



Centre for
Intergenerational
Practice

Newsletter: Autumn 2011

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Editorial

Hello and welcome to the Autumn issue of the newsletter.

The Beth Johnson Foundation (BJF) is delighted that its Chief Executive, Alan Hatton-Yeo, is one of the recipients of the first Awards for All Ages run by United for All Ages in the 'Pioneers for All Ages' category. We would like to extend our congratulations to all of the winners of the awards, many of who we have worked with in the past; more on this in the news section.

BJF is one of the founding members of Age Action Alliance launched on 30 September and is one of only two voluntary organisations on the steering group. "We believe that projects undertaken by AAA will have significant positive impact on the lives of older people living in the UK" Alan Hatton-Yeo, BJF's Chief Executive.

2012 is the European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations. As part of celebrating 2012, the Journal of Intergenerational Relationships is to publish a special edition on intergenerational work in Europe and has put a [call out for papers](#).

CIP now has a library of around 117 case studies on its website that you can search for ideas across a variety of themes. We are always happy to promote projects and good practice but would be really interested to hear about the projects that didn't work so well or ones that had problems and how you overcame them or adapted the work – watch out for the call.

Our special thanks to everyone who has contributed to this issue. If you would like to receive updates from CIP join our free network via the website [here](#).

Best wishes

Louise & the CIP team

Louise Middleton, CIP Manager

News

Beth Johnson Foundation's Chief Executive receives accolade as a Pioneer for All Ages

Winners of the first Awards for All Ages were announced at a special event in the House of Lords on Tuesday 15 November 2011. The 2011 awards run by United for All Ages were presented at the event hosted by Baroness Sally Greengross and compered by broadcaster Fi Glover.

There were thirteen winners in six categories showing how older and younger people can be brought together in different ways to build stronger communities and end the 'age apartheid' in Britain. The winners provided great examples of how to tackle youth unemployment, make the most of community facilities, tackle loneliness and isolation, and share learning and experience across ages.

Stephen Burke and Denise Burke, directors of United for All Ages, said: "Congratulations to all the winners of the first Awards for All Ages. They are great examples of what can be done by and for all ages. Their efforts and inspiration are creating a Britain for all ages" Full details of the winners are included in a special brochure on the United for All Ages Website [here](#).

Celebrating Intergenerational Diversity in the LGBT Community

Between Autumn 2010 and Spring 2011, three intergenerational projects took place in different areas of England to promote solidarity and improve relations between different generations of the LGBT community. The International Longevity Centre (ILC) UK in partnership with AGE UK have produced an evidence review examining some of the specific issues and challenges facing older and younger LGBT people and the potential for intergenerational work, a detailed evaluation report of the projects and a tool kit to highlight best practice and inspire future LGBT intergenerational reports.

The ILC-UK identified a series of outcomes and key learning opportunities arising from the projects, and has made a number of recommendations for improving further the outcomes of future LGBT intergenerational work. The summary, report and toolkit can be accessed on the CIP website: <http://www.centreforip.org.uk/news/celebrating-intergenerational-diversity-in-the-lgbt-community> If you would like any further details on any aspect of the report, please get in touch with Sally-Marie Bamford sallymariebamford@ilcuk.org.uk and Dr Dylan Kneale dylandkneale@ilcuk.org.uk, Senior Researchers at the ILC-UK. ILC would also welcome your comments and views on the research.

2012 European Year on Active Ageing and Intergenerational Solidarity

2012 is the European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, a chance for all of us to reflect on how Europeans are living longer and staying healthier than ever before. It is also fundamental to maintaining solidarity between generations in societies with rapidly increasing numbers of older people. The European Year 2012 will be officially launched on [18-19 January 2012](#) in Copenhagen under the Danish Presidency: AGE and the Coalition of stakeholders promoting the European Year 2012 for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations launched a "[Manifesto for an age-friendly European Union](#)". Please visit the EY2012 website: www.active-ageing-2012.eu



European Year for **Active Ageing**
and **Solidarity between Generations 2012**



Linking Generations Northern Ireland:

Launches its first newsletter and first evaluation of the programme

Linking Generations Northern Ireland (LGNI) has been successful in obtaining continuation funding from Atlantic Philanthropies to April 2014 and has produced its [first newsletter](#), which will now be produced bi-monthly. The [Evaluation Report of LGNI](#) was launched at Belfast City Hall on 15 November. Please visit the CIP website to access information on LGNI initiatives and contact details: <http://www.centreforip.org.uk/northern-ireland>

Historypin is a way for millions of people to come together, from across different generations, cultures and places, to share small glimpses of the past and to build up the huge story of human history. Everyone has history to share: whether it's sitting in yellowed albums in the attic, collected in piles of crackly tapes, conserved in the 1000s of archives all over the world or passed down in memories and old stories. Each of these pieces of history finds a home on Historypin, where everyone has the chance to see it, add to it, learn from it, debate it and use it to build up a more complete understanding of the world. [visit the historypin website](#) For comments or contributions contact simon.wilkinson1@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Events

Age Exchange and the British Film Institute present film screening

BFI Southbank, Belvedere Road, South Bank, London SE1 8XT

The People's Story: Monday 5th December 11.00am-1.45pm

A documentary demonstrating how filmmaking can empower communities. It marks the end of *The People's Story*, an 18 month intergenerational project in Enfield Island and Edmonton, North London that has used reminiscence workshops, interviews, an exhibition and a large-scale intergenerational reminiscence theatre production.



