

L'Arche Belfast - News for May 2008

Dear Friends,

This is not our usual newsletter because in about an hour I will be leaving home to spend a week in Israel with friends (Israeli and Palestinian) who will be finding a way to spend time together on Wednesday to mark the 60th anniversary of Israeli Independence Day which of course is also a day of great sadness for the Palestinian community.

I have been laid low with 'flu' for the past few weeks and the community spent the weekend in Corrymeela as part of our discernment process after 7 years of living and loving in L'Arche Belfast. So ... I'm afraid that despite my very best intentions our newsletter fell by the wayside in it all.

Here are a few important dates for your May diaries

May 11th - Music in May in John Baird's beautiful home - The Mill, Clattering Ford, Comber. It is always a wonderful event and I am sorry to be missing it.

June 7th - Our Annual 'L'Arche on the Lagan walk followed by a B.B.Q worth walking 5 miles for. It's always a great gathering event and we hope to see all the regular Lagan Walkers again this year.

June 14th - Plant and craft sale and luxury coffee morning on Saturday. Any 'crafty contributions

that you can offer us would be greatly appreciated. There will also be a book stall and we are happy to accept good quality second hand novels.

(Contact John Baird - 028 9187 0818, Maggie Fraser - 07709 600244, Murray Hunter - 07710 823817 or Billy Hirst - 07743960617 for further details on any of these events).

This year we are committed to an ambitious development plan and so our fundraising target is bigger than ever before so we would appreciate it very much if you would spread the word far and wide and bring along as many of your friends as possible. As you know it's more than just a fundraising event - it's a celebration of good food, good friends, good fun and a lot of faith that the sun will shine! .

I hope that you all have a great month and that we see most of you at some stage. I will be in touch again on my return from Israel

All the best,

María.