

Western Isles Network Meetings & Training Session

Date: 5,6 & 8 September 2017 Venue: Barra, Balivanich & Stornoway



In attendance (Isle of Barra): Margaret Ann Beggs (Cobhair Bharrigh), Theresa Irving (Barra Children's Centre), Katherine MacNeil (Volunteer Centre), Peigi MacLean (Garadh a Bhagh a Tuath), Sarah MacLean (Buth Bharraigh), Michelle MacLean, Catherine MacLean & Suzanne Forman (Castlebay Community School) & Alison Clyde (GWT).

In Attendance (Isle of Benbecula) Training & Meeting: Theresa MacDonald (Cothrum Ltd), Gemma Steele (Caraidean Uibhist), Katherine MacNeil (Volunteer Centre), Kate MacDonald (Arora DFC), Laura Skinner (Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar), Claire Logan, Bearteas Bharraigh Ltd, Sorcha Monk (Ceolas), Libby Learmond (Tagsa Uibhist) & Alison Clyde (GWT).

In Attendance (Stornoway): Alison Driver (Befriending Lewis), Bellann O'Brien & Kate Langley (Volunteer Centre), Rose Buglar (Scaladale Activity Centre), Cllr Charlie Nicholson, Donna Morrison (The Shed Project), Roseann MacLeod (The Bridge Community Centre) & Alison Clyde (GWT).

Apologies: Sally Reynolds (Carolway Estate Trust), Keith Dodson (Western Isle Council, Ian MacDonald (Befriending Lewis), & Lesley Smith (Horshader Community Development).

The following items were raised and discussed during the above meetings and training session: **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. Please send 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 those from intergenerational projects. You can send the photos and stories to our Facebook messenger or e-mail our communications intern kate@generationsworkingtogether.org

Channel 4 documentary - #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 Old Peoples Home 4 year olds you can catch up here @Channel4.
<http://www.channel4.com/programmes/old-peoples-home-for-4-year-olds>

Cycling without Age – Intergenerational project example

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/cycling-without-age>

STV news report on Newbyres Nursey Intergenerational Project

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/stv-news-report-on-newbyres-nursery-intergenerational-project>

GWT has secured funding 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 literacy and numeracy. Schools have contributed through their Pupil Equity Funding (PEF). Other funders include Voluntary Action Fund and The Gannochy Trust. GWT plans to share the evidence and resources created by this project to other schools across Scotland.

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/>

Intergenerational Training Course for Practitioners and Trainers (CPD Accredited) £40 per person

- **Wednesday 9th May 2018**, 1.30pm – 6pm at Castlebay Community School, Castlebay, Isle of Barra, HS9 5XD

To book a place on the above courses or to see the learning outcomes please click on the link below:

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

Alison delivered a really successful training course in Stornoway on the 9th November 2017 with 18 people in attendance.

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 making improvements to the materials. GWT plan to run the 6-week course starting on 16th January 2018 and finishing on 26th February 2018. There will be a cost of £100 per person for the course, which takes approximately 50 hours to complete. The course includes tutor support. As the training is still being tested we shall only be offering approximately 20 places.

GWT Conference, Wednesday 7th March 2018, Technology & Innovation Centre, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow (£50 per person). Workshops will be delivered looking at the following themes: care homes/nurseries, raising attainment through intergenerational work, intergenerational workplaces, Year of Young People, ageing and physical activities and creative activities for intergenerational work. Further details and registration will be available shortly.

Voting members

GWT became a charity two years ago and is now a membership organisation. Each network has been allocated two places for members to come along and vote on important GWT issues at the annual AGM. Two voting members are being sought to represent the Western Isles network. Cllr Nicholson is keen for two members to be found connecting via video conferencing.

Action: Alison to investigate video conferencing for the AGM.

GWT Board Vacancies

Cllr Nicholson asked if GWT would consider a volunteer board member from the Western Isles joining the board attending meetings via Video Conferencing. Alison reported that there were currently 3 vacant spaces on the GWT board and that we were looking for someone with a health or education background.

Action: Cllr Nicholson and Rose to investigate further.

Western Isles Network coordinator vacancy

Cllr Nicholson mentioned that he is keen to help GWT source two volunteer coordinators for the Western Isles (with help from the Volunteer Centre and other members) (one for Lewis/Harris and another in either Benbecula/South or North Uist or Barra. Cllr Nicholson is keen to source agreement that the Western Isles Council could pay for one of the coordinators to come to the conference and coordinators sessions and GWT pay for the other coordinators expenses.

If any needs more details please contact Alison@generationsworkingtogether.org

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 shortly.

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/>

Sharing and networking

- Alison to organise an open meeting to give a presentation on the benefits of intergenerational working on Thursday 9th November from 4.15 – 5.15pm (unfortunately this was not possible so Alison will revisit in 2018). Bellann and other members will circulate details of session to local colleagues and partners. Alison to send blurb to Bellann.
- Befriending Lewis Project is going extremely well and is looking at intergenerational befriending
- Volunteer ambassadors – Year of young people – Roseann considering an intergenerational bid to the Young Start Fund.
- The Shed Project works with volunteers of different generations and is considering IG work.
- Rose from Scaladale Activity Centre is very keen to develop some intergenerational work
- Tagsa Uibhist in Balivanich is keen to get involved in intergenerational work and is recruiting a new development officer who may be able to take this forward.
- NHS has funding for a nursery and residential care homes project (Marion Matheson)
- An arts and dance project in Balivanich is looking to involve different generations involving set dances such as community quadrilles. The project will use the patterns of the dance for art work (pegging & threading) as well as the older generations teaching and dancing the quadrilles when possible with the younger folk.
- There is an idea to use a poly tunnel to connect generations around growing vegetables and fruit etc.

Future meetings and training courses:

- **Wednesday 25th April 2018**, 10am – 12noon, Stornoway Fire Station, 4 Robertson Road, **Stornoway**, HS1 2LL
- **Thursday 26th April 2018**, 10am – 12noon, Tagsa Uibhist, East Camp, **Balivanich**, Benbecula, HS7 5LA
- **Intergenerational Training Course for Trainers and Practitioners**, Wednesday 9th May, 1.30pm- 6pm at Castlebay Community School, Castlebay, Isle of Barra, HS9 5XD

Notes to remember:

- Investigate if Nicolson School, Stornoway (Frances Murray, Head Teacher – ask Cllr Nicholson to organise) would be interested in hosting the meeting in the Autumn.
- Sir Scott School – consider a meeting at a later date (Head Teacher – Mrs MacSween)