

Forth Valley Network Meeting

Date: 1st September 2015 Venue: CTSi Clackmannanshire, Alloa

In attendance: Jean Porter (St Mark's), Jane Clifford (YPI), Susan Grasekamp (SDEF), Emma McManus (Digital Inclusion Officer), Natalie Fraser (CVS Falkirk), David Cairns (NHS Forth Valley), Tracey Fullerton & Janet MacDonald (Living it Up), Liz Rowlett (CTSi), Gail Barton (Town Break), Polly Rodger (Stirling Voluntary Enterprise), Eric Smith (Wee County Men's Shed), Aileen Schofield (NHS Forth Valley), Carole Anderson (Age Scotland), Graham Reece Age Scotland, Lindsay McKrell & Barbara Fulford (Stirling Council Libraries), & Alison Clyde (GWT).

Apologies: Morna O'May (Contact the Elderly), Jessie-Anne Malcolm (NHS Forth Valley) & Mark Briggs (Wee County men's Shed)

1. GWT national update:

GWT secured new funding in March 2015 from the Scottish Governments, Equality Fund.

GWT's programme outcomes for 2015-16 include:

- Older people are acknowledged as assets to their communities increasing their participation and contribution
- Member organisations, including those working with protected characteristics, develop projects that use intergenerational approaches to challenge ageism
- More local authorities, national public agencies & organisations adopt intergenerational approaches to address the challenges of our ageing society and promote positive images of older people

SCIO Status - We are delighted to announce that on the 29th July 2015, GWT were awarded charity status and are now a fully-fledged Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

GWT Constitution – copies available on request from alison@generationsworkingtogether.org

Our charity purposes include:

- *The promotion of intergenerational relationships to further the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability or other disadvantage.*
- *The promotion of equality and diversity*
- *The advancement of citizenship and community development*

These are our three primary purposes however we also intend to work to deliver the advancement of education and health and wellbeing.

The structure of GWT consists of:-

- GENERAL members - who are anyone who applies to join Generations Working Together. These individuals elect their local network representatives as voting members as described below in clause 16;
- VOTING MEMBERS - who have the right to attend voting members' meetings (including any annual general meeting) and have important powers under the constitution; in particular, the voting members can appoint general members to serve on the board and take decisions on changes to the constitution itself;
- BOARD - who hold regular meetings, and generally control the activities of the organisation; for example, the board is responsible for monitoring and controlling the financial position of the organisation.

Register of voting members - Alison explained that the general members of each Local Network can elect 2 representatives to be voting members (normally this would include the volunteer Local Network Coordinator but this is subject to the Local Network general members decision).

The normal term of office for a voting member will be 2 years however people may stand for re-election at the end of each term of office. This is not an onerous role however it is an important role which gives each local network a say and voting rights at the annual AGM which will be held during lunch at the conference in March on 2nd March 2016.

As no one came forward at the meeting Alison is requesting that any member who would like to put themselves forward as the voting members to contact Alison ASAP.

Scotland's Urban Past (SUP) is a five-year nationwide project with the communities of Scotland's towns and cities. Anyone can get involved and start investigating urban environments and how they have changed over time. SUP encourages groups and individuals of all ages to discover and share the fascinating stories of Scotland's towns and cities through community-led projects. As every project idea stems from a local community, the scale and subject of projects varies, ranging from a building, street or neighbourhood, to an entire town or city. To help you to develop your project ideas and bring them to fruition, SUP provides bespoke training, access to essential resources and continued project support.

Does your community group or society have a project idea, or do you need inspiration? Let us know by contacting the SUP team at sup@rcahms.gov.uk or on +44 (0) 131 651 6870.

National Adult Achievement Award – were launched by the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning back in May at Newbattle Abbey College and are now being piloted. These new awards, modelled on the Youth Achievement Awards, will accredit learning for adults in a wide range of contexts, including community settings, colleges, workplaces and volunteering. Newbattle Abbey College is the owner of the awards which were developed by a national steering group.

