

NEWKD CRAFT CIRCLE NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER
2025



The NEWKD Craft Circle is a welcoming community where groups come together once a week to explore a diverse range of arts and crafts. More than just a creative outlet, it fosters mental well-being, social inclusion, meaningful connections, and a strong sense of community. Whether you're a seasoned artist or a beginner, the NEWKD Craft Circle provides a supportive and inspiring space to unwind, express creativity, and build lasting friendships.



"A strong community is built on kindness, connection, and the belief that we rise by lifting each other."

Attending a community group like the NEWKD Craft Circle has a wide range of positive impacts. It offers people the chance to connect with others, build lasting friendships, and reduce feelings of isolation. Members can share skills, learn new ones, and grow in confidence, while also enjoying the satisfaction of creating something with their own hands. The group supports mental health and well-being by providing a safe, welcoming space where everyone is valued. Beyond the personal benefits, the NEWKD Craft Circle also strengthens the wider community by bringing people together, encouraging creativity, and contributing to local events and activities.

The NEWKD Craft Circle groups have continued to thrive and grow. Over the past months, our members have enjoyed a variety of activities – from summer BBQ, celebrating engagement and baby shower and taking part in local markets, to attending events and learning new skills through classes. We are delighted that 2 more new groups will be starting soon in Tralee and Castleisland.

If you would like to join any of groups contact Kristine on 086 6602147 or Dee on 087 6356353



EVERYONE WELCOME.

18 +

After the summer break...
We're delighted to share that
NEWKD Craft Circles are resuming
in your locality!
We are also launching two brand-
new groups in new locations.

If you'd like to:
Meet new people
Learn & share new skills
Work on your own project
Boost your mental wellness
Take some time for yourself
And most importantly, have some
fun...

Then you are warmly
invited to join us

- Listowel - 3rd Sept
- Dingle - 3rd Sept
- Tralee - Shanakill - 11th Sept
- Ballyheigue - 16th Sept
- Ballyduff - 8th Sept
- Castleisland - 25th Sept
- Lyreacrompane - 4th Sept
- Ballybunion - 4th Sept

Contact Dee on 087 6356353
or Kristine on 086 6602147

FIND US ON 
NEWKD CRAFT CIRCLE





NEWKD Craft Circle

Friendly, relaxed and creative social space
in 9 locations across North Kerry!

- Exchange ideas & inspiration
- Try new techniques & materials
- Be part of a supportive community
- Discover hidden talents
- Share laughter and stories
- Celebrate achievements together
- Learn & share new skills
- Work on your own creative projects
- Improve your mental wellness
- Meet new people & socialise
- Enjoy time for yourself
- Boost your creativity
- Gain confidence in your abilities



Weekly Groups



Tralee – Mondays, 7–9pm

Áras an Phobail, Croílár na Mistéalach,
Dean's Lane, V92 CRW8

Ballyduff – Mondays, 7–9pm

Benmore, Ballyduff, V92 A2VC

Ballyheigue – Tuesdays, 7–9pm

Ballyheigue Family Resource Centre,
Sraid Thaidhg, V92 N22

Listowel – Wednesdays, 7–9pm

NEWKD Office, 20 William Street,
V31 TR68

Dingle – Wednesdays, 7–9pm

An Díseart, Dingle, V92 VW74

Ballybunion – Thursdays, 10am–12noon

Ballybunion Community Centre,
V31 TV25

Tralee - Shanakill - Thursdays, 7–9pm

Shanakill Family Resource Centre,
Shanakill, Monavalley, V92 PF30

Lyreacrompane – Thursdays, 7–9pm

Lyreacrompane Resource Centre,
V31 DA36

For more info, contact: Dee – 087 635 6353 or Kristine – 086 660 2147





Join NEWKD Craft Circle for Culture Night event Exposition and Crafts Evening

Venue: Community Room,
Áras an Phobail,
Croílár na Mistéalach,
Tralee, V92 CRW8



18:00 - 21:00



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The NEWKD Craft Circle Tralee group warmly welcomes the public to their Arts & Crafts Exhibition Evening.

Come along for an inspiring evening where you can explore a delightful showcase of handmade creations and take part in fun, hands-on craft activities.

Whether you're a seasoned maker or a complete beginner, there's something for everyone – no experience needed. All creativity levels welcome!

