

Lewes Road for Clean Air Brighton Bike Hub

ANNUAL REPORT

2020/21

(including 2018-20)

Introduction

This report covers three years of LR4CA activities, including Brighton Bike Hub activities, from April 2018 to March 2021. While the Bike hub is by far the main project for LR4CA, the report also covers our Bike Train group cycling project and mention of the Brighton Active Travel Forum and the Brighton Naked Bike Ride, for which we have provided support in the form of banking facilities. Finances for all four projects therefore feature in our financial accounts.

Brighton Bike Hub

In November 2017 we moved from Preston Barracks to our current location at 26b St Martin's Place, off Brighton's Lewes Road. 2018 was therefore our first year at this smaller space where, for the first time, we were having to pay rent. The location, close to the busy Lewes Road shopping area, proved successful and we have been able to build our clientele and membership from here. In addition to refurbishing and selling bikes and supporting DIY repairs, we started to take on more repair jobs which we could charge for. This helped bring in much-needed revenue to cover the rent, on top of the costs of stock, tools & equipment and volunteer expenses.



Affording the rent was, nonetheless a challenge and made possible due, not only to income through sales and donations, but thanks to grant funding from Cycling UK, Brighton & Hove City Council, the Rampion Trust, the Hanover & Elm Grove councillors fund, the Homity Trust and Community Works.

The St Martin's Place premises had the additional challenge of operating off-grid, there being no mains water or electricity. This was resolved by investing in solar panels and wind turbines for power and weekly contributions from supportive neighbours for water.

The Team

As a volunteer-run project we are reliant on the time and skills of our volunteer team. During 2018 we had some challenging moments as some longstanding volunteers moved on and we were reliant on recent arrivals. A couple of these proved untrustworthy and we suffered from thefts of tools and money and the problems of some volunteers selling bikes on their own behalf. We had to ask some volunteers to leave and tighten security, limiting access to the shop and to certain tools. This was helped when Nick Gibbs, as 'Day Manager' committed to being a daily presence, able to keep an eye on things, opening up each morning, making secure at night and ensuring sales were properly recorded. On top of this Nick also provided night-security and brought continuity which helped with making sure repair jobs were followed through. In 2019 we were able to increase our opening days from four to five per week. Thanks are due to him and to all the other members of the team who have supported so many customers often through windy, rainy and cold conditions.



The BIG BIKE Revival **we are cycling** 

Welcome to our Big Bike Revival pop up Dr Bike event!

Free health checks on your bike to keep you cycling safely

We're fixing broken bikes by providing 'Dr Bike' and Minor Repairs that may include any of the following:

- Brakes**
 - Caliper and cable adjustment, cable and pad replacement
- Gears**
 - Indexing, adjustment and cable replacement
- Chain**
 - Check for wear, lubricate if required
- Tyres**
 - Puncture repair/tube replacement, inflated to recommended pressure (PSI)
- Other**
 - Check all nuts and bolts are correctly torqued
 - Headset and bottom bracket check
 - Check bar plugs and cable end caps, and replace if missing
- Time**
 - Maximum of 30-minutes time spent on your bike



BigBikeRevival.org.uk [#BigBikeRevival](https://twitter.com/BigBikeRevival)



Installing the new marquee funded as part of Cycling UK's Big Bike Revival programme where we offered free Dr Bike health checks.

Covid-19

In March 2020, as Covid and the first lock-down struck and following the lean winter months, we were at a low ebb financially and unsure how we were going to get through the months ahead. Initially we were saved by two £500 grants from the Homity Trust and from the Hanover & Elm Grove Ward Councillors' fund. This enabled us to pay the rent and buy much-needed tools and stock. We were relieved that, as an 'essential service', we were able to remain open during lockdown and proceeded to implement various Covid protocols. As the pandemic and associated restrictions proceeded, cycling was increasingly considered as the safe way for people to get around and the government backed this up with a series of initiatives. The Department for Transport funded Cycling UK, through it's Big Bike Revival programme, to help projects like ours to support Key workers to cycle and later to offer free 'Dr Bike' check-ups and basic repairs. During summer 2020 the government also launched the 'Fix-your-bike' £50 voucher scheme,

where participants could register for a voucher and cash it in with us for work on their bikes. Suddenly everyone was wanting second-hand bikes and bike repairs and we were inundated. For the rest of the summer we couldn't fix up bikes fast enough, our racks were impossible to fill as most sales were for bikes reserved before we had even worked on them.



Covid protection: adaptations included mask wearing, social distancing, limiting numbers, clear pathways and plenty of hand sanitizer and hot water hand-wash

