



Research into: Intergenerational Projects in Battersea (SW11)

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Contact:

Richard Falkus

richard@klsettlement.org.uk

020 7223 2845

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1. Executive Summary

Katherine Low Settlement (KLS) carried out research to find out what intergenerational projects are present in the Big Local SW11 area of Battersea, and whether there is a demand for more. This is to help Big Local SW11 understand the extent of the problem of loneliness and isolation in the SW11 area, and what exists to tackle this issue.

2. Key Findings

2.1 There are a range of projects in Battersea that involve various age groups coming together, but most would not identify themselves as intentionally intergenerational. There are exceptions such as Age UK Wandsworth's school programme and befriending scheme.

All of the projects that I run at Thrive are intergenerational. They weren't deliberately set up as this though. Our 'general session' groups of gardeners are a mix of service users – mixed abilities/diagnoses and mixed ages. We work with college leavers all the way up to people in their 70s. – Lu Curtis, Thrive

2.2 Isolation and loneliness is an issue in Battersea and all over London. Timeout carried out a City Index survey that indicated 55% of people in London experience loneliness, making it one of the loneliest cities in the world.

Age UK's [national loneliness map](#) highlights a large proportion of Battersea as being at 'Very high risk' of loneliness, particularly around the area of Latchmere. Battersea Befriending Scheme, Age UK's Be-a-Friend Service and Sound Mind's drop in services are all set up to tackle this issue locally.

2.3 There are loneliness and isolation projects in London that have evidence of significant positive outcomes for people who are lonely. For instance Opening Doors London is a programme run by Age UK Camden which works to support a membership of almost 1000 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Londoners through social activities. 81 per cent of beneficiaries said they felt more connected to the LGBT community because of their involvement with the project.

2.4 Projects can tackle loneliness and isolation without it being a primary focus. Open Age provides older people with ways to share their skills and knowledge with others. The project found that many of their beneficiaries preferred 'championing an active life for older people' to be the focus, rather than loneliness, as many people prefer not to identify themselves as being lonely.

3. Recommendations

3.1 Set up a network between projects that are intergenerational. By creating a group of community leaders who are passionate about intergenerational work and community cohesion, this could create more potential for working together to tackle loneliness and isolation. For instance there may be potential to run some of their projects in partnership with one another to reach more people.

3.2 Fund an existing local project. Big Local SW11 could fund a project that they feel is already making a large impact on loneliness and isolation, if they feel that further funding of that project would be the most effective use of funding.

3.3 Fund a new project. The issue of loneliness and isolation is prevalent within Battersea and a new project might create new awareness of the issue locally and attract local people to support it. The project should be evidence-led and follow good practice that has been effective in other areas of London.

3.4 Develop a loneliness and isolation strategy for Battersea. Create a multi-faceted 5-year-plan for Battersea that looks for long-term solutions to the issue. This could involve input from various local people who are well informed on this issue locally.

4. Purpose

4.1 What is Big Local SW11? Big Local SW11 is an independent, resident led group that has been awarded one million pounds to invest in projects that improve opportunities for local people and strengthen their community.

4.2 The purpose of this research is to find out what intergenerational projects are present in Battersea, and whether there is a demand for more. This is to help Big Local SW11 understand the extent of the problem of loneliness and isolation locally and be more informed on their next steps in tackling this issue.

4.3 This research will look into good practice examples from areas of London outside of Battersea, which can be learned from to make a similar impact locally.

4.4 Definition of intergenerational: The use of the term intergenerational in the context of this research is used to describe projects that bring together people of different age groups. This could mean any two or more different age groups, not just children and older people.

5. Methodology

4.1 To complete this research, KLS used multiple methods to gather information. KLS contacted a wide-range of local government contacts, third sector organisations, funders, and local people to ask them to identify intergenerational projects in Battersea.

4.2 A majority of our research was desk-based, searching for information online and exchanging emails with people. We contacted 59 people by email, and received responses from 25. We contacted people we thought might either be running intergenerational projects themselves, or know of others who are. For instance a number of intergenerational projects were identified by the Expert Patients Programme Manager of Wandsworth's Clinical Commissioning Group.

4.3 Various people running intergenerational projects were spoken to by telephone.

4.4 The researchers spoke face-to-face to a range of local people about intergenerational projects and the issue of loneliness and isolation.

6. The Impact of Loneliness and Isolation

This section covers the impact that loneliness and isolation can have on the physical and mental wellbeing of people of all ages.

Campaign to End Loneliness

This campaigning group have published the following information on their website.

Loneliness and social isolation are harmful to our health: research shows that lacking social connections is as damaging to our health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day (Holt-Lunstad, 2015). Social networks and friendships not only have an impact on reducing the risk of mortality or developing certain diseases, but they also help individuals to recover when they do fall ill (Marmot, 2010).

