ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2022

Priddy Oil Buying Group

The Priddy Oil Buying Group continues to be well supported, we currently have 107 active members and on average we order around 15,000 litres per month over 20 drops.

During the last 12 months we have delivered in excess of 172,800 litres at a quoted cost of around £102,425.68, giving an average cost of 59p per litre, this has been over 12 deliveries with an average of 23 drops per delivery.

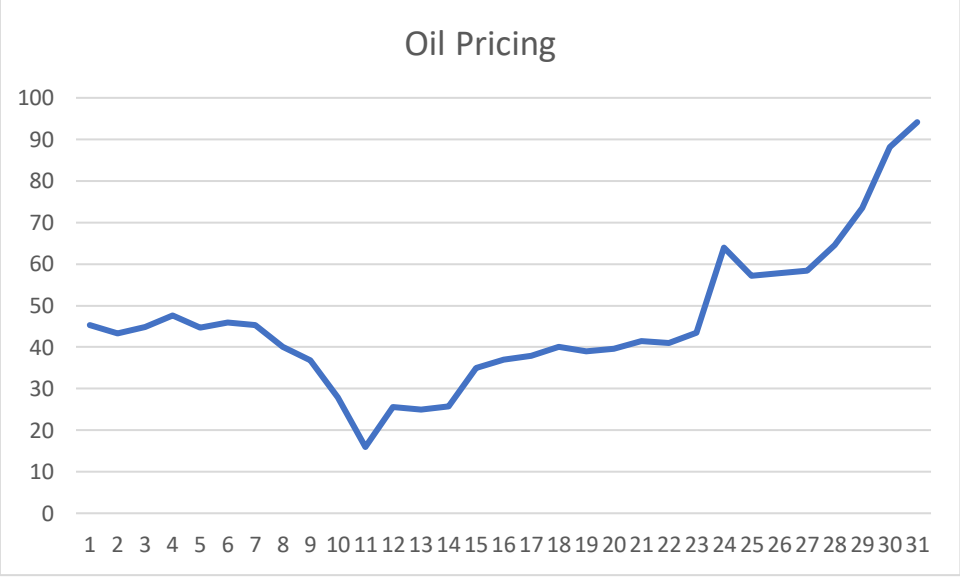
Since starting this initiative we have delivered in excess of 1,442,020 litres….!

This last 12 months has seen a gradual increase in the price of home heating oil, this month it was 94.15ppl an all time high. Seems incredible when you consider in May 2020, two years ago, we were paying 15.95ppl' that's a 600% increase in 2 years…!

Orders have reduced over the last few months probably due to pricing and people trying to stretch their budgets out, thankfully we are now entering summertime and consumption should be reduced but I fear the high price point is going to stay with us for some time to come, and there will be hardships felt in the winter.

We are now doing a regular monthly purchase around the nearest Monday to the 7th of the month.

New members are always welcome.



Graph is from April 2019 to date

Alan Hutfield

Charity of John Plummer

25th May 2022

The Charity of John Plummer was established through the will of John Plummer in 1736 for the "*benefit of the second poor*" [ie: no relief or parish pay] of the two neighbouring parishes of West Harptree and Priddy.

Today, the Charity is controlled by 8 trustees – 4 from the parish of West Harptree and 4 from the parish of Priddy.

The Charity's income is solely derived from dividend and bond receipts on investments following the sale of the farm in 1975 and is managed on the Charity's behalf by Charles Stanley & Co Ltd, one of the oldest firms on the London Stock Exchange.

2021 was a better trading year for the trust's investments on the LSE and the investments have slowly and steadily rallied from the turmoil and volatility of 2020.

The net surplus in the year is distributed equally between Priddy and West Harptree and must be used for purposes which fall within the objects of the Trusts deeds. This year, the increased income from the Estate Trust was used by the Priddy Trustees to hand out Youth Grants and helpful payments to the sick and the needy of the Parish.

Ian Jennings

Secretary to the Trustees

Charity of John Plummer

Priddy Singers

Priddy Singers returned to the Village Hall for weekly Tuesday night sessions in September after a year of outdoor rehearsals through the COVID restrictions. The choir currently has 45 members and has attracted enthusiastic new sign-ups this year. We performed at Wells Christmas Market and the Bishop's Palace in December (outdoor performances) and are singing at the Friendly Society Village Lunch on the Jubilee Weekend next month as well as performing on Wells Cathedral Green as part of the weekend's celebrations. We are thrilled that the Priddy Folk Festival is returning this summer and are looking forward to singing there as well as inviting friends, family and members of the community to come and join us in singing a sea shanty as part of this performance. Throughout we have constantly reviewed and thoughtfully considered the COVID situation and have adapted rehearsals to minimise risk whilst keeping them fun. All rehearsals are still live-streamed so that members who need to keep away because of infectious illness risk can follow from home.

