



# ROYSTON TOWN CRIER

*News from your Town Council - March 2023*

## Coronation of King Charles III



Royston has a lot of historical connections with past monarchs, not least King James who frequently chose Royston as a stopping point for his travels. He built a palace here, parts of which are still evident, and would go hunting on The Heath. After his death in 1625 his heir, King Charles I continued to visit Royston until his execution in 1649 during the Civil War.

King Charles III will be formally crowned at Westminster Abbey on Saturday 6 May with Queen Consort Camilla by his side. For many of us this will be the first coronation in our lifetime. The Councillors, Officers and Staff of Royston Town Council pay homage to the new King and his wife and wish them a long and productive reign. We have no doubt that Charles will uphold the values, compassion and love for this country that his mother had for so many years.

God Save The King!

Royston Town Council invites you to attend the **Annual Town Meeting**

Thursday 9th March 2023  
At 7.30pm in the  
Lower Heritage Hall  
Royston Town Hall

Please join us for an informative evening with local councillors who will give their reports and answer any questions you might wish to ask.

The Town Mayor, Cllr Mary Antony, will also be presenting the Annual Community Trust Fund Awards to local groups and charities, and Community Awards to those local residents who have made a significant contribution to the life of our town.

## Royston & District Twinning Association

Forging connection and collaboration locally and abroad

Whether you are interested in making friends abroad, learning languages, widening your cultural horizons or immersing yourself and your family in the home from home experience through hosting and staying with others, we are here to organise that for you and help you find friends in our twin towns of La Loupe, France; Großalmerode, Germany and Villanueva de la Cañada, Spain.

Working on behalf of Royston Town Council, our aim is to foster friendship and promote and encourage as many links as possible between the people of Royston and the surrounding area and those of our twin towns.

Our calendar of events for this year are as follows:

26th – 29th March German school visit  
13th – 16th May Spanish trip  
18th – 21st May French visit

If you work in a school or are a member of a community group or a parent or someone who might be interested in friendships abroad or supporting twinning, we would love to hear from you!

Sheila Ball  
chair@roystontowntwinning.org



German students visiting from Grossalmerode.

## May Fayre 2023

We are pleased to announce that the May Fayre will take place on the first bank holiday in May (Monday, May 1st). This year, there will be a Coronation theme so why not join in and dress up in red, white and blue! Attractions include an amateur dog show, historic vehicles, rideable miniature train, fairground rides, the Town Band, Punch and Judy, Professor Crump, face painting and a new circus skills drop-in workshop with Topper. There will be some exciting new food offerings such as loaded Mac & Cheese, BBQ skewers as well as the much-loved usuals: hog roast, burgers, churros, ice cream, and of course a bar. This year Royston Town Council are introducing a deposit and return system to replace single-use plastic cups in order to make the Fayre more sustainable/environmentally friendly. The day is always a fun way to spend your bank holiday and a great way to help local charities and community groups too. If you would like to have a charity stall, please contact enquiries@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk. More fun events for you to take part in will be announced on our social media soon @roystontown.





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## News from Royston Cave

Every month last year, to celebrate 280 years since Royston Cave was discovered, we brought you brand new ways to discover the cave's story. It was our biggest output of content in a single year, ever.

And, while our 'Year of Discovery' may have concluded, this year we'll continue to bring you even closer to our story with more articles, videos, events and activities, so we can share in its magic together.

To kick-start, earlier this year we very excitingly received funding to carbon date some of the organic material, like wood and bones, excavated from the cave, which may transform our understanding of the cave's origin. A huge thank you to The Cave Trust Fund for supporting the project. We've also been featured in a History Channel documentary called 'The Curse of Oak Island' which had on the night viewing figures in the US of about 4 million and another 300,000 views on Youtube.

Back in Royston, the cave reopens for its 2023 season on 1st April and tickets are on sale now! To book, or for more information, visit [roystoncave.co.uk](http://roystoncave.co.uk).

Part of a larger group that can't get to the cave? We'll bring the cave to you! We've just launched a series of outreach talks so we can take our story to more people in more places. Using our 3D Cave Experience, we'll give your group a virtual, guided tour of the cave from the comfort of your own venue. How's that for service? For more information, visit [roystoncave.co.uk/talks](http://roystoncave.co.uk/talks).

