



Annual Report: 2016 – 2017

Remakery Brixton Limited
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Registered number IP031891 (FCA 31891R)

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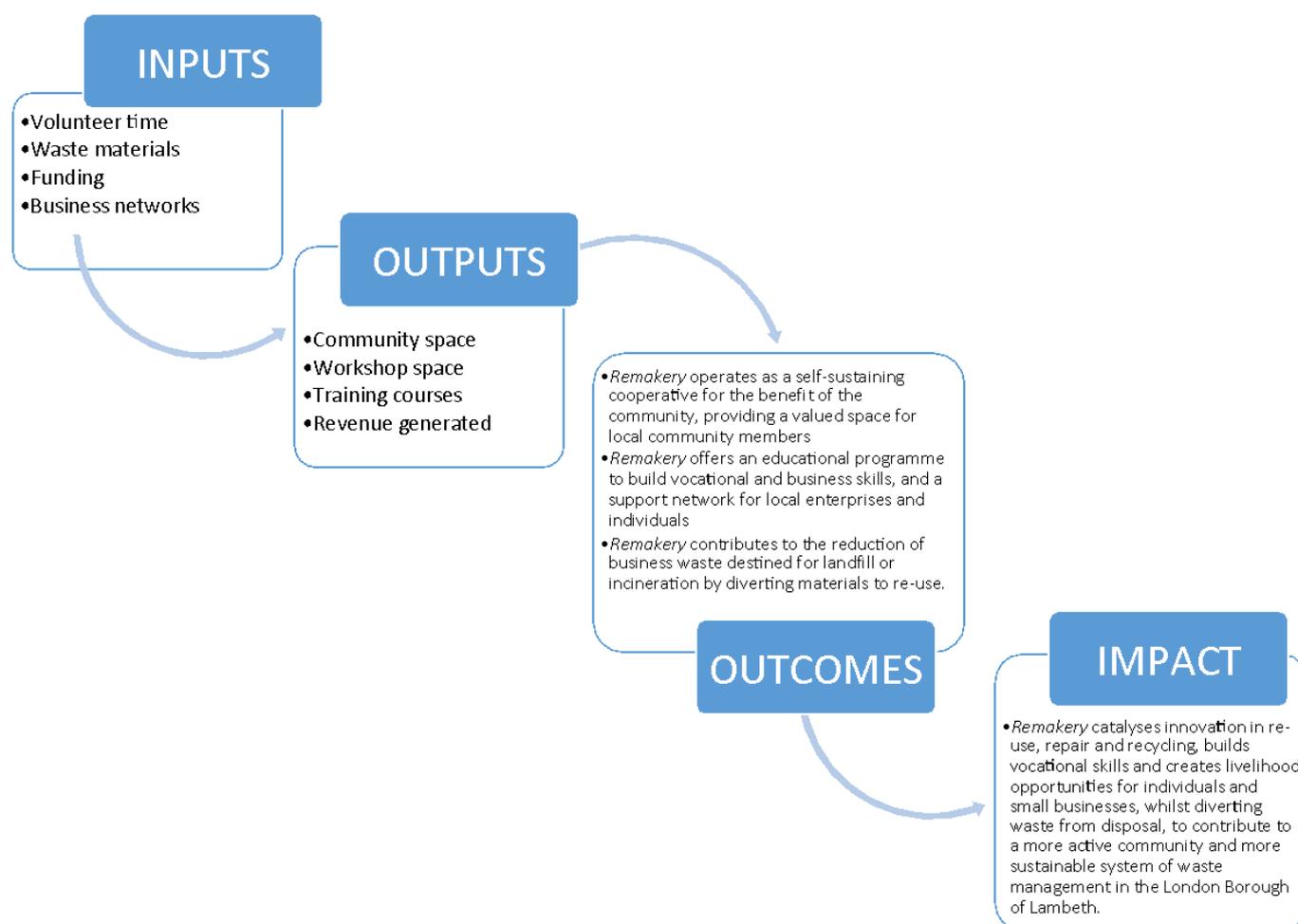


INTRODUCTION: *aims of the Remakery*

Remakery Brixton Limited (or **the Remakery** for short) is a Community Benefit Society that is registered under the Industrial & Provident Societies Act and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ('FCA'). The objects of the society, as stated in our Rules, are:

- (a) providing workspace and support networks for re-use and upcycling enterprises and initiatives;
- (b) making re-use an accessible and attractive option for our local community;
- (c) enabling the development of skills, innovation and creative design in re-use and upcycling; and
- (d) similar activities to promote and develop resourcefulness and resilience, contributing towards a zero waste Brixton.

