

Dear families and friends of Compass

Thank you to all trainees, families and staff for your wonderful hard work and tremendous support during the first quarter this year. We have been really busy and achieved so much in such a short period of time. The Gympie Centre opened in February, and by March we had also started a service in Caboolture. We have finalised the recruitment process for the new positions, and these appointments will be effective from next quarter:

- Caboolture—Kylie Southon
- Caloundra—Michelle Hodges
- Palmwoods—Natalie Garozzo

A big thank you to Keryn and Sharon for being part of the selection process.

During the trainee break, staff will be involved in staff training. Some of the areas covered this time will be EFT (Emotional Freedom Techniques) presented by Ian Newton and Positive Behaviour Support presented by Daniela Devetti of the University of Queensland. We will also cover Policies and Procedures, Operational Procedures as well as intensive curriculum planning.

Since doing our Yearly Planner at the end of last year, there have been some changes to our Public Holidays. Originally the Queen's Birthday was to be held on 7 October. This has been moved back to the previous date of 10 June. The Labour Day holiday that was meant to be held on 6 May has now been moved to the 7 October which was the Queen's Birthday date...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all families, supporters and staff for their tremendous support and commitment to our service. It is always such a positive and rewarding experience to have the honour of working with such great people each and every day. Have a happy and safe Easter everyone.

Compass is Proudly Sponsored by.....



Date Claimers

Monday 1st April 2013	Easter Monday
Thursday 25th April 2013	ANZAC Day
Monday 29th April 2013	Market Week Prep
Thursday 9th May 2013	Market Day
Monday 12th May 2013	Mothers Day
Friday 17th May 2013	Gympie Show
Friday 31st May 2013	Maleny Show
Monday 3rd June 2013	Environmental Week
Monday 10th June 2013	Queens Birthday –Public Holiday



**Graydon Gallery,
29 Merthyr Road
New Farm QLD 4005, Australia**

**Tuesday 16, April 2013 @ 10:00 AM until
Saturday 20, April 2013 @ 12:00 PM**



Art from the Margins and Wesley Mission are delighted to invite you to celebrate the 2013 Heiser Gallery Emerging Artists Exhibition.

Please join with us and the artists - Mark Davey, Luke Fitzgerald, Jo Morris and Colleen Stevenson at the Graydon Gallery on Saturday 20 April 2013 from 2.30 pm.

To assist us with organisation RSVP by Monday April 15 to Tony Anderton Manager Art from the Margins - Ph 3621 4540 or email a.anderton@wmb.org.au

Fiona and Gar got married

As some families might know, one of our previous long standing trainers from Palmwoods and Caloundra tied the knot with her long time beau.

On Friday the 8th of March 2013 at 3pm in Agnes Waters, a beautiful Fiona and handsome Gareth (Gar) happily became Mr and Mrs Williams. The Wedding started off with some showers but luckily stopped just in time for the ceremony, and held off until the end. The evening was spent with a castle cake, yummy food, dancing and a photo booth for some wacky photos. Surrounded by a beautiful setting they had a wonderful day with family and friends.



MOOLOOLABA SPECIAL TRIATHLON

swim • bike • run

As the coast prepared to be inundated by thousands of athletes for the Mooloolaba Triathlon, Compass trainee Jesse was in the final preparations for his race.

This budding triathlete lined up on Saturday morning to take on the 100m Swim / 1km Cycle / 300m Run. For many this distance wouldn't even be attempted but for Jesse, months of training was about to pay off.

With his "buddy" beside him, Jesse powered through the course and finished with a smile and a medal—stating his favourite part was having people lining the streets and giving high fives.

Jesse is continuing on with his training, ready to race again at the Noosa Triathlon festival in early November. We cant wait to see him compete again.



Hi Guys,

Contract crew here. We have had a great start to the New Year. Even though this rain does not seem to be going anywhere, we have managed to complete lawns between the dry spells. We have had some new contracts come on board and with new flyers printed out and ready for distribution, we should be on our way to being out and about all day.

We would like to welcome our new crew member Caitlin from the Palmwoods centre who has come on board one day a week at the moment, and is showing great progress Welcome Caitlin.

Contract Crew



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

Champagne Diamond

10th May 2013, 11.30am-3.30pm
Maroochy Events Centre



Celebrity Guest Speaker
Corinne Grant
(actor, writer, comedian)

No raffles,
No auctions,
Just entertainment!

Includes canapés,
a 2-course lunch*,
drinks, live music &
a \$20 cash draw ticket
(1st prize \$2,000!) for only \$140pp.

Dress code - Formal attire
*Gluten free & vegetarian options available on request.

