

Fife Network Meeting

Date: 29.9.17 Venue: Kirkcaldy Galleries

In attendance: Claire Baker MSP, David Torrance MSP, Cllr Sam Steel, Cllr Lesley Backhouse, Cllr Kathleen Leslie, Cllr Ryan Smart, Louisa Turner (GWT Coordinator), Leanne Westwater (The Salvation Army), Michaela Lumley (Fife Voluntary Action), Kirsty Woodhouse (Kirkcaldy North primary), Marian Sapcote (Soroptomist International), Katy Dobbie (Kirkcaldy Methodist Church), Fiona Ashton-Jones (Fife Council), Karen Whyte (Bellyeoman Primary School), Trish O'Brien, Gail Carstairs (Enable Scotland), Mary Gray & Susan Smith (St Marie's Primary), Geraldine Goldie (Fife Health and Social Care Partnership) Will Dickson & Julie Dickson (Fife Council), Annemarie Smith (Health Promotion – workplace) & Alison Clyde (GWT)

Apologies: Louise White (Woodmill School), Moira Fitzpatrick & Ann Kerr (Active Schools), Marie Hagney (St Agatha's RC Primary School), Patrick Callaghan (St Andrews High), Jan Kerr (Homeland Trust), Mike McCourt (Royal Air Forces), George Kay (GWT), Paul Meijer (Rosslyn School) & Cllr Alice McGarry

Alison welcomed everyone asking each attendee to give a brief introduction. Alison outlined what Generations Working Together (GWT) was about, from its inception to present day, including GWT's definition of 'intergenerational practice'.

Time was spent, recapping on the recent Channel 4 television programme, in which a group of 4 year olds visited the residents of a care home. The programme can still be seen on Channel 4 plus.

<http://www.channel4.com/programmes/old-peoples-home-for-4-year-olds>

Alison, proceeded to give a national update, referring to some projects in other areas including; 'Old School', 'Cycling without Age' and Newbyres Care home and nursery.

Kate Samuels (GWT's Communications Intern) is lobbying members of parliament to raise the profile of intergenerational projects and GWT. Kate has worked hard in getting the buy in from MSP's to raise a motion in parliament.

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/a-motion-in-scottish-parliament>

Kate is presently working on promoting the campaign (from 1/10/17), to recognise the special relationship, which grandparents develop with their grandchildren. Kate would love to hear stories of bonds and experiences, not just about a blood grandparent but of those who take on the role of the grandparent and participate in groups and projects. More details can be found on the GWT web page or you can contact Kate at kate@generationsworkingtogether.org

Year of Young People 2018 aims to inspire Scotland through its young people, celebrating their achievements, valuing their contribution to communities and creating new opportunities for them to shine locally, nationally and globally. Objectives include:

- Provide a platform for young people to have their views heard and acted upon
- Showcase the amazing talents of young people through events and media
- **Develop better understanding, co-operation and respect between generations**
- Recognise the impact of teachers, youth workers and other supporting adults on young people's lives
- Provide opportunities for young people to express themselves through culture, sport and other activities

<http://yoyp2018.scot>

Louisa attended a recent GWT Co-ordinators' day in Glasgow and reported on how she became involved. Louisa highlighted the opportunities of joining GWT's network following the Facebook & Twitter pages and about the benefits of attending the annual GWT conference and training both locally and online.

The next intergenerational training course is being delivered on 6th November 2017, at Queen Anne High School, Dunfermline. There are still a few places available. The cost is £40. The course includes three sections, which identify what intergenerational practice actually is, how to develop a project, stereotypes, challenges in setting up projects and how to measure the impact. The course is CPD accredited. Geraldine and Katy both attended a previous course and spoke about their impressions and how they can take the information learnt into their planning and delivery of projects. Both ladies would highly recommend the training. More details can be found on the following link:

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/events-training/training/>

International Certificate on Intergenerational Learning (ICIL) – 20 students participated in the first online training course, which GWT delivered in partnership with University of Granada, Spain. The course has been a big success and the tutors are now busy reviewing feedback and making improvements to the materials. GWT plan to run the 6-week course starting on Tuesday 7th November and finishing on Monday 18th December 2017. There will be an approximate cost of £100 per person for the course, which takes approximately 50 hours to complete. The course includes tutor support. Further details will be available around September time. As the training is still being tested we shall only be offering approximately 20 places.

The annual **GWT conference** was announced for Wednesday 7th March 2018, Technology & Innovation Centre, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow (£50 per person). Plans and arrangements are well underway for a full day of celebrating intergenerational work across Scotland. Workshops delivered will look at the following themes: care homes/nurseries, raising attainment through intergenerational work, intergenerational workplaces, intergenerational green spaces (The Conservation Volunteers charity), Year of Young People, community safety and a charity from London called Magic Me. Booking lines will open in December.