Impact of loneliness on mental health:

- Loneliness puts individuals at greater risk of cognitive decline (James et al, 2011)
- One study concludes lonely people have a 64% increased chance of developing clinical dementia (Holwerda et al, 2012)
- Lonely individuals are more prone to depression (Cacioppo et al, 2006) (Green et al, 1992)
- Loneliness and low social interaction are predictive of suicide in older age (O'Connell et al, 2004)

Academic research is clear that preventing and alleviating loneliness is vital to enabling older people to remain as independent as possible. Lonely individuals are more likely to:

- Visit their GP, have higher use of medication, higher incidence of falls and increased risk factors for long term care (Cohen, 2006)
- Undergo early entry into residential or nursing care (Russell et al, 1997)
- Use accident and emergency services independent of chronic illness. (Geller, Janson, McGovern and Valdini, 1999)

Mind

People who live in certain circumstances, or belong to particular groups, are more vulnerable to loneliness. For example, if you:

- have no friends or family
- are estranged from your family
- are a single parent or care for someone else – you may find it hard to maintain a social life
- belong to minority groups and live in an area without others from a similar background
- are excluded from social activities due to mobility problems or a shortage of money
- experience discrimination and stigma because of a disability or long-term health problem, including mental health problems
- experience discrimination and stigma because of your gender, race or sexual orientation

- have experienced sexual or physical abuse – you may find it harder to form close relationships with other people.

7. Loneliness and Isolation in Battersea

This section will look at the issue of loneliness and isolation in London and Battersea.

7.1 A City Index survey carried out by Timeout in 2017 revealed London to be one of the loneliest cities in the world, with over half of people of all adults ages reporting feeling lonely at least ‘sometimes’. Age UK created a loneliness risk map of the UK. As seen in the map below, numerous areas within Battersea are highlighted as at a ‘Very High’ risk of loneliness. The criteria used to measure this risk include:

- marital status
- self-reported health status
- age
- household size

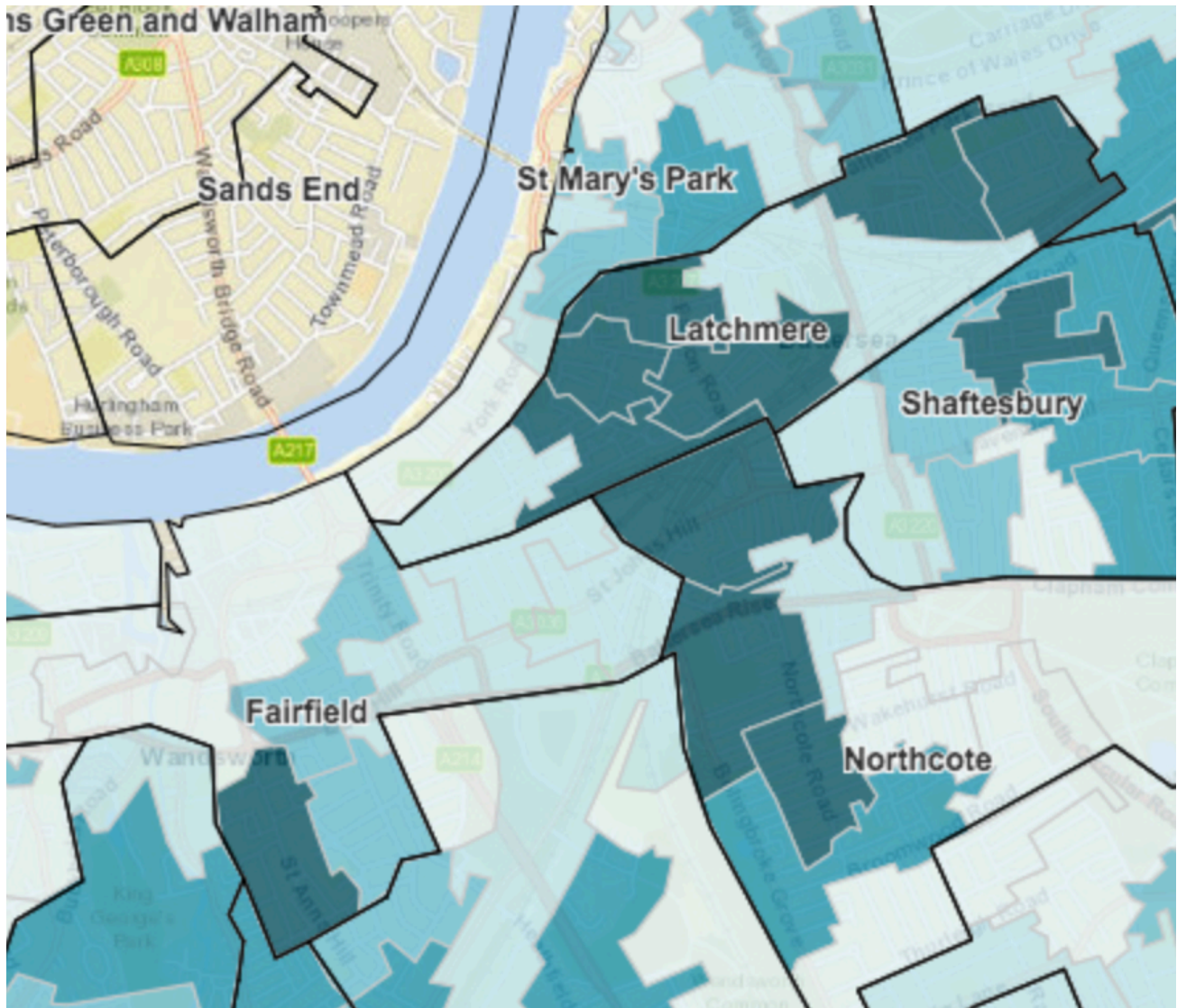
7.2 During the course of this research, we had numerous discussions with people who all agreed that loneliness and isolation is an issue in Battersea.

