### **DIRECTIONS**

### Compass Project Newsletter

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#### **Climate Week North East at Compass**

Compass is taking part in **NESCAN's Climate Week North East 2024** this month with guided tours of the Compass outdoor areas.

Learn more about how we support healthy, sustainable living in your local community, our volunteer opportunities and how the project is developing.

#### Join us!

Friday 22nd March: 10am - 4pm

for

free tours & activities starting every hour, on the hour.



For more information about this and other events which support climate action around Aberdeen City & Shire, visit:

https://climateweeknortheast.org/events/

#### **Indoor Spaces in the Outdoors**

Compass are delighted to receive funding from **The Nature Hub** in support of a **second volunteer hut**. With a generous award of **£6000** from The Nature Hubs Fund by Hubbub, the project will now be able to install a log cabin in the garden area for use by our outdoor volunteers.

This not only extends volunteer activities to all ages in any weather, but also promotes accessible space for younger school groups to join us in the garden, helping them connect with food growing and encouraging healthy eating.

It is envisaged these cabins will become central to the preparation of all our organic produce, allowing it to be sorted, cleaned and offered to the

local community through our Produce Pop-Ups or via our zero-waste kitchen (currently underdevelopment).



As a recipient of The Nature Hub funding, we also receive support from a **local Starbucks store** and look forward to welcoming the team of staff onside for a corporate volunteering / team building day with scope to assist in the erection of the cabin itself!



#### Learn with Us

The winter months are a great time to carry out maintenance of your garden tools. Our hand tools were cleaned, sanded and oiled during a recent volunteer session and now, thanks to our Compass volunteers, the tools are in tip-top shape ready for the growing season ahead.

As well as learning about tool maintenance, our weekday volunteers helped Katerina, Compass Outdoor Worker, to prune aromatic herbs to get the most out of them this season. Thanks to the wide knowledge / experience of our outdoor team, we have a wealth of information to share with you.

Keep an eye out for our 'How to' guides on topics such as pruning specialist plants to tips for growing successful tomatoes and strawberries. Follow our Instagram page for snippets of practical skills happening in the garden as the season happens! @cwt\_compass\_project

## **DIRECTIONS**

#### **Buildings**

Multi-Purpose Hall: Progress is ongoing with new doors and windows and heating system now
installed in the Multi-Purpose Hall. The Multi User Access with its striking gabion walls is nearing
completion. We continue to work towards a May / June 2024 opening. Get in touch 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, further work
  was carried out on the south boundary drystone wall during the last two
  Saturday volunteering sessions. Volunteers were led by our Outdoor Area
  Manager, Olivier, and the east section of the wall is progressing well.
- Branching Out with Students: Students from Camphill Schools Aberdeen
  (CSA) and International School Aberdeen (ISA), pictured below right, helped
  Compass expand the orchard last month. Five fruit trees, funded by the Tree
  Council's Branching Out fund, were planted along the terrace wall during their
  volunteering sessions.
- **Hot Beds:** The 'not-so hot' bed has warmed up at last! Using horse manure, straw and fresh woodchip, the hot bed not only helps to warm up the polytunnel, but can be used to start seedlings inside the polytunnel too. Come along during our volunteer sessions to find out more and see the bed in action.
- Growing gets going: The team are looking forward to bringing you fresh produce this season. Salad leaves have been sown in both polytunnel and garden areas to complement the lettuces already growing nicely in the polytunnel. Radishes have been sown in the polytunnel by volunteers and the strawberry beds have been spruced up in preparation for the growing season ahead. We hope to have lots of pollinators around thanks to flowers sown in the bank along the steps, supporting both plants and honey production as the Compass bees become more active. It feels like Spring has finally sprung!
- Produce Pop-Ups: every Thur 2pm 4pm, Fri 10am 1pm & 1st Saturday / month, 10am - 4pm

We have **plants in pots** (daffodils, polyanthus, foxgloves and lots more) and bunches **of organically grown eucalyptus** available on a donation basis. **Firewood** is for sale at just £10.50\* / bag or you can bulk buy a cubic metre for £105\*. **Kindling** is £10.50\* / 7kg bag.

Compass Honey for sale: Our bees have been busy! We are also delighted to offer you Compass honey at just £4 for a small jar and £7 for a larger jar. To place an order for any of our plants, firewood or produce, email: garden@cwt.scot or call/text 07874 837202.

## COMPASS HONEY Raw and unpasturised

\*prices include VAT

#### **Volunteers**

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

You can now self-refer to our social prescribing service: Skills for Health. Contact us on compass@cwt.scot or call 07874 837202 for an information pack



Sign up as a Volunteer!





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#### **Fundraising**

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

Phase 2: Oct 2021 - Sep 2024 | Current amount raised: £1,082,912 | 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 £1,082,912 so far thanks to grants, donations, produce sales and a generous anonymous donor.

Funding Success: We are delighted to have received a generous donation of £400 from the International School Aberdeen's High School Student Council and National Honor Society in support of the Compass Project, thank-you!



 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

- Calling all Student Volunteers: Our Project and Development Manager, Anna, will be taking part in the University of Aberdeen Volunteering and Charity Sector Fair 2024 on Thursday 7th March. Come along and say hi!
- Climate Week North East 2024: Olivier, our Outdoor Areas Manager, will attend the CWNE24 event 'Supporting our Wild Pollinators' at the James Hutton Institute on 15th March to learn how we can further support pollinators at Compass.
- Camphill Connections: Compass has been invited to attend the **Healthy Citizen Award Ceremony** held at Beannachar Camphill Community on 24th March. We are looking forward to the opportunity to further develop our links with the local Camphill organisation.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Monthly Volunteering Day: Saturday 6th April 2024: 9.30am 4pm
  - ✓ We have firewood, kindling and seasonal produce for sale. With our new card machine, we can now accept card payments and donations!

  - ✓ 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: Friday 22nd March, 10-4:
   Join us for free tours and activities at Compass this March!

Sign up as a Volunteer!







Compass Project | 07874 837202 | compass@cwt.scot www.compassaberdeen.org.uk CWTCompass cut compass project

