

L'Arche Brisbane News



National Listening and Speaking Group

Anne Lowe recently journeyed to Melbourne to participate in the L'Arche National Listening and Speaking Group. In collaboration with other members, Anne actively contributed to the development of an easy-to-understand version of the L'Arche Australia mandate.

Celebrating 20 Years: A Night to Remember

Our 20th-anniversary dinner was an evening of joy, thanks to a dedicated group of organisers.

We would like to thank Brian and Greta Webb whose generosity made this event possible.

The planning committee—Catherine Carah, Nigel Lewin, Anne Lowe, Peter McMeekin, Chris Austin, and Jenny Treffy-Bath—deserves a heartfelt thank you. Their commitment, and attention to detail ensured a wonderful event.

Leigh Elliot and Natasha Hall's generous donation and decoration setup transformed the venue into a magical space.

Special thanks to Jennifer McGowan, Josje Garnier, Jenny Treffy-Bath and Leena Rani for their beautiful place cards.

Our gratitude also extends to all those who helped with setup and takedown, making sure everything ran smoothly.

A Message from the Community Leader

Brisbane L'Arche proudly demonstrated its capacity to announce itself to a broader community through the Anniversary celebrations. Months of planning by the Anniversary dinner subcommittee was rewarded by a successful event. Over one hundred and seventy people registered for the evening leading to the need to change to a larger venue in the last two weeks. The evening engaged people with song, slideshows, films and interviews. Di Farmer the local member commented that the event was a testament to our support and influence. It was also a time for rekindling past memories and welcoming new people into our community. Thankyou to all who contributed to this explosion of creativity, organisation and conversation.

-Damian Le Goullon

A Story from the 20th Anniversary Gala

When writing a story about our latest fundraising gala, many would choose to focus on the speeches, the entertainment and the funds raised. I want to share a different story from that night, one that captures what makes L'Arche so special.

Enter Jennifer McGowan, a beloved member of our community who possesses an immense love for cards—both writing and receiving them. As her 20th anniversary with L'Arche approached, Jenny wanted to mark the occasion in her own way. She asked her dear friend Kathy Bourke, who had once lived in Morningside house, to send her 20 anniversary cards to mark this special milestone.

On the night of our fundraising gala, something magical happened. Claire Lawler, the head of

L'Arche Australia, approached Jennifer with a small package in hand. With a sparkle in her eyes, she handed it to Jennifer. Inside the package lay 20 beautifully crafted anniversary cards, each bearing a heartfelt note.

These are the moments that define L'Arche and set us apart. They remind us that our strength lies not just in our speeches or our financial achievements but in the profound, heartfelt connections we forge with one another. In these small, intimate gestures of love and friendship, we find the true essence of L'Arche, the moments we savor and hold most dear. These are the moments that make L'Arche different, and they are the moments we treasure most.



If you would like to donate your containers for change to L'Arche Brisbane you can use the following code C10087265 when recycling your bottles or cans.



<https://www.larche.org.au/finding-a-community/larche-brisbane/>



<https://www.facebook.com/brisbanelarche/>

Uniting in Prayer: November Prayer List for Our Community

This month we invite our members of the community to pray:

- *For all those who helped with our anniversary dinner fundraiser*
- *For those undergoing medical treatment*
- *Thanksgiving for our generous donors*
- *Thanksgiving for the commitment and dedication of our community members*
- *Thanksgiving for the Community Council members*
- *For the L'Arche Melbourne community, may they continue to grow and live the mission of L'Arche in their newest house*

NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			 1 Haniel Lee	 2 L'Arche Australia Online Prayer Gathering - Zoom @ 6pm	 3 Spiritual Life Group - Carina House @ 3pm Listening and Speaking - Carina @ 4pm	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
 19 AGM 2:30-4pm @ St. Oliver Plunkett's	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	 29 Warren Harren	 30 L'Arche Australia Advent Gathering - Zoom @ 6pm		