Some said that the issue of loneliness locally is part of a larger issue caused by people spending more time indoors and using technology to socialise, which doesn’t fulfil people’s need for human connection.

Aaron Barbour from Katherine Low Settlement noted that from their own work with older people in Battersea, it was apparent that the ageing population was also having an impact on isolation and loneliness locally, as there are an increasing amount of people living alone who are lacking confidence and the physical ability to go out and interact with others. Sam from Sound Mind’s mental health lunch project Mama Low’s Kitchen said that it is not only older people who are facing loneliness locally, but all people of all ages, particularly those experiencing mental health issues.

All people spoken to as part of this research felt that more local intergenerational projects would have a positive impact on loneliness and isolation. Most said they would be happy to take part in any new projects in some way.

Age UK Loneliness Map of Battersea (darker colours = higher risk of loneliness)



8. Good practice examples (in London)

The following are London-based projects outside of Battersea that have proven effective in tackling loneliness and isolation.

8.1 Open Age – www.openage.org.uk

Based in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Westminster, and Hammersmith and Fulham.

Open Age is a charity operating primarily in the to create chances for older Londoners to work, learn, take part and stay healthy in body and mind. The project provides almost 400 weekly activities across community venues and its own activity centres and hubs.

In addition to the huge range of creative and performing arts opportunities, computer and iPad classes, dance and physical activity sessions, social groups, lunch groups and trips, Open Age also provide facilitated phone activities for those who are housebound, activities for carers and special daily men's sessions.

Open Age place a heavy emphasis on the provision of activity and learning, rather than social contact in itself, as they find that this creates a more attractive offer to older people. The Charity's activities are led by the interests of older members, who are actively involved in leading the organisation.

In a 2019 evaluation survey by the charity, it showed that 85 per cent of the 1,366 members who responded said that they had made new friends and had a social life through attending Open Age.

8.2 The Together Project – thetogetherproject.co.uk

Based in North East London with activities around London and Southern England.

The Together Project designs creative activities that are rolled out at scale to reach as much of the UK as possible. Each activity brings together at least two different age groups who might not normally come into regular contact, with a focus on fun and friendship.

Their most widely used format is Songs & Smiles, a weekly singing and social group for babies and toddlers, their grown-ups and older people, held in residential care homes. It's been running in London since July 2017 and is now also in Surrey, Suffolk and Essex.

Feedback from care home residents:

- Uplift in mood and happiness levels
- Improvement in motor skills and physical abilities
- Development of verbal and communication abilities for those living with dementia
- Increased opportunities to interact with other adults
- Increased sense of 'something to look forward to'

Feedback from parents/guardians:

- I felt I'd helped reduce loneliness in older people
- I felt the intergenerational aspect was valuable
- It gave my child the chance to interact with older people
- I enjoyed it and so did my child

8.3 Opening Doors – openingdoorslondon.org.uk

Based in Camden and various locations around London.,

Opening Doors London (ODL) is a programme run by Age UK Camden which works to support a membership of almost 1000 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Londoners through social activities (including creative writing and walks), one-to-one befriending, information and advice and active campaigns work. They aim to allow people over 50 from across London to meet each other, have fun, feel confident and be themselves.

In a survey of members in 2013/2014, they said the following:

- 91 per cent said at ODL they felt they could be themselves without fear of being judged by others.
- 81 per cent said they felt more connected to the LGBT community because of their involvement with ODL.
- 73 per cent said they felt more comfortable attending ODL groups/events than other mainstream services.
- 71 per cent said that ODL has made them feel less isolated.
- 55 per cent felt that ODL has benefitted their mental health.
- 70 per cent said ODL has benefitted their social wellbeing.

9. Battersea Intergenerational Directory

This section highlights all of the projects that we were able to identify as doing intergenerational work in Battersea, including their contact details.

