

L'Arche Brisbane News



Cheers to 50 Years!

Here's to Eileen Glass, who recently celebrated an astounding 50 years in L'Arche! Eileen has played numerous roles over the years, including founding the first L'Arche community in Australia and serving as Vice International Leader for L'Arche International. Congratulations, Eileen, on reaching this remarkable milestone in your inspiring journey. We are honored to celebrate this momentous occasion with you.

A Message from the Community Leader

Jason was well recognized as a member who taught us about community and transformed our understandings. Stephen Rigby like many others was moved by his encounters with Jason when he wrote:

He calls me with a voice that calls me to community
To let go of my fear and stress
He calls me with a voice
Filled with wisdom, strength and beauty.
Despite the fact he can't speak

(2014. My Home in L'Arche, Hunter Friends of L'Arche Inc.)

The Celebration of Jason's life was a testimony to how many lives Jason touched. Thank you to all who arranged and invited such a meaningful tribute. If you wish to join with others in prayer, our National Online Prayer program is a way to connect on the 18th April 2024. We will need to continue to console, support and make time for each other.

Thank you to all those that contributed to the strategic planning process. The board is now proceeding to refine and reconsider our plan. Your invitations to imagine renewal and growth in the community have been encouraging. The community council is also engaged in a discernment process to welcome new possibilities and opportunities. At this difficult time Hanuel Lee has agreed to community council and her gentle support is most welcome.

Damian Le Goullon



Remembering Jason

Jason was a man of boundless gifts. His smile, brighter than even a quasar, could illuminate even the darkest corners of a room and touch the hearts of all who beheld it. With a remarkable ability to live life openly and exuberantly, he never faded into the background. His spirit knew no bounds as he spread joy far and wide, leaving a lasting imprint on all who crossed his path.

His gift of touch went beyond physical contact; it was a conduit for building profound connections based on trust and vulnerability. Whether it was a comforting hand held together or a warm embrace head to his chest, Jason had a way of making each interaction meaningful and intimate. Laughter, too, played a significant role in his connections with others; it was the soundtrack of his life, a constant

Introducing Sr Anne McGuire

Dear L'Arche Community,

I am a Board member of L'Arche Brisbane and have been for a few years now. I was invited by Catherine Carah to consider joining the Board.

I am a Sister of St Joseph and I live at Scarborough. I love to read and go for long walks and go swimming in summer. I think L'Arche is a wonderful community and I deeply respect the values and mission of L'Arche.

I enjoy my work with the Board and striving to deliver good governance.

Blessings,
Anne

reminder of the joy he brought to those around him. While each of us had our own unique experiences with Jason, these shared moments of touch and laughter formed the cornerstone of our relationships with him.

Jason – Your life has touched countless hearts, and for that, we are eternally grateful. Your immense heart of trust and unwavering authenticity have infused patience and love into the lives of many around the world. While your absence leaves a void in our hearts, your memory will forever be cherished. You will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing you, but your spirit will not be forgotten. Rest easy, Jay.

Jackson Dean

Uniting in Prayer: April Prayer List

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

- *For those who are grieving. We pray that they find solace and healing in the midst of their loss.*
- *For all of our community members traveling abroad.*
- *Thanksgiving for families as they continue to be a source of support, trust and love in our community.*
- *For those who are suffering due to war and conflict. We pray that soon they are able to soon know peace once more.*
- *For the L'Arche community in Bethlehem as they live through a time of war and turmoil.*



Meet Baby Emma!

We're excited to share some joyful news, Analia and her family welcomed their newest member, baby Emma, into their loving family at the end of February.

May they be blessed with health, joy, and an abundance of love as they navigate this new chapter together. Let's keep them in our thoughts and prayers during this special time.

L'Arche Australia Core Members Retreat

We're thrilled to invite you to a special event: the L'Arche Australia Core Member Retreat, happening on Saturday, May 18th from 11 am to 4 pm. This retreat will be a time for reflection as we share stories about our personal journey into community.

Although the retreat will be held virtually via Zoom, everyone is encouraged to gather at the L'Arche Brisbane office. Coming together physically will enrich the communal experience and allow us to connect more deeply with one another.

We're also pleased to announce that John Coleman will be sharing his musical talents with us by assisting with the music for the day.

This retreat is open to all members of the L'Arche community, so whether you participate virtually or join us in person, we look forward to sharing this meaningful experience with you.

ANZAC Day BBQ

Mark your calendars! Morningside is gearing up for a delicious BBQ this ANZAC Day, starting at 11 am. Join us as Peter fires up the grill and shows off his barbecuing talents. It's sure to be a fantastic day of good food and great company. Don't miss out – see you there!





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.facebook.com/brisbanelarche/>








APRIL

2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8  Eileen Glass 50 Years in L'Arche	9	10	11	12	13
14	15  Eileen Glass	16	17	18	19	20  John O'Shea
21	22	23	24	25  ANZAC Day BBQ @ Morningside House from 11 am	26  Pam Kerr	27
28  Solidarity Gathering - St. Oliver Plunkett's @ 4:30pm	29	30	1	2	3	4

MAY

2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7  Sharon O'Shea	8	9	10	11  Listening & Speaking Group @ Carina House from 4:30 pm
12	13	14	15	16	17  Jenny Trefy-Bath	18  Core Members Retreat @ Justice Place - 11am - 4pm  Nora Cochrane
19	20	21	22	23	24	25  Games Night @ Carina House - 5pm
26	27	28  Kathy Bourke	29	30	31	1