

Dundee Network Meeting

Date: 28th August 2015 **Venue:** Dundee Voluntary Action

In attendance: Rosie Brown (Discovering Families), Clare Cockburn (DVA), Madeline Rees (DVA), Rod Gordon (Leisure & Culture, Dundee City Council), Christine Grieg (The Corner, peer led service), Dave Barrie (Addiction), Robin Falconer (Equally Well), Ron McLaren (Humanism in Scotland), Alison Goodfellow (The Maxwell Centre), Andy Drummond & Alison Walker (Lochee Community Gardeners), Laura McDermott (Dundee City Council), Cheryl Banks (Balhousie Care Group) & Alison Clyde (GWT)

Apologies: Cllr Jimmy Black, Cllr Laurie Bidwell, Cllr John Alexander, Cllr Fraser MacPherson & Cllr Bob Duncan

1. GWT national update:

Alison apologised for the lack of network meetings over the past 12 months explaining that our Development Officer, Yvonne Coull who supported the Dundee network fell ill last summer and very sadly passed away in November.

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/>

Copies of all our publications can be found on the GWT website at www.generationsworkingtogether.org

2. 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, Argyll & Bute (Lochgilphead) 21st October & Western Isles (Stornoway) 29th October, Angus (Arbroath) 23rd November, Aberdeenshire (Inverurie) 24th November, Moray (Elgin) 25th November and Inverclyde (Greenock) 4th December 2015.

3. 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.

4. Round the table

There are lots of intergenerational projects being created across Dundee with a keen interest to expand current pieces of work.

- Cheryl Banks provided an update on one of the IG projects taking place within Balhousie where young people visited residents one of a care home. Cheryl highlighted the importance of training the youths before connecting with residents and reported that a 15-year-old female who had been very disengaged with the world had found her direction as a result of the project and is now working full time (activities included weaving & making mosaics).
- Craigie High School 3rd year pupils are planning to work with sheltered housing complexes near their school as part of an SQA personal development programme. The opportunity to sign up to do the personal development programme was open to all the pupils at Craigie that had completed the Peer education process which Christine Greig lead in 2nd year. As it happens only 3 pupils signed up for it as it clashed with subjects like art and drama in the columns they had to choose from when choosing their accredited subjects for the year. Regardless of this the plan is, to offer discussion groups to compare life in Dundee years ago and life in Dundee now.

Reshaping Care Small Grants Fund - Intergenerational Work funded through Small Grants Fund. The Small Grants Fund aims to build the capacity of communities to deliver services which ensure people are able to look after and improve their own health and wellbeing and live in good health for longer. Funding is available to support the delivery of projects across all adult services.

In particular we are looking for new and innovative projects that test new ways of working for your organisation, your community and/or Dundee. Funding is not, therefore, available to continue funding existing projects or staff posts. In particular we are looking for projects that adopt a co-productive way of working, i.e. involving stakeholders in the design, delivery and evaluation of projects. There are two types of funding: Level 1 – grants of up to £500 and Level 2 – grants of between £500 and £7500 For more information visit <http://www.reshapingcaredundee.org.uk/>

- Link Up Whitfield is a project that uses the strengths of people and their community to create projects of interest in which people can participate. Link Up was awarded Small Grants funding to deliver a 6-week inter-generational arts and craft project, which would run on Thursday evenings. The project looked to engage 10-14 participants, half of which were to be aged over 60 and half aged between 10 – 18 years of age. The purpose of the project was for older and younger people to share personal stories and experiences through craft to break down barriers, create greater understanding of different generations and form new relationships. The 6-week project aimed to encourage participants to explore their own creativity and work on developing an art piece that could be displayed or used in day-to-day life. In total 7 sessions of the 'Linking Generations' Project took place. This was due to an

additional session running to allow participants to complete work and have a celebration and feedback event. The initial session was an introductory one where a younger and older individual spent time getting to know one another and feeding back and introducing each other to the rest of the group. This was successful as participants commented on how much they enjoyed finding out about each other's lives. By starting off the sessions this way, people felt more comfortable with sharing thoughts, ideas and skills with one another throughout the 6-week project.

Over the next 5 weeks, participants learned new skills and techniques such as felting, knitting, sewing, jewellery making, metal work, photo transfer. They created mood boards to explore their creativity and to draw inspiration to make a final art piece to be displayed in a photo frame. All participants shared skills and offered to support one another as one lady showed the young people how to use a sewing machine and another taught two young girls how to knit. As the weeks progressed there was a definite sense that relationships between the two generations were being built and there was a lot of support and encouragement from both ages. One of the older people said, "the young people surprised me – I didn't think they'd be so interested or attentive.... I don't think age makes a difference when you're doing things like this". This project successfully brought different generations together and showed them that they could have similar interests. It broke down the barriers and stereotypes that existed about older and younger generations. Full project update attached.

- Servite Fintry Tenants Association organise activities for residents living in Caledonia Housing Association's Fintry complex. They have a lottery-funded garden, which has been the focus of an intergenerational project involving children from the local school and students from Helm, an organisation providing training for work for young people. The students helped to build the garden while developing new landscaping skills. They turned a small piece of waste ground at the side of the housing scheme into a garden, which all the tenants enjoy. Children from Longhaugh Primary School assist with gardening and weeding which is a great help to the older people who have poor mobility. The project has helped to build relationships between the different generations and has allowed for a more cohesive community to develop after issues such as vandalism. Full project update attached.

5. Local Network Coordinator

GWT are recruiting a volunteer network coordinator to help support the Dundee network. Robin Falconer is interested however will need to check with his manager. If anyone else would like to see the role descriptor or would like further details please get in touch with alison@generationsworkingtogether.org

6. AOB

- Young Start funding opportunity – new projects funded for 2015 (handout attached)
- 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.

Actions:

- Alison to invite to Cllr Bon Duncan (provost) and to Ken Lynn (older people's champion). When sending invites to councillors request they send a representative if they cannot attend.

7. Next meeting: Thursday 26th November 2015, 2-4pm, The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery & Museum, Albert Square, Dundee, DD1 1DA