

Dear Supporters

In this first newsletter of the new year, I should like to look back before looking forward. On 31st December we said our good byes to Judith Jones after six stimulating years of her leading on the marketing & fundraising front for Rowan, opening up our horizons in an entirely new way. This was Judith's gift to us and we cannot thank her enough for all she achieved. Replacing Judith we welcome Bridget Cusack, whose background is in the arts and joins us from her role as Museum Development Co-ordinator at The Polar Museum. Joining us also is Susie Johnson, who has opened our first print workshop, which already our students are greeting with typical enthusiasm and enjoyment. The good ship Rowan has set sail buoyantly into 2015. We hope you will sail with us. With warmest wishes, **Margaret Phillips, Chairman**

Celebrating 30 Years in 30 Ways



We've been celebrating our 30th anniversary in 30 different ways. Starting back in September when staff, students and volunteers completed well over 30 miles of walking and pushing to raise funds for Rowan. We created a book of our students' self-portraits, which is on display at Rowan and available to purchase.

In December we unveiled our 30th anniversary tree sculpture. Located in Rowan's foyer and made out of wood off-cuts, this sculpture is inspired by the artwork of Gordon Peteran. If you look closely you might spot sections from finger labyrinths, carved animals and even the TARDIS! You can still support Rowan by having your name carved onto the tree. See our website for more details.

CSR 30 miles in 30 ways challenge

Local company CSR organised a fundraising event inspired by Rowan's 30th anniversary. They covered 30 laps of Cambridge Science Park in 30 different ways from juggling to being dressed as Darth Vader and even pulling a van! Some of our students were there to present star-shaped thank you badges to everyone who took part and a great time was had by all. The CSR team raised over £3,500 for Rowan at this event and then donated a further £2,000 to us. We're very grateful to our friends at CSR and look forward to working with them again this year.



Our AGM

Our AGM will be held 2pm – 3.30pm on Wednesday 25th February at Rowan. Everyone is welcome to come and hear a short update on Rowan and our future plans followed by tea and cake. We hope to see you there.



Winter Warmer

We had our best ever Winter Warmer and Open Studios event in December with record sales, fun felt making and of course Father Christmas' sleigh! Mayor Gerri Bird joined us to switch on the lights and unveil our 30th anniversary tree sculpture. We also had Cluzion Music playing live and new social enterprise, Turtle Dove kept the refreshments flowing.



New Student Places

Our new print and textiles studios means more student places are now on offer at Rowan. Do you know a friend who might be interested in coming to Rowan? Please let them know they can book a visit and free taster session.

Gift Vouchers

You can now buy 'Commission Your Own Artwork' gift vouchers from Rowan. See our website or contact us for details of the kinds of art works you can buy for £12, £20, £35 or £50.



Diary Dates

Rowan AGM

Wed February 25th, 2pm – 3.30pm

Print Exhibition at Rowan Opening

Wed 25th March, 5pm – 7.30pm

Cambridge Open Studios

Sat/Sun July 11th & 12th 11am – 6pm

Winter Warmer

Wed December 2nd, 5pm – 8pm

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If you would like to receive information about Rowan by email, including future newsletters, please contact Bridget Cusack.

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Printmaking at Rowan

2015 sees some exciting new opportunities for our students. Students will have seen some changes at Rowan with our large 3D studio being split into two rooms and our 'Changing Images' studio becoming a print making studio. Grants from the D&J Lloyd Community First Foundation and the Seymour Charitable Fund through Cambridgeshire Community Foundation has made this possible and we are very grateful for their financial support.

On Wednesday 25 March you are welcome to join us to celebrate our new facilities with the opening of an exhibition of prints made by our students. From 5pm until 7.30pm you will have an opportunity to take a look round the studio and meet with staff and students with refreshments provided.



Fond Farewells and Welcomes

Judith Jones has left her role as Marketing and Fundraising Manager at Rowan to pursue her art degree and other projects. We'd like to thank Judith for everything she's done for Rowan including a 30 mile sponsored cycle in November for our 30th anniversary. However it isn't the last we'll see of Judith who has promised to keep in touch and you may well see her filling in for other tutors over the coming months.



Bridget Cusack has joined us to take on Rowan's Marketing and External Engagement role. Bridget has a curatorial background and was recently the Museum Development Coordinator at The Polar Museum, Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge so brings some great experience.



We're also welcoming Susie Johnson as our new printmaking tutor to take up residence in our new studio bringing a wealth of artistic experience.

Pricewaterhouse Cooper Volunteers



Lovemore, Elizabeth, Meera, Liz & Vele from Pricewaterhouse Coopers joined us for an afternoon of volunteering in September. The volunteers enjoyed a break away from their desks, helping us with a number of projects. We really enjoyed working with them.

The Big Draw

We had a great time at the Big Draw in Chesterton and want to thank 'The Big Draw Chesterton' for donating £100 to Rowan from their refreshment sales.

Lagan Construction

We're very grateful to our friends at Marshalls Aerospace for introducing us to Lagan Construction from Belfast, who have donated nearly £500 to Rowan and will be helping us with some upcoming building projects.