



May 2019

# Compaid VOICE

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## Connor's music hits the airwaves!



Well done to Compaid client **Connor Victor**, whose composition "**Mist**" was recently featured on Hospital Radio Tunbridge Wells, thanks to our friends at Southborough Lions Club. Here are **Connor** and **Josh** composing some new tunes using our newly acquired iMac and **Garage Band** software. Top twenty here we come!

Connor has really enjoyed getting creative with the iMac, and is also branching out into programming. He has learnt to code using the **Scratch** programming language, making lots of games and animations, and is now venturing into the more advanced **Python** program .



Compaid is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England with company registration number 3400811 and charity registration number 1064160.

Registered Office: Unit 1, Eastlands, Maidstone Road, Paddock Wood, Kent, TN12 6BU

# Volunteer News

By Judith Williams, H R Administrator

**W**e are always pleased to welcome new volunteers and since the last edition of Compaid Voice, we have been joined by...



**Tony Bennett**, a new Training Centre volunteer, originally from Reading, who moved to Kent in 2000. Tony is a fully qualified electrician and worked for BT in a variety of roles, including as a Planning & Design Engineer. After 37 years he decided it was time for a change and was able to retire a little early and wanted to 'give something back' to the local community.

In his spare time, Tony is a qualified football referee of some 11 years. He enjoys golf, cycling, and being a spectator at local football matches. Tony is also kept very busy by his four children, plus two grandchildren and the family dog!

**Donna Barbour** has recently joined Compaid as an ad hoc volunteer. She works full time as a website designer for LexisNexis, a legal publishing company. LexisNexis allow their employees to use 2 full paid days for charity work and Donna has chosen Compaid as her charity.



She loves the work Compaid does and is so happy to see disabled and elderly people in the area being able to reach their full potential and take advantage of all the benefits technology can offer. Donna lives in Hamstreet with her husband Graham, her daughter Emma and Monty the cat. She is really looking forward to helping out at future events,

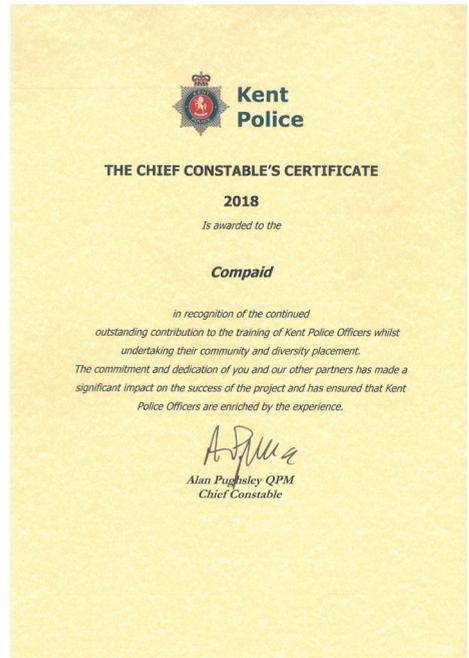
**Thank you** to Tony and Donna for giving some of their spare time to volunteer.

As ever, we are always on the lookout for new volunteers so if you, or anyone you know is interested in finding out more, please contact me by email at [judith.williams@compaid.org.uk](mailto:judith.williams@compaid.org.uk) or call 01892 834539.

## Kent Police Award

**Y**ou may remember that there was a piece in the November 2018 edition of Compaid Voice about the Kent Police Students that have been on work experience placements with both our Transport Dept. and in our Training Centre.

I am delighted to report that Compaid has been awarded The Chief Constable's Certificate 2018 in recognition of Outstanding Contribution to the training of Kent Officers.



So **well done** to everyone for helping to make this partnership with Kent Police a great success.

We are continuing to work with Kent Police in 2019 and have a number of placements organised so there will be a few more new faces around in the months to come. *Judith*

# Fundraising News

## Support received

Having come to the end of our last financial year we are now looking forward to 2019/20 knowing we have a big fundraising challenge ahead of us! This year we need to raise **£200,000** in fundraising income to maintain our current support for disabled, elderly and vulnerable people and even more to fund our planned future developments.

