



**Generations
Working
Together**

Fife Network Meeting

Tuesday, 28th January, 2020

The Coalfields Training & Enterprise Hub, 2 Kirk Street, Kincardine, FK10 4PT

In attendance: Ruth McCabe, Vivienne McBride, Kirsty Strachan, Jodie Foster, Alex Sutherland, Scott Meikle & Bryan Hill (Fife Council), Kevin Ward & Beverley Collins (Scottish Health Council), Carol Porterfield (Tulliallan Primary), Louisa Turner (GWT Coordinator & Open Door), Caron Hughes, Angela Davies & Enid Trevett (Coalfields Regeneration Trust), Robert Mckenzie (Valleyfield), George Kay & Alison Clyde (GWT), Cllr Bobby Clelland, Jack Boyle (Inventor), Natalie Lowe & Claire Darcy (Alzheimer Scotland) & Bryan Johnston (Action on Elderly Abuse).

Apologies: - Leanne Westwater, Ruby Urlotti, Ben Saunders, Aileen Christie, Marion Spacote Iain Hawker, Kay Fraser, Cllr Kate Stewart, Cllr Garry Haldane, Cllr Tim Brett, Annemarie Smith, Lyndsay Strang, Lesley Brady, Ann Kerr, Rachel Payne & Ashleigh Burt

As there were quite a few new faces to the Network meeting Alison Clyde gave an outline of Generations Working Together (GWT). The definition of 'intergenerational' was explained from a GWT perspective. It was pointed out that for funding purposes GWT's definition was highly regarded and accepted.

"Intergenerational practice aims to bring people together in purposeful, mutually beneficial activities which promote greater understanding and respect between generations and contributes to building more cohesive communities. Intergenerational practice is inclusive, building on the positive resources that the younger and older have to offer each other and those around them" Beth Johnson Foundation

Alison then went on to give an national update including the following:

[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 £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



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

Concession) planned for:

- **19th March 2020**, Duns, Scottish Borders
- **25th March 2020**, Kirkwall, Orkney
- **25th March 2020**, North Inch Community Campus, Gowans Terrace, Perth, PH1 5BF
- **27th April**, Argyll & Bute
- **21st May 2020**, Wick, Highlands

[International Certificate on Intergenerational Learning \(ICIL\)](#) – Edition 5 will run from Tuesday 28th April 2020 – Monday 15th 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.

How can intergenerational projects address ageism? - activity

An ageism quiz, taken from the World Health Organisation website, was handed out to the group and reflected upon. The quiz could be used as an activity with an intergenerational project. The quiz and answers can be found at 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/>

Resources. Alison drew attention to a number of toolkits / guidelines / reports available through GWT website for example **‘Creating and sharing spaces that connect young and old’** and an **‘Intergenerational Evaluation Toolkit’**.

These resources plus others are 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

Other intergenerational organisations were highlighted – Linking Generations, Northern Ireland and Generations United, America and their publications were promoted as they offer many toolkits to use in projects. GWT has links with Australia University of Griffiths where they have a department which promote careers in intergenerational work. Information was shared about Stirling University’s Dementia project and the difference of intergenerational projects have on individuals with dementia.

Sharing ideas and icebreaker activities

- The Coalfields Training & Enterprise Hub have received funding to capture the people’s stories and history. A film is to be made of the community keeping the antidotes and local folk lore alive for future generations – the sharing of where the local playgrounds were of people who are now in their 70’s and how children then occupied their time. The film is to be written by the community and at this juncture it is unknown which direction it will take. The funding will cover costs of a pilot project which will run from February to October 2020. Filming will take place in the summertime with the film being shown at the Folk Film



Gathering Festival. Kirsty Strachan suggested that if some of the cultural Scots words and Gaelic was spoken in the film there are other funding revenues which can be approached. Kirsty offered her services to support the language side of the film.

- Coalfields is involved in community engagement from supporting groups, delivering First Aid, community café, youth club and a proposed gardening project with a care home as part of their 5-year plan which was created in consultation with the community. Part of the plan for the West Fife villages was to have an intergenerational emphasis. It was suggested that through GWT the Soil Association could help to advise on the gardening project.
- Tulliallan School also have a plot of land to do gardening and it was suggested that the school and care home could work together, as the school wishes to link more with the nursing homes in the area.
- Grandparents Day - Sunday 4th October 2020, was spoken about as a way in to promote projects.
- Scott Meikle was willing to connect and advise with the links between the school, the Coalfields Training & Enterprise Hub and the care homes in the area.
- Alison gave an update on the Perthshire schools literacy project as well as the Jedburgh intergenerational Campus and Glasgow schools literacy project. The report from Stirling University on the research project which took place in Lothian schools was also shared. George gave an explanation of how GWT have tried to get something similar to begin in Fife and how they would support any school who would be interested in an intergenerational development worker.
- Robert Mckenzie stated that he visited schools in the West Fife villages, retelling of the mining experience, taking clothes and artefacts for the children to wear and interact with.
- Kevin Ward stated that the West Fife Villages and particularly Kincardine was difficult to engage with the younger generation on how they feel about the National Health Service (NHS). Discussions around the table indicated that as the nearest hospital in Fife where people are referred to is over 30 miles away and with poor public transport links many people are referred to Larbert or Glasgow, hence disgruntlement in the community re the NHS. It was suggested that perhaps Scott Meikle could suggest inroads and make connections for the Scottish Health Council.
- Ruth McCabe shared about her 7-12year old's toolkit project encouraging young Dementia Friends, thus reducing stigma and allying the fear of dementia amongst children. A successful project is ongoing between a community café and Leslie primary school and Rimbeltton School, Glenrothes is connecting with Age Scotland. Ruth is willing to deliver Dementia Friends training to adult and children's groups.
- Methil Intergenerational Care Village update - Viv McBride. Viv stated that a spade will break ground in February 2020 and by May 2021 a nursery will hopefully open followed by a care home in July 2021. Other housing will be available in the grounds also. Organisations such as Scottish Opera and their Memory Spinners Project have been approached to bring the generations together. Plans are coming together for much interaction with the local community too. A formal presentation of the Village will be given at the May GWT meeting.
- George Kay reported that Jedburgh and Clackmannan are also looking at intergenerational care village models.



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- Brian Hill reported on the successful project which grew organically between the 16 plus Argos group in Kirkcaldy and a bowling club. The natural interactions occurred over several weeks of visits. The young people gained skills such as grass mowing on a sit on machine. The impact on both young and older people has been amazing to witness. Vandalism at the bowling club has reduced as too has isolation and loneliness. Quantitative indicators of success is seen with a positive increase in membership at the bowling club of young people.

Louisa invited members to share any icebreakers which they have used with their intergenerational groups. On the [Fife network page](#) you will find some suggestions to try from Louisa. Scott Meikle shared his icebreaker which is similar to GWT's gingerbread activity. The idea was to draw a stick person and surround the drawing with describing words to what that person would look like.

Date of next meeting:

- Friday 15th May 2020, 10am – 12 noon, Wellesley Parish Church of Scotland, Wellesley Road, Methil, KY8 3BT

Louisa Turner, Fife Network Coordinator (volunteer)