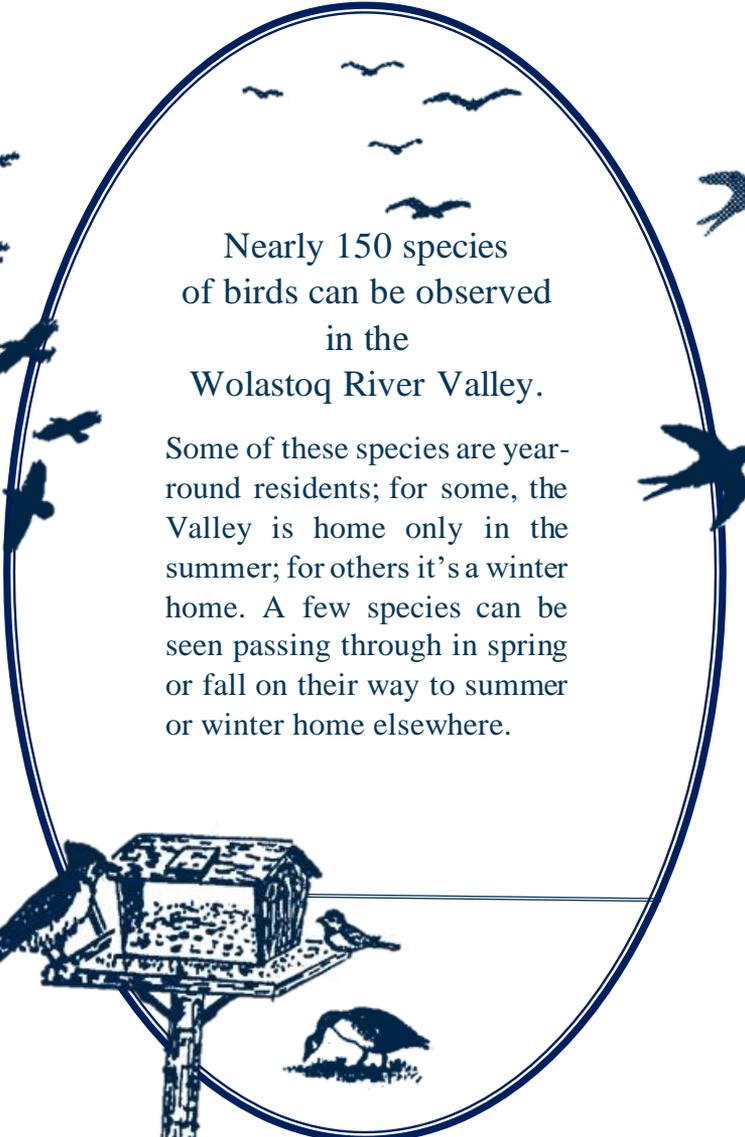


# BIRDS

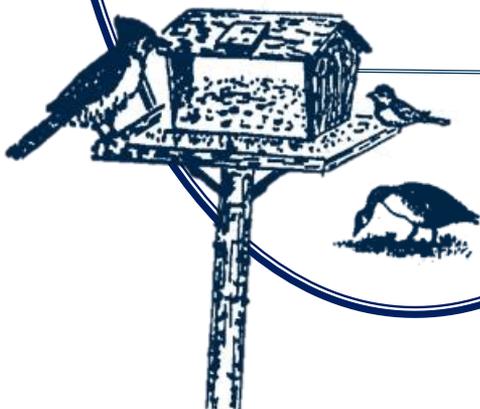
## of the Wolastoq River Valley

New Brunswick, Canada



Nearly 150 species  
of birds can be observed  
in the  
Wolastoq River Valley.

Some of these species are year-round residents; for some, the Valley is home only in the summer; for others it's a winter home. A few species can be seen passing through in spring or fall on their way to summer or winter home elsewhere.



The birds of the Wolastoq River Valley feed on seeds, berries, nectar, insects, worms, small animals, and other birds. The woodpeckers can live here during the winter as they have access to the grubs concealed in the wood. Chickadees, grouse, grosbeaks, bluejays, finches and a few others live on seeds that are available here throughout the cold months

In spring, birds that overwintered in the warmer latitudes, south of New Brunswick begin to return. Some of these small songbirds weighing only a few grams fly all the way from South America, a distance exceeding 10,000 kilometres. Migratory species have no understanding of human borders, returning each season to nest and feed in the same area. Unfortunately, they are often forced to move as the world's population increases and land is cleared and exploited.