9.1 Table of Contacts

| Organisation | Contact | Email |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Age UK Wandsworth | Emma Chisholm | emma.chisholm@ageukwandsworth.org.uk |
| Agora Arts Centre | Marie Bidegaray | info@agoraartscircle.com |
| Baked Bean Theatre Company | James Wheildon | jamesacttoo@gmail.com |
| Battersea Befriending Network | Richard Trout | richard.trout@virgin.net |
| Battersea Summer Scheme | Kate Meacock | meacockkate@gmail.com |

| | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| digital:works | Matthew Rosenberg | mat@digital-works.co.uk |
| Doddington & Rollo Community Association | Hilaire McLiesh | doddingtongarden@gmail.com |
| Home-Start Wandsworth | Laura Ferreira | laura@homestartwandsworth.org.uk |
| Kambala Estate Residents Association | Donna Barham | chair@kambala.org.uk |
| Katherine Low Settlement | Aaron Barbour | aaron@klsettlement.org.uk |
| Sound Minds | Paul Brewer | staff@soundminds.co.uk |
| St Peter's Church | Helen Taylor | helen@stpetersbattersea.org.uk |
| Thrive Gardening Project | Lu Curtis | lu.curtis@thrive.org.uk |
| Wandsworth Mediation Service | Jenny Reid | battersea@wandsworthmediation.co.uk |
| WoW Mums | Senia Dedic | seniadedic@wowmums.com |

9.2 Further information

This section has further information about the organisations doing intergenerational work, and whether what they are doing is intentionally intergenerational or not.

Age UK Wandsworth

Age UK Wandsworth is an independent charity working in Wandsworth to offer support and services to older people.

Age UK Wandsworth have recently launched a programme aimed at raising awareness of the needs of elderly people and encouraging younger people to engage with their elderly neighbours in Wandsworth.

The programme includes:

- A school assembly hosted by Age UK Wandsworth representative
- Q&A with older residents of Wandsworth
- Practical simulation of common disabilities

- Classroom resources and activities
- Inter-generational outreach opportunities
- Fundraising ideas

In addition to this, Age UK Wandsworth also run a befriending service to reduce loneliness and isolation locally. This involves introducing carefully selected, background-checked volunteers to people over 60 years old who live alone and have low mobility.

Social media: Facebook - @WandsworthAgeUK. Twitter - @AgeUKWandsworth

Contact: Emma Chisholm - emma.chisholm@ageukwandsworth.org.uk

Address: 549 Old York Road, Wandsworth, London, SW18 1TQ.

URL: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/wandsworth/about-us/schools-programme/>

Agora Arts Centre

Agora Arts Circle aims to exchange creativity, knowledge and challenge how we perceive contemporary arts and its social impact. They have mixed age groups for some of their sessions, although these aren't intentionally intergenerational.

We started in Battersea creating real links within our local community. We respond to local needs whilst connecting those to a broader cultural movement. Whatever we do, we collaborate with someone. This allows us to never fall into a routine and continuously challenge our approach.

Social media: Facebook & Twitter - @AgoraArtsCircle

Contact: Marie Bidegaray - info@agoraartscircle.com

Address: Battersea Arts Centre, Lavender Hill, London, SW11 5TN

URL: <https://www.agoraartscircle.com/>

Baked Bean Theatre Company

The Baked Bean Company was founded by Jade and Nikko Hardrade-Grosz in 1997 with the express purpose of providing outstanding services for people with learning disabilities.

Their classes include drama, musical theatre, singing, dance, DJing and life skills. We also offer holidays, club nights and a dramatherapy service.

This project isn't intentionally generational, but sees no reason to divide adults based on their age. The only criterion is whether or not they have a learning disability.

Social media: Facebook – @BakedBeanCompany. Twitter @BakedBeanCo

Contact: James Wheildon - jamesacttoo@gmail.com

Address: Katherine Low Settlement, 108 Battersea High Street, SW11 3HP

URL: <http://bakedbeancompany.com/>

Battersea Befriending Network

Battersea Befriending Network is a voluntary sector organisation that aim to reduce the social isolation, alienation and stigma that often accompany mental health problems.

The criteria for joining the network are not focused on age but on experience of mental ill health. People wanting to use the service must be referred by a mental health professional.

Social media: Facebook - @BatterseaBefriendingNetwork. Twitter - @bbefriendingnet

Contact: Richard Trout - richard.trout@virgin.net

URL: <https://www.batterseabefriendingnetwork.org.uk/>

Battersea Summer Scheme

Battersea Summer Scheme organises a number of events in the holidays for children in Battersea. Sport in the Park is our flagship event, taking place in the summer holidays. We also provide day trips, residential stays and workshops. Each summer, some of their activities and events are intergenerational.

We work very closely with local youth groups, Wandsworth Borough Council youth services and youth offending teams.

Social media: Facebook – Battersea Summer Scheme. Twitter

Contact: Kate Meacock - meacockkate@gmail.com

Address: SW11 4WS

URL: <https://www.batterseasummerscheme.org.uk/>

digital:works

digital:works is an arts and educational charity that works with communities, providing training and creative assistance to produce arts and media projects. The charity ran an intergenerational oral history project in 2017-2018 and explored the history of Winstanley and York Road housing estate in Battersea.

Year 6 children from Falconbrook Primary School worked with Emma Anthony, archivist from Wandsworth Heritage Service, and local historian Dawn Perieira to explore the history of the area.

This included workshops and activities with children to help them understand oral history techniques and recording which they then used to interview current and former residents of the estate.