We are extremely grateful to all the Trusts, Foundations, local businesses, organisations and individuals who have supported Compaid in the last year. Due to the challenging and competitive fundraising climate we need to encourage new supporters to come forward to help us reach our goal. Since our last newsletter we have been delighted to receive grants from a number of new Trusts, as well as those who have continued to support us over the years. These include The Joan Ainslie Charitable Trust, The Childwick Trust, Whitehead Monckton Charitable Trust, the H Shawdon Charitable Trust and the Gilbert and Eileen Edgar Foundation.

In this competitive funding market we are keen to hear from businesses or individuals who would be interested to sponsor or support us in some way – this does not have to be a financial commitment but could be the offer of training or services in kind. If you, or anyone you know, would like further information about how to support Compaid please contact Diane Bradley, Fundraising Manager ([dianebradley@compaid.org.uk](mailto:dianebradley@compaid.org.uk) or call 01892 834539) for an informal chat.

## Royal Tunbridge Wells Round Table Dunorlan Fireworks 2018

We were very pleased to have received a generous donation of **£300** from Royal Tunbridge Wells Round Table – one of a number of charities to benefit from the proceeds of the Dunorlan Firework display.



**Stephen Elsdon**, Chief Executive, attended the presentation at the Royal Wells Hotel. This funding has supported the purchase of an additional iPad for use by our training centre clients.

We are very fortunate to have several volunteers who not only give their time, but also donate back their expenses. During the last 12 months this has amounted to nearly **£1,700**. We would like to extend our thanks to these individuals for their generosity and continued support.



Our thanks also go to our client **Ros Bennett** who decided back in 2015 that she wished to start fundraising each month by using one of our collecting tins. To date she has raised an amazing **£1,592.76**. Well done Ros – you are a superstar!

## Thank you to the 3rd Tonbridge Cub pack at Corpus Christi

We were delighted to receive a **£125** donation from the 3rd Tonbridge Cub pack who meet at Corpus Christi in Tonbridge. The cubs took part in a sponsored event naming 26 Charity badges and the proceeds were split between two charities of which we were fortunate to be one.

# McColl's

McColl's continue to fundraise for us, and our collecting tins are now displayed in 15 branches, extending across an area from West Kingsdown to Eastbourne and Bexhill.

To date our partnership with McColl's has raised over **£1,000**. We are very grateful to David Brown, Regional Manager, and all their staff for their support.

## **Compaid provides Charity Parking for Paddock Wood Half Marathon – Sunday 7 April**

We are very fortunate that for the 7th year running our landlords, Baxall Construction, allowed us to use their car parks at Eastlands and Whitefields to fundraise by offering runners parking in return for a suggested donation of £5. This year we managed to collect £982.20 from donations which, with the addition of Gift Aid, means that we raised a record breaking **£1,227.75**.

Our thanks goes to the volunteers and supporters who gave up their time very early on a Sunday morning to help make this so successful. We have received a lot of feedback:

*"Thank you - it really helps to park easily and contribute too"*

*"Parking was brilliant and so easy!"*

*"Parking was amazing. Thank you."*

*"Fantastic news that you managed to raise this amount of money. It was a great parking spot as was close to the venue and still managed to get out without any troubles afterwards."*

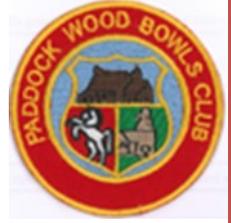


**PADDOCK WOOD  
Half MARATHON**

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY  
**Lambert  
& Foster**  
PROPERTY PROFESSIONALS

## **Paddock Wood Bowls Club**

Following an approach from Keith Merrin, Club Captain, of Paddock Wood Bowls Club we were delighted to learn that the Bowls Club has selected us as their community charity for this year. In addition to displaying information about us within the Club they will also be holding a Charity Bowls event in the summer to raise funds. We would like to thank all members of the Club for choosing to support us and we look forward to working with you throughout your fundraising year.



