

Lanarkshire Intergenerational Network Meeting Report

Larkhall and District Volunteer Group Registry House,
55 Victoria Street, Larkhall, ML9 2BL



In Attendance - John Downs Larkhall & District Volunteer Group, Chloe Dobson Living Streets, Liz Armour community links, Monica Allen Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire, Alicia McKenzie The Scottish Centre for Children with Motor Impairments, Emma Gartshore Improvement Service, Conor Maxwell Larkhall universal Connections, Ainsley Hart South Lanarkshire Council, Scott Broadfoot South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture, Laura Biggart Befriend Motherwell, Sandra McCrory Larkhall and District Volunteer Group, Bella Kerr (GWT).

Apologies - Ross Clark South Lanarkshire Council, Aislinn Watters VASLan, Dionne Gallacher South Lanarkshire Council, Ann Muir Speak Easy Lanarkshire, Dennis O'Keefe Voice of Experience Forum, Logan, Eileen South Lanarkshire Council, Morag Pinion Community Links (South Lanarkshire).

Welcome and introductions - We

Thanks to all who took the time to participate. If you can think of anyone, we should have at these meetings please bring them, invite them or let me know and I will invite them.

1. **Bella Kerr GWT** Introductions and a small icebreaker to get people chatting. Hobbies and first names are a good way of connecting and may be replicated with generations you are planning to work with. We looked at some gestalt images and discussed how we don't always see the same way and this led into talking about stereotypes and ageism. We looked at Maslow's hierarchy by Pip Wilson and discussed that after meeting our basic needs people need relationships, friendships

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and bringing different generations together is something that may help people getting to know more about themselves and others by sharing time with someone from a different generation.



2. **Planning an IG activity** is something that requires a lot of thought and for this reason Bella suggested that people need to think about what they are planning, who they are planning it with and what they need to think about. There are FREE course on GWT website (more information further down) and if people are not able to do the one-day course there is a FREE session on planning that may assist with thinking about it more. Bella expressed the importance of planning and evaluation when undertaking intergenerational work.

3. **Sharing your intergenerational news, ideas and networking**

Lynn Vaslan Came along to see what it was all about, she works with social enterprises network and is interested in how intergenerational may link in with this.

John LDVG informed group that they are involved in a lot of intergenerational work with young people on board from Hamilton Grammar School and school projects and as a result there has been a spin off volunteers involved in IT group with pupils from Larkhall Academy too. Lots more interest and they can see that there will be more IT linking in the future with tablets and ideas.

Chloe Living Streets – School Challenge – out and about with groups working in North Lanarkshire looking at the walking infrastructure and public transport (it stops at 6pm) Looking at getting links so that its more of a 20 minute neighbourhood with accessible links for people. She mentioned are in South Lanarkshire where people used to dance outdoors, older people used to use it. Also they are looking at installing benches and have noted that one bench in Hawick has created a community hot spot for people of all ages to sit and chat.

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Scott South Lanarkshire Libraries – Mixed old and young in East Kilbride heritage and football memories. Is interested in doing anything else within libraries.

Sandra LDVG Interested in community and street. Public transport does not meet the needs of older people. They did a feasibility study regarding public transport which anyone can have access too. They worked with local primary school and older people went in and read to children. They were involved in Larkhall community network survey with the voices of younger and older people. They found the older and younger people had similar views and wanted markets, seasonal activities, and green space. Discussed Calderglen High and the intergenerational work that was carried out between them and Claremont Parish Church for the past 10 years. Sandra explained that they would like to do a similar befriending project with Larkhall Academy. Bell will link Sandra with Calderglen High.

Connor Larkhall Connections interested in intergenerational and runs CLD talks Podcast and he noted that intergenerational; work comes up a lot in conversations. He works with all ages.

Ainsley Youth Connections plans to look at what else they have the capacity to do and how intergenerational would work with them.

Jackie Bellshills 6 locations Adults with disabilities 16 – 65 explained they are trying to look at intergenerational with a local primary school garden and they did some work with them before lockdown. The schools have reopened, and children made Christmas cards and introduced themselves asking what they did when they were young? What work were the residents engaged in? They are also involved in an allotment at Bellshill which is open to the whole area and they are trying to get different age groups to take part. They are listening to everyone and they would like to put people with others from a different generation.

