

National Update – Caithness & Sutherland Network Meeting

Date: Thursday 26th March 2015 **Venue:** Pentland Hotel, Thurso



In attendance: Alison Clyde (GWT), Keith Moncur (Youth development), Christine Gunn (Caithness Horizons), Catherine Patterson (Caithness Voluntary Group) & Helen Allan (Ormlie Community Association)

Apologies: Lillian Wark (Pulteney Town Academy Primary, Carol Summers (Age Scotland), Cllr Gail Ross & Eric Larnach (Latheron Lybster & Clyth Community development Company)

GWT national update:

The GWT Conference held on 4th March at the Lighthouse in Glasgow saw 141 delegates participate in a full days programme. Presentations from our speakers, facilitators and films are viewable from the website. At the end of the day GWT announced the winner of our first **Recognition Awards**. We were delighted to receive 47 application, an excellent response for our first year.

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**

Men’s Sheds Report – Joint Improvement Team

Mark McGeachie from the Joint Improvement Team shared research and best practice from their recent report at this year’s GWT Conference. The report now published 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.

External Evaluation of Generations Working Together – copies distributed and available for download from the GWT website

Learning Link Scotland - Evidencing the Impact Toolkit being refreshed. Four GWT members are taking part in the review including Lisa Hemphill (Fife), Denise Nicholson (Shetland), Mary Arnold (Aberdeenshire).

Social impact training opportunity for Local Network Coordinators on Tuesday 28th April 12 noon till 5pm – Alison is happy to open this out to projects if there is no local network coordinator for your area.

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

Conference – Wednesday 29th April 2015 – Eden Court, Inverness.

Workshops include:

- Intergenerational Befriending
- Speed networking for Intergenerational practice
- Intergenerational partnerships through Youth Voice, Youth Action & Youth Philanthropy
- An introduction to the protection of vulnerable groups
- Evidencing the impact
- Funding Surgery – Funders tbc

Presentations and photos will be uploaded to the GWT website shortly.

National Intergenerational Quiz Toolkit – developed and with designer, will have copies at the Inverness conference.

GWT would like to encourage members to hold their own regional quiz. GWT plan to apply for funding for a P/T coordinator to roll out the programme and run the first national quiz late 2016.

Round the table/presentations

- Keith reported that he wasn't currently involved in IG work however had some ideas in the pipeline – may be able to attend conference bringing along some of his youths
- Helen not actively running any IG work however keen on the idea
- Christine is keen to develop IG projects when she starts her new post with the Dunbeath Heritage Centre

Actions:

- Alison to check out Spirit 2012 funding and to contact Highland Council re funding opportunities for the funding workshop at the Inverness conference (Jeanie Graham).
- Alison to invite Angie House from Befriending Caithness and Wendy Morley (Care Homes) and Wendy McGowan (Barchester Care Manager) to the next meeting.

Next meeting: The next meeting will take place in September (to avoid 1st /2nd Sept due to Safe Highlanders). Date to follow shortly.