More details about the group can be found at www.priddysingers.org and new members are welcome at any time, just drop us a line beforehand. No singing experience is necessary. priddysingersinfo@gmail.com 07984 160812

Priddy and St Lawrence's PTA

Over the years the PTA have done a lot of fundraising and an amazing school community and volunteers. We had separate for Priddy and St Lawrence's PTA, but we are now merged together. We are looking at how we can promote the positivity of the PTA and get more of the school community involved.

School Donation from the PTA

Every year, we offer a donation to the school to spread over preschool (Saplings), Reception, KS1 and KS2 for them to purchase the education materials they need. We also fund the Y6 leavers hoodie and other school projects as required by the school.

Fundraising events

In the past couple of years, we unfortunately have not been able to organise fundraising events due to the COVID crisis. As the situation gradually improves, we will be able to run two good fundraising events in June and July.

Green cow café held at Priddy Folk Festival is our main fundraiser event, raising around £4000 each year and is also an opportunity to promote the school as well. It does involve the school community volunteering their time to support the event for it to be run successfully.

Over the Jubilee weekend, the PTA will have a stall for tea, coffee and cake at the Westbury Sub Mendip village day. This is also usually a good fundraiser event.

Thanks and kind regards
On behalf of the all the PTA

Alison Stone
PTA chair

PRIDDY SCHOOLS

We currently have 71 on roll at Priddy and St. Lawrence's and 21 on roll at Saplings Preschool.

A whole school focus on health and wellbeing has been our priority this year and has been particularly important for our families and staff due to the impact of the pandemic.

Our Wellbeing Action Group (WAG) has been formed, consisting of representatives from the whole school community. We also have several pupils who are now trained as Wellbeing Champions and their contributions feed into our WAG. A Wellbeing Week is scheduled for June, and within this we are aiming to support pupils and families with strategies to take care of their emotional health and wellbeing. We are nearing completion of the Somerset Wellbeing Framework by the end of the year.

Saplings Preschool continues to thrive, with a significant increase in the number of two-year olds children attending. Our new purpose-built outdoor area is fabulous and the children have really benefited from the use of a quality, outdoor space that is richly resourced.

We have worked particularly hard on our RE provision this year and recently enjoyed a wonderful Federation RE Day. This focussed on why and how we celebrate special and sacred days. Our Christian Values continue to be a key focus and within this we developed time for children to reflect and share their thoughts if they would like to. The Year 5/6 children had super visit from Rev. Alex to discuss questions they had posed themselves about Christianity. It was also wonderful to be able to have both our Easter services in church and have the opportunity to invite parents to join us.

We have also been focussing on ensuring we provide enrichment activities to our children and have had visits to The Rural Life Museum, Bristol Zoo and Bristol Botanical Gardens. Our extra-curricular activities are now progressing well, with opportunities for the children to attend activities such as computer club, gardening and choir. We hope that we can continue to expand on these experiences in the next academic year.

Another busy year at school! We would like to thank our community for your continued support.

Village Hall Chairman report May 2022

Covid 19 has meant the past two years have been a bit of a non-event for Priddy Village Hall.

However, we have taken the opportunity to quite extensively refurbish the hall.

The old Chair Store has been repurposed as a small meeting room, newly painted and carpeted with a window being put into the external door. This external door could be used as a possible entry point for a small group (4 – 6) wishing to use the room only for a meeting whilst the main hall is in use, or a person wishing to use it as a Hot Desk (Office Space facility) with a laptop and access to our hall WiFi system. The area containing the hot water storage off from the meeting room now has a secure door added.

The room behind the stage has now been modified and has become the new chair and table store, so again newly painted and with a purpose-built table rack built in along the wall holding the 20 tables for hall hirers usage. This removes the need now for dragging the tables out from under the stage which was always hard work and with the trolleys for ever needing maintenance.

The space previously used by the trolleys under the stage can now be re-utilised.

The tired looking hall floor has been professionally sanded and varnished providing hopefully a hard-wearing surface for years to come. The main hall again has been repainted and freshened up. The Priddy Shield now has a clear acrylic cover to protect it from future damage and abuse.

Special thanks to Chris Dyke and Ben Barker for helping to achieve the refurbishment, and in fact thanks to all the Trustees for their continuing support and efforts.

Recently we have installed a professional security system with movement detectors and cameras in certain locations to ensure the protection of the hall from potential theft and more importantly wilful vandalism due to its remote location.

We are now starting to open up hall usage, it's a slow process and not all previous users of the hall have yet come out of their own COVID restrictions.

We remain financially strong and have a reasonable bank balance.

Further upgrades are planned, new doors for the entrance and kitchen access and the oven/cooker is being reviewed yet again due to difficulties of user use.

The future of the hall looks good and that is due to the efforts of all of you that continue to support and use the facilities, warmest thanks to you all.

Alan Hutfield