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Dear Families,

We are pleased that we are able to increase the number of service days by 3, for the 2103 calendar. Please note the previous calendar had staff training for the full first week of July this will now only be over 2 days so Compass All Units (CAU) will commence on the 3rd July and the 2 day program (P2DAY) will start term 3 on the 5th July. Can you all also mark in your calendar Term 4 will start on the 30th September.

The focus this month certainly had a strong 'Community' flavour to it. Compass has been out and about fundraising, entertaining and helping the community.

The Mothers' Day Market this year was the best yet; busy, colourful, financially successful and an amazing amount of fun. While everyone worked at a high professional standard, the highlight for me was Erin from the Palmwoods' centre performing with her harp. Quite wonderful Erin.

Trainees have been working hard behind the scenes to make sure the Nambour Show this year is a success. Our 'show stopping' workers from the Caloundra and Palmwoods centres have been preparing and filling the Heritage Show Bags at the Heritage Bank in Nambour. Caloundra set the pace on the first day filling 400 bags in one session. The competition is on and we are awaiting the result from the Palmwoods team. The Farm 'muscle' is being directed out at the grounds helping to erect fences, put up posters and place the plant pots. Everyone has done such a good job that the organisers are hoping all crews will be available next year. Well done guys.



A glittering fundraising event on May 30th was organised by the Caloundra Lionesses (the real power behind the 'Lions') with dress codes including flamboyant feathers for the ladies and bright braces for the men. We celebrated the decadence of 'The Great Gatsby' era at the Caloundra cinema. A really magic night.

Thank you Lionesses for your entertaining support.

Before we could catch our breath the next morning we were all off to Ladies Oaks Day at the Sunshine Coast Turf Club. Our young ladies shone in the ring, escorting the Bachelors in the parade and our young gentlemen mingled with the crowd collecting donations to be used to further develop our services for our young people. The generosity of the racegoers, racing club and Hot 91FM was incredible.

On a more serious but joyous note, Compass recently passed its annual audit and if I could remain with a racing theme – did so with 'flying colours'.

Kind regards
Sally Ryhanen
(Acting Service Manager)



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Raffle Winner

Aquatic Passes Kaylene
DW Newsagency Gail Jones
\$100 Voucher Wendy
Basket—Coles Joy Clarke

Date Claimers

Monday 3rd June 2013
Environmental Week

Monday 10th June 2013
Queens Birthday –Public Holiday

Friday 14th June 2013
Sunshine Coast Show
(Palmwoods Centre only Closed)

Thursday 20st June 2013
CAU Break Up day

Friday 21st June 2013
P2DAY Break Up day

★ **New Dates** ★

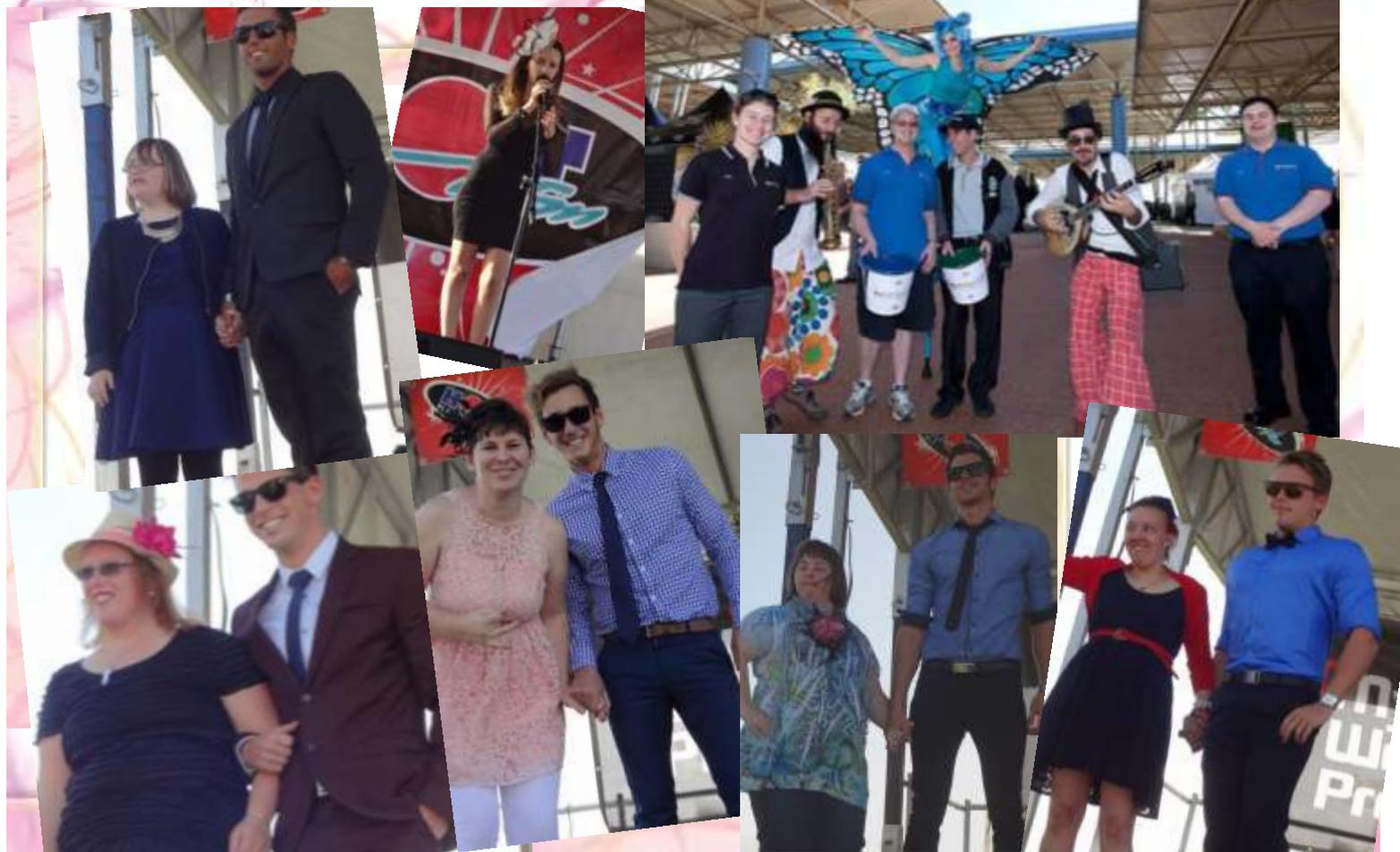
Wednesday 3rd July 2013
CAU Term 3 Resumes

