

## East Lothian & Midlothian Network Meeting

Date: 28th March 2018

Venue: Gorebridge



**In attendance:** Mhairi Barrett (Gorebridge Community Cares), Alison Clyde (GWT), Loreen Pardoe (Support from the Start), Melanie Scrimgeour (Newbyres Nursery), Jennifer Smith & Lara Wauchope (STRIVE)

**Apologies:** Victoria Robb (National Mining Museum Scotland), Sue Northrup, Cllr Jim Muirhead, Cllr Stephen Curran, Pauline Winchester, Andrena Gowling (Castle Rock Edinvar Housing Association) & Marie Arthur (Newbyres Nursery)

### **GWT national update:**

The **GWT Conference** was held on Wednesday 7th March 2018 at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow – presentations are now available to view on the website:

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/gwt-national-conference-2018/>

### **Recognition Awards 2018**

Congratulations to Newbyres Nursery and Newbyres Village Care Home for winning the Established Intergenerational Project award. The winners and runners up of the other awards can be viewed at:

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/gwt-recognition-awards-2018/>

### **The five categories Trophy Winners of 2018 Recognition Awards in Intergenerational work were:**

- New intergenerational project (Less than 12 months) – ‘Blethering Buddies Harris’ Academy
- Established intergenerational project (Greater than 1 year) – ‘Back to Life’ Newbyres Nursery and Newbyres Village Care Home
- Building successful partnerships through intergenerational work – Intergenerational Befriending Caithness
- Yvonne Coull, Local Network Coordinators Award – Louisa Turner, Fife Intergenerational Network

### **Due to the outstanding applications submitted Certificates of outstanding contribution were also awarded to the following projects:**

- New intergenerational project (Less than 12 months) – ‘Difference in Age and Time’ Balhousie Primary School
- Building successful partnerships through intergenerational work – ‘Old’s Cool Intergenerational Project’ Citadel Youth Centre

**BBC Alba** is making a documentary this **Spring** about **Intergenerational projects in Scotland** and is looking for Gaelic speakers with strong stories to tell. Are you a Gaelic speaker who has benefitted or worked on a scheme to bring young and old together – or would like to? Maybe you are an older person who has helped youngsters or young families – a surrogate granny or young person’s mentor, maybe. Or perhaps you have children who take part in projects in Care Homes or similar. Whatever your story, if it involves bringing young and old together we would love to hear from you. Please email Elly Welch, Filmmaker/Journalist or call on 01851 705638 / 07884 265035

### **Intergenerational Housing**

Emma Garland, Business Assurance Officer for Ongo Home was awarded a prestigious Winston Churchill fellowship for her research project looking at examples of intergenerational living schemes in the USA. Here is a summary of Emma’s research:

## Why?

The youngest & oldest sections of our society are facing the greatest housing challenges today. Young people are struggling to afford a place of their own and homelessness is set to increase with the removal of automatic Governmental housing support for 18-21-year olds. Conversely we have an increasingly older population with limited housing options for whom loneliness and isolation are real problems. Intergenerational living (old & young living side by side) provides a real solution to the issues faced by both groups.

## Aim

The concept of intergenerational housing is not well known in the UK and no purpose-built projects exist. A scheme called Homeshare exists in the south of England, but this is limited to an elder person offering accommodation to a younger person at a reduced rate in exchange for some support. Emma aims to show that developing planned co-housing with shared facilities can invoke a sense of community where older people can benefit from reduced levels of loneliness and isolation & increased levels of civic participation, while younger generations can also benefit in similar ways & through the provision of affordable housing. Emma would like to change attitudes and values and contribute to the debate about the type of housing we should be planning and building.

**Edinburgh Development Group (EDG)** has funding to run a homeshare scheme in Edinburgh, initially it was for people with disabilities however they have found this extremely difficult and hope to make their first match with an older person before the Easter holidays.

EDG Homeshare are still looking for people who want to live with an adult with disabilities or an older person in exchange for free accommodation. The student will provide 10 hours of support a week which can include assistance with shopping, cooking and companionship. If you are interested, you can contact the Homeshare team on 0131 476 0522. <http://www.edg-sco.org/>

**Co-housing in Scotland** Cohousing in Southern Scotland – (Choiss)

<https://www.facebook.com/choisscoho/>

**www.facebook.com** Famous co-Housing project (at least in Berlin), and a co-Housing HomePages:

[Www.Cohousing-Berlin.de](http://www.Cohousing-Berlin.de) [Www.Cohousing-cultures.net](http://www.Cohousing-cultures.net)

alte schule karlshorst / old school Karlshorst, where almost 50 people live together:

<http://www.wohnprojekte-portal.de/projekte-suche/projektetails.html?uid=10462>

Sorry, but only in German...

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

To book a place on the courses detailed below or to see the learning outcomes please click on the link below: <http://generationsworkingtogether.org/events-training/training/>

- Monday 21st May 2018, 10:00am - 4:00pm at Raploch Community Campus, Drip Road, Stirling, FK8 1RD
- Tuesday 12th Jun 2018 at Cyrenians, 19b South Bridge Street, Bathgate, EH48 1TR
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018, Rowlands, 24 West Port, Selkirk, TD7 4DG
- Midlothian course to be planned for March 2019 possibly in Gorebridge Primary School (Mhairi/Julie Acting Headteacher)

**International Certificate on Intergenerational Learning (ICIL)** – 2nd ICIL online learning course finished on the 5<sup>th</sup> March with 23 students. GWT plan to run another course in October 2018. Further details to be announced in the summer.

