

Reading Bike Kitchen - a not-for-profit community organisation dedicated to "Keeping Reading Riding"

Nieve Greene, Reading Bike Kitchen

RBK – An Introduction

- Run entirely by volunteers since 2014
- Location: Unit C10, Weldale Street, Reading, RG1 7BX
- Opening hours

	REPAIRS	SALES	DONATIONS
SATURDAYS 10AM - 2PM	✓	✓	✓
WEDNESDAYS 10AM - 2PM	✗	✓	✓
THURSDAYS 5PM - 8PM	✗	✓	✓



Our Services – Overview

- **Receiving bike donations** that people would otherwise take to the tip for scrap.
- **Low-cost while-you-wait bike repairs.**
- **Refurbishing & rehoming bikes.** 700 bikes were saved and rehomed in 2024!
- **Recycling of bike parts.**
- **Free bike maintenance courses.**
- **Jumble sales of bikes/ bike parts** (for the cycling enthusiasts).
- **Donating bikes to local causes.** We have also donated over 150 bikes to Ukrainian refugee women and children.
- **Annual donation of surplus funds to local and national charities.** We gave £15,000 to charities in 2024.

Start of the Cycle – Receiving Bike Donations

- Bike donations are at the heart of our operation!
- We refurbish and safety check the bikes that are in good condition to be rehomed.
 - Our volunteer mechanics are experts in turning bikes that are usually beyond economic repair into low cost and safe transport.
- For the remaining bikes, we salvage the parts that can be used for bike repairs and jumble sales and recycle the rest!
- You can donate your bikes, bike accessories and spare parts during any of our opening hours.



Low-Cost While-You-Wait Bike Repairs

- Bring down your bike and we can diagnose the problem and repair on the day!
- We use second-hand parts taken from bikes that have been donated to us so that if a job requires them, we can complete the repair(s) at a much lower cost than a commercial shop using new parts.
- In situations where a bike needs new equipment, we also keep a stock of general consumables (cable brake blocks/ inner tubes) or direct customers to purchase new equipment which we can then fit.
- We keep prices as low as possible, for a small job that takes under 30 minutes it's £5.00, otherwise it's just £10 an hour.



Bike Rehoming

- For over 10 years, RBK has recommissioned and sold hundreds of donated bikes.
- In 2024 alone we recommissioned and sold 701 bikes that had been donated to us which would have otherwise been dumped in the tip!
- Customers are encouraged to test out the bikes we have in stock to make sure it's a perfect fit.
- You can view our bikes in stock on **Gumtree**, just type RBK in the search bar.



BALANCE BIKE for children aged about 1 to 4 years old... 

BALANCE BIKE for children aged about 1 to 4 years old - Bike in good condition, works well and recently serviced by Reading...
Reading, Berkshire

£2

3 days ago



PATROL BIKE for children aged about 4 to 6 years old -... 

POLICE PATROL BIKE for children aged about 4 to 6 years old - 14 inch wheels. Bike in very good condition, works well and...
Reading, Berkshire

£10

3 days ago



APOLLO VORTICE BIKE for children aged about 10 to 1... 

APOLLO VORTICE BIKE for children aged about 10 to 14 years old - 12 inch frame 24 inch wheels. Bike in good condition, work...
Reading, Berkshire

£40

3 days ago



DAWES GALAXY REYNOLDS 531 TOURER BIKE - RBK... 

DAWES GALAXY REYNOLDS 531 TOURER BIKE - 23 inch frame 700 wheels. Bike in very good condition, works well and recentl...
Reading, Berkshire

£170

3 days ago



WIGGINS CHARTRES BIKE for 8 to 14 years old - RBK... 

WIGGINS CHARTRES BIKE for children aged about 8 to 14 years old - 13 inch frame. 26 inch wheels. Bike in good conditio...
Reading, Berkshire

£80

3 days ago



Cinelli Zydeco Gravel Bike Large - Shimano - RBK 

Explore the great outdoors with the Cinelli Zydeco Gravel Bike, a perfect blend of performance and versatility. The large (60cm c...
Reading, Berkshire

£500

16 days ago

Recycling

We are able to recycle most of the bike parts at the end of their use and avoid piling up the landfill.

