

Orney Isles Network Meeting

Date: 30.5.18

Venue: Eunson Kloss, Kirkwall



In attendance: Kirsty Sinclair (Fishermen's Mission), Caroline Easton (Education), Gerd Peters (Scottish Health Council), Gill Learmouth (YPEople), Rob McGregor (VAO), Kath Fennel (Befriending), Arlene Montgomery (VAO ABS), Karen Petrie (Peedie Breeks), Carol McManus (Education OIC), Lorna Reid (Memory Café – Dementia), Linsey Drever (VAO & GWT Coordinator) & Alison Clyde (GWT)

Apologies: Sally Webster (Orkney Library), Erika Copland (Homestart), Brain Cromarty (Youth Development Worker), Jessica Jones (Orkney Walking Groups)

GWT national update:

GWT Conference 2018 – presentations are now available to view on the website:

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

Date now confirmed for next year on **Wednesday 6th March 2019**, Technology and Innovation Centre, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow.

Recognition Awards 2018 – winners include:

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

Certificates of outstanding contribution were also awarded to:

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

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

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 is being followed up another workshop involving GWT members at the national conference. Findings will then be 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.

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/>

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 Home Pages:

[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...

GWT Development Office vacancies:

West of Scotland - Josh Brown has been appointed and will commence on 23rd July 2018

North East of Scotland - Interviews are taking place 4th July 2018

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.

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

BBC Alba is making a documentary this Spring about Intergenerational projects in Scotland – and is looking for Gaelic speakers with strong stories to tell. For further details contact Elly Welch, Filmmaker/Journalist on 01851 705638 / 07884 265035.

International Certificate on Intergenerational Learning (ICIL) will run Tuesday 23rd Oct to Monday 3rd Dec 2018. Further details and costings will be circulated in July. Approximate cost £150. The course is not profit making however it has to be cost recoverable.

Intergenerational Training Course for Practitioners and Trainers (CPD Accredited)

Alison is programming training courses across Scotland from Sept to June 2019. If you are interested in attending a one-day course, please get in touch with Linsey Drever at linsey.drever@vaorkney.org.uk

Learning outcomes for the one-day course can be found at the link below:

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

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>

Short Film

Apples & Honey Nightingale House (Ali Somers) provide meaningful interaction between nursery children and elderly residents, enriching the lives of both. First official co-located nursery and care home. <https://www.applesandhoneynightingale.com/>

Older people's homes for 4-year olds

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

Intergenerational working in the Western Isles – Remo Age

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/intergenerational-working-in-the-western-isles-24-04-2018>

Ideas for Intergenerational Work

Inspiring Purpose: Between the Generations enables young people to explore the history and events of the First World War, as well as the character strengths and values required to get through this tough time, through discussions and working together with a partner from a different generation. This project creates a bond and relationship 'between the generations' and brings everyone together. The programme is ideal for young people under the age of 16 but must be completed with a partner from an older generation.

New Digital inclusion link on our resources page:

Digital toolkits from Northern Ireland and Wales

https://padlet.com/dcwalestraining/inspiring_carehomes

Digital Age project – Linking Generations Northern Ireland

THE BIG LUNCH, the UK's annual get together for neighbours and communities, will take place this year on Sunday 3rd June. Created and coordinated by the Eden Project Communities team, THE BIG LUNCH is a fantastic way to get people together for the first (but not the last!) time, to have fun, and plan future activities together. Big Lunches can lead to all kinds of interesting and exciting projects which transform communities for the better – and they are an important step in tackling the social isolation and loneliness which is so widespread in our neighbourhoods today.

They are also a wonderful way to bring different generations together and create lasting relationships between people of different ages in our communities. This year in Scotland, we really want to focus on this intergenerational aspect of THE BIG LUNCH by asking organisations such as yours to encourage the people you work with to plan and run one together – across the generations. So whether it's a school inviting older members of the community to prepare a lunch with them in the school, or a care home hosting a lunch with young people on board to co-organise it – or any other combination and setting which enables different generations to plan and enjoy a BIG LUNCH together – this is a really great opportunity to celebrate the diversity and common ground which is the foundation of intergenerational work. And it doesn't HAVE to be the 3rd of June if a Sunday is tricky – any time at the beginning of June will make it a BIG LUNCH and you can be part of this country-wide event.

As a first step, please either get in touch with Sandra Brown (sandrabrown@edenproject.com or 07703189049) OR register for an information pack here. No obligations come with this registration – just ideas! Then, spread the word, plan your BIG LUNCH and once you've held it, send us feedback and photos and we'll tell your story!

Sharing and networking

- Gerd was interested in learning more about intergenerational spaces/housing/centres as this could help address some of the challenges on the Islands.
Further reading can be found at <https://generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/shared-places-and-spaces/>
- Karen mentioned that Peedie Breeks Nursery and St Rognvald's House, were partnering to undertake intergenerational activities involving signing, balloons and games.
- Arlene provided an update on VAO intergenerational projects including Friday friends which takes place weekly.
- Kirsty highlighted that the Seafarers would like to develop an intergenerational project with their younger and older fisherman
- Carol highlighted an interest from Education in GWT's School project in Perth & Kinross and asked if GWT could present at a future Headteachers meeting.
- George McKay Foundation Trust - Kath mentioned George MacKay Brown foundation is a group that encourages kids up to 14 to write short stories. They read some of George's works, then write stories or poems of similar ilk, then publish them in a book to sell and any profits go back into the funds to keep the group running. It's based at Stromness library. Kath thought it might be a good thing to get an IG group reading some of these works and discussing.
- Dementia café keen to go intergenerational (Linsey) The Young at Heart Memory café meets every 2 weeks to support people with dementia and their carers. Previously children from a local primary school and a young dance group have visited the café regularly. The café is keen to develop more permanent links with Papdale Primary school.
- Schools could be participating in the Character Scotland activity which has now extended its deadline (National 31st September and local areas around remembrance week in November)
- Scotland's Coastline could be another topic to organise intergenerational activities and projects around.
- Alison mentioned that GWT will be holding a workshop for early years practitioners who are involved in intergenerational projects and those who have faced barriers to setting projects up. The workshop will take place in Glasgow on Monday 27th August. <https://generationsworkingtogether.org/events-training/an-intergenerational-approach-for-early-years-provision-27-08-2018>

Next meeting: This will be confirmed once our new Network Development Officer for the North East of Scotland is recruited. It is however proposed that the next meeting will be held in around September/October time.