

# Our Guests

## Jennifer Johnston

As Regional Chaplaincy Coordinator for UnitingCare Ageing I have been delighted to be involved in the Respect for Seniors program.

Throughout the Region our facilities have engaged in Wear Purple Day as a positive celebration of ageing. All UnitingCare Ageing residents and staff Wear Purple with pride and promote Respect for Seniors.

In celebrating Wear Purple Day we hope to increase awareness of the diversity of interpretations of 'respect'. Through listening to others' perspectives, we all have the experience of giving and receiving respect through the mutual exchange of ideas.

The intergenerational context of our programs encourages the acknowledgement of seniors as individuals to be respected. Our connections with Knox College have been invaluable. Our connections with the boys encourage attitudinal and behavioural changes within all involved through awareness and empowerment, and the acknowledgement of the purpose and value of life across the whole of the life-span.

In the life stories of our seniors we celebrate the wonderful contribution our seniors have made in building our communities. Our intergenerational response to Respect for Seniors challenges ageism in our communities, building dialogue at the level of our warm human engagement with compassion and care that engenders mutual benefits between generations.

## Larry Magus

Larry Magus was recognised in this year's Ku-ring-gai Council Seniors Week Mayoral Awards. Out of many nominees, he received the award of Outstanding Contribution to the Community for his work as chairperson of the board of Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Community Transport for over ten years. He has combined a central focus on respect for clients with building a strong board and harmonious, effective staff team. Community Transport has grown enormously in size, impact and viability during his tenure.

Larry has a long history of community service through his professional life in the Federal Police, NSW Fire Brigade, Juvenile Justice and the Department of Community Services (DOCS). His service in DOCS was recognised in departmental and premier's awards during the 1994 bushfires and at his retirement in 2003. He has also received awards for his service through Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Bushcare.

Larry is an outstanding senior with a fascinating story to tell.

[www.respectforseniors.org](http://www.respectforseniors.org)



**St Ives Uniting Church**  
[www.stives.unitingchurch.org.au](http://www.stives.unitingchurch.org.au)