

Grampian Intergenerational Network Meeting

Date: 19.08.2020

Venue: Online on Zoom

In attendance: Lorna Glen (Torry Development Trust), David Fryer (Torry Development Trust), Emma Roberts (Cycling UK), Christine Dunhill (Kemnay Academ), George Bellamy (Generations Working Together), Alec Thompson-Miller (ACE Voices).

Apologies: Susan Curran (University of Aberden), Carol Hannaford (Aberdeen City Council), Baldeep McGarry (Aberdeen City Council), Fiona Alderson (Networks of Wellbeing Ltd).

GWT National Update

Kate discussed the increased restrictions in the Grampian area and outlined how GWT can help to facilitate connections online, including the second directory. Please see the second directory on our website <https://generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/directory-of-intergenerational-ideas-and-resources-second-edition>.

Kate from GWT mentioned that Generations Working Together is holding two events on **how to build an intergenerational nation** on zoom on the 10th and the 17th of September and asked anyone interested to book. (This has now been filled but we are still looking for any comments and suggestions on how we can build an intergenerational nation). Please get in touch with any suggestions or resources by emailing Kate@generationsworkingtogether.org.

Intergenerational Training – we are currently adapting our intergenerational one day training to run online, please check our website for any new dates for this <https://generationsworkingtogether.org/training/>. We also now have a free introductory training course on intergenerational practice and will be doing one on ageism. Please register for these online <https://generationsworkingtogether.org/training/online-training/>.

Kate also updated on how GWT is continuing to respond to COVID-19 crisis, including the potential funding extension for new staff (now confirmed). The staff have called most care homes across Scotland and are looking for more ideas on how we can support them as a charity over the next few months. Please get in touch with any suggestions or resources by emailing Kate@generationsworkingtogether.org.

Sharing and Networking

- The meeting discussed the Aberdeen lockdown and the impact on local residents. **Chris Dunhill, Business & Community Support Officer with Kemnay Academy** suggested some opportunities with technology through <https://en-gb.padlet.com/> and has shown the group how younger people have been using this to share their feelings/ideas. There could be an opportunity to use this for an intergenerational project. She is very keen to learn more about intergenerational opportunities in schools and have seen innovative practice in America and England when starting the role.
- Kate from GWT mentioned that Eve Macdonald from One Scotland magazine is currently looking for anyone in Scotland with experience of intergenerational living for a story. Please contact her

direct on evemaacdonald@no1magazine.co.uk if you would like to share your story or know someone who does.

- **Emma from Cycling UK** has mentioned that one positive thing to come out of the lockdown is more people turning to cycling. She hopes some of this will be long term and there will be a positive impact on the environment. She is keen to connect with anyone interested in an intergenerational cycling project.
- **Alec, the director of ACE Voices** has been working in a hub during the lockdown. He has noticed the impact of not being able to run sessions in sheltered housing and is concerned of long term impact. Alec is currently looking at delivering CDs and recordings to older people instead of face to face signing as some people still have CD players. Keen to work with others in the area and can be reached through the website for ACE Voices <https://www.acevoices.org/contact/>.
- **David from Tory Development Trust** has mentioned that it's important that we do not lose the community spirit that we have seen through the pandemic. We must also take the digital divide seriously and invest in closing the gap. He also suggested that this is a good time to promote reuse/repair as we have lost these skills and some of the skills could be re-established with intergenerational initiatives.
- George, a trustee from GWT talked about the work of GWT and the impact on young people and unemployment, suggested that it may be a good idea to link in with Developing Young Workforce. <https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/scottish-education-system/policy-for-scottish-education/policy-drivers/developing-the-young-workforce-dyw>.

Next meeting:

Thursday 22nd of October 2020, 2-5pm on zoom. Please register now to book as places are limited. <https://generationsworkingtogether.org/events/grampian-intergenerational-network-meeting-22-10-2020>.