<https://culturenight.ie/event/newkd-craft-circle-exposition-and-crafts-evening/#location>





WORLDWIDE KNIT IN PUBLIC DAY

CELEBRATING CREATIVITY AND COMMUNITY



Worldwide Knit in Public Day is a vibrant annual celebration of creativity, connection, and craftsmanship. Held every second Saturday in June, this global event invites knitters, crocheters, and makers of all kinds to gather in public spaces—parks, cafés, libraries, and festivals—to share their passion for yarn and handmade art.

What began as a simple idea to bring knitters together has grown into the largest knitter-run event in the world. It's an opportunity for people of all ages and skill levels, from seasoned pros to enthusiastic beginners, to come together, inspire one another, and showcase the joy and value of crafting in community.

In 2025, the celebration took place on Saturday, June 14th, and it was the perfect chance to bring out our yarn, needles, and creative spirit.

This year, we were delighted to host our local Knit in Public gathering as part of Féile na mBláth – The Park Festival in Tralee. Nestled within the welcoming atmosphere of the big events tent, we shared laughter, stories, and stitches with familiar faces and new friends alike.

Crafters of all ages and nationalities joined in, chatting about patterns, wool, techniques, and everything in between. The sense of community was heartwarming—proof that creativity knows no boundaries and that crafting truly brings people together.

Worldwide Knit in Public Day is more than just an event; it's a reminder of the power of handmade traditions, shared joy, and creative expression.





STORIES OF IMPACT



Our NEWKD Craft Circle members are wonderfully generous – not only with their time, talents, and creativity, but also with their hearts. Their passion for making is matched by a strong spirit of kindness and community support. Over the past two years, they've proudly supported many meaningful charity projects, making a difference both locally and around the world.

Here are just a few of the incredible initiatives they've contributed to recently:

- One Million Stars Ireland – promoting hope and solidarity through woven star art, Luella has made more than + 150 woven stars in last few months.
- Kerry Cancer Support Group – Square to Share Project – creating knitted squares for comfort blankets for cancer patients in Kerry.
- Blankets for Cancer Support – warm, handmade blankets for those undergoing cancer treatments.
- Blankets for palliative care patients in Bon Secours Hospital Tralee.
- BUMBLEance Children's Ambulance Service - handmade toys.



These projects reflect the heart of our community – using creativity to make a real difference in people's lives. We're proud of every contribution and look forward to supporting many more worthy causes in the future.



Square to Share

Cute bee toys made by Laima for BUMBLEance Children's Ambulance Service, they are included in welcome packs and vehicles - spreading joy and a little buzz to Ireland's youngest patients.



Mary from Dingle Craft Circle group received these beautiful and well deserved prizes at the West Kerry Agricultural Show for her paintings and crafts. Well done Mary, we are very proud of you.



Luella has woven more than 150 + stars for One Million Stars Ireland Project



Angel baby gowns





EVERYONE WELCOME

18 +



New group starting
on 11th September
in Tralee



Are you interested in Arts & Crafts?

Friendly, relaxed social space:

- Learn & share new skills
- Work on your own project
- Improve mental wellness
- Meet new people & socialise
- Gain confidence in your abilities
- Exchange ideas & inspiration
- Try new techniques & materials
- Discover hidden talents
- Share laughter and stories
- Time for yourself
- Have fun



Thursday
evenings

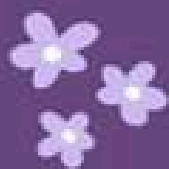


7pm - 9pm

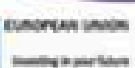
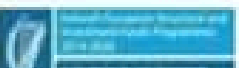
FIND US ON
NEWKD CRAFT
CIRCLE



Shanakill Family
Resource Centre,
Shanakill,
Monavalley,
Tralee,
V92 PF30



Contact Shielagh
on 083 3872727



INSPIRATION CORNER

All artwork and crafts made by
NEWKD Craft Circle group members



well
done!



FANTASTIC!



INSPIRATION CORNER

All artwork and crafts made by
NEWKD Craft Circle group members



FANTASTIC!



FAIRY CRAFTS



Following the great success of the air-dry clay fairy houses—an immensely popular project embraced by many of the groups—Laima from the Tralee group introduced a delightful new idea: creating small, whimsical fairies to accompany the magical houses. Her creativity and initiative inspired others, as she not only came up with the concept but also demonstrated how to craft these charming little figures.

