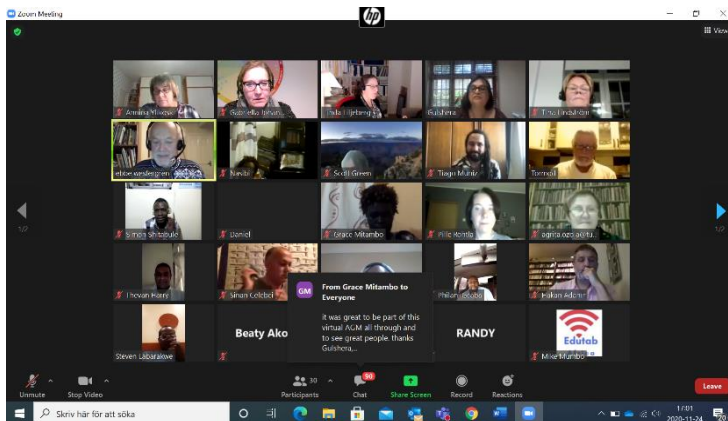


FIRST VIRTUAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

“This AGM is an experience to remember”

Daniel Ssettaba, Uganda



SOME CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FROM MEMBERS

“It was well organised, open and most of us felt included and for that I really thank everyone who worked hard to make this work. It really made us feel connected to the board and that the board is available and ready to listen to even the mundane suggestions”

Mildred Ayere, Kenya

“...indeed a very democratic and community-based approach”

Yelyzaveta Nesterova, Turkey

“...was the epitome to transparency and I thought that people get that sense of belonging”

John Ouma, Kenya

“Well done to the organisers for an all-round well organised meeting”

Mahunele Thotse, South Africa

“Great job everyone!”

Scott Green, USA

The first virtual Bridging Ages Annual General Meeting took place on 24th November 2020 with attendance of 42 persons from ten countries. A major achievement was the adoption of a new constitution.

“Very good, the constitution looks clear and well structured”

Annina Ylikoski, Finland

“It was very interesting to follow and learn the process of making a constitution for BA NGO”

Tiago Muniz, Brazil

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INCLUSIVITY AND ENGAGEMENT

"It always seem impossible until it is done"

Nelson Mandela

From the President of Bridging Ages: Gulshera Khan, South Africa:

Sustainability and Governance

My first task when taking over as President, towards the latter of 2019, was to review the historical practice, address sustainability and areas of governance. The purpose was to consolidate, strengthen, and enhance the work of Bridging Ages. Committees on Constitution and Governance, Communication, Elections, Capacity Building and Fundraising were established together with Terms of Reference for each committee.

New Constitution

In developing the **new constitution**, the Constitution and Governance Committee had gone through many consultative processes, aligned with the requirements of Sweden's practice.

We have reached the first milestone, in adopting the revised constitution.

Engaged Members

I am constantly motivated by the fact that there are members in our network, who have the passion, commitment, drive and perseverance to make a difference. In this, we have **hope**. In each country, town, museum and community, many volunteers are acknowledged for their contribution. They are **You**, the members.

Together with the above, **Promoting Social Cohesion** is a critical area in Bridging Ages work. This is first reflected amongst ourselves. There are connectedness and solidarity amongst us, i.e. embracing one another as equals. This talks to tolerance, diversity, working at the level of people and understanding cultural practices of countries.

Over the years, a network of skilled and **experienced Time Travel practitioners** has emerged. The growth of the organisation requires their continued engagement.



Kalmar County Museum have done pioneering work in over twenty countries for two decades. Bringing us together for one purpose - "improve the quality of life and addressing contemporary issues"- using heritage and culture, is a remarkable achievement.

Strategic Plan 2020-2022

In 2019, the Board embarked upon a situational analysis. The outcome of this analysis resulted in the development of a three-year strategic plan for years 2020- 2022 – eight focus areas on international level and five on country level. Aligned with the strategic plan is a yearly Action Plan. Please view website: www.bridgingages.com

VIRTUAL MEETING PARTICIPATION

The positivity of hosting virtual Annual General Meetings has demonstrated inclusivity and equal participation.

