

Meeting Report: Edinburgh & Lothian Network

Date: 3 December 2014

Venue: City Chambers, Edinburgh



**Generations
Working
Together**

Attendees: Elaine Webster (Scottish Language Dictionaries); Hannah Lister (Age Scotland); Glenda Watt (The City of Edinburgh Council); Katherine McMahon (LGBT Age); Tim Green (Workers' Educational Association Scotland); Cheryl Ewing (GWT); Michelle Davitt (Update Disability Information Scotland).

Apologies: Christine McLean (National Museum Scotland); Brigit Harris (Liberton Primary School); Chris Pilley (Balerno Community Education).

1. Cheryl welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Glenda Watt and the City of Edinburgh Council for hosting the meeting. She outlined the work that Generations Working Together undertakes and introduced the definition of intergenerational practice.

2. GWT National Update

Details of GWT National Conference for next year – (The Lighthouse 4 March 2015) will be posted on the website soon – look out for details -

Intergenerational Training – Glasgow 25th of March

Joint Improvement Team – Myra Duncan has been researching the impact of Men's Sheds in Scotland. For more information - <http://generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/joint-improvement-team-jit>

IG Quiz – Final – Congratulations to Team Uplawmoor.

Funding – Big Lottery – Young Start – There has been a poor uptake of this funding under the Connection Strand which has an IG theme. Encouraged to apply.

Woodlands Trust – Free tree packs for groups available – 120 saplings. Deadline 6 January 2015. <http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>

Meal Makers – Launching a pilot in Dundee. Meal Makers is a local neighbourhood food sharing project connecting people happy to share an extra portion of a home-cooked meal, reducing social isolation and malnutrition in older people. Hoping to roll out in Glasgow in the near future.

Theatre& - Better Late Than Dead on Time – anyone interesting in hosting this please speak to Cheryl <http://www.theatreand.com/index.php>

3. Glenda Watt – Scottish Older People’s Assembly Update

SOPA has been running since 2011 and exists to give a strong voice to older people about their concerns and experience of life in Scotland. SOPA identifies issues that worry the older population and conveys messages from the grassroots direct to Scottish and Westminster Governments.

The 2014 Assembly report is available to view online, including information on the 6 discussion groups and action agreements on these themes which were identified on the campaign trail;

- Communication and Information
- Community Empowerment
- Community Safety and Housing
- Health and Social Care
- Retirement, Pensions and Money Matters
- Transport, Travel and the Environment.

<http://s3.spanglefish.com/s/31982/documents/annual-reports/2014-sopa-report-internet.pdf>

With £10,000 granted from The Big Lottery fund SOPA is able to facilitate more dates in its 2015 campaign trail. If any groups wish to host a meeting please get in touch with Glenda directly.

4. Katherine McMahon – LGBT Age/LGBT Health and Wellbeing

The group was presented with information on *Lifelines: Intergenerational LGBT Storytelling* a project that ran during the Luminare Festival.

Highlighting differences in ages across the LGBT community, the project aimed to help generations understand barriers and stereotypes of each other. To help the groups involved they were asked to:

Imagine they were 65 years old .. Meaning if you were a man up until you were 31 it was illegal to be in a sexual relationship with another man ... Up until you were 51 being gay or lesbian was considered a mental disorder by WHO ... and if you were transgender you wouldn't of had legal rights to have your gender recognised until you were 54.

By understanding how these social changes may have affected the generations, participants participated in a choice of poetry, performance, storytelling or visual storytelling workshops. Katherine provided information to the group that older LGBT people are 5 times less like to use services for older people, LGBT Age/LGBT Health and Wellbeing are able to provide help and support to groups/organisations to promote inclusion, and free awareness training until the end of June.

Other resources available to services and organisations include:

LGBT Age Capacity Building Project: Ten Top Tips for becoming more LGBT Inclusive

LGBT Age Capacity Building Project: Age Audit Tool (on completion receive a charter mark for organisation)

LGBT Age : Events and befriending support for the 50+

There are a variety of seminars lined up for 2015, including Transgender aging and Dementia & Older LGBT community. For more info and to book your place please contact Katherine directly.

For more information on support available to individuals, services and organisations please visit <http://www.lgbthealth.org.uk/> or contact admin@lgbthealth.org.uk

5. Elaine Webster - Scottish Language Dictionaries

SLD are a research organisation for the Scot's Language. Elaine drew attention to the resources on offer such as school app versions of the dictionary. The group were also given copies of 'Scotland's Stories of Home' which was published to celebrate Book Week Scotland 2014.

6. Hannah Lister - Age Scotland

In the lead up to Age Scotland's 2015 Conference, data is being collected from postcards; these ask for three words/ideas that people associate with later life in Scotland. Groups may request some postcards to complete to help aid Age Scotland develop their policies for the future. This information will be collated at the start of March to be published in April.

Hannah is happy to speak to older peoples groups to hear their concerns. She shared with the group that a recent successful project with older men; using poker chips and a board marked with various topics of concern, the men could place their chips on issues they wished to discuss.

7. Tim Green - Workers' Educational Association Scotland

WEAS is a charity and the UK's largest voluntary sector provider of adult education. With the support of nearly 400 local branches, 3,000 volunteers, 2,000 part-time tutors and an active membership, the WEA provides high quality, student-centred and tutor-led education for adults from all walks of life.

As part of WEA's Heritage Lottery funded Chronicles of War project Citadel Arts Group and WEA Playwrights Workshop visited Tynecastle School to perform a scene from 'When the War Came Home' The group presented a scene from the Zeppelin Raid for a intergenerational group comprised of older people from Oaklands Day Centre and two classes of Tynecastle students. More information can be found at <http://tynecastlehighschool.org.uk/news-events/new-ww1-drama-previewed-at-tynecastle/>

8. Michelle Davitt - Update Disability Information Scotland

UPDATE believe that knowing how to access the information you need, when you need it, helps disabled people to break down the barriers that exclude them. UPDATE promote the rights of disabled people, their families, carers and those who work with them to have access to reliable, impartial, accurate and helpful information.

Michelle is keen to promote the services that UPDATE offer across the whole of Scotland.

9. Next Network Meeting: Wednesday 25th of March, 9:30 – 11:30am at City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh.

*"Better Late than Dead on Time" Intergenerational Road Safety
Workshop and Production.*