This project became a beautiful way to spark imagination, encourage hands-on creativity, and introduce new artistic techniques. It offered participants the opportunity to build on their existing skills while exploring a fresh and enchanting craft.



Facilitators from other groups, were eager to learn and share this new activity with their own members. They traveled to the Tralee group to learn directly from Laima's demonstration—a perfect example of peer-led learning and mutual support.

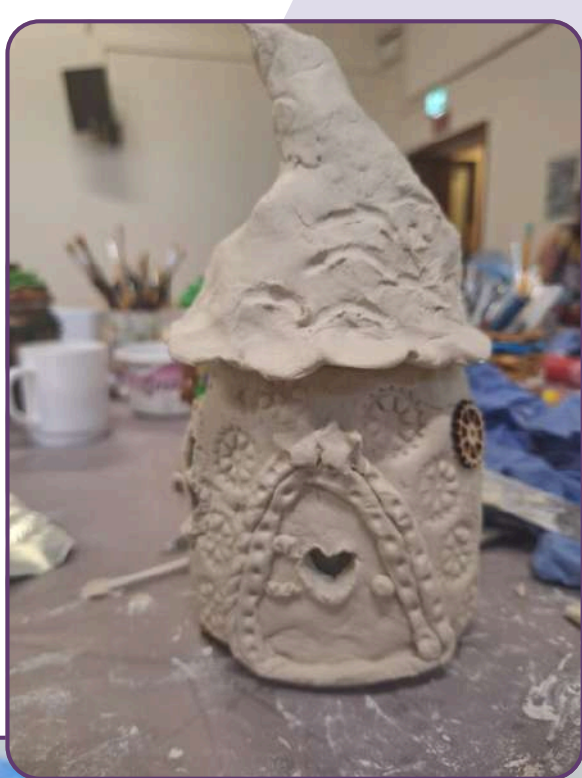
This spirit of sharing, skill-building, and collaboration is at the heart of the NEWKD Craft Circles. The project truly highlights the power of teamwork and the strength of community when people come together to learn, teach, and inspire one another. It's a shining example of how creativity can be a bridge between groups, fostering connection, confidence, and collective growth.

*Leave a little sparkle
wherever you go*



INSPIRATION CORNER

All artwork and crafts made by
NEWKD Craft Circle group members



well
done!



FANTASTIC!



TYPES OF CRAFTS DONE IN NEWKD CRAFT CIRCLES

Over the past two years, we've explored an incredible variety of arts and crafts, embracing creativity in all its forms. Through a blend of peer learning and guidance from skilled tutors and facilitators, we've discovered new passions, refined techniques, and shared knowledge across groups.

Some of the many crafts we've enjoyed doing include- **painting, button art, crochet, knitting, Tunisian crochet, diamond art, egg painting, flower arranging, card making, clay art, fairy making, quilling, origami, star weaving, paper basket weaving, cake and cupcake decorating, sugarcraft, cake topper making, brooch making, cross-stitch, embroidery, stained glass painting, scratch art, bird making, macramé, patchwork, paint-by-numbers, colouring, sewing, felting, flower making, wing making, zentangle tiles drawing, squeegee art** and even **book folding**.

Importantly, we also embrace learning crafts from other countries and cultures, enriching our creative experience with global inspiration and broadening our understanding of diverse traditions and techniques. This multicultural approach brings fresh perspectives and deepens our appreciation of the art of making.

This wide-ranging exploration has not only nurtured creativity and skill-building but also strengthened the bonds of our community—proving that with open minds and willing hands, there's no limit to what we can create together.

NEWKD Craft Circle Tralee group has proudly partnered with Bon Secours Hospital Tralee to create beautiful handmade blankets for patients in palliative care.

We recently met with Majella and Breda from Bon Secours, and were delighted to see the generosity of hospital staff who kindly donated wool to support this project. A heartfelt thanks to everyone who is sharing their skills, time, and kindness in making these blankets. Your contribution brings comfort and warmth to patients and their families during such a meaningful time.





