



New Mills & Dis

About Us

New Mills and District Volunteer Centre is a small charity based in New Mills in the High Peak. We are here to support our community and the surrounding communities by connecting volunteers to the needs of local people. Our objectives are to: Promote Volunteering, Provide a Community Volunteer Centre & give advice and support to volunteers.

We look to identify gaps in community care and meet those needs with volunteer activity. We focus on but aren't limited to, responding to the needs of the elderly, disabled and socially isolated people in the area.

In addition we look to recruit, support and train volunteers and offer opportunities for the local community to volunteer as well as acting as a volunteer broker for other organisations.

We work with all people within our community and whilst we don't solely cater for the older generation, due the demographics of the area, around 80% of our clients are over 65 with just 6% being under 50. Often our staff or volunteers are the only contact some of our clients have in person, and we provide a lifeline for them be it assisting with shopping, having a chat and cup of tea, helping them attending one of our social sessions or assisting them to get to medical appointments.

We work with the communities of New Mills, Chapel, Hayfield, Whaley Bridge and the smaller surrounding villages. Overall the area we support encompasses a population of around 30,000 people, spread over a large predominantly rural footprint.

Whilst all of our services are powered by volunteers, we have a small team of staff ensuring that everything keeps running smoothly and the charity keeps operating.

Staff Team

Mark - Centre Manager

Hannah - Transport Coordinator

Fiona - Befriending Coordinator

Lorna - Groups and Marketing Coordinator

Julie - Office Administrator

Jeanette - Cleaner

Board of Trustees

Tony Ashton - Chair

Liz Treacy - Vice Chair

Hazel Body - Treasurer

Martin Arie

Gill Christian

Anne Clarke

Rodney Gilmore

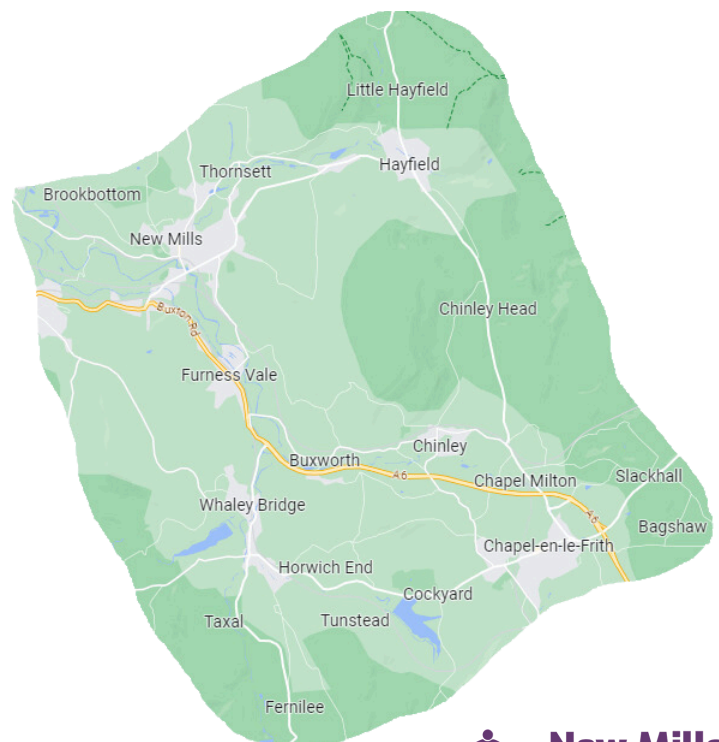
Doris Higginbotham

David King (retired)

Ian Robinson

Dorothy Scapens

Sue Stringer



**New Mills
& District**
VOLUNTEER CENTRE

Message from the Chair

Within this report are details of the number of people benefitting from the services provided by our volunteers and staff, all of whom I would like to thank and have contributed to another successful year. However whilst the quantity is informative (and many will find surprising), the numbers do not reflect how meaningful our services are to clients who use them. To give an idea, below are examples of the many comments we have received:

This one is from the lady whose mum uses transport and lives 2.5 hours away:

"I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for the incredible support you have provided to my mum over the past few years. Your volunteers have been consistently kind, reliable, and supportive, and the difference you have made to both my mum's wellbeing and my own peace of mind cannot be overstated. It is truly reassuring to know she is in such caring and capable hands."

Below a quote about our befriending service:

"She looks forward to the weekly visits immensely. Without befriending, they would have limited connection with the world outside. She is now able to have company, to share experiences and has developed a positive and trusting relationship. I am so grateful to the befriending service, who work hard to provide connection to people who would otherwise be lonely. It is an invaluable service and they go above and beyond. Thank you, as always, for all you do."

