

Priddy Folk Festival Report – March 2020

Priddy Folk Festival is now in its 29th year. This year we have become registered as a charity in our own right with charitable aims of promoting folk music and arts but always keen to help Priddy organisations as we have in the past.

We are continuing our work with the Blue School in our Priddy Rising project which encourages young performers, and last year this involved several primary schools as well (including Priddy).

The festival is delivered by a hard working and dedicated team of volunteers who's reward is making a fabulous event that can be safely enjoyed. We also try to make a point of having some fun ourselves whilst we do it! We are always keen to hear from anyone who wants to join this team!

Last year was another successful year and we made approved donations of over £17,000:

- £5,000 went directly to The Priddy & St Lawrence's Federation School and a further £4,000 went via the PTA towards funding out of school choir and orchestra lessons.
- Another £7,000 went to various village organisations including the The Parish Council, the Church Bell Ringers, Monday Club, Local History Group, supporting a Priddy archaeology dig and supporting the growing Priddy Community choir, the Priddy Singers.
- £1200 went to Blue School pupils for music development access to Halsway Manor
- We have also reserved some money to help St Laurence Church with roof repairs

This year we are beginning to tackle the sustainability of the festival, building on our work to reduce plastic and waste over the previous years. We are of course watching developments with the Covid19 epidemic and will follow guidelines from the government and advice from trade organisations. At present the most likely outcome is that the festival will go ahead, so we are considering how introduce more facilities for handwashing, etc that might be required.

The festival is held in the second weekend in July. This year's festival is 10-12th July. Tickets available from www.priddyfolk.org or half price locals tickets available (check if you qualify with Lesley houltonlesley@gmail.com 01749 870902). Hope to see you there

Dean Collier
Chair of Trustees
Priddy Folk Festival