday was a time of sharing and a chance for community members to meet David for the first time. Everyone was delighted to see Josh and Lynn there.

On Sunday David appreciated the opportunity to enjoy the morning service at Infant Jesus Church in Morley and the Crosslinks service and supper at St Nicholas church, Floreat in the evening. He commented that there were no such services that he was aware of anywhere else in Australia that catered so warmly and specifically for people with disabilities and their supporters.

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September Gathering

Join us in September for an afternoon tea Gathering on Sunday 9 from 2-4.

Board members Vera and Claire are preparing an activity that will focus on expressing our feelings. We will also be joined by a special guest, all the way from Stratford in Canada where she is a Live-in Assistant in the L'Arche Community. Originally from the Philippines, Maria is a friend of our Coordinator Samantha; she was instrumental in encouraging Samantha to apply for her job and is keen to share her L'Arche experience and answer any questions that families may have.

Bring a plate and drink to share.

National Leader's Visit *(continued from page 1)*

During the week he met with families who have expressed an interest in living in the Dianella house as well as with the people from WAiS who have been supporting families with their NDIS planning. He also met with Crosslinks Pastor Rev'd Stephen Gibbs, and with the director of Personal Advocacy Service. A journalist from the Uniting Church's magazine *Revive* interviewed him for its July/August edition.

David remains in contact with a prospective community leader with long lived experience, currently living in London. Changes to Immigration requirements are posing problems for all L'Arche communities that rely heavily on live-in Assistants coming from other countries. The NDIS has strict guidelines regarding the contribution of paid and voluntary workers and the situation in Perth is further complicated by the fact that none of our core members has Accommodation funding in place.

News from the Board

The board has drawn up a strategic plan and assigned various board members and our Coordinator to take responsibility for different projects, including becoming NDIS ready; sustaining the L'Arche model, developing our shared living model; growing our Community and nurturing relationships with all stakeholders. Claire McGuinness is responsible for our NDIS readiness and she reports that we have commenced our provider registration process. This involves registering for various types of support provision that would be incorporated in the L'Arche model and providing supporting evidence that validates our capacity to deliver services. Unfortunately, we do not have an estimated timeframe for the registration process and we have learned from other communities that they have experienced significant variability in the registration process. Claire will attend an NDIS forum for Board Members at National Disability Services (NDS) in Sept and will provide a summary in the next Newsletter.

New **Coordinator**, Samantha Tarling, is busy familiarising herself with the intricacies of the NDIS and seeking new grant and funding opportunities. She will also be responsible for sustaining the L'Arche model within the NDIS context. We asked Samantha to introduce herself...

"In June I joined FOL Perth to fill the position of part-time Project Coordinator. I had heard about the L'Arche community from my friends abroad. I had witnessed the joy and challenges they shared with core members in one of their four houses in Stratford, Canada.

*The L'Arche vision and mission resonated within me and I found myself looking for the screening of *Summer in the Forest*, a movie based on Jean Vanier's life story, so I could learn about this inspirational man.*



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After reading about him and the Federation on the Web, I was thinking I could tie in one of my next adventures of visiting countries that have multiple UNESCO World Heritage Sites combined with my hobby of climbing the country's highest peak, with a visit to a L'Arche home and be a short term volunteer. My love of Monet and returning to one of my favourite countries in the world, France, and include a visit to Jean Vanier's hometown was very inviting.

It seems this interest was borne for a different reason. It brought me to visit the FOL Perth website. I didn't see the position of Project Co-ordinator advertised on that occasion. Months later my friend in Canada mentioned there was a position on offer. I googled it and believed it was a fit with my skills and experience and my desire to work for an organisation that could capture my head and heart.

Fast forward and here I am joining the committed and hardworking Board. I look forward to the work we have embarked upon in registering as a preferred provider with the NDIS and getting our first Perth home open for core members to make a new home if they choose.

I come with a skill set and work experience from 27 years in local government. Roles ranging from Administration Officer to CEO and diverse roles in between. I have worked for metro and country local governments. I hope to use my far reaching network and experience to promote and progress the goals of L'Arche Perth.

