

Dear Families,

Well our Gympie team certainly knows out to step out in style. The Zinc 96.1 FM "Pink" Race Day event was held in July at the Gympie Racecourse and Zinc FM nominated Compass to be the recipient of a percentage of gate takings. With the exception of one sadly 'horse allergic' trainee, all the Gympie trainees, trainers and some families joined with trainees up from the Farm and Caloundra, to cheer the horses on. It was a magnificently colourful day with the crowds warmly welcoming our team.

On a more serious note I would like to ask you the families and carers to help us keep our trainees safe. When you ask trainers to administer medication during the day at Compass, could you make sure the medication has a pharmacy label with the trainee's name and the dosage clearly typed (The pharmacy should also willingly also do this for non-prescription medication such as Panadol.) Supplements (such as calcium etc.) should also be clearly marked with name and dosage and in the original containers. Medication/supplements must be accompanied by a clearly filled out Medication Authorisation Form. Trainers will staple one to the back of your communication book to assist or they can be found on our website at www.compassinc.org.au/?s=medication

For everyone's safety we cannot administer medication to trainees if these conditions are not met. The medication will be locked away and returned to the trainee to take home at the end of the day.

Families were asked recently to be part of a National Disability Service workshop which aimed to assess the Social Return on Investment that Compass may have made to our trainees and their carers' lives. In simple terms – 'what difference has Compass made?'

I would like to sincerely thank those families and trainees who gave up time to participate. Your stories and feedback were invaluable and I also have a quiet suspicion that everyone enjoyed the chance to 'share' with other families.

Kind regards
Sally Ryhanen
(Acting Service Manager)

Compass is Proudly Sponsored by.....



Date Claimers

10th – 16th August 2013
Independence Week

Sunday 1st September 2013
Fathers Day

Thursday 19th September 2013
CET Break Up Day

Friday 20th September 2013
P2DAY Break Up Day

Monday 30th September 2013
Term 4 Recommences

Monday 7th October 2013
Labour Day

Saturday 23rd November 2013

★ AWARDS NIGHT ★

25th – 29th November 2013
Craft/Market Week

Thursday 5th December 2013
CHRISTMAS MARKET DAY



This is your chance to own a piece of State of Origin History!!

Thanks to the Meninga family, Compass has been fortunate enough to acquire an authentic **Queensland State of Origin Jersey** that has been signed by the whole 2013 team.

It is beautifully framed and ready to be hung in your pool room.

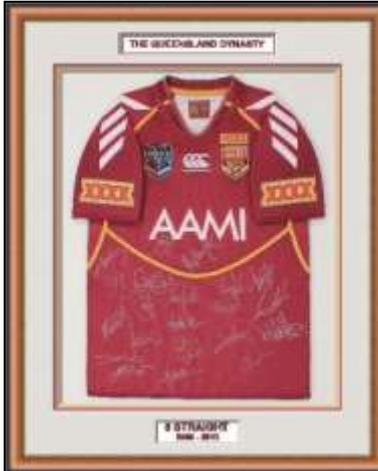
This wonderful item is currently being auctioned on the Compass website where you can place your bid or bids.

Bids will close on the day of the NRL Grand Final on the 6th of October 2013.

You know the old saying...

"You've got to be in it to win it!"
Make sure YOU are in it!

Of course all funds raised from the sale of the jersey will go to providing vital resources for the great young people at Compass so you are supporting a terrific cause at the same time!





Race Day

On Saturday the 27th of July, Zinc 96.1 FM held their Race Day event at the Gympie Racecourse. They, like Hot FM on Ladies Oaks Day, nominated Compass to be the recipient of a percentage of gate takings. Compass also received around \$500 in kind donations from the race goers on the day.

All funds raised will be directed to our Gympie Centre for much needed resources. Staff and trainees from Gympie and the Farm attended as well as one Caloundra trainee who travelled far and wide to join in on the fun.

We thank you Zinc FM for your generous support!



From David's Desk



Dear Parents & friends,

One of the most exciting aspects of our development at Compass over the past three years has been the creation of our Social Enterprise arm. Originally conceived in Europe some forty years ago, the concept of social enterprise has spread worldwide and Australia has many large and small ones these days. There are many different definitions that attempt to describe the concept but the broadest is a mainstream operation that employs sound business principles with the primary goal of creating employment and/or other social benefits for those who are disadvantaged in some way. While many commercial businesses have social benefit as part of their agenda, **it's the primacy of that goal over commercial aspirations that differentiate business and social enterprise. I was first exposed to the concept in the 1980's in New Zealand and have always been attracted to it for the vocational opportunities that they create for people with a disability.**

The alternative vocational arrangement for people with disabilities that has traditionally existed in Australia has been sheltered workshops. These are usually distinguished by two main things – the menial, highly repetitive nature of much of the work and the isolation of the workshop setting from the rest of the community. Social enterprises sit inside the community and the people with disabilities who work inside them access the same natural pathways that link the enterprise with the community as people without disabilities. The work aspect of the enterprise will follow the same rhythms and cycles as a parallel commercial operation. Compass now has several social enterprise streams available to the young people as they transition from the Education and Training centres. These include the Market gardens / orchards (horticultural work), Site services team (landscaping and maintenance around the Farm & buildings), Nursery team (seedlings and plant production) and the Contracts team (Window cleaning, lawns & gardens in the community). There are approximately 20 young people employed across these areas at present. The aim now is to expand these enterprises in several areas. First up will be a Harvest Kitchen team (based at the Farm producing a wide array of condiments – chutney, pickles, jam and so on). Secondly we are seeking to establish a retail outlet in Palmwoods where we can sell our arts & crafts along with the condiments, Farm and Nursery produce and **similar. This is still in the planning stages however we'll keep you informed. Finally we are also investigating opportunities for a social enterprise in the Caloundra area to provide similar opportunities and benefits to the young people at the Caloundra centre. More on that as it develops also.**

The first rule of a social enterprise is to get the business side of things right. If this area isn't sound it means any future employment opportunities will not be stable. The aim for each enterprise is to cover its costs so like any business, it means investing in the planning and development first while making sure the right people are in place... and this is where we are focused at present. There is always some urgency to this development as more young people complete their secondary education and want to attend Compass.

You will soon receive an invitation to attend a short meeting at your centre where Michael McDade and Celia Swales from National Disability Services will speak with you to get your feedback and thoughts on this area and other Compass services. This is part of a unique opportunity for Compass and our families to participate in a Social Return on Investment (SROI) study that can very much influence our future success with the above projects and similar. I hope that you will make the time to participate and I look forward to seeing you there.

On another subject, I can tell you that Norm has recently completed a 6 week course of treatment and will be **undergoing further tests in about a weeks' time. It's a case of fingers crossed for a good result so please send him your prayers and/or best wishes.**

Thank you as always for your support.

David