Bike Hub stats

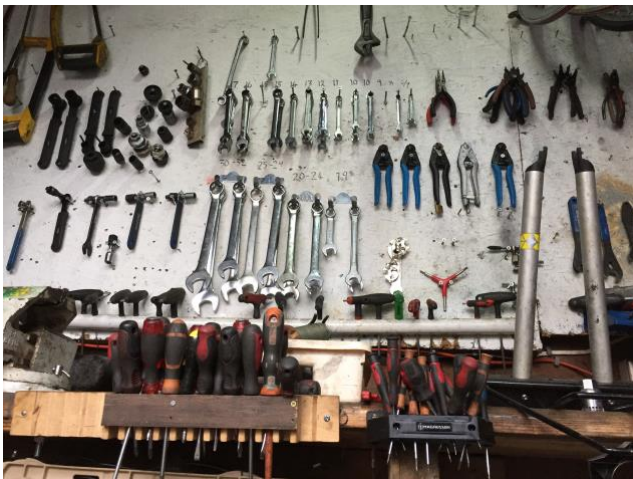
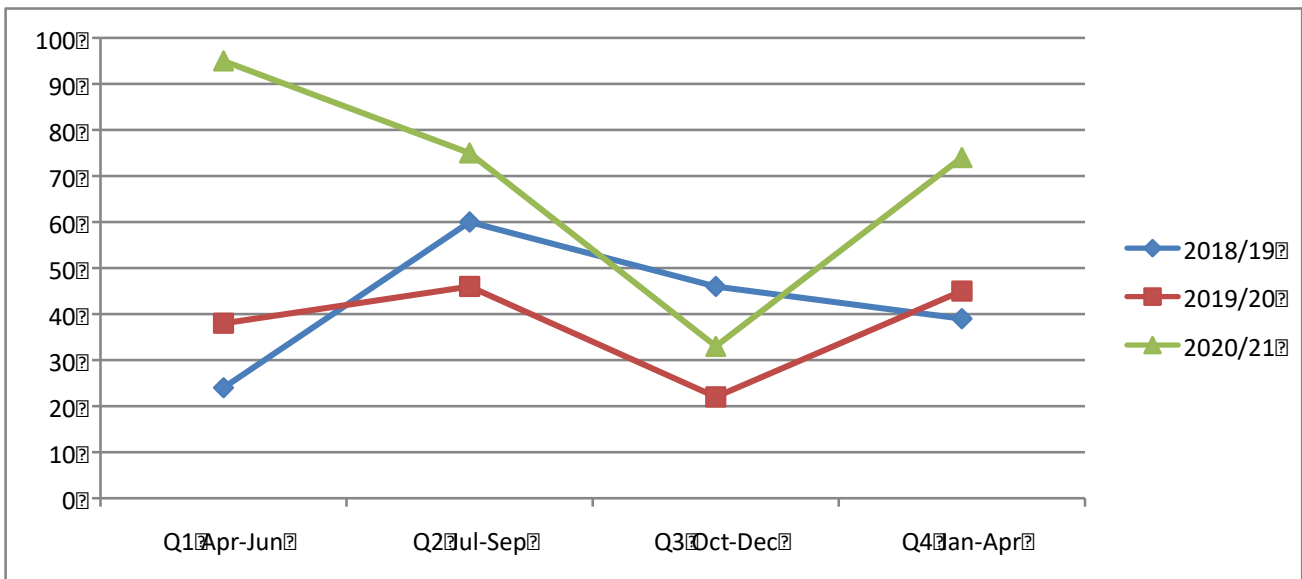
During 2020/21 we saw a 75% increase in our activity compared to the previous two years, selling a record 277 bikes, supporting more than twice as many bike repairs and helping a total of 1,600 people.

2020-21 turned out to be our busiest year ever

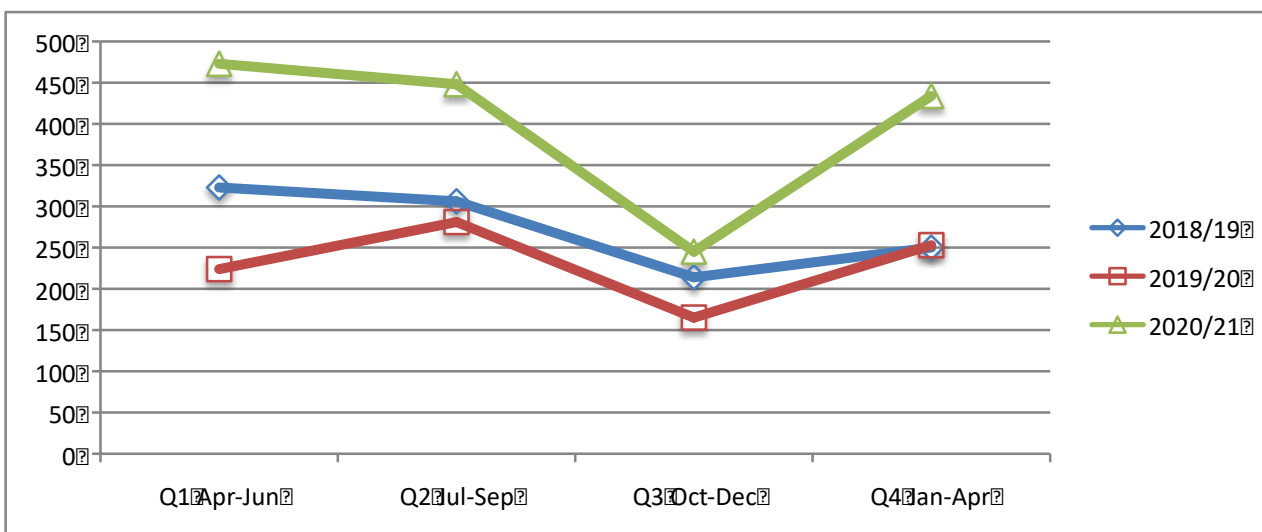
2020/21 stats

Bikes sold	277
Bikes repaired for customers	421
DIY repairs supported	278
Total number of people helped	1,600

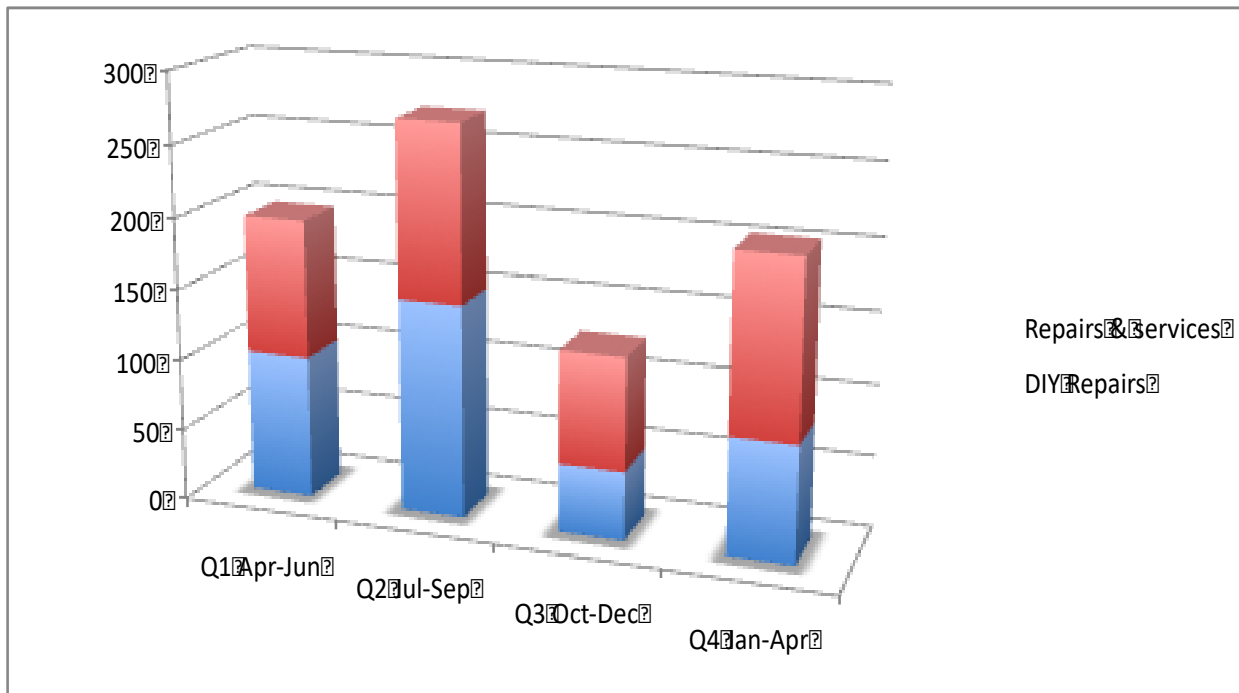
Bikes sold per quarter during the last three years



