

Renfrewshire Network Meeting

Friday 30th August



**Generations
Working
Together**

West End Community Centre

In attendance:

Susan McDonald (GWT Co-ordinator), Alison Clyde (GWT) Helen Moir (Active Communities), Irene McDonald (Active Communities), Emma McCrystal (Active Communities), Carolyn Russell (Renfrewshire Council), Yvonne Farquhaur (Renfrewshire Council), Bernadette Reilly (Renfrewshire Council), Sally Logan (Renfrewshire Council), Stepehn Slevin (Library Services) , Angela McManus (Linwood Community Childcare), Anne Duncan (ROAR), Sheila Hood (Gallowhill Primary), Mags Cairney (Renfrewshire Leisure), Louise McGinty (Quarriers Volunteer Centre), Cheryl Thomas (Active Communities), Linda Anderson (Age Scotland), Kenneth McMaster (Paisley West Central Community Council), Dan Kershaw (NHS Smoking Cessation), Debbie McGlinchey (Renfrewshire Council)

Apologies:

Karen Gilligan (Zero Waste), Joseph Theodore (Hawkhead & Lochfield CC), Joan Taft (Kibble), Fiona Auld (Renfrewshire Council), Serena Murray (Renfreshire Council)

1. Welcome & Introduction

Susan welcomed new members and gave a brief overview of the networks aims.

2. Local Update:

Susan gave an update on the projects she has supported in her role as local co-ordinator.

- “Singing through the ages” group at Mondyke House Sheltered Housing Complex have been working with Charlene Gordon Vocal Academy. The group is going from strength to strength and will be performing at the Spree on 12th October
- Gallowhill Primary and Paisley Generations (see attached)
- Carolyn Russell is working on an IP Quiz with Gallowhill Primary competing against East Renfrewshire
- Developing a programme of events for Ralston Community Games & Linwood Community Games
- Following discussions at the last IP network meeting, we agreed to look at a Dance event. Susan has admitted she has struggled to take this forward, but is in discussions with RL , to look at a ballroom fitness programme.

3. National Update:

Education resource pack – case studies and booklet now written up and in final stages. Should be ready to go to edit very shortly. Pack will be launched at the Scottish Learning Festival (25th & 26th September). Alison is meeting Education Scotland and Youth Scotland to discuss the possibility of jointly producing an awards supplement for older people which will complement Amazing Things (awards for young people – copies available from www.generationsworkingtogether.org)

Health paper – Intergenerational Approaches to improving Health and Wellbeing also making good progress should be launched october time

Intergenerational Training – Training the Trainers Course will be of interest to those who are keen to embed intergenerational approaches within their programme of work. Further information on future courses is available on the website.

Guidelines - Bringing together local authorities and intergenerational practice in a Scottish Policy Context – How can we encourage your Council to become interested in IG work and adopt the Guidelines document? GWT would like to work with all Scottish Local Authorities to develop a framework for the effective use of intergenerational practice within Local Authority policies and procedures to the benefit of local communities and all age groups.

Photo & video competition – deadline Friday 27th September 2013 – online application form now available on website

GWT annual conference – The GWT team are starting to plan next year's annual conference scheduled to take place in March 2014. A survey monkey questionnaire has been sent to members asking for their comments on city, venue, workshops and speakers etc. If you haven't already completed the questionnaire please do. Ideas and suggestions will be very welcome. We hope to confirm city, venue and date next month.

A showcase event is being planned for the Highland & Island networks in Inverness on Tuesday 29th April marking European day of Solidarity between Generations. The GWT team are looking to collate ideas/suggestions and projects to showcase on the day. For further information contact alison@generationsworkingtogether.org

<http://www.age-platform.eu/age-policy-work/solidarity-between-generations/campaign>

Case studies – 12 new case studies from across Scotland can now be viewed on our website at <http://generationsworkingtogether.org/networks/case-studies/>

Other info

Luminate takes place across Scotland and features creative activities with, by and for older people, as well as events for audiences and participants across the generations, and intergenerational projects. The festival takes place from 1-31 October

<http://www.luminatescotland.org/luminate-application>

Alison would like to hear from anyone who is planning to be involved in the festival showcasing their intergenerational work.