Virtual meetings also creates an opportunity to support organisations and their development through common reflections and mentorship.

Members had the opportunity to write in the Chat and raise questions

An opportunity was presented for members to Vote

The Action Plan 2021 was presented at the AGM. Inputs are welcomed !

THE HIGHLIGHTS FROM COUNTRIES -2019

ESTONIA



During September 2019, the **15th Bridging Ages Annual Conference** was held at the Estonian National Museum in Tartu, Estonia. Delegates attending the conference came from Hungary, South Africa, Lithuania, Latvia, Finland, Sweden and Estonia. The topic: **“Freedom to/in Time Travel”** explored the questions: Does this method give us freedom in modern society and can we contribute to our society by practising this method? During two conference days, best practices were discussed, and outstanding experiences were exchanged. ***How to deal with different problems in society using the Time Travel method?***

The people conducting Time Travels in Estonia are volunteers, primarily teachers and museum employees. The leaders are **the Estonian History and Civic Teachers Association and the Estonian National Museum**.

During the year, over 6450 people participated in Time Travels and trainings and 53 people took part in the Bridging Ages international conference.

A highlight was the **Second national Time Travel event: “Preparations for the first Estonian song festival, 1869”**. Around 6000 people participated.



The Estonian song festivals have been added to the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage list.

KENYA

Bridging Ages Kenya (BAK) is the Kenya chapter for Bridging Ages International (BA) formed in 2011 and with membership in 5 main institutions (Kenyatta University, National Museums of Kenya, Maseno University, TICAH, and selected primary and secondary schools in Kisumu town) across six counties in Kenya. Also, Marsabit County and Bridging Ages Northern Kenya (BANK) is connected to Bridging Ages and Time Travels. As composed currently, BAK is a network bringing together different Bridging Ages Teams.

Bridging Ages Maseno University (BAMU)

Bridging Ages Maseno University chapter inducted new members who joined the university in September 2019.

Bridging Ages Kenya (BAK) held online meetings to discuss their sustainability plan. Bridging Ages Maseno University organized two sets of trainings on Time travel methods with new members, including a Time Travel

Marsabit County



In Marsabit County, the focus is very much on community building. **Two Sisters's Church in Kalmar** contributed in constructing a new school in a small desert village, Civicon, Marsabit County. The school started in January 2019 with about 50, four to five year old children. Two local teachers were employed, and the children were served a meal every day. The women in the community, mostly illiterate, began attending the school in the afternoons and were taught reading and writing skills by a local volunteer.

SWEDEN-Kalmar County Museum

In 2019, the focus was on strengthening partnerships, sustainability and visibility. More than **100 Time Travel events** in Sweden were conducted with schools.

At international level: Nine training workshops, nine Time Travel Events and four presentations at international conference. 1187 people participated in the events abroad, 860 adults and 327 children.

South Baltic, Crossroads in History

The Crossroads in History project is a project with museums from Germany, Poland, Lithuania, and Sweden. Within the project, the Time Travel method is used as a method to better understand the challenges in the various regions through a cultural-historical perspective. The project runs between 2019 and 2021 and is funded by EU, Interreg South Baltic.

Nordplus, Heritage, Integration and Social Cohesion

The project has partners from Norway, Sweden, Finland and Estonia. Within the project, each actor is working on developing and evaluating methods where cultural heritage is used as a resource in the work on integration and social cohesion.

Creative Force, Gender-based Violence in Tanzania is a collaborative project with the Church of Sweden and church organisations in Tanzania, to support efforts against gender-based violence and female genital mutilation. Training focussed on the Time Travel method in addressing these topical issues.



Academic course in Kalmar, Sweden.

Several persons within the Bridging Ages network are connected to research studies at their local university. The academic course was a partnership between Kalmar County Museum and Linnaeus University, co-ordinated by Ebbe Westergren.



Fifteen participants from seven countries (South Africa, Sweden, Turkey, Brazil, Serbia, Latvia and the USA) gathered for six days. For the first time, many of the participants experienced a Time Travel to the future, the year 2069. Reference: Bridging Ages December 2019 newsletter.

