

AUGUST 2017

Friends of L'Arche, Perth Update

165, Alexander Drive, Dianella



August Community Gathering
2-4pm Sunday 13 August at 165 Alexander Dr

All welcome!

Bring an item of news that reflects the troubled times we live in...and learn what Jean Vanier says about how to find PEACE.

Save the Date!

Gathering
13/8/17

165 Alexander Dr,
Dianella

Gathering
10/9/17

165 Alexander Dr,
Dianella

AGM
7/10/17

Join us for our AGM and
afternoon tea at the
Dianella house .

Live in weekend

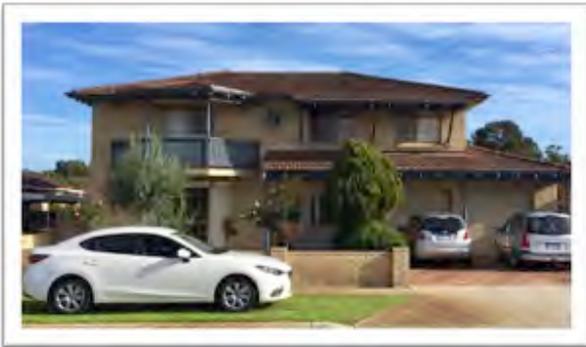
Thank you to everyone who made the L'Arche-style live-in weekend such a success. We were blessed to have Claire Lawler here from Hobart to welcome core members Sarah, Marie and Ali to sleep over for the first time in the Dianella house. Thanks also to Nora for her loving care and Justina 'our resident nurse' and helpmate. Yolanda joined the household for the day on Saturday and she and Ali celebrated their birthdays at the Gathering on Saturday afternoon.



A labour of love

Nothing has brought the community together more than our Dianella house

Since acquiring 165 Alexander Drive in March many people have been involved in furnishing and equipping it. We are especially grateful to Justina Voon for sourcing so many items of quality furniture and effects from friends and Op shops. Board members too have been generous with their time especially at a working bee with the Perroni family prior to handover. We have also received donations in cash and kind from many community members. It all came together on the last weekend in July when three core members and two assistants were able to share life together.



Expressions of interest to live in the house in the future have been received from four core members and we look forward to having them spend more time living in over the next few months while the discernment process takes its course and funding options are explored.

Meanwhile the whole community is enjoying the luxury of finally having a place to call home.

Claire's presence in the house for the two weeks leading up to the weekend enabled her to appreciate the possibilities that the house gives us as well as the funding constraints and uncertainty around the rollout of the NDIS in WA.



Spiritual Life Group

Our newly formed Spiritual Life Group had its work cut out managing a number of events in July to take advantage of Claire's presence in Perth. Rev'd Stephen Gibbs, assisted by Fr Peter Toohey and Claire Lawler, led us on the *Emmaus Journey in L'Arche* at our local Church Hall, Our Lady's Assumption. It was good to meet some new people and enjoy quiet reflection time.

Members of the Crosslinks and L'Arche communities attended the Evensong service at St George's Cathedral to celebrate the contribution of people with disabilities. Rev'd Gibbs gave the sermon and members of the Spiritual Life Group contributed readings. It was another opportunity to announce L'Arche and connect with the wider congregation during supper after the service.

News from the Board

- We were sorry to lose Toni O'Brien from the board when she moved to Queensland for family reasons. We are actively seeking someone to replace her. If you know of anyone who would be suitable, please contact Vera on chair@fol.org.au
- Board members have given talks about L'Arche to Rotary Clubs in Como and Morley.
- We are partnering with WA Individualised Services to learn more about how current funding models can be adapted to enable core members to live in the Dianella house.
- We have made a start on bringing our constitution into line with changes to state government legislation, as required of all not for profit organisations in WA.



Please keep Emma, our lovely Coordinator, in your prayers.

She was taken ill on the way to our last Gathering and has been in hospital ever since. She is facing the possibility of brain surgery.