# **DIRECTIONS**

## Compass Project Newsletter

# SESTATING HEARTH

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#### Compass filmed for 'Our Earth Week'

Compass were delighted to take part in **NESCAN's 'Our Earth Week'** filming last month for a feature documentary celebrating the good work happening across Aberdeen by organisations such as ourselves. Compass Enterprise and Development Manager, Anna Fulop, presented some of the sustainability initiatives developed on site, to showcase how we are helping communities to live better and find solutions to climate change.

Our thanks to NESCAN who helped organise the event, to the SHMU team who ensured the filming ran smoothly and to our volunteer 'extras'!

Watch this space for news on when the film will be released; we couldn't have picked a more beautiful day to share



#### **Welcome Tim!**

We are delighted to introduce our new **Project Manager**, **Tim Walker**, who joined the Compass team this month.

Initially supporting the project as a volunteer, Tim's background knowledge of Compass and his

professional experience will help us progress the refurbishment of both multi-purpose hall and enterprise buildings. Watch this space!

#### We're on Instagram!

Follow us to enjoy sneaky peeks of what is happening at Compass today!





We are delighted to have a number of volunteer drivers on board to help our social prescribing participants, and some of our volunteers, access activities at Compass where transport poses a problem. This also supports the Compass team in building in more time to deliver activities and develop the project further. Thank you!



# **Aberdeen City Beautiful Scotland**

Compass was delighted to contribute to Aberdeen City's Beautiful Scotland presentation in Duthie Park at the end of last year. Katerina Lucas, Compass Outdoor Worker, pictured right with Lord Provost of Aberdeen, David Cameron and Steven Shaw, Environmental Manager of Aberdeen City Council at 'It's Your Neighbourhood' celebration, represented the project with a beautiful arrangement of Compass produce in September. This, along with other projects and community contributions, led to Aberdeen receiving the gold award in 2023.

# **Wreath Making Workshop**

Katerina Lucas, a member of Compass Outdoor team, was delighted to facilitate a rewarding wreath making workshop for Compass volunteers in December. The enjoyment of creating these festive displays in a warm and friendly environment can be seen by the joy in the participant's faces as they delighted in learning a new skill.



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# **Buildings**

Multi-Purpose Hall: The sustainable refurbishment of the Multi-Purpose Hall is
progressing well with new energy-efficient lights now installed in the main hall, ground floor corridor
and new office space. We are now aiming to open the hall by May 2024 - get in touch if you'd like to
find out more about hiring a space in our refurbished multi-purpose hall.

#### **Outdoor Spaces**

Rebuilding the Boundary:

Thanks to both staff and volunteers, progression has been made on the boundary wall of the garden area using dry stone walling techniques. Join us on our next Saturday volunteer day (3rd February) under the guidance of Outdoor Area Manager, Olivier Billaud, to continue this work and make a difference onsite.



We also are delighted to share the difference that a few hours of volunteering can make. Thanks to the hard work of Compass Volunteer Ian, the core path entering the site from the south is no longer looking overgrown and unkempt making the path much more accessible! This work was done in agreement with, and to support, Aberdeen City Council. Thanks Ian!



December also saw the installation of the first Compass 'hot-bed' inside the polytunnel. Made with horse manure, straw and fresh woodchip, the theory is the heat from the decomposing materials will help heat the polytunnel during winter time and support an earlier growing season both on the bed

and in the outdoor structure. Come and find out how the hot-bed is doing when you visit us onsite!

• Produce Pop-Ups: every Thur 2pm - 4pm, Fri 10am - 1pm & 1st Saturday / month, 10am - 4pm Enjoy a range of seasonal produce including Compass honey and Compass Firewood. Stock up on firewood during the colder months; bags are available for sale at just £10.50 or you can bulk buy a cubic metre for £105. We also have kindling for sale. To place your order or find out more, email: garden@cwt.scot .

#### **Volunteers**

 Local support: We've received an incredible 7800 hours of volunteering time from over 780 volunteers, including schools & corporate groups - thank-you!

#### Volunteer days:

We offer regular week day opportunities to volunteer at Compass:

Wednesday afternoon: 1.30pm - 4pm | Thursday morning: 9.30am - 12noon

Let us know you are coming: compass@cwt.scot - we can let you know the tasks!

Sign up as a Volunteer!

SESTANABLE LIGHT







Saturdays: Our first Saturday event of 2024 will take place on: Sat 3rd February '24, 9.30 - 4pm. We look forward to welcoming you back!



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## **Fundraising**

Phase 1: Sep 2020 - Sep 2021: achieved £200,000

Phase 2: Oct 2021 - Sep 2024 | Current amount raised: £1,076,012 | Target: £1.5 million

- Phase 2 Funding: Our next fundraising goal is to raise £1,500,000 by September 2024.
   We have raised an incredible £1,076,012 so far thanks to grants, donations, produce sales and a generous anonymous donor.
- **Funding Success:** We are delighted to have received an award of £337 from the Tree Council's Branching Out Fund to support the expansion of our orchard. The fruit trees will be planted with the help of our young volunteers from Camphill Schools Aberdeen and Duke of Edinburgh / Saltire Award individuals.



Support us! You can donate online through our LocalGiving campaign page or by cheque to:
 Compass, Camphill Wellbeing Trust, St Devenicks, Murtle Estate, Bieldside, Aberdeen, AB15 9EN.

#### **PR & Connections**

- Food Networks: Leigh attended the annual Aberdeen Community Food Network's Food Champion
  Connect event on 5th December 2023. Leigh, our Volunteer and Social Prescribing Coordinator, represented
  Compass and was delighted to meet Food Champions already established in the community in preparation for
  the opening of our Zero Waste Kitchen.
- Seed Box Connections: We welcomed Pam from the Seed Box onsite this month who was interested in learning more about the services we offer at Compass. Seed Box is a social enterprise based in Aboyne which offers day service activities for adults with additional support needs through horticultural and outdoor activities.

## **Upcoming Events**

Monthly Volunteering Day: Saturday 3rd February 2024: 9.30am - 4pm



- ✓ Focus on Compass: Learn more about the project and its developments
  during our break-time at around 11am on Saturday.
- Weekday Volunteering: Volunteers are welcome throughout the week by prior arrangement or come along on a Wednesday afternoon (1.30pm - 4pm) or Thursday morning (9.30am - 12noon).
- Sign up as a volunteer using our <u>online form</u> to receive email reminders of upcoming events, seasonal produce pop-ups and news updates!
- NESCAN Climate Week North East (CWNE) 2024: The Compass team
  are planning a number of events to offer as part of the CWNE 2024 following a
  successful programme onsite last year. Keep an eye out for the announcement
  of workshops and tours at Compass and take part this March!

Sign up as a Volunteer!







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