

In attendance: June Parker (Graceland NH), Christine Richardson (Graceland NH), Bryan Jamieson (Sth. Ayrshire Council – Community Safety), Callum Reilly (NHS Ayrshire & Arran), Laura Haggarty (Care Inspectorate), David Porte (South Ayrshire Community Safety), Cathy Gibb (Spiers Care Home), Liza-Jane Hunter (Shortlees Primary & ECC), Laura Findlater (Suncourt NH), Alison McMahon (Hillbank ECC), Rosaleen McCluskie (Hillbank ECC), Elizabeth Firth (Windyhall Care Home), Alice Mcardle (Vol. Centre East Ayrshire), Jackie Kelly (Girvan EYC) & Josh Brown (GWT)

Apologies:

Introductions and discussion:

JB welcomes everyone and explains his role, adding that he will soon be leaving and replaced by Bella Kerr who starts in early June. Her role will also involve 2 days a week directly involved in intergenerational projects – one in a school in Glasgow, the other on the Soil Association partner programme in Inverclyde.

AM explains they collaborate with Gracelands, bringing children to the Nursing Home and running activities together.

EF mentions their project which includes pupils with additional support needs (ASN) teaching Makaton to older people, many with communication issues.

JK tells how they've been taking children to care homes twice a week for some time. The work's included a drama coach, they've weaved in literacy, storytelling, local community gardening and more.

AM explains they're involved directly in IG work and also act as a broker. She also adds later that [TACT](#) are their North Ayrshire equivalent.

There's mention of tying Rights Respecting work (and other school initiatives/focuses) with IG activities.

JB asks what people hope to get from the meeting – suggestions include ideas and networking. A discussion follows around challenges people have faced when running projects:

Staff ratio (e.g. during gardening activities) – suggestion is made that families can get involved and may be able to mitigate this, getting residents outside in bad weather. DP mentions this was a problem with their recent FEVA project (Freestyle Environmental Visual Audit). The suggestion to bring in families where possible can also help family members who may feel guilty or negative about their parent/family member being in care.

Photos and permissions – there's talk of how problematic this can be; who takes the pictures, where they're shared (and whether that's actually controllable once shared even privately on closed groups/pages). It's acknowledged that communication between the organisations is key to not only helping ensure participants are protected but also to help gather photographic evidence in a way that works for all parties.

DP mentions that Police Scotland Youth Volunteers are always on the look out for opportunities, mainly after school hours.

CG also mentions that Skills Academies have helped with their gardening projects.

Dementia 'training'/advice is offered by Alzheimer Scotland . Also support from Dementia Advisor, Linda Maguire.

Floorbooks are mentioned (and can be excellent conversation starters for family members) – and that it's good practice to either double-up or share them between Care Home and ECC. Asking families to contribute too.

Communication and trust between the organisations comes up several times – particularly when, for example, allowing young and old participants to choose who to interact with. JK explains they're constantly communicating with teachers.

Timing and duration – sessions are often not long enough and can result in being very rushed at the end. JK mentions that the fewer transitions (i.e. moving from one place to another, room to room etc.) during the sessions, the smoother they run and this can be built into the planning.

DP mentions Place Planning Community Engagement Tool which South Ayrshire are using. They're also looking at doing this with a shared community of young and old as a means of collectively making decisions about their local area.

Funding – many of these projects require minimal funds and form part of the bread and butter of what the organisations are doing.

LH then gives an update following the joint GWT/CI Ayrshire event in March. 25 Care Homes attended, 17 Early Years Centres. The feedback indicated that 93% of respondents said they found it useful and would like to attend another event. She explained that with regards to data, there is a need to gather more and from both sides (EY & CH). Many people at the event expressed how good it was to have time to sit and discuss things with colleagues and potential partners. LH asks those present what timescales are realistic for a future event – general consensus is that ½ day release for staff is most doable.

