



SEPTEMBER 2016

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Compaid announced as finalists for local awards



This year Compaid is celebrating 30 years providing services and support for disabled and elderly people in and around Kent.

We are delighted to announce that Compaid has been selected as a finalist in the 'Love Where We Live' awards in two categories: 'Charity of the year' and Best Group – Volunteers.

Back in May we submitted a nomination to support our accessible transport service, which included a wonderful testimonial that we received from one of our volunteer drivers and which highlighted the fantastic support of our amazing volunteers.

The awards ceremony will take place on Tuesday 11th October at the Assembly Hall in Tunbridge Wells, when Compaid will be represented by Stephen Elsdon (Chief Exec) and Diane Bradley (Fundraising Manager) who will be accompanied by two of our volunteer drivers and two Centre clients.

It is fitting, in the light of the charity's progress and achievements in the last 12 months that we have also been shortlisted for the Perrys Excellence Awards in the Exceptional Charity category, winners of which will be announced later in the year at an awards ceremony held at Leeds Castle.



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

Rjo comes to Paddock Wood!



Saturday 9th July dawned bright and sunny for the hotly anticipated annual Paddock Wood carnival. With a “Rio, Fiesta” theme, two Compaid buses joined the parade, driven by Nick Fairhall and Jim Scrimgeour, and decorated in suitably colourful style with flowers, butterflies and birds painted by clients under the direction of our wonderful Art tutor, Helen Fenner. Helen’s daughter Amy wielded a collecting bucket

on the parade route, along with Stephen and Imogen Elsdon, Carol Tanner (Transport) and her children Katy & James, and Brian Taylor (volunteer). They all did an amazing job in very warm & windy conditions, and managed to persuade the watching crowds to part with lots of loose change! Well done and thank you so much to everyone who took part . Special thanks go to Helen Fenner, who gave up many hours of her time to work with clients and staff to produce the superb artwork displayed on our vehicles, and her husband Mike for the photos.



Clients' artwork in pride of place on the windows





Meanwhile, at St. Andrew's recreation ground, Val Coombes, Mike Peek, Meryl Kyles & Jenny Wythes were having fun trying to put up the Compaid gazebo in very breezy conditions! We had a sweet tombola (sweets kindly donated by clients, staff & volunteers), cards for sale, and lots of yummy cupcakes made by Val & Meryl. Aided by Jackie Fahey, Sheila Brown, Paul & Sue Sheppard & Ros Bennett ,the stall was very popular, with queuing customers at one point! Altogether we raised a grand total of £291.20. A huge thank-you to everyone who gave up their time to help put Compaid on the map in Paddock Wood.

Thank you also to Nicola from "Paddock Wood Cards", who kindly donated a giant "30th" in shiny blue helium balloons to celebrate our anniversary.



Meryl, Val, cakes & sweets!



Meryl & Jackie waiting for customers!



Ros, Sue & Paul



Volunteer News



Edward, Neil & Steffon

We bid a fond farewell to Thursday volunteer Neil McQuillan, who has moved to New Zealand to work—he has been registering dogs for Auckland Council (!) & doing lots of hiking.



Judith manning the Compaid stall at a volunteers' event in Tunbridge Wells.

We celebrated Volunteers' Week from 1st – 12th June with tea and cakes to say thank you to all our wonderful volunteers.

Congratulations to Mary Barns who won a bottle of wine in the competition. Compaid is lucky enough to have the support of 40 amazing volunteers across all areas – thank you all so much. We couldn't manage without you!

Thank you!

Congratulations, Jackie!

Little did we know that at Compaid we had a budding author in our midst! Jackie Fahey, who has been volunteering at Compaid on Thursdays for many years, has had a book published about her exploits as one of the first female journalists in Kent. Jackie's first job as a cub reporter was in 1960 at the Bexleyheath Observer, and she received the princely sum of £4 5s 6d in her first wage packet.



“Write for my Supper” (available on Amazon!) is a fascinating look at life in England during the 1960's & 70's, and how it felt to be a female reporter in what was then a “man's world”. Jackie's first “scoop” came in 1961, when she unexpectedly witnessed a robbery from a Royal Mail van, and she later worked for the Kent Messenger and the Court Reporting Agency for many years, sending copy to the national papers about infamous cases which had been in the Crown Courts.



Jackie leads a very busy life, and as well as volunteering at Compaid, is an enthusiastic member of Rock Choir. She has sung with thousands of other “Rock Choristers” at the O2 stadium and Abbey Road studios, no less! Congratulations, Jackie, and we look forward to the next instalment of your memoirs!

Well done, Steffon!

Steffon Marshall is a Compaid client on Tuesdays and Thursday, and has also been working at Princess Christian's Farm in Hildenborough, part of Hadlow College. (Princess Christian was the third daughter of Queen Victoria, and purchased the farm in 1910 as a home for people with learning difficulties. It is now a working farm set in 115 acres of pasture and woodland.)

Steffon was recently awarded a trophy and a certificate for his hard work in completing a Hadlow College course in horticulture.

Well done, Stef - we look forward to hearing some of your gardening tips!



John's short stories.

My name is John Wateridge. I have got my own laptop. I like writing stories—so far I have written 5 westerns, 3 Sci-Fi, 3 love stories and 3 crime mysteries. Here is a short list of them:

Westerns 1) A stranger came to town, 2) The bank robbery in El Paso, 3) I am innocent but was found guilty, 4) The cowboys, 5) The hanging tree.

Sci- Fi. 1) The journey to the unknown, 2) The spaceship which fell down to earth, 3) the landing of a UFO.

Love stories. 1) The unlucky cigarette, 2) When Colin met Sally, 3) Two lovers.

If you are interested in any of the stories, I would be more than happy to print one out for a small donation to Compaid.



