

Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Network Meeting

Date: 28th Aug 2017

Venue: Mondyke House Sheltered Housing, Alexandria Drive,
Renfrewshire, PA4 8UB

In attendance: Sorina Oprea (Generations Working Together), Margaret Dymond (Maxwellton Court Tenant Association), Stacey Gilen (Inverclyde Carers Centre), Anne Marie McGowan (Muirshiel Centre Port Glasgow), Alison Gault (Muirshiel Day Care Centre), Cllr. Jane Strang (Renfrewshire Council), Cllr. Bill Brown (Renfrewshire Council), Linda Anderson (Age Scotland), Rajiv Dabeea (HSCP Renfrewshire), Bernadette Reilly (HSCP Renfrewshire), Sally Logan (Renfrewshire Council), Debbie McGlinchey (Renfrewshire Council), Heather Kay (Engage Renfrewshire), Gillian Struthers (Todholm Primary School)

Apologies: Catriona Macleod (Trust Volunteering Inverclyde), Martin Brennan (Inverclyde Council), Anne Duncan (ROAR Connections for life), Susan McDonald (Active Communities (Scotland) Ltd), Emma Maxwell (West College Scotland), Lorna McManus (Arky's Resident Nail Bar)

GWT national update:

Sorina welcomed everyone to the meeting noting the number of completely new attendees. GWT will aim for three network meetings each year however in practice there may only be two. This is a direct result of a reduction in funding from the Scottish Government, which will cover the next three years. The reduction in funds means that we are unable to replace the previous part time development worker (Cheryl) who left in March this year. GWT has also reduced the number of networks from 34 – 22 to allow current members of staff the chance to support the networks properly.

United Nations International Day of Older Persons and Grandparent's Day both take place on the 1st of October. This year we are looking to share stories, memories and photos with grandparents as part of our campaign to challenge stereotypes and ageism. So please send us photos with/of your grandparents with a short story about their life or how they have helped/supported you. It doesn't need to be only biological grandparents, it can be anyone who has played a role as a grandparent in your life including from intergenerational projects. You can send the photos and stories to our fb messenger or e-mail our communications intern Kate at kate@generationsworkingtogether.org

Channel 4 documentary (1&2nd Aug 2017) - #oldpeopleshomes4yo

Pre-schoolers share their classroom with pensioners for six weeks. What impact does this intergenerational experiment have on the health and happiness of the older group?

If you missed #OldPeoplesHome4yo last night, you can catch up here @Channel4.

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

Funding secured to recruit a full time IG Development Officer for Perth & Kinross who will work closely with two schools, Perth Grammar School and The Community School of Auchterarder focusing on raising attainment levels for Maths and English. Schools have contributed through their Pupil equity funding. Other funders include Voluntary Action Fund and The Gannochy Trust.

The funding for the IG Dev Officer in Perth & Kinross was possible through the relationship between GWT and the Education Department in Perth & Kinross. The Head of Education has fully backed intergenerational work asking all schools (Primary & Secondary) to connect with older people, creating intergenerational projects. Schools have also been asked to connect with local care homes. GWT plan to share results and resources with other schools across Scotland. Generations Working Together is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC045851 GWT is keen to talk with schools from other areas that would be interested in developing intergenerational opportunities with a specific focus on raising attainment around English & Maths.

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

- 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/>

Intergenerational Training Course for Practitioners and Trainers (CPD Accredited)

There are nine one-day training courses planned for the autumn with your closest being:

- 6th Sep 2017: Isle of Benbecula
- 12th Sep 2017: Caithness, Sutherland & Highlands
- 20th Sep 2017: Glasgow
- 21st Sep 2017: Fife/Dunde
- 26th Oct 2017: Highlands
- 6th Nov 2017: Fife
- 9th Nov 2017: Stornoway
- 30th Nov: Shetland

For more details and learning outcomes search here: <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.

Voting members

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.

Network coordinator vacancy – GWT is looking for a Volunteer Network Coordinator for the Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Network. Since Cheryl Ewing left, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde became one network and all the meetings afterwards were possible due to the support and engagement of Sally Logan and Bernadette Reilly who kindly offered to organise these meetings. If anyone is interested in taking on the role of coordinator please get in touch with Alison Clyde at Alison@generationsworkingtogether.org for further details.

GWT Conference - date and venue confirmed – Wednesday 7th March 2018, Technology & Innovation Centre, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. Price TBC

Isolation & Loneliness

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 after 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/>

Resources shared at the meeting by Sorina:

- *Making Intergenerational Connections – an Evidence Review*, Lisbeth Drury Dominic Abrams Hannah J. Swift, Centre for the Study of Group Processes University of Kent
- *SCOPING REVIEW social relations*, Anne-Marie Bagnall, Jane South, Salvatore Di Martino, Ben Mitchell, Gerlinde Pilkington, Rob Newton, Centre for Health Promotion Research, Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, Leeds Beckett University
- *Research Partnership Invitation: School-Based Intergenerational Engagement*, University of Strathclyde
- CAPA Improvement programme: <http://www.scottishcare.org/scottish-care-news/sector-news/capa-update-2/>
- *The Place of Kindness Combating Loneliness and building stronger communities*, Zoë Ferguson, Carnegie Associate

Intergenerational Festival in East Renfrewshire

Sorina shared information and some insights about how the intergenerational event started, what organisations were engaged in the event, how long it took, what activities were included, how the event was promoted and what was the feedback received from people who attended it.

You can read the article about the event appeared in the Barrhead News on 20th May 2017:

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/intergenerational-festival-hits-the-newspapers-18-07-2017>

Some photos from the event will be shared together with the meeting report.

Sharing and networking

Here are some of the conversations round the table:

- Grants from funders:
 - how the applications could be made easier, especially for older people's organisations?
 - Having a contact officer could be very helpful when applying for a grant;
 - Not everyone can complete or has access to the online applications;
- It would be useful to have more consultations with local people to hear their voices too;
- **Renfrewshire Digital Network (DigiRen)** provide assistance with Digital information – looking at ideas for a Digital Festival for 2018.
- **Participatory Budgeting Pilot** took place in Renfrewshire earlier this year. New way of distributing funding to communities. Voting system by the community.
- Sorina shared information about **Cycling Without Age project**. Please see their Facebook page for more information: <https://www.facebook.com/CWAFalkirk/>
- Sally mentioned a similar project in Renfrewshire but for disable people and thought this idea could be extended in Renfrewshire are too;
- Members discussed the possibility to include **an IG event in Paisley 2021** (one potential idea discussed was having a photographic event looking at Paisley now & then)
- Sally mentioned the **Staled Spaces project**. Renfrew Development Trust was awarded Stalled Spaces Scotland funding by Renfrewshire Council to deliver a multi-generational engagement project, working with local students and older residents to produce a public exhibition on the history of the town to be displayed on the side of an unused building.
- Gillian from **Todholm Primary School** mentioned their intergenerational project which was launched last December 2016 and 6 events are planned for this year. The project involves residents from local community and school children. They would need some support to better promote the event within the community. GWT can help by promoting the events on our social media channels.
- Sally talked about **this year Intergenerational Quiz event** which will take place in Renfrewshire. East Renfrewshire, South and North Ayrshire and expressed the intention to extend the event to Inverclyde area next year. She invited everyone to express their interest if they would like to take part in the event and Raj shared with the attendees the **IG Tool Kit for Schools** and the **IG Tool Kit for Partners**.
- Other people's organisations should be invited to come along to these meetings to share information, best practice and ideas for working together.

Next meeting: TBC soon