

THE CLOSE

Winter Edition Jean Todd Close E-zine/Newsletter

Issue Twenty Two May/June 2023

Welcome to Spring & Summer 2023



Welcome to the spring/summer addition of The Close, this edition of the Jean Todd Close (JTC) e-zine will focus on what has happened at JTC since our last e-zine was published in January 2023.

As we continue to deliver our service and start to enjoy the good weather, we can say that we at Jean Todd Close have had a very busy time. The staff team and the service users, who' live

here have started to enjoy the good weather and getting out and about more now as the weather has improved.

Meet The Team

As in previous editions we will continue to meet some of the staff team



We would like to welcome and introduce you all to Joelle Mairs, who joined the team at Jean Todd Close in December 2022 in a support worker role.

I started working with inspire in December 2022. I absolutely love my job from very supportive/approachable management to amazing and fun service users it's a pleasure to work alongside a great team too. I feel blessed and privileged to be able to support the guys and girls in their homes.

MLA Visit

In January 2023, our local MLA John Blair visited the service and had the opportunity to spend some time over coffee and buns with some of the staff and service user at Jean Todd Close. And discuss issues that are important to them.



Bingo Night @ JTC

In February 2023, Peace of Mind Counselling N.I supported by the staff team at Jean Todd Close held a Bingo night for the service users, fun was had by all attending and prizes received on the night for winning lines and house. Thank you to the staff and volunteers at Peace of Mind Counselling N.I .





Galaxy S20 FE 5G



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Blossoming Futures- Easter Competition - 2023

In may 2023, Inspire Insight & Engagement team set a challenge for all services in the form of a Easter Competition. The Idea was for the service users to create an Easter window box from recycled materials within the home. The service users at Jean Todd Close set about with their usual imagination and flare to create a wonderful display.



Local Celebrity

Some of the service users while out shopping in Antrim, were delighted to meet a local TV Celebrity, Alexandra Ford (Dympna from Give my Head Peace) was out shopping in the local supermarket , to the delight of the service users.



JTC's Ducks Are Back

This is the 3rd year in a row that, what we believe to be the same pair of Ducks have made JTC their home. The Ducks were first seen within the communal garden at JTC in 2021 and have returned every year since then, JTC must be a magical place for everyone! Always remember to have your ducks in a row.



Coffee Morning Fund Raiser

The service users at Jean Todd Close take great pride in ensuring that they remain informed and actively involved within their local community.

Each year they choose a local charity to support and raise funds for. This year the service users of Jean Todd Close decided to choose Peace of Mind Counselling N.I , which is a local charity that provides counselling for young adults within the local area. A total of £378 was raised for this service.



Good News Story

This is Jay – one of our service users here at Jean Todd Close. Jay joined Slimming World on 28th December 2021 with encouragement and support of the staff at JTC. He changed his diet and began eating low fat high protein meals combined with weights exercises and lots of green tea!. Recently he was delighted to be awarded his 5 stone weight loss award from slimming Jay stated that he done this for himself and since starting slimming world he hasn't looked back!



Special Olympics Ireland Skills Event

One of the service users at Jean Todd Close attend the local Special Olympics Basketball club on a weekly basis and has done for some years. In may this year he attended the Ulster Basketball individual Skill Competition and came first in his category, well Done Daniel.



King Charles III's Coronation

The Coronation of King Charles III's took place on 06.05.2023, the service user at JTC expressed an interest in marking this event with a garden party held in JTC's communal garden. They also took the opportunity to watch the ceremony on television within the activity room as a group.



Kings Coronation concert

The Coronation Concert was a British music concert, held outside Windsor Castle on 7 May 2023, in celebration of the coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla. In celebration of this Antrim & Newtownabbey Council held a live screening of the concert within the Castle gardens in Antrim. The service users from JTC who attended this supported by staff had a great time, as can be seen from the photos below. The service users also met with Julian Simmons, who hosted the event.



Communal Garden Rejuvenation at Jean Todd Close

After securing a grant and fund raising the service users and staff put in place a plan to rejuvenate the communal garden at JTC. Everyone is delighted with the outcome of this and the communal garden is being well used by the service users and staff at JTC.

