

Celebrating ten years of the Bike Station

What we know now as the Bike Station started twelve years ago as Castlecliff Workshop in Johnstone Terrace. The name changed with a move to the cellars beneath Waverley Station in 2002 and has survived the move to Causewayside and expansion to Perth and Glasgow.

Celebration of our tenth anniversary started at the Edinburgh Skyride, when we launched our prize draw for Bike Station customers and stall visitors. There will be monthly prize draws and a grand prize of an electric bike and Burley Trailer in March 2012.

Visit the Edinburgh shop to find out about monthly prizes and enter the draw. Watch out for further anniversary plans, including a celebrity launch in Edinburgh in November and a Tenth Year Supporters' Appeal.

Bike Station Services

As well as selling a wide range of refurbished bicycles for adults and children, we also offer the following services:

FIX YOUR OWN BIKE - rent a workstand and make use of our tools and expertise.

Wednesday 4-8 pm and Saturday 12-5 pm sessions, £4/hr incl tools and support.

REPAIRS - bike fixing service now available, using recycled parts where possible.

TRAINING in confident cycling skills for adults and children and cycle maintenance/Weldtech

Dr BIKE sessions for events and workplaces. **VOLUNTEERING** - help wanted in all aspects of our work, from fixing bikes to blogging. See **www.thebikestation.org.uk** for details of all our services.

classes.

Spirit of Scotland votes

The Bike Station has been shortlisted for a Glenfiddich Spirit of Scotland award in the Environment category. Voting runs until 14th November - we would welcome your support online at http://tinyurl.com/ykyeslf or on the voting form in the **Scotsman Magazine**.

Edinburgh revamped

Big changes to the 250 Causewayside layout have opened out the space and mean we can now have bikes on sale Tuesday to Saturday from 10am - 5pm.

We were supported in making this change by Zero Waste Scotland, as one of three flagship Revolve projects funded to show how re-use centres can be both attractive and businesslike.

A new training workshop has also been created upstairs in the building. Since reopening in June we have been overwhelmed with demand for refurbished bicycles especially from Fringe visitors and students.

Perth Prisons Project

Now in its second year, the Perth Bike Station is thriving. As well as renovating and selling donated bikes, Perth is co-ordinating Bike Station work with five Scottish Prisons.

Bike repair workshops in these prisons are supplied with bikes to fix, which are then sold in Edinburgh and Perth. The prisoners doing this work can obtain industry standard qualifications (Weldtech) and some prisoners have been working at Perth Bike Station on day release from Castle Huntly open prison..

To complete the cycle, we are now supporting released prisoners to find work as bike mechanics. Thanks to the Robertson Trust and Scottish Prison Service for their support.

Glasgow Moves

A move from the Barras into new larger premises in Glasgow's West End has allowed Glasgow Bike Station to extend their activity.

The new premises at 65 Haugh Road are already very busy, with a range of exciting projects such as Belles On Bikes encouraging more women to start cycling and work with businesses to promote sustainable travel. Their Better Way To Work project is being funded through the Climate Challenge Fund.

Winter cycling events



Taking the message out to the cyclists, the Bike Station is holding regular pathside events in Edinburgh and Perth with support from Cycling Scotland, the Police, Sustrans and Edinburgh & Lothians Greenspace Trust (ELGT).

Dr Bike will offer diagnosis and quick fixes to passing cyclists, and winter cycling advice and free lights will be available, along with Weans on Wheels and other information.

Edinburgh. Events take place at Middle Meadow Walk, Lochrin Basin, Portobello Prom and Fiveways Junction - see Bike Station web site for dates and times.

Cycle Friendly Employer

We have been working with employers to encourage their staff to cycle for many years, and are now administering the Cycle Friendly Employer Scheme in the Lothians, with the aim of supporting more companies to gain this accreditation. Our ScotBUG web site

(www.scotbug.com) makes it easy to set up a Bicycle User Group.

Contact **wendy@thebikestation.org.uk** if you can help us to reach more local employers.

Innertube Map

The Bike Station and ELGT are continuing to develop and promote the Innertube map and its interactive website (www.innertubemap.com) and we published a Student edition of the free booklet earlier this year.

If you have news or information about Edinburgh's cyclepath network, try posting it on the online map for the benefit of other path users.

Four new information signs will be erected soon on the path network in the latest stage of this project, all supported by the People's Postcode Lottery.

Donations welcomed

Earlier this year we received our 30,000th donated bicycle, and donations keep rolling in. Donated bicycles and bike bits are our lifeblood, and we are immensely grateful to the people who give us their old or unwanted bikes.

The Bike Station accepts any bicycle-related donations and we can collect if necessary. Donated bikes are put back into use if possible, or useable bits salvaged and metals sorted for recycling. We're still looking for uses for worn tyres, and are helping a student project to investigate uses for donated cycle helmets.

Contact Details

EDINBURGH 250 Causewayside, Edinburgh, EH9 1UU (0131 668 1996)

GLASGOW 65 Haugh Road, Glasgow G3 8TX (0141 248 5409)

PERTH Unit 11, Mid Friarton Business Park, Friarton Road, Perth PH2 8EL (01738 444430)

Scottish charity number SC033703.
Glasgow Bike Station registered as SC376469