

ROUNDABOUT

Working to overcome disadvantage and waste

Charity Registration Number: 1104867

Company Registration Number: 5065046

Annual Report April 2017-March 2018

Directors/Trustees

Mr John Lashley (Chair)

Mrs Pauline Clarke

Mrs Pearl Bennett

Ms Marlene Sale

Mrs Gabrielle Falkiner

Mr John Barton

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 this year's Annual Report.

Once again thanks are due to Peter, Teresa and the Roundabout staff and volunteers for another successful year helping those families and individuals in need of assistance with furnishing their homes with good quality donated furniture. It is also worth noting our thanks to all those residents who have contacted Roundabout over the last year wanting to donate items for reuse,

I would especially this year want to place on record our thanks to our volunteers without whom we could not keep going. Whether a retiree looking to fill a day or two with charitable work, or someone coping with mental health or disability issues and using the camaraderie that exists within Roundabout to help with their problems, you are all important to us, and have our thanks.

Finally, my thanks to my colleagues on the Roundabout Management Committee, it has been a privilege to serve with you all.

John Lashley

Managers' Report

The year under review has always been very eventful with many highlights

In our unit 4 which is primarily our storage and dispatch warehouse we have professional storage racking and in order to access the racking we have an electric reach truck. In April 2017 with the consent of the trustees I decided it was time to replace our old reach truck with a much more modern machine. The old machine was constantly being repaired and so needed to be replaced. We replaced the old machine with a modern Toyota reach truck, the cost of the machine was £5,500. This machine is much lighter than the old machine and more suitable for our needs and hopefully will provide service for the next decade.

The machine was financed from funds designated in our general reserves which included contributions from local County Councillors Liz Eyre and Alastair Adams who both contributed £1000 from their County Councils Divisional Fund allocations.

In April we received notification from Worcestershire County Council along with other third sector organisations that we would be receiving permits to enable us to take unsuitable upholstered items to the local waste recycling centre. Previously when we

have collected unsuitable sofas and armchairs they have had to be dismantled primarily by hand. We continue to dismantle unsuitable wooden furniture items.

In May the second annual Roundabout skittles evening took place at the Dumbleton Social Club. The event was very successful giving those volunteers living with or recovering from mental health conditions or other disabilities the opportunity to socialize with their colleagues, the result was an over whelming victory for the Van One team.

In June Roundabout was responsible for the installation of a defibrillator (AED) at the entrance to the Blackminster business park. I had previously been in contact with the Four Acre Trust charity who had agreed to match fund the cost of the AED. The remaining 50% was paid by our generous Landlord Mr Paul Middleton.

In August Roundabout held its annual BBQ in and outside the main warehouse which was very successful.

In September Daniel Taylor 25 yrs. an existing Roundabout volunteer was appointed Roundabout's new apprentice. Dan has been hired primarily to provide continuity in the Roundabout shop and the Roundabout contact centre. Dan has a disability however he had previously demonstrated his abilities while volunteering at Roundabout. This appointment has further demonstrated the Roundabout ethos of giving people with disabilities equal opportunities. While working as an apprentice Dan will be completing an intermediate apprenticeship customer service qualification with the Heart of Worcestershire College.

In September Roundabout received the second delivery of new mattresses intended for our referral clients. This initiative continues to very successful and I am not aware of any other charitable organisation basically giving away brand new mattresses to individuals and families in need. Everyone connected with Roundabout should be very proud of their contribution in this initiative.

In October we received very sad news that one of our most committed volunteers Kevin O'Loughlin had passed away. Kevin had been with Roundabout since June of 2015 and had worked primarily in the work shop repairing and renovating furniture items.

Also in October Roundabout member of staff Paul Byatt passed his driving test. The cost of Paul's driving lessons and driving test had been subsidized by Roundabout as part of our investment in our staff. Had Paul not received the financial assistance from Roundabout it is highly unlikely he would have been able to afford driving lessons.

In December the annual Roundabout Christmas meal took place at Ecqwins Club in Evesham. The event was well attended and everyone had a good time.

Also in December we replaced all of our computer equipment and introduced bar coding as part of our stock control management.

