

L'ARCHE ADELAIDE NEWSLETTER



What does Community mean to you?



When, in L'Arche, we hear the word 'community' what images immediately spring to mind? There are many answers that can be given to that question and all of them may say something helpful about what it means to be part of a L'Arche community.

It was this question that was put to a pottery-making group at a L'Arche Adelaide Community Weekend a few years ago. People moulded out of clay what community meant to them. There were images of people, young and old; praying hands; words of faith etched into clay; people in a boat (as in the L'Arche logo); images of hospitality, such as bread and a cup; friendship depicted by a circle of friends; a cross.

Also, when we think of community we may readily think of a house, perhaps the Dinwoodie house, which we plan to occupy soon, with people with and without intellectual disability living together. Much attention lately has concerned house preparation and the community life that will happen there. So we link a house to community, and understandably so.

A recent L'Arche National Community & Spiritual Life Forum invited us to consider the telling and sharing of stories as key to community, i.e. God's story; the L'Arche International story, the L'Arche Adelaide story, not to mention our personal story filled as it is with joy and sorrow.

At present our story is tinged with much sadness over the sudden recent death of our dear friend Harry. And as we listen to such a story we respond with compassion, open arms, and the love of God, and in doing so we strengthen the bonds that join us ... in community.

Rev. Dr. Trevor Whitney, Chair, L'Arche Adelaide Board

This newsletter is for the members & supporters
of L'Arche Adelaide

Editor: Lyn Whitney

larchadelaide@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/larchadelaide

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome



Weekly Prayer

L'Arche Australia holds an online weekly time of quiet reflection and prayer.

It is held every Thursday from 7:00 to 7:30 PM South Australian time.

The Zoom link remains the same each week:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82643471339?pwd=QVNQb2tzSUh5SHFZRWZhTWpKenl1QT09>
(Meeting ID: 826 4347 1339; Passcode: 542630)
There is also an option to join by phone.

All Welcome - Join Anytime

Happy Birthday!

Sep	Oct	Nov
18 Julie S	2 Peter B	2 Wendy J
Happy 40th birthday, Julie!	2 Shelley C 25 Rob T 26 Norelle P 29 Claire L	12 Andrea M 19 David T 19 Lyn W 26 Bev C

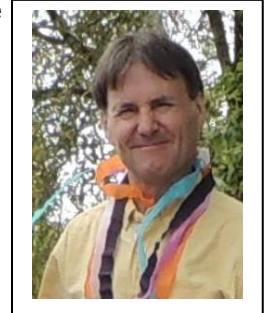
Let us know if you want to be added to our birthday list.

Gaelic Blessing

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
 Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
 Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
 Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
 Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
 Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.
 Deep peace of Christ,
 of Christ the light of the world to you.
 Deep peace of Christ to you.

(Jane Pitman shared this Blessing for our community gathering to remember and celebrate the life of Harry Webb)

After 10 years as the L'Arche National Leader, David Treanor has announced he will be stepping down from the role in November. David was very supportive of our project in our infancy, introducing us to the ethos & practices of L'Arche. We're very grateful for his commitment to L'Arche and offer our prayers for future roles.



Deputy National Leader, Claire Lawler, will assume an Interim Leader role over the next 12 months while L'Arche National discerns a new leader.



Prayer Points

- We pray for our Australian Leaders and the L'Arche Australia Board Chair, Julia Walters, that they can carry out their roles in a responsible & faithful manner.
- We pray for our Board members: Trevor Whitney, Rochelle Whelan, Lyn Whitney, Lisa Christo, Julie Sutherland & Mel Zerner; and Lara Damiani, our Community Coordinator as they meet monthly to manage the governance, operations & planning of L'Arche Adelaide. Give them guidance & wisdom to make good decisions for the benefit of L'Arche, it's members & friends for the future.
- We pray for Rev Andrea McDougall & the members of the congregation at St Francis Anglican Church at Clarence Gardens. They have made the L'Arche Adelaide members feel very welcome & we thank them for their hospitality.
- We pray for our members who are sick or unwell, particularly Kelly Pearce as she battles cancer, and we pray that her treatment is successful, and that she receives peace and comfort knowing that you will be with her always.

