

# Building an Intergenerational Nation

## GWT Conference 2022



**Generations  
Working  
Together**

## Biographies: Guest Speakers

### Day 1

#### Graham Hewitson, GWT Chair (Bio to follow)

#### **Christina McKelvie, Minister for Equalities and Older People, Scottish Government.**

On leaving school Christina undertook a nursing course leaving this to embark on a career in social work services developing independence skills for people with learning disabilities and mental health issues. In 2002 she began working in the social work services learning and development section, developing staff and enabling individuals to reach their professional and academic potential. Between 2011-2016, Christina was Convener of the European and External Relations Committee, and she was also Convener of the SNP backbench trade union group.



#### **Associate Professor Thang Leng Leng,**

Leng Leng is a socio-cultural anthropologist passionate about ways to connect the generations. Her most recent book is a co-edited volume titled "Intergenerational Contact Zones" (2020), a concept she coined in advancing intergenerational interaction. She is author of "Generations in Touch: Linking the old and young in a Tokyo Neighbourhood" (Cornell University Press, 2001), first ever ethnography on an age-integrated facility. She recently retired from the position editor-in-chief of Journal of Intergenerational Relationships after 7 years. She is with the Department of Japanese Studies and is co-Director of the Next Age Institute, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore.



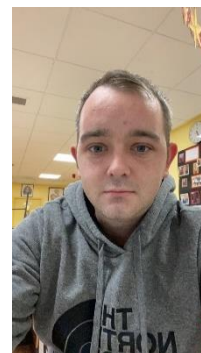
#### **Wanda Mackay**

Wanda has been delivering Youth and Community work for over 25 years now, and volunteering from pretty much as long as she can remember. Wanda works for Highlife Highland as a Youth Development Officer working in the local Community and school, listening to children and young people lies at the very heart of what she does, she is passionate that these are not just words and provides many opportunities to bring about positive change. She began her Intergenerational Journey over 11 years ago and she has recently completed the Intergenerational Diploma in Intergenerational Learning which she found valuable to share and learn with others from their experiences. The project she is working on was recently rated with highly effective practice identified by HM inspectors in Education, which highlighted the projects impressive strengths in Intergenerational work in the school and community where she is committed to building relationships and providing opportunities for young and older people to learn and connect.



### **Fraser Thomson**

Fraser is an Assistant Youth Worker at Cromarty Youth Café; he has been involved in youth and community work for the last 15 years as either a volunteer or as a paid member of staff. Fraser had his first intergenerational encounter in 2011 at Getting to Know Your Techno, working with young people demonstrating to older people how to use different items of technology, while building trusting relationships between the generations. Over the last 10 years he has been involved in setting up and delivering many different projects and sessions working with a range of age groups. In December 2021 Fraser completed the International Diploma in Intergenerational Learning.



### **Gary Brown**

Gary is the National Leadership Network Development Co-ordinator (Young People with Care Experience). Before this role he led on the Corporate Parenting Youth Work agenda in Perth and Kinross. Prior to this he facilitated Perth and Kinross Council's youth work offer in South Perth. Coming from a Community Learning and Development background he recently graduated from the Scottish Improvement Leader's Programme (SciL).



### **Lisa O'Leary,**

Lisa is a Senior Development Officer with the Young People with Care Experience project. (Bio to follow)

### **Amanda Jackson**

Amanda is the Senior Community Coordinator for Leonard Cheshire and has been in this role since May 2021. Prior to this Amanda was the 'Can Do Coordinator' covering Glasgow and worked in that role since August 2017. Outside her time at Leonard Cheshire Amanda supports a young person in his community to develop skills and encourages him to experience different things whilst building connections and foundations. Amanda has a postgraduate qualification in Community Education with experience in community safety, youth work and working with people with lived experience of disabilities. Amanda strives for an inclusive society for all.