The wonderful variety of birds in New Brunswick is available for all of us to observe. With binoculars and a field guide, we can enjoy a walk and enrich ourselves by learning about these unique creatures.

Each species has its own song, flight pattern, colour size and identification. A bird watcher is aware of all these characteristics while in the field. As with all field trips you will be most successful if you are quiet and move slowly.

The following birds have all been sited in South Knowlesville. If you see birds not listed below, please let us know. Bird names are given in English, Latin and Maliseet.

## **ENGLISH**

### **Great Blue Heron**

*Ardea Herodias*

Built for fishing in the shallows, the heron has 16 vertebrae in its neck, long legs and a long sharp bill for stabbing its prey.

### **Black Duck**

*Anas rubripes*

Black duck numbers are rapidly declining due to pesticides, habitat destruction and cross-breeding with the Mallard.

### **Mallard**

*Anas platyrhynchos*

Approximately 3 million North American waterfowl die annually from lead poisoning. The dabblers such as Mallards ingest lead shot left in the water by the hunters' shot-gun pellets

### **Northern Harrier**

*Circus cyaneus*

The predominantly brown female and predominantly grey male of this raptor species both display a white rump as they glide low over fields searching for mice and moles.

## **WOLASTOQEY**

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## ENGLISH

### Sharp-Shinned Hawk

*Accipiter striatus*

Lays the most beautiful eggs of any hawk species; in the past, many were gathered for personal bird egg collections.

### Coopers Hawk

*Accipiter cooperii*

Like other raptors, they start incubating the first egg before the others have been laid so that the chicks hatch at different times, ensuring a more constant food supply for the young.

### Goshawk

*Accipiter gentilis*

Females in raptor species are larger than males, reversing the usual pattern with birds, though the reasons for this are not certain.

### Broad-winged Hawk

*Buteo platypterus*

Like most birds, they have a brood patch on their belly which loses its feathers and develops an extra set of vessels which bring the warm blood near the surface to help heat the incubating eggs.

### Red Tailed Hawk

*Buteo jamaicensis*

The hooked beak typical of hawks and owls enables these birds to tear apart small animals too large to swallow whole.

### Kestrel

*Falco sparverius*

These small falcons are often spotted on telephone wires and take readily to nest boxes.



### Merlin

*Falco columbarius*

The effects of DDT and metallic poisons on these and other raptors has taken its toll.



### Ruffed Grouse

*Bonasa umbellus*

To protect themselves from the winter's cold, grouse burrow under the snow to conserve energy while resting.

### Killdeer

*Charadrius vociferus*

The killdeer lays 4 well-camouflaged eggs in an open area on the ground and will fake a broken wing and lead a predator away from the eggs. The adults will soak their belly in water to cool the eggs on hot days.

## WOLASTOQEQ

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**ENGLISH**

**WOLASTOQEY**

**American Woodcock**

Ne kw ski ko es sus

*Philohela minor*

This nocturnal bird consumes its weight in earthworms daily. Its eyes have better binocular vision backwards than forward, to help protect itself from predators while probing for worms with its very long bill.

**Mourning Dove**

*Zenaida macroura*

These doves are extending their range northward, becoming more common each year. They feed their young for the first few weeks a nutritious “milk” produced by the cells in the lining of their crop.

**Great Horned Owl**

Tit u kul

*Bubo virginianus*

When a small mammal is eaten whole by an owl the indigestible parts are regurgitated in pellet form and sometimes seen on the ground below favoured roosting trees.



**Barred Owl**

ko kok has

*Strix varia*

Like some species of owls, its ears are asymmetrical, located at different heights, to better pinpoint the location of prey. Owl wing feathers are designed not to create any noise and their necks are extremely flexible.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

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*Archilochus colubris*

Named for the noise it creates in its wing feathers, this tiny bird extracts the sugars for nectar to fuel itself.

**Chimney Swift**

pe ta kies sis

*Chaetura pelagica*

They live in colonies, building nests out of twigs glued together and stuck to a vertical enclosed wall with saliva.

**Belted Kingfisher**

Kas kum nus

*Mafaceryle alcyon*

The parents teach their fledgling how to fish by dropping dead fish into the water for them to dive after.

**Northern Flicker**

tu wal utes

*Colaptes auratus*

A large white patch is visible on the rump when the bird flies. It will nest in bird houses built to suit them.

