

Shetland Isles Network Meeting

Date: 20.11.2019

Due to unforeseen circumstances it was decided to cancel the November network meeting and instead have the opportunity to visit various projects across the Isles and meet up with members.

Alison was able to visit Dunrossness Primary School to hear first-hand about their intergenerational history walking project which became a headliner in the May's edition of Shetland Life. For those of you who were not aware Shetland Life ran three instalments exploring intergenerational work around Shetland. The second instalment finds out about the [Inspiring Purpose Project](#) which unlocked stories from the First World War and the third involved taking a school community café into a care home in Whalsay. Read the full story on the [website here](#).

Alison was then able to meet members to discuss new projects in the making (one with primary schools and another around intergenerational housing) as well as the Director of Children Services, Helen Budge.

National update

GWT welcome two new members of staff -

Bella Kerr, Intergenerational Development Officer who works full time Monday – Friday and Donna McGlashan, Intergenerational Development Officer, Perth & Kinross who works a Tuesday and Wednesday.

GWT is pleased to announce our [National Awards for Excellence in Intergenerational Work 2020](#). The awards recognise, showcase and celebrate achievement and outstanding practice in the field of intergenerationality. Nominations are encouraged from projects and individuals living throughout Scotland. 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
- Volunteer of the year

To apply, please find below a copy of the Award Guidelines and the nomination form. Deadline for applications will be **Friday, 7th February 2020** at noon. Nominations should be emailed along with three high resolution photographs to Bella@generationsworkingtogether.org. The awards will be presented at our National Conference, Glasgow on Wednesday 4th March 2020.

GWT National Conference confirmed for **Wednesday 4th March 2020**, Technology and Innovation Centre, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow - Cost £65 members and £85 non-members
Programme details will be announced December 2019, opportunities for stalls and exhibitions for projects to showcase their intergenerational work.

Volunteer Scotland and the Scottish Volunteering Forum have launched a major new report '**The Contribution of Volunteering to Scotland's Health and Wellbeing**'. It reveals how volunteering can help Scottish society face some of its biggest challenges: an aging population, labour market skills shortages, mental and physical ill-health, social isolation and loneliness, and poor community

engagement. Volunteering brings even greater benefits for volunteers who experience disadvantage and exclusion.

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/the-contribution-of-volunteering-to-scotland-s-health-and-wellbeing-06-11-2019>

There has been a surge in interest in intergenerational practice, policy and research over recent years however there is an area which has to date been under researched which has been identified by Dr Liz Forbat, Associate Professor in Ageing, University of Stirling.

Can intergenerational relationships be useful at end of life?

GWT has been in conversation with Dr Forbat around developing a new research study: Intergenerational innovation: health promoting palliative care and death literacy in the care home setting. Here is a brief introduction on the proposal so far:

Intergenerational is defined as that which occurs between groups which are separated by at least 20 years, and a raft of research and practice initiatives have focused on non-kin intergenerational relationships, to manifest social change. Developing collaborations between care homes for older people and nurseries for the under 5s, primary school children, teens, and wider age groups of children with complex needs have been areas of particular focus.

Less recognised and explored is how intergenerational relationships and their role plays in health promoting palliative care; that is, the increasing role of the wider community and self-management in supporting people who are in their last phase of life. Care homes often now operate as sub-acute units, with very frail older people often living with complex multiple morbidities. The impact of intergenerational relationships on beliefs about frailty, death and dying is ripe for exploration.

If you have experiences in this field and have been connecting younger people with people in the last 6 months of life or would like to get involved, please get in touch with Alison Clyde.

[Intergenerational housing case studies](#) – report available on website

Intergenerational Training Course for Practitioners and Trainers – 10am – 4pm CPD Accredited (£75

- Full / £50 Concession) planned for:

- **27th January 2020**, Dumfries
- **19th March 2020** Duns, Scottish Borders
- **25th March 2020**, Kirkwall, Orkney
- **21st May 2020**, Wick, Highlands

[International Certificate on Intergenerational Learning \(ICIL\)](#) – Edition 5 will run possibly from Tuesday 28th April 2020 – Monday 15th June 2020 (Cost – Members £160 /Non-Members £185) .

Dates TBC by University of Granada

[Intergenerational guide for early learning and childcare - report](#)

Next meeting: Monday 23rd March 2020, 1.30pm – 3.30pm, Islesburgh Community Centre, King Harald St, Lerwick, Shetland ZE1 0EQ