

# **ROUNDABOUT**

*Working to overcome disadvantage and waste*

Charity Registration Number: 1104867

Company Registration Number: 5065046

## **Annual Report** **April 2015-March 2016**

### **Directors/Trustees**

Mr John Lashley ( Chair)

Mrs Pauline Clarke

Mrs Pearl Bennett

Ms Marlene Sale

**Company Secretary:** Mrs Teresa Brimm

**Treasurer:** Mrs Pearl Bennett

**Manager:** Mr Peter Andrews

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## **Foreword by the Chair of Roundabout.**

Welcome to the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual report for Roundabout not to be confused with our statutory company account.

At the beginning of the year the chair of Roundabout Mrs Aline Cornish resigned after many years' service. Peter (Manager) has already expressed the thanks of volunteers and staff owed to Aline for her time as Trustee/Chair of Roundabout. Roundabout's success is recognition of Aline's efforts, and on behalf of the other Trustees, I should also like to place on record our appreciation and thanks.

Roundabout plays an important role, both in helping those less fortunate and in promoting the reuse concept, alongside those of reduce and recycle. I look forward to working with Peter in the coming months to continue Roundabout's success.

*John*

Mr John Lashley  
Chair

## **Managers' Report**

Welcome to the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual report for Roundabout.

The year under review has again been very eventful with many highlights.

In May 2015 Roundabout published a safeguarding children and vulnerable adult's policy. Also in May Andy Brimm gave up his time to train Paul Byatt and myself in the use of the reach truck in Unit 4, after a five day intensive course both Paul and I were successful.

In August Roundabout held a BBQ outside (and inside Unit 7, due to the weather). The feedback was very positive and so hopefully the BBQ will become an annual event.

In September Roundabout received an infrastructure grant of £6,000 from Worcester City Council who administers the discretionary welfare assistance scheme on behalf of Worcester City Council, Malvern Hills District Council and Wychavon District Council. This grant was recognition for the work Roundabout undertakes to assist those in need across the three district council areas. The arrangement has been formalised in so much that Roundabout continues to provide furniture referrals to those in need across the Malvern Hills and Wychavon district council areas and Worcester based furniture reuse charities Armchair and Second Chance who each received a similar grant provide furniture referrals to the residents of Worcester City. The arrangement has worked well with Roundabout still willing to provide furniture referrals to Worcester City residents if Armchair or Second chance cannot provide a specific item.

Also in September Paul Byatt was awarded a 12 month temporary contract following the completion of his yearlong apprenticeship. During his apprenticeship Paul achieved 100% in his course work and completed his level 2 NVQ in Business Administration.

In September Roundabout published the Roundabout volunteer mileage and subsistence policy.

In November Paul Byatt and I attended the final of the Worcestershire County Council apprentice awards. The event was a glitzy affair at the West Midlands Safari park with no expense spared by the Council. Roundabout had been nominated in the Newcomer Apprenticeship Employer of the year category. Roundabout was eventually runner up to Victoria Carpets of Kidderminster. There were 28 nominations in this category and so Roundabout did very well to come second.

In December Roundabout received a £3000 donation from the local Hilda Farr charitable Trust. Later in the month, the annual Roundabout Christmas meal took place at St Ecgwins Club in High Street, Evesham. Bob Pooler the former Roundabout manager was guest of honour. Roundabout produced a calendar featuring all of the volunteers, which was very well received.

In January 2016 Roundabout received a visit from Broadway County Councillor Liz Eyre BEM, who was so impressed with our operation that she allocated £1000 from her County Council divisional fund allocation towards a replacement reach truck.

Also in January Paul Byatt qualified as Roundabout's first portable appliance tester followed by Andy Brimm in February.

In March John Lashley, Teressa Brimm and I attended the finals of the Wychavon District Council community recognition awards. I had nominated David Greenwood in the lifetime achievement award category, Wayne Doney as the overall volunteer of the year; Mitchell Anderson as the young volunteer of the year and Roundabout as the volunteer team of the year.

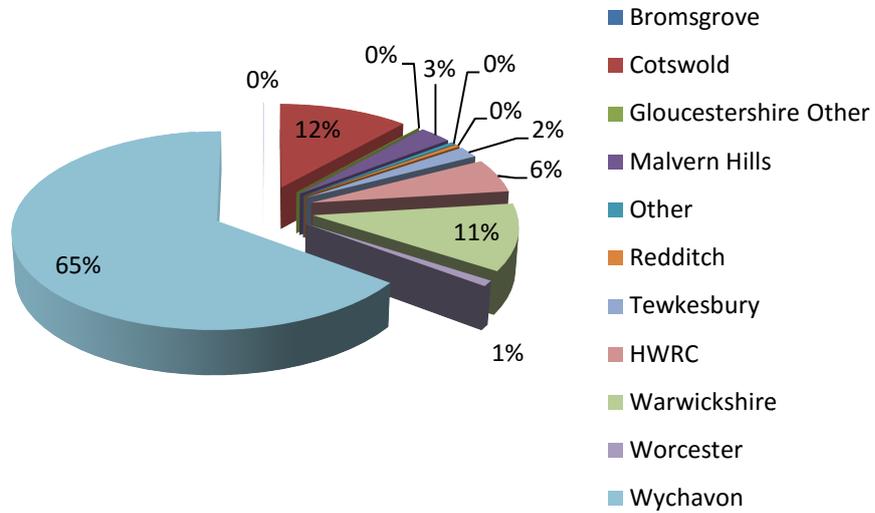
Mitchell was selected as a finalist, along with Roundabout.

Roundabout were runners up in their category, however Mitchell was awarded the title of Wychavon DC young volunteer of the year, an amazing achievement!