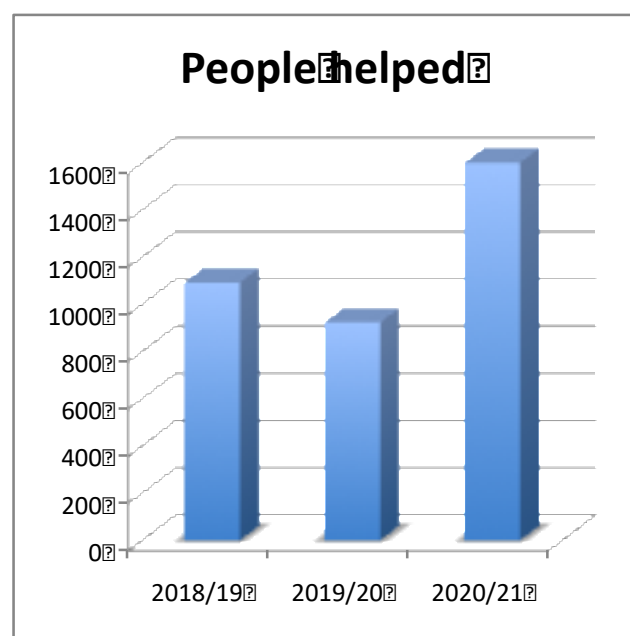
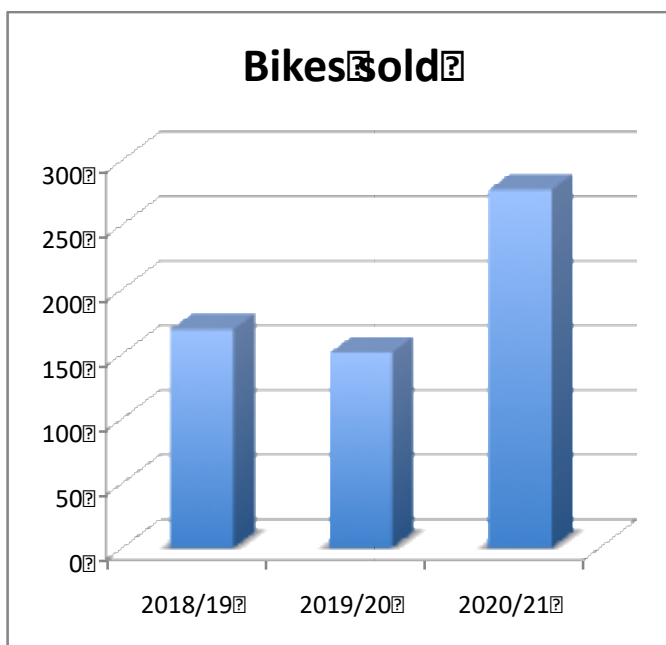
People helped per quarter during the last three years



Bikes repaired for customers & DIY repairs during 2020/21



We received a total of £7,500 support through the Big Bike Revival scheme, to provide free Dr Bike health checks, using the funds to buy unprecedented amounts of stock and also a new marquee to improve protection from the elements. We received a further £740 through the £50 Fix-Your-Bike voucher scheme.



A new lease of life for 2021



As 2020 swung into Autumn, the combination of Covid having generated more interest in cycling and the changed work situations for many meant we were blessed with a significant number of new and enthusiastic volunteers. This brought ideas and energy and, as demand for bikes eased with the winter, we were able to focus on improving the workshop space and our systems. We also started monthly on-line Team Meetings to share ideas and make decisions to help us work better together and re-established the system of Day Supervisors responsible for opening up and overseeing the work of other volunteers on allocated days. This has made for a very promising start to 2021 with March already seeing sales of ten bikes per week and supporting many more repairs.

Thanks to all the 2020/21 team

Aidan Mcgrath
Andy Morris
Ben Essex
Chaz
Connor Davidson
Declan Carey
Declan Harron
Duncan Blinkhorn
Gareth Lewis

Ian Sewell
Ken Smith
Larry Gowar
Lizzie
Luke Fair
Mario
Mathilde Gouin
Matt Mills
Melissa Kennedy

