

Dear Supporters

As you will read elsewhere in the newsletter, Rowan is celebrating its 30th Birthday this year, a milestone all the more special because we have had to work hard, all of us, from trustees to students, to ensure Rowan reached this anniversary, and has a future as well as a present. Now seems a fitting time for me to thank all of you who support us in so many ways, and to pay tribute to Des and his team for their excellence and zest for what they do with and for our students. Thank you so very much.

All good wishes, **Margaret Phillips, Chairman**

30 Years of Rowan

Our annual sponsored walking event in September this year will be called 30 Miles in 30 Ways with our students undertaking different challenges to raise money for Rowan in celebration of our 30th birthday. We are also designing a 30th Anniversary tree sculpture, which will be unveiled at our Winter Warmer in December. Leading up to our Winter Warmer we will be giving our friends and supporters an opportunity to support Rowan's future by having their name engraved on the tree for a donation. More details to follow.

The power of communication



Rowan exists to provide opportunities for people to be creative, to learn new skills, to become more confident and to meet people and take part in activities that would not normally be available to them; all within a supportive atmosphere and safe environment.

Our work is both tangible and value driven; a powerful combination.

We like to share what we do. We produce newsletters and an annual review in print-form and online. We share snippets of news via Facebook and Twitter and in local publications. We all tell our friends and families about Rowan. When people buy a piece of artwork from Rowan, it becomes a talking point with their friends, family and colleagues. We take part in as many community events that we can manage and link up with local businesses. In short, we try to tell as many people in as many different ways as possible about our work.

In return, when you let us know you like our work, our students feel proud of their achievements and are empowered. When you let us know that you experience our warmth when you visit Rowan, we feel heart-warmed. When we receive support from individuals and people within organisations this re-affirms our belief in what we do.

You are a powerful advocate. Please support us by letting people know about Rowan



Rowan's AGM

Each year we hold our Annual General Meeting in February. This annual event effectively chases away the 'winter blues' as we reflect on our year, celebrate all our students' achievements and look forward to the future.



Rowan's minibus success

At long last, after three years of fundraising and through the generous support of individuals and the business community, we have taken delivery of our minibus. Many plans are a-foot to take advantage of our new-found freedom. You may see us driving around in our minibus; white with our logo as well as those of principal donors from the business community who made it possible for us to buy our minibus: White House Arts, CSR and Marshalls ADG.

We welcomed Cambridge MP, Julian Huppert, to Rowan to formally un-veil the bus and Steve, one of Rowan's students said "Having a minibus is great. It's been worth all the hard work."



'Hello' and 'Goodbye'

We welcomed a new member of staff, Kirstin Bicknell, at the end of 2013. Kirstin has a wide range of skills and experience to bring to her marketing and fundraising role at Rowan. She also brings personal qualities and a willingness to share her skills that has quickly established her as a valued person within our team.

In early spring we said goodbye to our ceramic tutor, Jeni Pain. Words cannot do justice to Jeni's contribution to Rowan. She brought great technical and creative skills to Rowan as well as an ability to nurture people's talents and bring enjoyment to the creative process. A sensitivity and care in her approach ensured our students' well-being was always her priority.

An interview with Jo

Jo has been a student at Rowan for a year and a half. Jo says "Rowan is the best place I come to. I find different materials and doing pictures helps me to relax and keep myself occupied. I enjoy helping with the tuck-shop and making the tea and coffee for everyone. The people at Rowan and the artwork make me feel good. I love it here."



Community connections

Vocal chords are exercised and a variety of musical instruments played: bringing music to Rowan on Mondays, courtesy of Kay Barrett. We have known Kay for a long time as a supporter of our work so it is wonderful to be able to welcome her to Rowan on a regular basis.



Cambridge Drawing Society is another active supporter of Rowan. Artists John Glover and Sonia Villiers are taking time out from their regular commitments to work with small groups of students, encouraging them in their technical drawing and observation skills.

The Wood Studio is benefiting from the skills of another member of our community, Jeff Kinna. Jeff is a retired design consultant who is passing on skills and knowledge to Russell and the wood team, supporting us in developing ideas and projects that have the potential to raise money for Rowan in the future.

All About Me

When not working on commissions or specific ideas from our students, we have different themes for our students to focus on. Our most recent theme was 'All About Me' when students were invited to make art based on their lives and identities.



Rowan online

Rowan is becoming active online. We have a new and improved website and to see weekly images of students work and to hear snippets of news, follow us on Twitter @RowanCambridge or on Facebook, www.facebook.com/RowanCambridge

If you would like to make a donation electronically, you can do this via our website by clicking on the Donate Now button for details. You can now also donate via text message.

Support Rowan's 30th Anniversary Campaign

Text RWNH30 £2 / £5 / £10 to 70070
to donate now eg RWNH30 £5

JustTextGiving
by  Vodafone

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

Registered Charity No. 1099555
Registered Company No. 04448427

Diary Dates

See our work, meet our people.
Free events, open to all

Chesterton Festival
21 June 2014, 1pm to 5pm
Pye's Recreation Ground
Off Church Street, CB4 1D

Cambridge Open Studios
12 - 13 July 2014, 11am to 6pm
Come and look around Rowan, discover what we do and make some art with us. An informal, drop-in, free event.

Winter Warmer
3 December 2014, 5pm to 8pm, at Rowan