Kalmar County Museum, received support from the Swedish Arts Council for the Bridging Ages office and administrative work at the museum.

TURKEY

Goperatif

The office of Bridging Ages in Turkey is in Giresun and the organization Goperatif (Black Sea Association for Ecological Development). Time Travels are also organized in Izmir and Manisa on the Mediterranean coast.

Presentation in Istanbul

Hakan Adanir and Cem Mutlu Türkseven attended CNR BOAT SHOW 2019 in ISTANBUL and made a presentation on "Using the Time Travel Method in a Tourism Area." They talked about the Time Travels at Giresun Island, which has been going on for several years.

Albania, Symposium on Nature-Based Tourism

Ayşegül Çi, board member of Bridging Ages Turkey, introduced Bridging Ages and the Time Travel Method at an international symposium in Albania. The symposium was called "Nature-Based Tourism as a Contributor to Regional Sustainable Development" had attracted delegates from various parts of Europe. It was hosted by Alfred Toepfer Academy for Nature Conservation BalkaNatureNet (BNN) Protection and Preservation of Natural Environment in Albania (PPNEA).

In her presentation, Aysegül explained the Time Travel method and how it is successfully implemented in Giresun Island for the protection of Ecosystems, "Time Travel as a method for nature-based tourism in Giresun, Turkey".

Black Sea Rallies and Programs

Bridging Ages Turkey organized DADDrally Black Sea 2019. Hakan Adanir and Cem Mutlu Türkseven made a presentation on Time Travels at Giresun Island during the sailing.

Bridging Ages Turkey has prepared a project for the Black Sea Basin Programme in 2020. This project includes Time Travel programs in Greece, Turkey and Georgia.

Meeting with Turkish municipalities



Presentation to 400 municipal representatives focussed on Time Travel and Rural Development by Bridging Ages Board member Hakan Adanir and colleagues.

LATVIA

Tukums Museum



Tukums museum is the leading institution representing Bridging Ages in Latvia. In order to strengthen a cooperation of museum educators in Latvia, Tukums museum has initiated and developed an informal platform for museum educators NEDARBNICA. About 70 museum educators from 40 museums participated already in 2017-2018 in seven seminars.

A developing course for experienced museum educators was organised for 3 groups and about 120 participants.

Several Time Travel activities took place during the year: two Time Travel trainings for museum educators, one summer seminar for museum educators and three seminars for teachers.

There were representatives from Latvia attending the conference in Estonia, including the Academic course in Sweden.

Agrita Ozola is one of the pioneers of Bridging Ages organisation and a member of the Board

FINLAND

BARK, Ostrobothnian Children's Culture Network

The organization working with Bridging Ages in Finland is the Ostrobothnian Children's Culture Network (BARK), administrated by the Regional Council of Ostrobothnia.

BARK consists of 16 municipalities and celebrated its' 10-year anniversary in 2019. The international work needs constant project funding and applications.

The regional and national program in 2019 consisted of Time Travels to many different times and of a "World Heritage Agents" program with focus on the cultural environment.

Target goals for 2019

- 100 Time Travels in the region
- a new international collaboration and project
- a new art form collaboration
- introduction of Time Travel method to two new areas .

Contemporary issues common in Time Travels are: Integration/migration, democracy, identity, human rights/gender and conflict.



Annina Ylikoski, Manager of BARK, has been the President of Bridging Ages from 2015 until September 2019. The Bridging Ages office was at that time shared between BARK, Finland and Kalmar County Museum, Sweden

USA/CANADA

The United States/ Canada arm of Bridging Ages is not a large network. US-CA Bridging Ages is led by Scott Green who is assisted in some ventures by his colleague Donna Larsen. During the last three years they have built a Time Travel presence in Dawson City, Yukon, Canada with workshops and Time Travel events.

Bridging Ages Time Travels were established by Jon Hunner at New Mexico State University and though Jon has retired from this venture, Scott

and Donna continue to maintain a network of living history performers who help with occasional events in the region.



Scott Green (red shirt) is Bridging Ages secretary.

