

# Bridging Ages



International Organization in Historic Environment Education and Time Travels

## "Wisdom sits in places"

### Vision

Bridging Ages is an international organization utilizing nearby history to understand life and society of today by bridging the past with the present towards the future.

### Mission

Bridging Ages is an international organization supporting and inspiring institutions such as museums, schools and heritage organisations in the development of Historic Environment Education and Time Travels.

### What is Historic Environment Education?

Historic Environment Education uses local historic sites and nearby history as an active way of learning and inspiring today's people and communities about the past.

### Time Travels

Time Travels is an educational method where the participants research and take part in the life of another historical time period in order to learn about themselves and their society.



In the Bridging Ages organization people from schools, museums, universities, historical societies, municipalities etc get news and information about heritage education and Time Travels, inspire and support each other. People from twenty countries in Europe, America, Africa and Asia are on the e-mailing list or voting members, so far. Most welcome in the Bridging Ages Organization.

For more information contact:

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## Words from the President

It is a fascinating time to be the president of an organization like Bridging Ages. The interest for heritage is growing. The heritage gives us roots and identity, it is important in education and tourism. There are many stories in a diverse society. There are also dark sides that need to be revealed and discussed. The heritage gives meaning to people and can be of importance in today's society. It can be used as a tool for social cohesion.

In a workshop in Worcester, South Africa in October 2009 it was discussed what is Historic Environment Education and Time Travels. The conclusion was that it always include the following:

- **It focuses on local sites and the stories of the sites**
- **It has a bottom up perspective, history from below**
- **In the key questions today and the past are connected**
- **There is an interaction with the community and the schools in research, education/studies and TimeTravels**
- **A Time Travel always has a reflecting dialogue; learning by doing, reflection and challenging**

**Probably these items are true not only for South Africa but for other countries as well.**

Bridging Ages is a slowly, but steadily, growing organization. We need to inspire and encourage each other. The conferences are good opportunities to meet, to learn and to find friends. Kalmar 2010, Tallinn 2011, ...

*Now is the time to start study groups in local history.  
Now is the time to discover the forgotten stories from the past.  
Now is the time to expose the historical landscape that surrounds us.  
Now is the time to engage people of all traditions in the local heritage.  
Now is the time to organize historical events and Time Travels.*



Interested partners are not far away from you.

*Ebbe Westergren  
President of Bridging Ages*