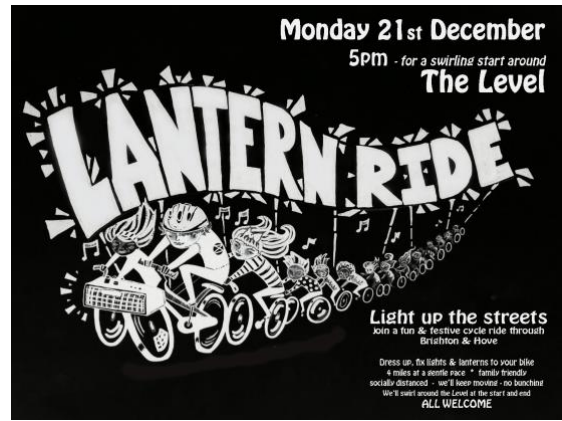
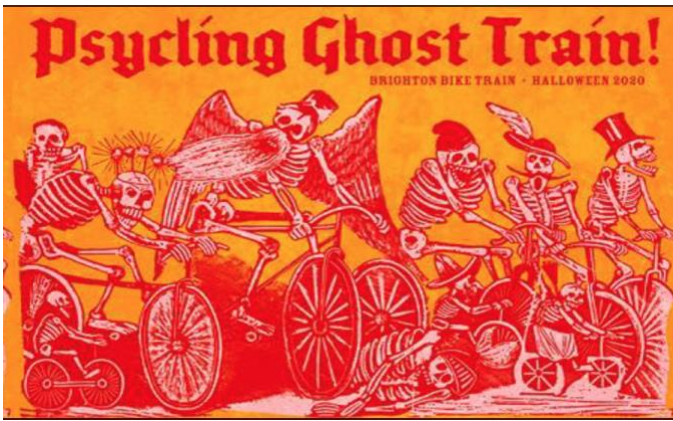
Joe Mellor
Milla Timms
Nathaniel Aaronson
Peter Nolan
Nick Gibbs
Scotty
Steve Dorney
Will Cottrell
Yao

Bike Train Project

During 2018-21 we continued to organise occasional bike train group rides, including:

- **Bonfire Bike Trains:** On 5th November 2018 & 2019 we ran our usual mass rides to the Lewes bonfire celebrations with about 300-400 participants, meeting at The Level and at Falmer House courtyard. For the Falmer to Lewes part of the route we successfully took over one lane of the A27 dual-carriageway, employing a van to protect the back of the ride. Due to Covid there was no Bonfire in 2020, so no ride was organised but we ran a Halloween ride instead.
- **Halloween Ride:** On 31 October 2020 we ran our first Halloween Bike Train - a socially distanced ride lead by a huge skeleton from The Level along the new Valley Gardens and seafront cycle lanes to Brunswick Square and back to the Level via Western Rd and the city centre.
- **Lantern Ride:** Our planned Winter Solstice ride had to be cancelled due to Covid restrictions.





Thanks to the Bike Train organising team

- Cicely Lloyd
- Duncan Blinkhorn
- Ian Wilding
- Lucy Dance

...and to all the many stewards + Peter Nolan for the wonderful skeleton that led the Halloween ride.

Brighton Naked Bike Ride

In June 2018 and 2019, as part of Bike Week, we contributed Bike Train sound systems & expertise for the 13th & 14th annual Brighton Naked Bike Ride from the Level to Black Rock the naturist beach via a 9-mile route around the city. In 2019 the ride had a strong environmental message under the banner 'We are Nature!' and with participation of Extinction Rebellion. We also supported the ride by providing accounting support and our bank account being used for receiving donations.

Brighton Active Travel

In Autumn 2020, following concerns that the temporary cycle lanes set up across the city in response to the Covid pandemic were under attack, this new forum was set up to strengthen the voices of those that support cycling and other forms of active travel. LR4CA supported the initiative with representatives attending meetings. As with BNBR, we offered to hold funds on behalf of BAT.

LR4CA Committee

Thanks to the Lewes Road for Clean Air Committee (elected 30 January 2018)

Aidan McGrath
Cicely Lloyd
Doug Broadbent-Yale
Duncan Blinkhorn*
Gregg Virostek
*bank signatories

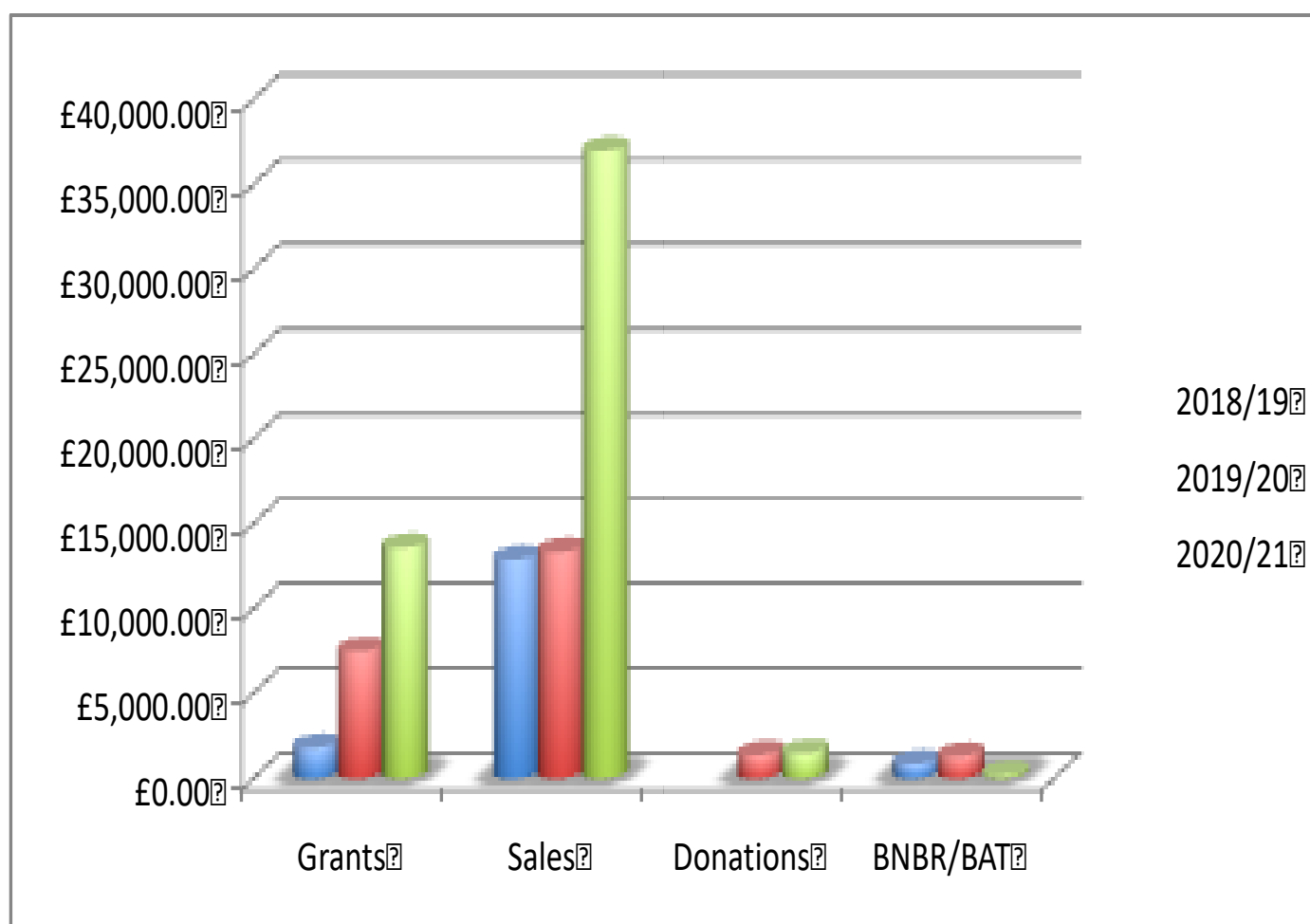
Heike Feldpausch*
Lucy Dance
Mark Strong
Cllr. Pete West

