

2023

MNC Charity Profile 2023



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Millom Network Centre Ltd

June 23



MILLOM NETWORK CENTRE LTD CHARITY PROFILE

A SMALL COMMUNITY CHARITY WITH MILLOM AND IT'S RESIDENTS AT IT'S HEART

Millom Network Centre Limited (MNC) came into existence on the 12th December 2006 and was based on Salthouse road, Millom, but since moving to our current premises on Devonshire Industrial Estate and a change of leadership, we have evolved massively, we still have our core principals of building a stronger Community within Millom and surrounding areas, but also to support anyone who finds themselves in crisis or needs help and assistance in any way.

We also create safe spaces whereby activities can be run such as Adult Learning, Disability Groups & more. This Profile gives a small snapshot of what we as a Community Charity provide, but the provision is much wider.

PROVIDING 'PROACTIVE ADVICE' TO CLIENTS

MNC strives to provide clients with 'Proactive Advice' whereby they can be signposted to organisations who can assist with a broad spectrum of assistance required if their problems are outside our remit or capabilities. Thus, we are keen advocates of linked working with various organisations.

WE PROVIDE MANY SERVICES OF WHICH WE ARE EXTREMELY PROUD

These services are vital to our community upon whom many rely be it on a weekly, monthly or ad-hoc usage. Some users access more than one service which is more than acceptable as it proves our need to ensure these continue.

Millom Network Centre Ltd

Millom 01229 666025

www.m-n-c.co.uk

MEALS ON WHEELS



This service is provided Monday to Friday (apart from Bank Holidays) whereby our clients who sign up to this receive a hearty cooked main course along with a pudding. This is delivered direct to the client's home by our team of dedicated volunteer drivers who not only kindly donate their time to deliver the meals, but they also make a check to ensure that our more vulnerable clients are safe and in good health. There are no criteria to meet for this service, it is open to anyone who requires a home cooked meal, it does not matter if they are young, old or infirm it is open to all, the cost of this service is £5.00 per day.

We are also proud to say that our kitchen received a rating of Level 5 from the Food Standards Agency as of March 2023.

THE MNC KITCHEN



With the expertise of our Cook Richard, we currently have lots of new ideas and menus, currently we are offering fresh pie, sausage rolls along with Savoury hot sandwiches such as bacon butties to Bacon, sausage & egg. Also, excellent baked cakes with firm favorites such as Chocolate, Banana and Lemon Drizzle and much more, we even do a FAT FREE one. We can offer Gluten Free by request. We are also providing ready meals which are frozen and offered for sale in our Community Food Shop.

COMMUNITY FOOD SHOP



On 11 April 2023 we opened a new venture which we have named MNC Community Food Shop, aimed at simply making people's money stretch further given the financial hardships that everyone is facing. This has been the brainchild of our CEO Angela Dixon and Trustee Board Member Sarah Sharpe who got their heads together to work on the idea of a Community Food Shop, where we could offer food at affordable prices.

This was made possible by not just Angela and Sarah, but a willing band of volunteers who took up paint brushes, built shelves and whatever else was required.

The decision was also made that everyone would be asked to pay £5.00 per year to become a member, to ensure that we could continue to fund the shop, this also helped with our funding bid to show that we had a long-term plan in place, also it would ensure that our customers are from the Millom area and not open to abuse. We are proud to say that this is proving to be extremely popular and well received with our membership growing on a daily basis. We are now also offering freshly baked cakes and savouries such as pies/sausage rolls.

MEN'S LUNCH CLUB



Registered Charity No: 1117218

Men's Lunch Group

Every Thursday 12.30pm – 2.30pm

A relaxed space for our local gents to get together,
have a brew, a chat, maybe play some cards or dominos,
along with a hearty lunch
cooked by our very own Carol

Please ensure you ring in advance to book your
place to guarantee that you get your meal.

Telephone: 01229 666025

Unit 3, Devonshire Ind Estate, Devonshire Rd,
MILLOM, LA18 4JS

Our Men's Group is held every Thursday afternoon from 12.30pm till 2.30 where they are provided with a hearty cooked meal, they then have the opportunity to play cards, games such as dominos and have a chat as for some of our gentleman they miss having the social interaction with other males due to isolation and some simply do not have the means to get out of the house unless someone escorts them. Some of our attendees to the Lunch Club enjoy making use of our Workshop to try their hand at upcycling. Our reason for this club is that sadly whilst there are many opportunities for ladies' groups etc. sadly the men tend to get forgotten and our aim was to change that, we have found that it has been a roaring success.

UPCYCLING CLASSES



This is run every Tuesday 12.30 pm till 3.00pm This class is run whereby people can learn how to upcycle an item, either one of their own that they have brought in or a piece of furniture that has been donated and is in desperate need of some TLC to re-purpose, re-cycle or re-use, whilst learning the use of power tools and woodworking skills. Our attendees can upcycle an item they then have the choice to either take it home or we can sell it in our Charity Shop as a way of giving back to the Community.