## **Co-op community fund – calling all Co-op members!**



As mentioned in our last newsletter we are delighted to be a Co-op Community local charity until the end of October 2019. If you are a Co-op member could we please remind you to support us again – there is no cost to you and the Co-op will give 1% of what you spend on Co-op products as well as money from carrier bag sales to Compaid . All you need to do is to log onto your Co-op membership account and choose Compaid as your nominated charity.

As well as featuring as their chosen Charity we are also extremely grateful to **Sam Salti** and all the Co-op staff and customers at the Branbridges Road Petrol station. Collections boxes placed at their tills have to date raised over

## **Volunteers assist at Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon Sunday 17 February**

This year our volunteers once again marshalled at the Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon at various points around the course. In return for our help, the organisers kindly make a donation for which we are extremely grateful.

## Compaid needs you!

### Tonbridge Lions Club 9 mile sponsored walk Sunday 19 May

Once again your intrepid fundraising duo—**Diane Bradley** and **Nicky Buckwell** will be walking with a team of Compaid staff accompanied by our Chief Executive, **Stephen Elsdon**, volunteers and supporters around this 9 mile loop starting at Shipbourne and passing .....



through the grounds of the Fairlawn Estate on paths which are usually closed to the public...



past Ightham Mote—a great stop for a drink and snack for anyone in need of an energy boost.....



before finishing at The Chaser on Shipbourne Green where we celebrate with coffee and cake!

We are aiming to raise **£600** which will purchase additional equipment for our music project to help inspire all our budding musicians!!!

If you can spare a few quid to help us reach our target please contact **Diane Bradley** ([dianebradley@compaid.org.uk](mailto:dianebradley@compaid.org.uk)) or **Nicky Buckwell** ([nickybuckwell@compaid.org.uk](mailto:nickybuckwell@compaid.org.uk)) or by phone on 01892 834539. Or if you are in the centre in Paddock Wood you can simply add your name to the list of sponsors on the Fundraising notice board.

Donations can also be made directly to Compaid using the following bank details and adding your name as a reference:

**Account Name: Compaid Trust**

**Account number: 50260096**

**Sort Code: 20-88-13**

We are extremely grateful for any donation –so let’s help to tune up Compaid !!

## **Paddock Wood Carnival Saturday 13 July**

This year’s Paddock Wood Carnival will take place on 13 July and, as usual, the Carnival Procession will start the day with a variety of decorated vehicles and floats parading through

Paddock Wood. This is a great opportunity for us to raise our profile and much needed funds within the local community. We will be entering at least one of our vehicles into the Procession.

The theme for this year is “Holiday Celebrations”. So we are looking for volunteers to help – so if you have an hour to spend on this day and could assist us walking beside our vehicle(s) collecting donations from spectators, we’d love to hear from you. Children are welcome as long as they are accompanied by an adult. For further information please contact Diane Bradley ([dianebradley@compaid.org.uk](mailto:dianebradley@compaid.org.uk)) or Nicky Buckwell ([nickybuckwell@compaid.org.uk](mailto:nickybuckwell@compaid.org.uk)) .



## **Tunbridge Wells Mayor's Charity of the Year 2019/20**

We are delighted to have been selected by the Tunbridge Wells Mayor elect, Councillor James Scholes, as his chosen charity for his term in office which commences in May 2019. This is a great opportunity for us to raise awareness of our services and support and we look forward to working with Councillor Scholes to make it a very enjoyable and successful year for both the mayor and our charity.

Several events are planned throughout the year for which we are required to secure a number of high quality auction and/or raffle prizes. The events include:

**21st September - Civic Dinner at High Rocks**

**3rd October - Clay Pigeon Shoot at West Kent Shooting**

**2nd November – Tunbridge Wells Bridge Society afternoon**

**7th February 2020 - Mayor's Quiz night at Tunbridge Wells Assembly Hall**

As a small organisation we rely heavily on the goodwill of staff and volunteers. However, this Mayoral year is going to require additional volunteering support and we very much hope that you, or someone you know, may be willing to assist us – either through the donation of a raffle/ auction prize or by assisting at one of the events.