The first Saturday of the month opening arrangement continues to be successful. During the year under review sales amounted to £8404 an average of £764 for the 11 Saturdays we were open. We have received very positive feedback in relation to this initiative from service users who are unable to attend Roundabout during our normal opening hours. I give particular thanks to the staff and volunteers who have given up their time over the year. All of the participants, including the paid staff working on the Saturday opening, are volunteers.

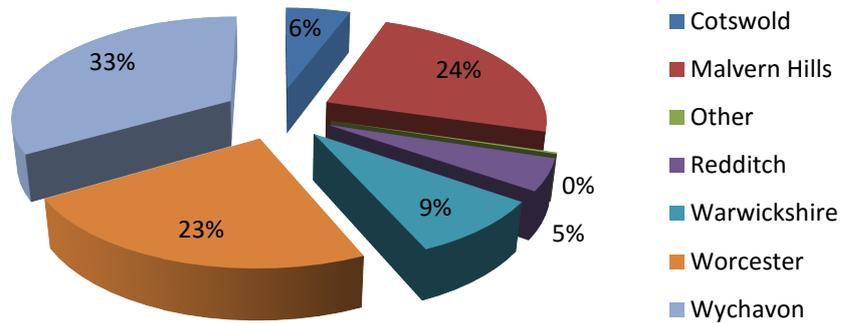
In performance terms during the period under review Roundabout has collected 8549 items of donated furniture in the form of 1385 collections with a High street value of over £2 million.

## Furniture Collections by District Councils 2015 - 2016



Roundabout has completed 394 referrals of furniture and other essential items to those in need across Worcestershire, North Gloucestershire and West Warwickshire. Last year Roundabout stated 529 referrals had been completed. With the introduction of new software this figure has been revised to 419.

## Furniture Referrals by District Councils 2015 - 2016



As a result of our activities 148 Tonnes of furniture items has been diverted from landfill along with the reduction in CO2 emissions.

As I mentioned in my last annual report the furniture reuse sector is becoming increasingly crowded, however, Roundabout continues to prosper and provide a service which is second to none.

During the year there were several changes to the board of trustees/directors. In October 2015 Sally Earley, the Evesham volunteer centre representative, resigned having secured new employment and we welcomed Pearl Bennett the Roundabout treasurer as a new trustee/director.

In January 2016 the Roundabout chair Mrs Aline Cornish tendered her resignation. Aline has been associated with Roundabout for many years firstly as a volunteer and latterly as a trustee/director and then chair of the board. On behalf of Roundabout volunteers and staff I would like to express my appreciation for Aline's contribution to the continued success of Roundabout.

John Lashley has kindly agreed to be Roundabout's next chair and I look forward to working with him.

I would like to thank Fortis Living Housing Association, The Hilda Farr Charitable Trust, Worcestershire County Council (Councillor Liz Eyre BEM), Wychavon District Council, Malvern Hills District Council, Worcester City Council for their financial support.

Finally I would like to thank all of the Roundabout volunteers, Trustees and Staff for all of their hard work and support and I look forward to another successful year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Andrews', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Andrews  
Manager

## **Volunteers**

Without the commitment of the 50+ volunteers Roundabout would not exist. Following on from last year's annual report I have decided again to feature a selection of volunteers who have joined Roundabout in the last 12 months.

### Kieran Beechey 19yrs

I joined Roundabout as a volunteer approximately twelve months ago following a recommendation by the Job Centre. I have suffered from anxiety which prior to joining Roundabout was so debilitating that I was virtually housebound. Twelve months later I consider I am far more confident, I enjoy everything about Roundabout. I enjoy the variety, the camaraderie. Hopefully Roundabout will be a stepping stone for me to achieve paid employment.



**Kieran Beechey hard at work**

### Cameron Barnes 21yrs

I joined Roundabout in November 2015 following a referral from the Job Centre. I like coming to Roundabout I tend to go out each day on Van 2. I like the opportunity to learn new skills and meet new people and make friends. I also like the social events and not forgetting the free tea and biscuits!



**Cameron Barnes tidying Van 1**

Kevin O'Loughlin (Retired)

I retired 10 yrs ago after travelling the world selling, installing and servicing metal smelting furnaces. I have previously volunteered at two other organisations locally however I found neither of them fulfilling.

I forget how I heard about Roundabout however I came for a trial morning about 14 months ago and I have not looked back. I look forward to coming in on a Tuesday and Thursday and working predominately in the work shop although I will work anywhere.



**Kevin O'Loughlin at home in the work shop**

Matthew Hutchinson 28yrs

I joined Roundabout in August 2015 following a recommendation by the Job Centre. I like coming to Roundabout, I like going out on the delivery vans delivering furniture to those in need. I like helping people who are worse off than me.



**Matt taking a break**

In March 2016 Mitchell Anderson was awarded the accolade Wychavon District Council young volunteer of the year.



### **Health and Safety**

The health and safety of Roundabout staff and volunteers are a priority. The Health and Safety Committee chaired by the Company Secretary, Teresa Brimm, has been very active during the period under review. In March 2016 Roundabout undertook a health and safety audit conducted by an external Health and Safety consultant. Roundabout passed the audit and I would like to express my appreciation for all of the hard work carried out by Teresa in preparation for the audit and throughout the year in relation to health and safety.

### **Are we on track?**

At each quarterly board meeting the Trustees and Directors are invited to review Roundabout's accounts to ensure there are sufficient funds to continue and to ensure that Roundabout's charitable objectives are being fulfilled. It has been very rewarding that throughout the year the trustees/directors have considered that Roundabout has been on the 'right track'.