**ENGLISH****WOLASTOQEV****Pileated Woodpecker***Dryocopus pileatus*

The female pileated has been observed carrying her egg in her beak to a new nesting cavity after the time the pair had occupied fell down.

**Hairy Woodpecker***Picoides villosus*

Both sexes use their bills to rap loudly on dead wood, metal gutters etc. to attract mates and set territorial boundaries.

**Downy Woodpecker***Picoides pubescens*

The woodpecker's tongue is extremely long and barbed so that it can extract insects from holes.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker***Sphyrapicus varius*

Hummingbirds and warblers enjoy the sap that is left after the Sapsucker has eaten. They also eat insects and some are left behind for other species.

**Eastern Kingbird***Tyrannus tyrannus*

A fearless small bird will pursue crows & hawks while defending its nest.

**Least Flycatcher***Empidonax minimus*

These flycatchers catch their food in flight. Their gaping jaw snaps shut with the help of a special set of ligaments developed for that purpose.

**Eastern Phoebe***Sayornis phoebe*

Cowbirds often lay their on eggs in the phoebe's nest, which is one of many reasons for the birds' decline in number.

**Tree Swallow***Iridoprocne bicolor*

Attract these flying insect-eaters to your dooryard with a nest box.

**Barn Swallow***Hirundo rustica*

Familiar nesters in barns, their numbers decline with the decline of farms and large barns.

**Gray Jay***Perisoreus canadensis*

Normally friendly and active, these jays are secretive during nesting and very rarely are their nests found.

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**ENGLISH****WOLASTOQEQY**

Blue Jay

**Blue Jay***Cyanocitta cristata*

This frequent visitor to the bird feeder has beautiful plumage but aggressive behaviour.

Ti ti as

**Common Raven***Corvus corax*

The aerial acrobatics of the raven is a great sight early each year, as they mate and begin nesting in early February.

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**Crow***Corvus brachyrhynchos*

Crows are increasing in numbers in this area, outnumbering the ravens.

Ka Kakos

**Black-capped Chickadee***Parus atricapillus*

In cold winter weather, these tiny birds spend all their daylight time feeding in order to reserve enough energy for the frigid nights.

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Black-capped  
Chickadee**Boreal Chickadee***Parus hudsonicus*

Much less obvious than the black-capped chickadee, the boreal stays well hidden in our northern coniferous forests.

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**White-breasted Nuthatch***Sitta carolinensis*

Often found feeding among a flock of chickadees & kinglets.

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**Red-breasted Nuthatch***Sitta canadensis*

Usually seen on tree trunks moving upside down, foraging for insects and their eggs.

Wul kes kwis

White-Breasted  
Nuthatch**Brown Creeper***Certhia familiaris*

The brown creeper is an excellent example of camouflage while feeding on a tree trunk.

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**Winter Wren***Troglodytes troglodytes*

They like nest boxes if they have a view from the front and are concealed in vegetation.

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**American Robin***Turdus migratoriu*

The spraying of DDT in the 1950's led to the death of many Robins, which was instrumental in raising awareness of the harmful effects of that terrible chemical.

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Robin

**ENGLISH****Hermit Thrush***Catharus guttatus*

Thrushes regurgitate pellets containing seeds left behind from the berries in their diet, helping to spread the species they rely on for food.

**Veery***Catharus fuscescens*

Frequently the cowbird lays its eggs in the Veery's nest and the Veery makes no attempt to remove them.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet***Regulus satrapa*

Often they lay nine eggs in a clutch and are incubated in two layers.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet***Regulus calendula*

They build a nest indistinguishable from that of the golden-crowned, made up of mosses, plants, small twigs and lined with fur.

**Gray Catbird***Dumetella carolinensis*

The distinctive call of the Catbird is the obvious reason for its name.

**Cedar Waxwing***Bombycilla cedrorum*

Take their name from the red waxy substance which forms on the wing feathers of the adults.

**European Starling***Sturnus vulgaris*

Introduced from Europe in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, they have invaded our native birds' territory and are now among the most numerous bird on this continent.

**Solitary Vireo***Vireo solitarius*

These birds are remarkably tame and have even been carefully lifted off their nest during egg incubation.

**Red-eyed Vireo***Vireo olivaceus*

Often parasitized by cowbirds during nesting, they were once one of the most common species in our deciduous forest, however no longer.

**Northern Parula Warbler***Parula americana*

This bird forms a hanging nest made of "old man's beard" [usnea moss] when available.