## Grants

The Town Council recently agreed to allocate £5000 to a new Grants fund for the benefit of local residents. Local community organisations and charities will be eligible to apply for small grants to provide support to people in Royston. Details of how to apply will be available on [www.roystontowncouncil.org.uk](http://www.roystontowncouncil.org.uk) from May 2023.

## Not too chilly for chillies

There's not much growing at this time of year, but Royston Allotments and Gardens Association (RAGA) says February and March are the perfect time to start your chillies and pepper plants at home!

These seeds need to be sown early – it can take up to five weeks for some varieties to germinate – and you'll have the best chance of success if the soil is warm. RAGA recommends using peat-free seed compost for germination.

As soon as most of the seeds have emerged and are showing two well-formed leaves (and certainly before they become long and leggy) you should prick them out and transfer them into 3-inch pots. The baby plants need lots of sunlight, so pop them in your brightest window.

When the plants have about 5 pairs of leaves, they should be potted on into larger pots. You'll need to keep them inside until all risk of frost has passed, and night-time temperatures are consistently over 10 degrees C. Ideally, grow them on in a greenhouse, poly-tunnel, or cold frame. Some varieties do well outside – look for basket chilli varieties, such as 'Basket of Fire' and keep them in a warm sunny place with lots of direct sunlight.

Be sure to water your chilli plants little and often. As soon as the first flowers appear, feed weekly with a high-potash liquid fertiliser such as tomato feed.

For more about Royston's allotments, go to [raga.org.uk](http://raga.org.uk)



Photo by Pixabay:  
<https://www.pexels.com/photo/vegetables-red-green-market-68170/>

Bunting image by Freepic

The mayor is hosting a fundraiser meal for her charities Make Lunch & the Mayor's Community Trust Fund at Yuva at 6pm on 14th March. For tickets (£20 per head) please apply by 6th March to [admin@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:admin@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk).

Newsletter Supported by:



## ROYSTON TOWN COUNCIL

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[enquiries@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk)

Town Hall office opening hours  
Monday to Friday: 9 am to 4 pm  
[www.roystontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.roystontowncouncil.gov.uk)

Town Clerk: Miss Caroline Mills  
[town.clerk@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:town.clerk@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk)

### ROYSTON TOWN COUNCILLORS

A list of all Councillors' names and contact numbers is given below, together with details of the wards they represent. All Town Councillors serve in a voluntary capacity and are elected for a 4 year term of office. Councillors are not paid and do not receive any allowance for attending meetings.

Town Mayor: Cllr Mary Antony Deputy Mayor: Cllr Ruth Brown

#### Palace Ward

Cllr Lisa Adams	07561 045044	<a href="mailto:cldr.lisa.adams@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.lisa.adams@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Robert Inwood	01763 224 997	<a href="mailto:cldr.robert.inwood@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.robert.inwood@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Bindi Jani	07737 639441	<a href="mailto:cldr.bindi.jani@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.bindi.jani@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Lynsey Langdon	07984 495862	<a href="mailto:cldr.lynsey.langdon@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.lynsey.langdon@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Cllr John Rees	07958 654239	<a href="mailto:cldr.john.rees@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.john.rees@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>

#### Meridian Ward

Cllr James Birch	07967 938811	<a href="mailto:cldr.james.birch@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.james.birch@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Adam Compton	07788 483197	<a href="mailto:cldr.adam.compton@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.adam.compton@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Mike Harrison	01763 220055	<a href="mailto:cldr.michael.harrison@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.michael.harrison@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Luke Haugh	07561 003814	<a href="mailto:cldr.luke.haugh@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.luke.haugh@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Stephen Lockett	01763 246922	<a href="mailto:cldr.stephen.lockett@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.stephen.lockett@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>

#### Royston South Ward

Cllr Mary Antony	01763 221316	<a href="mailto:cldr.mary.antony@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.mary.antony@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Vacancy		

#### Royston West Ward

Cllr Elizabeth Beardwell	01763 242242	<a href="mailto:cldr.elizabeth.beardwell@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.elizabeth.beardwell@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Ruth Brown	01763 230290	<a href="mailto:cldr.ruth.brown@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.ruth.brown@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Emma Squire-Smith	01763 661701	<a href="mailto:cldr.emma.squire-smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cldr.emma.squire-smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>