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Compaid passes “Go” on new themed Monopoly set

Compaid is delighted to be featured on a new Royal Tunbridge Wells themed Monopoly set, following a public vote and social media campaign.

The public were invited to recommend organisations and locations to feature on various squares of the new game, and Compaid gained the largest number of votes for a charity, resulting in its position on a Community Chest square.

Compaid clients, volunteers and staff celebrated the game’s launch by trying out the new edition at our Training Centre in Paddock Wood. The game proved extremely popular with all those who played it and is destined to become a firm favourite.



A delighted Stephen Elsdon, Chief Executive, said: ***“We are thrilled to be recognised on the Royal Tunbridge Wells edition of Monopoly. While we work every day to improve the lives of disabled people, Compaid can sometimes be overlooked. This wonderful opportunity will help to put us firmly on not just the Monopoly map, but the general Royal Tunbridge Wells map too.”***

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



Tonbridge Half Marathon – Sunday 1st October 2017

On a rather grey Sunday morning 850 runners headed out of Tonbridge and through the wonderful Kent countryside following the route of the 2017 Tonbridge Half Marathon. The race was staged by the Rotary Club and

Tonbridge Lions Club and was started by British Race Walking Champion Tom Bosworth who is a member of Tonbridge Athletics Club. Compaid was extremely honoured to have been chosen by the organisers as one of the headline charities for the event and was delighted to receive **£2,610** as a result. A cheque was presented to Jonathan Sargent, Training Centre Co-ordinator by Gordon Hill (President) and Keith Bunyan (Vice President) of Tonbridge Lions: also present were Peggy Hill and Diane Bradley, Compaid's Fundraising Manager.



Keith Bunyan, Diane Bradley, Jonathan Sargent, Gordon Hill and Mrs Peggy Hill.



Amongst the runners were 4 individuals from BDO LLP who were

running to raise funds for Compaid. The amount raised through their individual sponsorship was generously matched by BDO and totalled an amazing **£1,200**. Compaid also had a stall selling cakes and sweets which

raised additional funds and provided welcome refreshments for our runners. Amongst the other runners spotted on the day was Lucy Wells (daughter of Compaid client Carol Wells). Altogether, runners raised an estimated £50,000 for various charities.

L-R: Tonbridge Rotary President - Robert Greenhalgh, Guest starter – UK race walking Champion Tom Bosworth, Tonbridge and Malling Mayor - Cllr Roger Dalton and Tonbridge Lions President – Gordon Hill



“Own Clothes Day” at Fermor Primary School

Having seen their grandmother, mother and aunt raising support for Compaid, Lilly and Poppy Streeter decided that they would like to do something to thank Compaid for the difference that the Charity made to their grandfather, Ronnie Mitchell, in the period before his death in 2014. So the girls came up with the idea of holding an “Own Clothes Day” at their school – Fermor Primary School in Crowborough. The school very kindly



embraced the idea and on the chosen day Diane Bradley attended the school and gave a talk about Compaid and its work – including a very varied and in depth question and answer session! Each child who participated made a donation for being able to wear their own clothes and this raised an amazing **£276**. Our thanks go to all at Fermor School for their support and especially to Lily and Poppy for coming up with the idea.

Christmas at Compaid



The Christmas season commenced on a cold but dry Sunday in November when Compaid ran a stall at the Paddock Wood Christmas Market. The stall offered sweets and handmade gifts for sale as well as holding a raffle for a Christmas cake which had been kindly donated by the Tunbridge Wells Sugar Craft Guild. Although the evening was cold the streets of Paddock Wood soon filled with people coming to see the Christmas lights and listen to the music and entertainment laid on for the evening.

This year the week of 11th December was Christmas week at Compaid. The training centre was decorated in festive style and on two afternoons we were joined by children from Paddock Wood Junior School who delighted clients, staff and guests with a medley of Christmas songs. I would like to thank Head teacher Mr Opstad for allowing the children to come and join us and also to Sophie Knight who managed both performances. The children were amazing and put on a marvellous show which clients and staff were encouraged to join in with. A great time was had by all!

As well as the concerts there was also the Christmas Fayre which ran all week with a tombola, Christmas cake raffles, good as new and gift stalls. The Fayre raised an amazing **£603**. I would like to thank all those who donated items for the stalls and a special thank you goes to the Tunbridge

Wells Sugar Craft Guild who very kindly donated 4 beautifully decorated Christmas cakes which were



raffled off... these included cakes made by our very own Val Coombes and Meryl Kyles.



The Christmas Draw again proved popular and our thanks must go to the various local businesses and individuals who very generously donated a magnificent array of prizes which helped to make this our most successful Christmas draw to date, raising a record breaking **£1,149**. A huge thank you to all those that purchased tickets, your support was very much appreciated.



Many thanks also go to local choir Paddock Wood Choral Society, who donated the interval collection from their Christmas concert to Compaid, raising **£162**. Thank you – it's wonderful when local charities can support each other!



Jo Clark : a tribute.



Jo was a much loved Wednesday client at Compaid for 2 years and we were all so sorry to hear that she had sadly passed away last year.

