



PRAIZIN' HANDS PUPPET GROUP

NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2020 - ISSUE: 05

A NEW WAY OF WORKING!

All three of our puppet teams are back rehearsing and following our strict COVID-19 policy that is in line with government guidelines. The changes we have needed to put in place have made rehearsals totally different, as we experience new ways to rehearse safely.

As we can not perform in person at the moment we are filming the puppets. Our Little Hands team are working on a song which will be put onto YouTube and our Big Hands team are putting together a Christmas DVD.

This year has not been the year we expected but like many charities we have needed to evolve during these uncertain times to be able to continue our work.

NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED

Our new updated and redesigned website has now been released. The new website includes a lot more detail about the work of the puppet group, including photos.

Please have a look at: www.praizinhands.org.uk



PRAYER FOCUS

For God's guidance, as Praizin' Hands seek a suitable building and that finances will be found to support this next stage of the charity's development.

Please pray that the Christmas DVD will bring hope and joy to all those who watch.

For our Little Hands team and their families.

For our Big Hands team and stage crew. For God's guidance as they begin making plans for their Easter presentations.

For the PSHE school's project team. For a clear way forward for the new year as they seek different ways to continue their work in schools during the pandemic.

FILMING AT LONGDOWN FARM

Earlier this month, we spent a day at Longdown Activity Farm filming. The farm kindly allowed us to use one of their barns to film a large part of our Christmas DVD.

We are now working on editing and producing the DVD's which will be sent out at the beginning of December.



BIG HANDS TEAM UPDATE

Sadly, Big Hands are unable to go into schools, care homes, hospices and churches this Christmas due to the pandemic. Therefore, we have been busy filming our Christmas presentation so we can send it out on a DVD.



It has been a challenge trying to film outdoors whilst masked, keeping socially distanced along with dodging the heavy rain showers but we are in the final stages of completing it!

We have received over 80 requests from schools, churches, and care homes from around the UK and Ireland for our DVD so far, but the deadline is 4th November. If you know a school, care home, group or church who would like a copy please email beverly@prazinhands.org.uk.

In these difficult times, it is even more important to share the joy and hope of the Christmas story with as many people as possible.



PSHE SCHOOLS PROJECT TEAM UPDATE

Over the summer, the PSHE schools project team filmed a 'Returning to School after Lockdown' DVD and this was sent out to 20 schools. The team has received positive feedback from a number of the schools.

Sadly, the team are still unable to visit schools this side of Christmas. However, rehearsal times have not been wasted as the team have been developing their puppetry skills ready for when they can go back into schools.

LITTLE HANDS PUPPET TEAM UPDATE

In September, we were finally able to start meeting back with our Little Hands youth team after having to meet on zoom since March. It is wonderful to be able to meet back in person although our evenings are looking completely different to what we are used to!



They have been learning a puppet song which will be filmed outdoors at the beginning of November and put on our YouTube channel in the new year. Keep an eye out for it!

WE ARE ON THE MOVE TO.....?

When we set up the puppet group as a charity, we were blessed with the use of a house to store the majority of our equipment. This arrangement has been a great help to us but we always knew it was for a limited time which will come to an end in February. We therefore need to find a new location to store all our equipment on a long term basis and hopefully also have space to rehearse.

The search will not be easy as we have a lot of equipment that we have accumulated over the last 17 years, all which is needed to support the work of the three puppet teams. We also have limited funds to pay for the use of any suitable venue.

We would love your help in the search to find new premises. We need it to be dry, secure and with easy access. If you know of any vacant building, church, part of a church, a company with vacant space please let us know. Thank you.

DOING YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING ONLINE?

Did you know that as a charity we are registered with Amazon Smile? This version of the Amazon website looks the same as the standard Amazon site, however on a large number of items when an order is placed we receive a very small donation from Amazon. We are never going to make loads of money from this but every pound helps to continue the work of the puppet group. So, please tell your friends and family as the more people using it means the more we can raise! Just search for Amazon Smile and select us as your charity.

We are also registered with Easy Fundraising which works in the same way, however there are a number of retailers you can purchase from, from which we receive a small donation.

Thank you!