**WOLASTOQEQY**

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**ENGLISH****WOLASTOQEQY****Yellow Warbler****u si wis***Dendroica petechia*

The brightest yellow of all warblers it will build another layer of the nest to bury unwanted cowbird eggs.

**Magnolia Warbler***Dendroica magnolia*

Sometimes referred to as the black and yellow warbler because of its dark back and yellow underside.

**Black-throated Green Warbler***Dendroica virens*

Among many declining warblers, their biggest threat to survival is habitat destruction in their wintering range south of the U.S. border.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler***Dendroica coronata*

Our most abundant warbler, the yellow-rumped will occasionally be seen right outside our window catching house flies. One of the last warblers to migrate.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler****Palm Warbler***Dendroica psalmsrum*

Named after the trees of the Caribbean where it overwinters, this beautiful warbler usually is a ground nester.

**Black and White Warbler***Mniotilta baria*

An early arriver in the spring this beautiful warbler can cling to the tree trunks and eat bark-inhabiting insects.

**Canada Warbler***Wilsonia canadensis*

While nesting, the female will perform distraction displays to lure predators away.

**American Redstart****sk ut es sis***Setophaga ruticilla*

Bright orange patches on this small mainly black bird are visible as it darts about foraging for insects.

**Ovenbird****sa ki puk nuk sis***Seiurus aurocapillus*

So named for its largely enclosed nest which it builds on the ground.

**Northern Water-thrush****at la kweo tum***Seiurus noveboracensis*

Watch for characteristic bobbing of its head and tail as it feeds in slow moving water.

**ENGLISH****House Sparrow***Passer domesticus*

Introduced to this country in the 1850's, these aggressive nesters often appropriate sites from the native species.

**WOLASTOQEQ**

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**Bobolink***Dolichonyx oryzivorus*

Sometimes referred to as the upside-down bird because of its unusual colouring of black on the underside and light on the top. They have a wonderful bubbling song and spend their time in open fields.

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**Red-winged Blackbird***Agelaius phoeniceus*

The bright red wing patch is clearly visible as the male Redwing displays from his perch in marshy areas.

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**Rusty Blackbird***Euphagus carolinus*

The shape of the blackbird's beak is similar to thousands of species of this size. It's pointed, allowing them to pick up small seeds and large enough to handle large pieces of food.

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**Common Grackle***Quiscalus quiscula*

A large iridescent blackbird with a large tail and bright yellow eyes.

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**Brown-haired Cowbird***Molothrus ater*

The Cowbird parasitizes other species, laying their eggs in other birds' nests. They don't build nests.

**Northern Oriole***Icterus galbula*

These beautiful orange and blackbirds build an intricately woven pouch-shaped nest of plant fibres, hair etc.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak***Pheucticus ludovicianus*

The cone-shaped beak is very powerful, facilitating the cracking of the hard seeds which they include in their diet.

**Evening Grosbeak***Hesperiphona vespertine*

Often these yellow and black birds are highway casualties as they seek road salt and minerals.

**Pine Grosbeak***Pinicola enucleator*

The grosbeak has adapted to coping with the cold of winter with a bilobed pocket in its beak used to store seeds for bad weather and to reduce foraging time.

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**ENGLISH****Purple Finch***Carpodacus purpureus*

The reduction in the purple finch numbers is thought to be related to the competition with the introduced house sparrow.

**Pine Siskin***Carduelis pinus*

Flying overhead in flocks during winter they are detected by voice.

**Goldfinch***Carduelis pinus*

These birds make tight nests lined with thistledown, some have been found to hold water.

**Red Crossbill***Loxia curvirostra*

The tips of their mandibles cross making individuals either right or left-handed in opening cones.

**White-winged Crossbill***Loxia leucoptera*

The white wing bars are often quite evident in flight and distinguish them from the Red Crossbill.

**Dark-eyed Junco***Junco hyemalis*

The young juncos have well-developed legs so they are able to run from their ground nest if threatened.

**American Tree Swallow***Spizella arborea*

The tree sparrow's plain black dot on its chest, makes it easy to distinguish from other sparrows.

**Chipping Sparrow***Spizella passerine*

In winter these small sparrows forage in flocks of up to 50 birds.

**Savannah Sparrow***Passerculus sandwichensis*

Often seen scurrying across the ground in grassy areas.

**Song Sparrow***Melospiza melodia*

Unfortunately, the most frequently reported host of the Cowbird with seven cowbird eggs reported in one song sparrow nest.

