

## Greater Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Intergenerational Meeting Report



- Venue: Craigend Resource Centre, Greenock
- Date and time: 14th March 10 am – 12 pm

**In Attendance:** Ross Anderson Elderly Forum Lochwinnoch, Brian Power Craigend Resource Centre Manager, Diana Knox GWT Volunteer Coordinator and Activities Coordinator Glenfield, Kelly Aitken St Columba's Junior School, Kilmacolm, Carolyn Russell Renfrewshire Council.

**Apologies:** Lorna Crossan, George Waddell RAMH – Acumen, Allys Ludlow Trees for Cities, Karen Phin Calderwood Lodge Nursery Class, Beth RIG Arts, Liam McKitterick Home Instead Inverclyde & North Ayrshire.

**Welcome and introductions :** Special thanks to everyone who signed up for the session and the calls of apologies due to snow and weather conditions being a challenge for some who had further to travel from Greater Renfrewshire area. We welcomed two new people to the session and hopefully they are now members of [Generations Working Together](http://www.generationsworkingtogether.org). Thanks to Brian and [Craigend Resource Centre](#) for the use of their new facility.

**Local Updates from Greater Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Network :** We had a general conversation about some intergenerational work with two new members attending one who had never heard of intergenerational before. **Brian** explained that his project is currently funded through the community fund. Craigend offers a laundry service, café and community centre. The centre offers a space for community groups. He mentioned older people's group who have stories to share of world war 2 and digging for victory etc and also linking in with a food project looking at growing, cooking and sharing food together between generations. Brian aims to work with a group of older people and younger people (who are Duke of Edinburgh Awards) and come up with ideas. He sees that older people have expertise and knowledge of allotments and that they could share skills.

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**Diana** talked about the successes of IG projects that she has worked on and how they will continue to do this work as it is beneficial. EE contacted Diana and took part in 'Care Home Companions' where residents received phone calls – a Wednesday chat to residents, this has been beneficial, and Diana explained that she found out things about residents that she never would have known through these calls. The hosted a volunteer day and EE employees came out to the home and planted carrot, celery, potatoes, they have been the only care home to take up this offer. And they are fortunate to get visits 3 times a year. They helped put decorations up. The also got involved with the men in care home with guys walking round and having a chat with and read newspaper with 6 men. A new men's group has been set up and they can talk about men stuff. Its such a great thing with a 23-year-old talking with an 83-year-old. They selected residents according to match with attendees. They sent out a profile of the callers and they were able to matchmake.

**Kelly** works with 3 – 5-year-olds and has established regular IG work with Campbell Snowden, Quarriers Village every week. Early Years is based in the school and they have visits to both home and the school between the generations. It is more complicated to get the older people to come to the school as relying on cars makes it more difficult. They are involved in active bodies (PE), playdough etc and now have residents seeing improvement in their mobility with a real impact being seen here and an increase in the empathy from children. They are also part of a music project and recently hosted a concert with 100 people attending.

**Ross** suggested that the Rotary Club would be a good place to speak to about intergenerational work. There is a choir in Lochwinnoch with children joining the choir and it has been seen that they enjoy this and mix well with the generations.

**Carolyn** from HSCP Renfrewshire and has been involved in the Intergenerational Quiz which she is keen to get started again and join in with other local council areas. The quiz was done on a small budget and the toolkit is available (maybe they will redo it). Also as part of the quiz was 'Hanging the washing' where younger people had to hang the washing and older people came and judges if it was done properly. There was a music round or the quiz and general knowledge and famous people. Carolyn will investigate this and get back to us if there is an opportunity to get other councils involved.

**Information about Greater Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Network** : We know through Greater Renfrewshire & Inverclyde network consist of almost **270** member organisations. [Look at the link here](#) to see the membership and see if you can find someone who would be interested in linking in with you. Also notes from previous meetings will be available.

### **Updates from Generations Working Together**

**Thematic Network Meetings** : We continue to host the thematic network meetings online via zoom, here are the links, you can read more about them and choose which one would suit you most;

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[Ageism Network](#) Together with our membership GWT will host conversations around how intergenerational approaches can be used to address ageism.

[Housing, Places and Spaces Network](#) Join GWT's new network which will meet 3-4 times per year to share the latest information and resources from the field, facilitate peer learning, and grow the community of intergenerational housing, places and spaces.

[Research Network](#) Our aim is to connect practitioners, policy makers, academics and researchers who are actively or interested in investigating the impact of intergenerational work/relationships on both younger and older aged participants to come together to discuss research around intergenerational practice.

[Care Home Network](#) To build on the connections made with care homes across Scotland during the pandemic GWT would like to further develop these links by developing a thematic Care Home Network.

### ***Celebratory Events***

[Global intergenerational Week](#) takes place this year 24 – 30<sup>th</sup> April #GIW23. Have a look and see some of the fun activities that you can use to take part, such as Host a mix and mingle, a photo diary challenge, and watch the new promotional video.

[The Month of Community](#) is a time when we come together to celebrate everything that makes our communities great. Join in this June - whether you want to say cheers to volunteers, connect with your neighbours, support a cause you care about, or simply to say thank you, it's all part of the Month of Community!

[The Intergenerational Excellence Awards Winners](#) is something that takes place each year in recognition of the excellent intergenerational work in communities across Scotland and Internationally. Our Excellence Awards provide an opportunity for individuals and groups to celebrate their learning and success in building relationships between younger and older generations.

### ***Intergenerational Training***

1. [Intergenerational Training One Day Course](#) Intergenerational work is a proven approach which addresses a range of challenges facing people living across Scotland and the UK. The approach is gaining higher profile within the voluntary, public and private sectors and supports the delivery of the Scottish Government's policies and strategies including [A Connected Scotland](#) and [A Fairer Scotland for Older people](#). **Cost** £70 – Concession: GWT Member / Third Sector Under 250K / GWT Member Public £100 – Full: Non member/Private/Public
2. [International Certificate in Intergenerational Practice - Edition 3](#) 2:00pm  
Tuesday 2nd May - 11:00pm Monday 26th June 2023 Online

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This course is aimed at anyone who wants to gain a deeper understanding of intergenerational work, its purpose, impact and practical application to enable them to apply this within their own work.

*“I am so glad I came across this course! It has been so helpful and motivated me even more to persist and strive to bring the generations together.”*

*(Student, IDIL 2, 2021)*

**Cost** Member: £230 Non-Member £275

3. [Workplace \(2.5 hours\)](#) Age Awareness Training for Intergenerational Teams (Workplace)

With five generations in the workplace for the first time, the need for employers to understand and capitalise on their intergenerational workforce is greater than ever. Generations Working Together have developed a two and a half hour training course aimed at employers and employees to identify and address how intergenerational practice can increase collaboration in the workplace. Up to 16 participants per session (face to face) or up to 30 participants per session online.

**Cost** £400.00

Testimonial from [YUGO](#): *Thank you to Lorraine George and the team at Generations Working Together (GWT) for their insight on age awareness and helping our Yugoers grow by understanding what motivates different generations in the workplace. We are thankful for the knowledge of the benefits of an intergenerational workforce, and we learnt to feel more comfortable with problem-solving during situations. We highly recommend GWT's program for any organisation with intergenerational teams. (March 2023)*

**Next meeting:** Tuesday 2nd May 2023, 1:30pm - 3:30pm in VAER 56 Kelburn St, Barrhead, Glasgow G78 1LR [Google Maps](#)



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