



**Generations  
Working  
Together**

# International Conference

**Wednesday 8 March 2023**

Technology and Innovation Centre,  
University of Strathclyde, Glasgow  
10am – 4pm



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**#GWT23**

[generationsworkingtogether.org](https://generationsworkingtogether.org)



# Programme

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

## Programme

<b>08.45</b>	Registration, information village & refreshments
<b>10:00</b>	Welcome – Graham Hewitson, GWT Chair Opening speech with Christina McKelvie MSP Minister for Equalities and Older People, Scottish Government Excellence Award Presentations The relevance of quality standards - a conversation with Dr Mariano Sanchez (Spain), Prof. Matt Kaplan (USA), Prof. Anneke Fitzgerald (Australia) and the audience
<b>11.40</b>	Comfort break
<b>11.50</b>	Morning workshops
<b>13.00</b>	Information village & lunch
<b>13.40</b>	Working Talking Tables (with lunch)
<b>14.25</b>	Excellence Award Presentations with Jude Currie, GWT Co-Vice Chair Conversations on the couch featuring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Edinburgh Garden Partners</li><li>• The Black Isles</li><li>• Inspiring Communities</li></ul>
	Award presentations
<b>15.45</b>	Closing remarks, Graham Hewitson, GWT Chair
<b>16.00</b>	Close

Share your thoughts and photos **#GWT23**

There may be changes on the day to the above programme.

# Workshop synopsis 2023

## Workshop 1 – Developing a pathway for children and young people

As we strive to build an intergenerational nation within Scotland it is increasingly important to recognise the benefits which come from developing an intergenerational approach for children and young people, supporting them through intergenerational learning opportunities to experience, understand and value the diversity and difference that comes with ageing. This session will explore how intergenerational learning for children and young people can be offered creatively not only within education but also as part of extracurricular activities, developing a pathway of creative intergenerational learning opportunities in the community. As part of the workshop discussion Lorraine will share the newly developed GWT intergenerational primary school module and the supporting guidance documents for teachers.

**Learning outcomes:** After the workshop delegates will be able to: Understand the benefits that come from developing intergenerational opportunities within the curriculum and how to access the appropriate guidance documents.

**Facilitators:** Lorraine George, Learning & Development Officer (GWT)

## Workshop 2 – Intergenerational Interventions

### An evidence gap map: bringing the research to you

In this session we will be presenting our recently produced evidence gap map of research on intergenerational interventions. The map contains all the published and unpublished studies evaluating the effectiveness of intergenerational interventions using a randomised controlled trial design. The map contains 500 studies.

We have coded the studies so that it is possible to see the many types of interventions that have been evaluated, what they included and the outcomes that were measured. We will provide a brief overview of the process to create the map but will focus on what the map can show us. As part of the workshop, we will ask the audience to work in small groups to answer specified questions using the map. There will also be opportunities for the audience to raise and explore their own questions from the map. The value in the map in supporting funding plans will be discussed.

**Learning outcomes:** The main learning points from this session are to introduce you to the Evidence Gap Map for research evidence on Intergenerational Interventions and practice how to use it as a resource. Through this, we will generate understanding about what we mean by research evidence and how we can use it to inform our future research and practice.

**Facilitators:** Fiona Campbell, Senior Lecturer (Newcastle University) & Rebecca Whear, Researcher (NIHR ARC Southwest Peninsula)

## Workshop 3 – How do we support Scotland to become an Intergenerational Nation

One of GWT's strategic aims for 2020-25 is to commence on a journey of enabling Scotland to become an intergenerational nation. GWT continues to develop local and thematic networks and events, has grown social media communication, and created and delivered a wider variety of intergenerational training opportunities. However, that said we would like to know from you what you feel GWT, and our membership could be doing to make this dream a reality. What does an intergenerational nation look like and how do we get there? Join us for a lively discussion sharing your thoughts on practicalities, policy-influencing opportunities and identifying some of the potential barriers or challenges which may prevent us from achieving our goals.

**Learning outcomes:** After the workshops delegates will have a better understanding of what an intergenerational nation could look like and how we together can connect and help support this to happen.

**Facilitator:** Ruairidh Smith, Policy Officer (GWT), Charlie Murphy, Training & Evaluation Consultant and Anne Callaghan, Trustee (GWT)

## Workshop 4 – Intergenerational Age-Friendly Cities and Communities

Ageing in urban environments has received significant policy and practice attention, through the WHO Age-friendly Cities and Communities (AFCC) movement and associated guidelines to support active ageing by optimizing opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age. Whilst there has been significant progress as a result of the AFCC agenda, there has been a paucity of research exploring the implications of this for intergenerational practice, across different urban, social and cultural contexts. This workshop draws upon international case study research in the UK (Edinburgh, Glasgow and Manchester) and Global South (India and Brazil) to explore the ways in which intergenerational understandings of place are understood by older people in different communities. We will discuss the challenges and opportunities for the AFCC movement and work towards identifying some of the potential ways forward for the design and delivery of intergenerational age-friendly cities and communities.