If you can volunteer or donate a raffle/auction prize please contact Diane Bradley ([dianebradley@compaid.org.uk](mailto:dianebradley@compaid.org.uk)) or Nicky Buckwell ([nickybuckwell@compaid.org.uk](mailto:nickybuckwell@compaid.org.uk)) or call us on 01892 834539.



## How you could help....

### Making regular donations

At Compaid, we are very grateful to the Charitable Trusts, local groups, businesses and individuals who regularly support our work. However, to meet our current fundraising target we need to encourage more people to consider making a regular donation towards our work.

As mentioned previously, this will be an extremely challenging year for Compaid as we need to raise **£200,000** of voluntary income. To give an example of how easy it is to help - if 130 people set up a regular monthly donation of £10, that would raise (including Gift Aid) £19,500 in 12 months. This is nearly 10% of what we need to raise in 2019/20.

The easiest way to set up a regular donation is with a Standing Order to your bank – if you use online banking this can be done from your computer, but if not then your local branch can help. You specify how much you would like to donate and how often you wish to make a donation. And you can easily amend or cancel your standing order at any time.

You will need Compaid's bank details which are as follows:

Account Name: Compaid Trust

Account number: 50260096

Sort Code: 20-88-13

*giftaid it*

If you are a UK taxpayer you can also complete a Gift Aid declaration which means that HMRC will pay Compaid the tax that you paid on the value of your donation which increases the value of your charity donations by 25%. This means a donation of £10 is actually worth £12.50 for Compaid!

If you would like more information on how to make a regular donation by Standing Order please contact **Diane Bradley** or **Nicky Buckwell** .

# Art Project

On Fridays, our Art volunteer, Lydia has some very creative ideas for clients at the Training Centre to try their hand at. Recently clients were introduced to “marbling” and produced some wonderful artwork by mixing shaving cream and food colouring (messy and fun!) Below you can see Ros and David creating some psychedelic pictures using this method.





David mixing his colours with the help of Lydia (Art Volunteer)

# Easter "Eggst"



We celebrated Easter in a big way at the Training Centre, with yummy hot cross buns, masses of chocolate, an Easter quiz, and a fair amount of dressing up!

# travaganza"!



# Transport News

After many months of waiting Compaid finally took delivery of a brand new fully adapted mini bus to add to its fleet. This new bus has mainly been allocated to driver Martyn Eastwood as he has proved that he keeps his vehicles clean and tidy - well done Martyn!



We are also actively looking at the possibility of obtaining grant funding for three further new vehicles and if successful we can expect delivery by October 2019, so watch this space for future updates.

We are also exploring the use of a fully adapted electric vehicle to trial. This vehicle has been supplied to Kent County Council by Renault UK, and as Compaid operate many contracts on behalf of KCC we have been chosen as a possible operator to use this vehicle. Negotiations with KCC regarding this are in the early stages but we remain hopeful that it will bear fruit.

For some time Compaid has been operating services for Age UK in the Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge areas. We are currently in the early stages of negotiations with Age UK based in Sevenoaks and Maidstone to obtain further contracts to take clients to day centres based in the respective towns, so again watch this space for future updates.

*Jim Scrimgeour.*

**Transport Services Manager**

## Changes on the Compaid Board

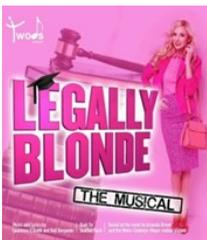
Following the recent appointment of several new Trustees (as reported in the last issue of Compaid Voice), three of our longest serving Board members stood down at the end of January.