The area has suffered from high levels of deprivation and unemployment, particularly among young people. Since 1999 it has experienced a major period of regeneration. The project spans across two areas in Enfield and Edmonton, both steeped in cultural heritage. Enfield Island Village is renowned for the famous Arms factory, previously situated on the site. Many retired arms factory workers have participated in the project along with local youth, older residents in care and new arrivals to the area from diverse communities.

The People's Story is supported by Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, London & Quadrant housing association and the Ujima Foundation: www.peoples-story.co.uk

The screening will be followed by a short discussion with the filmmaker, participants and audience; light lunch will be provided. The screenings are **free** – book early to reserve your place. To book email clairepollock@gmail.com www.age-exchange.org.uk

Filmmaking training offer

'Overload' and 'The People's Story' have been made by filmmaker Ivan Riches. There will be a 20% discount for film screening attendees signing up for Ivan's up and coming Community filmmaking and Filmmaking for artists and professionals working with mental health service users training courses at Age Exchange.

Resources

Bringing Generations Together:

Early insights from age2age, a HACT Housing and Support project

This report, by Dr Gillian Granville, presents the evaluation findings from the development stage of the age2age programme – an initiative of HACT – the housing action charity. It covers the period from summer 2008 when the first age2age projects were being set-up in Cumbria until the end of the first round of grants in Cumbria and East London (March 2011). The report explores the learning that is emerging from this development stage and identifies and informs areas that will be further explored and consolidated in the remaining eighteen months of the programme. A final evaluation report is due in December 2012; the report is available on the CIP website:

<http://www.centreforip.org.uk/res/documents/publication/age2age%20%20bringing%20generations%20together%20July%202011.pdf>

Experiencing Grandparenthood - An Asian Perspective

As the population of Asia grows older, attention turns to the growing numbers of grandparents, and the important family and societal roles they play. This book traces the socio-cultural, economic and family transformations in the role of grandparents that result from a century of modernization, urbanization and demographic aging. Filling a gap in the current literature, *Experiencing Grandparenthood: An Asian Perspective* seeks to answer such vital questions as: What is the state of grandparenting in the Asian context today? How do the roles and functions of grandparents differ depending on rural/urban differences, their relations with daughters and daughters-in-law, and changing health of the grandparents? This multidisciplinary, cross-national and inter-generational publication lends voice to the experience of grandparents in China, Japan, Hong Kong, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore. The volume's strength lies in its rich body of qualitative, three-generational data drawn from grandparents, link parents and grandchildren.

Experiencing Grandparenthood: An Asian Perspective will benefit gerontologists, social researchers, anthropologists, social workers, policy makers, professionals working with aging families and family caregivers. For further information on this book and how to purchase see the Springer website: <http://www.springer.com/social+sciences/well-being/book/978-94-007-2302-3>

Journal for Intergenerational Relationships

The Journal is the only international journal focusing exclusively on the intergenerational field from practical, theoretical, and social policy perspectives. This unique global forum features information about the latest research and programme development on intergenerational aspects of a range of global social issues and frontier topics in family studies from around the world. <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/WJIR>

The Journal is pleased to announce that Alan Hatton-Yeo, Chief Executive Beth Johnson Foundation and Dr Leng Leng Thang, National University of Singapore have been invited to be the new associate editors of JIR; Alan has been on the editorial board for 4 years.

Funding

Please find below some possible funding options for intergenerational projects:

Innovative Actions Against Crime (England and Wales)

The fund is managed by the Community Development Foundation to encourage greater community activism and enable communities to develop innovative approaches to tackling the local crime issues that matter to them. It aims to encourage effective partnerships to get everybody working together to tackle crime. Not-for-profit organisations, social and community enterprises and informal groups with a social purpose can apply for funding; applications from grassroots community groups are especially encouraged.