**Learning outcomes:** At the end of this session, participants should be able to understand more about the challenges and opportunities to delivering intergenerational practice across different urban, social and cultural contexts.

**Facilitator:** Ryan Woolrych, PhD. Director of the Urban Institute, and Professor in Ageing and Urban Studies (Heriot Watt University)

## Workshop 5 – Community Learning and Development goes intergenerational

This session aims to explore the relationship between intergenerational practice and CLD, and how CLD practitioners can ensure that intergenerational relationships are formed in a positive way. We will hear from two CLD practitioners about their process and plans to integrate intergenerational work into their own practice. We will look at Intergenerational standards and how they fit comfortably with CLD standards in many ways. The workshop will further explore intergenerational practice and lifelong learning and the benefits for future work using a collaborative approach.

**Learning Outcomes:** Participants should feel confident to work in an Intergenerational collaboration with CLD and understand the process and planning stages of doing so.

**Facilitators:** Robbie Crow, Development Officer (Scottish Government), Steven MacLennan, Development Officer (Workforce) and Graham Hunter, Community Development Worker (North Ayrshire Council)

# Talking Tables



After the morning workshop delegates will be invited to collect their lunch then join their chosen table to have an informal conversation on their chosen topic.

Each table will have a facilitator who will introduce one of the following topics and then encourage discussion keeping the conversation on the right track. At the end of the session each facilitator will pinpoint two key areas of conversation which will then be feedback to the conference organisers. These points will provide insight and direction for GWT allowing the team to consider needs and priorities moving forward.

Topics for this 40 minute session will be chosen by delegates at the registration table on arrival.

## 1. A “Depth of Intergenerational Engagement” continuum.

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Join **Prof. Matt Kaplan** to hear more about Intergenerational programs and activities and how they can be placed on a continuum, with points that correspond to different levels of intergenerational engagement, ranging from initiatives that provide no direct contact between age groups (point #1 on the continuum) to those that promote intensive contact and ongoing opportunities for intimacy (point # 7 on the scale). At our table, we’ll discuss various examples and likely outcomes for programs fitting into each point on the continuum and discuss strategies for moving up.

## 2. Intergenerational Work in Heritage

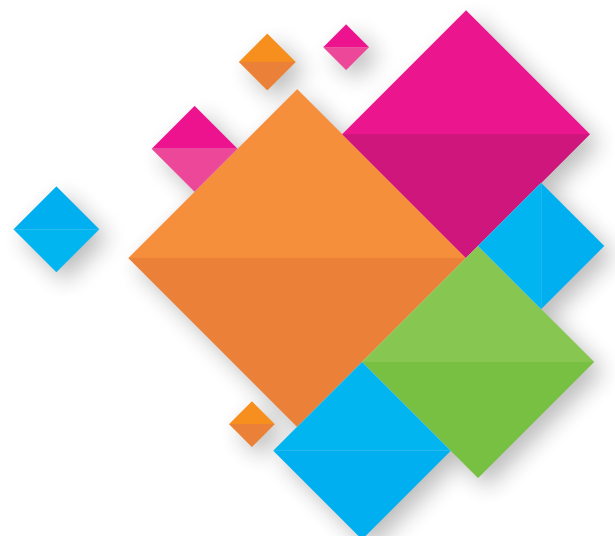
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Join **Jane Miller to** explore how local heritage can engage people of all ages and discover the many benefits which involve the outdoors, working with others, learning new skills, acquiring new knowledge, developing pride of place and sense of belonging. Together we’ll discuss how we can bring people of all ages together to create meaningful intergenerational heritage projects.

## 3. Not just the feel-good factor – Introducing NCFE accredited Intergenerational Qualifications Suite

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Effective Intergenerational (IG) practice does not just happen. It must be intentional, well planned and evaluated. Join **Judith Ish-Horowicz** to hear about the new Intergenerational Qualifications Suite (IQS) which is a set of nested qualifications leading to a level 3 Diploma in Intergenerational Education and Care. IQS will offer more opportunities for career progression in both education and the care sectors providing a full IG training pathway from teaching and care assistant to manager. Find out more as Judith discusses the importance of raising the profile and status of IG work.





#### 4. Talking about research “arms of the octopus”

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Over the course of the last 9 years, the multi-disciplinary research group at Griffith University, Gold Coast, Australia have embarked on several intergenerational research projects including: Socio-economic factors, social prescribing, the development of an eldergogy, hybrid workforce implications, implementation, and evaluation of a wide range of intergenerational programs. Each of these were described as “arms of the research octopus”. However, they didn’t have the head of the octopus, pulling their work together into a peak body and disseminating the work by way of professional development courses and presentations. Join **Emeritus Prof, Anneke Fitzgerald** and hear how they built the head of the octopus and pulled it all together. The **Australian Institute of Intergenerational Practice** originated in December 2021 and has since developed into a membership-based not for profit company, led entirely by volunteers. In this talking table, Anneke will elaborate on the research they are doing to build their evidence base for best practice and on the development of their Institute and its relationships internationally.

