

# ROYSTON TOWN CRIER

*News from your Town Council – December 2019*



## *Seasons Greetings!*

*Royston's Mayor, Cllr Robert Inwood, and Royston Town Council would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Royston residents a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.*

### **Royston Cinema**

The Town Council is delighted to have secured the future of Royston Picture Palace by moving the management of the cinema over to Saffron Screen, a 'not-for-profit' management company with many years of experience. It was from their successful facility in Saffron Walden that the inspiration for our cinema originally came and it was set up as a joint venture between Royston First BID and the Town Council. We hope that this will enable the cinema to increase the opening hours and to screen more films.

Films are shown in a transformed town hall on high-tech digital equipment every Friday and Saturday nights with additional matinees also taking place. The cinema has been very successful and is staffed by a hard working team of volunteers from the local community.

The Town Council would like to thank Geraint Burnell for his hard work in running the cinema over the last six years and for finalising these negotiations. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the volunteers, without whom this venture would not have been possible.

For more information about the cinema or if you are interested in becoming a volunteer visit:  
[roystonpicturepalace.org.uk](http://roystonpicturepalace.org.uk)



### **Twinning Trip to Großalmerode 2019**

During October half term a group of 22 residents of Royston and District, including 6 children, visited Großalmerode, our German Twin Town. As ever the group was made to feel very welcome with an itinerary of events and excursions to demonstrate the variety of culture in the region.

The first was to SinnesGänge, or "Sensory Transitions", an installation in a disused brickworks in Kaufungen, where the senses are captivated and challenged by a variety of remarkable exhibits. This was followed by an afternoon of Laser Tac in nearby Helsa for the younger members of the group and those young at heart. In the evening there was a formal civic reception at the Rathaus where members of the Royston Town Band played a selection of traditional and popular tunes alongside Musikzug, the Großalmerode town band. Visitors were also treated to performances from a classical guitar duo and the recently formed Youth Marching Band. Greetings were exchanged between Royston's Mayor, Councillor Rob Inwood, and the Mayor of Großalmerode.

On Sunday, a town tour for those who had not visited before included climbing to the top of the church bell tower, a short walk in the rain to Roystonplatz, a terraced and wooded area just off the town centre, and a candlelit descent into the cellar of the Rathaus.

Meanwhile, three young Roystonians attended the Jugend Parlament, a council of students aged 12 to 20 years, who represent their peers and bid for facilities in their town. This was with a view to creating links with Royston Town Council. In the afternoon there was a rainy walk through the countryside to a traditional hostelry in the woods. The Hessen area is famous as the birthplace of the Brothers Grimm and one can easily imagine mythical creatures inhabiting the forests.

Monday saw a fascinating guided tour of the B. Braun factory in Melsungen where cannulation packs are manufactured in sterile conditions for use throughout Europe. This was followed by a visit to the historic town centre with its beautiful half-timbered buildings, many dating back over 400 years, and its city wall, which dates to the 12th century.

The trip was highly successful and Royston & District Twinning looks forward to hosting their German friends in October 2020.

### **Honorary Freeman Award for Royston**

At the full council meeting of Royston Town Council, on Monday 30 September 2019, it was agreed to introduce an Honorary Freeman of Royston award.

This is the highest honour that a Town Council can grant and will be awarded to people who have rendered eminent service to Royston. The details of nomination criteria are yet to be decided upon but it was agreed that individuals could be nominated by anyone in the town and that those chosen would be noticeable by their extraordinary achievements. This award is in addition to the Mayors Award, which is awarded annually to worthy volunteers.

The recipient of this honorary title will be an Honorary Freeman of Royston for life. They will be invited to be present at the Annual Meeting of the Town Council, civic events and functions and will be entitled to take part in any civic procession with the Town Councillors. A commemorative certificate will be given to the award recipient.



## Bus services to Royston Gateway

The chair and deputy chair of the General Purposes and Highways committee regularly attend meetings of the North Herts Bus Users Group to keep up to date with services and issues affecting public transport users in North Herts. The group represents the interests of bus and public transport users and liaises with local services. Information about this can be found on [nhbug.org.uk](http://nhbug.org.uk).

