

## East Lothian & Midlothian Network Meeting

**Date:** 22.1.2020

**Venue:** Dalkeith Arts Centre

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**In attendance:** Carol Hamilton (Alzheimer Scotland), Jordanne Grant & Ruth Harkess (Haddington Care Home), Clare Halliday (the Link), Susan Affleck (Midlothian Sure Start), Laura-Anne McNally & Taelor Fleming (Wizkids Nursery), Loreen Pardoe (GWT Coordinator & Support from the Start), Carey Douglas (Volunteer Midlothian), Jen Faulds (Woodburn Primary) & Alison Clyde (GWT)

**Apologies:** Wilma Porteous (Prestonpans Library), Dr Murdo Macdonald (Church of Scotland), Tina Pollock (First Steps), Elspeth Ward (Trust Housing), Cllr Andy Forrest, Cllr Fiona O'Donnell, Stacey Burns-Clark (Gorebridge Primary), Sarah Thomson (Bonnyrigg After School Club) & Melanie Scrimgeour.

*Alison commented on how lovely it is to see so many new members and welcomed everyone to the meeting. So far this month the network had received 15 new membership requests.*

As there were so many new faces Alison provided an outline of GWT's work and went over the definition of intergenerational practice. She then went on to give the following national update:

**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](mailto: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 £70 members and £85 non-member. **Please remember membership is free if you live in Scotland.**

**GWT Vacancy** – Scottish Borders PT 18hrs per week based in Jedburgh

### **WHO | Ageing Attitudes Quiz**

Take the Ageing Attitudes Quiz as a first step in your Stand Against Ageism. Check your attitudes against these commonly held views of ageing and older persons and find out how much you know about ageing and older people. [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

The WHO website gives more details on the misconceptions on ageing and health.

<https://www.who.int/ageing/features/misconceptions/en/>

<https://www.who.int/ageing/features/attitudes-quiz/en/>

**Intergenerational Training Course for Practitioners and Trainers – 10am – 4pm CPD Accredited (£75 - Full / £50 Concession) planned for:**

- **19<sup>th</sup> March 2020**, 10am – 4pm, Berwickshire Association for Voluntary Services (BAVS), 55 Newtown Street, Duns, TD11 3AU
- **25<sup>th</sup> March 2020**, Kirkwall, Orkney
- **25<sup>th</sup> March 2020**, North Inch Community Campus, Gowans Terrace, Perth, PH1 5BF
- **27<sup>th</sup> April**, Argyll & Bute
- **21<sup>st</sup> May 2020**, Wick, Highlands

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

**Generations Working Together is looking to recruit two enthusiastic, committed, dependable and proactive volunteer trustees** to replace two members of our board who are retiring at our next Conference/AGM on 4th March 2020. We are looking for a new treasurer and a trustee who have experience of working in the voluntary, public or private sector who want to become actively involved in progressing intergenerational work across Scotland.

**Resources.** Alison drew attention to a number of toolkits / guidelines / reports available through GWT website. All available for free download for members – and includes links to materials published by other Intergenerational websites such as Generations United’s “Best of Both Worlds.” Particular note made regarding **Intergenerational Evaluation Toolkit**

#### **Updates:**

- **Letters to our grandchildren** – Mollie has set up a unique project where she is seeking to recruit **those aged 65+ to write letters addressed to younger people in their lives aged 18-35**. It is Mollie’s goal to then compile these letters into a moving and thought-provoking book that will engage young people and connect them with an older generation. If you are interested in taking part, please get in touch or follow the project on Instagram @letters\_to\_our\_grandchildren.  
<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/letters-to-our-grandchildren-14-01-2020>
- Wilma is looking to do a few IG events marking VE day at Prestonpans Library – sharing stories (rationing etc), what it is like after the war and pass down stories from elders to younger generations
- Newbattle Centre (secondary & Library) pupils involved in regular reminiscence groups
- Woodburn Primary are involved in some intergenerational befriending and will make contact with Sanderson’s Wynd Primary School regarding their projects around attainment and social skills / community.
- Carey shared her knowledge of the Gangsta Grannies project she set up at West Barns Primary where 8 older people are now volunteering to support pupils with their reading. They also have a Grampa volunteering too. What a great project name. Wonderful feedback already.
- Clare from The Link mentioned that they would like to connect with more generations as their lunch and cinema club were very underused and they’d like to see more IG work.
- Alison is looking to recruit a volunteer coordinator for the East Lothian and Midlothian network. Please get in touch with Alison for more details. **ACTION:** Carey to ask Volunteer Centre to promote the GWT volunteer vacancy for the East Lothian and Midlothian network and took a leaflet.
- Carol mentioned that she would like to see younger generation get involved in the Dalkeith Dementia café. Currently there have been some connections with Happy Kids nursery.  
Generations Working Together is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC045851

- [Magic Me](#) – Cocktails in care homes – so worth a look
- Reminiscence boxes are available from a range of places including: John Gray Centre, Museum of Childhood, Postcards of Kindness AGE UK project also recommended with Haddington Care Home already involved.
- Life Changes Trust “A day in your community” resource taken by Carol to use in her work.
- Local Facebook page for network – “Generations Growing and Connecting Together – East and Midlothian network.” Available to all to join and participate in. [East and Midlothian Network facebook page](#).
- Loreen shared early work around being involved in Regional Ethnologies research and project – working with Pencaitland Primary and University of Edinburgh for children to be trained as fieldworkers – and other adults – giving opportunities for schools to explore their communities through capturing oral histories and building relationships with people living / working locally. Concept would be easily replicated in different areas, but research department could be open to connections with Midlothian, as well as their East Lothian project.

**As part of GWT's internal evaluation, we are asking members and partners to share with us their experience of engaging with and learning from Generations Working Together. To help please [click here](#) for the form which takes roughly 5 minutes to complete. Thank you, Alison**

**Next meeting:** Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May, 10 – 12noon, First Step Community Project, 37 Galt Avenue, Musselburgh, EH21 8HU