



WHY?

**WHAT'S HAPPENING
FOR THE YOUNG**

**A YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE
TO BANNER MAKING**

by Ed Hall

**SOUTHBANK
CENTRE**



A YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE TO BANNER MAKING

BY ED HALL

Banners show to the world the best face of causes and campaigns. For 200 years they have carried the pictures of hope and love of the past. In the street, in meetings, on TV and online they spread the word of change and the value of sticking together.

- Banners can be simple – Just letters
- Banners can show whole scenes
- Banners can show logos and snappy slogans
- Banners can bring a street to life
- Banners can be made in the classroom
- Banners can feature people you know and see every day
- Banners can be ornate



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THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

The banner will be made to help a cause.

1. Title and Slogan

What is the cause?

Decide on an easily understood title.

What is the message you wish to send to the public?

Decide on a catchy slogan, possibly a slogan which can be chanted or sung.

Does your campaign use favourite or a specific range of colours?

Do you have a logo?

If the logo is complicated or confusing, now is the time for change!

2. Practical Things

You need pencils, felt tips, rulers, a set square, scissors, fabric paints, paint brushes, and a clear floor or large table to make your banner. To create a rough layout you will need paper, card and glue.

3. Do some research

See how people have designed and made banners. Some are very simple and others complicated. Have an open discussion about banners.

What have they been used for?

Why are they bright and colourful?

Will you hold the banner up high on poles or will it be low and wide and held by hand?

Cotton is the best materials to use to create banners. It can be sewn and painted.

Cotton Drill is £4.50/ metre

When thinking about size: 1.2M x 1.2M is small and 2.5M x 1.8M is big.



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4. Design

Stick together a large sheet of paper and roughly plan the banner.

It has to be read from a long way off, so have the key words at the top and big enough to easily read. Make it eye catching and intriguing.

Why not have people, local scenes and events on your banner.

The fear of drawing is only that of a blank page. As this is a rough draft make as many mistakes as you like.

Cut letters out of paper and stick them to the rough design. With a felt tipped pen drawn out scenes, logos and people.

If there are colours you like or colours the campaign has been using add them now.

5. Production

Sew a square of cotton drill to the size of the banner.

Using the paper design transfer this lightly onto the cotton.

Outline the design with black if this helps, and then fill in the shapes with colours.

Paint with fabric dyes or inks.

You can cut the letters out of cotton and hand stitch or machine stitch them into place. The letter edges can be folded over to create a sharp edge.

If there is a logo, this can be painted or appliquéd. The central image can also be painted or appliquéd.

A border is always helpful to make your design stand out. This can be added last.

Finally sew a sleeve along the top of the banner to take the top pole.

6. Carrying

If the banner is to have poles make sure there is a top pole, as well as one at each side. This means the banner will be straight across the top and easily read.

Always carry your banner upright and show it off.

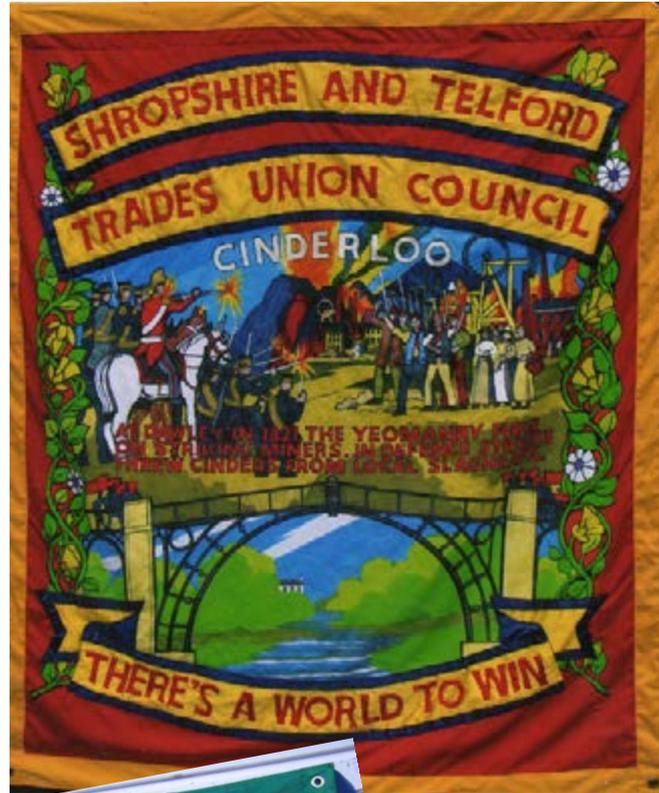


Banners can be simple. Just letters.