The "Theory of Change" diagram shown below outlines how we aim to make an impact within our community:



Period and topics covered by this Report

This Annual Report is issued for our fourth Annual General Meeting (AGM) - 30 June 2017. The financial year runs from 1 January – 31 December 2016 and this report focuses primarily on that year as well as some more recent information covering developments this spring-summer.

The Report covers four main topics: 1. **THE PLACE:** *developing our physical space and resources*; 2. **THE PEOPLE:** *developing our community and connections*; 3. **THE PROJECTS:** *enabling new initiatives and opportunities*; and 4. **FINANCIAL REPORT.**

1. THE PLACE: *developing our physical space and resources*

Directors Andy Lockwood and Mark Ovenden have each played key roles as skilled volunteers to plan and implement various work to improve the site and workshop spaces, in partnership with contractors and volunteers from our community. A huge thanks to all of those who have been involved in shaping the space.

Workshop space

The Remakery currently has these facilities:

- Sewing and upholstery workshop
- 2 wood workshops
- Utility workshop for projects
- Kitchen for cafe and food preparation
- Public space for rent for meetings and events
- ***New this year*** - print studio

Waste reused

We estimate that we have re-used 21 tonnes waste materials over the last year and aim to grow this amount in future as membership and space usage increases. Members have access to the Remakery materials store on a pay-what-it's-worth basis. Non-members may also buy from the store, though prices are agreed in that instance.

2. THE PEOPLE: *developing our community and connections*

A great number of people have been involved in the making of the Remakery and a range of people continue to be involved. This section describes the ways in which people have been involved in the last year.

Directors

In accordance with the Remakery rules, two directors stepped down in June 2016: Hannah Lewis to take maternity leave and Andy Lockwood. Andy stood for re-election and was re-elected at the 2016 AGM. Maude Estwick was also elected and decided to step down in April 2017.

The current board members are: Carole Stagg (Chair), Mark Johnson (Treasurer/Secretary), Angela Rouse, Andy Lockwood, Mark Ovenden and Steph Bent.

Of the directors serving at the time of the 2017 AGM, Angela Rouse steps down by rotation and offers herself for re-appointment.

We would like to thank both past and present directors for their very valuable contributions to the Remakery.

Shareholders

The Remakery has 236 community shareholders¹. With people at the heart of our structure we are a registered cooperative for the benefit of the community, which means that by contributing £1 you can become a shareholder of Remakery Brixton Limited. Being a shareholder expresses support for the Remakery's [Objects](#) and conveys the right to vote at general meetings and stand for election to the board. Many shareholders are also involved as volunteers, Remakers or directors of the Remakery.

¹ as of 13 June 2017

Volunteers

Hundreds of volunteers made it possible to create the space that the Remakery is today and we continue to work with volunteers in various capacities to further develop it. We are extremely grateful to all those who contributed time to the Remakery on a voluntary basis each year, making it truly a space by the community and for the community.

Staff

Thanks to funding from the **Walcot Trust** we were able to offer a short-term, part-time post to coordinate the new skills course ***Sew Easy***. The job was shared between two incredibly enthusiastic people: Mukta Das and Golda Mochia.

Remakers

Remakers are Remakery space users who take out a membership, which ranges from pay-as-you-go day membership to full-time usage across a month. At the time of writing the Remakery had 15 remakers subscribed on one of our membership packages.

Space users

We are thankful to everyone who chose to use the Remakery's space as a base for their work this year. Special mentions go to:

- **People Empowering People** whose bike repair and training workshop at the Remakery continued over the last year and has created opportunities for local young people and adults to learn bike maintenance skills and catch the cycling bug;
- **Centric Learning Tree**, whose workshop here is a base for making fantastic props and musical instruments for storytelling workshops in schools and with different age groups;
- **Twist**, who support people on disability benefits to gain work experience and to start their own projects and businesses. **Twist** rent office space at the Remakery, and provide crucial support in filling the Remakery's hosting rota, which will soon enable us to open full-time for members to drop in and use our space. Twist's clients include a group of furniture upcyclers who use the workshops to develop their business. We'd like to thank **Julie** for her enthusiasm, dedication and all the help she gives to the Remakery.
- **Other users have run a variety of short-term events:**
 - An exploration of clay and re-use with the **Crafts Council UK**
 - **Urban Permaculture** Design Course again later this year run by Social Landscapes
 - **Hudson Fuggle**, who ran a team building day to build an series of incredible machines
 - Junkanory, ran by **Centric Learning Tree**, an of evening of storytelling with inspiring backdrop
 - **Library of Things, the Stitch, West Norwood Feast** and the **Portico Gallery** held a mending meet-up
 - **David Gauntlett** ran a DiDIY² Makers Workshop themed *Does Making Matter?*
 - **ERSA** which awarded Twist's design and delivery team a high commendation at #ersawards2016 @ersa_news
 - **Repowering** ran a workshop for solar panels.

