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Compaid appoints new Chairman in its 30th year



We were pleased to announce the appointment of **John Ashelford** as Chair of Trustees at our Annual General Meeting last month. John brings over 20 years' experience from working with national and local charities in cancer research, children's services and more recently as CEO of Hospice in the Weald and Burrswood Hospital.

John was formerly Chairman of Kent LINK, the forerunner of Kent HealthWatch, and is currently a Trustee to three local charitable organisations.

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

John says: “ I feel very honoured to have been asked by the Trustees to be Chairman and welcome the opportunity to bring my experience to the team. It is clear that the charity provides a greatly valued and vital service to the community, and this is only possible by the dedication and skills of all the staff and volunteers involved and the continued and generous support of many”.

John succeeds **Chris Langridge**, who stood down after six years as Chairman and 20 years on the Compaid Board.

Chief Executive Stephen Elsdon says: “At the AGM, the Trustees paid tribute to Chris Langridge, expressing deep gratitude to him for all his dedication and guidance over twenty years. His wise leadership and commitment has helped us to develop and extend the excellent services which are provided today.”

Also at the AGM, **David Turner** stepped down from the Board after nearly six years of support. In addition, our current Trustee **Fiona Condron** was appointed as Compaid’s new Treasurer, succeeding **Jody Lloyd** who will remain a Trustee.

Fundraising News

By Diane Bradley, Fundraising Manager

Compaid awarded Runner Up at Heart of The Community Awards.

We are delighted to announce that Compaid attended the Heart of the Community awards on 10th November at the Hotel Du Vin and were awarded a runners up prize winning £750. We would like to thank Kent & Sussex Courier for a great evening and AXA PPP for sponsoring. Special thanks go to everyone who voted for us, as this award recognises the fantastic job that our amazing volunteers and staff do supporting disabled and elderly people in and around Kent.



Diane
Bradley, Paul
Cummins and
Meryl Kyles



Compaid attends inaugural Perrys Exceptional awards evening.



10th November was a busy evening for our charity as Stephen & our Volunteer Trustee Sairah Merchant attended the Perrys awards presentation evening at Leeds Castle. Stephen reported that they had a lovely evening and were delighted to have been invited as one of the shortlisted charities, but were not fortunate enough to win any awards. The winner of the Exceptional charity category was Kent MS Therapy Centre, Canterbury.



Christmas time at Compaid

Following our successful Christmas Fayre and carol concert last year, this year's celebrations will be during the week 12th – 16th December every afternoon 1.30pm – 3.15pm, to enable all our clients to enjoy the festivities. Once again we are delighted to have the Paddock Wood Junior School choir coming along on **Thursday 15th December** to entertain us with their wonderful singing. There will be a Grand Raffle, Refreshments, Christmas gifts, cards & tags and much more. We do hope you can join us on Thursday and be part of our Christmas celebrations. If you would like to attend please confirm by emailing Dianebradley@compaid.org.uk or telephone 01892 834539 to assist with catering.



Raffle tickets have been sent to many of our supporters but if you have not received any and would like to support us, please contact Diane. There are some great prizes, including a deluxe hamper, £50 cash, 2 tickets to Kew Gardens and more! The raffle will be drawn on **Monday 19th December.**



Tonbridge Half Marathon



On Sunday 2nd October Compaid once again joined the team of volunteers at the Tonbridge Half Marathon to offer our help. Special thanks go to Jenny Wythes and Colin Francis who were out marshalling on the course and Stephen Elsdon who was on hand to cheer on our Compaid runners whilst taking photos. Diane Bradley, our Fundraising Manager is also the event's course manager so set the 1200 runners off and safely welcomed them all home.



We would like to Congratulate and thank our Compaid runners this year: Carl Streeter, Maria Heslop and Nicolas Heslop who all ran brilliant races and managed to raise over **£800** between them. Special congratulations go to Maria Heslop who not only won the women's race again but as this was her third consecutive year, earned herself a bonus £100 in prize money. We are very fortunate to receive a donation from the proceeds of this race, so look forward to the presentation meeting which still has to be arranged.

Tonbridge Rotary Golf Day supports 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.



We are pleased to announce that Diane attended a recent Rotary lunch where President Brian Piner presented her with a cheque for £4,600.

