

Back2bikes Ltd

2021 Annual Report

“The bicycle is the most civilised conveyance known to man. Other forms of transport grow daily more nightmarish. Only the bicycle remains pure in heart.”

Iris Murdoch, British-Irish novelist



Connect with Us!

0416 988 516

workshop@back2bikes.com.au

Message from the President

Back2bikes has maintained a strong financial position over the last year. This has enabled us to not only maintain but expand our operations in what has continued to be a challenging environment.

Even during lockdowns our workshop managers Mark and Dylan along with our volunteers continue to service bikes for the public and those in need. Pleasingly, we have doubled the number of bikes donated to those in need over the last 6 months.



Mike King - Founder and President

The lockdowns affected our capacity to restore bikes, but the number of bikes refurbished, and volunteer numbers rebounded robustly after each lockdown. Volunteer numbers remain strong, with many new volunteers starting throughout this year.

The stock of bikes for sale is back to where we have a good range available at the workshop.

The Women's group has restarted from January and maintenance classes are now running two evenings per week. The workshop is now in use 7 days and 3 evenings per week.

Our work in the community continues with pop-up workshops, assistance to special needs children and working with local schools.

Back2bikes looks forward to another successful year as conditions return to a more normal setting.

Our People

Our Board

Mike King	Chairman Board member since 2012
Paul Garry	Board Member since 2012
Robin Waters	Board Member since 2016

Workshop Managers

Mark Bradley	since 2017
Dylan Falkenberg	since 2020

Our Volunteers

We thank all our volunteers for their enormous contribution over the past 12 months.

Our Partners

City of Port Phillip



South Melbourne Market



Mission



Back2bike's mission is to provide bike training services and bike recycling for the local community.

What we do:

- Provide training for volunteers
- Provide training courses in bike maintenance
- Accept bike donations for recycling
- Provide affordable bike servicing
- Recycle bikes as affordable transport
- Provide bikes for people with special needs
- Provide bikes for people in need such as asylum seekers, refugees, victims of domestic violence etc.

At the Workshop

Facilities



We have again invested in our workshop to improve our volunteer's experience. We have installed a new washstand complete with running water and compressed air. The area between containers where we store bikes for stripping has been secured by a fence. The cloakroom area has been fitted with more storage hooks and the parts washer shed has been weatherproofed.

Bikes Donated

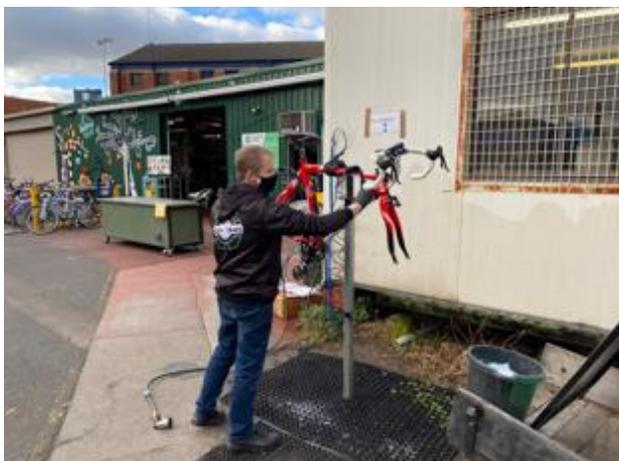
Back2bikes made a decision to increase the number of refurbished bikes donated to those in need. Our volunteers have doubled the number of bikes donated in the period from January-June 2021 despite periods of lockdown. Besides providing transport these bikes have a real positive effect on the recipients physical and mental health. Bikes destined for those in need are refurbished to the same high standards as those sold to the public. Every recipient also receives a lock and a helmet.

Sales

Being excellent value for money, and with bike prices ranging between \$80 and \$1500+, Back2bikes sold every bike that was refurbished over the last year as refurbishments were limited by covid restrictions. At Back2bikes, all bikes are sold fully refurbished; where necessary they are fitted with new brakes and gear cables, brake pads, chains, and good bike tyres. Bikes are given a major service and quality checked while being fitted with front and rear reflectors and a bell.

Our warranty is simple. If you need an adjustment or repair based on fair use, bring it in and we will rectify. Bikes can be swapped later if the style or type does not match the customer's expectations.

Bike Servicing



Back2bikes aims to keep a customer's bike running properly with economical solutions. We offer good second-hand parts with the customer's budget and expectations in mind. This is an important difference between Back2bikes and regular bike shops where the emphasis is on selling new bikes and parts as a solution to repair issues.

While they wait, 'walk-in' customers can have a quick repair like punctures, brakes, and gear adjustments, allowing them to keep moving. Back2bikes have a turnaround of no more than seven days and can supply a free loan bike to customers that might require other types of servicing on their bikes.

This financial year nearly 750 bikes were affordably serviced for our paying customers.



Donations



Each week more than a dozen bikes are donated to Back2bikes by generous members of the public. All donations are gratefully received however, we need to select bikes that are suitable for refurbishment. The bikes that are not suitable are ‘harvested’ for their good parts which are reused. The remainder is carefully recycled as scrap metal ensuring that nothing goes to waste. The quality of bikes we have been receiving over the last year has continued to increase significantly. Back2bikes donated on average 8 bikes per month to people in need such as asylum seekers/refugees, long term unemployed, intellectually disabled, and other people in genuine need.

Bicycle Maintenance Classes

The 6-week evening maintenance course was put on hold from July to December. For the last 6 months Mike has doubled the course offerings to two evenings per week. These evenings have been fully subscribed and we still have a wait list. We believe the cause of the extra demand to be the increased interest in cycling and that Back2bikes is now the sole organisation in Melbourne offering regular, structured bicycle maintenance classes.