From the Musical Memories Session which supports people with dementia and their carers:

"My dad loves it, he asks me when the next one is every single time I see him. It gets better and better, it's just amazing and the musicians are such lovely people."



In terms of pounds spent per client we have always been and will continue to be more effective than almost any similar organisation, but as Mark has alluded in his report, going forward money is a concern. Over the years Trustees have built up good reserves but last year we had a deficit of over £20,000 and this year we are forecasting a deficit in excess of £30,000 meaning a reduction in reserves of over £50,000 in just two years which is not sustainable in the long term.

It is worth remembering that we are a charity, and the vital services we provide to support our community are only possible thanks to external funding and the generosity of local people. We kindly ask you to consider supporting our work with a donation, no matter how small. There are several simple ways to contribute, including via PayPal, by playing the High Peak Community Lottery, through Easyfundraising when you shop online, or by choosing to leave a lasting legacy through a gift in your will. Your support truly makes a difference and helps us continue to be there for those who need us most.

Message from the Manager

This last year has been both challenging and rewarding! As you will see in this year's impact report we have had a fantastic number of people using our services throughout the year, as well as volunteering and supporting our community. Our staff have done a great job of adapting to the needs of the community, putting on additional sessions, ensuring all of our services can cope with the demand and providing support for both users and volunteers.

Last year we lost funding from Derbyshire County Council which has resulted in us needing to use reserve funds to get through the year. We are in a fortunate position after many years of careful sound financial management by the staff and trustees, we are able to do this. However, like a broken record, we start the year with uncertainty around funding for the coming year. Funding we receive from Derbyshire County Council that supports our transport to medical appointments service is now being managed by the new East Midlands Combined Authority, and we only have confirmed funding until September. Likewise Derby and Derbyshire ICB have only confirmed funding until September and are currently reviewing the future direction of how they fund voluntary organisations. This is a potential combined loss of around £30,000 a year. We are currently putting together financial plans and bid writing to negate as much of these potential shortfalls as possible.

This year we have seen more people with complex health needs, particularly people with varying stages of dementia looking for support from the volunteer centre. Whilst there is a recognised increase in the number of dementia cases nationwide, we can't help but think that the closure of many of the local services and day centres over the last 18 months is contributing to what we are experiencing at the Centre as people look for alternative provision. As an organisation we try to help as much as we can as is demonstrated through the New Spring Bank Musical Memories Club we have started in partnership with Spring Bank Arts, however staff and volunteers are limited in what we can do with the more complex cases and are often only able to help with signposting to other suitable care providers (where they exist).



On to more positive news, we were lucky to have received a grant from Derbyshire Mind last year to support the wellbeing of people through outdoor activity and what better way to do this than through our very own allotment. The funding will enabled us to refurbish the allotment growing beds, put down a new patio seating area and replace the dilapidated shed. One of the major events of the last year involves our building, where in February the Town Councillors agreed to transfer the freehold of the building to us at the end of our current lease agreement with them. This decision from the councillors will give us an asset which will provide us with security moving forwards and will enable us to better plan for the future.

Finally I want to give a massive thank you to our volunteers, whether you are giving up your time driving, making meals, befriending, gardening, helping at groups, supporting us in the office or fundraising for us. Without your support we wouldn't be able to make the impact on the community and the people within the community who need our support.

Mark

Volunteering

Volunteers at the Heart of our community

Everything we do at New Mills & District Volunteer Centre is powered by volunteers supporting the communities they live in.

We are committed to the voluntary, community & social enterprise sector (VCSE) as it plays a vital role in strengthening communities by offering essential support services that enhance the well-being and independence of individuals. Through initiatives provided by ourselves such as befriending, transport to medical appointments, social groups, gardening, and maintaining our allotment, volunteers help reduce isolation, promote healthier lifestyles, and foster a sense of belonging. Additionally, by assisting at reception here at the volunteer centre and supporting other VCSE organisations, volunteers ensure the smooth operation of community services and amplify the impact of local initiatives. Their dedication not only fills critical service gaps but also builds a more connected, compassionate, and resilient community for all.

Over the last year our volunteers have committed at least 10,649 hours to supporting their community and the people within in. This commitment is the equivalent of £130,024 in wages! Whether you've been helping at social sessions, driving, cooking, supporting us in the office of helping with our fundraising, we want to say a huge thank you to you all!



