

Hostelling International Northern Ireland 'Looking Back Looking Forward'

This two-day project involved 10 young people and 8 older people from the local secondary school and a community group. It included an initial session of games, teambuilding, storytelling and a photography lesson around the Bushmills area. On the second day participants were split into mixed age groups where story boards were created dealing with people's experiences of Bushmills, school days and life in general. Afterwards the participants went out to take pictures that told their story. We also conducted interviews during the second session with young people interviewing older people. To tackle the problem of perceptions and stereotypes between the generations, emphasis during the two days was placed on listening to one another, talking about and sharing experiences, and learning from one another. There was a relaxed atmosphere throughout the project and everyone got on well. Learning was informal and barriers between the generations were addressed via the games and activities.

Older people's reflections...

Overall the project was excellent. My view of young people has grown; I have more respect for them.

Young people's reflections...

I would like to spend more time with the OAPS.

