

Meeting Report: West Dunbartonshire
Date: 19th November 2014
Venue: Young Street Housing Association,
Clydebank



In attendance: Clare MacColl (St Stephen's Primary School); Brian McDermott, Alex Wrens (CHCP), Lorna Stevenson (Glasgow Women's Library); Cheryl Ewing (GWT); Jeanne Martin (The Prince's Trust), Laura Homeyard (Active Schools), Dougie Reid (Share Scotland), Michelei Kane (Kinship Care West Dunbartonshire), Jackie Dolan (W.D.T.P).

Apologies: Anne Clegg (WDC).

1. Welcome and Introductions

Cheryl welcomed the group and provided information regarding the set-up of GWT networks.

2. GWT National Update

It has been a busy time for GWT over the past few weeks and April will also be filled with events.

GWT National Conference: on March 4th we had our National Conference where just over 140 members came together, to hear best practices, network and celebrate the successful Intergenerational approaches that are being taken across Scotland.

For our members in the north we are pleased to announce we will be holding a **Highlands & Islands Conference on Wednesday 29th of April in Inverness.**

Recognition Awards:

Was of great success, and we were able to *present 17 certificates of Merit, 7 Highly Commended and 2 of Outstanding Contribution. Our 6 trophy winners* from across the country highlight just some of the amazing approaches to IG practice.

Impact Evaluation by Animate consultancy has now been published and available electronically or as a hard copy

Intergenerational Quiz Toolkit – This is based on the highly successful model of practice built in East Renfrewshire & Renfrewshire, using successful partnership links between the council CLD, schools, community groups and sheltered housing. This has been sent for design and print and will be available in the coming weeks. We are holding a series of toolkit seminars to introduce our members to ways of best practice and how to engage in the first national final that should go ahead in 2016.

Seminar Dates: Dumfries 23rd, Stirling 24th & Aberdeen 27th of April

Training

Alison Clyde (NDO) has sent to design our 4 hour Teachers training toolkit, please contact Alison directly if interested in this 4 hour training opportunity. Also if any members are looking for the

full day Training the Trainers course please get in contact so that we are able to plan our 2015 training in locations to suit.

Some of our Network Co-ordinators have also come together to undertake a full day training in Impact Assessment, this will also be carried out prior to our H&I Conference next month. This will assist with the delivery of our new training materials – Past participants of training will gain a copy of these new notes and resources.

Dementia Awareness Schools Pack

In January 2014 East Dunbartonshire Council launched a schools dementia resource, in partnership with The Dementia Network and support by Alzheimer Scotland. It also supports the Council's ongoing intergenerational initiatives; and compliments the responsible citizen element of the Curriculum for Excellence Framework.

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/downloads/5508155010b93-Dementia%20Pack%20for%20Primary%20school%20over10.pdf>

Fast Forward – Young at Art

The Scottish national youthwork charity Fast Forward will be holding its free conference, Young at Art in Glasgow's Scottish Youth Theatre on Friday the 27th of March 2015. It will open at 09.30 and we hope to close by 16.00.

It will explore ways to use young volunteers to share learning and education on health and wellbeing; and will also look at ways to share resources, open up new volunteer opportunities, identify service gaps and establish what health issues are most important for your young people and stakeholders.

Fast Forward will provide a number of bursaries to cover the travel for any young people attending.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/young-at-art-tickets-15816376207>

Report on Men's Sheds Scotland

In autumn 2014, JIT (Joint Improvement Team), put a call out to identify all Men's Sheds across Scotland. These findings have been put together and shows how interest has spread and gained momentum in Scotland over the last few years. The report looks at how projects are being sustained and what different approaches are being used across areas of Scotland.

<http://www.jitscotland.org.uk/resource/report-mens-sheds-scotland/>

Funding Opportunities

YOUNG START funding - Connected strand

This is the Intergenerational Strand, which so far has had poor uptake, it should involve younger people (8-24) and older people. This can be for up to 50k over a 2 year period.

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

BIG LOTTERY FUND – SMALL Grants Masterclass

In December Big Lottery Fund, ran and repeated webinars to help people new to fundraising (or those in need of a refresher). The webinar covers the Community & families fund, awards for all and Investing in ideas. The webinar has been recorded and is available to view online.

3. Round Table Project Updates

Clare MacColl – St Stephen’s Primary

The pupils are continuing to work with the sheltered housing in Clydebank. They do not yet have a specific project to work on, and have for the moment focused on building relations with the elderly using sheltered housing. One resident in particular had struck up good relations with the pupils and was happy to speak to them when they visited the housing complex, but was a bit shy when it came to visiting the school. In the end his daughter was able to speak to the pupils in school after providing her father with their questions.

At Christmas the children made up some Christmas hampers to pass out to the sheltered housing residents, and after Easter till June they are hoping to be using their ‘golden time’ to do a ceramic project.

However, the use of ceramics and other materials brings with it the question of how to find funding for the continuation of these activities. This is something they are concentrating on now and hope to have some firm ideas by August. Cheryl is to send details of a possible link.