### **Maxine Dinnes**

Maxine has 25 years of experience working in health and social care and community development roles working in the voluntary sector for 17 years in various development roles. She is currently Community Engagement Manager for Leonard Cheshire in Scotland. In a volunteer role, Maxine is Deputy Convenor of Evaluation Support Scotland. She is passionate about inclusive communities and involving people. She is also a Doctorate of Education Candidate with the University of Glasgow with strong interest in leadership, involving people and communities and learning from lived experience.



### **Janis McDonald**

Janis has a nursing background and moved into the voluntary sector to manage a specialist mental health, homelessness and addiction project run by Glasgow Council on Alcohol. She has held several senior posts since then including thematic specialities: addictions; homelessness; equalities, community development and now deafness.

Her experience spans local and national intermediaries. She gained a mixture of insights and experiences of coproduction, democracy and decision making in different locations in Scotland. This has allowed her to develop a wide range of skills, experience, and knowledge. She is now particularly interested in quality and standards, governance and “communication equality”.



### **Ruth Hart**

Ruth first worked for Deafblind Scotland as a guide/communicator, while at university studying Psychology in 2003. After university she completed the Diploma in Deafblind Studies and went on to run the Community Planning Involvement Project within Deafblind Scotland, then worked in several other areas of the charity. She spent some away years in other charities across Scotland as an event manager and operations manager before returning to Deafblind Scotland in 2016. As Senior Programme Leader she currently focuses on equality and human rights work with deafblind people and those in wider society. The Dare to Dream project established a group of deafblind ambassadors who work together as peers, using their lived experience to ensure deafblind people's experiences and views are heard. This group also created the Manifesto of Deaf blind People's Rights, created in consultation across Scottish deafblind people and which formed the basis for Deafblind Scotland's 5 Year Strategy and Policy Influencing Plan 2022. The Right to Dream project launched in October 2021 in partnership with Visibility Scotland, builds on the excellent work of the Dare to Dream ambassadors. Providing training on human rights and empowerment for deafblind and visually impaired people. Ensuring they have the opportunities participate in public life and have a tangible influence on the decisions that affect them.

### **Adam Lodge**

Adam is a project worker with Deaf Blind Scotland (Bios to follow)

### **Lorraine George**

Lorraine has worked in early years education for over twenty years and is an experienced intergenerational trainer and practitioner. As a 2017 Winston Churchill Fellow she researched intergenerational co-located care in the US and used this learning to develop an early year's intergenerational programme within Torbay, establishing an exciting new model of co-location with Childminders working from a care home on a daily basis. She is also the author of 'Growing Together: fifty inspiring ideas for intergenerational learning'. As the Learning & Development Officer for GWT Lorraine tutors the International Diploma in Intergenerational Learning course (IDIL) alongside delivering & developing intergenerational training courses for businesses and practitioners. In 2022 she will also be developing a GWT thematic Care Home Network that will support intergenerational learning within the residential care sector.



## Day 2

### Jude Currie

Jude sits on the board of Generations Working Together as a Trustee. In her role Jude offers advice on employability and family wellbeing support focused on children's wellbeing and addressing the impacts of poverty and hardship. Jude has worked in social care, social work, and youth work in different forms for 17 years and chairs the standing committee for the Scottish Association of Social Work (SASW). Jude is passionate about community social work and valuing intergenerational connections.



### Kaukab Stewart MSP

Kaukab the first woman of colour to be elected to the Scottish Parliament in May 2021 representing Glasgow Kelvin for the Scottish National Party. She has been a primary school teacher for over thirty years, and during that time has been a trade union representative and political activist on equalities, social justice issues, and Scottish independence. Kaukab is a Deputy Convener for the [Education, Children and Young People Committee](#) and an [Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee](#) member.