18 +

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New group starting
on 25th September
in Castleisland

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- Work on your own project
- Improve mental wellness
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- Discover hidden talents
- Share laughter and stories
- Time for yourself
- Have fun

7pm - 9pm



FIND US ON
NEWKD CRAFT
CIRCLE



NEWKD Office
44 Main St,
Castleisland / Oileán
Chiarraí
V92 DT96

Contact Dee on 087 6356353
or Kristine on 086 6602147



NEWKD
North East Waterford Development
Agency (NEWD) Ltd. Waterford, Ireland



EUROPEAN UNION
Investing in your future
European Social Fund



CREATIVE MINDS - MEET NEWKD CRAFT CIRCLE

BALLYHEIGUE GROUP FACILITATOR AND MEMBER ANCILLA

What type of crafting do you enjoy the most? I enjoy most crafts but cardmaking and working with card/paper would be my favourite craft.

How did you get into arts and crafts? I have been crafting from a young age. It would have started with sewing, knitting and making things from the cereal box cardboard.

When do you feel most inspired to create? When I see craft ideas on Pinterest and craft groups and want to try and make them and then put my own twist on it. I like making cards for family and friends as I know what they like and try to incorporate that in my cards.

What's your must-have craft supply? A Die-cutting machine. It's a must for cutting out intricate details in card/paper.

Do you prefer working on one project at a time or having multiple projects going? I could have several different projects going at any time. I recently made a macrame feather for a wall hanging. It was my first time doing macrame.

What's the longest you've ever spent on a single craft project? I recently completed a large crystal art picture which took a lot of hours to complete.

Do you listen to music, podcasts, or watch TV while crafting? I always have music playing while I'm crafting.

Do you enjoy upcycling (turning old materials into new crafts)? I take elements from cards I have received and use them in the cards I make.

If you could take a class with any famous artist or crafter (past or present), who would it be? It would have to be Sara Davies. She is CEO of Crafters Companion, and she is also a dragon on the UK Dragons Den programme.

What's the most unconventional item you've used in a craft? That's a difficult one. One that comes to mind is using the netting that fruit come in to use as a background stencil on card.

What's your funniest or biggest craft fail? Putting a card together without checking that the card opening was the right way, so when I tried to open the card, the detail on the front of the card was upside down.

What's your favourite handmade gift you've ever given? A "new baby" shadow box I made for my best friends' daughter.

What's one tip or piece of advice you'd give to someone just starting out in arts & crafts? Give it a go. There is such a variety of arts and crafts out there, try as many as you can and you will find one that you keep coming back to. Join a local NEWKD Craft Circle, there are such talented and creative people within the group that are happy to show you what they create and how to do it. I have got to try so many different crafts since joining. Also, don't worry how your first project goes as you are still learning, just enjoy the process. Look up Pinterest and other crafty sites/groups for ideas and see how they have put a project together.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

If you have an interest in arts, crafts, and community creativity, we'd love for you to like and follow our **NEWKD Craft Circle** Facebook page! Stay up to date with our latest events, workshops, group activities, and all the inspiring things happening across our Craft Circles. Just click the link below to join our growing creative community!



[https://
www.facebook.com
/newkdcraftcircle](https://www.facebook.com/newkdcraftcircle)

We welcome and would be very grateful for any art & craft material donations to any of our groups. If you would like to support us, please contact us. We would like to acknowledge all kind people who have already given, gifted and donated materials to our groups.



This publication is put together by Kristine Sasko,
NEWKD Craft Circle Founder & Facilitator
kristinesasko@newkd.ie



OUR OWN CRAFTERS BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT INKED HIBISCUS DESIGNS

At Inked Hibiscus Designs, every piece is created with care, creativity, and a personal touch. Collette specialises in personalised gifts that make every occasion extra special. From custom cups, event signs, to one-of-a-kind cake toppers, each item is tailored to your style, theme, or message, making them perfect for birthdays, weddings, or thoughtful everyday surprises. Alongside crochet, she also creates cosy colourful crochet cardigans, each one designed to be unique, stylish, and crafted with comfort in mind. Whether you're looking for a cosy everyday cardigan or a colourful statement piece, Collette's crochet creations bring warmth and individuality to any wardrobe. Inked Hibiscus Designs is all about celebrating creativity and individuality—whether through the stitches of a cardigan or the details on a personalised gift, you're guaranteed something made just for you. Follow along to see new designs, special commissions, and inspiration for your next handmade treasure.

Email- inkedhibiscus@gmail.com

Instagram - [@inked.hibiscus.designs](https://www.instagram.com/inked.hibiscus.designs)

