

## National Update – Western Isles (North & South Uist, Benbecula & Barra

**Date:** Wed 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014    **Venue:** Balivanich

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**In attendance:** Amanda MacDonald (Volunteer Centre), Nicola MacKenzie (Third Sector Hebrides) & Alison Clyde (GWT)

**Apologies:** Marybell MacIntyre (Sgoil Lionacleit), Paul Steele (South Uist Youth Development Group) & Sheila MacDonald (Tagsa Uibhist)

### GWT national update:

- **GWT staff changes** - GWT welcomes 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 allowing Alison to support the Highland networks.
- **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 the 4-hour training course.
- **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.
- **Date for your diary** - Our next national conference will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March in the Lighthouse, Mitchell Street, Glasgow. Alison hopes the programme will be confirmed December time.
- **Highlands & Islands Conference 2014** held in Eden Court, Inverness was a great success. GWT hope to repeat on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015 again possibly at Eden Court, Inverness. 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 the Highlands & Islands.
- **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](http://www.generationsworkingtogether.org)
- **Intergenerational Training** – Unfortunately due to low numbers Alison has cancelled the training course planned for Balivanich in October 2014. If there is interest a course could be planned for next year.

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**

- 'I Remember' project (IT/history/story based) still going well – goal is to develop a website showcasing old photo's from across Uist. Young folk are interviewing older folk and recording their stories and pictures. BBC ALBA helping the young people improve their interview skills.
- HMI report from Sgoil Lionacleit inspection commented on IG work – Amanda to forward report when available.
- There are a few changes taking place in schools in North Uist at present with three primary schools coming together as a new school opening in Bayhead, August 2015.

### **Actions:**

- Alison to invite Laura Johnstone (Dance Development Officer) to join network and possibly attend future meetings

### **Funding Opportunities**

YOUNG START funding <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/>

**Next meeting:** Due to our conferences being held in March & April the next meeting will take place in May, date and venue TBC.

We are very happy however to invite our members to keep the date free for the Inverness conference which will be held on:

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April, 10.30am – 3pm, Eden Court, Inverness – further details will follow Jan 2015**