

## Greater Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Network Meeting

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1.30 pm – 3.30pm  
In VAER 56 Kelburn St, Barrhead, Glasgow G78 1LR



**Attendees:** Sally Logan Renfrewshire Council, Isobel Sinclair Renfrewshire Adult and Family Learning Services, Allys Ludlow Trees for Cities, Carolyn Russell Renfrewshire HSCP, Diana Knox Greenock Medical Aid, Jean Guthrie Jewish Care Scotland, Charlie Murphy, Bella Kerr GWT

**Apologies:** Kirsty Cartin Manager and Christine Glass Activities Coordinator Rashielee Care Home, Val Mackay Inverclyde Council, Vicki McPhee and Nicole Telfer Jewish Care Scotland.

### Welcomes

We started with a welcome and intro and moved on quickly to a short icebreaker using some images of dancing both old time jive, disco, hip hop, break dance etc. This involved discussion about dancing today and memories of dancing in general. Each person chose a image and shared with the group and this formed a story which worked out like a kind of storytelling icebreaker conversation. Something that could be used between generations. We talked about Alexa and Discos and all sorts of ballrooms, dancing in the past and dancing now. Below are some examples of images:

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## Kaplan Levels

We touched upon the Kaplan levels, Bella explained what they were, and a conversation took place about the difference in the levels from before generations meeting each other at level 1 up to level 7 with a whole intergenerational community development. Bella will send out the levels to people attending and they can look at where they think they sit on the scale. This is something that can change depending on how well intergenerational work sits within organisations.

## Charlie Murphy and stakeholder pilot for GWT

Charlie Murphy works with GWT helping to develop our evaluation and planning. Charlie explained that he would like the attendees to assist with the pilot by filling in the evaluation. Everyone took part and all agreed that it seemed straight forward enough.

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## Case Study

We looked at example research 'A Study of Intergenerational Community Relationships' and in doing so explored further the other aspects of intergenerational relationships in our communities. People were interested in the ideas of the study and Bella explained that GWT have been funded to carry out a piece of participatory research. Conversations ensued and was interesting to hear peoples thoughts and insights into community of teenagers and older people. We discussed issues such as

- Fences down next to sheltered housing and it has become a short cut but older people relate people using it as up to no good, but they are just using a short cut.
- Loud noises and how older people can get alarmed and often younger people do not realise that this is the case (maybe due to balance issues, or sensory issues).
- Young people maybe have little understanding about mobility issues of older people.
- Children nowadays don't have older grandparents.
- Often the gap between older and younger people is a lack of understanding.
- Mention of Hairy Bikers Project that was on Channel 4 and how a young person had to put on a suit that an older man would wear and goggles that impaired this vision (thought that this was good for awareness raising of what it can be like to be older).
- We talked about eyesight, loud and sudden noises.
- We also discussed phones today and telephone boxes from the past.
- The conversations took us on to loneliness and isolation.

## Generational Names

We looked at generational names and people were quite surprised that they fitted into a certain generation and also people recognised there were traits that they saw in their own generation. One person said that her own son knew all of these terms and he was 20. Generational terms is something that we often forget about and it is a good way of looking at ageism and stereotypes and to recognise that generations have difference but that they also have great similarities.

## Local IG Network Conversation and Feedback

**Allys Ludlow** spoke about tree planting activities with her organisation. Trees for Cities have been involved in the first live Clyde Climate Forrest they are working with 8 local authorities across Glasgow City Region, tree planting in urban areas. Trees for climate action involves people up to the age of 30 engaging with older people they do not usually engage with, not familial. It is usually families that they work with, this is different. They also have tree planting maintenance days where they spruce up the trees. There is a lot of building knowledge and understanding around trees and a positive outlook working together. There is a lot of work involved in how to identify trees and look after them. There are tree guides, walks to see trees, the Clyde Climate Forrest is a low canopy cover for risk of climate change, there are

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areas in the city with no grass and the trees will create a shade. Look at the website [Trees for Cities](#) for further information.

