



October 2021
Newark & Sherwood
...a great place to do
business!



Welcome to the fifth edition of Newark and Sherwood District Council’s Business E-Newsletter.



Last month Newark was busy with several exciting events, from the thrilling Dragon Boat Race by the Castle to the Newark Business Awards at the Showground. The town centre was also full of activity, with footfall monitors picking up 145,080 total visits - the highest recorded footfall figure in Newark!

This was helped by Newark’s first ever Teenage Market, which offered young entrepreneurs the chance to gain vital experience and skills for their future careers. With the Future First Careers Expo set to take place on 3 November, there are plenty of exciting opportunities ahead for those about to take their first step on the business ladder.

In this special issue, we hope to celebrate the success of Newark and Sherwood’s brilliant entrepreneurs and businesses, from market stalls to start-ups and beyond. Continue reading for coverage of the brilliant achievements of local businesses, as well as the most up-to-date information on training, guidance and opportunities for financial support in our area.

If you would like to contribute your own business story for a future issue, please get in touch with Economic.Growth@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk.

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The Teenage Market



Newark's first ever Teenage Market took place on Sunday 19 September. Twelve young entrepreneurs set up stalls in the Wharf, selling wares from sweets, sewing supplies and artwork to homemade jewellery, facemasks and cakes. Taking place alongside the iconic Dragon Boat Race, the market attracted an impressive number of visitors.

The event's success - along with the variety of items on sale and the enthusiasm of the young stallholders - really demonstrated the exciting potential of Newark's youth. We hope to see more of these business superstars in future!

Comments from the stallholders included:

"The teenage market was a great day, thank you for organising it!

"I would love to attend any regular teenage markets in the future."

"I would love to stand at Newark on Saturday (to begin with), and I am also interested in the Artisan market and Christmas markets. Thank you for the opportunity."

Ian Harrison of Newark Town Council commented: "All who attended had a great day, and footfall from the Dragon Boat races added to the event... All in all, a great success for Newark."

It is hoped that more teenage markets will take place in future, with the next event potentially taking place around Christmas time.

The Teenage Market was organised by a partnership between Newark town and Newark and Sherwood District Council, and the nationally-renowned Teenage Market Company. Be sure to keep an eye on Newark's [Teenage Market profile](#) for the most up-to-date news on upcoming markets.

THE TEENAGE MARKET

Newark Business Awards



Friday 24 September saw the much anticipated return of the Newark Business Awards – in person once again after last year’s virtual event. A huge congratulations to all those nominated – what you’ve managed to achieve in such a challenging year is nothing short of spectacular. You can find a complete list of winners below.

This year NSDC sponsored the ‘Best Start-up’ category, recognising the fantastic efforts of new enterprises in the district.

Highly commended in this category was awarded to Back to Life Clinic. Based at Northgate Business Centre, Back to Life Clinic is a Newark osteopathy and sports massage clinic. Its owner, Ian Jenkinson, aims to help everyone who comes through its doors be free from pain and back to being able to enjoy and live life again. Established in March 2019, the clinic was an instant success, attracting twice the number of patients Ian had hoped for.



Ian Jenkinson, Back to Life Clinic, receiving his Highly Commended Award from Neil Cuttell of NSDC

Beyond Coffee UK was named 'Best Start-up'. Originally beginning in the back of a VW van, Beyond Coffee transformed into a flourishing multifaceted business. After 18 months juggling serving coffee at events and another job, owner Sam Cornfield decided to go full time, opening a coffee and smoothie bar in Fernwood, alongside a pop-up mobile coffee van for events. Two months later, the pandemic struck, yet Beyond Coffee persevered by offering a 'home and workplace' delivery service. With lockdown lifted, Beyond Coffee has gained a wide customer base and presence in Newark.

Upon receiving this award, Sam said: "Very surprised. Can't believe it. There's been a lot of hard work to get to this point, but I still didn't expect it... We now have a number of exciting opportunities coming up, have employed four team members and continue to build our business."



Sam and Emma Cornfield accept their award from Neil Cuttell of NSDC

Winners

Best social enterprise (sponsored by Urban&Civic): Beanblock C.I.C



Independent Retailer of the Year (sponsored by Edlin & Jarvis): Petit Versailles (Highly-commended — Davison's Bakery)



Customer Care (sponsored by Chattertons): Robert Fields Barbershop (Highly-commended — Emmaus Trust)



Business Innovation (sponsored by Duncan & Toplis): Letterbox Beauty (Highly-commended — Envelopes Ltd)



Employee of the Year (sponsored by Business Doctors): Penny Taylor, of Newark College (Highly-commended — Steve Watson, of The Fuji Shop)



Team of the Year (sponsored by Newark College): The Fulfilment People (Highly-commended — Robin Hood Theatre Company)



Employer of the Year (Sponsored by Futures for Business): Edlin and Jarvis Estate Agents (Highly-commended — White Rose)



Best Start-up (sponsored by Newark and Sherwood District Council): Beyond Coffee UK (Highly-commended — Back to Life Clinic)



Businessperson of the Year (sponsored by Belvoir): Michelle Baker, of Crafty Betty (Highly-commended — Leisa Pickles, of Find Me The Leads)



Business of the Year (sponsored by Gusto Group): Envelopes Ltd. (Highly-commended — White Rose)





Local energy business providing opportunities for young people



Wilson Energy Limited is one of the UK's leading providers of fully integrated heating, metering, pre-payment and billing & bureau services for residential homes and commercial developments. Originally founded in 2007, Wilson Energy has gone from strength to strength, taking advantage of schemes such as the Think BIG loan fund to expand and improve their customer journey.

