

## PRESS RELEASE

**Contact:** Adrian Lambert, The Rural Media Company  
**Tel:** 01432 344039  
**Email:** [adrianl@ruralmedia.co.uk](mailto:adrianl@ruralmedia.co.uk)

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> March 2011

---

### YOUNG PEOPLE'S FILM CHALLENGES DOMESTIC ABUSE

Over the past 12 months The Rural Media Company, in partnership with West Mercia Women's Aid, have worked intensively with young people who have experienced domestic abuse in their own lives to create a short and very powerful new film, **The Things We Took With Us**. The film premieres at the Borderlines Film Festival on March 30<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

The film was made as part of a two year funded project entitled Re:focus (funded by Comic Relief) in which young people from Herefordshire and Worcestershire, who have been affected by domestic abuse, have the opportunity to create high quality films that can be used in a targeted campaign.

Over the past 12 months young people from across Herefordshire have worked with Director Toni Cook learning new media skills and developing their stories into this very moving and dramatic film in which they also perform.

One of the young people involved said, "I'm very proud of what we have done. It's easier once you have spoken about it, because you know other people have had similar experiences. It shows that there is light at the end of the tunnel" Jan Frances, CEO, West Mercia Women's Aid said, "Young people are often referred to as the "hidden victims" in abusive households, so it is fantastic that they have been given a voice by this creative and inspirational project. I'm sure the powerful messages will stay with viewers for a very long time."



"The young people have worked extremely hard to produce the film", said Rural Media Company Producer Adrian Lambert, "it's an extremely brave and incredibly moving piece of work, they should be very proud of what they have achieved."

The film will be accompanied by a short "Making of" film, which documents the process behind the project. **Tickets are free but need to be booked via The Courtyard Box Office on 01432 34055**

**Release ends**

### **Note to Editors**

- **The Rural Media Company** is a Charity and company limited by guarantee. We are supported by ScreenWM and The National Lottery through the UK Film Council, the Elmley Foundation and Herefordshire Council.
- The Re:Focus project is supported by Comic Relief
- [www.ruralmedia.co.uk](http://www.ruralmedia.co.uk)