











Creative Conversations

Creative Learning Network 2015/16

Creative **Date Catalysts**

Wednesday

28th

October

2015

Chris Kilkenny

welcome

Gillian Tee Director of Communities and Families

David Cameron

and

Nobody Knows you when you are Down and Out

We talk a lot about poverty and disadvantage, but how many of us really know the true impact of growing up in poverty? What does it mean to be poor in modern Britain? What does it mean to be disadvantaged in Scotland? What will it take to close the gap? Who is talking about all of this?

As we get caught up in the discussion about standardised testing and data and the impact of the London Challenge, we maybe need to take the time to hear what a real expert thinks.

Chris Kilkenny is exactly that. He grew up in Edinburgh in circumstances most of us have only read about or seen exploited in some Channel 4 documentary. Nobody properly knew him at his schools or in other hugely important aspects of his life. He has a really unusual viewpoint and is open about his experience even where it is raw and deeply moving. Chris is free of bitterness and is extraordinarily clear. He is still affected by his background and his is not some fairytale of transformation - but he makes things work for himself and his family and he gets by. He can also spell out very clearly what we might have done to help close the gap for him.

This will be a very different kind of Creative Conversation, but we think it is an essential one. Lots of others have offered solutions without being clear about the problem. That is the starting point for this Creative Conversation. What were the problems for Chris and how might we have resolved them?

Listening would have been a good start. This conversation will be a chance to do that, but also to talk. We have been trying to close the gap and haven't managed it. This conversation might stimulate the sort of creative thinking we need to do to finally succeed.

Time

venue

4.00 - 4.30arrival and coffee/tea

4.30 - 5.45Creative Conversation

> 5.45/6pm onwards

for wine and canapes

Venue

The Hub

Castlehill. Royal Mile

EH1 2NE



Lots more Creative Conversations, inspiring catalysts, interesting venues planned for 2015/16