An extended bus service for the number 16 circular route, run by Richmond Coaches, commenced on 11 November, providing a regular service every 45 minutes to M&S and Aldi on the Royston Gateway development. The frequency of this service had to be reduced from the previous 30 minutes schedule to accommodate the extra provision. We understand that this is not ideal but it was the only way, at present, to provide buses to the new supermarkets.

For travel information across Hertfordshire go to: [intalink.org.uk/timetables](http://intalink.org.uk/timetables).



# ROYSTON TOWN CRIER

## Naturally Royston at the Arts Festival

The theme of this year's Royston Arts Festival "Our Planet" could not have been a better fit for Naturally Royston. The team gave away hundreds of daffodil bulbs to brighten up Royston and provide food for local pollinators. Children and adults alike were invited to help build "Buggingham Palace", a super-deluxe bug home that has since been relocated to Icknield Walk school to provide accommodation for bugs there. This year Naturally Royston teamed up with local author and hedgehog enthusiast Kathryn Newey to provide hedgehog-themed activities for children.

The Arts Festival stall also marked the announcement of a new initiative by Naturally Royston. The public were asked to make pledges to give up items of single-use plastic to get them thinking about how we might achieve a Plastic Free Royston. Letchworth has already completed this scheme, which is certified by Surfers Against Sewage, and become officially a "plastic free town", and other North Herts towns are following suit – we think Royston can achieve this too. If you are interested in getting involved with Plastic Free Royston or any other aspect of Naturally Royston's activities, please email [admin@roystontowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:admin@roystontowncouncil.org.uk) or look on the Naturally Royston Twitter (@naturallyroys).

## Royston Town Council Grants

**The Mayor's Community Trust Fund** - Community organisations are invited to apply for funds towards activities which will benefit the local community. This could be help for the setting up of a new project, event, or capital scheme. Applications for grants will open in January 2020, forms can be obtained from the Town Hall office or downloaded from our website, [roystontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://roystontowncouncil.gov.uk). We look forward to again helping our worthy local groups and organisations again in 2020.

**The Leete Charity Trust** - The trust provides grants towards further education for students who are under the age of 25 and live in or attend school in Royston.

The grants made are not large but would be suitable for help towards purchasing textbooks, travel, etc. It is suggested that as much information is given in the application in order that the Trustees may make a speedy decision. Again, application forms can be obtained from the Town Council office or downloaded from the website.



Newsletter supported by:



### 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 Robert Inwood Deputy Mayor: Cllr Mark Hughes**

#### Palace Ward

Amy Bourke-Waite	07375 089729	<a href="mailto:cllr.amy.bourke-waite@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.amy.bourke-waite@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Ian Coll	01763 244595	<a href="mailto:cllr.ian.coll@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.ian.coll@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Mark Hughes	07860 108085	<a href="mailto:cllr.mark.hughes@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.mark.hughes@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Robert Inwood	07846 309896	<a href="mailto:cllr.robert.inwood@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.robert.inwood@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Iain Leggett	01763 230978	<a href="mailto:cllr.iain.leggett@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.iain.leggett@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>

#### Meridian Ward

Mike Harrison	01763 220055	<a href="mailto:cllr.michael.harrison@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.michael.harrison@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Marguerite Phillips	07903 715533	<a href="mailto:cllr.marguerite.phillips@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.marguerite.phillips@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
F John Smith	01763 243082	<a href="mailto:cllr.fj.smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.fj.smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Philip Smith	01763 244775	<a href="mailto:cllr.philip.smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.philip.smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Vera Swallow	01763 222538	<a href="mailto:cllr.vera.swallow@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.vera.swallow@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>

#### Royston South Ward

Thomas Perry	07854 609201	<a href="mailto:cllr.thomas.perry@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.thomas.perry@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Carol Stanier	01763 220744	<a href="mailto:cllr.carol.stanier@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.carol.stanier@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>

#### Royston West Ward

Ruth Brown	01763 230290	<a href="mailto:cllr.ruth.brown@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.ruth.brown@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
John Davison	07802 907700	<a href="mailto:cllr.john.davison@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.john.davison@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Emma Squire-Smith	01763 661701	<a href="mailto:cllr.emma.squire-smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk">cllr.emma.squire-smith@roystontowncouncil.gov.uk</a>

## ROYSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, Melbourn Street, Royston,  
Hertfordshire SG8 7DA

Tel: 01763 245484 Fax: 01763 248016  
[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)