Financial reports

The year 2020/21 was by far our busiest ever, both in terms of activity and correspondingly in terms of turnover. Our gross income totalled £52,204, more than double the previous year. Income from the sale of bikes, accessories and repair jobs saw a three-fold increase. Much of this was related to increased activity due to the Covid pandemic. Income from grants also increased largely due to more government support for cycle projects, also related to the Covid crisis. This extra income enabled us to invest heavily in much more stock (£26,750) as well as improvements to the workshop such as the new marquee.

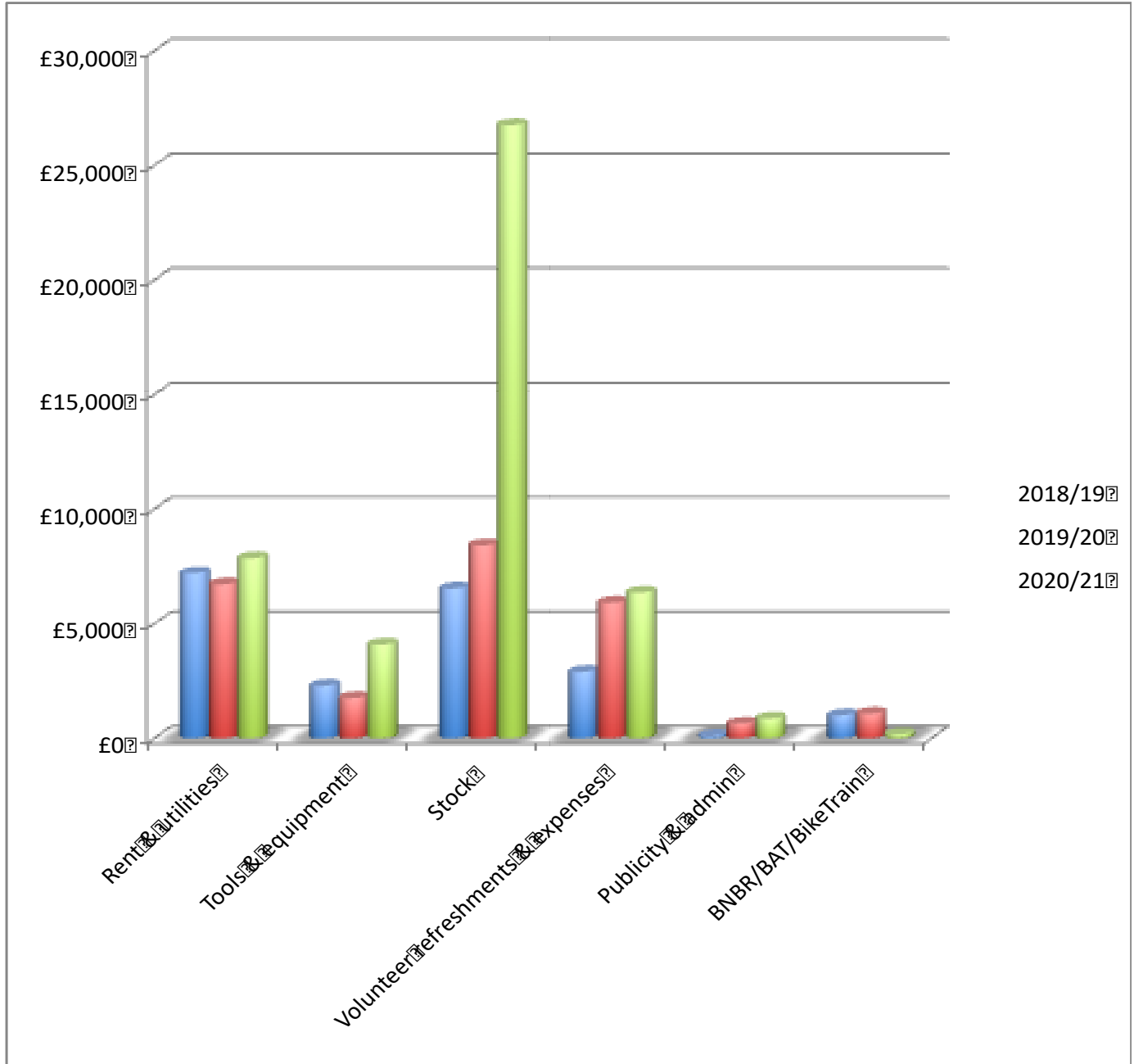
The tables and charts below show income figures for the last three years. The following pages provide further details, with the accounts for each of the last three years.