Book now:

(07) 5457 3716  **bookings@compassinc.org.au**

Major Sponsor Also sponsored by:



Calling all mothers and daughters
for a *stunning* charity event.

Win a spectacular
diamond worth
\$13,000!



All proceeds go to
The Compass Institute
a Sunshine Coast charity
supporting young people with disabilities.

I wanted to formally invite you to a special fundraiser we're holding in May called Champagne Diamond. We've been working on this for over 5 months with our major sponsor, Heritage Bank - Palmwoods.

The event will be held on Friday 10th May from 11.30am to 3.30pm and it's going to be huge! Someone is going to win a \$13,000 diamond and there are many different kinds of prizes to give away on the day. We're really excited about this event. We're looking to have around 200 people attend. Which means you get around a one in 200 chance to win a diamond worth \$13,000! Which are very good odds for such a huge prize.

I am happy to inform you that we have secured **Corinne Grant** as guest speaker on the day. You've probably heard of Corinne, she is an actress: an original core cast of *Rove Live*, founding member and core cast of *The Glass-House* and a core cast of *SkitHOUSE*. She has appeared on *Spicks and Specks*, *Dancing with the Stars* and *Good News Week*. She is also going to appear in the movie *Goddess* this year. She is a writer for newspapers: *The Herald Sun* and *The Age* in addition to having written her own book. Plus she is a comedienne! Her natural,

down-to-earth charm and her quick wit have made her one of Australia's best known, and most warmly regarded performers.

Hannah McEwan and Paul Taylor, the weather presenter and local news reader, from Win TV have come on board as MC's.

Tickets are \$140 per person. This includes canapés, a 2-course lunch (vegetarian and gluten free options available on request), all drinks, live music and a \$20.00 cash draw ticket (first prize \$2,000). This will be a really stylish and quality event. We're not going to be asking you to reach into your pocket and pay for anything further – like raffles or auctions.

All proceeds go to Compass. They will be used to help us develop much needed accommodation options for people with disabilities on the Sunshine Coast – our Independent Living Training Centre.

Keep an eye out for our TV and Newspaper ads, as well as our posters around the Coast. We really hope you can attend.

Please email bookings@compassinc.org.au or phone (07) 5457 3716 to secure your place.

From David's Desk



As you are all probably aware the National Disability Insurance Scheme passed into law in March. Unanimous support from both houses of Parliament, particularly given the current extraordinary dysfunction within Australian federal politics, is a remarkable achievement. This will see the NDIS probably coming into being from July this year. The Federal government has also recently renamed the scheme DisabilityCare Australia to link it in the public's mind with Medicare.

The key question you are probably wanting answered is "How does this affect us?" And the answer is simple – very little at this time. As your son or daughter is already either:

- a. receiving a recurrent package to provide support, or
- b. funded through Compass as part of some small 'block funding' we receive each year from the government

So there will be no real change to your circumstances.

There is still no accepted model for how funds will be paid under the NDIS. Under the present arrangement, once you notified the State government of your choice to have Compass support your son / daughter, the department undertook to transfer those funds every quarter to Compass. Compass then acquits those funds every quarter and undergoes an annual financial audit and an annual Service Standards audit to ensure that the funds are used appropriately.

There is no doubt that you will retain the right to negotiate with your service provider for the service you require. **The issue that I see arising is one where the public will have the expectation that the introduction of the NDIS will mean they will get more, if not all, the support they require. This will not happen.** What will happen is that where many people with a disability have previously not been funded at all, there will now be some support for all those who qualify under the scheme. The financial allocation per person is unlikely to change very much and it is possible that the introduction of the NDIS could push the costs of service provision up in the sector.

I have already seen a lot of talk about brokerage models... where the service user allocates the funds to a service provider who won't actually provide a service – rather they will broker the actual support to other service providers. Naturally this will incur a fee and lower the buying power of the actual package. There have also been examples trialled in other states where funds have been paid direct to the families (self-managed funds) so they can then purchase the support they require. These trials have largely been a disaster as people have spent the money (in some cases on things like a holiday) and then come back for further support. Self-management also makes the family responsible for all the insurances for the workers it employs, meeting all relevant legislation currently met by service providers and being responsible for meeting the Human Services Quality framework. (In some Australian states there has also been a move towards 1:1 support models which sees an average support package gone on as few as 8 hours support per week.)

To reiterate, the big plus for a move to the NDIS is that all Australians born with a disability or who incur a disability in their lifetime will now automatically have access to some support. How broad and well managed that support will be is still in its early stages, however organisations like Compass and the National Disability Services continue to lobby for the best possible outcome. Feel free to email me directly if you have any concerns about your personal situation and I will endeavour to help you in any way I can.

David