Social media: Facebook - @digitalw0rks

Contact: Matthew Rosenberg - mat@digital-works.co.uk

URL: <http://digital-works.co.uk/>

Doddington & Rollo Community Association

Doddington and Rollo Community Association, a charitable company, was established in 1983 to promote local opportunities for education, training and employment, and to provide in those areas facilities for recreation and community activities. Many of these activities, for instance their community roof garden, are open to all age groups, but there is no specifically set up intergenerational projects.

Social media: Facebook - @DoddingtonGarden. Twitter @DoddGarden

Contact: doddingtongarden@gmail.com - Hilaire McLiesh

Address: Charlotte Despard Avenue, SW11 5HD

URL: <https://www.drca.co.uk/>

Home-Start Wandsworth

Home-Start Wandsworth are a charity that match a single volunteer with a family, they build a relationship together and the volunteer stays with them every step of the way for the duration of that family's support from Home-Start Wandsworth. The families can trust their volunteer to support them without judgement, and work with them to build a brighter future for their family.

We don't classify our work as intergenerational, but the nature of our support through volunteer-family relationships does bring people of different ages together in a meaningful way.

An independent evaluation of their work showed that Home-Start Wandsworth's biggest impact was reducing isolation for the families they work with. You can read the [full report here](#).

Social media: Facebook - @HomeStartWandsworth. Twitter - @HomeStartWW

Contact: Laura Ferreira - laura@homestartwandsworth.org.uk.

Address: 20-22 York Road, Battersea, London, SW11 3QA

URL: <http://www.homestartwandsworth.org.uk/>

Kambala Estate Residents Association

Kambala Estate Residents Association improve life for local people in whatever way they can. They have strong links in the community and work closely with the local authority to provide the very best help and support for their residents.

They have run 44 intergenerational events in the last 2 years. The events aim to bring together people of all ages of the community in order to strengthen local relationships. Events include a monthly roast dinner in their hall where they eat and play games together.

Contact: Donna Barham - chair@kambala.org.uk

Address: 126 Fawcett Close, London, SW11 2LU

URL: <https://kambala.org.uk/>

Katherine Low Settlement

Katherine Low Settlement is a charity that has been at the heart of the community in Battersea, South West London, since 1924.

KLS run various intergenerational events throughout the year due to their extensive networks with the local community. E.g. children from Fledglings nursery visit the older people's sewing group and they also held a celebration of colour involving older people and ESOL students (of a younger adult age).

Social media: Facebook & Twitter - @klsettlement

Contact: Aaron Barbour – aaron@klsettlement.org.uk

Address: 108 Battersea High Street, London, SW11 3HP

URL: <https://www.klsettlement.org.uk/>

Sound Minds

Sound Minds is a charity transforming the lives of people experiencing mental ill health through music, film and art. We are a thriving community bound together by creativity and a shared belief in mutual learning and peer support.

Sound Minds is also the base of the BaME service user group 'Canerows' who provide a range of peer support services including ward visiting, tuition to forensic services, a user led drop in (Mama Low's Kitchen), post discharge support and consultation.

These are more focused on mental health and community than on bringing together people of different ages.

Social media: Facebook - @soundmindslondon. Twitter - @soundmindsUK

Contact: Paul Brewer - staff@soundminds.co.uk

Address: 20-22 York Road, Battersea, London, SW11 3QA

URL: <https://www.soundminds.co.uk/>

St Peter's Church

St Peter's is a lively, diverse and growing church family who are passionate about loving God, being family and bringing hope in Battersea and beyond. The following activities include a mixture of ages:

- Sunday morning celebrations – full on mix of ages and interactions. Adults volunteer with the kids groups
- Life – on Tuesday mornings we have a womens group and ages range from 25-60 and the kids are looked after by us all on a rota.

- Mentoring for church members – often across generations although tends to be within a 20 year period.
- Just about to start a homework club so hopefully we'll be having volunteers to help the kids with their homework
- Youth climbing – the staff at the climbing hanger and our volunteers support the young people with the climbing.
- In the past we've visited Doris Emerton and George Potter to put on services and lunches
- Our summer/easter/Christmas events are for all ages and we have the full range from babies to the elderly.

Social media: Facebook - @stpetersbattersea. Twitter @spbattersea.

Contact: Helen Taylor - helen@stpetersbattersea.org.uk

Address: 23 Plough Rd, Battersea, London SW11 2DE

URL: <https://www.spb.church/>

Thrive Gardening Project

Thrive offer therapeutic gardening programmes and support to hundreds of people in and around London who may have a defined health, social or educational need in four fantastic gardens in Battersea Park, as well as various outreach projects in the wider community.

Thrive use an approach called social and therapeutic horticulture (STH), where their team of trained horticultural therapists work with plants and people to improve an individual's physical and psychological health, communication and thinking skills.

The horticultural therapists, together with our dedicated volunteers, take a person-centred approach; they work in a variety of ways - in small groups, which maintain good ratios so that the therapeutic intervention is maximised, on a 1-1 basis for people who may require additional support at times, and also in larger groups, where there may be more of a focus on social interaction, facilitated discussion and group learning.

