

Royston Crow



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» Page 3



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» Pages 6-7



Could you help to secure our arts festival's future?

The future of the biggest event in Royston's calendar is in doubt, unless more volunteers come forward.

Royston Arts Festival has just enjoyed one of its most successful years with more than 4,000 people enjoying a host of events around the town at the end of September.

It is organised by Creative Royston, which is made up entirely of volunteers. Due to various factors, ranging from pressures of work to family commitments, six of the nine-strong committee have decided to stand down – including the chair of four years Kirsten Grimmer. “Time and again we’re told by local organisations and members of the public that the Royston Arts Festival is a vital part of the town’s year,” said Kirsten.

“We all want to see the festival continue to thrive, but that will only be possible with a strong

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team to make it happen.”

Creative Royston works with various arts groups and individuals to put together a programme of events. The committee itself organises some of the festival highlights, including the community event in Priory Memorial Gardens and the town-wide MusicFest. They are now in need of a chairperson, vice chair treasurer and others.

Kirsten said: “All the committee members stepping down have dedicated an enormous amount of time to an event that is close to their hearts, and I’d like to thank them personally and on behalf of the committee for their support.”

“During my time on the committee it has been a privilege to work with some truly talented

volunteers and to see the festival grow. I have every faith in the remaining committee members, but without more help they cannot deliver half of what was enjoyed by so many this year.”

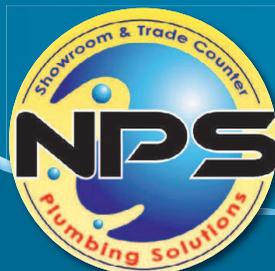
The committee meets once a month through the year. Members are encouraged to come up with ideas for events, and to work with the rest of the committee and with other groups and individuals in the town to bring those ideas to life.

Experience is not essential, and for some roles – particularly that of treasurer – the work can be done whenever the volunteer has time to spare. Kirsten has said that volunteers with experience of leading small teams or with a background in accounting would be particularly welcomed.

Anyone interested in joining the committee should contact Carl Filby on secretary@creativeroyston.org.



Artist Stacey Leigh Ross with the Cover Art Competition winners for the festival, which needs more volunteers so it can continue to thrive. Picture: TERRY HARTGA



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