Celebrations at our 30th Anniversary Ball



Back in September we held our 30th Anniversary Ball at the High Rocks in Tunbridge Wells. We all had a fantastic night with fabulous music, delicious food, a wonderful collection of

silent auction items to bid on. Thanks to the wonderful generosity of our guests and donations from some who were unable to attend we raised a marvellous £10, 143.



Only 5 weeks 'til Christmas!

Imagine how much could be raised if every one of you shopping online registers with **Easyfundraising** to support Compaid. With Christmas approaching millions of pounds will be spent online in the next few months.

Can I please urge you to take a few moments to sign up to www.easyfundraising.org.uk and help us to raise as much as possible for COMPAID.

Remember, it costs you nothing – here's just how easy it is to use:

Let's say you want to buy an item from Amazon. Instead of going to Amazon.co.uk you go to easyfundraising.org.uk first and find the Amazon website. In our hectic lives it is not always easy to remember to use the fundraising site, so to help you remember if you copy this link www.easyfundraising.org.uk/raise-more/donation-reminder into the browser on your computer it will give you the opportunity to download the reminder so that you are prompted every time.

Happy shopping and thank you for supporting Compaid!

Compaid Charity Christmas Cards

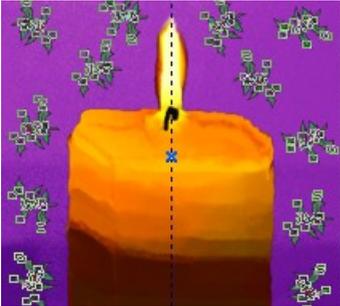
Large packs 130mm x 130mm

Small packs 100mm x 100mm

All original artwork by Compaid Clients

Please tick which cards you would like to order, &
then fill in your details overleaf

No. of packs
required



“Candle”, by Jacqui Culmer

Pack of 6 small cards = £2.50

Pack of 6 large cards = £3.50



“Penguins”, by Meryl Kyles

Pack of 6 small cards = £2.50

Pack of 6 large cards = £3.50



“Geese”, by Liz Chessell

Pack of 6 small cards = £2.50

Pack of 6 large cards = £3.50



“Christmas Morning”, by Jane McKay

No. of packs required

Pack of 6 small cards = £2.50

Pack of 6 large cards = £3.50



“Doves”, by Ros Bennett

Pack of 6 small cards = £2.50

Pack of 6 large cards = £3.50



“Owl”, by Susanna Bowdery

Pack of 6 small cards = £2.50

Pack of 6 large cards = £3.50



“Robin”, by Liz Chessell

Pack of 6 small cards = £2.50

Pack of 6 large cards = £3.50

Please return this order form to:
Compaid, Unit 1, Eastlands, Maidstone Road,
Paddock Wood, Kent TN12 6BU
email: officebureau@compaid.org.uk
Tel: 01892 834539

Postage and Packaging

1 to 4 packs £2.50

5 to 10 packs £4.00

10 to 15 packs £6.50

Total amount

Total amount incl p & p

Name

Address

.....

.....

.....

Tel.....

email.....

Gary's Rocking 70's Music Quiz. (Answers below—no cheating!)

- 1) How many band members were in Queen originally, and what were their names?
- 2) What is Queen's "Night at the Opera" album named after?
- 3) How many consecutive UK No. 1 albums have Led Zeppelin had? a) 7, b) 8, or c) 9)
- 4) What did Led Zeppelin band members like to throw out of hotel windows? a) Bed, b) TV, c) chairs, or d) clothes
- 5) In the Rolling Stones, Keith Richards and Mick Jagger were childhood friends and classmates from a) Dartford b) Paddock Wood, c) Canterbury, d) Bromley
- 6) Which famous artist designed the "Sticky Fingers" album cover for the Rolling Stones in 1971?
- 7) In 1976, AC/DC signed an international record deal with a) Ocean Records b) Pacific Records, c) Atlantic Records, d) Channel Records
- 8) Which country are AC/DC from?
- 9) In 1976, The Who played a concert described as "the world's loudest concert". How loud was it? a) 50 decibels, b) 100 decibels, c) 120 decibels, d) 150 decibels
- 10) Complete this lyric: "Hope I die before I get..... a) cold, b) sold, c) old, d) married

By Compaidd client Gary Anderson, with help from Sairah Merchant.

1) 4—Freddie Mercury, John Deacon, Brian May, Roger Taylor
2) The Marx brothers' film 3) 8 4) TV 5) Dartford 6) Andy Warhol 7)
Atlantic Records 8) Australia 9) 120 decibels 10) old!

