



ROYSTON TOWN CRIER

News from your Town Council - December 2024



**Seasons Greetings from your Royston
Town Councillors, Officers & Staff**



Out and About with the Mayor

Royston Town Mayor, Cllr John Rees, has been having quite a busy time of it. Amongst his engagements he has attended Emergency Services Day at Herts County Hall, Royston Health Walks, Royston First Business Awards, Leisure Centre Open Day, Royston Arts Society Exhibition, the Arts Festival's Gala In The Gardens, opening of the Temporary Banking Hub, Royston Golf Club 400th Anniversary celebrations, Silver Sunday Event, as well as attending numerous meetings, shop openings and other events. He has also helped the Rotary Club and Home-Start with charity collections outside Tesco.



News From Royston Cave

Another successful season at the cave has now ended. We have welcomed many visitors from far and wide, as well as local residents, many of whom took advantage of our community open day in August. Our Arts Festival contribution this year was a sketching evening, and all who attended created wonderful renditions of the cave carvings. Water ingress is still a concern, and we are continuing our efforts to try to minimise any further deterioration inside the cave. Historic England will be visiting in November to make a full survey and provide guidance for future preservation.

Looking ahead, we will be open on 7th & 8th December for Christmas Time tours, where the cave will be subtly decorated, and twinkling lights will provide a magical feel to our guided tours.

Mayor's Community Trust Fund

Applications for grants from the Mayor's Community Trust Fund can be submitted by community organisations within Royston, who offer a significant benefit for the people of the town. This may be towards the setting up of a new project, capital scheme or help towards a special event or activity. Applications will open in January 2025 and will be presented to the Annual Town Meeting on 13 March 2025. Forms can be obtained from the Town Hall office or downloaded from our website - www.roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Town Twinning

Following on from the 50th Twinning Anniversary celebrations in April in Royston, a party of 19 twinnings aged 12 - 70 travelled by train to Großalmerode, Germany on 3rd October to mark the anniversary in our twin town.

As usual friendships were developed and rekindled with host families and intercultural understanding strengthened during visits to the site of a former WWII munitions factory and a crucible and firebrick factory. Other highlights included tea and cake in the Hortensia gardens amongst hundreds of varieties of hydrangeas as well as music making with Musikzug.

The weekend culminated in a joyful reception in Großalmerode's prestigious Rathaus (town hall) with various speeches celebrating the democracy building dimension of twinning including teenage twinning members Coleen Anacker and Rowan Hails sharing their experiences of twinning. This was also the moment where one of the celebratory plates created by twinnings in April was ceremoniously handed over. Interwoven with the speeches were musical and theatrical performances from Musikzug and musicians from Royston Town Band, the traditional German farce Dinner For One and the local rock band The Graveyard Blondes.

Charity Fundraising

The Town Mayor recently held two events to raise money for the Mayor's Community Trust Fund and his nominated charity for the year, Home-Start. He organised a meal at the Thai Rack in Kneesworth Street - raising over £300 - and a Charity Quiz Night at the Town Hall which raised almost £800. A further Quiz Night is planned for March next year - watch this space for more details!

The next big fundraiser organised by the Mayor will be CAROLS WITH THE MAYOR at ROYSTON PARISH CHURCH at 5.30pm on SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER. Carols, Christmas songs and festive entertainment for all the family. Mince pies, mulled wine and soft drinks included in the ticket price.



Community Grant Award

At their meeting in September, the Town Council agreed to award £500 to the Royston Indian Society to help with an event celebrating Diwali.

All local community and organisations are eligible to apply for a specific project. Further details can be obtained from the Town Hall.



Bicycle Repair Stand

The Town Council have installed a cycle repair stand beside the cycle stands at the top of Market Hill. It was funded by the Shared Prosperity Fund administered by North Herts Council and formally opened by Town Mayor Cllr John Rees and Cllr Mike Harrison. The stand is available for use by any cyclist.



Silver Sunday

In October, the over-65s of Royston were treated to the Town Council's annual Silver Sunday event hosted by Royston Mayor Cllr John Rees. This year, it took the form of a Musical Extravaganza with a variety of musical acts including floor and frame routines from 13 year-old Sammie. The music was provided by the Limitless Trio with Zak, David B and community choir WomenSing. There was also unlimited tea and coffee plus cakes and biscuits.



Royston Town Council Green Award

There is still time to send in your nominations! This award recognises the contributions of an individual or group whose actions have gone above and beyond to positively impact the local environment by helping to reduce CO2 emissions, reduce/recycle more waste, or to increase biodiversity.

This could be through conservation projects, green initiatives, fundraising, or awareness raising. The award will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting on 13 March 2025.

Nomination forms and more details are available at www.roystontowncouncil.gov.uk and from the reception in the Town Hall. The closing date for nominations is 31 January.



Royston Market

This year's Christmas Market is on SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER. There will be the usual traders plus festive stalls, free raffle with free cakes, and music courtesy of Royston Radio.

Congratulations to our Market Manager Rob Mills who won the award for Community Engagement at the Royston First Business Awards.



TOWN COUNCILLORS

Mayor : Cllr John Rees

Deputy Mayor : Cllr Luke Haugh

Palace Ward

Cllr Lisa Adams – 07561 045044 – cllr.lisa.adams@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Rob Inwood – 01763 224997 – cllr.robert.inwood@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Bindi Jani – 07737 639441 – cllr.bindi.jani@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Lynsey Langdon – 07984 495862 – cllr.lynsey.langdon@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr John Rees – 07958 654239 – cllr.john.rees@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Meridian Ward

Cllr James Birch – 07967 938811 – cllr.james.birch@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Adam Compton – 07788 483197 – cllr.adam.compton@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Mike Harrison – 01763 220055 – cllr.michael.harrison@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Luke Haugh – 07561 003814 – cllr.luke.haugh@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Stephen Lockett – 01763 246922 – cllr.stephen.lockett@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Royston South Ward

Cllr Mary Antony – 01763 221316 – cllr.mary.antony@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Elizabeth Freeman – 01763 230060 – cllr.elizabeth.freeman@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Royston West Ward

Cllr Elizabeth Beardwell – 01763 242242 – cllr.elizabeth.beardwell@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Ruth Brown – 01763 230290 – cllr.ruth.brown@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Emma Squire-Smith – 01763 661701 – cllr.emma.squire-smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

All Town Councillors serve in a voluntary capacity and are elected for a term of 4 years. Councillors do not receive any payment nor are they in receipt of any allowances for attending meetings.

Royston Town Council

Royston Town Hall

Melbourn Street, Royston SG8 7DA

01763 245484

Offices open Monday-Friday 9am-4pm
enquiries@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk

Town Clerk : Miss Caroline Mills

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Town Crier Supported By

the listing