- We collect and recycle used inner tubes (not slime tubes) through Schwalbe who use them to make new inner tubes, saving up to 80% energy and material waste.
- We recycle tyres back to the manufacturer for reuse.
- Metal parts (broken bicycle frames, wonky wheels) that are beyond repair are collected from us by a reputable scrap dealer and enter the recycling process in that way.

Essentially all metal and rigid plastics are recycled so there is *virtually nothing* that is simply dumped!

Jumble Sale

- Over the past years we've been donated an absolute treasure trove of parts which are for sale during our monthly Jumble Sales.
- We have 1000+ items covering all disciplines; road bikes, mountain bikes, gravel bikes, and retro machines. Almost all are from the XT / 105 level and above, so this is ONLY for cycling enthusiasts.



Jumble Sale



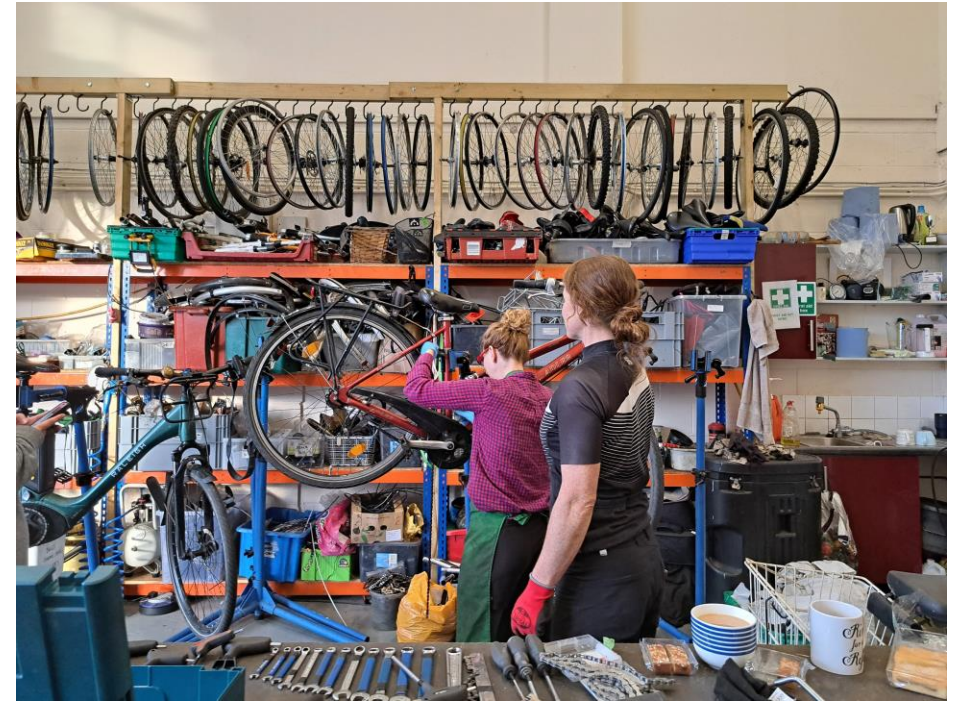
What do we have in stock?

- Dozens of chain-sets, derailleurs, shifters, brakes (calliper, "V", and disc), saddles, seat-posts, stems etc,.
- Wheels by Shimano, Campagnolo, SRAM, Giant, Fulcrum, Hope and Mavic.
- Folding tyres from Schwalbe, Continental, Michelin, Maxis, and over 500 other good tyres with a steel bead.
- Racks, panniers, locks and stands.
- Turbo trainers, repair stands and track pumps.

Our Services – Free Bike Maintenance Courses



- Based on our 10+ years experience of fixing bikes, we know the sort of things that will go wrong with your bike. And we can teach you the basics of how to keep your bike on the road.
- The course covers a full safety check; repairing punctures, adjusting brakes and gears.
- It will save you £££ in repair bills and make you more confident while you are riding. And it's free!



Our Services – Donations of Bikes and Surplus Funds



- RBK have provided bikes for Ukrainian refugees, the homeless, children's homes, other refugee families, Berkshire Women's Aid and also tricycles for the disabled.
- We support local and national charities. Each year the regular volunteers are invited to nominate a charity and any surplus funds are then donated forward.
- We donated a total of **£15,000** to various charities in 2024.



Thank you!

Email: info@readingbicyclekitchen.org

Facebook: [@ReadingBikeKitchen](https://www.facebook.com/ReadingBikeKitchen)

Bike Maintenance Course:

www.bookwhen.com/bike-fix-course