Derby and Derbyshire
Integrated Care Board



377
Registered
Volunteers

23
Volunteer
Inductions

10,649
Volunteer
Hours

Equivalent
of £130,024
In Wages

VOLUNTEERS' WEEK

We were delighted to team up with New Mills Town Council to host a volunteer celebration during Volunteers' Week where around 30 volunteers were treated to tea and cake and entertainment from the Gally Canters.



Volunteering Case Study

Volunteers play a key role in what we do at the centre and without them we would not be able to function as we do. We thought it would be nice for the people who currently volunteer to tell us why. If you use the QR code to the right it will take you to our website where you can hear from some of our volunteers.



We spoke to Margo at the start of the year about her volunteering journey:

“Since moving to New Mills in 2022, we’ve gradually got involved in all sorts of volunteering activities — from welcoming people at the Volunteer Centre on reception, making soup for Monday’s Acoustic Soup, helping with crafts and reading stories, growing veggies at the Ollersett allotment (for Acoustic soup!), giving talks on travel adventures, and even helping raise funds.

Yes, it feels great to give something back to the community. But honestly? What we’ve gained is even more than we’ve given. Here’s just a taste of what volunteering has brought us:

- ✓ Lots of new friends we bump into around town
- ✓ A greater awareness of the amazing groups and activities in New Mills
- ✓ The joy of growing your own veggies (and tasting how good homegrown really is!)
- ✓ Loads of new skills — growing cucumbers from seed was a highlight!
- ✓ A real sense of belonging to this wonderful community

If you’ve ever thought about volunteering, now’s the time! It’s fun, rewarding, and you’ll get back more than you imagine.”



Transport



Supported by
THE ROYAL
COUNTRYSIDE
FUND



Funded by
CLAIRE WARD
MAYOR OF THE
EAST MIDLANDS

East Midlands
Combined County
Authority

One of the major aspects of our work is our transport to medical appointments. This project over the last year has been funded via a generous grant from the Royal Countryside Fund, which ended in January and from Derbyshire County Council's Access to Health fund. From April 2026 DCC's Access to Health funding will move to the East Midlands Combined County Authority who have currently extended the funding for 6 months; we are hopeful for this to be extended further, however securing funding for this project is one of our main priorities in the coming months.

Our transport to medical appointments is for any adult in the community who is unable to use public transport to get to and from the appointment. There could be many reasons for being unable to use public transport including age, disability, mobility issues or just the lack of access to public transport. Our friendly volunteers using their own cars will come and pick you up from your home, drive you to your appointment and then wait around for up to 2 hours before driving you back home.

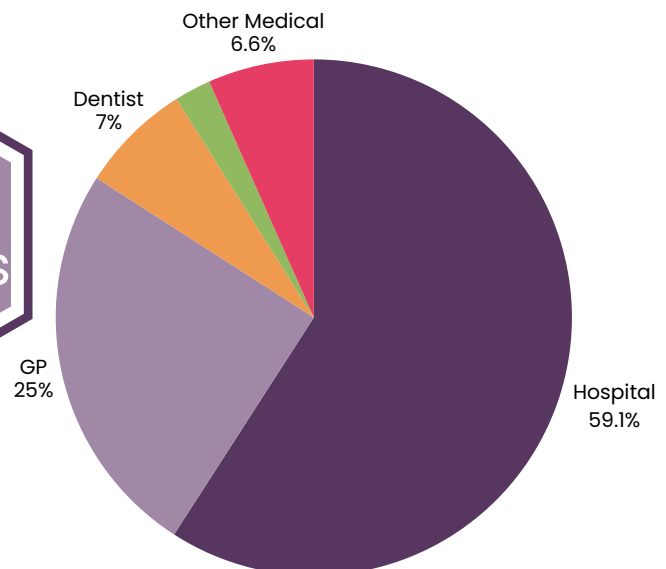
Over the last year our drivers have been super busy transporting people all across the region and beyond.



Our drivers have almost driven the equivalent of a lap of the earth clocking up 23,320 miles! We've sent our drivers all over! We been regular visitors to Macclesfield, Chesterfield and Stepping Hill Hospital as well as all the Manchester Hospitals, Salford Royal and a few days out to Sheffield.

A daughter of one of our clients had this to say about our service:

"I would wholeheartedly recommend New Mills & District Volunteer Centre to anyone in need of compassionate and dependable support. The service you provide is invaluable, not just to those you directly assist, but also to their families who rely on your help."



New Mills
& District
VOLUNTEER CENTRE

Minibus

Shopping

As we are located in the wonderful High Peak it is sometimes not easy to get to local supermarkets to pick up essential items via public transport. To assist the local community we offer a twice weekly Shopping trip alternating weekly between Morrisons in Chapel and Tesco in Glossop. Our volunteer driver and passenger assistant collect shoppers from their front door, and then assisting them back to their front doors with their bags of shopping. Last year saw an 8% increase in people using this service, with 40 different people supported throughout the year utilising the service 660 times.



