

Meeting Report – Skye, Lochalsh & Ross-shire Intergenerational Network

Date: 29th August 2012

Venue: The Plockton Hotel, Plockton

In attendance: Alison Clyde (National Development Officer, Generations Working Together), Mervyn James (Highland Council), Susan Kruse (Archaeology for the Communities in the Highlands), Florence Johnson (Senior Day Care Officer) & Cathie O’Kane (Day Centre Officer)

Apologies: Charlene MacLeod (Kyleakin Connections) & Anne Eadie (Red Cross)

Notes: The notes below are a general summary on the key topics/themes discussed at this meeting.

GWT History

GWT was created in 2007 and is the Scottish Centre for Intergenerational Practice. GWT work with public, private and voluntary sector organisations, to gather and share best practice, provide information and support, and develop new opportunities for intergenerational working in communities.

GWT is setting up local networks across Scotland and have so far set up 20, four of which are based in the Highlands. This meeting is the first for Skye, Lochalsh & Ross-shire. The aim is to run three meetings a year where people can get together at a local level to enable information exchange on intergenerational practice: share good practice and knowledge, create and maintain new partnerships and thereby help strengthen community links. To help build and support this network Alison is looking to recruit a local coordinator to help coordinate Skye, Lochalsh & Ross-shire network. Anyone interested in helping should contact Alison.

What is intergenerational practice? – Definition

Intergenerational practice aims to bring people together in purposeful, mutually beneficial activities, which promote greater understanding and respect between generations, and contributes to building more cohesive communities. Intergenerational practice is inclusive, building on the positive resources that the young and old have to offer each other and those around them. (Definition of Intergenerational Practice: Beth Johnson Foundation)

GWT Update

GWT are setting up a short life-working group drawn from a variety of partners (Education Scotland, youth organisations, NHS etc) to help inform and support a new strategic approach from GWT on how we integrate intergenerational practice within curriculum for excellence.

GWT are working in partnership with NHS Health Scotland to develop a briefing paper showing a clear relationship on how IP can contribute to a healthier Scotland. Dissemination should be early 2013. Alison is keen to hear from anyone currently running health projects with an intergenerational approach.

GWT also plan to work with Third Sector Interfaces and a range of relevant organisations to encourage intergenerational volunteering to help both active ageing and community cohesion. It has been suggested that GWT bring together representatives from third sector organisations & vol organisations to discuss further.

An evening reception was held at Scottish Parliament on the 28th June to raise awareness of our newly published **Guidelines: Bringing Together Local Authorities and IP in a Scottish policy context**. GWT are ready to work alongside Local Authorities and welcome discussion on how the Guidelines can be implemented. For more details contact alison@generationsworkingtogether.org

Intergenerational photograph and video competition for amateur photographers and filmmakers now open for entries. The competition is for the BEST photograph or video taken **BY** a younger or older person **OF** younger and older people together, and should demonstrate the importance of intergenerational connections. There are two categories: Photo and Video, each with a first prize of £150 and a second prize of £75. Deadline: 31st October 2012.

For more details check out the website at www.generationsworkingtogether.org

A new **website is currently being designed for GWT** – If anyone has any intergenerational projects or activities they'd like to write up and showcase then please get in touch with alison at alison@generationsworkingtogether.org
We hope to launch the website towards the end of October.

GWT annual **conference** 13th March 2013, St Paul's & St George's Church, Edinburgh – Now looking for feedback from members as to what they'd like to hear and see at the conference. Potential stall holders spaces may be available.

Intergenerational Course - Training the Trainers – Free – Tuesday 6th November 2012

This course will be of interest to those who are keen to embed intergenerational approaches within their programme of work. We are holding a course on **Tuesday 6th November, 10am – 4.30pm in Dornoch Academy**, Evelix Street, Dornoch IV25 3HR
For further details check out www.generationsworkingtogether.org

There are opportunities for organisations and groups to get involved in the **sporting memories network** – www.sportingmemoriesnetwork.com and the football memories project which has gone national. For more information contact Michael White 07906 239582.

Luminate: Scotland's creative ageing festival is being launched nationwide in October 2012 to celebrate and profile people's creative lives as they age. luminate@agescotland.org.uk

Baldy Bain Theatre: Better late than dead on time looks at the impact of reckless behaviour from drivers and pedestrians upon one family. This production is being funded by Road Safety Scotland and is offered free to community organisations for a ten-week tour in Spring 2013 (Feb-April). For further details contact: administrator@baldybane.org.uk

Funding Opportunities

Young Start Funding from the Big Lottery – has an intergenerational strand available for up to £50,000 for two years. Contact 0141 242 1500 for further information or check out the website at www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/youngstartfund

AOB

- Alison to invite a wide range of partners to the next meeting in Broadford.
- Members present felt they would like to meet with local schools to discuss the potential of setting up new intergenerational projects

Date of next meeting: Monday 5th November, 1.30 - 4pm, Broadford Hotel, Torrin Road, Broadford, Isle of Skye, IV49 9AB.