Brief discussion follows on data – around how it can not only be used for evidencing but also to help with planning and monitoring, as well as giving the opportunity to react to what's successful and what's not. CR mentions Youth Scotland's Active Evaluation Programme as being very helpful. It's suggested that templates would be useful for organisations to share so that everyone is collecting the same/similar information which can then be used to plan/evidence/influence/for advocacy etc.

LH asks if people are familiar with webinars and if they'd be interested in joining. Few people say they are familiar so LH explains they are essentially digital presentations that others can join, ask questions during and that save travel etc. All that's required is an internet connection and if sound is an issue, it's possible to call in using a landline.

JB to suggest to Bella that she works with LH on a follow-up event.

CR mentions that often people living in their own home can be overlooked when it comes to IG work and that despite the very positive discussion with those present, it's also important for us to engage with those outside the CH and Early Years sectors. He mentions there are other groups who are perhaps more likely to be isolated, such as those with additional support needs. He explains they are currently mapping what activities are going on at the moment to help reinvigorate.

JK mentions that they are increasingly working with parents and they recognise that often parents can be very isolated.

GWT national update:

- Professor Peter Whitehouse visits GWT

GWT is delighted to announce the arrival of Professor Peter Whitehouse, President of the [Intergenerational Schools International](#), Cleveland, Ohio, USA. We are delighted and honoured that Peter will be spending four days with Generations Working Together during a three month stay at Oxford University. Peter has agreed to give a series of conversation meetings during the first week in June to people interested in how intergenerational approaches can be used in schools.

You can register for the Glasgow event on Weds June 5th below:

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/events-training/a-conversation-with-prof-peter-whitehouse-05-06-2019>

- **The Intergenerational workshop for Early Years' practitioners** was held in August. The workshop was aimed at Early Years practitioners involved in intergenerational projects or who would like to develop projects but have faced barriers. GWT launched it's a new publication at the National Conference in March – An Intergenerational Guide for Early Years Practitioners, with guidance on:

- planning an intergenerational project and setting appropriate outcomes
- what activities work and don't work
- ideas on who to connect with to create new partnerships
- benefits of intergenerational work for early years
- evaluating and measuring the impact

A similar workshop was held on Thursday 4th October for care home staff to contribute **to a new intergenerational guide for care homes**. A new publication will follow from this too later in the year. Both are/will be available to download direct from the GWT website.

TRAINING:

- Intergenerational Training Course for Practitioners and Trainers (CPD Accredited (£75 - Full / £50

The next scheduled training session is in Dumfries & Galloway but we are able to offer sessions on request as long as we receive sufficient bookings. Hosts also get a free place – if you'd like to host or think your area would benefit, please get in touch.

You can book a place on planned sessions or see the learning outcomes here:

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

ICIL – we currently have a session of the International Certificate in Intergenerational Learning (ICIL) underway, but we also run the course in the autumn. Find full details here:

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

We also have a new workplace training session that can be delivered to up to 16 people at a cost of £400 for the session (a total cost for all participants, not per person). Visit our website to get in touch and find out more.

- National Conference in March

If you were unable to attend, or if you would like to revisit some of the talks, presentations are available on our website here:

- Soil Association partnership

You'll find full details of our new partnership with the Soil Association, on the Get Togethers programme here:

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/generations-working-together-joins-forces-with-the-soil-association-on-food-for-life-get-togethers-project-24-04-2019>

- Dr. Ali Somers' research

Dr. Ali Somers was one of the guests again at this year's conference and spoke about her recent research in to the benefits for residents at Apples & Honey Nightingale in London of Intergenerational activities. You can find out much more here:

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/intergenerational-programme-at-nightingale-house>

- The Small Ideas, Big Impact Fund

As part of the Eat Well Age Well initiative, funding from £50 to £5000 is available for organisations using food as a means of bringing people together to help improve health and wellbeing. Find out more on their website:

<https://www.eatwellagewell.org.uk/smallideasbigimpact>

- **Our YouTube channel** has lots of useful videos with case studies, animations and more which may help with planning and inspiration. You can find a link at the bottom of our website.

A.O.B.

Next meeting – Tues 29th October, 10am-12pm at details tbc.