Supported by
THE ROYAL
COUNTRYSIDE
FUND



Clients
supported
40

660
Attendances

8%
Increase on
last year

2,199
Miles
Travelled

Other Minibus Journeys

Loneliness and isolation is a key issue in today's society and often contributing to that is people's inability to access services and easily leave their homes.

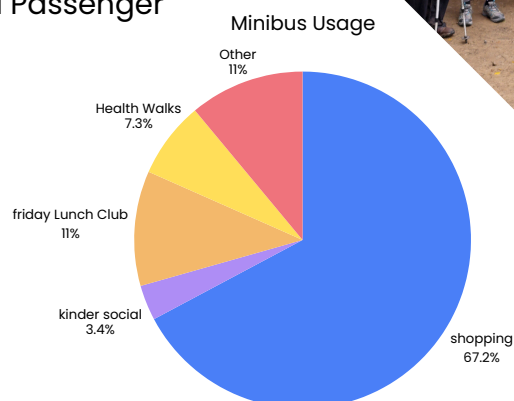
We therefore try to utilise our minibus as much as we can to ensure people are able to attend our other sessions and activities. The bus made 157 journeys ensuring people were able to attend our Friday Lunch Club, Kinder Social Group and our Health Walks.

A big thank you to all the Volunteer Drivers and Passenger Assistants who make this happen.



3,272
Miles
Travelled

157
Journeys



**New Mills
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VOLUNTEER CENTRE

Befriending

This year saw us complete our first full year being funded by the National Lottery Community Fund. The Lottery funding has brought us together with the Bureau Glossop and Connex Community Support in Buxton, to deliver in partnership befriending across the High Peak. Our High Peak Befriending Partnership Project has supported 130 vulnerable and older people experiencing loneliness, poor health, and loss of independence, helping them stay connected to their communities and maintain their wellbeing.

Here at New Mills we've worked with 49 members of our community who have needed some support and friendship throughout the last financial year. They were supported by 36 members of their own community, contributing 3,790 hours of their own spare time.

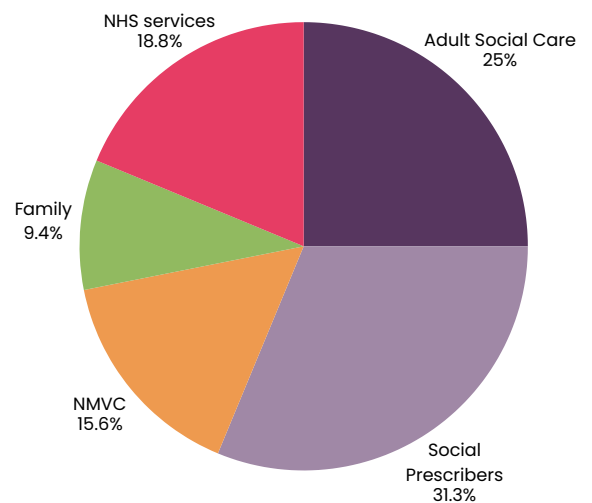
We have supported people from 51 years of age up to our oldest client of 100. Around 90% of the people using our Befriending service identify as having a disability with 22% living with dementia. We are currently seeing a marked increase in the number of people accessing our service with dementia & we will be looking at ways we can best support those people and the volunteers providing the support.

Below we've included what one of our referral partners had to say about the impact our befrenders have had:

"The support provided by the service and the befriender broke the client's monotonous routine and created a window of enjoyment in the client's week. The service reported to me that they witnessed a change in the client's ability to relate to the befriender and activity, which undoubtedly had a positive impact on her health. This was in part due the kind approach of the befriender who sought to relate to the client over games, whilst considering the client's individual circumstances and strengths."



Referral Pathways



Case Study

Rebuilding Confidence Through Befriending

The Situation

Joan lives alone after losing her husband, whom she cared for during his dementia. Despite her own long-term health conditions, she previously led an active life. However, since the COVID-19 pandemic, Joan has developed a fear of leaving the house, leading to reduced mobility and increasing isolation.

She has rarely gone out since 2021, mainly only for medical appointments, and has limited family support due to their own health issues. Most days were spent alone, watching TV.

The Support

Joan was referred to the befriending service via Social Prescribing. She expressed a desire to go out but lacked confidence and feared panic attacks. More than anything, she wanted companionship.