Jo loved coming to Compaid, and

especially painting and colouring. She was also a whizz at doing jigsaw puzzles and really improved her “telling the time” skills whilst at Compaid. She enjoyed herself so much that it was always a bit of a battle to get her to go home!



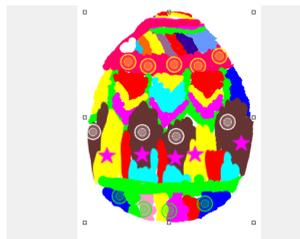
The following is taken from an email sent to Jonathan from Jo’s sister.

“Jo really enjoyed her days at Compaid – it really made her week. I don’t know if you’re aware but we bought her an iPad and she had such fun with it, listening to her favourite Abba songs and playing the games we put on it for her. She managed to work out how to find the things she wanted to do on it which I think is amazing considering how poorly she’s been.

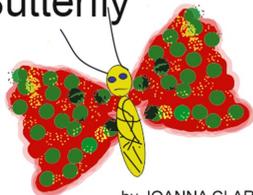
I know that Joanna was really inspired to be proactive with the computer which gave her

such pleasure to be able to produce something of value

to her and also it gave her confidence to find her way around her own laptop. Her bedroom was adorned with so many of her



Butterfly



by JOANNA CLARK

colourful pictures of birds, butterflies, flowers & shapes. She loved colour."



A butterfly



A flash of yellow! It's a brimstone, the first butterfly of spring. It looked just like a leaf when its wings were folded. Not even hungry birds could spot it.

But now it swoops and flutters around the garden, as bright as a daffodil. By Joanna.



IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE LAW – HOW WILL THIS AFFECT YOU?

Please tell us your contact preferences so we can stay in touch....

Compaid is committed to protecting your privacy and security and since August 2017 we have been asking our supporters to “opt-in” in order to keep receiving our marketing and fundraising communications and this newsletter. This is due to a change to the rules which govern how we can communicate with you and a new regulation on personal data (the General Data Protection Regulation) coming into force on 25 May 2018.

To ensure that we comply with these new regulations we are now required to obtain your consent about how we can contact you. This means you need to tell us that you are happy to receive newsletters, event and fundraising information from us and to select how you want to receive them (by email, phone or post).



We would like to thank all of you who have already given consent for us to continue sending you information and would ask anyone who now wishes to give consent to contact either [Diane Bradley](#) or [Nicky Buckwell](#) by email or by calling on 01892 834539 so that a consent form can be sent to you. It is really important to us that we are able to contact our supporters and keep them updated of the invaluable work that Compaid does to help disabled and vulnerable people.

It is also easy to change your mind at any time by contacting Diane by email dianebradley@compaid.org.uk, or in writing to Fundraising Manager, Compaid, Unit 1 Eastlands, Maidstone Road, Paddock Wood TN12 6BU or telephoning 01892 834539.

Co-op stores in East Peckham support Compaid



Compaid was delighted to be chosen as one of the charities supported by the Co-op Local Community fund from May to November 2017. Funding for the local community fund comes from Co-op members who decide which causes to support in their local community. Through the fund every time members buy selected Co-op products 1% of what is spent is given to the chosen local charity.



As a result of this support Compaid has received an amazing **£2,040.03**. A cheque was collected from the Branbridges Road Co-op petrol station by Diane Bradley and Nicky Buckwell in November and our thanks go to all the staff at the two East Peckham Co-op stores and to

the Co-op members who elected Compaid as their local charity.

In addition the Co-op petrol station on Branbridges Road kindly located collection boxes on their tills and from May to December these boxes raised an additional **£643.55**.

We are extremely grateful for all the support received from the local Co-op branches.



Fundraising—how you can help!



Did you know that you can support Compaid when you shop online?

It is so easy - every time you shop online via easyfundraising at one of the 3,300 retailers including John Lewis, Sainsbury's and Amazon, a donation will be made to Compaid, and **it won't cost you an extra penny**. It's really simple to get started:



Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/compaid/ to sign up for free. All you need to do is to take a couple of minutes to set this fundraising tool up on your computer then start shopping!

Every time you buy something online you will be prompted to do so through the easyfundraising site, which will then automatically donate a percentage to Compaid in return for your purchase with that store. It couldn't be easier!

There are no catches or hidden charges and Compaid will be really grateful for your participation.

We already have 31 supporters linked to easyfundraising and they have already raised over £200 - but imagine how much more could be raised if everyone reading this newsletter signs up!

I would ask that you take a few minutes to sign up, and it would be great if you could pass on this link to family, friends or anyone else who you think may be willing to support Compaid in this way.

Making regular donations to Compaid

Many charities, both large and small have a number of individuals who make a regular donation to them every month. At Compaid, we are very grateful to the Charitable Trusts, local groups, businesses and individuals who do regularly support our work, and we would like to encourage more people to consider making a regular donation to us.

