

2023 Big Give Recap

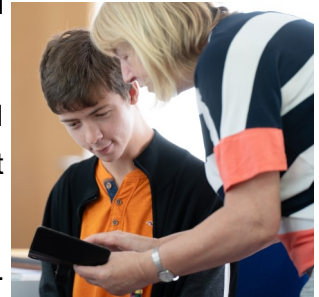
We are delighted to update you on the success of our 2023 Big Give Christmas Challenge, in which you helped us raise **£10,126.90** towards our digital skills training service. Thank you so much for your support!

Whether receiving support remotely, or in person through our Paddock Wood centre, each learner receives the one-to-one support that they require to meet their needs.

Thanks to all the generous Big Give donations, we are able to continue supporting even more vulnerable people who need help to acquire basic digital skills, understand how to use their phone, or simply get online to keep in contact with family and friends.

We look forward to sharing it all with you!

If you want to keep up to date with all our upcoming projects, collaborations, and the achievements of our talented clients, follow us on Facebook [here](#).



Cripps support Fish & Chips Christmas Lunch for all Compaid clients



Thanks to a generous donation from Cripps Solicitors of Tunbridge Wells, Compaid clients and volunteers were able to enjoy a delicious fish and chips festive lunch at our centre in the run up to Christmas.

Each day of the week preceding Christmas, clients were able to enjoy a festive time with their friends. Volunteers from Cripps, shown below, also joined us to assist and enjoy time with people who for various reasons may have been alone over Christmas. The festivities included fun and games and even a singalong of carols.

Compaid staff & volunteers were also thanked for their hard work throughout the year by enjoying their own festive get together as Compaid invited them to a Christmas meal at the local Hop Farm in Paddock Wood.

We are grateful for everyone who enables us to provide our life-changing services to the vulnerable in our community and look forward to what this year will bring.



Training Centre Pottery Project



The versatility of the projects within our centre to inspire and enthuse some of our vulnerable learners, is getting under way with our newly started pottery sessions, led by Paul Sheppard, a client himself and client's representative on our board of Trustees.

As a budding artist himself, Paul is inspiring others to meet new challenges through artistic projects. Pottery offers a unique and therapeutic outlet for self-expression, creativity, and personal growth. Vulnerable learners can use clay as a medium to convey their thoughts, emotions, and experiences, which can be especially therapeutic for those who may struggle to communicate in other ways, and provide a creative task that can support their confidence and sense of accomplishment.

Allison has been working with Paul and told me she was so happy being able to make her own coasters, add a design and paint in her favourite colours. She is looking forward to her next session when she will be varnishing her designs and is so pleased with what she has achieved that she may keep one for herself, rather than give them all as Christmas gifts.

Paul says:

"I enjoy trying to create different things with materials I haven't tried yet, so wanted to share that experience with clients in Compaid's centre. Together, we've made vases and other small ornaments, and painted them with acrylic paints and water-based ink. I've also tried mixing terracotta-colour clay with ordinary grey clay for a rustic effect, so no paint is required on the outside of a glass vase.

"I've been enjoying showing people how to make things with clay. Now I've expanded into polymer clay, which allows you to make things like jewellery and keyrings in many colours."

Completing this pottery project and seeing the final result has provided Allison and others with a great sense of accomplishment. We look forward to seeing the creativity discovered in this and our other upcoming projects.



For more information

Could we help you or someone you know? Scan the QR code below to visit our [website](#) or find us on social media to find out more:

To help us provide digital skills training and accessible transport to vulnerable members in our community, you can donate to Compaid [here](#)



Thank you so much for your support!

Compaid is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in England with charity registration number 1064160.

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