Although no volunteer was initially available, the coordinator identified a potential match in Helen, an existing volunteer. After completing induction checks, Helen met Joan and they connected immediately, sharing many interests. They have since met weekly.

The Results

Reduced Loneliness

Within three months, Joan is noticeably happier and more engaged. She describes Helen's visits as the highlight of her week.

Improved Confidence

Joan has started going out again, both with Helen and independently. She has visited shops, gone out for meals, and arranged visits from a cleaner and hairdresser.

Better Wellbeing

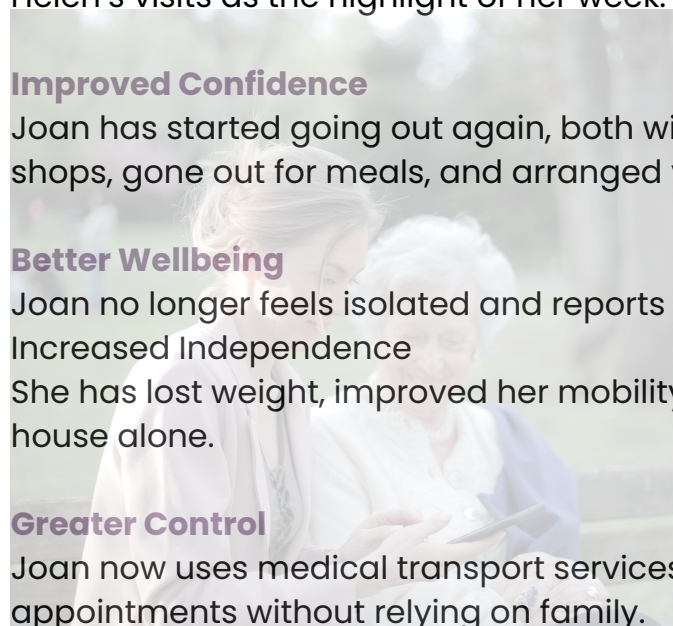
Joan no longer feels isolated and reports a significant improvement in her wellbeing.

Increased Independence

She has lost weight, improved her mobility, and is increasingly confident leaving the house alone.

Greater Control

Joan now uses medical transport services independently, allowing her to attend appointments without relying on family.



Groups & Activities



Acoustic Soup

Our Acoustic Soup sessions have continued to grow in popularity increasing 20% in users this year. At these sessions there is entertainment sometimes music, sometimes poetry or a reading, and sometimes our own group members provide the entertainment.

Clients supported
40

741
Attendances

20%
Increase on last year

Chair Based Exercise

Another session that has increased attendance by 20%! Our chair based exercise is aligned to Age UK's Strictly No Falling initiative, it aims to increase strength and stability and improve balance and coordination

Clients supported
58

1,076
Attendances

20%
Increase on last year



Knit & Natter

Knit and natter is our weekly handicraft social group. The group spend the session knitting and making fabulous items that we sell to raise funds for the centre. All of this whilst having a brew, a chat and maybe a bit of cake!

Clients supported
22

546
Attendances

23%
Increase on last year



**New Mills
& District**
VOLUNTEER CENTRE

Groups & Activities

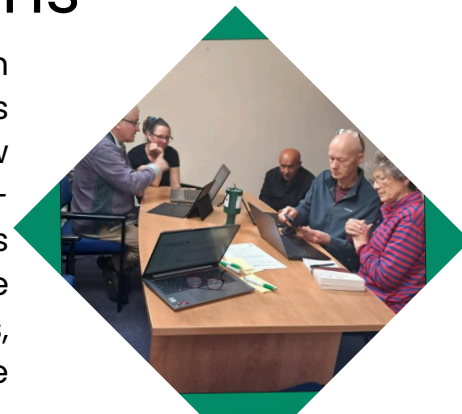
Digital Support Sessions

Clients
supported
38

PC Refurb, a digital charity based in Glossop continued to provide digital skills training and support for people of New Mills every Wednesday from 10am - 11:30am. Suzanne and her volunteers have provided support throughout the year helping people with devices, learning new skills and getting people online.



PCrefurb
bridging the digital divide



Kinder Social Group

This dementia friendly group meets on the last Thursday of the month and has live entertainment and lots of singing. Our minibus enables some of our clients who would otherwise struggle to attend to be a part of it.

Clients
supported
78

357
Attendances

Adult Autism Support Group

Clients
supported
23

158
Attendances

The sessions held 1st & 3rd Thursday here at the Volunteer Centre and 2nd & 4th Thursday at Zink in Buxton, are designed to be a casual safe space where adults can come to discuss life as an autistic adult with other neurodiverse individuals.