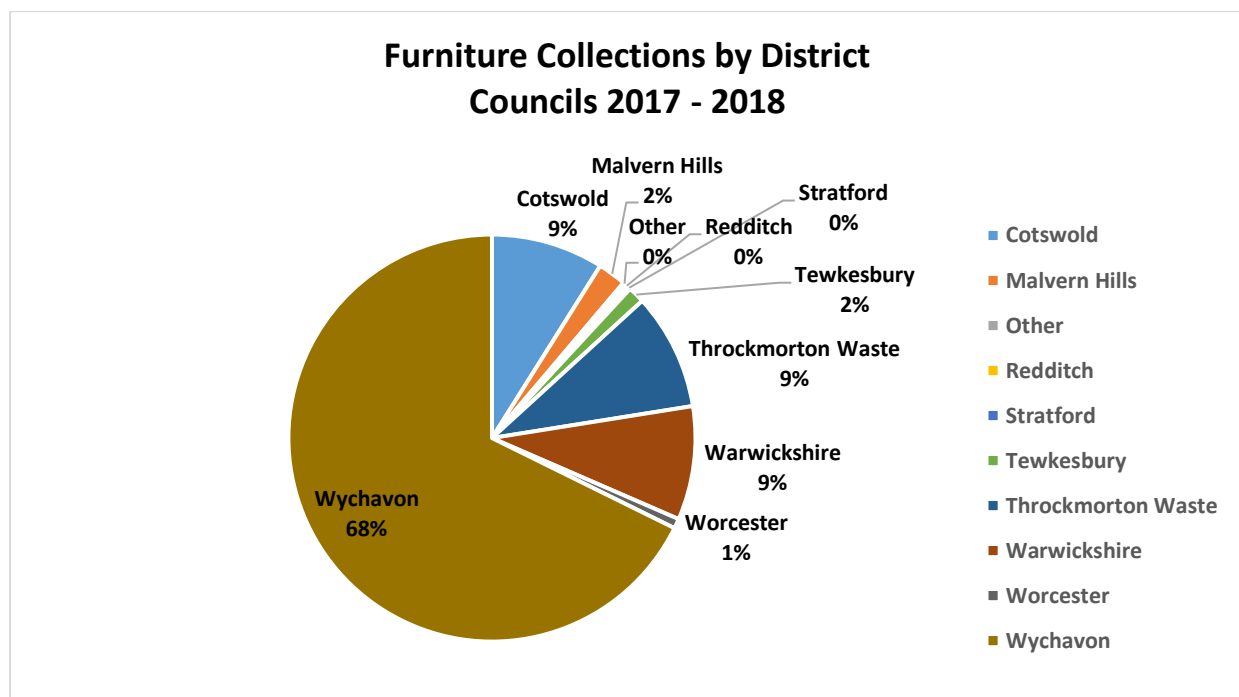
Roundabout places a very high regard to the welfare and wellbeing of its volunteer work force whether by providing social activities or by meeting specific individual

needs. Roundabout has four qualified first aiders however in addition in order to meet the needs of volunteers living with or recovering from mental health issues the Roundabout company secretary Teresa Brimm has qualified as a mental health first aider. Teresa has also arranged for the 'Independence Trust' living well service to hold a fortnightly surgery at Roundabout where they offer support to some of our more vulnerable volunteers.