#### 5 Researching and evaluating intergenerational practice in creative and playful ways.

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At the heart of play is the process. The desire to do something for its own sake, to adapt in-the-moment to what is going on, to not worry about the outcome but trust that the process of play is valuable enough. At the heart of intergenerational practice are processes. Intergenerational work is defined by its purposeful intent but does not necessarily have to focus on predetermined outcomes or outputs. The process of relationship building is valuable enough. More research is needed which focuses on these processes. The

question is, how should we attempt to understand them? **Lois Peach’s** research has started to explore creative ways of researching and evaluating intergenerational practice which focus on the processes of intergenerational interaction and relationship building. At this talking table, whilst engaging in playful activity and conversation, the hope is that we may share thoughts and ideas about how future research and evaluation may be more creative and playful.

#### 6. Is it really about age? From ageism to generationism

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We do know that good-quality intergenerational practices can reduce ageism. Hence, the World Health Organization has recommended “intergenerational contact interventions” as a strategy to reduce ageism. However, ageism refers only to stereotypes, prejudices and discrimination on the basis of age, but at the same time, intergenerational practices are not just about age (how old you are) but about generational location (to which generations you belong). Join **Dr. Mariano Sanchez** to consider paying priority attention instead to stereotypes, prejudices and discrimination on the basis of generational positions, i.e., in terms of generationism, when planning our intergenerational practices.

#### 7. From practice to policy: How to influence local and national government through lobbying, communication and social media

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Join **Ruairidh Smith**, to explore ways in which your local projects can be used to influence policy, locally and nationally. This discussion will explore ways to connect with councillors, MSPs and other key decision-makers, to help raise awareness and support for intergenerational practice. We will also explore the power of social media and how best to use your platform to reach the right places.

## 8. Intergenerational Practice in Social Work and Social Care

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The International Federation of Social Work (IFSW) explains that ‘Social workers work in communities with people finding positive ways forward in the challenges they face in their lives. They help people build the kind of environments in which they want to live...’ Intergenerational themes cut across many areas of social work practice. From Kinship Care, Family Group Conferencing, and young people transitioning to adult’s services, to community-minded supports that work alongside people in the everyday- you will often find social workers amidst them all.

The Scottish Government is currently debating a new National Care Service, intended to re-shape how care and support is experienced by those accessing support and those delivering it in the years ahead. Join Social Worker and GWT Trustee, **Jude Currie**, to explore how intergenerational practice can help create a good life and shape good quality social care and social work in our communities.

## 9. Trellis

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Join **Jenny Simpson and Joan Wilson** to hear about their recent work supporting an intergenerational prison garden. The project involves older men interacting with a younger cohort of residents to pass on their gardening skills. In addition, a group of elderly care home residents, travel locally to take part in gardening sessions in the group’s beautiful walled garden. Trellis would like to understand

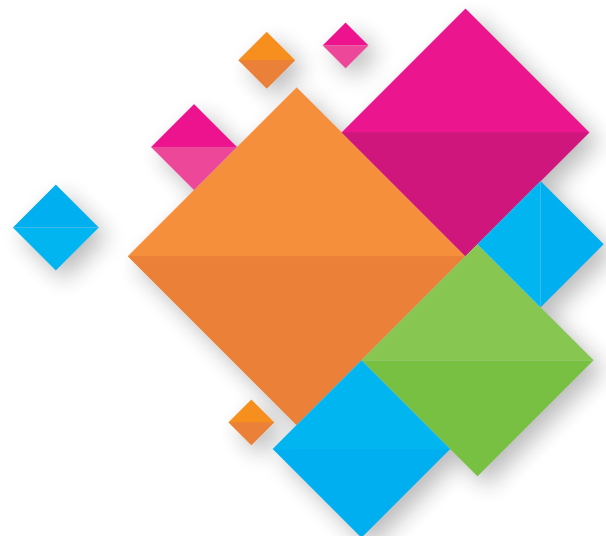
your needs and help break down the barriers to engaging in gardening activities in all settings. They welcome this opportunity to explore the use of gardening as a way of engaging the generations in dialogue, mutual social support, and wellbeing. No previous gardening knowledge required or assumed!

## 10. Loneliness & the benefits of intergenerational connections

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Can your organisation help to encourage this through the Month of Community?

When we think of loneliness, we tend to think of an elderly person on their own. This is not the case. Loneliness can appear at any age and at any point in our lives. Research shows us that loneliness is sadly on the increase amongst the younger generation. Join the **Eden Project** for a discussion which will explore ways in which we can reduce the stigma by building the national conversation on loneliness, enabling people to talk openly about loneliness and reach out for help. Let’s look back at how we used to live, supporting each other as part of a community and putting value back into our interactions with all members of the community.’





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