

Meeting bridges generation gap

TEENAGERS met older people at the weekend in a special event aimed at challenging stereotypes about the two groups.

The youngsters from Silkmore, in Stafford, were hoping to strengthen community spirit at the 'Building Bridges' day while looking at public and media stereotypes.

Staffordshire County

Council youth worker April Lewis, said: "The Building Bridges event was a fantastic success.

"We had even more people from the Silkmore community than expected, with eight young people and nine older ladies attending the event.

"The aim of the project was to strengthen understanding and community spirit and this has certainly been achieved.

"At the beginning of the day both the young and older people were apprehensive at how the other perceived them and weren't confident in successfully working together for the Silkmore community.

Confident

"At the end of the weekend, both groups felt that they understood each other much better, are more relaxed and confident and

able to work together."

The groups are now planning to arrange a social group in Silkmore for the different generations so they can stay in touch with each other.

April added that the project, held in Penkridge, had surpassed the organisers' highest expectations.

Further information about youth projects in the Stafford area is available on 01785 841350.

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