Two levels of funding grants are available; up to £15,000 per year and £15,001 - £50,000. The closing date for applications is the 1st December 2011; see the CDF website for more information

<http://www.cdf.org.uk/web/guest/crime-innovation-fund>

Please note: CDF is only managing this fund in England, applicants in **Wales** should visit the Home Office website: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime/partnerships/innovation-fund/>

Co-operative Community Fund

Community Fund grants, between £100 and £2,000 are awarded to community, voluntary, or self-help groups to run projects that carry out positive work in the community to address community issues, provide long-term benefit to the community, support co-operative values and principles and ideally be innovative in its approach: <http://www.co-operative.coop/membership/local-communities/community-fund/funding-selection-criteria/>

LandAid is the property industry's charity which supports projects that help disadvantaged young people. Grants of between £5,000 and £25,000 are available through two funding streams. The Training, Education and Support Fund is aimed at disadvantaged young people aged 16-25 this can include NEETS, homeless or those from a low income background. Projects should engage young people and lead to recognised qualifications. The closing date for applications is 31st January 2012: <http://www.landaid.org/grants/>

Nominet Trust £250k Challenge (UK)

The Nominet Trust provides support to organisations and projects working to increase access to the internet, online safety and education, has launched £250k Challenge to support projects that work with older people (65+). The fund will support projects to use the internet to address specific social problems facing older people and design new and better ways for older people to access and use the internet. The deadline for first stage applications is 1st February 2012

<http://www.nominettrust.org.uk/nominet-trust-%C2%A3250k-challenge>

Projects

Wombourne Girls bringing the Generations Together

April Lewis, Intergenerational Community Development Officer, Beth Johnson Foundation

This project is part of a wider programme of work called Working Together in Wombourne which aims to break down barriers between young people, older people and the wider community through the development of Intergenerational Practice. The project has been designed by a team of young women who want to improve the relationship between the young and older people in Wombourne. Their focus is on reducing social isolation for older people, reducing the fear of crime and improved health and well being.

The young women who have been taking part in this project are aged 12 to 17; all are at school or college and are keen to make a difference to their lives and those of the older people around them.

Phase one

The first phase of this work focused on aromatherapy, hand and arm massage and manicures. The grant from the Staffordshire Cares: Community Wellbeing Fund allowed the girls to bring in the expert services of Lindy Ivory and Natasha Owen from Fellas Barbers of Bradmore, Staffordshire. Lindy and Natasha tutored the girls through every process, provided training notes and folders and were a constant source of support and encouragement throughout; additional support was provided by local PCSO's, Staffordshire Housing Association and the Beth Johnson Foundation.

Outcomes

The sessions ran every Monday evening at Waterfield House and were very popular with the older participants. In total twelve older people over the age of seventy took part, four older men and eight women, eight older people came to every session. Ten of the twelve were lone pensioners; only two still have their spouse. None of the 12 would normally meet up on a Monday evening, and all of the older people reported that they enjoyed the sessions and benefited a great deal. Six of the older people said that they had learned techniques that they will or have tried again at home, particularly the massage.

All of the older people enjoyed the company of the young women and none of the older people were concerned about doing this project with local young people. It would be possible that if any of the older residents of Waterfield House had been concerned about spending time with local young people they had chosen not to take part in this project and only those that were comfortable in the company of young people chose to take part.

Comments from the older people about the girls who took part include "they were very good, very helpful", that they "were lovely". One of the staff who supported the session noted that "the older people will miss the girls when this project has finished". Lindy said that "it was nice to see how well they have mixed and that shown great respect from one to the other".

In total eight young women took part in this project with three attending 90% of the sessions. Many of the girls were nervous of meeting and spending time with the older people. They were concerned about "upsetting" them and of what the older people might say, "they could get cross with me" one girl added. By the end of the project all of the girls were confident about being able to talk to an older person and would talk to any of the older people on this project when they saw them again.

Next steps

Phase two of this programme will focus on craft and will be supported by Staffordshire Young People's Service; it will be based at the Library in the centre of the village. The Library has good access to the building and is a venue that is frequently used by both age groups. With the offer of free transport for those who can not walk or drive to the venue the girls are confident that they will continue to attract older members of the community who are less mobile.

The final phase of the programme on cooking started in September; for further information on the project please contact Jay Alexander: james.alexander@staffordshire.gov.uk

Perceptions of Age

April Lewis, intergenerational Community Development worker, Beth Johnson Foundation

The gap between young and older people is widening with both age groups experiencing negative stereotyping from the media and society; Penkridge in South Staffordshire has one of the highest levels of reported Anti Social Behaviour.

The Perceptions of Age project is part of a wider programme of work by the PNN Village Impact Partnership Team that aims to promote good neighbourliness, community cohesion and pro-social behaviour. The aim is to have a positive impact on community safety by reducing the fear of crime, improving communication within communities and providing positive pro-social role models for children and young people to aspire to.

Contact was made with older residents at Riverside Sheltered Housing complex to and a small group of older people quickly volunteered their time, helped to book the room and promote the activity to their friends.

Prior to bringing young people from Penkridge Youth Forum to the joint workshops they were asked; What might older people think of young people based on what they hear in the media?

