



# PRAIZIN' HANDS PUPPET GROUP

## NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2020 - ISSUE: 03

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The puppet group can now claim Gift Aid. If you are a UK taxpayer using Gift Aid means that for every pound you give, we get an extra 25 pence from the HMRC, helping your donation to go further. This means that £10 can be turned into £12.50, just so long as you complete a Gift Aid declaration. Imagine what a difference that could make, and it doesn't cost you a thing.

### ADOPT A PUPPET

Thank you to Joan Shewry who has adopted 'RONNIE' for a further year and to the Women's Guild at Cornerstone, Hythe URC who has adopted 'GILDA' for a further year.

If you would like to know more about the scheme please email [info@praizinhands.org.uk](mailto:info@praizinhands.org.uk) and we will send you details.

### PRAYER FOCUS

For the Little Hands team and their families in lockdown. For their health and wellbeing. That they will feel loved and cared for. For the young people who have had their exams cancelled. For those who will be starting senior school in September without the usual transition to help them. For the strengthening of relationships of the team when we can meet again.

For the Big Hands team, stage crew and their families. For their health and wellbeing. That they will feel loved and cared for. That the team will be closer as a team when we meet back again.

For the project team and their families. For their health and wellbeing. That they will feel loved and cared for. For the strengthening of relationships and a closer bond with each other. For when the new Internet Safety KS1 presentation goes into schools. That it will help children stay safe online.

For our 'up front' people who come out to schools with us at Easter and Christmas time. For a strengthening of relationships. For their health.

For all schools. The staff and children in our schools especially those children and staff who are still attending school. Pray for the protection over each child and each member of staff, the key workers as they carry out their necessary work.

For our trustees. For wisdom and God's guidance as they lead the puppet group forward.

For all the people who support Praizin' Hands whether that be practically or financially. Some are isolated on their own at this time. Pray they will not feel lonely and they will feel loved.

That funds will come through to help finance the work of the puppet group especially as so many people and companies will be struggling financially.

That God will provide a new building for storage and rehearsals and funding to be able to keep it going.

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## BIG HANDS TEAM UPDATE

The Big Hands team had worked very hard in learning a new Easter routine to take into schools. It was a challenging routine to learn and they had just about mastered it in time to start our Easter programme. However, we only managed to complete the first week of our schedule before we decided it was best to stop any further assemblies due to the coronavirus and the protection of our puppet team. The following week, the schools all closed, and we went into lockdown. It is very disappointing that we still had 3 weeks of assemblies still to do but we will take this Easter presentation into the remaining schools in 2021 instead and the schools we should be doing in 2021 we will now do in 2022.

It was great to welcome Paul, Minister of Lyndhurst Baptist Church as one of our 'up-front' people for our Easter assemblies. Paul was the only new 'up-front' person to make it out with us before lockdown! Our other new 'up front' people, Joy, Carolyn and Fiona, never got to come out with the team as planned but we very much look forward to working with them in the future and developing relationships with other churches. The new 'up front' people join our existing team of Sheila and Joan.

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## SCHOOLS PROJECT TEAM UPDATE

As I write this report, the project team has not been affected too greatly by the lockdown, to date as we were able to rehearse and serve schools up to when the Easter assemblies commenced. Just before the team stopped for Easter, they had been working on the new Internet Safety KS1 presentation which teaches Infant children how to keep themselves safe on the Internet. They have several schools booked in for one of these presentations for April, May and June and so unless schools suddenly go back to normal this presentation will have to wait until September/October time. This team also had other topics booked in for the summer term such as 'Healthy Lifestyles', 'Looking after our world' and 'All Change' which also looks doubtful as to whether they will still happen.

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## LITTLE HANDS PUPPET TEAM UPDATE

Our Little Hands team had just started rehearsing for our 2020 schedule when we went into lockdown meaning we could no longer meet. This was very disappointing as we had only recently started meeting in our new format and were still building relationships with the team. It is looking very unlikely that our programme for summer term will now be going ahead due to the current situation. The Totton Fun Day which was meant to take place on Saturday 6th June is now cancelled. We have a booking in September at Trinity Church, West Totton but even if things are back to normal by then, it is looking doubtful that we will be able to perform due to not having had any rehearsals.

We had made plans to do a team building activity with our Little Hands team and so we were planning to meet at Ferny Crofts Scout camp in May to play aeroball which is a trampoline activity. Never mind, we will put this on hold until we are all back to normal.

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## PUPPET GROUP AGM

As a result of the current Coronavirus situation we have postponed our June AGM to later in the year.

We will advise a new date in due course.



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