

**PRESS RELEASE**

**[... fill in place name] starts its own** **Repair Café**

**What do you do with a broken toaster? Or with a bike when the wheel runs out of true? Or with a sweater full of moth holes? Toss it? No way! [... fill in name of organising group] is organising the first Repair Café in [... fill in place name] on [... fill in weekday + date].**

At [... fill in location, e.g. Community Centre], on [... fill in street], on [... fill in date] everything centres on making repairs. Starting from [... fill in starting time] and ending at [... fill in closing time], various volunteer repair experts will be available to help make all possible repairs free of charge. Tools and materials will also be on hand. People visiting the Repair Café will bring along their broken items from home. Toasters, lamps, hair dryers, clothes, bikes, toys, crockery... anything that is broken is welcome. And can more than likely be repaired. The Repair Café specialists almost always have the know-how.

By promoting repairs, [... fill in name of organisation] wants to help reduce mountains of waste. This is absolutely necessary, according to [... fill in name of person in the organisation]. "We throw away piles of stuff in [... fill in name of country]. Even things which practically have nothing wrong with them, and which could easily be used again after a simple repair. Unfortunately, many people have forgotten that they can have things repaired. Repair Café wants to change all that."

Repair Café is also meant to put neighbours in touch with each other in a new way. And to discover that a lot of know-how and practical skills can be found close to home. [... fill in the name of the same person as above]: "If you repair a bike, a CD player or a pair of trousers together with a previously unfamiliar neighbour, you look at that person in a different light the next time you run into them on the street. Jointly making repairs can lead to pleasant contacts in the neighbourhood."

[... fill in the same name again] points out that repairs can save money and resources, and can help minimise CO2 emissions. “But above all, Repair Café just wants to show how much fun repairing things can be, and how easy it often is.”

**Repair Café Foundation**

The Repair Café concept arose in the Netherlands, in 2009, and was formulated by Martine Postma, at the time an Amsterdam-bases journalist/publicist. In 2010, she started the Repair Café Foundation (see Repaircafe.org). This foundation provides support to local groups around the world wishing to start their own Repair Café. The foundation also supports the Repair Café in [... fill in place name].

[...fill in name of organisation] wishes to organise from [... fill in starting date] a Repair Café on a regular basis in [... fill in place name]. News about dates and locations of up-and-coming editions will follow as soon as possible!

[date]

**Note for the editors:** You can get more information from [... fill in name of person] (... fill in name of organisation), tel. [... fill in phone number]. You can also go to [... fill in url for website of local organiser] or Repaircafe.org.