

L'ARCHE AUSTRALIA CELEBRATES

L'Arche Australia communities are people with and without intellectual disabilities, sharing life in communities belonging to an international Federation where mutual relationships and trust in God are at the heart of our journey together.

We recently gathered for the National Listening and Speaking Group and the L'Arche National Assembly in Melbourne. During our gathering we celebrated 50 years of the dedication of Eileen Glass who is co-founder of L'Arche in Australia. Eileen's vision both in Australia and internationally, was marked with the presentation by Anne Walsh of the Sydney Community, of a specially crafted Book about her 50 years. Members who have shared that journey with Eileen were present - Claire Lawler, National Leader of L'Arche Australia, Shelley Cochrane (Adelaide) and Anne have shared most of that journey.



Julia Walters (National Chair), Anne Walsh, Eileen Glass & Claire Lawler, National Leader



Peter (Brisbane community) and Carolyn (Bendigo Community) sharing at the celebration dinner. The joy of community is at the heart of L'Arche as we endeavour to help people's lives flourish through each person experiencing the dignity of being accepted, a real place of belonging as well as gaining skills to achieve their dreams.

Volunteers are at the heart of L'Arche with people of all ages committed to living more inclusive lives. Julia Walters completed 10 years as Chair of the National Board of L'Arche at the AGM and was thanked for her generous commitment over so many years. Following discernment across all communities of L'Arche Australia, Rajeevan Cheriya Chahil (International Delegate) appointed Philomena Billington as National Board Chair for the next 2 years.

L'Arche is committed to continuing to celebrate people living with intellectual disability in fostering inclusive communities.

For further details: www.larche.org.au or Claire Lawler, National Leader, at claire.lawler@larche.org.au
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