2018 will be a challenging year for us – to help us meet the needs of over 1,800 adults and children we will need to raise around **£180,000** of voluntary income. If 125 people set up a regular monthly donation of £10, that would raise – including GiftAid paid to us by HMRC - £18,750 in 12 months, including Gift Aid paid to us by HMRC. This is just over 10% of what we need to raise in 2018.

Over a year £10 a month would allow us to pay for one of our Trainers to deliver six computer support sessions, or £20 a month could pay for fuel for one of our accessible minibuses for four weeks.

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 the how often you want 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

If you are a UK taxpayer you can also complete a GiftAid 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 on 01892 834539 or by email at dianebradley@compaid.org.uk or nickybuckwell@compaid.org.uk.

Hive Lottery supporting Tonbridge and Malling area

Hive is another local community lottery helping to raise money for good causes, in this case for those in the Tonbridge and Malling area. As with TW Lotto Compaid is one of the featured causes on the website. Tickets are £1 and from every ticket Compaid will receive 50p. A further 18p will be spent on additional local good causes which benefit the Tonbridge and Malling area.



Unity Lottery continues to produce more Compaid winners!

This was the first lottery which Compaid joined in 2016. Since the last newsletter I am delighted to say that we have had another 5 wins for our current 14 members.

This lottery is designed to give good causes the chance to gain support and raise valuable funds through their own weekly lottery draw.

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.

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 – match 6 digits to win the top prize of **£25,000**.



Teddy Bears wanted!

Saturday 14 July – Paddock Wood Carnival . This year we will be holding a **Teddy Bear Tombola** on the Compaid stall. So we are looking for any **new** teddy bears - any shape, any size, any colour. All **new** bears gratefully received!! Please contact Diane or Nicky if you are able to donate a bear and help make the stall success.



2018 Dates for your diary

We are currently looking for volunteers or members of staff who would be happy to help with the following events:

Sunday 18 February – Individuals are required to marshal at the **Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon** – from approximately 08.30 until 13.00. No previous experience is required as you would be paired with an experienced marshal. In return for helping with the event Compaid will receive a donation from the organisers.

Sunday 8 April – Individuals are required to marshal at the **Paddock Wood Half Marathon** – the details are much the same as for the Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon. In addition we are looking for people who would be willing to act as parking attendants! Last year we raised £780 for Compaid in parking donations!

If you would like to help at either of the events please contact Diane Bradley (dianebradley@compaid.org.uk) or Nicky Buckwell (nickybuckwell@compaid.org.uk), either by email or on 01892 834539, as soon as possible. Thank you!

My story, by Compaid Client Rob Smith

My name is Robert Smith and I am 31 years old. I have been coming to Compaid for over one year, and I come on Mondays and Fridays. Compaid helps me to use computers for various different projects and the people are quite friendly too.



(This is a picture of me helping at the Compaid stall at the Paddock Wood Carnival).

One of my hobbies is going to see horror movies at the cinema. My favourite film is 'It' and my favourite character was Pennywise the clown who didn't scare me! And also I go for meals out with friends and family. I go to Scotts project on a Thursday. I also enjoy swimming and I won a gold medal in 2013 at the Kent swimming championship. You can see a video by clicking this link <https://youtube/MEjPrB4MPf0>

At Compaid I have produced birthday cards, get-well cards and I have designed some T-shirts like the one on the right. I have also done a family tree. I have traced back my family to the early 20th century where I discovered that my great grandmother Nelly Beard was a draper. She lived in West Malling and reports say she was a beautiful lady.



I also enjoy travelling and I went to New York. I went to the top of the Empire State building where I saw for miles and miles! And I went to see 'Stomp the musical' in Broadway and I walked around Central Park.

*My experience on “Popmaster”, by Jo Montgomery,
Compaid Driver, Ashford
Area*



I've long been a fan of Ken Bruce's "Pop Master" competition (BBC Radio 2, 10:30am weekdays).

On Thursday 31st August 2017, suffering from a very bad cold and

feeling a bit bored at home alone, I plucked up the courage to actually ring in. After phoning the number on numerous occasions, I was lucky enough to get through. After answering a few preliminary questions, I was told I had qualified to take part live on air with Ken Bruce at 10:30 and to be ready for his call! During the short wait I was very nervous but also excited.

The phone rang...a lady said "you will be live on air after this song" which I could hear playing down the phone. When it finished I was introduced by Ken as "Jo from Ashford". As I was home alone I wasn't sure if anyone I knew would be listening, but surprisingly lots of people were, including Jim from Compaid – my new boss! I had to answer a string of pop questions, some of which I got correct, some I didn't (including failing to recognise a clip by Mott the Hoople, much to Jim's dismay!). I am an '80's girl', loving the music of that era as it was the background to my teenage years.

My score at the end was 15 points, then another contestant came on who also went on to score 15, so a tie-breaker had to be asked. Luckily I got my final question right and he didn't, so much to my surprise I was announced as the winner!

I was awarded a lovely Bluetooth speaker in the shape of a retro microphone which arrived in the post a few days later.

It was a really exciting few minutes, which I thoroughly enjoyed... why don't you give it a go if you like pop music, you might win too, but even if you don't the experience is a great talking point with your friends!



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