



Development Education Centre

Bridges Bulletin Autumn 2008

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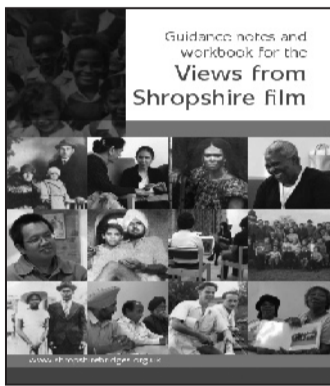
Bridges, The Studios, Mansell Road, Wellington Telford TF1 1QQ

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Exhibiting 'Views from Shropshire'

The 'Views from Shropshire' project will display oral histories collected from diverse communities in Shropshire as part of a launch event on Monday 27th October @ the Hadley Learning Centre, Telford. The exhibition is part of the Telford and Wrekin 'Celebrating Diversity' event and will run from 1 – 2pm, followed by refreshments and dance performances running from 3.30 – 5pm.

'Views from Shropshire' has collected sixty-eight accounts in the form of one-to-one interviews and reminiscence workshops. People from Africa, Asia, Europe, South America and the West Indies, who have settled in Shropshire, took part in the project. Thirty of the oral histories have been developed into a book and educational resource for schools. A community film and workbook will be available to buy from October 2008.



Order a copy of the Views from Shropshire film and workbook - priced £2.99 (plus £3.50 postage and packaging or collect in person for free).

Accounts include the story of Drummond family, one of the first black families in Telford and Krystyna Tomczak's experience of living in an army barrack in Whitchurch, with other Polish communities, after the war.

For more details contact Mana Kaur on **01922 255526**.

Making the World of Difference Conference



A Great Way to Spend a Day

At the end of June 80 pupils from 12 local primary schools came together at Shire Hall for 'Making the World of Difference', a day of inspiration and challenge. Six of the schools gave presentations showing action taken as part of our G8 Challenge Project - action on combating malaria, supporting fair-trade and cutting carbon emissions. Pupils helped lead workshops on global issues and everyone took part in the School Council Challenge - to plan an event on water issues.

'I really enjoyed today because it was inspiring and fun. I have learnt that fair-trade helps farmers.'

'Excellent presentations from all schools and lots of activities. We all learnt soooo much.'

'Great way of raising awareness with youngsters who will be able to make a difference in the future.'

Training beyond Telford and Shrewsbury.....

This autumn we are offering a programme of CPD training sessions especially for staff in North and South Shropshire. Staff from rural primary schools will have the opportunity of attending training on Fairtrade School Status, diversity and community cohesion. For more information see our flyer or our website.



College programme

In the last academic year we have run dozens of workshops for colleges and Sixth Forms as part of their Enrichment Programmes for 16-19 year olds. Our staff have experience of running workshops on racism, diversity, fair-trade, ethical tourism, recycling and poverty. We offer discounts for multiple bookings. For more information contact Sylvia on 01952 255526, email sylvia@shropshirebridges.org.uk.

'The three sessions I have had with the Upper Sixth this year have worked well and I will be booking for next year.' Sue Coppin – 6th form co-ordinator

Have Your Say (and receive a free resource)

Do you work in education or with community groups? Would you like to receive a resource of your choice worth up to £15? We're developing our work with schools and communities looking at development issues and taking action for a better world. We'd value your views on our work for the future. If you can spare up half an hour of your time for an interview please get in touch.

Villagers Go Global

Four Shropshire villages have been celebrating this year, with a series of events on a global theme.

Hinstock school hosted a Family Fair-Trade Fun quiz, Maesbury held an African festival of African Food and Culture and Farlow and Bitterley hosted an evening of Southern African Gum Boot Dancing and food. Next year, the villagers' plans include an evening of Eastern European music and culture.

Participants in Maesbury's Mwani Festival enjoyed delicious sausages from local Treflack Farm and Jollof rice cooked by members of Telford Ghanaian community. Children at the school played a key part in putting on the event, and displayed what they had learned about Africa in class.

"The event had a really good community feel... parents were really chuffed with the children's African dance performance". Head teacher, Maesbury School



Help us Celebrate our Fifth Birthday!



This September Bridges has reached the grand old age of five. We have already been celebrating in the office with a global cake and we are now planning a big celebration event in November.

For those who have been involved since the beginning, it seems like a long time since our organisation, with a resource centre and 'Taste of Fair-trade' shop, was set up by Harvest Help. At that time we shared premises in Bakers Row, Wellington. Now in our own offices with four staff we are working with communities, schools and colleges around Shropshire and the West Midlands. We feel like we've come a long way.

We'd like to invite you all to our **'Global Rethink' event to be held on 20th November at 7pm at Shrewsbury United Reformed Church Hall.**

We're using our anniversary as an excuse to enable all those people in and around Shropshire who are committed to making a difference in the world to put their heads together. A fun evening is planned... visit our website for more event details.