

National Update – Forth Valley Network Meeting

Date: Tuesday 5th May 2015 Venue: Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise

In attendance: Alison Clyde (GWT), Gail Barton (Town Break), Amy Copsey & Julie Leverton (Raploch Community Partnership), Natalie Fraser (CVS Falkirk), Carole Anderson (Age Scotland) & Lindsay McKrell (Stirling Council Libraries)

Apologies: Jessie Malcom (NHS), Anne Black (Braveheart), May Chamberlain (Relationship Scotland), Ruth Martin (CLD), Yvonne Gibb (Fintry Primary School), Kay Wood (Older People's Forum), Jean Porter, Anna Sandland & Maureen Hill (CTSI)

GWT national update:

Alison was delighted to announce that GWT had received another year of funding from the Scottish Government enabling GWT to continue with our work however there has also been some changes. The Steering Group have decided to apply for charitable status and become our own charity. The Scottish Mentoring Network have been a brilliant host for GWT and will continue to support us until we are able to go it alone completely, hopefully by the end of March 2016.

Alison shall be taking on a more strategic role over the next few months and will be drafting up a constitution and application to become a SCIO, setting up a business plan, and identifying future funders for other pieces of work.

GWT is **recruiting a freelance Local Network Development Officer** to support roughly 11 networks across the Highlands & Islands for up to 14 hours per week. Further details and a job description can be found at:

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/gwt-vacancy-04-05-2015>

The **GWT Conference** held last month in Glasgow saw 141 delegates participate. Presentations from speakers, facilitators and films are now viewable from the GWT website. At the end of the day GWT announced the winner of our first **Recognition Awards**. We were delighted to receive 47 applications, an excellent response for our first year. Will be repeated later this year and again presented at next year's conference.

Congratulations to the following winners:

- New Intergenerational Project Award (Less than 12 months) – **“Big” Club Nairn, Beginners Internet Group**
- Established Intergenerational Project Award (Greater than 1 Year) – **Intergenerational Quiz, East Renfrewshire & Renfrewshire Council**
- The Yvonne Coull Local Network Coordinators Award – **Susan McDonald, Renfrewshire Network**
- Young Person who has Contributed to Intergenerational Work Award – **Julia Thain, Connect Project, Orkney Befriending**
- Older Person who has Contributed to Intergenerational Work Award – **William Richardson, Old School Graffiti Project & It's the people that make the place**
- Intergenerational Volunteer Award – **Avril Anderson, Volunteer Coordinator**

GWT also held a **Highlands & Islands Conference** on 29th April in Inverness with 76 delegates. Feedback has been extremely positive with some great projects taking place across the north of Scotland. Presentations and pictures will be uploaded to the website shortly.

GWT external evaluation – copies distributed and available for download from the GWT website

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

National Intergenerational Quiz Toolkit – Copies distributed and also available online
GWT will provide support via the toolkit to local areas encouraging practitioners to hold their own regional quiz. GWT will in the next few months be applying for funding for a P/T coordinator to roll out the programme and hold the first national quiz late 2016. Three members from the Raploch Community Partnership attended the toolkit seminar last month (Marie Urquhart).

Men’s Sheds Report – Joint Improvement Team

A new report on Men’s Sheds has recently been published by the Joint Improvement Team which can be accessed on the Joint Health Improvement Team’s (JIT) website.
<http://www.jitscotland.org.uk/resource/report-mens-sheds-scotland/>

The document reports on a piece of investigative research undertaken to find out why the community based initiative Men’s Sheds has spread across Scotland and whether there is any learning to be drawn from this which might be shared and applied to other community based initiatives.

Round the table/presentations

- Homeshare pilot – in midst of recruiting a Coordinator to move the pilot forward
- Amy/Julie reported that their intergenerational work through the Young Start Funding was due to finish early summer. They have successfully run three projects bringing younger and older people together to discuss the Scottish referendum, share skills through IT, cooking & music and a gardening project working with P6/7’s from the three local primary schools. The older people came from locals involved in the Raploch campus and older adults from the local community. Amy reported that members of the different projects were talking more outwith the project. The project has also been able to work alongside the Macrobert Arts Centre and hope to bring younger and older people together to watch three screenings during the summer.

Action: Alison asked if Amy would invite teachers from the primary schools to come along to our next meeting. Amy would like support with evaluation tools

- Natalie works for the Third Sector Interface in Falkirk working with volunteers and promoting the SALTIRE Awards. Natalie mentioned she would like to focus on the older generation working with younger people more in the future.
- Carole provided an update from Age Scotland reporting that they were in the midst of recruiting two P/T officers to support the development of men’s sheds and four new posts to raise awareness of dementia and promote early intervention among older people in Scotland. Carole mentioned the walking football festival and Age Scotland’s ‘Walk in our Shoes ‘ pack, which is still available. Kinloch Rannoch Primary are currently using the pack to map out their local village detailing problem areas for older people such as cracked pavements, holes in road etc. Older people have been invited to join the pupils whilst mapping the area. Carole would like to see this resource used wider.

Action: Alison to contact Greg.McCracken@agescotland.org.uk

Age Scotland has opened a Later Life Information Centre in New Market Street, Falkirk.

Further information on the festival and dementia work can be found below:

<http://www.ageuk.org.uk/scotland/get-involved/fundraise-for-us/fundraise/walking-football-festival/>

<http://www.ageuk.org.uk/scotland/latest-news/archive/half-a-million-pound-funding-to-raise-dementia-awareness/>

- Lindsay mentioned that libraries were involved in a variety of intergenerational work around reminiscence with local schools looking at topics such as WWII. Discussion groups consisting of younger and older people looked at ration books and artefacts such as washing boards with the younger people hearing stories and experiences from the older people. Bannockburn School recently worked with Fairview Nursing home where the young people interviewed the older residents. The interviews were then recorded in a publication. Lindsay hopes to revisit their crochet and knitting groups to see if they could become intergenerational. Alison suggested writing up a case study for the GWT website which could be showcased to other libraries across the country.
Action: Alison to send a case study template to Lindsay.

AOB

- Paths for All recently announced that they had secured £300,000 from the Life Changes Trust to develop a dementia friendly walking community

Actions

- Alison to contact YPI to see if there is a coordinator for Forth Valley who could come along to the next meeting
- Alison to target schools from all three areas for the next meeting and have presentations, which will attract schools representatives
- Alison to contact Aileen Schofield, Health Promotion Officer and invite to next meeting for update on Wee County's men's shed.
- Alison to invite Dave Budd from RSVP to come along to the next meeting
- Alison to check with New Abbey College re pilots for the adult achievement award

Future meetings:

Tuesday 1st September, 9.30am – 11.30pm, CTSi (Clackmannanshire Third Sector Interface) The HUB, Whins Road, Alloa, FK10 3SA

Tuesday 12th January 2016, 9.30-11.30am Venue TBC possibly CVS Falkirk