



MEDIA RELEASE 16 JANUARY 2006

CHARITY STATUS FOR CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

Organisers of the Bridgnorth Children's Festival have announced their intention to go for charitable status.

Team Leader Stephen Derges said,

"The aim of the Festival has always been to bring something exciting and different to the young people of our area. Achieving charitable status enables us to access a greater range of funding and support than organisations who undertake this form of event to make a profit".

Offers of support from the community and local companies have continued to arrive since news of the Festival first appeared in the Bridgnorth Journal.

"We will be formally launching the Festival at a Public Event at Bridgnorth Town Hall at 8.00pm on Monday 30 January 2006. The great thing about this Festival is that it is something the whole community can become involved in. All of the local schools have offered their support and the more people that can become involved the greater this will make over what is traditionally a lively bank holiday in Bridgnorth".

The Festival takes place at Oldbury Wells on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 August 2006. Festival events have been designed following extensive consultation with the young people of the area.

Individuals, organisations or groups interested in assisting with the Festival are invited to the public event on 30 January 2006 or to contact Karen Gibbons, Volunteer Co-ordinator karen.gibbons@childrens-festival.co.uk

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Notes for Editors

The Festival will take place on Saturday 26 (10am - 5.30pm) and Sunday 27 August 2006 (10am - 8.30pm) at Oldbury Wells School Site. It will end with a celebratory event on Sunday evening. The site was previously used by the Bridgnorth Folk Festival on August Bank Holidays.

The organising committee is chaired by Stephen Derges (07929 835796). Email: stephen.derges@childrens-festival.co.uk

Mark & Karen Gibbons (01746 764151) are also main contacts for the Festival. Email: mark.gibbons@childrens-festival.co.uk

The organising committee contains Senior Teaching professionals, Members of the Business community, youth workers and advisors. Town and District Councillors have pledged their support and have been invited to the Public event on 30 January 2006

Events in the Festival have been decided following detailed consultation with young people in Bridgnorth during November/December 2005.

A Festival website is in development and will be launched in February 2006.

Individuals working directly with young people as part of this initiative will comply with CRB checking processes.

The Children's Festival is in the process of becoming a charitable trust.

Photo opportunities will be available at the public event and throughout the Festival.