

In attendance: Fiona Alderson (Networks of Wellbeing Ltd), Michael Dow (Crossroads Caring Scotland), Sharon Scapens (Huntly District Development Trust), Rachael Disbury (Deveron Arts), Tanya Smith (Balhousie Care Group), Rebecca Dunn (Generations Working Together), Anabella Paoilla (iConnect)

Apologies: Dawn Brown (The Garioch Partnership)

GWT national update:

- The next GWT national conference is taking place on Wednesday 8th March 2017, Stirling Court Hotel – University of Stirling, Stirling. The aims of the conference include to share good practice, learn from each other, network, create new ideas for future intergenerational work and demonstrate how to successfully embed and sustain this work.

The conference cost is £30 but cost is waived for local Volunteer Coordinators and voting members. Volunteer coordinators also get their travel expenses covered for this.

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/national-conference-2017-embed-and-sustain-25-08-2016>

- March Conference. Awards – there are 5 categories for awards at the conference, we will be accepting nominations from 1st December until mid January. Look out for this on the website, and it will be sent round in the e-bulletin for members.
- The new GWT 50 hour course is being launched at the March Conference. We are looking for 20 people to pilot the course, and for 6 case studies from throughout Scotland to feature on the course. The 6 week course will run for the first time properly from Sept-Nov 2017, at a charge to participants. We are looking for films, good quality photographs and case studies for the course.
- **Share your images with GWT**

GWT is looking for high quality photographs for new promotional materials. If you are happy to share your images from your intergenerational project showing younger and older people working together please email copies to Alison@generationsworkingtogether.org

We are seeking two voting members per network (cannot be a member of staff however one place could be the volunteer coordinator). 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. Copies of the GWT Constitution are available on request.

- **Intergenerational training Course for Practitioners and Trainers** - new dates now online 21st Nov Inverness, 23rd Nov Dundee, 13th Feb Ayr and 23rd March Edinburgh, – cost £35.00 (includes CPD accreditation) **Aberdeen/ Aberdeenshire TBC but date to be set soon for early 2017 – please fill out this poll if you are interested:**
<http://doodle.com/poll/gffhqub5fn9ue2a>

Protected Characteristics learning event is taking place in Aberdeen on 28th November. Sign up for a free place here: <http://generationsworkingtogether.org/events-training/protected-characteristics-thematic-network-meeting-28-11-2016>

Funding news

Living Communities Fund – Perth & Kinross Council

The LCP Fund is available to primary and secondary schools in Perth and Kinross to support projects exploring their local heritage.

You can apply for up to £1200, or up to £5000 if working in partnership with another school, Projects can be delivered over more than one academic year. Schools may make only one application per year and preference will be given to applications which can demonstrate they support one or more of the following criteria:

- Benefits for marginalised or vulnerable children and young people and/or addresses inequalities
 - **Intergenerational projects**
 - An exploration of local heritage and culture at the heart of the project
 - Strengthened school/community partnerships
- Applications will be available in two rounds in 2016 with deadlines on 16 September and 9 December. More details from Rebecca Berger at rberger@culturePK.org.uk or on the GWT website

The Climate Challenge Fund is OPEN for applications.

Climate Challenge Fund and Young People

You can find out more about previous and current climate action projects, led-by and involving young people through the videos at www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/youthclimateaction

Climate Challenge Fund 2017/18

In 2017/18 the Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) will focus on funding projects which deliver the greatest reduction in carbon emissions and support Scotland's most deprived communities, with grants up to £150,000 per project available.

Keep Scotland Beautiful manages the CCF on behalf of the Scottish Government and encourages community-led organisations interested in applying for grants to check the criteria, application process and upcoming application deadlines.

For new applicants the deadline for the first stage of the application process, an Expression of Interest, is 28 October 2016.

Learn more about CCF criteria, the application process and deadlines:

www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/ccfhowtoapply

£4million grants to boost volunteering among over 50s

With life expectancy in the UK increasing, a valuable opportunity has opened up for greater numbers of volunteers to share their skills and talents with others in later life - offering a rewarding experience for both sides.

Today The Office for Civil Society and Nesta, the innovation foundation, have announced three new grant funds totalling £4million to explore how more charities and public services can better tap into the skills and experience of volunteers over 50 for the benefit of all society. The three grant funds are the first to be funded by government through the second phase of the Centre for Social Action and will be managed by Nesta.

Older volunteers already make an important contribution in supporting our hospitals, schools and local councils, and in roles such as magistrates, first aiders and youth club leaders. As people live longer¹ and research shows volunteering can contribute to

wellbeing in later life², these new funds will explore how more can be encouraged to volunteer and how their talents and experiences can be retained.