Banners can show whole scenes.





Banners can show logos and snappy slogans.



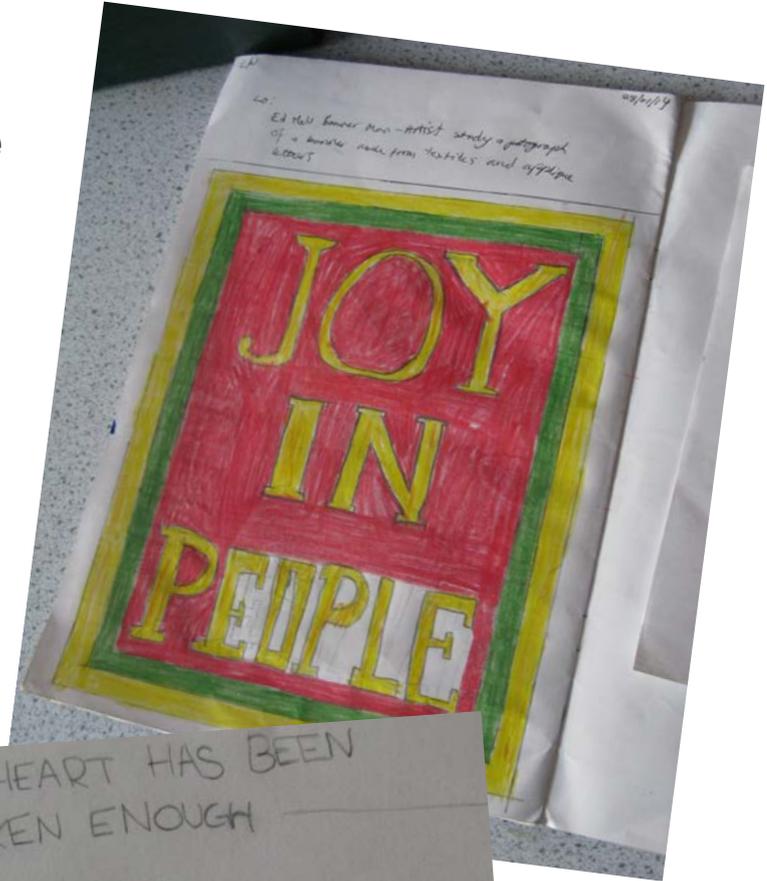


Banners can bring a street to life.





**Banners can be made
in the classroom.**



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Banners can feature people you know and see every day.