The evenings are a lot of fun. It is a chance to talk and learn about bikes in a very social environment, along with learning about the challenges we encounter in fixing our bikes.

We are closed to the public on Sundays. However, we have recently run a pilot program on Sunday that only refurbishes bikes for people in need. If some seed funding from City of Port Phillip is secured, we hope to start a

permanent Sunday program where all bikes will be donated to the residents in need.

Women's Group

We are in our third year of running an evening Women's Group to try and attract more females to the workshop; as there is a gender imbalance within our volunteer cohort.

Due to the lockdowns in 2020 we couldn't hold sessions. In 2021 (Jan to Jun), we met fortnightly as a core group to keep key leaders/members engaged; 9 people came on average 6 times each. We did manage to hold one open invite session and 8 new people came along. There is lots of community interest and nights are oversubscribed. We look forward to holding an open invite night monthly in the future.

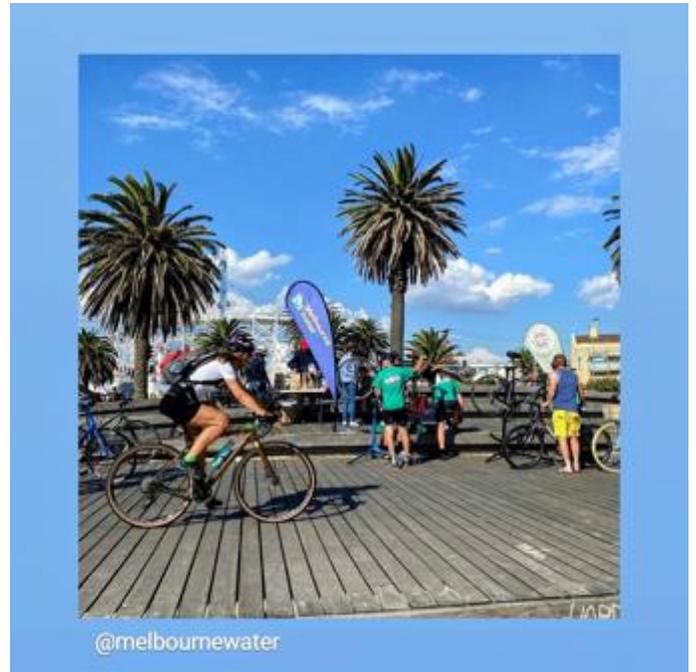


In the Community

Pop Up Workshops

On the last Saturday of each month, we continued to work with City of Port Phillip and South Melbourne Market to offer a free bike tune-up. Our volunteers average over 15 tune ups over a 3-hour period.

We also worked with Melbourne Water to offer free tune-ups to commuters on several occasions. These took place adjacent to the bay trail near Luna Park.



Disability Assistance

Back2bikes assists in this area as many of the services we offer are unmet by commercial operators. We have continued to make Buddy Bikes available in Australia at the lowest prices possible to the end user. Buddy Bikes are a tandem bike especially designed to allow children who cannot ride without assistance the chance to ride with their family.



After a break due to covid our volunteers have worked each Friday to service and refurbish the 60 plus bike fleet of Port Phillip Specialist School. The bikes and trikes of the fleet are often of a unique design that require ingenuity in addressing refurbishment solutions. From January through June our volunteers have checked and serviced where necessary over 60% of the fleet.

Kew Traffic School



After a break due to the rebuilding of the Kew Traffic School there was a large backlog of maintenance required. From February - April we worked through a backlog of 150 bikes that required servicing.

Financial Report - 1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021

Profit and Loss	FY21 Total \$	FY20 Total \$
Income		
Bike Parts + Accessories	25,087.00	35,516.00
Bike Sales	85,078.00	112,904.00
Bike Servicing	73,114.00	55,901.00
Maintenance Workshops	13,900.00	11,644.00
Donations and Grants	15234.00	11,138.00
Total Income	212,414.00	227,759.00
Expenses		
Administration	14,080.00	10,708.00
Parts and Bikes	49,326.00	73,228.00
Amenities	12,970.00	14,777.00
Workshop	23,205.00	8,718.00
Insurance	2,596.00	1,247.00
Wages and Super	90,637.00	77,804.00
Total Expenses	201,606.00	188,568.00
Operating Profit	11,313.00	39,462.00

Back2bike's operating profit was reduced compared with the previous period. We are still in a strong financial position.

What's next for in Back2bikes?

Back2bikes continued sound financial and operational position will allow us to increase the services we offer over the coming year.

A pilot Sunday Session where volunteers only refurbish bikes for those in need has commenced. If the pilot is successful and seed funding ensured these sessions will become permanent. We also hope to reintroduce some programs which were suspended over the last 12 months including a regular open workshop night.

Our volunteers would also like to further improve our workshop facilities. At present they are investigating the possibility of a combined secure storage and bicycle display area.

Back2bikes will be investigating ways to institute new bicycle maintenance programs in the community.

We are optimistic that we will start these new projects over the coming year.



back2bikes
BACK2BIKES
Community
Bike Workshop

0416 988 516

Bike Servicing **Bike Sales** **Advice** **Maintenance Classes and Training**

Back2bikes is a not for profit, providing affordable transport for low income earners, those in need, assisting local schools and other charities.

We accept donations of bikes and parts, and volunteers will bring the bikes back to life with suitable new and secondhand parts. We sell the bikes to the public, and the money is used for buying parts and funding our charitable activities.

WE NEED:
Volunteers
Donations of
bikes and parts

525 Williamstown Road
Port Melbourne, VIC 3207
Tel: 0416 988 516

Thank You to All of Our Donors and Volunteers

The success Back2bikes has had this year has only happened due to the generosity of our donors and our volunteers who willingly offer their time, effort, and expertise.

**We
celebrate
all our
volunteers**



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