The three funds now open to application are:

- [The Second Half Fund - Sharing Time and Talents for Life](#): Will provide grants of up to £250,000 to support the growth of new ways of mobilising the time and talents of people aged over 50 specifically in support of: children and young people, parents and families, ageing well, creating resourceful and resilient local places.
- [Join In Stay In](#): Will award grants of up to £50,000 and significant non-financial support from behavioural science experts for organisations to undertake Randomised Controlled Trials (RCTs) to understand what works best to encourage volunteers to continue to give their time regularly.
- [Give More Get More - Exploring Intensive Volunteering](#): Grants of up to £100,000 to support organisations to trial intensive volunteering placements for people over 50 - approaching or in retirement - that work alongside public services. These might include 'gap years', such as those VSO offers for experienced volunteers to give their time abroad.

For more information and to apply please visit the Nesta website (www.nesta.org.uk).

The findings, which will be published in 2017 and 2018, will be shared with policymakers and the public sector to help inform future volunteering programmes and initiatives.

The launch of these new funds follows on from the [Centre for Social Action Innovation Fund](#), a programme of work from Nesta and The Office for Civil Society that mobilised volunteers to work alongside public services. The three year programme rallied more than 70,000 people to help 176,000 people including helping the unemployed get back into work, peer mentoring for young people online and imparting emergency lifesaving skills to high risk young people.

Minister for Civil Society, Rob Wilson, said: "These funds represent an excellent opportunity to replicate our fantastic achievements in youth volunteering and I urge as many organisations as possible to apply. The funds will encourage more people over the age of 50 to follow the example of their children and grandchildren, get out in their communities and help us build a Britain that works for everyone."

Vicki Sellick, Director in Nesta's Innovation Lab, comments: "We know that many over 50s are already generously giving their time to help others - from reading to children in classrooms to keeping patients company in hospital. Given that those that do report far higher levels of wellbeing, and that more local communities could benefit hugely from their skills, we want to see how we can bring to bear the talents and experience that the over 50s possess to benefit even more people."

Nesta has today published the evaluation and impact data of the 39 projects supported through the Centre for Social Action Innovation Fund and will publish further key findings and recommendations later in the autumn. Visit www.nesta.org.uk.

Report - A Plan for Scotland – Putting People in charge and creating opportunities

The Scottish Government have announced in the above report that they will develop a National Social Isolation Strategy to ensure a holistic approach across government to problems of loneliness and isolation.

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0050/00505210.pdf> (see page 76)

Tools to measure loneliness - The organisation 'Campaign to end Loneliness' has produced a resource called 'Measuring your impact on loneliness in later life". Download the resource here: <http://www.campaigntoendloneliness.org/wp-content/uploads/Loneliness-Measurement-Guidance1.pdf>

Sharing and networking –

Discussion – Generations in the media – overcoming negativity (Brexit example)

The media loves negative news, it's good for business.

There are 3 main reasons that we identify for Intergenerational work:

- The ageing population – there are more older people
- More geographic mobility – young people from rural areas moving away
- Split of family structure, more single parents and families split apart

But also the negative media towards generations. These articles are an example. How can we turn that round to be more positive? If there is conflict between older and younger, how can we turn it into something more positive?

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION BY THE GROUP:

- Discussion instead of pointing fingers
- Negative example of suggestions of an age cut off for voting! We don't want this.
- Politicians tell the truth! A balanced and informed view is hindered by lies.
- With families and communities people can come together
- Be aware of fear mongering newspapers and BBC. Headlines can have a huge impact; appealing to baser nature – fear prejudices and biases.
- Young people typically have access to different type of news (e.g. browse the web more, use social media more)? It could be argued it is easier then for them to get a balanced view, but also note the 'tunnel vision' aspect of social media.
- Positive example of cross-generational conversations happening during the independence referendum.
- Communication issues – a positive way forward would involve more cross-generational communication. This kind of communication was not seen during the EU referendum, maybe people felt it was not their responsibility. We need to reconnect younger and older people.
- New ways of communicating can be very positive and create more opportunity for access to the information available.

Round the table updates from attendees.

AOB

1. Thanks Rachael for hosting us, and for the lovely soup!
2. We are looking for a second volunteer coordinator for Aberdeenshire, based more in the South of Aberdeenshire. We welcome you getting in touch if you're interested.

Next meeting: Tuesday 7th February 2017, 9:00am - 11:00am at Dunnottar School, High Street, Stonehaven, Aberdeenshire AB39 2JN. You can already register here: <http://generationsworkingtogether.org/events-training/aberdeenshire-network-meeting-07-02-2017>

Fiona and Tanya send their apologies in advance.

Offers from Tanya and Michael to host the next meeting to take place in April/May 2017.