**New Mills
& District**
VOLUNTEER CENTRE

Groups & Activities



Friday Lunch Club

This session has been a firm favourite with our clients this last year. We've benefited from home grown produce from our allotment harvested by our volunteers. The session is also supported by our minibus allowing our more isolated and less mobile clients to still attend.

Clients
supported
34

720
Attendances

Friday Friends

The Friday Friends session ran for a couple of months over the winter as part of our Warm Spaces offer. The well attended group spent the afternoon doing quizzes, playing board games and even created their own giant snakes and ladders!

DERBYSHIRE
VOLUNTARY
ACTION



Clients
supported
34

74
Attendances

Torrs & Talk

The Last Tuesday of the Month we head down into the Torrs for a friendly and supportive walk, no more than 2 miles. We walk at a gentle pace, making it doable for most although you need to be able to get down and back out of the Torrs.

Clients
supported
16

35
Attendances



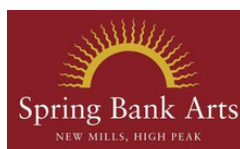
Groups & Activities

Musical Memories Club



New in 2026! Working with Spring Bank Arts, the Volunteer Centre are paying for 2 World Class Musicians from the Halle Orchestra to provide a fun interactive dementia specific session to people with dementia and their carers and family. The sessions help access memories and explore new and creative ways of communicating.

"It awakened my mind and took me back to who I was"



Clients
supported
28

68
Attendances

Xmas Meal

We ended the calendar year with another fabulous Christmas celebration for our clients. We again held it at St George's Parish Hall and our volunteers served up a Christmas feast, followed by entertainment by the Hayfield singers. A big thanks to all the volunteers who cooked, drove people around, served & provided the entertainment. and all the local organisations who supported us.

69
Meals
Served

20
Volunteers



68
Attendances

Clients
supported
21

Health Walks

Our own walk leaders organised a series of walks over the Summer months. Taking a group of walkers from the centre on our Minibus to various picturesque locations including Titterswoth water, Lyme Park, Middlewood Way, Eyam and the Upper Derwent Valley.

Allotment Group



Our allotment began the last financial year looking a little worse for wear with the raised beds starting to rot through and the shed having seen better day. Despite this our small team of volunteers worked tirelessly throughout the summer months tending the allotment, watering, weeding and producing a bumper crop of vegetables and fruit which we were able to serve up to the members of our Friday Lunch Club and Acoustic Soup session.

We feel it's important to try and be sustainable where we can and having the veg grown less than a mile away by local volunteers is a wonderful thing we are able to do.

Recognising the benefits the allotment brings to the volunteers' mental health and wellbeing, we were fortunate to be able secure funding from Derbyshire Mind (in partnership with DCC) to refurbish the allotment utilising the process to provide physical activity to improve wellbeing and then to be able to provide access to the allotment bringing people together and improving wellbeing through activity.

We are nearing the end of the refurbishment process and we have to give a big thank you to all of the many volunteers we have now working the allotment, who have spent the winter & spring months digging out beds, removing old wood, dismantling the shed, taking delivery of the new sleepers for the beds & levelling our a section ready for a new community seating area, making the allotment even more accessible. We can't wait to share the finished project with you all.



DERBYSHIRE
County Council

mind
Derbyshire

New Mills & District
VOLUNTEER CENTRE

Community Support



We once again opened our doors over the winter months to those who needed a warm space, somewhere to get a hot drink or to have a bit of company in a warm friendly environment. We ran the warm space from offering use of our space for hotdesking, and opening up some of our groups for free along with supporting a venue in Hayfield. The warm space was supported by Derbyshire Voluntary Action.

In total we had 649 attendances at our designated warm spaces, these were made up of 48 different people 19 of whom were new clients

We continue to be a Safe Space venue. A safe space offers help for adults and vulnerable young people (11+) who are anxious, scared or at risk while they are out and about and need support. We will: Offer help to any person producing a Keep Safe Card or asking for help. Offer the person asking for help a suitable area to wait until help arrives and contact the emergency contact detailed on the Keep Safe Card or emergency services – whichever is most appropriate.



An important part of what we do at the centre is Signposting. Signposting ensures that clients and the general public get the right help they need. We provide a connection service linking people with information, support and local organisations who can best serve their needs.

Training

Throughout the year we have organised several training sessions for the volunteers in our community. We've provided 2 first aid training sessions, one an accredited qualification and the other a workshop giving volunteers the basic skills required. We also ran a Supporting Connections workshop helping volunteers recognise the signs of loneliness and develop practical skills to support others through it.



