

East Lothian Network Meeting

Date: 8th June 2017 **Venue:** John Gray Centre, Haddington

In attendance: Sue Northrup (Dementia Friendly EL & GWT Coordinator), Andrena Gowling & Michelle Swan (Castle Rock Edinvar), Elaine Gale (Dementia Friendly EL), Loreen Pardoe (Support from the Start), Laura Craig (Sporting Memories), Isobel Colley (St Mary's Parish Church), Steven Wray (NHS), Murdo MacDonald (Church of Scotland) & Alison Clyde (GWT)

Apologies: Kate Nevans (North Berwick Coastal Area), Mel Scrimgeour (Newbyres Nursery), Madeline Hewlett (Library), Cllr Andrew Frost, Cllr Fiona O'Donnell, Cllr John Williamson, Cllr Brian Small & Cllr Kenny McLeod

Introductions

- Michelle Swan - Manager of Sheltered Housing in Haddington and in Dunbar is keen to develop an intergenerational project
- Andrena Gowling - Manager of Muir Park Social Housing in Tranent ran an IG project with Knox Academy when at Haddington as part of the Youth Philanthropy Initiative. Andrena would like to start one with Ross High with tenants in Tranent.
- Elaine Gale is developing an intergenerational community kitchen proposal for Haddington and supports the Dementia Per Support group in Haddington.
- Steven Wray has run a number of IG projects and is looking for new ideas
- Laura Craig has experience of IG work.
- Loreen Pardoe - Support from the Start lead for Haddington & Pencaitland Primary Parent/Teacher Association is keen to develop IG work in community for all ages, with a community focus and to address social isolation.

Councillors were invited however were unable to attend due to the meeting coinciding with Election Day.

Action: It was agreed that network members and GWT would continue to invite Community Councils and Area Partnership reps to future network meetings.

GWT national update:

Our **National Conference** held in March 2017 (Stirling) evaluated extremely well. We had a fantastic array of presenters and workshops that gave an inspiring insight into intergenerational work taking place across Scotland, England and Spain. Presentations and hand-outs 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 winners were:

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

Intergenerational Training Course for Practitioners and Trainers

It was agreed that GWT would run a 1-day CPD accredited training course on Tuesday 29th August 2017, 10:00am - 4:00pm at Market Court, Princess Mary Road, Haddington, EH41 3NW

The training will cost £40.00 pp. Lower rates will be available for community members who are unfunded. For details on lower rates please contact Sue at sue.northrop@btopenworld.com

For more information regarding the course or to book a place please check out the following link: <http://generationsworkingtogether.org/events-training/training/>

International Certificate on Intergenerational Learning (ICIL) – 20 participants have agreed to take part in our new (pilot) online training course (50 hours) which GWT will deliver in partnership with University of Granada, Spain. GWT received a brilliant response with over 50 people registering their interest. Unfortunately on this occasion GWT could only take 20 people through the pilot, which started on Monday 5th June (lasting 6 weeks). It is hoped another course will be delivered around Sept/Oct time. Further details will be announced after the summer.

New Communications Intern – Kate Samuels

GWT has recruited a new Communications Intern, Kate Samuels who is working hard to raise awareness of IG work with local and national media, social media and with local authority, councillors, national government, MSPs & MPs. Thanks to everyone who took part in Kate's first campaign involving our thunderclap which proved very successful with over 106 supporters with a social reach of 208,554 people. Kate is keen to hear from intergenerational project who want to raise their profile local and nationally. You can contact Kate at Kate@generationsworkingtogether.org

GWT Diversity Lab update: GWT staff member, Rebecca, took part in a recent trip to Berlin to meet with intergenerational practitioners from Germany, Poland and Northern Ireland. There were two intensive days of training during which intergenerational approaches were discussed and ideas developed and shared, and there were 2 days of project visits of IG projects in Berlin. One project visit was to a consulting centre for intergenerational living in Berlin. This centre provides information free of charge to individuals, joint household groups, co-housing groups, landlords or investors.

Voting members

Laura Craig and Andrena Gowling agreed to become voting members 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.

Intergenerational practice – what is it?

Intergenerational practice aims to bring people together in purposeful, mutually beneficial activities, which promote greater understanding and respect between generations, and contributes to building more cohesive communities. Intergenerational practice is inclusive, building on the positive resources that the younger and older have to offer each other and those around them" (Beth Johnson Foundation, 2009)

- Projects should have a generation gap of 20 - 25 years

Further resources can be found from the GWT website at:

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/>

If you have an intergenerational story to share please contact kate@generationsworkingtogether.org our Communications Intern.

Loneliness & Social Isolation

The Scottish Government has committed to producing a National Strategy to tackle social Isolation and Loneliness (Scottish Government) – a draft strategy consultation is due out in the summer.

Tools for measuring isolation and loneliness

Alison mentioned a toolkit that projects can use to measure the impact their projects have on reducing isolation and loneliness. There are four scales to choose from including both positive and negative wording. The Befriending project has used one of the loneliness measurement scales however the questions didn't really work for them. The Rickter scale could also be used in conjunction with the loneliness measurement tool.

<http://www.socialimpactscotland.org.uk/understanding-social-impact/methods-and-tools/the-rickter-scale/>

These themes struck chords with Members and with local concerns in communities, including the Area Partnerships. East Lothian is also introducing poverty champions. There was a lot of interest in creating IG spaces and services, e.g. nurseries and sheltered housing and care homes.

Sharing news and creating new ideas for projects

- Back to Life – Newbyres Nursery & Newbyres Village Care Home – see attached info sheet
- Steven mentioned the challenges of trying to set up a project where volunteers in Dunbar cuddled drug-affected babies, however there were many barriers round risk, PVG etc.
- Loreen - Connected baby project, which focuses on early years investment and connections.
- Andrena is making connections with Ross High - starting with visits.
- Laura - Midlothian schools going into a care home as part of the Sporting Memories network..
- Loreen - Pencaitland is building on the 40th birthday of Pencaitland Primary School to support a conversation between the school and community, to build relationships and community across the generations. There is also a Church link. They manage Safeguarding by ensuring that a paid professional is always present.
- Elaine is developing a community conversation in Haddington about a Community Kitchen, which will be a community hub, and Intergenerational focussed round all aspects of food, eating and nutrition. They are currently looking for a place where the Kitchen might be based. There was a discussion about the number of community catering facilities and how well they are used. Most churches have a kitchen and are accessible for example. Elaine invited everyone to attend the event on 23/6.

FUNDING

- Year of young people 2018, create 18 fund available from Young Scot
- Young start funding
- Scottish Heritage
- Always remember to check local funders including local authority

Members were interested in how East Lothian might develop more inter-generational working and learn from other areas. Perth and Kinross and Fife want to have IG officers to build this work in their areas.

Next meeting:

Wednesday 4th October 2017, 10am – 12noon, Muirpark Gardens Sheltered Housing, **Tranent**, EH33 2PY