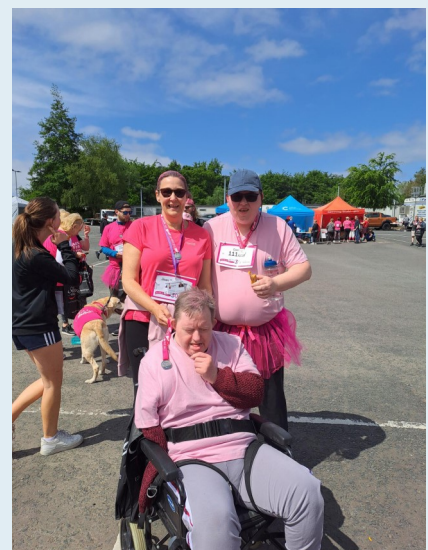


Race for Life

One of the service users at JTC, Daniel on seeing an advert for the race for life on TV stated that he would like to take part in memory of his mother. Staff at JTC supported Daniel and his co-tenant Stephen to register online and prepare for the day by going on regular walks around Antrim and the scheme.

On the morning of the 28/05/23 they travelled to Stormont supported by staff, Daniel and Stephen were very excited, there was quite a large crowd of people gathered, music playing and people telling their own personal stories of how cancer had affected them and their families.

Both Daniel and Stephen enjoyed the music, dancing and taking in the atmosphere, Daniel purchased a pink tutu which he said made his day. The race for life, at Stormont was 5k long and took approximately 1hr 15mins to complete. Daniel was very proud of himself for completing this and for raising a total of £152.15 himself by asking family and friends at adult centre and basketball, a total of £295 was raised for cancer research.



Inspire Colour Run

The Inspire Colour Run took place on 11th June 2023 at the Stormont Estate. This has now become a yearly event in which service users and staff from across Inspire take part and attend.

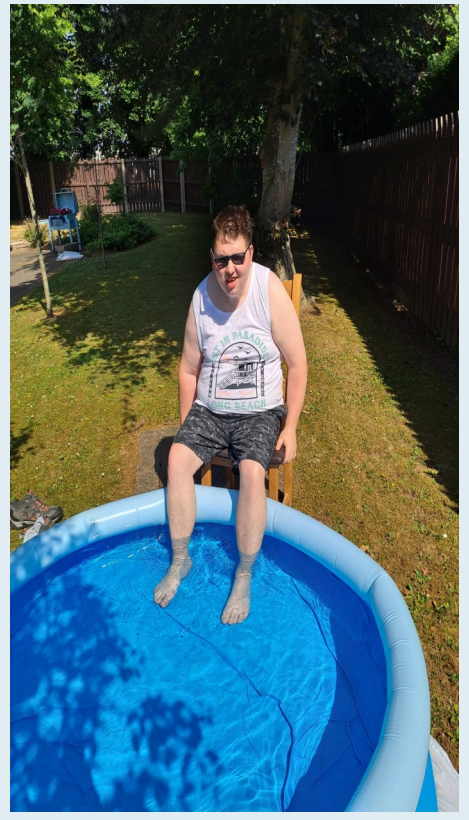


Life at Jean Todd Close

Staff continue to ensure that where possible, all the everyday activities and full enjoyment of the local facilities and trips out are fully utilised in the support of the JTC service users within their local community and beyond. With the good weather over the past few weeks, staff at Jean Todd Close have been able to support some of the service users to get out and about more within their local community, away on day trips on the train to Portrush, attending Gateway Functions as well as ensuring that there are BBQ's, Ice Cream Van visits and lots of activities within the home to enjoy as well.









Looking Forward

- Learning Disability Pride
- Continued return to Day placements
- Visits/Interactions with Family and Friends
- Being out in our local community
- Family & Carers face to face meeting
- Halloween
- JTC Family Fun Day

Please also be advised that the update Service Users Guide for 2023 has been issued to all service users living at JTC and a copy of this can be obtained upon request, the same as the update Statement of Purpose for 2023.

Jean Todd Close

Jean Todd Close is a Supported Living Service, which also incorporates a Positive Behaviour Support Service, in four multiple occupancy homes and a number of single and double occupancy flats, houses and bungalows, which are situated within a modern, well planned and laid out site just minutes from Antrim town centre. It is operated by Inspire Intellectual and Autism Services which is the Intellectual and Autism services of Inspire Wellbeing. The service provides high quality care and support for individual members of the community on a 24 hours basis with Intellectual disabilities, physical disabilities, complex health and behaviour needs as assessed by their respective Trust. This service can also provide these services in other locations within the local community

Contact Us

Jean Todd Close

29 Randalstown Road Antrim,
BT41 4LH

Office number—02894 464384