This has resulted in many items once lovingly completed being then given generously to allow us to then sell them in our shop. Each item has a sticker on to show that it is fresh from the workshop and has been given a new lease of life. We have found these items are very popular, and once again we are saving items heading for landfill as they are unwanted and judged as no longer desirable.

COMMUNITY CHARITY SHOP



We currently have a community charity shop, the very first was opened in Newton Street in the Summer of 2020, this was a wonderful benefit not just to the Charity by providing an extra arm of income but also to the community, offering very affordable pre-loved items for sale. Then on 21st July 2022 we took the huge decision to relocate to Lapstone Road Millom, (across from Tesco's) this has been met with amazing support from all our customers, it also means that we are able to stock items of furniture in there along with higher end items. The funds raised from this shop is are fed back into MNC to enable us to continue offering the services that we do and meaning that we are generally self-funded apart from grants received that are ring fenced for particular schemes. All electrical items that we sell within our shop or down at Unit 3 are PAT tested before we offer them for sale to ensure their safety. We also do not charge people for school uniforms in our shops. We have also as of the beginning of June 2023 opened up a sister shop at 14 Wellington Street Millom, which is a £1 shop whereby all items are £1 and under which allows us to free up space at our main shop.

FURNITURE COLLECTIONS/DELIVERY/SALES



We very willingly accept pre-loved items of furniture alongside other donations, all we ask is that for upholstered items they are from smoke free homes are in good condition and still bear their fire safety labels, we will accept items that have scuff and scratches etc. providing they are solid wood and not chipboard/laminate, as we can send them into our workshop, other types sadly mean a cost to us to dispose of so unfortunately, they will be turned down. If donators cannot get their large items to us or if they have multiple items then we can collect for free. If anyone purchases furniture from us and requires it delivered there is a charge of £5.00 within the Millom and Around the Combe area given the fuel costs. Any furniture donated is re-sold at affordable prices to our customers, should we receive referrals for anyone in dire need items are given for free.

MENTORING



At MNC we have an excellent mentoring scheme overseen by our Project Manager Tony Dixon and our Mentor Jack McPhillips meaning that we can help clients with tasks such as: ***Job Seeking Assistance***, CV and covering letters made and updated, a range of work experience provided through volunteer opportunities and Job application assistance.

Mediation, Assistance with online forms, digital shopping returns, paperwork, etc, assistance with phone calls to local authorities along with assistance finding funding grants and applying for bids for local needs/projects. With our client's permission we are able to speak on their behalf (whilst they are present) to persons or organisations with whom they are dealing.

If we cannot help directly then with our client's permission, we may be able to refer them to a person or organisation who can.

GARDENING CLUB



Our gardening club is from March to October where we grow veg that can be used in the kitchen to help bolster our Meals on Wheels and or our Men's Lunch Club, we are hoping to expand this into a community allotment working with other partners so we can include more families we are also looking into holding a pop-up café at local sport events by selling lovely home-made soup which will be made from veg that will be grown on the allotment this will be a big project. But we think it is a project well worth doing. We are still in the planning stages yet and will need to secure some funding to get us underway, but it is yet another venture that goes towards sustainability.

MILLOM STEM CLUB



In May of 2022, Millom STEM Club came under the umbrella of MNC to help to ensure the continuity of this amazing club, under the guidance of George Burch.

"STEM! - the bringing together of scientific subjects in an all-encompassing real world engineering project, which develops within the participants the skills required for the future of Britain's position in the world of science and industry; including investigative research, team working, report writing, communication and presentation skills preparing them for the world of work." G Burch 2014

A program has been put in place whereby STEM has been taken into local junior schools to enable the children to have access to all that STEM has to offer. A recent project at Haverigg Junior School is nearing completion where a Wild area has been created including pond, bridge/dipping platform etc.

With the intention of promoting within our youngsters an appreciation of the environment and the need to look after our delicate ecosystems.

It is almost ready for the official hand-over to the custodianship of the school, where it can then evolve and thrive for many years to come which is a wonderful legacy.

SERVICES THAT WE PROVIDE SPACES FOR WITHIN MNC

(We rent out the spaces to enable local organisations to host vital services)

RETREAT CAFÉ



This is held every Wednesday afternoon 1-30pm till 3.00pm This café is run by the ICC (*Integrated Care in the Community*) the team headed by Jenny Riley are based at Waterloo House Surgery, there is a mixed group where there are fun quizzes, gentle keep fit, talks such as the History of Millom, Chair based Tai chi and so much more, it is also a lovely space for people to simply have a chat over a tea/coffee and of course the obligatory biscuits.

ADULT LEARNING



We have had some excellent adult learning classes over 2021/22 in IT, plus others, these have been funded and delivered by Copeland Adult Learning and have had excellent attendances, following the boundary changes we are looking forward to offering this partnership with the new Cumberland Adult Learning.