As an award-winning local employer, Wilson Energy has dedicated itself to offering young people opportunities, giving them a 'step up' in their career progression. A prime example is their most recent young employee, Josh Tooke, 19 years old, who started working for Wilson Energy in February 2021 in the Maintenance & Support department.

Josh left college in 2020 and was looking to develop his skills in business. His current role includes arranging appointments for engineers, providing top-ups for residential customers, working onsite with some of the meter reading systems, and providing customer quotes for spare parts. Josh says, "The most rewarding part of my job is helping residential customers on a daily basis. I deal with a lot of vulnerable customers, particularly the elderly. These people can be very lonely, and sometimes they haven't spoken to anyone all day, so I will make time to have a chat with them and make sure they are okay".

CEO Andy Wilkinson commented: "Wilson Energy has provided many roles for young people over the years. It is a project which is close to my heart. I want to be able to give young people the chance to help drive them in the right direction of their career paths. It is particularly difficult for young people right now to secure positions that will help to develop their professional skills. It is really rewarding to see many of them who have been successful and gone on to be Directors of companies or to provide them with the confidence to start their own business. As a business, we have also been actively involved with many local schools in the area, providing work experience placements".

If you are interested in opportunities to work with Wilson Energy, please contact Andy Wilkinson at andy.wilkinson@wilsonenergy.co.uk. For more information on the article, please contact Katy Harrison, Marketing Manager at marketing@wilsonenergy.co.uk or visit the [Wilson Energy website](https://www.wilsonenergy.co.uk).

Wilson Energy Ltd



today's energy partner for tomorrow's world



Business Resilience Programme

Newark and Sherwood District Council has set up and funded a £300,000 'Business Growth and Resilience Programme.

This scheme offers local businesses support and guidance from professional industry experts to help them in what will be a critical year as the district recovers from the impact of the pandemic.

The programme will link business service specialists with local businesses in four key sectors:

Accommodation



Manufacturing & Construction



Retail, food & beverage



Health & Social Care



Local businesses within one of these sectors can apply for a 12-16 week programme comprising tailored workshops, 1-2-1 mentoring, business model reviews, training opportunities, and more.

As part of the District Council's commitment to supporting local businesses recovery and growth post pandemic, those who participate in the programme could also be eligible to apply for a discretionary grant of up to £5,000. This grant could be spent by the local business in any way they see fit to boost their recovery and growth.

Advice and guidance from these specialists will help local businesses to adapt, identify new markets or products, develop their plans, modify their ways of working, establish new supply chains, or provide brokerage for skills and training.

For more details about this fantastic opportunity, and for guidance on applying, please see the [NSDC website](#).



Financial Support

Kickstart Scheme



For six months, the Government will fund you to provide a job for a young person for 25 hours per week at national minimum wage. For each young person you take on, you will receive £1,500 to support their learning. The deadline for employers to apply for funding for this scheme is 17 December 2021.

More information can be found on the [gov.uk Kickstart information page](https://www.gov.uk/kickstart-information-page).

Subscribe to GRANTfinder



GRANTfinder is Europe's most advanced grants and policy database. Its search engine operates across the public, private and voluntary sectors, identifying funding opportunities and Covid-19 relief schemes appropriate for your business.

To find out more, please see the [GRANTfinder website](https://www.grantfinder.com).

Invest to Grow



The University of Derby's Invest to Grow programme provides grants and loans of between £15,000 and £250,000 to private-sector businesses across the East Midlands to innovate, grow and create jobs that can be sustained for a minimum of three years.

For more information on eligibility and to apply, visit the [University of Derby](https://www.derby.ac.uk/invest-to-grow) web page.

NBV Enterprise Grants



Grant for Enterprise supports the growth or development of existing micro, small and medium-sized businesses based in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Greater Lincolnshire.

To discover more visit the [NBV Enterprise Grant](https://www.nbv.co.uk/enterprise-grant) web page.

GOV.UK



Search the [gov.uk business support page](https://www.gov.uk/business-support) for free government business support, from guidance on statutory rights and Brexit, to [T-Level incentives](https://www.gov.uk/level-incentives) and [coronavirus support](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus-support)

D2N2 GROWTH HUB



Supporting economic growth across Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, D2N2 is one of the largest Local Enterprise Partnerships in the country.

For free, impartial advice to help you discover initiatives and resources to support and grow your business visit the [D2N2 growth hub's website](https://www.d2n2.co.uk/growth-hub) or phone: 0333 006 9178



Skills, Training and Guidance

Financial and funded support from NTU



Nottingham Trent University

Nottingham Trent University is offering training, support and funding for a variety of business needs. Explore the links below to discover schemes that support employees of D2N2-based SMEs to access free bespoke, employer-led training, career coaching, and advice to up-skill their employees in vocational and high-level technical skills.