The list was very negative and included comments such as "we're all yobbo's/ chav's, we're badly behaved, bad tempered, ignorant, we smell/are dirty, greedy, rely on parents too much, we're noisy, anti-social/ vandals, lazy etc.

They were then asked what would they want older people to know about them?

The list included "that I was a house captain, I want to be a fireman or a teacher, how we work and how we are active, what we do after school, that I'm funny, I actively help out at home and at school, I think about the future positively, I want to be a journalist, I'm mad about football/tennis/aeroplanes/F1, I am trustworthy and concerned about the environment".

This was followed by what do they think about old people based on the media?

Again another very negative list that included "Old" is over 60, that they are worried about their health, they don't like young people, they are lonely, moody, they can be aggressive, they use their age as an excuse, they are disadvantaged, have a lack of choice, don't feel listened to and feel out of touch".

Three workshops then focused on what the two age groups have in common, what they can learn from each other and a debate on discipline, the perceptions questions were asked again showing a marked difference in the opinions of those who took part.



None of the older people now believed the poor perceptions around this group of young people. Many of the older people were of the opinion that, although the young people they had met through this project were sociable and didn't drink or take drugs that young people in the area did sometimes take part in noisy anti-social behaviour and sometimes they did drink and take drugs.

None of the young people now believed their earlier perceptions of older people; all of the young people also believe that the older people are misjudged and many feel that they have a lack of choice and don't feel listened to.

The young people were pleased to have had the opportunity to share with the older residents what they do during and after school, their aspirations for the future, that they are not idiots, they are funny and regularly help out at home.

The conclusion that the young and older people came to as a result of this project was that they were all the same just a different age. The young people will take what has been learned from this project and turn it into a poster campaign and a press release to challenge poor perceptions relating to age, and are planning future work with Riverside.

Wales

Riverside Court Link up with Cwmtawe Comprehensive School

Rachel Gardiner NPT Homes Communications Officer

Tenants living in Riverside Court, Pontardawe are linking up with their young neighbours who are pupils from Cwmtawe Comprehensive School.

Four year 10 students at the nearby school have recently signed up to complete a Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, with a key aspect of the scheme being community work.

Since May they have visited Riverside Court every Wednesday afternoon as part of the volunteering aspect of the award, and have made a commitment to help elderly tenants in the scheme for the next 3 months.

Savannah Preece and Rhiannon Todd help residents with shopping and prepare coffee, tea and biscuits. Luke Murphy and Tom Cullen help keen gardener Dorothy Lewis ensure the grounds of Riverside Court are looking their best.



Riverside Court tenant Catherine Henwood said:

“We hear so many bad things said about youngsters today, but it’s a pleasure being in the company of these pupils who are always courteous and well-mannered. We enjoy listening to their views on different topics and hope they will learn from our views too. We value their help very much and the fact that they wish to do things for us. A very enjoyable afternoon is spent in their company – young and old together!”

Director of Housing and Community Regeneration Claire Maimone said:

“This is the first time we have linked up with local pupils embarking on the Duke of Edinburgh award and are delighted with the positive feedback we have had from tenants. As a social landlord it is important that we work in partnership with local schools and other organisations to benefit our tenants and the community as a whole.”

For further information please contact NPT Homes Communications Officer, Rachel Gardiner on: 01639 622426/ rachel.gardiner@npthomes.co.uk

Connecting Generations Project Cardiff



Initially funded by the Millennium Stadium Trust, the Cardiff Connecting Generations Project has gone from strength to strength. Over the past year the project has created links between older volunteers and pupils at a number of Cardiff schools with a range of activities and events. Some of the activities are 1 day events e.g. the World War 2 visits in which volunteers take in a range of artefacts (including an army jeep and working field radios) for the children to handle and discuss. These have proved very popular with a waiting list of schools ready for next term.

Following on from the one day visits, the volunteers have made return visits to some of the schools on a regular basis during which time they have worked with the children to create booklets on childhood memories. Comparisons of childhood experiences of both young and old have been included which gave the participants an insight in to the similarities and differences of life experiences down the generations. Running alongside this, the project has also included regular 'cooking together' sessions. These have grown organically from initial half day sessions to a regular weekly occurrence at Greenway School in Cardiff. At the end of last term the children and volunteers prepared all the food and held a 'Tea at Greenway' afternoon for members of the wider community. The volunteer organiser has secured further funding from the local Voluntary Action Bureau to enable them to purchase more equipment and ensure the sessions can continue.



***Don't forget! ***

If you would like to contribute an article or would like information promoted in the newsletter or on our website, we will be pleased to hear from you.

People reporting on their projects and experiences of intergenerational practice add value to our work and publications.

Please note the deadline date for inclusion in the next edition of the newsletter is:

4th January 2012

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