5,658
Enquiries
handled

381
People
Signposted

Partnership Work

Partnership work in the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector is vital for creating lasting impact and delivering holistic support to communities. By collaborating with other organisations, including public services and statutory organisations, VCSE groups can pool resources, share expertise, and avoid duplication of efforts. This collective approach enhances service delivery, strengthens advocacy, and ensures that diverse community needs are met more effectively. Strong partnerships also build resilience within the sector, enabling organisations to adapt to challenges and seize new opportunities together.

As part of the National Lottery Community Fund Partnership funding we are delighted to be able to provide befriending across the High Peak along with The Bureau and Connex Community Support.



We are a member of DDIA Derby and Derbyshire's infrastructure Alliance, bringing together voluntary infrastructure organisations allowing us to share knowledge and champion the sector as a collective.



We are proud to work as a supportive and equal partner with High Peak CVS, Connex & The Bureau who together make up the High Peak Alliance. This network shares support, knowledge and expertise in order to provide support to our community.



We are happy to be able to work with PC Refurb, supporting their digital support offer in New Mills, offering a vital service and reducing the digital divide

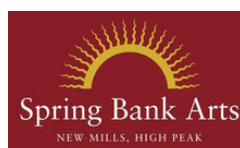


Working with our partners from Bakewell & Eyam Community Transport, The Bureau and Connex Community Support, we deliver transport to medical appointments as part of DCCs Access to Health Contract. We jointly provide this service across High Peak and North Dales.

We continue to work with Move More High Peak and have focused on walking and getting walk leaders trained this year. The group has now merged with the New Mills Neighbourhood group who we continue to support



We are pleased to have been able to link up with Spring Bank Arts to deliver the Musical Memories Club. A dementia specific session for those living with dementia and their carers and family



We have linked with Zink, to be able to host an Adult Autism support Group here at the Centre

Fundraising

We are extremely lucky at New Mills Volunteer Centre to have a dedicated Social and Fundraising Committee, who do a tremendous job at organising fundraising events to help fund our services. During the last year they have been super busy organising Car Boot Sales, Quiz Nights, Coffee Mornings, Bingo Madness, Garden Sales, supporting Hayfield's Apple Day and a Grand Raffle to name just a few.

Last year the Social and Fundraising Committee raised a magnificent £11,680 to support the Volunteer Centre. A big thank you to all the volunteers on the committee who give their time to come up with ideas and organise events and to the wider community who turn out and support all of our fundraising efforts.

We would also like to once again thank the Family of Josh Webb who donated all the proceeds of their Odd Socks Golf Day in memory of Josh to support the work we do here at the Volunteer Centre.

We are always on the look out for people to join our Social and Fundraising committee, helping with ideas, planning & delivering fundraising events. If you are interested drop Lorna an email Lorna@nmvc.org.



In October, Swizzels hosted their annual Halloween event and this year asked for a small donation from people attending to raise money for Charity. We were fortunate that we were selected as the supported charity. The Spooktacular event raised £1514 for the centre.

We'd like to thanks the team Swizzels for supporting us and the community for giving so generously.



How You Can Support Us

Whilst donating and attending the fundraising events are a great way to support us, the best way is to become a volunteer at the centre and start making a real difference to your community.

We've got many roles available at the Centre including helping out at our groups, gardening, cooking for the Friday Lunch Club, making soup for the Acoustic Soup session, volunteer driver, passenger assistant, trustee, fundraiser, befriender, receptionist and general helping out around the office. If one of these roles doesn't suit you, we can put you in touch with other local volunteer organisations as part of our volunteer brokerage, where your skills and time commitments may be a better match.

If you're interested in volunteering give us a call or visit our website for more details on available volunteering opportunities <https://www.nmvc.org/volunteering/>

Another fantastic way you can support the Volunteer Centre and your community is to keep an eye out for family members, friends and neighbours who might be struggling a bit or becoming isolated. Get in touch with us or encourage them to contact us and we can see how we can support them.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

Can you spare some time to take people to & from Medical Appointments?

Using your own car you can make a difference to people in the community who would otherwise struggle to attend appointments by themselves

Benefits

- ✓ Mileage costs paid 45p per mile
- ✓ Drive when you have free time
- ✓ Contribute to your local community

01663 744196

 www.nmvc.org/transport



TRUSTEE VACANCY



We are looking to recruit a new Trustee to join our board

The board meet every 6 weeks at the volunteer centre.

A knowledge of the charity sector is desirable but not essential



For more info:
mark@nmvc.org
www.nmvc.org/job/trustee

BEFRIENDING VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Do you want to make a positive impact in someone's life?