### Zarah Al Hilaly, Law and Journalism student

In her penultimate year at Murdoch University, with the aspirations to work within policy. She currently sits as a Non-Executive Board Director of a new International Affairs NGO, Missing Perspectives, which endeavours to amplify the voices of young people across media and journalism. She is a consultant funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation at UN Women (NYC), where she continues to further the Generation Equality campaign, following her tenure as the Youth Core Group Member. She is the current chair of the Youth Ministerial Advisory Council under the Department of Communities, as well as sitting on multiple advisory bodies including the YWCA Young Women's Council of Australia and the MYAN Australia Youth Ambassador Network (YAN). As a result of her work, she has been named a finalist for Young Muslim of the Year (2020), one in 25 Young Women to Watch in International Affairs, and the inaugural winner Under 25's Rising Star for the 40-Under-40 Asian Australian Leadership Awards.



## Day 3

### Matt KAPLAN, Ph.D.

Matt is based in the Department of Agricultural Economics, Sociology, and Education at the Pennsylvania State University, USA. He is a prominent leader in the intergenerational studies field, conducting research, developing curricular resources, and providing leadership and guidance in the development and evaluation of intergenerational programs in the U.S. and internationally. He has published numerous works advancing the field, focusing on intergenerational programs and practices from an interdisciplinary and cross-cultural perspective. Prof. Kaplan has a Ph.D. in Environmental Psychology from the City University of New York Graduate Centre. He was a Visiting fellow at the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing (2015) and a Senior Fulbright Scholar (1994-95), studying intergenerational initiatives in Japan.





### **Catherine Hennessy**

A social gerontologist who has worked in government and academia for 30+ years in the USA and the UK, her research focuses on the health, well-being and social inclusion of older people. Catherine has experience leading projects featuring intergenerational collaboration in the production of oral histories and community exhibitions, as well as in her current role as Principal Investigator on the 3-year GOALD (Generating Older Active Lives Digitally) project that brings together students and older people to co-produce ideas for digital applications for the promotion of healthy ageing.



### **Dr Shannon Jarrott**

Her research focuses on intergenerational community building strategies. Trained as a gerontologist, Dr Jarrott has studied community-based services, therapeutic programming, and research strategies involving a wide range of youth and older adults possessing diverse strengths and needs, such as chronic disease and disability. Dr Jarrott collaborates extensively with students, practitioners, and researchers across diverse disciplines. She has contributed to United Nations, NIH, USDA, and international efforts to promote developmental theory, research, and practice.



### **Liat Ayalon**

Prof. Ayalon coordinates an international EU funded Ph.D. program on the topic of ageism (EuroAgeism.eu). She is also the Israeli PI of the EU funded MascAge program to study ageing masculinities in literature and cinema. Between 2014 and 2018, Prof. Ayalon has led an international research network on the topic of ageism, funded through COST (Cooperation in Science and Technology; COST IS1402, notoageism.com). She consults both national and international organizations concerning the development and evaluation of programs and services for older adults.



## **Day 4**

### **Eunice Lynn Nichols,**

Eunice is obsessed with bringing older and younger generations together to solve society's greatest challenges, creating a better future for all. She is Vice President of Innovation at Encore.org where she leads the Gen2Gen Innovation Fellowship. Previously, she ran the Generation-to-Generation campaign, an initiative to mobilize 1 million adults 50+ to help young people thrive and The Purpose Prize (now a program of AARP), which has awarded over \$5 million in prizes to nearly 100 social entrepreneurs over the age of 60 since 2006. She also spent 11 years leading a portfolio of initiatives to expand the social contributions of older adults in California, including scaling Experience Corps from one neighbourhood school in San Francisco into a thriving Bay Area program helping thousands of kids read by third grade. Eunice has been recognized as a Next Avenue Influencer in Aging and is a graduate of the Billions Institute Fellowship for Large-Scale Change. In 2019, she received the James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award for advancing innovative and effective solutions to California's most significant issues.



