



## Bridges Newsletter

# Making Global Connections in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin

[www.bridgesglobal.org.uk](http://www.bridgesglobal.org.uk)

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Bridges promotes knowledge and learning for a fairer world in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. Please read on to find out more about our work and how you can get involved.

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### 1. Opportunities... get involved in Bridges' activities

#### **Heroines and Heroes**

A new learning and action pack is available for free from the Bridges website. The pack has lots of activities to find out more about gender equality around the world. The pack is designed for Girlguiding groups but easily adaptable to any local youth group.

Download your copy here - [www.bridgesglobal.org.uk/resources\\_to\\_download\\_community.html](http://www.bridgesglobal.org.uk/resources_to_download_community.html)  
(The pack will be online in the next few days.)

#### **Counting Women In**

A new campaign for gender equality in local and national politics - [www.countingwomenin.org](http://www.countingwomenin.org)

### 2. Come along to... local events

#### **Christmas Cardboard Collection - Transition Town Shrewsbury**

Hang on to your cardboard – please don't bin it!

Transition Town Shrewsbury are collecting cardboard to raise a bit of cash for Hope House and the Severn Hospice. Bring your cardboard to the Cardboard Cafes on Saturday 7th January between 9am and 2pm at:

- Red Barn Pub, 108 Longden Road, SY3 7HS
- United Reformed Church, Abbey Foregate, SY3 7BJ
- Riversway Elim Church, Lancaster Road, SY1 3LE

Cardboard should be clean and flattened please – thank you.

For more information please call Ali on 07972 858313 or 01743 351014 or e-mail [alison.thomas08@gmail.com](mailto:alison.thomas08@gmail.com)

### **New artwork on display – Oswestry Library**

The artwork shares the Project Group members' thoughts, ideas and perspectives on poverty around the world. The entire artwork has been created using reclaimed and reused objects including tyre inner tubes, broken zips, old maps, spare buttons, chocolate wrappers and more.

One side of the artwork shows two trees – one a flourishing tree of wealth and one a dying tree of poverty. Each tree is decorated with leaves. The words stitched onto each leaf share the things that the Project Group members felt kept people rich or poor.

The other side of the artwork is comprised of many pieces created by individual members of the Project Group. Each shares a different aspect of poverty or inequality and explores the many inter-linked issues that contribute to poverty around the world.

The artwork will be on display at Oswestry Library from 9<sup>th</sup> January onwards. We are offering a limited number of free workshops using this unique piece of artwork as a stimulus for exploring some of the big issues facing our world today. If you'd like us to bring the artwork to you and your youth and community group please get in touch with Nina on 01952 255526 or e-mail - [Nina@bridgesglobal.org.uk](mailto:Nina@bridgesglobal.org.uk).

### **1.4 Billion Reasons – Presentation from the Global Poverty Project**

There are 1.4 billion people in the world living in extreme poverty. That's 1.4 billion people living on less than \$1.25 a day. 1.4 Billion Reasons is an engaging presentation that is travelling the globe inspiring audiences to understand and get involved in the movement to end extreme poverty. The presentation will be coming to Shropshire on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 7.30pm at The Hive, 5 Belmont, SY1 1TE.

To find out more and book your free place visit -

<http://globalpovertyproject.com/events/attend/37100565>

or call Bridges on 01952 255526.

## **3. *Shropshire's been busy...* update on Bridges activities**

### **Competition Winner!**

Bridges Mothers Matter campaign has won a photo competition held by CTT - the Charity Technology Trust. Our winning photo showed hundreds of campaigning mini-mums created by school pupils and youth and community group members. Have a look at the website to see our winning entry - [www.ctt.org](http://www.ctt.org).

## **4. *Going global...* events and opportunities with a global connection**

### **International Year of Cooperatives – 2012**

Cooperatives are a different way of doing business with a focus on people and not just profit. 2012 is the International Year of Cooperatives – find out more at [www.2012.coop/en](http://www.2012.coop/en).

The Cooperative Group is one of the biggest cooperatives in the UK, find out more about them at - [www.co-operative.coop/corporate](http://www.co-operative.coop/corporate).

### **LGBT History Month – February**

LGBT history month takes place every February to celebrate the lives and achievements of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans community.

Visit the website for more information and resources - <http://lgbthistorymonth.org.uk>.

### **Fairtrade Fortnight – 27<sup>th</sup> February to 11<sup>th</sup> March**

Take a step to Fairtrade with the Fairtrade Foundation in 2012. Find out more and download free resources at <http://step.fairtrade.org.uk/>

You can order sale or return boxes of Fairtrade goods for your events from two Shrewsbury shops: Shrewsbury Fairtrade Shop, 8 St John's Hill, Shrewsbury - Tel: 01743 352048.

And Albert, 27 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury – Tel: 01743 588422.

Get your order in early to make sure you can get the items you'd like.

### **International Women's Day – 8<sup>th</sup> March**

International Women's Day is a worldwide celebration of women's achievements and supports campaigns and actions for gender equality for everyone.

Find out more at - [www.internationalwomensday.com](http://www.internationalwomensday.com) and [www.weareequals.org/iwd](http://www.weareequals.org/iwd)

### **Mother's Day – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March**

Support mothers all around the world this Mothers Day with a gift of a safe birth for women in Africa from Maternity Worldwide - [www.maternityworldwide.org/pages/alternative-gifts.html](http://www.maternityworldwide.org/pages/alternative-gifts.html). Find out more about maternal health around the world with Bridges' free resource pack for youth and community groups:

Mothers Matter - [http://www.bridgesglobal.org.uk/resources\\_to\\_download\\_community.html](http://www.bridgesglobal.org.uk/resources_to_download_community.html)

#### **About the e-bulletin**

Bridges promotes knowledge and learning for a fairer world. The e-bulletin is to help keep you informed of global issues, campaigns and action in, Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and the surrounding areas. We would like to share what's happening with you, but if you would like to unsubscribe please email [admin@bridgesglobal.org.uk](mailto:admin@bridgesglobal.org.uk) with Unsubscribe in the subject line of your message.

#### **Contribute to the e-bulletin**

If you'd like to promote your events or activities in this e-bulletin we would love to hear from you. Just email a link or a short article, with any permitted photos you'd also like to share and we will add this to our next e-bulletin as appropriate.

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Bridges promotes knowledge and learning in Shropshire for a fairer world.

Our vision is a fairer world where all people are respected, learn together and are able to take action.

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