We are looking for volunteers who can spend a bit of time each week one to one with some of our socially isolated members of the community. Contact Fiona for more details

We need Volunteers in:

New Mills, Birch Vale, Furness Vale, Chapel, Chinley, Whaley Bridge, Hayfield & Buxworth



01663 744196



Volunteer Minibus Driver Wanted!

To transport people to and from our Friday Lunch Club

- ✓ Available Friday Lunchtime
- ✓ Age over 21
- ✓ Held Licence for more than 2 years
- ✓ Full Training Given



All Volunteer Drivers **Must** Pass MIDAS training before they can drive our Minibus



01663 744196

hannah@nmvc.org



New Mills & District
VOLUNTEER CENTRE

How You Can Support Us

With uncertainty about the long-term funding streams we currently have in place and the increasing costs of running the charity we are always in need of support from the local community. Be that supporting our fundraising events, or making a donation, you can also support us via online shopping with easyfundraising or by playing the Community Lottery.

You could also make a legacy donation, a planned gift made in your Will, allowing you to designate a specific amount, or a percentage of your estate to our charity after your passing. In the UK, these gifts provide significant Inheritance Tax (IHT) relief. Speak to your solicitor about your options when you are next updating your Will.



You can donate any amount you like via PayPal, you don't need to have an account you are able to pay via card. You have the option of a one off, monthly or yearly donations & you can also chose to pay the admin fee so as a charity we receive the full amount you intended.



We are a member of the High Peak Community Lottery giving you a chance to win money every week! A ticket for High Peak Community Lottery costs £1 a week pre ticket and 50p will go directly to New Mills & District Volunteer Centre if you select us as your good cause. Each ticket has a 1 in 50 chance to win a prize each week, with a top prize of £25,000!



You can also support us every time you shop online by visiting the Easy Fundraising website
<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/nmvc/>



The Volunteer Centre's Building



Back in the early 2000s the Trustees of the Volunteer Centre were looking to move from 41 Union Road which had been our home since 1993, for a space in New Mills that would be able to accommodate the growing number of services and activities the centre was running, and could better meet the needs of us and the community. Around the same time 33-35 Union Road, that was home for many years to Fentons Gentlemen's Outfitters, came on the market and was deemed an ideal location for New Mills and District Volunteer Centre. Unfortunately at the time and due to our status we were unable to enter into any mortgage or obtain a loan to purchase the building. The trustees at the time and New Mills Town Council came up with a plan where the Town Council would take out a Public Works Loan Board loan on behalf of the Volunteer Centre who would enter into a 25 year lease agreement with the Town Council to pay all associated costs and loan repayments. At the end of the lease the Town Council would then either give the freehold of the building to New Mills and District Volunteer Centre or enter into another long-term lease at a peppercorn rent.



Pre Refurbishment - downstairs meeting room



During Refurb - downstairs meeting room



During Refurb - Reception & lift location!

The building was purchased however it was in some considerable need of refurbishment and investment to make it fit for purpose. The Volunteer Centre were able to attract National Lottery Community Funding and several smaller grants from other organisations to be able to carry out the work. This major work included installing a heating system, creating office spaces, meeting rooms, community space, a kitchen, toilets and a lift to ensure all parts of the building was accessible.

The Volunteer Centre's Building

As the end of the lease was fast approaching, the Trustees of the Volunteer Centre approached New Mills Town Council regarding what happens to the building at the end of the lease period. There were two options that were documented with the original lease agreement which were presented to the public as part of a consultation process by the Town Council. Option one – transfer the freehold to New Mills and District Volunteer Centre, or Option two give the Volunteer Centre a 125 year lease at a peppercorn rent.

At a full council meeting held on Monday 9th February 2026 the Town Councillors were presented with the consultation results, 210 votes for Option one and 37 for Option 2. We are delighted that a unanimous decision was made by the councillors to transfer the building's freehold to the Volunteer Centre meaning the charity will now own the building when the current lease come to an end. All the councillors present agreed it was the fairest option and it was the option that community clearly wanted.

With the ownership of the building now sitting with the Volunteer Centre it allows the charity to have an asset and and the security from any political changes within the future councils.



Volunteer Centre with original colours



Volunteer Centre Today



The New Volunteer Centre and old centre two doors down!

This process was started several years ago and many volunteer and staff hours have gone in to getting us to today's position. We'd like to thank all our volunteers current and past, service users, the community for supporting our preferred option in the consultation and the Town Councillors who voted.

Our Funders





New Mills & District VOLUNTEER CENTRE



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