



# Newmilns Snow & Sports Complex

## About the Project

Newmilns Snow and Sports Complex is the UK's only charity ski slope. It is a volunteer led, community-run social enterprise that uses snow sports, for positive health, well-being and social change in the local community. Newmilns offer three main products:

1. Skiing
2. Snowboarding tuition
3. Tubing

Newmilns was opened in 1975 and operated by Strathclyde Regional Council and then East Ayrshire Council. After a few difficult years with funding cuts a feasibility study was commissioned to look at the viability of the slope which was funded by East Ayrshire Council and the Loudon Valley Trust. The study concluded that the centre was viable and suggested the current set-up of a management group to run the operation as a social enterprise.

## Community Effort

Newmilns Snow and Sports Complex was set up as a social enterprise in 2003. It was very much a community effort with £900,000 being raised by the community to fulfil the handover to the management team on behalf of the community.

The complex was upgraded in 2013 with the latest

equipment in artificial ski slopes and uplift. The results have been impressive:

- 50,000 visitors enjoying snow sports and tubing in the past few years.
- 4 full-time posts
- 24 part-time posts
- 14 volunteer roles
- Offering opportunities to the community to bring a range of skills and experiences.
- The Ski Academy programme gives school pupils developmental experiences building confidence, resilience, independence, communication and team skills.
- Range of funded community projects offering employability and training opportunities.
- The facility adds to the tourism offer for the area and provides a reason for visitors to revisit.

***“We’re proudly different and strive for an equal, healthy and connected community with opportunities for all.”***

**Stevi Campbell, Chief Executive**



**Location:** East Ayrshire

**Type:** Do | Enjoy

**When Set Up:** ?

**How Funded:** National Lottery Fund

**Beneficiaries:** Local community in general but particularly the young people, staff and volunteers and also the profits that go back into local community projects. Gives a reason for visitors to visit and revisit Newmilns.

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