LITHUANIA

GARGZDAI LAND MUSEUM

Gargzdai land museum in Klaipeda district was invited to join the international Project **“Crossroads in History”** in July 2019, by Kalmar County Museum. Together with partners from Sweden, Poland, Germany and Lithuania, museum staff is trained in the Time Travel Method.

The Lithuanian partners in the project are: Klaipeda University, Gargzdai land museum and History museum of Lithuania Minor.

The museum has started to research historical sources related to a local site in the Western part of Lithuania connected to migration, for a coming Time Travel event.

Gargzdai land museum had two representatives at the Bridging Ages international conference in Tartu.

Laura Martinkienė

SOUTH AFRICA

In 2019, **Bridging Ages in South Africa** focussed on strengthening institutional and programmatic capacity in the provinces in the use of the Time Travel method. Today, the Time Travel method has a footprint in all nine provinces in the country.

Residency Program

The National Department of Arts and Culture proposed a Residency Programme for Ebbe Westergren with joint planning with Bridging Ages South Africa.

The objective was to strengthen institutional and programmatic capacity in five provinces.

The programme was hosted by Freedom Park in collaboration with Bridging Ages South Africa. There were two sections, April/ May and October/November, 8 weeks in total.

Approximately **100 persons were trained nationally, about 65 Time Travel Events** were held across South Africa during the year. This is not conclusive as over 35 institutions, nationally are implementing the Time Travel method.



Time Travel and Therapy is a new area that was piloted at two institutions for children, focussing on their needs

South Africa had representation at the international conference at Estonia and two persons attended the academic course in Sweden.

Gulshera Khan was elected President of Bridging Ages in 2019. Gulshera is a member of Port Shepstone Twinning Association, an NGO based in Port Shepstone, South Africa.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: SAVE THE DATE AND THANKS

THE TIME TRAVEL METHOD AN EXPERIENTIAL WAY OF LEARNING

INVITATION

EDUCATIONAL COURSE ON THE TIME TRAVEL METHOD

(including the Bridging Ages annual conference).

Topic: Learn how to plan, develop, and implement
The Time Travel Method.
Understand the learning process, key competences
and the use of heritage, all subjects included

Country: Giresun/ Ordu in Turkey

Date: 10-22 October 2021

Target group: Educators on all levels in schools,
museum educators

Organizers: Bridging Ages International and Bridging Ages Turkey

Registration: School Education Gateway Platform

https://www.schooleducationgateway.eu/en/pub/teacher_academy/catalogue/detail.cfm?id=166234

Funding Through EU, Erasmus+. (Call for Application in February)

Deadline: March 2021

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Hakan Adanir: goperatif@gmail.com;

Ebbe Westergren: ebbe.westergren51@gmail.com

**Bridging Ages
International Conference
Giresun/ Ordu, Turkey
19-21 October 2021**

Bridging Ages AGM

Date: 17 March 2021

**(following constitutional
timelines)**

APPRECIATION

Bridging Ages Board would like
to thank our members for
attending the first virtual AGM.

Your contribution was engaging
and truly inspiring.

Please feel free to contact the
Board to share ideas, offer
assistance and express needs.

The full AGM report can be
viewed at:

<http://www.bridgingages.com>

"I am because We Are"

*To be part of the mailing list or
subscribe to the newsletter,
publications and bulletins:
please send an e-mail to:
twinningsa@gmail.com*

Editorial team:

Scott Green, Ebbe Westergren

and Gulshera Khan

Layout:

Gulshera Khan

SEASON'S GREETINGS

WISHING YOU THE BEST FOR 2021
MAY YOU HAVE PEACE, LOVE AND GOOD HEALTH.

From: Bridging Ages Board

President, Gulshera Khan, South Africa

Vice President, Tina Lindström, Sweden

Board members:

Monica Mattbäck- Finland, Scott Green-USA, Steven Labarakwe- Kenya,
Douglas Muwonge- Uganda, Agrita Ozola- Latvia, Pille Rohtla- Estonia and
Hakan Adanir – Turkey

Honorary President: Ebbe Westergren