My family lives in metro and regional Western Australia. We have personally experienced many of the challenges and joys our L'Arche community members have, starting 25 years ago when my nephew was born with Goldenhar Syndrome. I look forward to meeting and sharing stories with our community.

My motivation is to see the warm and homely house in Dianella become filled with core members and live-in assistants, to hear the interactions of them both whilst core members set about living an independent life, the same as I hear and see when my friends in Canada skype me.

I have been delighted with the warm and open welcome to the FOL Perth community, especially from the Board and my predecessor, Emma at this early stage. I look forward to getting to know our community when we meet".

House Modifications

The board is pleased with the changes made to the ground floor of our house in Dianella; the former formal dining room is now a 5th bedroom and the door to the main bathroom has been widened to accommodate people with physical disabilities. We would like to thank Enfield, the original builders of the home, for completing the work with minimum disruption.

If anyone has a single or king single bed and a small wardrobe for the new bedroom we would be very glad to take it.

Important Date Changes

Please note that the date of the **AGM** has been changed because it clashes with the National Board Meeting and Strategic Planning weekend in November. It will now be held on **Sunday 25th November**, 2-4pm at the Dianella house.

The Core Member Retreat has been scheduled for **Saturday 17 November** from 10am-3.30pm. Nora and Evelyn are planning a special day for core members with the theme: "I have called you by your name". There will be some time for reflection, activity and celebration. It is hoped that at least 6 core members will attend with an accompanier (not parents) so if you would like to attend in either capacity please send Expressions of Interest to Evelyn on tierney@iinet.net.au by **12 October** so she and the Spiritual Life Group can plan the day.



The **October Gathering** will be a finger food lunch and has been moved to the last weekend in the month, **Sunday 28th** from 11am to 3.30pm. The Spiritual Life Group is looking ahead to next year's Calendar and would like Community input into how Gatherings should look in 2019. This ties in with one of the goals that came out of the Visioning Day in March – to grow our Community by coming up with more ways to spend time together. Paula Bruckard will facilitate this special day and Anabelle will provide activities for core members to make their contributions.

Fundraising

Share a Meal for L'Arche is a fundraising initiative from L'Arche Australia to help to raise awareness of L'Arche by hosting a morning tea, lunch or dinner at your home or workplace to tell people about L'Arche. Information kits are available from the board if you would like to participate.

Fundraising (cont)

Plans are underway for our fundraising Dinner Dance on **Saturday 6 October**. Tickets and posters have been printed, the band booked and catering ordered. Raffles and spot prizes will hopefully encourage people to part with their money. All that remains is for us all to get together tables of 8 or 10 on the night. You will notice that Dinner is optional and incurs an extra cost of \$7. It is essential to get the money and meal options ahead of time so that the caterer can plan for the night.

DANCE \$25/ PERSON
DINNER RACK \$7 each
SNACK PLATE \$3 each

DANCE

YOU ARE INVITED TO A
L'ARCHE PERTH FUNDRAISER
DANCE , WINE & DINE
SATURDAY , 6 OCTOBER 2018
featuring great dance music 60's - 90's

7PM-LATE
OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION SCHOOL HALL
356 Grand Promenade Dianella
Heaps of Free Parking at Dianella Shopping Centre
Contact Anabelle: 0419945147 / Chris 0403804620

NOTE:
Proceeds to L'Arche's Dianella House of Welcome
Purchase your Dance and Dinner Tickets soon
BYO - Alcoholic Beverages / Soft Drinks on Sale
Gather together tables of 8 or 10

Tickets can be paid for by EFT:

Westpac bank details:

Account Name: Friends of L'Arche Perth

BSB: 036-302

Account Number: 383187

Ref: Dance - Surname

Trosly Retreat 2019

CHOOSING COMMUNITY IN AN ERA OF INDIVIDUALISM
RETREAT FOR L'ARCHE
30 MARCH - 5 APRIL 2019
B. P 21-23 RUE D'ORLEANS
60350 TROSLY-BREUIL, FRANCE

Following on from the success of the 2017 Retreat in Trosly, France that L'Arche Australia coordinated for members in Australia and New Zealand, we are delighted to host another retreat in Trosly. Trosly is where l'Arche was founded and it has an unique place in our story.

