

## PRESS RELEASE

Pupils from Cornwall are to be star guests at the international conference “**Only Connect**” to be held at **Falmouth University, Woodlane Campus, Cornwall TR11 4RH on Wednesday 3rd July 9am-4:30pm**



They join world renowned speakers including Michael Spellman and Shirley Hall from Channel 4’s Old People’s Home for Four Year Olds; Peter Daniels and Sores Duman, intergenerational care home Humanitas Deventer; Takehito Tokuda, Run Tomorrow, Jayne Howard from Arts Well and Alice Browning Little Bird Music to celebrate and discuss how creative, intergenerational projects can unite communities.

The conference is the brain child of Ellie Robinson Carter, Creative Dementia Practitioner & Researcher, who has been working with Falmouth University to create a platform that can bring together representatives from the care sector, local government, researchers, students, schools, people with dementia and their carers, as well as members of the public, to discuss their experience and knowledge, share ideas, and take action to make Cornwall a leader in such intergenerational, creative practice.

Ellie says *“Through turning our attention to internationally renowned models and discussing the local, grass roots projects in Cornwall, we will be in a better place to take positive action to enrich and empower individuals living in our communities.”*

The children and young people, from Penryn Primary Academy and Penryn College, have been taking part in a creative correspondence pilot called Passing the Parcel, together with members of the local memory cafe. The notion behind the project is to unwrap the layers in society to discover a place at the heart of communities to where we all belong. All those attending the conference will be entered into a prize draw to win a free Passing the Parcel programme of workshops.

The conference has places available for the wider public and all are welcome. Tickets are free but need to be booked via the links below. For more information please contact Ellie on [onlyconnectconference@gmail.com](mailto:onlyconnectconference@gmail.com) Tel: 07791205425  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/only-connect-a-community-symposium-about-the-benefits-of-creative-intergenerational-practice-tickets-59695244082>

## **Notes for editors:**

### **Speakers include:**

#### **Michael Spellman and Shirley Hall, Old People's Home for 4 Year Olds**

For over 30 years The ExtraCare Charitable Trust has supported older people to live healthy and independent lives in retirement communities. Part of this has always involved an element of intergenerational work but in 2017 intergenerational practice was incorporated into our corporate plan due to the clear benefits that bringing older and younger generations creates. We are excited to share our experiences of embedding intergenerational practice into ExtraCare and the outcomes and legacy of projects such as Channel 4's old People's Home for Four Year Olds.

#### **Peter Daniels and Sores Duman, Humanitas Deventer**

[www.humanitasdeventer.nl](http://www.humanitasdeventer.nl)

Humanitas is world-renowned for its innovative approach to supporting older residents in the community of Deventer, in the Netherlands. The home houses students from the local university, younger people with additional needs and various community groups to ensure the home is connected, happy: a "positive" place. Peter (co-manager) and Sores (student) will give us a taste of life at Humanitas, how it came to be and how it has come to be the huge success that it is.

#### **Takehito Tokuda, Run Tomorrow**

<http://run tomorrow.jp/en/>

Run tomorrow is a long distance relay with people living with dementia - a sash handed over one by one across communities in Japan. Our aim is to create a community where people living with dementia can live safely and comfortably in any town. Children and students also attend this event in many places. We hope it stimulates intergenerational relations and every place will be an inclusive one as well. In Japan, there are people who want to overcome various misunderstandings and prejudices about dementia, and be the heroes/heroines in their own lives. There are also people who want to build a society where that is possible, together with those people. This project was launched to support and encourage such frontrunners. To enjoy every-day. To live positively. To help each other, to dream, and to live. Going beyond thoughts of what you can or can't do, and creating an environment where people can go on living together with others while not giving in to a feeling of hopelessness even if the things you cannot do increase. Living with dementia becomes just another standard way of life. We hope that this project can contribute to making those goals a reality.

#### **Ellie Robinson-Carter**

[www.ellierobinson-carter.com](http://www.ellierobinson-carter.com)

Ellie is an Creative Dementia Practitioner and Researcher based in Falmouth, UK. Ellie devises creative frameworks and invites individuals to take ownership of them, fostering their authorial voices and personal narratives. Working locally, nationally and internationally Ellie works with people living with dementia and their carers, using creative practice to nurture individual's self-confidence, independence and self-expression. Her projects include The Photobook Project,

Penryn Memory Cafe & Passing the Parcel - a collaboration with Sally Crabtree. She also collaborates with Barcelona based illustrator Violeta Noy on Sophie's Project: [www.sophiesproject.com](http://www.sophiesproject.com)

### **The Poetry Postie and The Postal Service of Happiness**

[www.sallycrabtree.co.uk](http://www.sallycrabtree.co.uk)

Sally Crabtree (aka the Poetry Postie) delivers poetic inspiration to the Nation and beyond - including to the United Nations and her award winning work has led to the launch of the World's first Postal Service of Happiness which aims to create happier, 1st class communities. As its Postmistress General, Sally delivers an innovative creative literacy scheme to whole communities, inspiring them to connect both locally and globally. Here she highlights how the scheme linked an ex-tin mining community in Cornwall with that of El Cobre in Cuba.

#### *Passing the Parcel*

*Since March 2018 Ellie Robinson-Carter and Sally Crabtree have been collaborating on their project Passing the Parcel. The project is a creative correspondence project, connecting the generations. Funded by FEAST and the Big Lottery, Pass the Parcel has been piloted in Penryn between the memory cafe and children from Penryn Primary School and year 9 students at Penryn College. Ellie and Sally will reveal the highlights of the project along with the exciting news of Passing the Parcel coming to more communities in Cornwall.*

### **Desdemona McCannon, Ashridge Field School**

In a big, old house in rural Devon Desdemona hosts an annual Field School at her family home. Here artists, their families are invited to run activities and participate in creative practice. The outcome is quite special: creative ideas and making is shared across generations. Desdemona will shed light on her thinkings behind the school, the stories that have come from it and why creative, intergenerational practice is like no other.

### **Jayne Howard, Arts Well and Alice Browning, Little Bird Music**

Chorus Connections is an intergenerational music programme that brings children and older people together in their communities to enjoy singing and music in weekly workshops. The programme is being delivered by Little Bird Music in partnership with Arts Well and will bring together children from Truro Nursery School and residents from Mountford House Care Home for a weekly music session, between November 2018 and summer 2019. The programme will be evaluated for its impact on learning, wellbeing and

early findings will be

relationships and presented to the

conference.



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