All of the projects that I run at Thrive are intergenerational. They weren't deliberately set up as this though. – Lu Curtis

Social media: Facebook - @thecharitythrive. Twitter – @thrivecharity.

Contact: Lu Curtis - lu.curtis@thrive.org.uk

Address: Battersea Park, Battersea, London, SW11 4NJ

URL: <https://www.thrive.org.uk/how-we-help/regional-centres-and-programmes/london>

Wandsworth Mediation Service

Wandsworth Mediation Service was set up on 2004 to help people in conflict. Initially they helped neighbours in dispute, but they then saw the need to help families resolve disputes and trained about 15 of their community mediators to become intergenerational mediators in 2009.

They have some exceptional “success” stories, here is a taste of the outcomes we have witnessed.

- A Grandmother hadn't seen her grandchild for a length of time, now has regular contact
- Aging mother and adult daughter living in the same house but not speaking, adult daughter realised she needed additional therapeutic support and mum and daughter now watch some TV programs together.
- Two sisters who hadn't spoken for years left mediation together and went for a coffee.
- Four generations of females living in the same home and not getting on well. A visual aid was created helping the members of the family agree to where they would love to get to and the tiny gentle steps that they needed to take to get there together.
- A disabled man with his adult son at home not participating in the up keep or running of the home, which was having a detrimental impact on every part of the father's wellbeing. The father was able to ask the son to move out.

Social media: Facebook – Wandsworth Mediation Service Battersea

Contact: Jenny Reid - battersea@wandsworthmediation.co.uk.

Address: St Mark's, Durie Hall, Battersea Rise, London, SW11 1EJ

URL: <http://www.wandsworthmediation.co.uk/>

WoW Mums

Women of Wandsworth are a group of mothers who are trying to educate and entertain children by broadening their perspectives on life in multicultural and international spirit whilst teaching them the importance of community.

WoW Mums initiated WoW Inter-Generational project, involving three generations, in 2010 and have received the Civic Award for it in 2017, awarded by Mayor of Wandsworth.

They have served free hot meals to residents in Haven Lodge, John Kirk, Homley Court and Doris Emmerton. They organised carpentry workshops in Dimson Lodge for Men's Shed. They also run special elderly birthday celebrations and cultural intergenerational events, theatre visits and BBQs.

WoW Mums have been chosen to conduct a consultation with all elderly in Battersea by Taylor Wimpey and Wandsworth regeneration project.

Social media: Facebook – WOW Mums (Women of Wandsworth)

Contact: Senia Dedic - seniadedic@wowmums.com

URL: <https://www.wowmums.org.uk/>

10. Appendix

Written responses from some of the intergenerational projects we were able to reach.

10.1 Age UK Wandsworth – survey response from Emma Chisholm

When did you set your intergenerational project up? Why?

The school's programme was set up in 2018 as a means of raising awareness of the needs of older people and how we, as a community, can support them. The intergenerational work was a second stage (after the assembly) to allow schools to engage with older people in their area.

How many people take part in this project?

So far, 5 primary schools have taken part and we are hoping to expand to secondary. Some of the schools have then gone on to take part in intergenerational activities which have been brokered by Age UK Wandsworth but run independently

How often does it take place?

They are all different. In one school there was a weekly gardening club. One school set up a 'care home' club and visited every week. One school did 'pen-pal' letters but that fizzled out, another visits a local social club termly to sing songs and play instruments

Where does it take place?

Always on school or care home/sheltered accommodation premises. Never private addresses.

What are the aims of the project?

To encourage greater interaction between generations for the benefit of both young and old.

What different age groups attend?

At the moment it is primary age children

How do you fund it?

We ask the school to take part in fundraising in return for running the programme.

What works well?

The assembly is always well-received but the intergenerational work is more dependent on the enthusiasm of each side to keep the activities going afterwards. Age UK Wandsworth cannot project manage all these activities

What do you find challenging about bringing different ages together?

Older primary children certainly engage more than the younger ones and it can be challenging to keep their attention. Conversely the older people can lose interest when they become ill or the weather is poor.

What have the outcomes of your project been?

We don't measure outcomes on this project since the intergenerational work is not 'owned' by Age UK Wandsworth.

What's your monitoring and evaluation?

As above

Was the project researched and evidence led or not? If yes, what were the sources? If not, why not?

No, it started as an awareness raising initiative

Do you think there should be more intergenerational work in Battersea? If so, why?

Yes but only if the older people want it. I would imagine KLS is well-placed to do this since you have groups of different ages attending your organisation already.

10.2 The Baked Bean Company – notes from face-to-face interview with James Wheildon

Your name

James Wheildon

What is the project?

Running classes and activities for people of all ages with learning disabilities, including dance, musical theatre, choir, holidays and cooking groups.

What are the aims of the project?

Develop confidence, communication skills and in some cases, improve behaviour, socialise, have fun.

What are the ages of people who the project is aimed at?

Mostly 18-60 years old. Some youth work aimed at 13-25 year olds.

When did you set your project up? Why?