Income	Grants	Sales	Donations	BNBR/ BAT	TOTAL
2018/19	£1,800	£12,894	£859		£15,553
2019/20	£7,500	£13,347	£1,388	£1,298	£23,533
2020/21	£13,600	£36,991	£1,483	£200	£52,274



Expenditure	Rent & utilities	Tools & equipment	Stock	Volunteer refreshments & expenses	Publicity & admin	BNBR/BAT/BikeTrain	TOTAL
2018/19	£7,200	£2,283	£6,527	£2,916	£99	£1,020	£20,045
2019/20	£6,710	£1,755	£8,406	£5,918	£657	£1,092	£24,538
2020/21	£7,860	£4,083	£26,751	£6,353	£880	£165	£46,092

Expenditure during last three years



End of Year Accounts for 2020/21

Apr 2020 - Mar 2021

Income

Activity	£	£	%
BIKE HUB PROJECT		51,673.78	
Bike Hub grants (Cycling UK, Homity Trust, BHCC & Community Wks)	13,200.00		25.3%
Bike Hub donations	1,483.10		2.8%
Bike Hub sales	36,990.68		70.8%
Bank interest	0.00		
BIKE TRAIN PROJECT		400.00	
Bike Train grants (Community Works)	400.00		0.8%
BikeTrain donations	0.00		0.0%
BRIGHTON ACTIVE TRAVEL (Community Works reps fee)	200.00	200.00	0.4%
BRIGHTON NAKED BIKE RIDE	0.00	0.00	0.0%
TOTAL		52,273.78	100.0%

Expenditure

38,473.78

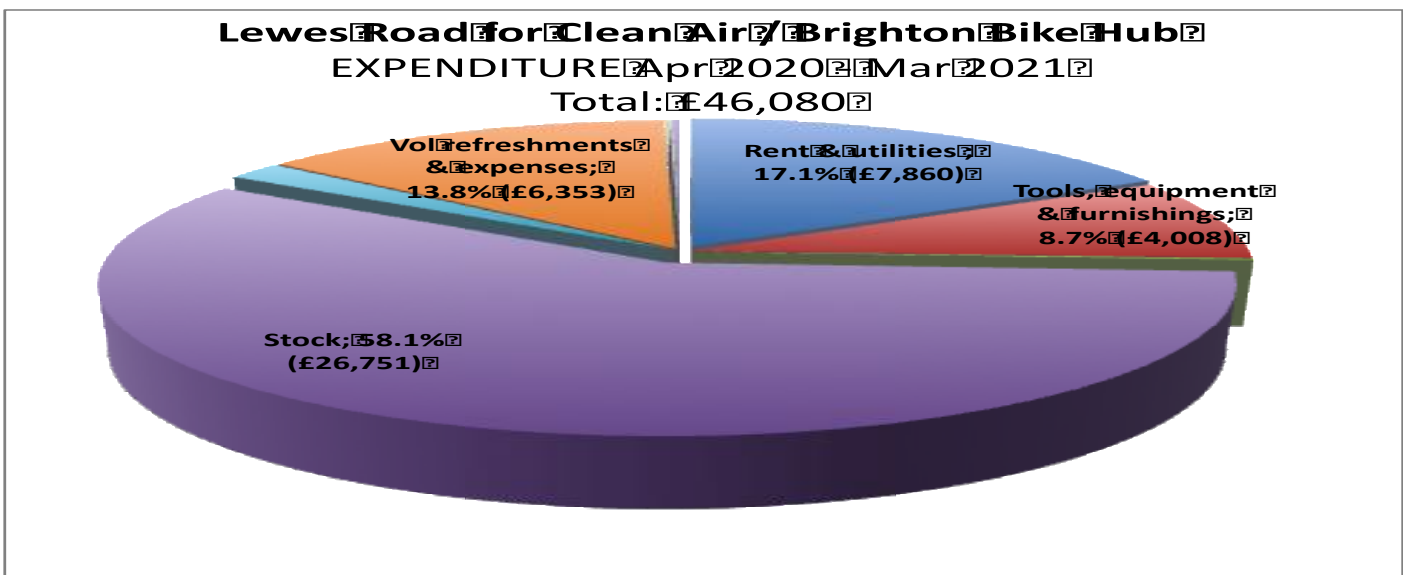
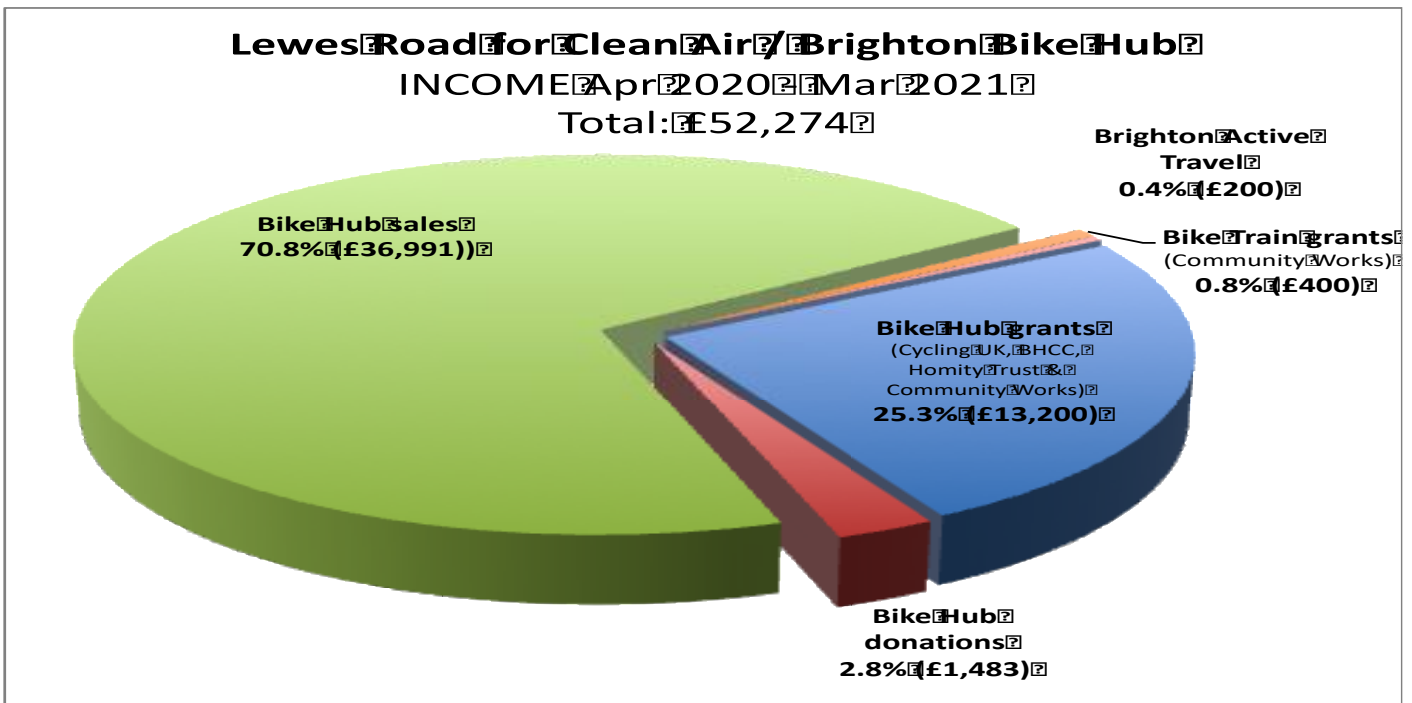
Activity	£	£	%
BIKE HUB PROJECT:		45,925.93	
Rent & utilities	7,859.64		17.1%
Tools, equipment & furnishings	4,007.62		8.7%
Equipment hire	75.00		0.2%
Stock	26,750.55		58.0%
Publicity & admin	869.05		1.9%
Vol refreshments & expenses	6,353.08		13.8%
Bank charges	10.99		
BIKE TRAIN PROJECT		165.12	
Bike Train equipment & equip hire	44.71		0.1%
Bike Train publicity	120.41		0.3%
BRIGHTON ACTIVE TRAVEL	0.00	0.00	0.0%
BRIGHTON NAKED BIKE RIDE	0.00	0.00	0.0%
TOTAL		46,091.05	100.0%

