



# PRAIZIN' HANDS PUPPET GROUP

## NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2021 - ISSUE: 07

### GETTING BACK TO 'NORMAL'

As the lockdown restrictions start to ease, the Puppet Group is slowly starting to get back to 'normal'. Two of our three teams are now meeting in person. It is great to be able to meet in this way once again. You can only do limited puppetry using Zoom!

Over the next few months we have a number of key events, like the AGM and storage move that will help the Puppet Group prepare for the future. There will probably be additional challenges to face as we move the puppet group forward but we have complete faith in God that He will lead us in the right direction.

We hope that after the school summer holidays we will be able to do live puppet performances back in the schools again, then things will really start to feel like they getting back to normal.

### THE LISTENERS TRUST

In February, we received a grant for £620.35 from 'The Listeners Trust', a local trust that supports Christian projects. To enable us to rehearse safely and comply with the COVID-19 restrictions, the grant has enabled us to purchase some additional puppets, so they do not need to be shared and also some clear pop up screens for use behind the stage.



### PRAYER FOCUS

Give thanks to God for giving Praizin' Hands new opportunities throughout the Lockdowns.

For each member of our Little Hands team and particularly for their filming day on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

For the Big Hands team as they prepare to meet back in person from 19<sup>th</sup> May. For the filming of their presentation, the editing and production of DVD's.

For the PSHE Schools project team. For the filming of the 2 presentations. For the schools who will be sharing it with their children and that it will have a positive impact on them all.

For the Praizin' Hands AGM on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

Ask God to provide new puppeteers and stage crew members for the Little Hands and Big Hands teams.

### SPREAD THE NEWS

If you know anyone who would like to receive a copy of our quarterly newsletter please ask them to send their details to [newsletter@praizinhands.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@praizinhands.org.uk) or pass their details to Beverly so that they can be added to our distribution list. They will then receive copies of all future newsletters.

(Any information given will only be used by Praizin' Hands to distribute the newsletters.)

### THANK YOU

Wendy, one of our Trustees, has decided to step down as a Trustee. Wendy has helped in the setting up of the puppet charity and it is sad to see her leave. We thank her for all her support in this role, over the last 18 months.

---

## BIG HANDS TEAM UPDATE

Our Big Hands team have been rehearsing on Zoom. Sadly, we were unable to meet in person to film an Easter presentation however we managed to film a different Easter presentation on Zoom, and this was sent out to schools, churches, care homes and youth groups across the country.

This team has also filmed a song called 'O Jesus I have promised' in the 'Muppet style' for YouTube and are currently working on a new song that will go on YouTube shortly.



Big Hands are looking forward to getting back together again in person as from 19<sup>th</sup> May when they will be rehearsing and filming the Easter presentation that they have been working on. This will then be put on DVD's for care homes and schools further afield for 2022 at the same time the puppet team will hopefully be doing live performances in local schools and groups.

---

## PSHE SCHOOLS PROJECT TEAM UPDATE

Our PSHE Schools Project team have been keeping busy. They have continued to meet and rehearse on Zoom and have been rehearsing for various presentations. They have filmed a song called 'We all have differences' on Zoom and the YouTube link has been sent to schools for their



use and this has been much appreciated. They have also filmed a song 'Positive attitude' and this will be put on YouTube shortly and sent out to schools.

This team started meeting in person, once again on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April and it is great to be back. They will be filming 2 presentations in the next few weeks, 'Internet Safety KS1' and 'Talking about problems' and these will be streamed on YouTube for schools to use in the summer term.

---

## LITTLE HANDS PUPPET TEAM UPDATE

Our Little Hands Youth team have continued to meet on Zoom during Lockdown. We have been doing some puppetry, games, and devotional times together. We were able to rehearse and film a song for YouTube. The puppeteers did very well with the song especially as a few of them only joined Praizin' Hands before the first lockdown and so haven't been able to have much training.



However, on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April we started to meet in person, once again! It is so wonderful to physically meet even though there are so many restrictions we still must adhere to. Little Hands have a new date in May for filming two songs at Ferny Crofts Scout campsite. They will be filming a puppet song as well as a routine with dowel rods which they are currently practising for.

---

## PUPPET GROUP AGM

Our Puppet Group AGM will be held on Sunday 23 May at 3:00pm at St Francis Church, Langley. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, numbers will be limited and certain precautions will be in place to enable us to hold the meeting safely.

If you would like to attend you will need to reserve a seat so that we do not exceed the capacity for the hall. Please email [nigel@praizinhands.org.uk](mailto:nigel@praizinhands.org.uk) to book your place.

All the puppet group membership will be sent an invite, with an agenda for the meeting.

---

## ARE YOU UP FOR A NEW CHALLENGE?

If you are not already a puppeteer or part of our stage crew, have you ever thought about joining us?

We are currently looking for ladies to join our Big Hands team and be part of taking the Christmas and Easter stories into schools and care homes.

If puppetry is not for you, how about joining our stage crew team and helping with the setting up and operation of our audio and lighting equipment?

We are also looking to expand our Little Hands youth team so if you know any young people (girls and boys) in school years 7 to 13 than we would be interested to hear from them.

We are planning a 'taster' day in July so if you know anyone that may be interested please ask them to contact Beverly email: [beverly@praizinhands.org.uk](mailto:beverly@praizinhands.org.uk) thank you.

---