

**Press release**

Embargo: 20 March 2008

**Red2Green opens new shop  
to encourage people to reuse and recycle**

Red2Green <sup>(1)</sup>, Cambridgeshire's leading disability charity, is today opening a thriving new shop at 297 Histon Road, Cambridge, to encourage people to buy and sell reused and recycled household and office items. The new shop is a joint venture between the charity and Cambridge Regional College <sup>(2)</sup>, and means that adults with learning disabilities can now take a series of tailored qualifications, preparing them for work in the retail and IT industries.

Reboot, Red2Green's computer refurbishing project, has set up its workshop at the new site, and learners can now take 'Byte Size' courses in computer recycling <sup>(3)</sup>, as well as NVQs in IT for Practitioners, simultaneously gaining valuable work experience for their CVs.

Also opening on the site is the Cambridge Online Auction Shop, where people can deposit items they want auctioned on the eBay website. Red2Green's learners then prepare the items and put them up for sale, presenting them in the best possible light so that the goods sell for as high a price as possible.

Tor Docherty, Red2Green's chief executive, said: "This is such an exciting new venture for us. Our learners have been asking us for ages to put on some retail courses for them, so we jumped at the chance to expand our Reboot project, and also launch the Cambridge Online Auction Shop to encourage the public to think twice about the value of their unwanted items. With Red2Green, the public can generate income and reduce landfill – a real winner for everyone, including our learners".

David Golding, Cambridge Regional College's Academy Manager for Supported Education, said: "At CRC we pride ourselves on identifying skills gaps in the workforce, and we think that our learners could offer the retail industry in the county some real enthusiasm and commitment. But classroom learning isn't the ideal way to learn retail

skills, so we're really pleased that Red2Green has offered to do not only the teaching but give learners a hands-on work experience at the same time".

Anyone interested in taking the NVQ in IT should contact Reboot on 01223 365917, and more detail about the NVQ in retail can be found by calling the auction shop on 01223 365955.

## ENDS

(1) Red2Green runs projects across Cambridgeshire providing leisure, educational and work opportunities for over 600 people with a wide range of disabilities and those facing disadvantage, including mental health problems, learning disabilities, sensory impairments, physical disabilities and social communication disorders.

(2) Cambridge Regional College aims to be the first choice provider of training and skills for the Cambridge region.

(3) The Byte Size Reboot courses are being offered thanks to Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities funding, administered through Cambridgeshire County Council.

- To arrange an interview call Samantha Sherratt, Red2Green's Deputy Chief Executive, call 01223 811662

**Reboot and the Cambridge Online Auction Shop are both Red2Green social enterprises, run in partnership with Cambridge Regional College**

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Turning the Red Lights Green is a Registered Charity no 1112429 and also a company registered in England and Wales no 5485413, trading as Red2Green

**Cambridge**  
**OnlineAuctionShop**  
 **.org**

**Reboot**