DVSA – DRIVING THEORY TESTS



We are delighted to be able to offer workable space to enable learner drivers take their theory tests in Millom rather than have to travel miles out of our area, this started as a trial and has been so successful that we now have bookings by the DVSA for hire of the room right up into the end of 2024, this is something that we are extremely proud of.

MINECRAFT CLUB



We are proud to now be in a position to provide a safe space with internet access to the Millom Parents and Carers Minecraft Club, this is run by Johnathan King and it is a wonderful club for not just disabled children but young carers also, giving the opportunity for these young people to spend time together whilst pursuing the very popular gaming phenomenon that is the world of Minecraft. Held every Friday evening.

SOUTH COPELAND DISABILITY GROUP



We are proud to provide space for South Copeland Disability Group for their monthly meetings, given that we are a fully accessible building MNC makes the perfect place for them, we also benefit from having access to help and advice that can be provided by their Secretary Noel Moore who is also a member of our Trustee Board, resulting in the ‘Other Services Offered’

OTHER SERVICES OFFERED

- **PIP Form completions**
- **Representation at Tribunals**
- **Reporting of Hate Crimes**
- **Report Mis-use of Parking**
- **Advice on Disability Aids (Showers, Grab Bars etc.)**
- **Assistance with Vehicle Road Tax Renewals (Via MNC Head Office Staff)**

ORGANISATIONS/PARTNERS WHOM WE WORK CLOSELY

MNC has and continues to develop excellent working relationships with various organisations to ensure that all our clients and users can have access to any help and information that they may require/need at any time and for any eventuality, we strongly believe because of how isolated Millom can be we all need to work together as one to ensure we deliver what the community needs. Listed below are just some of the organisations/partners we currently work with:

- ◆ Groundwork/Choices
- ◆ Age UK
- ◆ Copeland Skills & Enterprise Partnership
- ◆ Copeland Adult Learning
- ◆ CAB (CASE)
- ◆ Cumbria County Council
- ◆ Copeland Borough Council
- ◆ Police
- ◆ Barrow in Furness Foodbank
- ◆ Credit Union
- ◆ Millom ICC (Integrated Care in the Community)
- ◆ Millom First Responders
- ◆ Tesco's Supermarket
- ◆ Nisa
- ◆ South Copeland Disability Group
- ◆ Millom Football Club
- ◆ Millom Rugby League
- ◆ Electricity Northwest

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES



We have many opportunities for volunteers open to all people regardless of Age, Colour, Ability or Status, it is all about giving something back to our town whilst acquiring new skills or building upon those which they may already have. Volunteers can help develop the town whilst developing your own skills, building on social skills in aid of a social cause.

From helping in our Charity Shops to being down at Unit 3 helping to sort items for the shop, delivering meals to clients of our Meals on Wheels Service and so much more.

MNC MANAGEMENT & STAFF TEAM

We are a small team, but everyone works well together to ensure that we can deliver all projects in our plans.

- ◆ **CEO** - Angela Dixon
- ◆ **Office Manager** – Sue Dust
- ◆ **Project Manager** – Tony Dixon
- ◆ **Mentor** – Jack McPhillips
- ◆ **Shop Manager** – Kath Edwards
- ◆ **Cook** – Richard Turner
- ◆ **Driver/Warehouse Person** – Chris Webb
- ◆ **Warehouse Manager** – Connor Bellic
(Volunteer)
- ◆ **Caretaker** – Peter Beaumont
- ◆ **Cleaner** – Karolyn Jordan

TRUSTEE BOARD MEMBERS

Our board of trustees each bring something different to the table, to direct the charity forward as it evolves at a fast pace, given the challenges being a rural charity can throw up.

- ◆ Ruth Jackson (CHAIR)
- ◆ Dave Gabbert (VICE CHAIR)
- ◆ Noel (Rocky) Moore (SECRETARY)
- ◆ Janette Yates (TREASURER)
- ◆ Sarah Sharpe (TRUSTEE)
- ◆ Tom McCafferty (TRUSTEE)
- ◆ David Baker (TRUSTEE)
- ◆ Mike Askew (TRUSTEE)

MNC HEAD OFFICE MANAGEMENT TEAM EMAIL DETAILS

- ◆ Angela Dixon (CEO)
Contact: angela.dixon@m-n-c.co.uk
- ◆ Sue Dust (OFFICE MANAGER)
Contact: suedust.mnc@gmail.com
- ◆ Tony Dixon (PROJECT MANAGER)
Contact: tony.dixon@m-n-c.co.uk
- ◆ Jack McPhillips (MENTOR)
Contact: jackmcpPhillips.mnc@gmail.com



Millom Network Centre Limited

Local Community Charity

Registered Charity No: **1117218**

Email: enquiries@m-n-c.co.uk

www.m-n-c.co.uk

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