The theme of this retreat is '*Choosing community in an era of individualism*' and will focus on how you and we build, choose and develop community in Australia today. Ms. Eileen Glass has kindly agreed to lead the retreat. Our society is increasingly fractured and divided, with many groups closing in on themselves; when many community members in L'Arche Australia are ageing, how can we go forward as and when our needs change? New founders in communities or people joining communities today have a different range of expectations than 30-40 years ago. The retreat will be an opportunity to reflect on these issues and find new ways to go into the future.

We have a limit on the number of people who can attend and hope the retreat will also be a creative experience for everyone. There is an application form available on our website, under the "News" section or from region@larche.org.au. Alternatively, please phone David on (03) 6238 4341.



Kapiti 20th Celebrations

For those of you who happen to be heading to New Zealand in October feel free to take up this invitation to celebrate the 20th Anniversary weekend at the Kapiti Community...



L'Arche Kapiti 20th Anniversary Weekend

Pilgrimage: Saturday 13 October, 2018

(10:00am-12:00 pm—Meet at 15 Redwood Close, Paraparaumu)

Come to connect and pray as we walk (or drive) down memory lane to the places that have meant so much to us in L'Arche Kapiti's history. The pilgrimage will close with a washing of the feet ceremony.

Morning tea will be served.

Celebration Dinner: Saturday 13 October, 2018

Doors open at 5:30; dinner at 6:00 pm (Otaihanga Boat Club, 19 Makora Rd)
Cost \$50 per person. Entertainment led by singer/songwriter and Friend of L'Arche, Father Chris Skinner.

(For payment, you can come in to pay at the L'Arche office and get your ticket. Or, you can pay via internet banking to account: 06 0730 0147717 05 and pick-up your ticket at the office or at the door. If doing an online payment, please put "Jubilee" and your name as the reference.)

"Growing Up" Reflection Day: Sunday 14 October, 2018

10:00-3:00 (Grace Hall, Impact Church, Paraparaumu)

Eileen Glass, former Vice International Leader of the L'Arche Federation will lead us in a reflection about what it means to be at this point in our journey.

Eileen mentored L'Arche as it started in New Zealand. She is a spiritual director and is gifted at leading L'Arche retreats, calling us back to our values and mission. Lunch will be provided. Koha appreciated.

*Please come to all or some of our events. We'd love to see you! If coming for the whole weekend, and you need advice about places to stay, please contact us, as we may be able to help. Once you decide which of the events you'd like to attend, please RSVP by calling the office at 04-298-4633 or email at cleader1@larche.org.nz by 25 September 2018



L'Arche Perth Calendar

January	February	March
		6 th Board Meeting
	11 th Gathering LUNCH, Visioning day	18 th Agape Meal, St Nicholas Church Hall, 5-7 pm
30 th Board Meeting		
31 st Reflection Group	30 th Reflection Group	28 th Reflection Group
April	May	June
3 rd Board Meeting	2 nd Wednesday Board Meeting	5 th Board Meeting
8 th WALKABILITY, Burswood Park, 9am	13 th Gathering	16 th Gathering LUNCH
25 th Reflection Group	30 th Reflection Group	27 th Reflection Group
July	August	September
3 rd Board Meeting	5 th EVENSONG, St George's Cathedral, 5pm	4 th Board Meeting
8 th Gathering	7 th Board Meeting	9 th Gathering 2-4
	12 th Gathering, 2-4pm	
25 th Reflection Group	29 th Reflection Group	26 th Reflection Group
October	November	December
2 nd Board Meeting	6 th Board Meeting	4 th Board Meeting
6 th , DINNER DANCE , Our Lady's Assumption School, Dianella		9 th Christmas party
28 th Gathering – co-designing our Gatherings for 2019 LUNCH	17 th Core Members Retreat	
31 st Reflection Group	21 st Reflection Group	
	25 th AGM , Gathering, 2-4pm	