SUMMARY BY PROJECTS 2020-21	Balance at 1 Apr 2020	Balance at 31 Mar 2021	Net income
Bike Hub	-24.46	5,723.39	5,747.85
Bike Train	4.23	239.11	234.88
Brighton Active Travel	0.00	200.00	200.00
BNBR	36.54	36.54	0.00
Net surplus (deficit) 1 Apr 2020 - Mar 2021	16.31	6,199.04	6,182.73

Bank balance at 1 April 2020			16.31
Surplus for year			6,182.73
Bank balance at 31 Mar 2021			6,199.04

Notes:

1. Community Works funding (totalling £800) was for Reps Fees linked to Mark Strong's role as community representative to the city's Transport Partnership
2. Cycling UK funding (£7,500) was to support free basic repairs and Dr Bike checks as part of the annual 'Big Bike Revival' programme. Funding was much more than usual due to Covid and comes from the Department for Transport.
3. BHCC Community Resilience grant (£5,000) is for specific items due to be delivered in the next financial year 2021/22
4. We participated in the governments Fix-Your-Bike £50 voucher scheme. Total income from this was £740
5. Brighton Active Travel is a forum for cycling & walking groups collectively lobbying for better provision for active travel. We provided our good offices to hold the groups funds. No expenditure took place
6. We also held and managed funds for Brighton Naked Bike Ride. Due to Covid, in 2020 there was no ride, hence no income or expenditure under this heading.



End of Year Accounts 2019-20

1 Apr 2019 - 31 Mar 2020

Income

Activity	£	£	%
BIKE HUB PROJECT		22,235.29	
Bike Hub Grants (Rampion Trust, CyclingUK, Community Works, HEG Ward Councillor fund)	7,500.00		31.9%
Bike Hub Donations	1,388.28		5.9%
Bike Hub Sales	13,347.01		56.7%
BNBR	1,297.58	1,297.58	5.5%
BIKE TRAIN	0.00	0.00	0.0%
TOTAL		23,532.87	100.0%

Expenditure

Activity	£	£	%
BIKE HUB PROJECT:		23,453.83	
Rent & utilities	6,709.50		27.3%
Tools & equipment	1,754.63		7.1%
Equipment hire	0.00		0.0%
Stock (parts & accessories)	8,406.43		34.2%
Publicity & admin	656.84		2.7%
Volunteer refreshments & expenses	5,917.83		24.1%
Bank charges	8.60		0.0%
BIKE TRAIN PROJECT		45.77	
Bike Train publicity	32.10		0.1%
Bike Train - admin & meetings	13.67		0.1%
BNBR	1,046.50	1,046.50	4.3%
TOTAL		24,546.10	100.0%

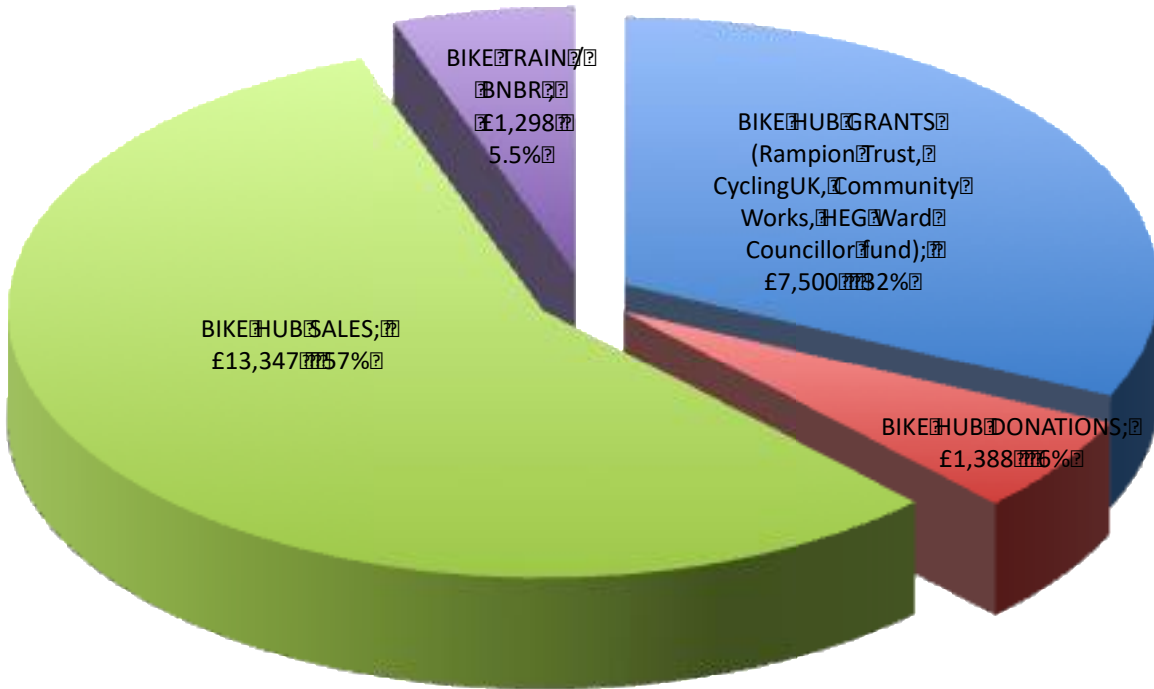
SUMMARY BY PROJECTS 2019-20	Balance at 1 Apr 2019	Balance at 31 Mar 2020	Net income
Bike Hub	1,194.08	-24.46	-1,218.54
Bike Train	50.00	4.23	-45.77
BNBR	-214.54	36.54	251.08
TOTAL	1,029.54	16.31	-1,013.23