Jeanne Martin – Prince’s Trust

The Prince's Trust supports mainly 13 to 30 year-olds who are unemployed and those struggling at school and at risk of exclusion, but does not do a lot of intergenerational work. At the moment the Team Programme is about to start at West College in Clydebank on 30/March for 12 weeks. This programme is geared to support young people into work with while including work experience and a residential week.

On the 18th, May a new Hub is planned to be opened in Carlton Court in the city centre near the Sherriff Court. The Hub is to provide young people with a variety of services in the same place making access easier for example with the provision of employability support. It is hoped a service which will be available in the evenings too and there will be some ‘Open Days’ to be arranged with more information to be provided after May.

Lorna Stevenson – Glasgow Women’s Library with update on The West Dunbartonshire Women’s History Group.

The Glasgow Women’s Library has been on the go now for 23 years, and is now based in Bridgeton. It is open Monday to Friday with late opening on Tuesday’s till 7:30pm. As well as offering a lending library service it houses historical and contemporary artifacts and archive materials that celebrate the lives, histories and achievements of women. It also runs many programmes across Scotland.

The ‘Women Making History’ project is a new Heritage Lottery funded one which aims to research and document the life histories of ordinary local women throughout West Dunbartonshire and show these through the development of unique community and educational resources, including a Memory Box. For anyone wanting to take part there is also the possibility to pick up new skills in research techniques, oral history interviewing and use of digital equipment. It is based at the Dalmuir Community Centre on Wednesday’s from 1pm to 3pm, and will be available from 15th April to 27th May.

Michelei Kane - Kinship Care West Dunbartonshire.

Kinship Care in West Dunbartonshire has been operating now for 3 years and has about 90 members. It is centred on the town of Dumbarton where it has a base at the Benview Centre which provides them with ICT and sports facilities, and they meet there from 10:30 till 12:30 weekly. They also have two outreach facilities in Clydebank and the Vale of Leven libraries where they meet from 10 to 12 on a monthly basis with the next meeting on 31st March in Clydebank and 20th April in the Vale of Leven.

The objective of KC is to provide support to families in need but with a focus on children being raised safely and thriving within their family and community. The hope is to keep children safe at home and avoid unnecessary removal into care.

The biggest challenge to KC is raising funds especially for transport around an essentially rural area. Last month they were able to raise £1500 but they would ideally like a minibus. The level of funding available to individual family carers was compared between Glasgow and what is available in West Dunbartonshire. Cheryl and Jeanne provided some ideas to check on funding.

Alex Wrens – CHCP.

Alex supported the contribution from the St. Stephen's primary school with which his sheltered housing complexes are working at the moment. He explained that out of seven groupings of sheltered housing he has currently two which are active at present: the Melfort Avenue complex and the Second Avenue complex.

Presently the active ones are involved in paired reading and singing exercises which seem to please them. Alex reported that a special Wii was being developed by Glasgow University which would be suitable for his residents. He also drew our attention to a particular confidence trick being used against some elderly people at present and to be aware of this which involves telephoning re preference services and tricking the person into giving their bank details.

Some suggestions were given by Cheryl relating to Boccai, there seems that there is already equipment owned by the council, an area to look into for several partners.

Dougie Reid - Share Scotland.

SHARE Scotland was set up by a group of parents of young people with complex disabilities about 30 years ago. They have a number of different services including: sensory impairment, autism, challenging behaviour, mobility problems and complex health issues.

In West Dunbartonshire Share has just finished one project and is being followed by 'The Moving-On Transition Service' which is aimed to help young people with additional support needs have a positive experience when moving on from school to college or elsewhere. It is funded by the Big Lottery Fund till the summer of 2016 and is a joint project in collaboration with Cornerstone.

They are currently seeking volunteers and would like to open up participation to the wider community although family and friends are still strongly encouraged to join in. They are interested in using a number of different ideas such as: film clubs, interest in trains, dance and movement, invited speakers and art therapies.

Laura Homeyard -Active Schools.

Active Schools is a Sport Scotland led programme designed to encourage children and young people to become more active and continue lead more active lives. Sport Scotland works in partnership with local authorities and associated partners - who have all committed to Active Schools through to 2015.

The aim is will increase activity levels by: improving the quality opportunities to take part in school sports; increase volunteer contribution in schools; and to improve motivation to participate in sport.

At present there is a need for more volunteers such as parents and neighbours to take part. By increasing the number of parents and grandparents taking part and going through their PVG's this will help with the sustainability of the project. The involvement in sports is supported in a number of different ways and locally there is for example the 'Mini Movers Festival' involving P1 and P2 pupils.

Cheryl suggested the 'sports memories' as a possible way to take forward an intergenerational aspect to this.

Date of Next Meeting: 22nd of June 2015, 10am – 12 noon @ Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park, National Park Headquarters, Carrochan, Carrochan Road, Balloch, G83 8EG