

ISSUE #03

NEWTON STEWART
INITIATIVE

7 SEPTEMBER 2026

NSI MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

CELEBRATING IMPACTFUL INITIATIVES AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT



COMMUNITY UPDATES

Welcome to our monthly newsletter! The last month has been very busy for NSI, so grab a brew and have a read

FUNDING UPDATES

Are you a Co-Op member? If so you can vote for NSI as the local cause you would like to support. You can do this via the app or visiting www.coop.co.uk/membership. Every vote counts. The more votes, the more funding we will receive in 2026. The funding we receive will be going towards Vibe 75 costs.

Funding has been received from Tesco for £500 towards Vibe 75 and Kilgallioch have offered us 5% towards the purchase price of Vibe 75. We hear in November if we have been successful with the other 95%.

We are continuing to apply for funding to convert the upstairs of Vibe 75.

HAPPY DAZE



HAPPY DAZE

Held on the last Thursday of the month at Vibe 75 from 1-3pm.

Happy Daze now has its own Facebook page for comments, interest and to be kept informed which you can find here https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61585968225602&locale=en_GB

If you would like to come along and give a talk on the history of the town or an element of it, we would love to hear from you. Just drop us an email to info@newtonstewartinitiative.net

MARGARET SHANKLAND GAVE ANOTHER RIVETING TALK ON THE HISTORY OF MINNIGAFF TO AN ENGROSSED AUDIENCE OF 17 PEOPLE. FROM ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES TO ANECDOTAL EVIDENCE EXPLAINING JUST HOW MINNIGAFF CAME TO SUCH PROMINENCE IN THE LOCAL GEOGRAPHICAL LAY OUT WAS COVERED IN GREAT DETAIL.

AND THERE'S MORE TO COME! MARGARET HAS AGREED TO RETURN AGAIN IN THE FUTURE TO ADD YET MORE DETAIL TO THE LOCAL HISTORY OF THE AREA.

THE NEXT HAPPY DAZE SESSION IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE ON 24TH SEPTEMBER WHEN JIM MCDOWALL IS TO TALK ABOUT HIS LIFE IN THE WORLD OF MOTOR RACING, LOCALLY AND NATIONALLY."



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www.newtonstewart.net



Old Town Hall, 77-79 Victoria Street, Newton Stewart, DG8 6NL

OLD TOWN HALL

NSI have now moved their main office into the Old Town Hall. Our current opening hours are Monday-Friday 930am-130pm. We are currently gathering as much information about what is on in the local area as possible so if you have any posters/flyers/leaflets you would like displayed please post them or drop them off. We will be holding a grand opening in the future so will keep you updated!



Our entrance way is currently stocked with leaflets sharing what is on in the local area- feel free to drop some in for your group/organisation- currently open Monday-Friday 930-130



Our new office!



Our small meeting room which can accommodate up to 8 people is available for hire- just email info@newtonstewartinitiative.net or call 01671 401449 to book

VIBE 75



Newton Stewart Initiative has secured funding from [Foundation Scotland](#) to run some more wonderful craft workshops with a selection of talented local artists.

[Vibe75](#) is excited to welcome Lucy and Edward from [Old Mill Arts](#) for the first workshop taking place on Tuesday, September 22nd from 6pm.

Creating colour with plants, a workshop in making natural ink with Old Mill Arts

Join Lucy and Edward for an evening of celebrating the wonder of natural colour from plants.

Learn techniques of creating colour from plants you can grow and forage, make your own inks to take home and have fun being together and experiencing the beautiful potential of plant inks.

This workshop focuses on tips and techniques to create rich, long lasting colour from plants, it draws from traditional crafts and years of experience in making plant inks.

The tutors Edward and Lucy from Old Mill Arts use handmade inks in their own artwork, as well as mentoring artists in how to make inks for use in creating work. They have years of experience in making natural art materials and are advocates for sustainability and connection to the materials we create with in artistic practices.

This workshop is suitable for beginners as well as anyone wanting to refine ink making skills.

In this workshop you will:

Learn which plants are good to use for ink making.

Experience several techniques in drawing out colour.

Make inks to take home.

Test a wide range of inks from the Old Mill Arts collection to see the potential of natural colour.

Go home with a hand painted poster and swatches of colour documenting the inks for future reference.

Explore the joys of natural colour together.

These workshops are free to individuals, to book your place please email vibeprojectworker@outlook.com.

Gather is NSI's pop up café running every Wednesday at Vibe 75 from 10-2. Drop in for a brew, bring your knitting, linger longer. Swaps table for surplus produce or whatever, rails of New With Tags brought down from the community shop. Fresh baked scones. Every Wednesday

The Newton Stewart Wellbeing Hub is on every other Monday from 10-1230pm, where you can pop along for a cuppa and a chat.

There is also a weekly darts group on a Wednesday evening for young people.

If you want to get in touch with anything regarding Vibe 75 please email Christy at vibeprojectworker@outlook.com.

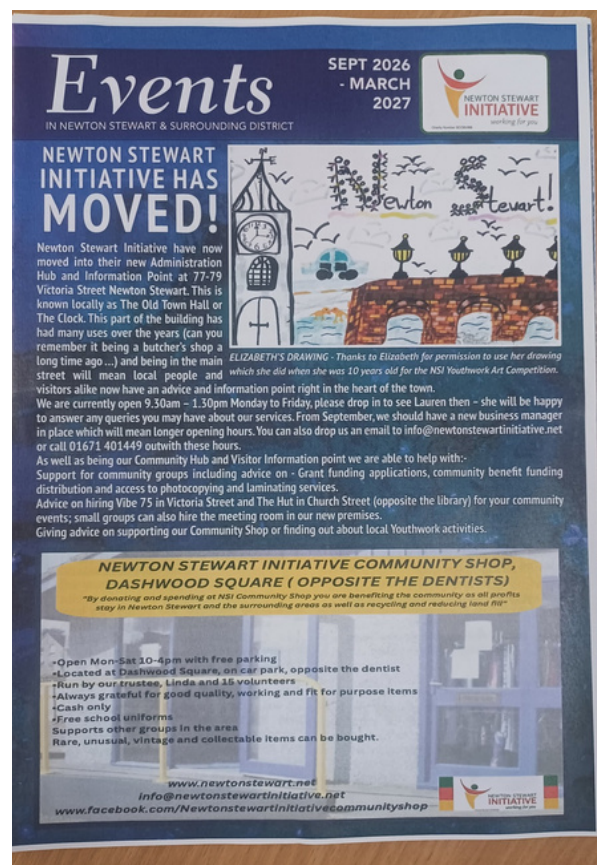
NSI COMMUNITY SHOP

To be able to deliver the projects for our town we rely on funding and profits from our community shop. If you have anything to donate or looking for gifts/kitchen items/clothing do pop along to our shop at Dashwood Square or one of our pop-up events in Vibe 75 to help support NSI.

We are always looking for volunteers in our shop so if you have a few spare hours, want to give something back to the community or develop your confidence drop into the shop for an application form.

OTHER NEWS

Our next events flyer is completed with activities and events in the DG8 area, and a number of local businesses advertising their services. These have now started to be delivered- all being well to every household in the DG8 area. If you don't receive one you can email nsieventscalendar@outlook.com or pop into our office to collect one. We will also have digital copies online which you can access at www.newtonstewart.org. If you need a large print one printed off just drop into the office and Lauren will print one off for you.



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