The Adult Achievement Awards have been credit-rated at SCQF levels 3, 4 and 6 by Napier University and will be piloted by adult groups from different sectors across Scotland in the coming months. GWT will keep you informed of any updates.

<http://scgf.org.uk/adult-achievement-awards-launched/>

Intergenerational Training courses – The following training courses are now online and can be booked at <http://generationsworkingtogether.org/events-training/training/>

West Lothian (Livingston) 2nd October, Angus (Arbroath) 23rd November & Aberdeenshire (Inverurie) 24th November. Alison to look at organising training for Forth Valley in March /April 2016 – Aileen able to provide a free training venue with teas/coffees.

GWT Conference 2016 - Wednesday 2nd March 2016 – University of Strathclyde, Technology & Innovation Centre, 99 George St, Glasgow G1 1RD

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/research/technologyandinnovationcentre/>

Any ideas/suggestions for workshops, speakers and information village. GWT would like to showcase local intergenerational projects, so please get in touch.

2. Round the table/presentations

This was an extremely well attended meeting with everyone around the table either involved in intergenerational work or about to dip their toes in the water.

- YPI presentation on website – contact louise.jack@thewoodfoundation.org.uk for further details. <http://www.thewoodfoundation.org.uk/current-programmes/YPI.php>

- At St. Ninians Library we have had many successful intergenerational events. Sometimes the Reminiscence group have an idea and invite the school and sometimes the school approaches me and asks me to hold an event. Read full article attached.
- Wee County Men's Sheds – Eric provided an update of the journey to create and run a men's shed in Menstrie. It is hoped that the shed will be open from a Monday through to Friday.
www.facebook.com/pages/The-Wee-County-Mens-shed
<https://twitter.com/SWeecounty>
- Susan Grasekamp, Scottish Disability Equality Forum is very keen to encourage younger people to join their access panels that are run across Scotland. Panels are groups of volunteers who work together to improve physical access and wider social inclusion in their local communities. Any members interested in sourcing younger people for the access panels should contact susan.grasekamp@sdef.org.uk
<http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/apmenu>
- Town Break a small dementia charity has recently received funding from the Life Changes Trust. Part of their future work will include an intergenerational element. Gail Barton (Manager) is now looking for schools and youth groups who would like to connect and discuss future intergenerational projects. Contact gail@townbreakstirling.org
www.townbreakstirling.org
- Helix Bee Keepers – a great project with potential of intergenerational work. All welcome.
<http://www.thehelix.co.uk/blog/the-helix-beekeepers>

3. Volunteer Network Coordinator

Alison is still looking to recruit a volunteer network coordinator who would like to help support the Forth Valley intergenerational network. This role is not onerous and is more about cascading information regarding the 3 network meetings each year, attending two coordinator days held in Glasgow in which coordinators get an opportunity to network and share what's happening locally & nationally.

GWT will cover all expenses for meetings venues and coordinator travel. For further details and for a role descriptor please contact alison@generationswotkrkingtogether.org

4. AOB

- Young Start funding opportunity - <https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/youngstartfund>
- New Website - The Beth Johnson Foundation is a national charity dedicated to making a future for all ages. <https://www.bjf.org.uk/> Check out the link from our colleagues Linking Generations Northern Ireland and see what they are doing across the water.
- The Scottish Government, working with Democratic Society in Scotland, has designed a number of Planning Events across Scotland to prioritise ideas and policies that the Scottish Government can implement to create a fairer Scotland. These Events compliment the Fairer Scotland Engagement Fund. The Planning Events are designed to allow a representative audience to hear, discuss, prioritise and take action on ideas to create a Fairer Scotland. The Scottish Government wants to hear about what needs to change and things that can be done differently to make people's lives better.
The priorities that come from these Planning Events will feed into a final Fairer Scotland Forum in December 2015. <http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/latest/>

5. Next meeting: Tuesday 12th January 2016, 9.30 – 12noon, CVS Falkirk and District Unit 6, Callendar Business Park, Callendar Road, Falkirk, FK1 1XR