1996/97. It was a day centre for a handful of people with learning disabilities and it evolved over time.

How many people does this project reach?

200

How often does it take place?

5 classes every weekday with additional youth activities on a Saturday

Where does it take place?

Katherine Low Settlement, Battersea

Wilditch Community Centre, Battersea

George Shearing Centre, Battersea

Garden Lawns Tennis Club, Wimbledon

Other than age, does the project bring other types of demographics together? (e.g. culture, ethnicity, disability)

The only criteria is having a learning disability. There is a diverse range of ethnic and social background of those who attend.

How do you fund it?

Social Services

What works well about bringing together different ages?

Different ages inspire and teach each other in different ways. Older people give advice to younger people. Younger people inspire the older people.

What do you find difficult about it?

Only issue is that sometimes parents of younger members have some mild concerns about them mixing with older. These concerns are usually reassured easily.

What have the outcomes of your project been?

Develop confidence, communication skills and in some cases, improve behaviour.

How do you monitor and evaluate these outcomes?

All clients have an Individual Learning Plan where they write down 3 targets they'd like to reach. These are monitored over time by staff. Targets might include vocal skills in drama, improving behaviour or increasing attendance.

Was the project researched and evidence led or not? If yes, what were the sources? If not, why not?

The company was inspired by the Value in People white paper from the 90s. They keep up to date with legislation such as the Care Act 2014.

Do you think there should be more intergenerational work in Battersea? And why?

Yes it would be good to use arts to bring together different generations. E.g. Battersea Arts Centre youth drama group doing a performance with KLS elders drama group.

10.3 digital:works - email response from Matthew Rosenberg

As you might know also the project we did in Battersea in 2017/18 was very connected with KL Settlement also as Sarah Rackham was very involved both in showing the film and also in getting lots of people to be interviewed including herself. This was an oral history of the Winstanley and York Road Estates.

You can see more about our project here - there's a lovely interview with sarah on the interview page.

<http://www.winstanleystories.org.uk/>

10.4 Doddington & Rollo Community Association - email response from Hilaire McLiesh

We are a small organisation run entirely by volunteers. We don't have any specific intergenerational work we are doing. When the garden is open then everyone is welcome, so we do get a mix of ages coming to the garden, but nothing more formal or organised than that.

10.5 Home-Start Wandsworth – email response from Laura Ferreira

We don't classify our work as intergenerational, but the nature of our support through volunteer-family relationships does bring people of different ages together in a meaningful way. 85% of our volunteers are over 40 yrs old, and 81% of the parents we support are under 40 yrs old. Of course those volunteers are usually also directly in contact with the preschool children of the family. This is great for supported families and volunteers alike.

Within our group activities, parents of different ages come together, and their children are in the company of other adults too.

Summary stats

| Age range | Beneficiaries | Volunteers |
|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Under 1 | 6% | 0% |
| 1 To 1 | 9% | 0% |
| 2 To 2 | 10% | 0% |
| 3 To 4 | 13% | 0% |
| 5 To 6 | 5% | 0% |
| 7 To 10 | 5% | 0% |
| 11 To 17 | 7% | 0% |

| | | |
|----------|-----|-----|
| 18 To 21 | 1% | 1% |
| 22 To 25 | 5% | 0% |
| 26 To 30 | 7% | 1% |
| 31 To 40 | 23% | 13% |
| 41 To 50 | 9% | 36% |
| 51 To 60 | 0% | 31% |
| 61 To 70 | 0% | 14% |
| 71 To 99 | 0% | 4% |

10.6 Kambala Estate Residents Association – survey response from Donna Barham

When did you set your intergenerational project up? Why?

I didn't start it; it just happened all our trips and events have all ages in because I encourage that and won't exclude anyone.

How many people take part in this project?

About 150 people per year now

How often does it take place?

All through the year we did 24 events last year and 20 the year before

Where does it take place?

In and around the estate, the community hall and trips by coach to different locations

What are the aims of the project?

To have a community that includes absolutely everyone!

What different age groups attend?

3 months to 95 years

How do you fund it?

Through the Lottery and other funders also My Community Champion fund

What works well?

All the events seem to work well

What do you find challenging about bringing different ages together?

I don't really I am very good at bringing the best out in people, we have a Sunday Roast Once a month in our hall and we do floor curling it is amazing from little kids to the elders and they all help each other (very competitive)

Was the project researched and evidence led or not? If yes, what were the sources? If not, why not?

No because I didn't plan it as Intergenerational just Community Engagement, our events can go under lots of tags

10.7 St Peter's Church – email response from Helen Taylor

I can tell you what happens at St peter's we have a few things going on, some of which are unintentionally intergen, but I'll just put it all down.

- Sunday morning celebrations – full on mix of ages and interactions. Adults volunteer with the kids groups
- Life – on Tuesday mornings we have a womens group and ages range from 25-60 and the kids are looked after by us all on a rota.
- Mentoring for church members – often across generations although tends to be within a 20 year period.
- Just about to start a homework club so hopefully we'll be having volunteers to help the kids with their homework
- Youth climbing – the staff at the climbing hanger and our volunteers support the young people with the climbing.
- In the past we've visited Doris Emerton and George Potter to put on services and lunches
- Our summer/easter/Christmas events are for all ages and we have the full range from babies to the elderly.

