



## Fife Network meeting report

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**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 **Venue:** Colinsburgh Galloway Library

**In attendance:** Annemarie Smith (Health Promotion), Mac Logan (Colinsburgh Galloway Library), Claire Allan, (Colinsburgh/Elie Primary School) & Louisa Turner (Open Door Project, & GWT).

**Apologies:** Rev James Campbell, Elie Kilconquhar and Colinsburgh Parish Church of Scotland: George Kay, Generations Working Together: Linda Holt, Councillor for East Neuk & Landward.

### Round Table Introductions

Introductions were made and connections in the community to engage in joint activities were made.

### Generation Working Together National & Fife Network Updates

Louisa spoke about the 20 networks which Generations Working Together (GWT) have and how they work. The staffing structure was also highlighted and the engagement of the high schools in Perthshire. Louisa spoke of the possible Fife Development worker post and the journey of the concept.

The [GWT Annual Conference](#) was promoted and past experiences of attendance were shared. The benefits of hearing about other intergenerational projects and also networking with people from all over Scotland was discussed.

Claire shared a recent idea from a previous conference. Each person receives a sheet of labels. One side had your own personal details and the other blank. As you engage and network you exchange your pre-printed labels to another person.

[The Conference](#) will be held on Wednesday 6th Mar 2019 at The Technology and Innovation Centre, University of Strathclyde, 99 George Street, Glasgow, G1 1RD £65 member / £80 non-member

The opening address will be conveyed by the **Minister for Equalities and Older People, Christina McKelvie MSP** with a follow-on presentation from **Lesley Munro**, Lead Education Officer, who will provide details on the new **Jedburgh Intergenerational Community Campus** being built in the Scottish Borders. **Jacqui Burke** from the **Fashion School** in Dunbar and **Jackie Kay our Scottish Makar** will also be involved later in the day bringing something a little bit different to the day's proceedings.

[Recognition Awards 2019](#) will be presented at the Conference. Louisa spoke about receiving the Yvonne Coull Network Coordinator Award last year. Individuals were encouraged to nominate under this year's categories. More details found on the Generations Working Together (GWT) website.



This year there are five award categories:

- Most innovative project
- Most improved project
- Award for promoting achievement and attainment in education
- Award for contribution to reducing loneliness and isolation
- Intergenerational volunteer of the year

**Deadline for applications: Friday, 1st February 2019.**

**A Connected Scotland** – our national strategy to tackle social isolation and loneliness and build social connections. The Strategy includes a commitment to look across the Governments investment into communities and consider how it can be aligned with the ambitions of this Strategy. There will be an additional £1 million of investment over the next two years to build the collective capacity to implement the Strategy, and to try out innovative approaches that could make a real difference. (more details can be found on the GWT website)

**The new publication for early learning and childcare practitioners** will be officially launched at this year's conference on the 6th March. GWT will then work on the care publication which will be launched later in the year.

Discussion was had about how to **involve older people in projects**. The 'That Age Old Question' booklet and A Guide For Older People' – St Monica's Trust, was promoted which can be downloaded from GWT website.

**The Eden project** was promoted and individuals were encouraged to take a look at their website for ideas working with the community. The Eden Project (Cornwall) amongst other things gives focus on tackling social isolation and loneliness, to building safer, kinder, healthier, more vibrant places to live, there are lots we could do to connect our communities and bring people together.

Annemarie made reference to last year's **Big Lunch** and Louisa shared her experience of delivering a Big Lunch also. Discussion was had about possible local funders to deliver another Big Lunch to engage the community.

Promotion of the Eden project communities Scotland Stakeholder Networking Event - 6th February 2019 10am – 3pm, was given. Encouragement was also given to join the Eden project for an inspiring and thought-provoking day of ideas and experiences (and lunch) and explore how all of us together can play our part in meeting challenges head in 2019. More details can be found on the Eden Project website.

Utilising Louisa's laptop we listened to Alison Clyde of GWT, who took part in a **BBC Scotland radio show, with John Beattie** on intergenerational living/working. What was said reinforced our morning's discussions. Further discussions of the benefits to communities and individuals was had.

Discussion was had about profile raising of projects through the media and how Kate Samuel's of GWT can help with promotions.



The new updated [CPD accredited Intergenerational Training](#) Course was promoted. Louisa spoke about presently trying to facilitate one in central Fife. And encouraged the individuals present to encourage others to subscribe in order that intergenerational projects are delivered in an appropriate way. All interested parties were invited to contact Louisa or GWT direct.

Louisa explained that GWT doesn't make a profit from running the Intergenerational Training course and consequently offer it at a rate that allows individuals and very small organisations to take part:

- £50 for GWT members/concessions
- £75 non-member
- CPD accredited course
- Certificate of completion
- Lunch, tea and coffee included

The course includes looking at what Intergenerational Practice actually is and the benefits it can have across all generations, as well as its impacts on individuals, work places, organizations, communities and the wider society. We also explore how to evaluate and evidence your work to help with funding, project sustainability and future work.

With careful planning Intergenerational Practice can transform the impact and scope of what organizations of all sizes can do and in a way that aligns with local and national policies and objectives; helping you to transform the work you do and maximize its impact and legacy.

### **Intergenerational Activity –**

- ❖ Discussion was had about the differences between: mono, multi-generational and intergenerational activities.
- ❖ Discussion was had that to run a project Intergenerational resources do not require a lot of financial outlay. Louisa passed round a possible resource - a box of cards with instructions to engage all ages and which could be used with no equipment. 'Traditional Party Games' – Waterstones, presently £6 in the sale. Mac stated that the school were welcome to utilise any of the community library's resources in any of their intergenerational activities.

### **Any other points for discussion**

- ❖ Louisa spoke about the value of working in partnership and sharing resources, not only material items but of knowledge and skills. Several possible future intergenerational projects were suggested. Louisa reminded those in attendance to



keep projects small to begin with in order that they can grow and become sustainable for the community to own and grow.

- ❖ Discussions were had around permissions for photography at events and during projects, for monitoring and evaluation purposes but also for memory making for individuals.
- ❖ Safeguarding was also discussed.
- ❖ Annemarie spoke of reversed mentoring happening within the NHS as a result of a high percentage of staff leaving due to difficulties of new IT demands. Now mentoring is cross generational.
- ❖ Annemarie spoke about the opportunity to access free training through Healthy Fife.net. The training can equip people to be aware of health and safety issues whilst delivering an intergenerational project, as people may be coming from another generation which the organisers are not used to dealing with.
- ❖ Claire spoke about the introduction of financial awareness in primary schools. Discussion was had about our future cashless society.
- ❖ Discussions were had about mental ill-health, loneliness and isolation, and how it can affect anyone of any age, especially in rural areas, such as North East Fife and how intergenerational projects can be of benefit to everyone.

**Date of next meeting:** Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019, West Fife Enterprise Limited, Forthview Learning Centre, Forthview Industrial Estate, Newmills, KY12 8TL

Louisa Turner, Fife Network Coordinator (volunteer)