**Sally Logan** works with 13 sheltered housing complexes looking at wellbeing activities. She is starting Phase 2 Poetic Urban Galleries – artwork completed with primary schools and older people encompassing story telling. The work is being funded through Sustrans and involves schools and sheltered housing to produce blogs, use shared notice board. They have a graffiti artist, a bench and picnic table, 3 cycle bike racks and a portacabin. They also have a Trishaw and aim to get older people out on this together with younger people.

**Jean Guthrie** a new team member with Jewish Care in Newton Mearns working with Calderwood lodge. Jewish Care are celebrating their 165<sup>th</sup> year they have a wellbeing community group which is a drop in with 20 – 40 people and the local Jewish Deli supplies food and this is all run with staff in the background. Thursday is intergenerational day with 10 people living on their own meet with people and go outings to different activities. Jean read out some quotes from children who took part in the IG relationships. Jewish Care were one of the excellence award Highly Commended in 2023 with **Encouraging Reciprocal Learning Highly Commended:** Jewish Care Scotland & Calderwood Lodge Primary School (Glasgow).

**Caroline Russell** shared her own work around the Intergenerational Quiz bringing primary schools and sheltered housing together or day centres and working in teams to compete. The quiz is something that Caroline hopes to bring back maybe next year as COVID is still influencing ability to truly open up. Caroline said that it has been difficult to engage, and that the area used to have an intergenerational coordinator which was Susan McDonald. Bella pointed out that Susan had championed the idea of an Intergenerational HUB and that Station 7 in Johnston became one.

Caroline asked if Bella could find out what IG work is happening across Renfrewshire. Bella will not have time to do this research but can ask the netw2ork to respond. There are a bits and pieces of work, and the network notes will raise awareness of some of this. GWT do gather as much information on this as possible when people attend networks and take part in training. The quiz usually takes place 10 – 12 times from April to November.

**Isobel Sinclair** Community Development Officer with Renfrewshire Council CLD works with adult learning, also a group Team up to Clean up. She is working towards volunteer's week with an event. Isobel Sinclair is interested in quiz questions and Caroline agreed to send this information to her. Also the discussion looked something that older and younger people could do together such as what do you have in common think of three things. Bringing youth volunteers and older volunteers together can be challenging and Isobel spoke about Teaming up to Gen up with CLD Renfrewshire. They work with Duke of Edinburgh volunteer young people and older people now realise that younger people also volunteer. Some of the volunteers that she is working with are in their 60s and it is good for them to meet others from a younger generation.

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**Diana Knox** is GWT volunteer co-ordinator for Greater Renfrewshire and Inverclyde. Diana is an activity coordinator with Greenock Medical Aid and she is working on an IG project with Glenfield Nursing Home and Glenpark Early Learning centre in Greenock. It is a 6-week programme planned by Dianna and it can be shared with anyone interested in this idea. Diana explained that they are also having a Coronation Party with parents and grandparents invited. The 6-week programme is based on Wellbeing for All Ages. The weeks are planned as follows:

1. My name is and introductions meet and greet.
2. Reading session / buddied
3. Home grown and home cooking.
4. Exercise walking group.
5. Sing song.
6. Arts and crafts.

Each session lasting approx. 1 hour.

Diana shared information about a contact that she has with EE where the home have phone calls from volunteers and one lady who has no visitors or family benefits from this. Also there is a men's group who meet for 1 hour every second week talking about men's stuff.

Bella welcomes if anyone would like to take on their role for East Renfrewshire.

### **Next network meeting**

Bella explained that the next network meeting will take place in September at Tannahill Centre, Paisley.

### **Future venues for 2024**

Plans for network meetings the following year will be in Kilmacolm, Renfrew and Paisley. Sally has kindly offered a room in sheltered housing and Bella has agreed that this would be most welcomed.