Fundraising News

by Diane Bradley, Fundraising Manager

Over the last year we have been fortunate to have been chosen by Sainsbury local, Shipbourne Road in Tonbridge as their nominated charity. The money was raised during a year-long partnership that included fundraising events, the sale of special greeting cards designed by our clients, and a donation through plastic bag sales. In total, **£3,471.78** was finally raised by staff and customers during the year. The money will help to pay for more disabled people to receive computer skills training and transport support from Compaid in and around Tonbridge.

The partnership came about through Sainsbury's customer Jem Crick, who runs the mobile drinks company Mochafella and is a long standing supporter of the charity. Staff at the branch agreed to make Compaid their charity of the year in June 2015.

Sainsbury's Local manager Dave Ball commented "It has been a pleasure working with Compaid this past year, and we are delighted to have raised such a significant sum. I would like to thank the local community for supporting such a worthy charity."



Tonbridge Half Marathon - Sunday 2nd October

With the Tonbridge Half marathon just under 2 months away, Compaid has again been asked for volunteers to assist with marshalling duties around the course and general duties around the race village. In addition to this we will be having our charity stall at West Kent College in Tonbridge, again selling our cards and cakes which were very successful last year. If you can offer your help (No previous experience is required) please contact Diane Bradley as soon as possible dianebradley@compaid.org.uk or Tel 01892 834539. We do receive a substantial donation in recognition of the help we offer each year so your help would be much appreciated.



Wrotham Heath Golf Club – Ladies' Captain chosen Charity

In our last newsletter I mentioned that our Trustee John Turner's wife Wendy has been elected ladies Captain at their golf club in Wrotham Heath.



Wendy had generously chosen Compaid as her charity for the year. On 2nd August Diane and Judith attended the lady Captains charity golf day which this year was organised with a Rio theme. Martyn Eastwood, one of Compaid's drivers also attended with our Rio decorated bus. Unfortunately the weather was not kind to us on the day but rain did not dampen spirits or stop play as everyone enjoyed a fun filled day. To date the club have raised just over £2,000 with a fundraising Bridge day planned next year .



Tonbridge Rotary Golf Day support Compaid

Back in June our Fundraiser Diane Bradley was invited by Tonbridge Rotary club's president David Wells to attend their annual golf day at Dale Hill Golf Club. As President, it was David's privilege to nominate a charity to benefit from their associated fundraising, and as David's wife attends our training centre, he said he would like to register his personal appreciation of, and gratitude to Compaid by directing the bulk of money raised to benefit the charity.

Diane had the pleasure of attending the dinner after the golf to speak to their members about the support that the charity offers to hundreds of disabled & elderly people in and around Kent.



Compaid have more Unity Lottery winners!

We are delighted to announce that we have now had **6** winners supporting Compaid in the Unity Lottery! Unfortunately none received the jackpot but to have that many winners is great news. If you have not already signed up please join us and support Compaid whilst being part of a great Lottery.

How does it all work?

Unity is the nation's fundraising lottery scheme. It's designed to give good causes large and small - from village playground fund to international charity - the chance to gain support and raise valuable funds through their own weekly lottery draw.

You can play for as little as £1 per week. 50p of every £1 you play is guaranteed to go straight to a good cause, and it's you who decides which one (This is where you can support Compaid). The remaining 50p will be used to provide prizes and cover administration costs. By joining the Unity Lottery you will be entered into the respective draw of the charity (Compaid) that you wish to support.

For just £1 per week you will be allocated with a six digit Unity Lottery number, which will remain yours for as long as you wish to keep playing. You can purchase more than one number if you wish.

Every Saturday, the lucky winners are selected at random and prize cheques issued and posted directly to you, so there is no need for you to claim. You must be 16 or over to enter. Winners have to match 3, 4 5 or all 6 digits of the winning number in the correct place in the sequence.

- 6 digits in the correct place wins **£25,000**
- 5 digits in the correct place wins **£1,000**
- 4 digits in the correct place wins **£25**
- 3 digits in the correct place wins **£5**



Please visit www.unitylottery.co.uk/charity/display/compaid to enter the lottery and help us to raise much needed funds.

2016/17 fundraising target

Did you know that last year our staff and volunteers delivered over 6,500 training sessions? Alongside this a further 700 support sessions were delivered through our Outreach project into the wider community. Our fleet of 19 wheelchair-adapted vehicles took over 1200 individuals on more than 39,000 journeys covering almost 340,000 miles. None of this would have been possible without the support of our 'Compaid friends', local businesses and grants.

We rely heavily on the generosity of people like you to help us transform the lives of disabled people in and around Kent. We need to raise **£160,000** in fundraising income each year to continue supporting disabled people in Kent. However, with statistics now showing Kent has over 44,000 residents who have a health problem or disability which limits their day-to-day activities, I hope that you will feel that you can support us in some small way.

There are a number of ways you can donate to us today:

Make a one off donation

- Make a donation by cheque payable to 'Compaid' and if you are a tax payer we can claim an additional 20% in gift aid from your donation at no further cost to you.

(Please download a gift aid form from our website and send with your cheque)

- Donate by credit or debit card over the phone by calling our Admin Team on 01892 834539
- Make an online donation to Compaid at www.virginmoneygiving.com

Give a regular gift

Making a regular monthly gift by standing order makes such a huge difference to our services and the support we can offer. You can do this by downloading a standing order form from our website www.compaid.org.uk and then post it to

The Fundraising Manager, Compaid, Unit 1, Eastlands, Maidstone Road, Paddock Wood, TN12 6BU

We want you to feel completely secure when donating to us. That's why we are members of the Fundraising Standards Board (FRSB) and have signed up to their fundraising promise.

Thank you, your support is so important to us.



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