Bank balance at 1 April 2019			1,029.54
Deficit for year			-1,013.23
Bank balance at 31 Mar 2020			16.31

Lewes Road for Clean Air EOY Accounts 2019-20

(including Brighton Bike Hub, Bike Train & BNBR projects)

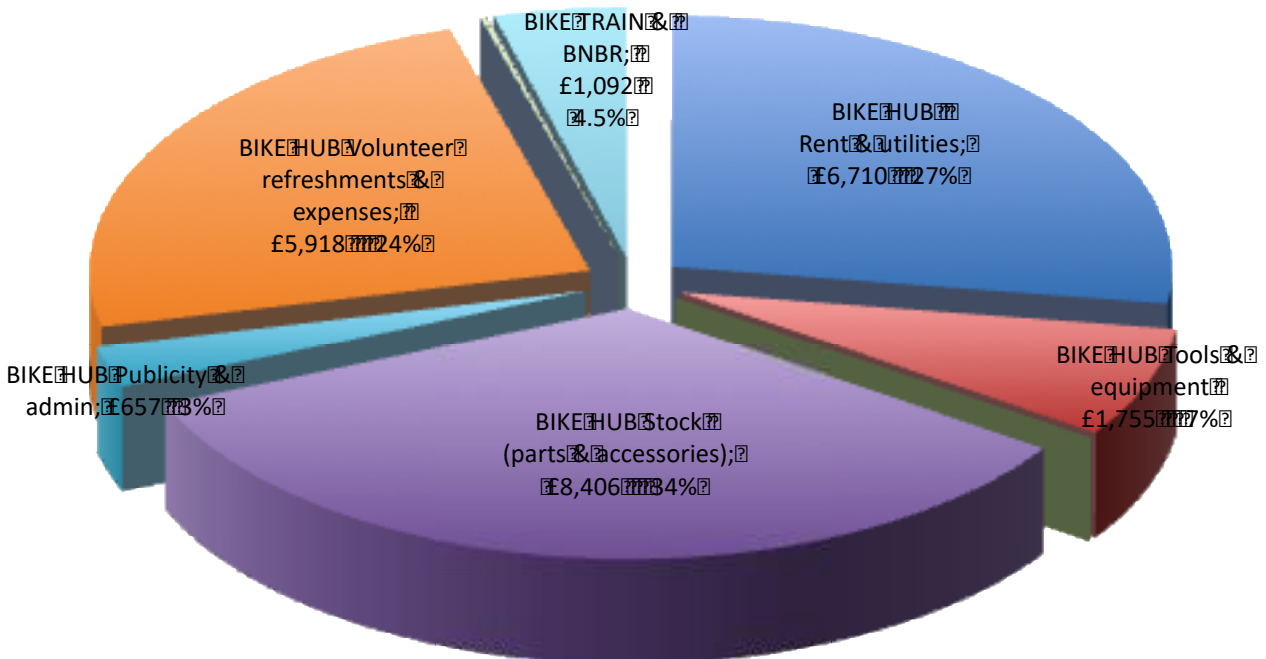
INCOME: £23,533



Lewes Road for Clean Air EOY Accounts 2019-20

(Including Brighton Bike Hub, Bike Train & BNBR projects)

EXPENDITURE: £24,546



End of Year Accounts for 2018-19

Apr 2018 - Mar 2019

Income

Activity	£	
BIKE HUB PROJECT		14,294.34
Bike Hub grants	1,400.00	
Bike Hub Donations	0.00	
Bike Hub sales	12,894.34	
BIKE TRAIN PROJECT		400.00
Bike Train Grants	400.00	
Bike Train Donations	0.00	
BNBR	858.59	858.59
LR4CA GENERAL FUND		0.00
Misc, inc. bank interest	0.00	
TOTAL		15,552.93

Expenditure

Activity	£	
BIKE HUB PROJECT:		19,025.2
Bike Hub - rent & premises costs	7,200.00	
Bike Hub - tools, equipment & furnishings	830.91	
Bike Hub - equipment hire	1,452.68	
Bike Hub – stock	6,526.88	
Bike Hub - publicity & admin	99.00	
Bike Hub - Vol refreshments & expenses	2,915.73	
BIKE TRAIN PROJECT		207.33
Bike Train project equipment & equip hire	192.48	
Bike Train publicity	14.85	
Admin & meetings	0.00	
Affiliations	0.00	
BNBR	812.47	812.47
LR4CA GENERAL FUND		0.00
Misc inc. Bank charges	0.00	
TOTAL		20,045.00

SUMMARY BY PROJECTS 2018-19	Balance at 1 Apr 2018	Balance at 31 Mar 2019	Net income
Bike Hub	211.98	-4,518.88	-4,730.86
Bike Train	370.19	562.86	192.67
BNBR	23.36	69.48	46.12
General fund	0.02	0.02	0.00
Net surplus (deficit) 1 Apr 2018 - Mar 2019	605.55	-3,886.52	-4,492.07

Bank balance at 1 April 2018			5,521.61
Surplus for year			-4,492.07
Bank balance + cash at 31 Mar 2019			1,029.54

LR4CA / Brighton Bike Hub gross income from grants, sales and donations 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21