[UpScaler](#)

A programme of specific, tailored high-growth business support for SMEs that are growing rapidly or have the potential to do so.

[GRADS for D2N2](#)

Access advice, support and funding to grow your business through graduate and apprenticeship talent.

[Productivity Through Innovation](#)

Offers fully funded support to SMEs to improve their productivity and market competitiveness.

[Priority Skills for D2N2 SMEs](#)

Develop the skills of employees at no cost through courses in leadership, sustainability, marketing or change management. This course is currently being redeveloped to be ready to run again in 2021 and beyond.

[Smart and Inclusive Leadership \(SAIL\)](#)

Training opportunities for employees to develop into future business leaders via a range of courses and qualifications.

[Branch out in STEM](#)

Fully funded courses designed for employees of SMEs operating in the STEM sectors to develop their skills.

[The Big House](#)

Offers business support, events, grants and professional advice for creative and digital businesses.

Find out more about NTU projects, and how they can support your business and your staff on the [NTU website](#).

Peer Networks



In partnership with CMBD Ltd and PCA Coach, Julie Mather Associates, are now recruiting for the Peer Networks Programme. This scheme is being run on behalf of the D2N2 Growth Hub and begins on Friday, 29 October, and Wednesday, 3 November, 8.30 am-11.30 am.

Peer Networks are a national, peer-to-peer networking programme for SME leaders that want to grow and develop their organisation for future success. Diverse cohorts are made up of up to eleven local entrepreneurs benefitting from group coaching and 1-2-1 support.

From finance and HR to sales, marketing and more, expert facilitators give you the flexibility to create a support network that works for you. You will meet remotely on a regular basis with your cohort and will agree between you what challenges you would like to work through.

This is a fantastic opportunity for any business that would benefit from eighteen hours of group coaching support and 3.5 hours of coaching to help develop a growth plan.

The programme is open to any Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham, and Nottinghamshire small to medium sized business that has:

- Operated for a least one year
- At least five employees (or lower if a good business case is presented)
- A turnover of at least £100,000 pa
- An aspiration to improve
- The potential to scale up (desirable but not essential)
- The ability or potential to export (desirable but not essential)

This programme is all fully funded. Please see [Peer Networks - D2N2 Growth Hub](#) for more information, including eligibility criteria and how to apply.

Export Support Service



The Department for International Trade has launched the new Export Support Service to provide your business with free, bespoke advice on exporting to Europe.

If you are a UK business, you can use this free service, no matter the size of your organisation or which part of the UK you are based.

Ask questions on exporting to new markets, the paperwork needed to sell your goods abroad, and the rules for a specific county where you want to sell your services. The Export Support Service will initially focus on questions businesses have about trading with Europe but may expand to cover more global markets in the future.

You can contact the UK government export support team by phone by calling 0300 303 8955, Monday to Friday, 8 am to 6 pm (excluding public holidays).

Alternatively, you can contact the team via the [government website https://www.gov.uk/ask-export-support-team](https://www.gov.uk/ask-export-support-team)



Small Business Charter: Help to Grow Management



The Government's Help to Grow: Management programme intends to help senior managers of SMEs boost the performance, resilience, and long-term growth of their business.

This 12-week course costs £750 and is 90% subsidised by the Government. It has been designed to allow participants to learn alongside full-time work.

The in-depth curriculum will help you build your capabilities in leadership, innovation, digital adoption, employee engagement, marketing, responsible business, and financial management.

Facilitated by small business experts from leading business schools, this programme includes online and in person sessions, networking, one-to-one mentoring, and support from experienced industry figures.

Future programmes for East Midlands businesses will be hosted at the University of Leicester from **26 November**, Nottingham Trent University from **30 November** then **20 December**, and the University of Derby from **16 December**, with more to follow.

To discover more and to secure your place on a course, visit the [SBC website](#).

D2N2 Skills Boot Camps



The D2N2 LEP has been announced as one of several organisations to deliver the national Skills Boot camp programme.

Skills Boot camps are free, flexible courses of up to 16 weeks for adults aged 19 or over who are either in work or recently unemployed. They give people the opportunity to build up sector-specific skills and fast-track to an interview with a local employer.

The government has developed the programme as part of the Lifetime Skills Guarantee and Plan for Jobs, in partnership with employers, providers and local authorities, to help people develop the skills in demand and get a better job.

D2N2, working with delivery partners and the Greater Lincolnshire LEP, is offering brand new courses, including:

- **Coding and software development**
- **IT, Networking and Infrastructure**
- **Cyber and system security**
- **Digital Marketing**

Some Skills Boot camps have additional eligibility criteria. For information on these and the most up-to-date list of available Skills Boot Camps, follow this link to the [gov.uk website](#).



Dates for your diary

Future First Expo

Newark Showground, Wednesday 3rd November



[COP26 Regional Roadshow East Midlands](#)

Workshop Turbine building, Thursday 11th November

Kickstart funding application deadline

Friday 17th December

<https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/>

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