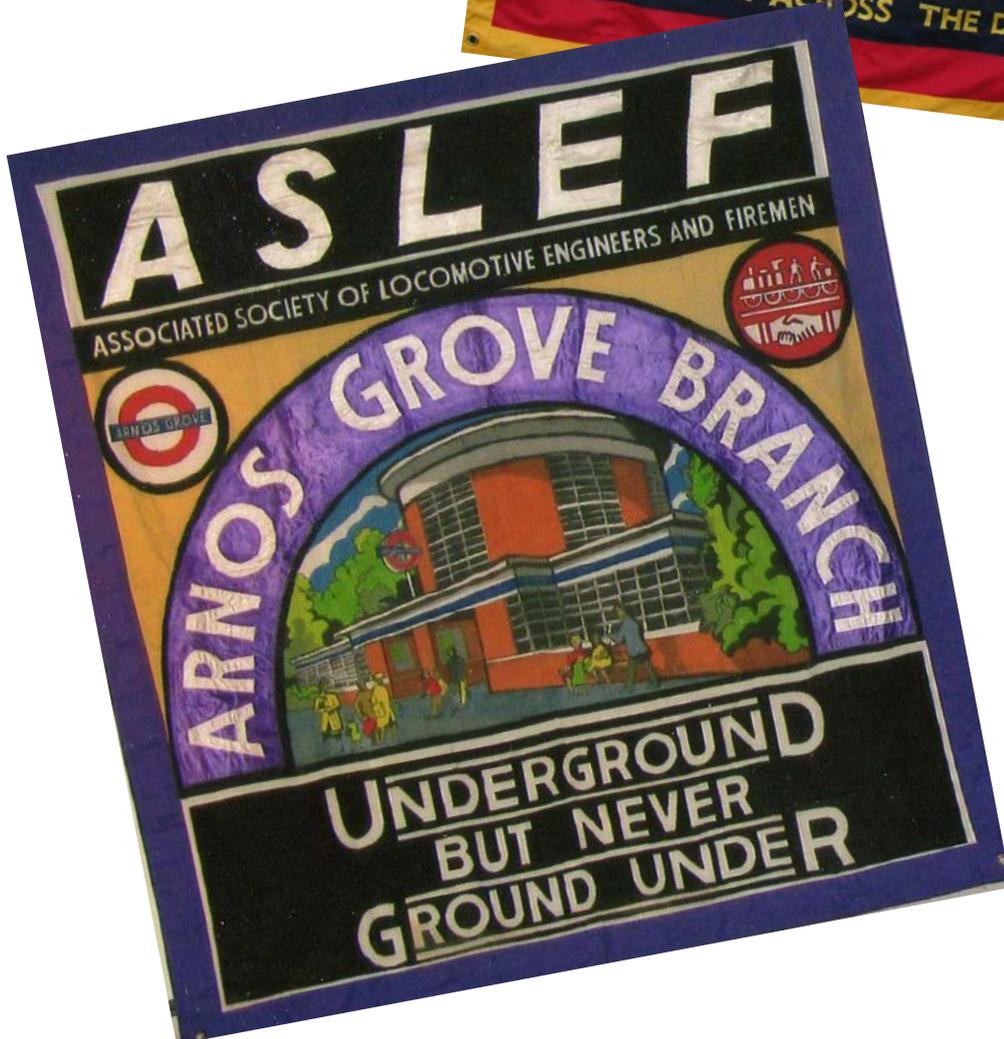
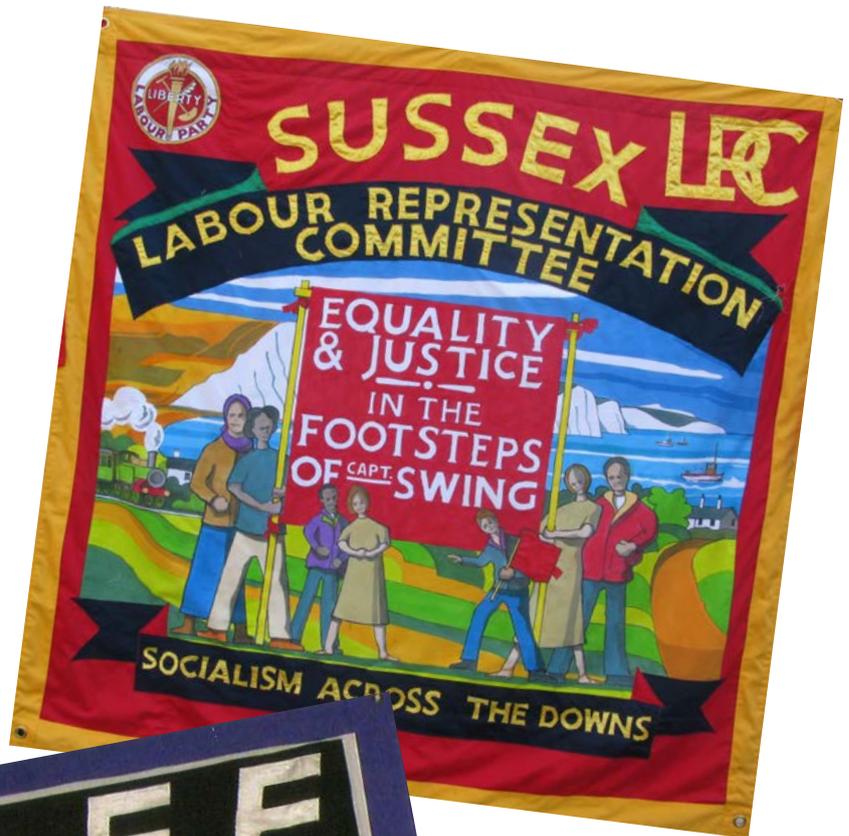
Oldham says it invented the potato chip and wanted to commemorate this on their banner.





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Banners can contain drama and slogans.





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Banners can include symbols of strength and solidarity.

