

Always a Pleasure

Anyone who has met Maureen, knows what a wonderful and kind person she is. I have had the pleasure of working with her for over 6 months and can't imagine having a better work environment.

Our days are spent doing a wide array of activities such as driving around enjoying the sights like Signal Hill and Middle Cove, going to the Geraldine Rubia Centre, or running errands for her sister. She loves spending time with her fellow L'Arche members and always has time to chat with everyone.

At home, Maureen loves to talk on the phone with long-lost friends from camp and we fill up our day with baking, cleaning, and watching her favourite home renovation show, along with copious cups of tea and long chats while we snuggle with her beloved dog, Moo.

Every day is different than the last but it's always a pleasure.

~ Janelle



Joy



The standard definition of joy is a feeling of great pleasure or happiness that comes from success, good fortune or a sense of well-being. The difference in joy and happiness? Joy comes from within...happiness is achieved by what surrounds you. I've learned a great deal about joy from being with my buddy Anton. People bring Anton joy. When Anton is engaged with you, he exudes joy with every fiber of his being. His brilliant smile and that sparkle in his eye bring joy to me and make me forget about my worries. I guess that's how Anton 'pays it forward'. Joy is a gift that keeps on giving if you feel it within.

~Jodie

Greetings from the Chair

Yesterday I was reminded of the words of Charles Dickens from his novel *Great Expectations* when he says: "It was one of those days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light and winter in the shade." He could have been writing that here in St. John's, but nevertheless, spring really is here.

The beautiful brave little crocuses in my garden are daring to show their vibrant yellow, white, and purple flowers to assure us that it is spring.

Welcome to spring! I am looking forward to seeing the tulips and daffodils as they beautify the earth and to our L'Arche Avalon picnics in the park at Quidi Vidi when the weather is warmer. I hope you will join us in the park - behind the boathouse at the beginning of the trail. We'll let you know when these events start.

I received an e-mail today from our friend and wonderful Music Circle leader, Jan Buley. She and David are in Britain on a sabbatical but will be returning at the end of April. She wrote to send best wishes for a fun day at the Music Circle with Johnny who is directing it while she is away. I'll share part of her letter with you:



Ahoy there from London---where we are now...travelled from Yorkshire to Wales, to Cardiff and now full circle, back to our much-loved London. Spring is in wild form here...gardens bursting with daffodils, tulips and crocus and people wearing shorts for heaven's sake! It's been a reviving and refreshing time.
xoxox Jan

Our thanks go to everyone who helped make our Annual Auction a success by donating items, by buying treasures, and by helping with the preparations and clear-up. Lorraine will give you a report of this elsewhere in the Newsletter.

I so much enjoy the company of my L'Arche friends and look forward to seeing you at our get togethers.

Best regards,

Sheilah



L'Arche Avalon's Annual General Meeting takes place on June 8, 3-5 pm at The Lantern. The AGM is an opportunity for us to provide an overview of what we have accomplished over the past year, to offer yourself if you are a member in good standing to serve for a term on the Board and to vote on the nominations to fill any empty positions on the Board.



At the Mall



Out and About



We Love Music



Johnny grew up on a small farm in Ontario. He has always loved living in the country. On Johnny's family farm they have a donkey named Laban. Johnny loves tractors and boats, and, in the summer, he works as a boat mechanic. His favourite place to go in the whole wide world is his family's log cabin in Irondale, Ontario. Johnny's favourite hobbies include fishing, surfing and skiing. Johnny loves writing songs about the things he loves. Johnny is looking forward to spending time with the L'Arche Music Circle and learning about some of the things that you love.



L'Arche Avalon Auction 2025

Our 6th annual online auction is over and put to bed. As in previous years, we have exceeded expectations with this fundraiser. At this stage I reflect on the generosity and goodness of people in our community, not just the L'Arche Community, but also, the community at large. People have been so generous and supportive. Thank you to the people who donated items, to those who volunteered hours of work to get everything organized before and after the auction, to our IT volunteers, and to those who bid so generously. This fundraiser and the effort it takes to pull us all together reinforces to us all that some things are worth working hard for.



The Prep



Some *Items*



Our Community