Liz Community Links is involved in working with a youth group from after school care who she link with seniors. Older people used to get Christmas dinner and put on a show and they would have dinner and interact with each other. They enjoyed day trips to Blackpool mixing together, after Bells example of young and older people taking photos of cracks on pavements and presenting to local council, Liz felt this was something that this group could do together. This something that she will look into with talks with school etc. Photos can be taken and they can link up to discuss. This sparked a great deal of discussion within the group to similar things that younger and older people could think about in their local community.

Emma Improvement Service is interested in recovery and aims to host a series of engagement sessions around community planning and barriers in communities, looking at systemic barriers, service users – how we shift our focus towards programme improvement and places for wellbeing around the 20 minute neighbourhood idea, how do we identify change and break down silo working?

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Laura Befriend Motherwell who assist to befriend over 65-year-olds to combat loneliness and isolation. She is their intergenerational officer has been involved in many successful projects with primary schools past and present with games and toys and different projects. She has found that it is challenging to engage with teenagers and older people. She has been involved in intergenerational choirs and with a chef from New Lanarkshire College and P 6 children showcased how to make food leaning how to make fruit salad etc. They have an Intergenerational Drop in Café with a group of young people trying to get more people involved and thinking of young adults too. Laura has lots of ideas and hope to get started on something.

Alicia Craig The Scottish Centre for Children with Motor Impairments Working with children with sever complex life limiting conditions who are nonverbal. They are looking for older adults to do things with children who have extreme and complex health needs. They have beautiful grounds and are working with a community group with their vegetable garden. They work with 0 – 3 years olds and many of the parents are isolated and it would be good to see them building up relationships and friendships with others. People suggested trying the Scouts who do this type of work in Stanley House Lanark.

GWT national update

Excellence Awards Launch – How to make a successful nomination – online session National Awards for Excellence in Intergenerational Work 2023

The awards recognise, showcase and celebrate achievement and outstanding practice in the field. Nominations are encouraged from projects and individuals living throughout Scotland. This year there is a launch to look over the application if you are thinking of nominating your intergenerational work / project. Session to include:

- info on awards
- include last year's winner film
- tips and hints
- Q & A
- evaluation

The awards will be presented at our National Conference, Glasgow on Wednesday 8th March 2023.

GWT National Conference 2023 – 8th March 2023

To be held in Technology, and Innovation Centre, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. Programme themes are being planned and will be announced later in year.

Global Intergenerational week 2023 – 24th to 30th April 2023

In its fourth year, the week looks to inspire individuals, groups, organisations, local/national government, and NGOs to fully embrace intergenerational practice, connecting people of all ages especially the younger and older generations.

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Programme themes for 2023 are being planned and will be announced later in the Autumn.

Resources

[Play and Storytelling: Connecting Generations *suite of resources*](#)

PLAY and STORYTELLING are for every age, supporting connection, learning, tradition, culture, health and wellbeing when used intergenerationally. The golden strands of play and story connect kith and kin, as well as build strong connections 'from cradle to grave' so Play Scotland and Generations Working Together have developed this suite – or family – of resources to support the building of intergenerational connections and best practice.
GWT Vacancies for network coordinators

We are looking for volunteer coordinators throughout Scotland to assist with the local network area meetings.

[The Soil Association Food for Life Resources](#)

There are some great resources to get you started. Perfect for community members coming together of different generations and backgrounds. Whether you're inspired to get growing, cooking or simply finding out more about how best to share your food and produce, we've got the resources for you.

Intergenerational Training Course for Practitioners

- **[International Certificate in Intergenerational Practice \(ICIP\)](#)**

Dates: Monday 3rd October - 4th December 2022

This course now sits within GWT's own Moodle platform however we continue to run and develop the course in close partnership with the Macrosad Chair of Intergenerational Studies, Professor Mariano Sanchez at the University of Granada.

- **[Free short online courses](#)**
 1. What is Intergenerational Work?
 2. Overcoming Ageism through an Intergenerational Lens
 3. Planning your Intergenerational Project
 4. Intergenerational Housing, Places and Spaces
 5. Measuring the Impact of Intergenerational projects
- **[Intergenerational Training \(1 day\)](#)**

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