

Aberdeenshire Network Meeting

Date: 18/04/2017

Venue: Mintlaw Academy, Station Road, Mintlaw AB24 5FN



In attendance: Rebecca Dunn (GWT), Margo Paterson (Aberdeenshire Council), Aileen Grant (Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action), Michelle Shields (Aberdeenshire), Rachel Stewart (NHS), Kenny Dorans (Aberdeenshire Council)

Apologies: Colin Harris (University Student)

GWT national update:

Thank you to everyone who attended our conference on Wednesday 8th March 2017 in Stirling Court Hotel, University of Stirling, Stirling and to all our speakers, presenters and staff for making it such a great day. We had a fantastic array of presenters and workshops who gave an inspiring insight into intergenerational work taking place across Scotland, England and Spain. Presentations and handouts can be found at the following link:

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/gwt-national-conference-2017/>

The Recognition Awards celebrate and recognise the outstanding talent, commitment and inspirational involvement of workers, volunteers and groups who are involved with and are embracing Intergenerational work across Scotland. The five categories Trophy Winners of 2017 Recognition Awards were:

- New IG project – Calderglen Life Story Group, Calderglen High School (South Lanarkshire Network)
- Established IG project – T in the Street, Williamwood High School & The Richmond Fellowship Scotland (East Renfrewshire Network)
- Building successful partnerships through IG work – Connect, Raploch Community Partnership (Forth Valley Network)
- Outstanding Volunteer – Diane McGowan, Dumfries Get Together (Dumfries & Galloway Network)
- Yvonne Coull, Local Network Coordinators Award – Robin Falconer (Dundee Network)

Intergenerational Training Course for Practitioners and Trainers

Possible courses in Aviemore and Golspie. Confirmed dates now agreed for Western Isles and Fraserburgh.

GWT is looking for **2-3 networks** from across Scotland who would be interested in becoming a constituted group so they could access local funding to set up some IG projects, provide training and a support worker who could help them develop IG work in their area.

International Certificate on Intergenerational Learning (ICIL) – pilot online course taking up to 50 hours (free) in partnership with the University of Granada, Spain. GWT is looking for a wide range of practitioners/volunteers, students who would like to participate in the first pilot course. In return for the free training GWT would ask the trainees for full feedback and comments from all parts of the course (max 20 places). It is hoped that the course will also carry future CPD accreditation. Pilot course due to commence on Monday 5th June till Sunday 16th July 2017. You can now request your place on the website – deadline 12th May alison@generationsworkingtogether.org

- **Recruiting network coordinators** – there are approximately 10 (out of 30) network areas currently recruiting volunteer network coordinators – Western Isles, Aberdeenshire, East & West Dunbartonshire, North & South Lanarkshire, Dumfries & Galloway, Scottish Borders, Glasgow & Renfrewshire & Inverclyde. Further details can be found on the website at

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/networks/volunteering/>

- **Voting members**

GWT Constitution – copies available on request

Please continue to seek your 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.

Funding

Lots of funding opportunities on our funding website as of Jan 2017

Sharing and networking –

What is intergenerational practice?

Key words identified by the group:

- Extended Families living together
- Interact
- Common purpose
- Cross-learning
- Sharing knowledge and skills
- Equality
- Interactive participation

A definition of intergenerational practice:

Intergenerational practice aims to bring people together in purposeful, mutually beneficial activities promoting greater understanding and respect between generations, and contributing to building more cohesive communities.

Intergenerational practice is inclusive and builds on the positive resources that younger and older generations have to offer each other and those around them.

Intergenerational approaches are an effective way to address a number of issues, many of them key Scottish Government priorities as noted in the introduction.

Context Cafe Session 1

- What does a successful flourishing intergenerational project look like?
- What would a flourishing intergenerational community look like?

Some key words (please see pictures at the end of report of the discussion notes on flipchart paper):

- Self-esteem
- Having a voice
- Self-worth
- Motivation
- Well-being
- Organic
- Challenging stereotypes
- Health
- Fun
- Recognition of experience

- Keeping brain and body active
- reducing social isolation

Round the table – Local project updates

- Lots of IG work is happening in the area but it is not celebrated enough.
- **Ellon Community Campus** is designed well to encourage IG. **Think about how we can all use these facilities.**
- There is too much separation, we would like a chance to share.
- **Aunty Pop's Picnic** works with isolated people. Margo helped to write the constitution.
- **New Pitsligo Conversation Cafe** – IG often comes from this.
- **Flexible Learning Pathways (FLP)**

AOB

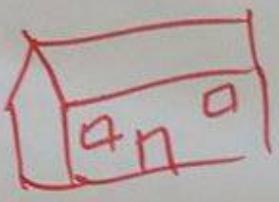
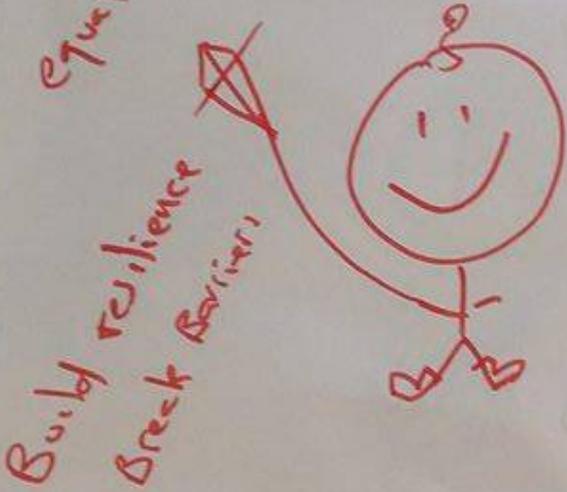
Discussion of location of next meeting and how to encourage attendance from across a range of backgrounds. Local organisations mentioned such as above and community councils good to have along to these meetings and idea of having an evening meeting.

Next meeting:

27th September 2017 (Location TBC)



Problems shared
Equal input, Purpose
Sense of community



Keeps growing - new members
Embrace new ideas

Messy church
Traditional services



Changes, keeps up with the times

Changed Dress code

Inclusive, Equality -

Common goal, Sharing resources

Evolving

Inter-gen Project

Family Fit Club

0 - 90+

Picnic - re-invented "old fashioned fun"
to tech, games, chat

Exercise, Field games, skipping,
Back to basics school yard games

Silver surfers - Hi tech - Academy pupils
over 60's
Exchange of learning
New relationships

Buchan Heritage Group (Music)
All learning sharing - tunes, learn new instruments

Organic

