

In attendance: Kevin Sewell (Emergency Planning Officer), Diana Findley (Scottish Borders Voices), Graham Lumb (The Bridge, Peebles), Stacey Toner (Education & Outreach Assistant), Graham Easton (CLD), Rita Doherty (CLD Worker Hawick), Cllr Willie Archibald & Cllr George Turnbull (Scottish Borders Council), Amanda Renwick (Community Capacity Building) & Alison Clyde (GWT).

Apologies: Cllr Michael Cook, Bill Muir (Trash Arts), Oonagh McGarry (CLD), Margaret Smail, (Adult Learning), Cllr Frances Renton (Scottish Borders Council), Lynn Marshall (Community Capacity Building Coordinator) & Jim Fraser (Emergency Planning).

GWT national update:

- **GWT staff changes** - Marion Smith (Local Network Development Officer) has resigned from looking after the Moray & 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 Fort William and Lochaber network. Alison will now return to look after the Moray & Highland networks. 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.
- **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 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 December time.
- **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, Inverness.
- **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 is planned for Thursday 20th November 2014, 10am – 4pm at Tedda Centre, Tides Reach, Wellbraes, Eyemouth, TD14 5ET

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

- Resilient Communities within the Scottish Borders was developed to provide communities with the capability to respond to emergency situations, like a prolonged snow event, where the emergency services may not be able to attend for some time. Scottish Borders Council provides emergency response equipment and relevant training to volunteers in each community. Every adult within a community has the potential to become part of this process.

There are 67 community councils in the Scottish Borders and 24 of them have their own resilient community groups. Another 30 are currently in the process of becoming resilient communities. Everyone who becomes part of a resilient community is covered by insurance provided through Scottish Borders Council.

Over the last 3 years the concept of resilient communities has developed to include community gardening groups and schools. There is now an emphasis of enhancing community spirit through the resilient communities' process, and on improving intergenerational cooperation and activity by ensuring that the resilient community process includes people of all ages and capabilities. For more info contact Kevin.sewell@scotborders.gcsx.gov.uk

- Stacey mentioned that they had developed a resource pack with a local school and had applied to the Heritage Lottery to fund an intergenerational project with a school
- Rita - working in a community school has given her opportunities to work intergenerationally with adults and children. They worked together on a special project about Sir Walter Scott. Also some children from the school worked with the silver surfers in the IT group. They shared stories and explanations of what toys and games they played when young and there was a great discussion about what a 'Tablet' was in school days of old!! The younger people planned this sharing; and each had homework to find outline about toys from each other's era! A further project is planned but has not been carried out yet and that is to bring together young parents and older grand parents together
- Amanda Renwick – The Community Capacity Building team decided to approach Peebles High School to see what the possibilities were of asking 6th year pupils to be involved in volunteering opportunities in their own communities alongside older peoples organisations and clubs.

Initially, they went in to the High School and spoke with the students about what opportunities were on offer. These varied from:

- Helping at a weekly dance class
- Assisting with weekly gentle exercise classes
- Helping hand gardening project.
- Arts and craft workshops.

They were fortunate enough to have 30 pupils sign up, all noting interest in different opportunities. Amanda mentioned that the one which had been most popular this year was the gardening initiative. The idea behind this project is that 2 students are paired with an older

person who is looking for assistance in maintaining their garden. This is seen as very much a skill-share process, as the students are receiving some advice on gardening and in exchange giving the older person the help to maintain their garden. The students are also signed up through Saltire awards and have recognition of achievement at the end.

This is just one of the projects on going at the moment.

Amanda is very keen to pursue the idea of intergenerational work between older people and working/helping in their communities.

- Alison is looking to replace Rob who was GWT's Local Network Coordinator for the Scottish Borders. For further details please contact Alison for a copy of the role descriptor.

Actions:

- Alison to invite Jenna Laidlaw (Youth Borders), Campbell Wilson (Peebles High School) and members of the Learning Partnership group 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: Tuesday 10th February 2015, 10.30 – 1pm in (The Bunker) Scottish Borders Council, Council Headquarters, Newtown St. Boswells, Melrose, TD6 0SA (TBC)

Thursday 11th June 2015, 10.30-1pm Eyemouth – venue TBC