

MARCH 2023

L'ARCHE ADELAIDE NEWSLETTER



**Here's to a
happy 2023
for all our
community!**



Catch ups - Community Weekend



Art workshop – Community Weekend

As I write, I am watching dragonflies helicoptering around the garden in bright sunshine on this beautiful autumn day. As you will have seen, the L'Arche Community calendar of activities is out for 2023. Many fun times have been planned and "everybody and his dog" are invited to come along and enjoy these events. We look forward to another year of fellowship with our friends at St Francis of Assisi too.

The annual community weekend in January was enjoyed by all. An excellent program, filled with a variety of activities, catered for everybody. Heartfelt thanks go to the organisers. This weekend always serves as a very important catch up for us all. We missed some of our usual attendees and hope that we can see them soon and that those who have been unwell will recover quickly.

The board had an extraordinary meeting last month where we agreed upon a shared vision for L'Arche Adelaide 2023 and planned how we are going to get there.

Thank you to everybody for bringing your skills and heart to the L'Arche community here in Adelaide. We all make L'Arche a special community. I'm sure you would agree though that Rev. Dr. Trevor Whitney merits our special thanks as he has led L'Arche Adelaide through a decade of foundational years through to the establishment of our first house. We are all grateful that Trevor remains Vice President and a strong supporter, advocate and adviser.

I would like to welcome Clynt Johansen to our board and thank him for offering his time and expertise on legal matters. I would also like to welcome our newest member Cameron Bradshaw who I have known since he was a small boy in my class at Colonel Light Gardens PS some years ago! It is such a pleasure to have you both around.

Here's to a happy 2023 to all of us at L'Arche Adelaide!

Wendy Jeffrey, Chair, L'Arche Adelaide Board

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

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Contributions to the newsletter are welcome



Prayer Points

All-embracing God, we offer prayers for our wider L'Arche community:

- L'Arche communities in countries where life can be precarious. We remember Syria, Palestine, and the ongoing war in Ukraine
- the leadership exercised by National Leader, Claire Lawler, and National Chair, Julia Walters

And we pray for our community & our house:

- those who come to live, work and build mutual relationships in our Dinwoodie house
- the parents of children with intellectual disability who are an important part of our community life
- Tracy Tohl, and her work with the Dinwoodie house, and her work in developing further community accommodation opportunities
- the enabling and equipping of our new Board Chairperson, Wendy, and for the Board in their community governance role
- the equipping of those who will undertake new roles and responsibilities across our community
- the ongoing nurturing of our vital friendship with the St Francis of Assisi Anglican congregation

..... O Lord, hear our prayer, Amen.

Happy Birthday!

Apr

7 Lisa C
10 Kelly P
10 Harry W
(in memory)



May

5 Andrew P
6 Jill S
11 Eleanor
22 Anthony



Jun

13 Lyn K
20 Mel Z
22 Clynt J



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

Weekly Prayer

L'Arche Australia's

online monthly time of quiet reflection and prayer is held on the **first Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM SA time**

The Zoom link is the same every month:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82643471339>

Passcode: prayer

All Welcome - Join Anytime

Finance & Resources Update

- Our Community Leader, Tracy Tohl and several assistants continue to care for members with disabilities in our house at Dinwoodie Ave, Clarence Gardens. Tracy is busy following up enquiries from both potential members with disabilities to live in the house and assistants to work in the house.
- We continue to be supported by L'Arche Australia for administration, payroll, accounting and insurance services as well as training and management advice.
- We thank God for the provision of sufficient resources and finance during the first year of operation. It has been exciting to have several community gatherings with members with disabilities in the house and other events over the last 6 months so the L'Arche hospitality was great to experience.
- If any person with a disability is keen to use our Welcome & Hospitality (respite) facilities over the coming months, please contact our Community Leader, Tracy.
- *Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to assist us in building up and maintaining our funds. Thank you!*

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

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

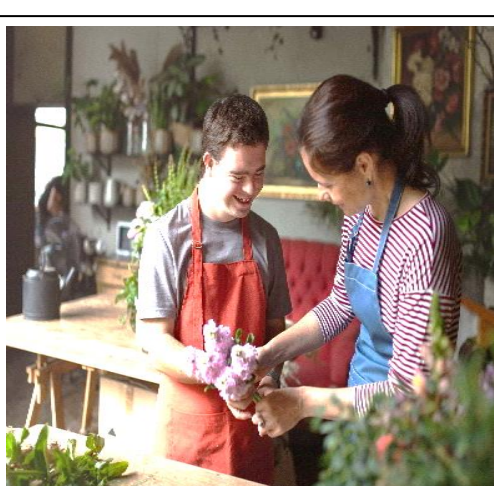
Direct deposits to: L'Arche Adelaide Inc. BSB 704942 Account No 153579

MARCH 2023

Life in the L'Arche Adelaide community



Life in Community



Introducing our new member, Cameron Bradshaw

Hello, my name is Cameron Bradshaw, I am 27 years old and I live in Adelaide. I also have Autism and Anxiety.

During my school years, I went to Colonel Light Gardens Primary School from 2001 to 2009 and I loved it there. I, then went to Cabra Dominican College from 2010 to 2014. I also loved it there. I was in a Special Class for the first few years of primary school and moved into a mainstream class in 2004.

When I was in Year 4 in 2006, I was very blessed and lucky to have Ms. Wendy Jeffrey as my teacher. Ms. Jeffrey was very kind, understanding, caring, patient and forgiving. Ms. Jeffrey's son, Harry Webb used to be a part of L'Arche. Whilst Harry was someone I never got a



Cameron with Wendy Jeffrey at the January community weekend

chance to know, he had a very positive impact on my life, he was one of the many reasons why Ms. Jeffrey was an amazing teacher. I had some issues in primary school and Ms. Jeffrey was very good with me during both my good and challenging days. Also, when my mother and stepfather got married in August 2008, Ms. Jeffrey attended the ceremony.

I found out about L'Arche around the time Harry passed away in August 2021. I got in touch with Trevor Whitney and we kept in touch for some time and I came to my first L'Arche event on January 22nd, 2023 at St. Columba's Anglican Church where they went to the Mass and had lunch and did some very special activities. Everyone was very nice in the group and they all made me feel very welcome.

Outside of L'Arche, I work at

Reynella Mitre 10 three days a week which my job agency, Barkuma helped me secure. I volunteer at Cabra Dominican College's Heritage Museum during school terms once a fortnight. My mother, my stepfather and I help out at Lighthouse City Mission in Port Adelaide where I help out with the activities for the children. I play 10 pin bowling at Cross Road Bowling on Monday nights. I love spending time with my family and friends, meeting new people, music, 10 pin bowling and going for walks.

I am looking forward to the future of my time with L'Arche.

(Thanks, Cameron for sharing a bit about yourself; welcome to the L'Arche Adelaide community; we are looking forward to your future with L'Arche too.)



Cameron, enjoying the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens, Brisbane



Cameron, ready for his first day at the Reynella Mitre 10 store