² Digital Do It Yourself

Events and informal learning

The Remakery runs a range of events over the course of the year that it manages directly. Those run indirectly are listed under above space users. Some of the events we have run this year:

- **Open Workshop Nights** – led by director Mark Ovenden, these popular weekly evenings take a design brief through a brainstorm and creative process, sometimes as far as prototyping.
- **DIY Social Club** with South London Cares
- **Tea Cake & Make** – a 6-week project aimed at getting local residents to come into Remakery to find out what we do and make seasonal gifts using items from our store. The tea and cake was paid for by vouchers received from Morrisons Butterfly Walk and Tesco. These events were primarily attended by parents and their children.
- **DIY Days** – peer-to-peer learning on how to do DIY plus the Remakery gets a lift in the process
- **Learn DIY for free – design & create storage solutions** with crèche with LEAP Lambeth
- **Christmas Party**
- **AGM and Summer Party**
- We opened our doors for the **Camberwell Arts Open Studios** and as part of the London Design Festival 2016 #BrixtonDesign
- We ran a **design challenge** to re-vision waste with Assemble and HUBBUB.

We also regularly attend events outside of the Remakery, such as speaking at the Impact Hub Brixton's evening in September last year on reimagining urban life and how communities can be sustained in the face of regeneration and homogeneity. We also had a stand again at the Lambeth Country Fair showcasing the work we do, and were invited to join Climate-KIC UK & Ireland, which works on circular economy in the built environment, at a climate innovation challenge in December to pitch our Remakery concept.

Training

This year we piloted the *Sew Easy* course, catering to those aged 18 - 30, out of work and not in further education. We ran two rounds of the course, led by Janet Showell, who has a degree in Textiles for Theatre Design and has taught sewing and textile courses for 25 years. This was possible with funding from the Walcot Foundation, an independent grant-making foundation and charity which works to break cycles of financial deprivation for people living in Lambeth.

Materials donors

We are grateful to businesses and residents who contributed useful materials to the Remakery's materials stores this year, preventing many tonnes of wood, boards, furniture, paints, textiles and more from becoming waste.

Visitors

Notable visitors to the Remakery this year include Clover Lee from the Great Pottery Throw Down.

3. THE PROJECTS: enabling new initiatives and opportunities

The Remakery undertakes and enables a variety of projects to take place at the site. Over the last year, while we have focused on growing the membership and workshop spaces, this has included most notably Cabana Manchester for which we supplied 18 chairs made from reused oil drums.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report covers the year to 31 December 2016, and our Full Accounts are available to on our website.

2016 continued to reflect Remakery's transition from a construction project into a commercial business reliant on trading income supported by donations and grant income.

We were awarded and received £15,000 by the Walcot Trust to facilitate our courses. £4,000 of that income has been reflected in the 2016 accounts. Donations for the year totalled £1,400.

Memberships and Space Hire income grew in the year, with a total income of £12,557 (2015: £7,910), whilst Project Commissions fell to £6,195 (2015: £28,665) as the Cabana and LBL projects came to an end and no other projects replaced them.

After the cost of sales - paying makers as subcontractors for Cabana, and payments to Lambeth Council for garages for storage - our Gross Profit for the year was £13,923 (2015: £6,203).

After factoring in the employment of our two part-time staff for Q4 2016, and our operating expenses (rent, insurance and utilities) we made a loss of £1,283 for 2016. The Remakery had £17,258 in the bank at year end (2015: £14,468).

The directors would like to thank everyone who has been involved in the Remakery over the last year – we rely on and are immensely grateful to our partners, shareholders, remakers, volunteers, funders, visitors and users and we look forward to the year ahead with confidence.

Thank you!

For and on behalf of the Board;

Angela Rouse

Director

20 June 2017