

Meeting Report – Ross-Shire Network

Date: Wednesday 3rd September 2014

Venue: Ullapool



In attendance: Alison Clyde (GWT), Yvonne Boa (high Life Highland) & Sandra Callus (Assynt Leisure/Learning Centre)

Apologies: Fiona Downie & Caroline Cooper

GWT national update:

- **GWT staff changes** - Marion Smith (Local Network Development Officer) has resigned from looking after the Highland networks, as her other post has gone full-time. We are delighted that Marion is still supportive of GWT and is continuing in her role as volunteer coordinator for the Forth William and Lochaber network. Alison will now return to look after the Highland networks. GWT welcome Cheryl Ewing (Local Network Development Officer) who started in July. Cheryl is taking over the coordination from Alison of 8 local networks across the central belt including Glasgow, Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, South & North Lanarkshire, East & West Dunbartonshire.
- **Education resource pack** - Slight delay in letters being sent to Director and Heads of Education re training (planned for end of Aug) due to Yvonne Coull our other Local Development Network Officer and Trainer being on long-term sick. Alison hopes to send letters later in the year. Alison will keep everyone posted and is happy for schools to contact her directly to request training.
- **Equality Internship (SCVO)** – GWT is shortly to recruit a Development & Communications Intern to work on developing a toolkit for the intergenerational quiz to go national. The intern will also develop recognition awards which will be presented at our national conference in March next year.
- **GWT impact assessment** – is being carried out by ANIMATE Consultancy – a survey has been sent to members and those who have taken part in our training courses. Alison asks if you could take 5 – 10 minutes to complete the survey being very honest and letting us know what ways we could improve the networks, training courses etc and if there is anything extra we could do to provide you with support. There are also two focus groups being held for network coordinators and partners – a big thank you to those who have agreed to take part.
- **Date for your diary** - Our next national conference will take place on Wednesday 4th March in the Lighthouse, Mitchell Street, Glasgow. Alison is looking for projects and groups to showcase their intergenerational work at the conference. Please contact Alison if you have a project which you feel would be of interest to other groups and organisations from across Scotland. Alison hopes the programme will be confirmed by December.
- **Highlands & Islands Conference 2014** held in Eden Court, Inverness was a great success. GWT hope to repeat on 29th April 2015 again possibly at Eden Court. Venue will be confirmed later this year however please hold the date in your diary. If anyone would like to be involved to showcase their IG work please get in touch with Alison at alison@generationsworkingtogether.org
- **Copies of our Education Resource Pack and the publication known as ‘Intergenerational approaches to improving health and wellbeing’** can be found on the GWT website at www.generationsworkingtogether.org

- **Intergenerational Training** – Training was held in Wick and Skye back earlier in May 2014. Further training courses were discussed – Alison to organise a course in Dingwall for Ross-Shire however the course will be open to all Highland networks (Wednesday 25th March 2015)

GWT's training materials are currently being updated and Alison is looking for new activities from local projects that have adapted and created their own activities on stereotyping and icebreakers. GWT currently use materials developed by the Beth Johnson Foundation however would now like to create a new selection of resources, which have been created throughout Scotland. These materials would then be offered to all our members however would be credited to the local project who created them.

Round the Table

- Yvonne Boa provided an update on 'get to know your techno project' which is still on-going with training recently given to Kingussie and Newton More. Yvonne's intergenerational (IG) group were also working on a new monthly community craft session (rug making, bread work, macramé, knitting, drawing, crochet, cross-stitch & embroidery) open to all ages. Yvonne is also planning a new IG gardening project with the school where the older people will be sharing their gardening skills with the pupils
- Sandra Callus is keen to start a new intergenerational project shortly called 'Taste 'n' Share'

Funding Opportunities

YOUNG START funding will be making an exciting announcement in October about a couple of changes to the fund (good news not bad). Keep an eye out on their website at

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/young-start>

Other funding opportunities can be found on the GWT website:

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/intergenerational-funding/>

AOB

The Woodland Trust is offering 4,000 free tree packs for schools and community groups.

<http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/in-your-community/>

Highland Third Sector Interface Awards

Deadline for nominations in the HTSI Third Sector Awards has been extended to Friday 12th September. This is a great opportunity to highlight the champions in our community and the great work of our local heroes. There are many categories including **Intergenerational initiative** - For groups or individuals who have taken part in successful cross-generational activity, particularly the under 26 and over 65 age groups, where they have been able to share skills, experience and/or knowledge bases.

Next meeting: Wednesday 25th March 2014, 3pm – 5pm, The Community Centre, Tulloch St, Dingwall, IV15 9JZ

Intergenerational Train the Trainer Course, Wednesday 25th March 2014, 10am – 3pm, The Community Centre, Tulloch St, Dingwall, IV15 9JZ