Embedding IG practice into policy - funding proposal submitted to Fife Council

Alison talked about a funding proposal for Fife, which hoped, if successful, would recruit a part time intergenerational development officer to support to groups and organisations, provide a range of training opportunities and ensure networking between organisations to create new intergenerational opportunities across the Fife Area. George Kay, a retired Fife Councillor has recently joined GWT's Board of Trustees and is keen to get this approach adopted and moving forward within the Fife area. The four councillors in attendance seemed keen to support this proposal and have agreed to work with Alison to present this to the full council for consideration. Councillors hoped to speak with fellow councillors and feedback to Alison & Louisa.

Raising attainment in literacy and numeracy through intergenerational practice

GWT has successfully secured funding to recruit a full time IG Development Officer for Perth & Kinross who will work closely in two schools, Perth Grammar School and The Community School of Auchterarder focusing on raising attainment levels for literacy and numeracy. Schools have contributed to this post through their Pupil Equity Funding (PEF). Other funders include Voluntary Action Fund and The Gannochy Trust. PEF is an individual fund given to schools to help increase attainment in literacy and numeracy. It is hoped that results and resources from the project will be shared with other schools across Scotland.

Research on the Ageing Workforce and Employers – Annemarie Smith

The research was conducted in order to consider a healthy safer workforce and ultimately have increased production. During the research the impact of stereotypes were considered; valuing skills of the older person; supporting retirement; mental health; and the end for some of their social life, when work ends. A mapping exercise will now be carried out to identify organisations available to support an aging workforce. The findings can be viewed at the following link:

<http://www.healthyfife.net/2017/07/28/launch-research-ageing-workforce-employers-fife/>

News, funding and actions:

- Small Sparks grants programme helps people do new exciting things in their community. Apply if you live in Levenmouth by contacting Geraldine.goldie@fife.gov.uk or call 03451555555 ext 444289

<https://www.fifedirect.org.uk/news/index.cfm?fuseaction=news.display&objectid=C6433254-E3E5-B345-B0EF7641EE1721E5>

- Alison to email funding proposal to all four attending councillors
- Alison/Louisa to connect MSP's to local projects via Kate Samuels
- Auchmuty High School, Kindness Day Event – 13th November GWT invited to facilitate workshop
- Annemarie Smith would like to be involved in GWT's future work with IG in the workplaces bringing the Fife research to the workshop at next years conference.
- Kirsty Woodhouse, Kirkcaldy North Primary spoke about their involvement with Methven House in Kirkcaldy and their nursery children, in their Kindergarten/Care Home project. Eight children visit the care home and involve the residents in activities such as singing, art and craft and crafts including colouring. The project is in its infancy and there has been some teething issues around expectations of what the children were to do (perform to or engage with the residents). The monthly sessions will continue as the relationships develop between individual children and residents. The children are happy to attend and their communication skills have improved. Initially, it was a scary experience for the children as the residents made strange noises, which school staff hadn't considered about explaining this to the children before the visit.

Kirsty recognised that attending a GWT training course could better prepare staff for future visits. The school has learnt lessons since commencing the project and the project is continually being developed. The school took the model of intergenerational working with the care home after watching the Channel 4 programme and from the weekly Board Game Club, which is held in the school. The Board Game Club is an after school activity, delivered by Louisa and people from the Open Door Project at Bennoch Church, Kirkcaldy. There are four adults who play board games with approximately 15 – 20 children. The children receive sometimes one to one attention during the hour of the club along with refreshments of sandwiches, cake and juice. The children are encouraged to focus, listen and share whilst playing board games. The adults receive a lot from the interaction with the children and more adults wish to join in the group.

MSP David Torrance and MSP Claire Baker asked to visit Kirkcaldy North, to speak about their intergenerational projects further.

- Cllr Fay Sinclair is considering developing an intergenerational project.

- Fife Council are mindful of new built care homes having space to do more activities and a new care home in Methil will have space available for such uses for mixed groups to interact together.
- In Burntisland the Rhyme Time toddler group regularly visit care homes.
- Cllr Ryan Smart reported that Fife Council is supporting funding in the near future for Dementia Friendly training.

Next meeting:

- Monday 29th January 2018, 9.30 am –11.30 am, Burgh Chambers, 17 Queen Street, Tayport, Fife, DD6 9JY
- Tuesday 8th May 2018, 9.30 – 11.30am, Dunfermline – venue TBC
- Thursday 27th September 2018, 9.30am – 11.30am, Glenrothes – venue TBC

If you accidentally, left a flowery water bottle at Kirkcaldy Galleries, please contact Louisa.