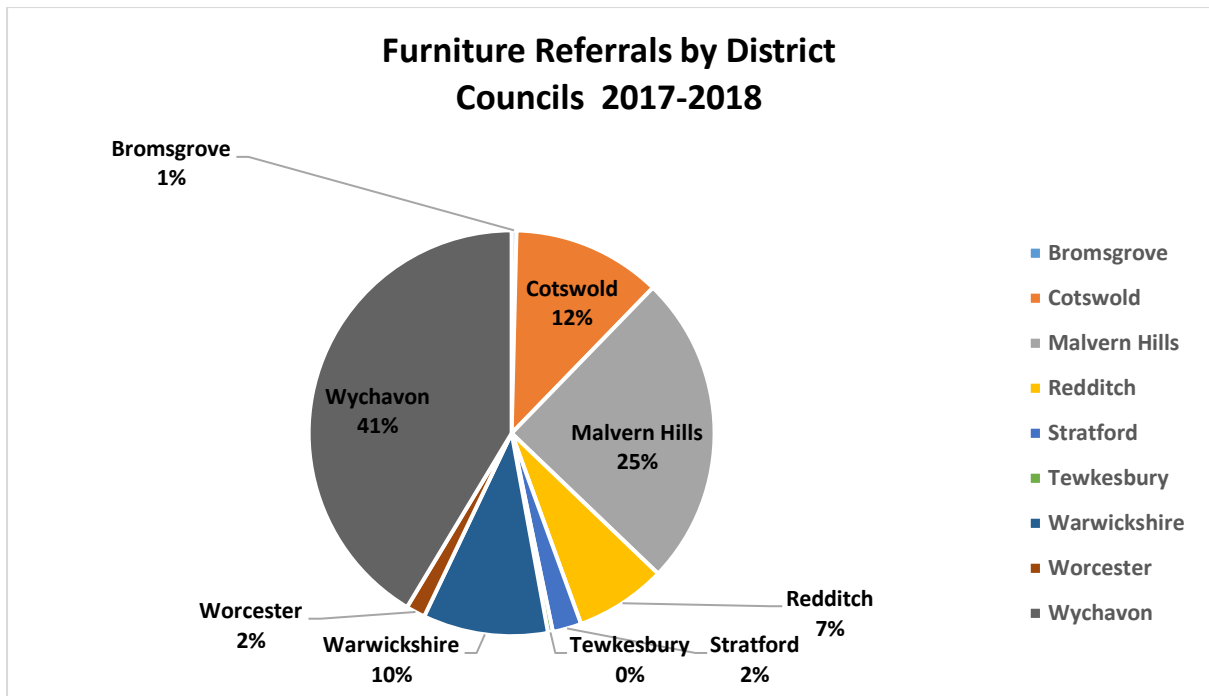
Performance

Roundabout continues to be self-funding we receive no grant support what so ever.

During the period under review Roundabout has collected 7557 items of donated furniture in the form of 1634 furniture collections.



During the same period Roundabout has completed 272 referrals of furniture and other essential items such as bedding packs and kitchen starter packs to those in need across Worcestershire, North Gloucestershire and West Warwickshire. This figure compares with 263 referrals completed last year.



Volunteers

Roundabout is indebted to the volunteers who contribute so much of their time and energy. As in previous years I am keen to feature a selection of volunteers who have joined Roundabout during the period under review and have contributed to the success of the organisation.

Matt White

I joined Roundabout in August 2017 having been referred by the Job Centre. I had been unwell with depression and anxiety issues and I lacked confidence but I was keen to get back into the work environment. I come to Roundabout every working day and I have found my niche in the dispatch warehouse. I have qualified to use the reach truck and I really enjoy my volunteering experience at Roundabout.



Tom Charnley

I have autism and I was referred to Roundabout by my Mother. I joined in July 2017 and I come in to work every Tuesday. I like helping out in the warehouse moving furniture when required.



Tom Turner

I joined Roundabout in July 2017 after having donated a sofa to Roundabout. Following my visit, I had a look at their web site, I then spoke to a member of staff and I have been coming in ever since. I work mainly on a Monday driving Van 2; I go out with two of the other volunteers who tend to be much younger. There is a lot of variety in what we do and so I look forward to Mondays. It is a joy to help others.



Dan Pitts

I joined Roundabout in September 2017 having been recommended by the Mental Health Service reablement programme. I was previously an IT engineer and then I was diagnosed with a borderline personality disorder. I work in the Roundabout contact centre where I enjoy the sense of belonging to a team and having achieved something worthwhile. Since volunteering at Roundabout I have enrolled as a 'champion' for the Let's talk service which provides support for people with mental health conditions. I have also commenced a level 2 counselling course.



Health and Safety

The Health and safety Committee is chaired by the Roundabout company secretary Mrs Teresa Brimm. Teresa is very active in ensuring all of the volunteers and staff are kept safe and that the potential for harm is minimised. Health and safety meetings take place quarterly with the committee made up of volunteer's/staff representatives from all areas of the organisation. Every year the organisation is assessed by a Health and Safety consultant.

Are we on track?

At each quarterly board meeting the Roundabout Trustees/Directors are invited to review Roundabout's financial status to ensure the charity is viable and that the funds are being used appropriately and to ensure Roundabout's charitable objectives are being achieved. It has been extremely rewarding that throughout the period under review the Trustees/Directors have considered Roundabout to be on the right track. I look forward to next year which will be the 25th Anniversary of the founding of Roundabout.

Peter Andrews

Roundabout Manager