**Kevin Smith**

Kevin joined CEIS in January 2005 and works as a Business Adviser within the Enterprise & Communities Team. He provides business advice and support to third sector organisations and social enterprises across a range of sectors with particular focus on business research, planning and development. He is an experienced business adviser with a mix of consultancy and client-side job roles in the private and third sector including: 6 years sales experience with NCR; 3 years as a business consultant with the Centre for Customer Awareness; 3 years managing Glasgow Opportunities' Management Development Programme; and 2 years as Marketing and Production Manager with Design Corporation, a marketing communications agency. Kevin and other CEIS colleagues have worked on different assignments for Knightswood Community SCIO over the last 10 years, particularly in relation to the community asset transfer of Knightswood Community Centre and KCSCIO's development as a community anchor organisation.

**Allen Lindsay**

Allen has been involved with Knightswood Community Centre for more than fifty years, first becoming a member of the Centre's Advisory Committee when he was a teenager. Since 1986 he has been the Chairperson during which time, he was instrumental in leading the work to transfer the Centre to community management following Glasgow City Council naming Knightswood Community Centre the 'pathfinder project' in its policy for the transfer of control of assets to the community. The Centre, one of the largest and busiest community facilities in Glasgow was previously managed and operated by Glasgow Life. In its role as a community anchor organisation Knightswood Community SCIO, which Allen chairs, has taken the lead to identify a viable use for the neighbouring derelict swimming pool building as a community asset to meet local community needs.

**Judy Crabb**

Judith is currently a member of the board of Trustees with Heart of Newhaven. Initially Judith was a Town Planner by profession and has been working in the voluntary and community sector in roles across the UK for over 30 years.

Judith has particular interest and experience in the role of intergenerational practice in bringing communities together.

**Robbie Crockatt**

Robbie joined the Council in 2004 as Project Coordinator for the Council's schools Public Private Partnership project. Robbie is currently the Senior Responsible Officer for the delivery of the Council's Early Years expansion Infrastructure programme and the delivery of new primary school projects across Edinburgh. Robbie's Learning Estate Planning Team is responsible for developing the strategic brief for all new education infrastructure in Edinburgh including outdoor spaces. With colleagues in the Council's Schools and Lifelong Learning Teams he helped shape the Edinburgh Learns for Life initiative which envisions a fairer, healthier, greener future for everyone.

### **Carl Baker**

Carl joined Collective Architecture in 2018 having previously worked at 7N Architects on the prestigious Knab Masterplan in Lerwick. He has continued to work on community-led regeneration projects which focus on a holistic approach to sustainability, namely the Powderhall Strategy which includes the co-location of an early year's nursery with older person's housing. In addition to developing one of Scotland's first purpose built intergenerational projects, Carl is also an accredited Passivhaus Designer and is embedding the Passivhaus methodology into this project to ensure the comfort and well-being of end users, reducing the building's operational energy demands which addresses fuel poverty, and helps the clients become net zero carbon ready.



### **Jon Molyneux**

Jon is a Scottish Green Councillor who is passionate about food growing, sharing, and community building. Jon also works for Fare Share which redistributes quality surplus food to groups working with vulnerable people in and around Glasgow and the West of Scotland.



### **Maureen Sier, Director – Interfaith Scotland**

Maureen started working as the Interfaith Development Officer in 2002. She is now a Director of Interfaith Scotland and feels it is an absolute honour and privilege to be working in this field. Within her work she has coordinated the annual Interfaith Week and the vigil on George Square at COP26.



### **Emily Bird**

Emily joined Magic Me in 2008 as Project Manager and has worked with communities in East London on a wide range of projects giving younger and older people the opportunity to work together as equals, drawing on their own experiences, skills, and creativity.



Emily has been working with youth and community groups since 2015 including Southampton Youth Offending Service, Breakout Youth and NCS The Challenge. Before joining Magic Me, Emily undertook a traineeship at Artsadmin, producing interdisciplinary work for local, national and international audiences.

Emily will be speaking about Magic Me's most recent intergenerational project, bringing older and younger women together to explore the climate emergency and what it means to be a climate change activist. Emily will share project highlights and learning, focusing on the power of intergenerational activism in the climate justice movement.