Evaluation – everyone filled in GWT network evaluation form.

Network is reminded that if they have a specific topic that they want to be discussed at a network meeting, let Bella know and we can put on the agenda.

## **Updates from Generations Working Together**

**GWT News, Trainings & Events**

**National Intergenerational News**

**GWT Annual Conference**

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The Conference took place at the beginning of March in Glasgow. This year several academics from around the world were in attendance. The main point of discussion and audience participation was 'What does Intergenerational Quality Look Like?' An outline of the day was given including the presentations of the GWT Excellence Awards.

Graham Hunter outlined the workshop which he hosted at the Conference.

### **GWT Excellence Awards**

Each year applications are opened in November with various criteria for projects to submit stories of their intergenerational interactions.

To view films of this year's award winners please follow the link for inspiration.

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/qwts-excellence-awards-2023>

In 2022, there was a workshop to help applicants apply for an Excellence Award. People present stated that they would like to attend the 2023 workshop for guidelines. Everyone present was encouraged to apply.

### **Social Isolation and Loneliness Fund**

Christina McKelvie, the then Minister for Equalities and Older People, announced the news about the social isolation and loneliness fund (SIAL) at our conference on 8th March. Those present were asked if they applied for funding. Lorraine and Graham had reported that they had applied on behalf of a couple of groups and that they were through to the second round. Others stated that they were not in a position to apply due to such applications being completed by others in their organisation. There was discussion about capacity to apply for funding. There is a funding workshop planned by GWT about general funding applications, with hints and tips of what the funder is looking for. Those present were all keen to attend. Details of the workshop will be announced on the GWT website and newsletter.

### **Generations Working Together Website**

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/>

The website is due for a major tidy/updating and we would like to hear from our members what they do not like about it or what they find difficult to access. We would also like to know what members do like and what they would like to keep. We have had some suggestions of inserting Twitter feeds, is there anything else that you feel should be inserted?

The Network page is a page for members who deliver an intergenerational approach in geographical areas throughout Scotland, it is a space to publicise what is going on and a space to make connections. If you would like your project highlighted, please do get in touch with your Network coordinator Bella Kerr – [bella@gwt.scot](mailto:bella@gwt.scot) or with a member of the GWT team.

### **GWT Successful Funding Bids**

GWT was successful in receiving funding to create a publication for an intergenerational approach to older people. Lorraine George, Learning and Development Officer will be visiting groups and hosting online sessions with groups to research and hear about their existing approaches to recruiting, maintaining, training and delivering intergenerational projects with older people. Lorraine will identify commonalities and gaps which GWT could support with to encourage more participation of older people in projects. She will then create a publication for the wider community to use. If you represent an older people's group and

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would like to contribute to the initial research, please get in touch with Lorraine directly.  
[Lorraine@gwt.scot](mailto:Lorraine@gwt.scot)

## **Participatory Research and Community Safety**

GWT are preparing work on new ground-breaking participatory research. Funded by [UK Research and Innovation](#) and delivered by [The Young Foundation](#), the Community Knowledge Fund supports grassroots community groups and organisations across the UK to find new solutions to local and national challenges by uncovering knowledge and turning great ideas into action. GWT are currently in Phase 1 of the grant process which they are working on over the first 6 months (ending in July 2023) to explore participatory research and develop an Intergenerational Framework testing intergenerational relationships in Glasgow centre area. They have set up their first meetings with Youth Groups and groups of older people on this community led research. The intergenerational approach is aiming to allow all voices to be heard so that people can work together to explore community safety and intergenerational interventions. We aim to get to phase 2 of the research and will keep you informed on the progress and indeed invite people to take part. [Bella Kerr](#) is the Intergenerational Development Officer facilitating the research and she can be contacted if you wish to know anything further.

## **Global Intergenerational Week**

[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.

***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;

[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**

[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!

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## ***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

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)*