We have worked with WOW/big local on the sheltered housing events in the past. Other than that I'm not aware of anything outside of the alliance groups work.

10.8 Thrive – email response from Lu Curtis

All of the projects that I run at Thrive are intergenerational. They weren't deliberately set up as this though. Our 'general session' groups of gardeners are a mix of service users – mixed abilities/diagnoses and mixed ages. We don't work with children but work with college leavers all the way up to people in their 70s.

We've seen real benefits in this type of working. We cultivate an environment where we work as a team and work to the strengths and weaknesses of people in the team. We've found that this gives us opportunities to see benefits, goal attainment and satisfaction within our service users.

Some examples:

We work with a lady in her 70s with dementia who believes that her children are still 'young'. She has a natural tendency therefore to 'mother' the younger or perceived younger

members of the group. In particular 1 gardener with Down's Syndrome. This symbiotic relationship has benefited both service users!

We have another lady in her 70s who is brilliant at getting another service user with a learning disability to help her. She's unsteady and frail but bosses people around so that gets the help that she needs. This makes her feel important and also gives others the opportunity to feel good from being helpful!

We run general sessions every weekday in Battersea Park. We also have a wide range of ages with the volunteers that work in our groups. From students who are fresh out of an OT programme to retired nurses!

10.9 Wandsworth Mediation Service – survey response from Jenny Reid

When did you set your intergenerational project up? Why?

Wandsworth Mediation Service was set up on 2004 to help people in conflict. Initially we helped neighbours in dispute, but we saw the need to help families resolve disputes and we trained about 15 of our community mediators as inter generational mediators about 10 years ago. We support the police and social services in helping support individuals.

How many people take part in this project?

In 2018 we had 20 referrals, 8 of these actualised into mediations or conflict coaching
2019 to date we have had 23 enquires 9 of which have actualised into mediations

How often does it take place?

As and when required

Where does it take place?

St Marks Church Battersea Rise SW11 1EJ

What are the aims of the project?

To help people manage their conflicts peacefully and to stop disputes from escalating into further disruption for themselves and those around them.

What different age groups attend?

We work with young people aged 13 upwards

How do you fund it?

Our mediators volunteer their time to help with all the mediation cases. We are also funded by our commercial mediations, with have fundraised and have a grant from Battersea Power Station Foundation and Lottery to help develop this service

What works well?

The exceptional thing about mediation is that there is a neutral party to help the conflict party's communicate. Mediation helps individuals recognise their own feelings and needs and that of those they are in conflict with, and with that connection, individuals are generally able to resolve their own conflict without intervention from other professionals,

this helps people feel in control of their own situation and therefore the agreements generally have greater longevity than those that have changes imposed on them.

What do you find challenging about bringing different ages together?

Intergenerational Mediation poses the same difficulties as any mediation. Each participant has their own story, their own belief of what has caused them harm and their own set of circumstances, it is the skill of the mediator to help the participants to not get caught up in the story of what went wrong, but to help each person to find a connection and agreement of how to move forward.

What have the outcomes of your project been?

We have some exceptional “success” stories, here is a taste of the outcomes we have witnessed.

- A Grandmother hadn't seen her grandchild for a length of time, now has regular contact
- Aging mother and adult daughter living in the same house but not speaking, adult daughter realised she needed additional therapeutic support and mum and daughter now watch some TV programs together.
- Two sisters who hadn't spoken for years left mediation together and went for a coffee
- Four generations of females living in the same home and not getting on well. A visual aid was created helping the members of the family agree to where they would love to get to and the tiny gentle steps that they needed to take to get there together.
- A disabled man with his adult son at home not participating in the up keep or running of the home, which was having a detrimental impact on every part of the father's wellbeing. The father was able to ask the son to move out.

What's your monitoring and evaluation?

We do a follow up call after 4 weeks and ask participants to give feed back.

Do you think there should be more intergenerational work in Battersea? If so, why?

Yes for certain as conflict is unavoidable, people need the skills to know how to conversations well and then have the support when it is beyond the abilities to resolve it personally. Battersea has many people living in close proximity in often overcrowded homes and therefore disputes are more likely to arise.

10.10 WoW Mums – email response from Senia Dedic

We initiated WoW Inter-Generational project, involving three generations, in 2010 and have received the Civic Award for it in 2017, awarded by Mayor of Wandsworth.

We have served free hot meals to residents in Haven Lodge, John Kirk, Homley Court and Doris Emmerton. We Organised also carpentry workshops in Dimson Lodge for Men's Shed.

Many of your colleges have attended our love niches, special elderly birthday celebrations and cultural intergenerational event, theatre visits and BBQs.

We have been chosen to conduct a consultation with all elderly in Battersea by Taylor Wimpey and WNdsworth regeneration project.

Please contact me if you need more information.