Older people's day – www.olderpeoplesday.co.uk

The aim of the above website is to celebrate the achievements and contributions that older people make to society and tackle negative attitudes and outdated stereotypes. If you are celebrating older people's day please consider sending an article to the website and also to Betty for the GWT website and facebook page.

Funding info

Young Start Funding from the Big Lottery has an intergenerational strand available for up to £50,000 for two years. www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/youngstartfund

Heritage Lottery Fund

Heritage Lottery Fund Scotland will fund #intergenerational work and will consider applications from areas other than the priority areas mentioned on their website. Groups planning to apply for

funding including start up funding should contact their Development Team first. Thanks Marion for the tip and the link to the following successful project recently funded...

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/ourproject/Pages/LifeisforLivingston.aspx#.UZSRNKLvtqy>

Other IG opportunities

- Go for Gold
- In partnership with **Age Scotland to publish another round of walk in our shoes** – act on our issues. The pack is part of Age Scotland's campaign to end isolation for older people. Act on our issues is an activity that community groups can do to tackle barriers such as uneven pavements, public toilets closures, poor street lighting, unsafe road crossings and inaccessible shops – leaflets attached for anyone who is interested.
- Community Games

4. Monitoring & Evaluation Workshop

Alison delivered a workshop on monitoring and evaluating Intergenerational Practice. The following links provide resources discussed at the session.

Evaluation handout

Evaluation is something we do all the time when we look back on activities and does not have to be an onerous time consuming process. Evaluation of the intergenerational project or activity should not be a separate item but part of ongoing evaluative work, incorporated into whatever system is currently being used. We tend to do it, in particular, when something goes wrong, but we also need to do it when activities go well. It can be very simple to record using post it notes and asking participants to write down something they know now that they did not know before starting the project or, it can be an element of a formal tool.

Talking, listening and reporting the effect intergenerational learning has had within the group or community is often anecdotal. However, evaluation should be built into the work so that when planning for the future, decisions can be made on what to support, what needs changed and what has been successful. It also answers the question 'why are you doing this?'; learning outcomes and benefits are recorded and can be clearly seen. Evaluation needs to cover all generations involved. In some cases the evaluative process should begin before the project in order to establish 'where are we now' and the effects of change can be measured.

Be careful, often people describe the work undertaken but do not discuss the difference that it has made. This difference becomes evident through recording elements of the evaluative process.

It is important to evaluate against the aims and outcomes of the project – this means that you have to set the learning aims and outcomes before you start! It is always important that the journey from start to finish is recorded and that you know the starting point of learners. A quick round of questions on day one about expectations and current knowledge is a good place to start. Remember, at the end to revisit these expectations to see if they have been fulfilled.

Further information on evaluation can be found below:

- Generations Working Together – www.generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/evaluation/
- How do you know intergenerational Practice Works & Evaluating Intergenerational Projects are both resources from Beth Johnson Foundation - www.centreforip.org.uk/resources
- Evaluate Support Scotland - www.evaluationsupportscotland.org.uk/
- Education Scotland - www.educationscotland.gov.uk/
- Evaluating Community Projects - www.irf.org.uk/system/files/1859354157.pdf
- LEAP for Health: Learning, Evaluation and Planning – this framework aims to help those who work in community health settings to plan and evaluate their work in partnership with each other and with members of the community they seek to help.
www.healthscotland.com/uploads/documents/308-LEAP_for_health.pdf
- IG examples shown in full and on the LEAP diagram can be viewed at www.generationsworkingtogether.org/networks/case-studies/health-well-being
- A series of guides aimed at encouraging and improving standards in evaluation of mental health Improvement are available at www.healthscotland.com/mental-health-publications.aspx . The principles can easily be applied to other health outcomes given an appropriate outcome measure including an Intergenerational health project.

5. Speed networking

The meeting finished with a speed networking session which was well received. We agreed to spend more time at the next meeting on networking to give members an opportunity to find out what each other was working on.

Date of next meeting Friday 29th November, Linwood Community Childcare (adjacent to Woodlands Primary School, Abernethy Drive, Linwood, Paisley, Renfrewshire, PA3 3EX) at 09:30am.