



● (Top) Bike fixing and coffee at Platt Fields Bike Hub
(Below) Volunteers at Cera Cycloan

CTC'S BIG BIKE REVIVAL



In October, CTC helped people revive their bikes and interest in cycling at a series of events called the Big Bike Revival. CTC's **Anna Smith** was there

THE AIM of the Big Bike Revival, which was supported by the Department for Transport, was to encourage people to dig out their old bikes and bring them along to be fixed. They could also donate bikes or trade in an old bike for another one.

Events were held at venues in Greater Manchester, West Yorkshire and Liverpool. As well as helping people repair their old bikes, experts were on hand to provide advice about cycle safety, cycle training, and offer help with local routes, groups, and rides. Community Cycling Development Officer Anna Smith helped coordinate the Manchester events.

'My busy weekend of community cycle events started in Stockport,' she said. 'Cera Cycloan is a huge workshop space next to a college. A community bike ride set off to explore the back streets of south Manchester, while the workshop prepared for six hours of bike recycling. As soon as the shutters opened, in came the dusty bicycles and their eager owners, and out came the jet wash, GT85 and maintenance stands.

'I then went to Gearing Up in Wigan, where the repairs were in full swing. More than

50 bikes were nursed back to health and returned to their owners while I was there. As well as repairs, there were bike-wash stations and workshops for building chainring clocks.

'Then it was time to head to Cycle-Ops Adventure in Tameside. As I got near, I could hear pounding music and the shouts of airborne BMXers. The place was buzzing with young cyclists from Ashton riding up and down the event's temporary ramps. Transport for Greater Manchester dished out high visibility jackets, and the workshop space was busy with bike recycling.

'On Sunday, I was at Platt Fields Bike Hub. Families were everywhere in the adjacent park, with bicycles of all shapes and sizes. A pedal-powered sound-system was running and eight mechanics were fixing a sea of broken bikes. While they waited, cyclists could get a free massage or make jewellery and belts from bike parts. "When is this happening again?" people wanted to know.'

CTC plans to bring the Big Bike Revival to more towns and cities in England – and then to the rest of the UK. For updates, like 'thebigbikerevival' on Facebook.

2014 IN FIGURES

Here's a snapshot of CTC's Cycling Development work over the past year.



30,000

Our Community Cycling Development projects across the UK have put more than 30,000 bums on saddles

5000

More than 5000 people – volunteers, community club leaders, parents and cycle instructors – have been trained through the Cycling Development projects

450

CTC Cycling Development projects held over 450 outreach events for communities across the UK

1500

CTC delivered more than 1500 cycling activities through Cycling Development projects



850

More than 850 volunteers contributed over 10,000 hours of time to support our community Cycling Development projects as ride leaders, events assistants, mechanics and community club leaders.

10,000