Friday 5th July 2013
P2Day Program Resumes

Monday 30th September 2013
CAU Term 4 Recommences



Ladies Oaks Day 2013



Continuous Improvement Plan

At Compass we are committed to ongoing service improvement. If you have a suggestion about how we can improve our service, please write your suggestion on one of our **Service Improvement Suggestion Forms** available from the office, our centres or our website: www.compassinc.org.au and we will consider every idea.

Advocacy

Remember that you are able to bring along an advocate or support person to any meeting that you have with Compass. An advocate is someone who is there to support you or represent you and your interests in circumstances where you feel that this additional support is required. Please ask us if you need more information or assistance with organising for an advocate.

COMPASS CALENDAR

Need to check dates for the holidays or a special event? Our Annual Planner Calendar is available 24/7 at www.compassinc.org.au



From David's Desk



Dear parents and friends,

The NDIS or DisabilityCare as it is now called has certainly been in the news recently and people are very interested in the concept and impact. Just this morning I attended a breakfast where people including local politicians (and aspiring politicians :)) and quite a few business people wanted to know more about and understand the scheme and what it means to the sector and the community. I was able to share the same information and perspectives that we considered back in our April newsletter with them and it was received with a great deal of positivity. I think **many people in politics and business haven't considered the economic aspects of the scheme and how it can benefit employment, reduce red tape and open up markets in areas such as training and assistive technology.**

On the home front, Compass recently underwent our annual audit of service and I'm happy to say that we passed with flying colours – the audit team were again very complimentary about the service particularly citing...

1. the individualised planning processes
2. the valued status accorded the trainees
3. the many links to the community
4. the very open and proactive management of any concerns
5. the recruitment and retention of very capable, dedicated staff and the ongoing focus on professional development
6. the clear identity of and cohesion between the philosophy and practice of the organisation

This final observation I think is the key. At some time most of us have known someone who tries very hard to be what others want or expect them to be. Perhaps we all do this to some extent at times. In the end I think we all know we have to be true to ourselves and what we believe in. And this is true for any organisation also. A little while back I acknowledged that Compass cannot be everything to everybody. We believe in the power of ongoing education – **life-long learning no matter the extent of a person's capacity** – to help people become their best selves. We believe that, in **our field in particular, this type of personal growth requires close relationships that can't be achieved where there might be ten students to one staff member.** We believe that sometimes we need to sacrifice things to achieve our goals. **We believe that there needs to be a pathway people can tread at their own pace. We believe that organisations can't replace parents, but can share some important parts of the way with them.**

At the recent Champagne Diamond, Robyn Brown (Compass parent) shared not only her wonderful musical talent with the attendees but also a really educational presentation on the life of a parent of a person with a disability. Her presentation highlighted not only the extensive nature of the role but also how many extras there are that need to be taken into account. Robyn also clearly demonstrated how a service organisation like Compass can complement the work of the parent and help enrich the life of the whole family. I think we might need to video her presentation and put it on our website.

One of the things I believe passionately in is the role of a social enterprise in promoting a real sense of achievement through flexible vocational experience for people with a disability. You only have to see the young people involved in market production, manning the market stalls, on the Farm, in the office, doing the carwashes, or out doing lawns, gardens or window cleaning to see the truth in that. When people are in the Education & Training units, **their programme includes helping them try out a range of recreational pursuits to help them decide what things they'd like to pursue in their lives outside service hours and build some skills to help them participate meaningfully.** As they begin to spend more time in the social enterprises / work time, the emphasis shifts to them accessing more of those things in their spare time.

A quick update on Norm's health – Norm really is facing a difficult battle and is currently commencing a very debilitating course of treatment that will span the next couple of months. He is in good spirits and we have regular contact with him. He sends his thanks for all your well wishes and hopes to be in a position to see you all again after his treatment. I can tell you he is missing his work, the staff, families and all the young people a great deal. Please keep him in your thoughts.

David