**WOLASTOQEQ**

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**ENGLISH**

**WOLASTOQEY**

**Lincoln’s Sparrow**

*Melospiza lincolnii*

The female when disturbed from her nest of young, will perform the “Broken wing act” to lead her attackers away.

**White-throated Sparrow**

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*Zonotrichia albicollis*

“Sow wheat Peverly, Peverly, Peverly” is the guidance this sparrow seems to sing to farmers in the spring.

**White-crowned Sparrow**

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*Zonotrichia leucophrys*

The brilliant white crown adds to the status of the individual.



Snow Bunting

**Snow Bunting**

*Plectrophenax nivalis*

Anne Murray sang about this pretty white bird that nests in the arctic and moves south to visit us during the winter.

The previous list are birds that have been sited in South Knowlesville, these additional birds may be seen in the rest of Carleton Country.

**ENGLISH**

**LATIN**

**WOLASTOQEY**

Common Loon

*Gavia immer*

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Double-created Cormorant

*Phalacrocorax auratus*

huk wuns

Canada Goose

*Branta canadensis*

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Northern Pintail

*Anas acuta*

Wood Duck

*Aix sponsa*

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Blue-winged Teal

*Anas discors*

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Green Winged Teal

*Anas crecca*

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American Wigeon

*Anas americana*

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Ring-necked Duck

*Aythya collaris*

Common Goldeneye

*Bucephala clangula*

Common Merganser

*Mergus merganser*

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Red-breasted Merganser

*Mergus serrator*

huk wuns

American Coot

*Fulica americana*

Herring Gull

*Larus argentatus*

k ia sis

Great Black-backed Gull

*Larus marinus*

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Black-crowned Night Heron

*Nycticorax nycticorax*

Tchi ma kwa ha

American Bittern

*Botaurus lentiginosus*

no kum us

Least Bittern

*Ixobrychus exilis*

Sora Rail

*Porzana Carolina*

Common Snipe

*Capella gallinag*

Nek skei ko wes sis

Spotted Sandpiper

*Actitis macularia*

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**ENGLISH**

Spruce Grouse  
Bald Eagle  
Osprey  
Snowy Owl  
Saw-whet Owl  
Long-eared Owl  
Short-eared Owl  
Northern Three-toed Woodpecker  
Black-backed Woodpecker  
Eastern Pewee  
Olive-sided Flycatcher  
Great-crested Flycatcher  
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher  
Horned Lark  
Water Pipit  
Purple Martin  
Cliff Swallow  
Bank Swallow  
Chimney Swift  
Northern Mockingbird  
Eastern Bluebird  
Swainson's Thrush  
Bohemian Waxwing  
Black-throated Blue Warbler  
Cape May Warbler  
Bay-breasted Warbler  
Blackburnian Warbler  
Tennessee Warbler  
Nashville Warbler  
Mourning Warbler  
Common Yellowthroat  
Swamp Sparrow

**LATIN**

Canachites canadensis  
Haliaeetus leucocephalus  
Pandion haliaetus  
Nyctea scandiaca  
Aegolius acadicus  
Asio otus  
Asio flammeus  
Picoides tridactylus  
Picoides arcticus  
Contopus virens  
Nuttallornis borealis  
Myiarchus crinitus  
Empidonax flaviventris  
Ermophila alpestris  
Anthus spinoletta  
Progne subis  
Petrochelidon pyrrhonota  
Riparia riparia  
Chaetura pelagica  
Mimus polyglottos  
Sialia sialis  
Catharus ustulatus  
Boncilla garrulus  
Dendroica caerulescens  
Dendroica tigrine  
Dendroica castanea  
Dendroica fusca  
Vermivora peregrina  
Vermivora ruficapilla  
Oporornis Philadelphia  
Geothlypis trichas  
Melospiza georgiana

**WOLASTOQEQY**

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wap so kes  
  
wa pe yit ko kok has  
kap ka mus  
a se kat  
  
muk se wia pa kwus ses  
  
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Ta ne lian  
  
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**Acadian Community Forest Restoration Nursery**

The KAN Centre is helping to create community forest restoration nurseries in our region. We are planting local seed species in these nurseries to provide tree and shrub seedlings for planting out for long-term renewal of our forests within the Wolastoq River Valley and Temperate Upland Forests of Western New Brunswick.



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**The Tree Project  
Le projet arbre**

'Trees to live by'  
'Les arbres pour la vie'