Unity Lottery continues to produce more Compaid winners!

We are delighted that our supporters keep on winning. Unfortunately none have received the jackpot yet, but we can now report that from our membership of Compaid supporters,



we have had **14** winners since Compaid joined the lottery in February this year. If you have not already signed up now seems to be the time to try your luck whilst supporting a great cause.

How does it all work?

Unity is the nation's fundraising lottery scheme. It's designed to give good causes large and small 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.

FANTASTIC FUNDRAISING!

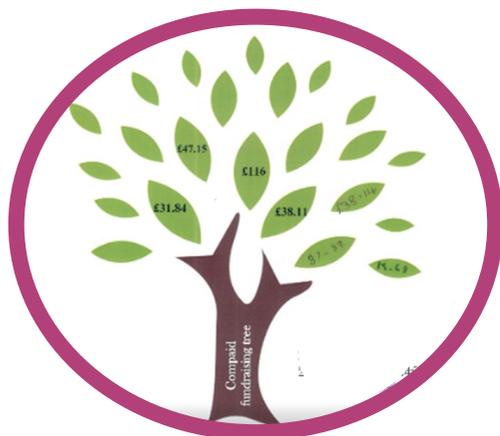


Can you help?

Compaid relies heavily on the generosity of individuals, trusts and companies for financial support. We need around **£160,000** in fundraising each year to maintain our current support to disabled people and we must raise even more to fund our planned future developments.

Could you take one of our collection boxes and donate loose change from family, friends and neighbours?

The fundraising tree is an example of how Ros Bennett, one of our clients, is helping us to fundraise with her collection tin. This year, Ros has raised **£374.81**, to go with the £69.95 she raised in 2015. Well done, Ros, and thank you so much!



Sonia Watson



In October, we were all shocked and saddened to learn of the death of Sonia Watson after a short illness. Sonia had worked for Compaid since June 2004, latterly as Training Centre Manager. There are many memories of Sonia which spring to mind – her artistic talent, her quirky jewellery

and most of all, her genuine pleasure in seeing and interacting with clients at Compaid. Here are some excerpts from the poignant eulogy given at Sonia’s funeral by Chief Executive Stephen Elsdon.

“Sonia’s dedication and empathy was key to making the Centre a home from home for everyone who attended, and when I joined it was more like coming into an extended family.

One of the first things that struck me about Sonia was how deeply she cared about those she worked with. Sonia had a very strong sense of right and wrong, and got rightly upset about injustices in society. She would regularly put her own problems to one side and move mountains to help a disabled person with a personal crisis. As one of our clients reflected to me, ***‘Sonia was a good listener, and always helped us to see both sides of the story. She always used to say, ‘Try and leave your troubles***

behind when you come to Compaid' but she was always there for us when we had a problem.' Sonia was also incredibly patient. She took the time to explain things to clients, staff and volunteers, and her gentle strength ensured that no one was left behind, or made to feel less important. Another of our clients said: ***'Sonia helped me so much with my art. She was encouraging and we used to laugh together.'*** In fact, many people who worked with Sonia thought she must have had a professional teaching background, but this was a natural flair that she brought to the fore at Compaid.

In her later years at Compaid Sonia managed a large team of staff and volunteers, and while she didn't find this responsibility the easiest, her inner strength, her care and empathy for others saw her through. Not forgetting her good humour. As one former staff member recalls: ***'She always used to make us laugh when it was a client's birthday, singing happy birthday in the style of Marilyn Monroe. This was a completely different side to her usual managerial self.'*** Another remembers: 'Sonia was always ready to praise the team for a job well done, and left us in no doubt that she really did value our contribution'.

Sonia's own contribution lives on today in the hearts and heads of all those who knew and worked alongside her. And perhaps most of all, in the lives of all those disabled people who she supported to achieve their true potential.

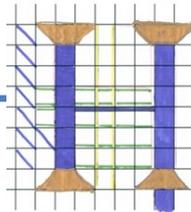


Calligraphy



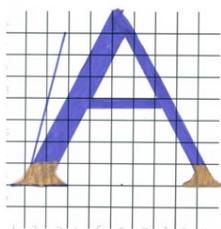
Course

On Friday mornings, several clients participated in a 6 week calligraphy and illuminated lettering course, run by Debbie from the WEA.





Starting with a blank page, we learnt how to make letters and place them on a decorative grid, using paint and computers.



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