Our River Day – Save the Date – Saturday 6 November



**More details
closer to
the date.**

A river day has been scheduled for L'Arche Adelaide and St Francis people to enjoy together at Sturt Reserve, Murray Bridge.

This will be **provided at no cost by Adventure Connect** (a ministry of recreation and fun!). BBQ lunch and transport included.

Activities provided will include something for all tastes from rides in the ski boat, river tubing (if weather is warm enough), kayaking, fishing, games on the riverbank and of course relaxing in the shade of gum trees and just watching the river flow by ...

Recent News - Community House Preparations

- Lara, our Community Development Coordinator has been working on our NDIS registration. We received a very positive auditor's report during Stage 2 of our Audit and are now awaiting final approval as a registered NDIS provider. Thanks, Lara for all your hard work!
- L'Arche Adelaide has started a discernment process that will lead to the appointment of our first Community Leader, a very important role which includes the management of our house.
- The first step was to draft the L'Arche Adelaide Community Mandate, a strategic plan that will guide the work of our Community Leader and our community for the next four years. The Community Mandate 2021-2025 has been completed and endorsed by the Board.
- The Discernment Team (Claire Lawler, L'Arche Australia; Trevor Whitney, Chairperson of the Board; Shelley Cochrane, Spiritual Life Coordinator; and Bev Corner, Community member) are now concentrating on appointing our first Community Leader.
- With the loss of our dearly loved Harry, who had been selected to accompany Mark in our community house, we are now looking for a suitable replacement to join Mark in the house.
- We ask for your prayerful support for those who are working on house preparations; for those including Mark Tanner who will be moving into the house; and for their families.

Finance Update

- The net cash position of L'Arche Adelaide on 21 September 2021 was \$44,822. THANK YOU for your donations over the last 4 months!
- Mel has emailed all donors with their tax deduction receipts for the year ended 30 June 2021. Please advise Mel if you have not received your receipt
- We have made a payment of \$2281 for Stage 2 of the NDIS audit and the application for our registration has been lodged with NDIS awaiting approval.
- We're applying to lease the rectory at St Francis of Assisi Parish for our planned house.
- We've started preparing a budget for the first 12 months of the operation of the house.
- We are aiming to have net assets of \$60,000 by December 2021 when we are expected to commence our community house for people with disabilities.
- This would assist us to have sufficient working capital to set up the house & provide some buffer for unexpected expenditures or a drop in rental income.
- Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to assist in meeting our goal. Thank you!

For further information, contact our Honorary Treasurer, Mel Zerner:

Mobile: 0418 852 353; Email: melz@messengerzerner.com.au

Direct deposits to: L'Arche Adelaide Inc. BSB 704942 Account No 153579

Vale: Our dearly loved friend, Harry Webb



Our community mourns the unexpected death of Harry, our dearly loved L'Arche member. He will be so missed by our community. Please keep his mum, Wendy, and family in your prayers. Till the very last Harry was living his life with commitment and focus. Just a day before his death he participated in our usual L'Arche Adelaide



gathering at St Francis Anglican Church and was well engaged in the worship, the mealtime, and the devotional time in which he read a bible reading. The reading concerned the Body of Christ, and the part we all play in it - an apt reading as we consider the important role Harry played in our



L'Arche body, and our lives. Harry was one of God's children from his very first breath, till his last, and beyond. Through his times of joy and pain God was his constant Friend and Companion. And now that he has died, he



remains for always in God's embrace.

Just recently our L'Arche community gathered together to remember and celebrate the life of our dearly beloved



community member, Harry. Symbols of celebration were bought forward (as in the photo at the top right of the page) during the gathering: Harry's candle - lit from the Christ candle; A heart - the love of L'Arche community; St Francis statue - the love of the St Francis of Assisi community; Water - remembering Harry's baptism in God; a bowl of potatoes -



remembering Harry's wonderful potato salad he often shared at our gatherings; A painting done by Harry at a recent gathering - Harry loved painting; gloves, rug, beetroot - special symbols shared by Harry's family.

God holds each of us up and say to all of us, including Harry, "You are precious just as you are."

Thanks be to God for the unique and special ways in which Harry enriched the tapestry of our lives.



And hear the angels at your side say "on you go"

(A line from John Coleman's Song – On You Go (Bush Beatitudes))