**John Turner, John Osmond and Emmanuel Berard** all joined the Board in January 2010, when Compaid was still primarily based at Tunbridge Wells Football Club! They have each played a major part in helping the charity develop and grow into the organisation we are today.

Individuals can now serve a maximum term of 9 years as Trustees at Compaid, so the two Johns and Emmanuel have now retired, but they are all retaining a connection with our charity. John Osmond and John Turner are now Directors of Compaid Enterprises CIC, a new trading subsidiary we have created that may carry out non-charitable activities, such as transport for the general public, in the future. Emmanuel has agreed to provide HR advice as required.

**Stephen Elsdon**, Chief Executive says: ***“We thank all three of them for their time, commitment and support to Compaid over so many years.”***

## TWODS– Legally Blonde, the Musical



Tunbridge Wells Operatic and Dramatic Society (TWODS) has had a long association with Compaid and we were pleased when they once again provided us with 16 complimentary tickets for their production Legally Blonde, the Musical in May.

The tickets were eagerly snapped up and we're sure all those who are due to attend will have a great evening.

# My Induction Day at Compaid

By David Manktelow

I first came to Compaid for a day, to see if I would like it. The van came to pick me and my sister Rosemary up at 11.30 am, we got in and put our seat belts on and set off for Compaid, on the way I wondered what the staff, clients and Compaid would be like?

We got to Compaid and went in and met Jonathan and Sharon and had a cup of tea and a biscuit. Jonathan said *"Have you used a computer before if not we can show you how to use one and if you would like to do a story one of the staff will set it up and explain to you how the computer works and can offer"*

Jonathan showed Rosemary and I a computer and said *"What would you like to play?"* I said *"I would to play a word game please"* so Jonathan set up the computer so Rosemary and I could play the game and it was fun finding the words.

After this Sharon took Rosemary and I into a small room and asked me if I had any health issues or if I would like a cooked lunch or would be bringing a packed lunch.

Jonathan asked *"Would you like to come to the centre, please tell me as I need to know so I can fit you in"*. I said *"What I've seen already, I would like to come as it will give me the chance to meet the other staff, clients and learn how to play on the computer"*.

At 2.55pm Rosemary and I got up as it was time to go home I said to Sharon and Jonathan *"See you next week have a nice weekend"*

A couple of weeks later I got a letter from Jonathan telling me the date of my first day. I was happy as anything, I have been coming to Compaid for almost three years now and I like it very much.





**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Stephen Elsden

01892 833664

[stephenelsden@compaid.org.uk](mailto:stephenelsden@compaid.org.uk)

**OFFICE SERVICES**

Srikanth Bodduluri: Manager

01892 834539

[Srikanth@compaid.org.uk](mailto:Srikanth@compaid.org.uk)

**ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT**

Jim Scrimgeour: Manager

01892 834539

[transport@compaid.org.uk](mailto:transport@compaid.org.uk)

**TRAINING SERVICES**

Val Sprott: Manager

07942 180885

[valsprott@compaid.org.uk](mailto:valsprott@compaid.org.uk)

**FUNDRAISING**

Diane Bradley: Manager

01892 834539

[dianebradley@compaid.org.uk](mailto:dianebradley@compaid.org.uk)

**TRAINING CENTRE CO-ORDINATOR**

Jonathan Sargent

01892 833606

[jonathansargent@compaid.org.uk](mailto:jonathansargent@compaid.org.uk)

**HUMAN RESOURCES AND  
VOLUNTEERING**

Judith Williams: HR Administrator

01892 834539

[Judith.williams@compaid.org.uk](mailto:Judith.williams@compaid.org.uk)

**EDITORIAL STAFF**

Jenny Wythes

01892 833606

[jennywythes@compaid.org.uk](mailto:jennywythes@compaid.org.uk)



Compaid  
Unit 1, Eastlands  
Maidstone Road  
Paddock Wood  
Kent TN12 6BU  
01892 834539



[enquiries@compaid.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@compaid.org.uk)  
[www.compaid.org.uk](http://www.compaid.org.uk)

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