### **Intergenerational workplaces**

GWT invited a variety of private sector businesses to a workshop, the aim being to discuss issues relating to intergenerational practice in the workplace. In essence this means issues which arise as a result of not only having an ageing workforce, but particularly the resulting increased gap between the oldest and youngest employees. We hope to address not only the difficulties, but also the potential benefits and opportunities that might arise in an intergenerational workplace.

The session was followed up by another workshop involving GWT members at the national conference. Findings have been collated and a plan to help resolve the issues possibly by offering an inquiry of the organisation to identify gaps and challenges and/or provide training to help organisations benefit from their intergenerational workforce.

### **Raising attainment in numeracy and literacy through intergenerational work**

Alison provided an update on the pilot education project Connecting Generations in Perth & Kinross. A GWT Development Officer has been recruited and is working within two schools in Perthshire, The Community School of Auchterarder (TCSOA) and Perth Grammar. It's still very early days however 17 older volunteers have been recruited and the schools are reporting a significant impact has been made since the volunteers started to work with the children (January 2018). Check out the following link for further details and the short film from TCSOA and Perth Grammar.

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/events-training/perth-kinross-intergenerational-learning-event-03-11-2017>

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/perth-grammar-school-film-19-03-2018>

**The Journal of Intergenerational Relationships (JIR) is planning a special issue on Social Isolation and Loneliness** to be published in 2019, guest edited by Alan Hatton-Yeo and Alison Clyde. We are currently seeking submissions for this special issue and have extended the deadline to August 31, 2018.

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/journal-of-intergenerational-relationships-13-03-2018>

**GWT is looking to recruit volunteer trustees** to join our board members above who have experience of working in the voluntary, public or private sector and want to become actively involved. In particular we are seeking trustees with experience and skills in at least one of the following:

- A strong communications and marketing background
- A strong financial background,
- Excellent skills in fundraising from trust funds and other similar agencies
- Work experience in education
- Work experience in health and /or social care

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/gwt-recruiting-trustees-and-treasurer-28-02-2018>

**Please continue to promote the Year of Young People 2018** which 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/>

Sue Northrup our local network coordinator would like to retire from the post and is looking for someone else with an interest in intergenerational work to take over the role.

If you are interested in volunteering as coordinator for the **East Lothian & Midlothian Network** please get in touch with [alison@generationsworkingtogether.org](mailto:alison@generationsworkingtogether.org)

Further details can be found here: <https://generationsworkingtogether.org/networks/volunteering/>

**Enjoy the latest BBC 1 documentary featuring Apples & Honey Nightingale House (Ali Somers) the intergenerational nursery situated in a care home who presented at our conference.** (Expires 10th April 2018) <https://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/bbc-1-documentary-featuring-apples-honey-nightingale-house-13-03-2018>

### Sharing and networking

- **Apprentice Guides project** (which sees pupils from **Gore Glen Primary School** learn from Victoria Robb and ex-miners about the history of mining and then provide a tour based on what they have learnt for other school pupils) will be changing to become a more inter-generational project focusing on working with local community groups in Gorebridge. The project will be focused on the history of mining in Gorebridge with a view to sharing memories, researching and sharing the history of Gorebridge, raising awareness of mental health issues, as well as creating a community-based output (this has not been decided yet, but it might be anything from a map with information attached to interpretation panels being installed). Victoria will be contacting local groups shortly, however is keen to hear from **any other groups or organisations who would be interested in being involved in the project.** Victoria Robb, Education Manager can be contacted at National Mining Museum Scotland at 0131 663 7519 or you can email [education@nationalminingmuseum.com](mailto:education@nationalminingmuseum.com)
- **Bookbug for all:** Intergenerational Bookbug in Ayrshire <https://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/intergenerational-singing-and-friendship-building-28-03-2018>
- **Event – Friday 27th April 2018, 10.30am -1.30pm, St Andrew Blackadder Church, High Street, North Berwick.** How can we help people across the generations come together in our community for the benefit of young & old and the in-betweeners?  
Our Aims for the day:
  - To learn how intergenerational working can help people understand and support each other, be more respected and included in their communities, reduce social isolation, and enjoy enhanced health and wellbeing.
  - To encourage local organisations to work together to create positive change, so that the resources that the different generations have to offer each other, and their community, can be recognised and combined.
  - To help organisations access on-going training and support in working together

**Email Tillie Baird for more details at [bairdjohntillie@waitrose.com](mailto:bairdjohntillie@waitrose.com)**

- Newbyres Nursery have recently bought a church building and are developing the hall into an area which can be used for intergenerational projects. Mel is keen to hear from older people's groups who would like to work with the nursery to develop projects which can run during the day. Mel can be contacted at [newbyresnursery@gmail.com](mailto:newbyresnursery@gmail.com)
- GWT to organise a workshop for nurseries to come together to help support GWT produce a guide for nurseries taking part in intergenerational work (summertime).
- Alison to contact Ali Sommers re training for nurseries setting up in care homes.
- Mhairi is looking to tweak her big lunch to include young and older people.

**Next meeting:** Wednesday 22nd August 2018, 10:30am - 12:30pm at St. Mary's Primary School, Tynebank Rd, Haddington, EH41 4DN