

ROYSTON ARTS FESTIVAL 2026 – REMAINING EVENTS

FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER + THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL

FILBY's FOLK on MERIDIAN1 - PODCASTS

Over the course of 2 shows (119 & 120) first aired on the new Meridian1 radio station, Carl Filby plays a wide variety of music, showing just how broad and diverse the folk genre really is. His selections stretch beyond what you might traditionally think of as “folk”, highlighting the many different styles, influences and sounds that fall under the folk umbrella. Learn how ‘folk’ music is a much broader and entertaining genre than you might think!

FREE online at [Unicorn Folk](#)

Friday 4 September & throughout festival

TUESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER + THROUGHOUT FESTIVAL

EXHIBITION OF ARTWORK: ABOVE AND BEYOND

An exhibition of artwork by KJAR students inspired by the festival theme ‘Above and Beyond’ including the artwork used for the front cover of the festival programme. Thanks to Royston Arts Society and Royston Library for the use of the display space.

Tuesday 8 September until Saturday 3 October, Library opening times

Royston Library ([venue 5](#))

WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

FESTIVAL PREVIEW EVENING

Join us for the official opening of the Arts Festival at the Nicholas Penn Fine Art Gallery. Enjoy an exclusive first look at the exhibition, hear a welcome from the Arts Festival team, meet some of the exhibiting artists, and celebrate the start of the festival with a complimentary glass of fizz in a relaxed gallery setting.

Suitable for: 18+ **FREE** but advance booking required due to limited capacity.

www.tickettailor.com/events/nicholaspennfineart/2307313

Wednesday 23 September, 6.30 – 8.30pm

Nicholas Penn Fine Art Gallery, Royston ([venue 11](#))

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

THEATRETRAIN TINIES

Dancing, Acting, Singing and a lot of fun in our confidence, skills building class just for 3 year olds.

Suitable for: Under 5s

FREE Contact us directly at royston@theatretrain.co.uk

or via www.theatretrain.co.uk/royston/new-customers

Thursday 24 September, 2 – 2.45pm

Stage Right Studios, Royston ([venue 14](#))

MYTHICAL CREATURES

Participants will create their own original print drawings themed around mythical creatures of their choice. Guidance around the technique, general printmaking and examples to help inspire the participants will be provided. Monoprinting will be used to create the prints via both drawing and manipulating ink. It is fast and fun and participants can expect to leave with several pieces of art.

Suitable for: 18+

Tickets: £5 online

www.ticketsource.com/creative-royston

Thursday 24 September, 2.30 – 4pm

The Old Schoolhouse, Royston ([venue 7](#))

ROYSTON ARTS FESTIVAL 2026 – REMAINING EVENTS

DISCOVER BIRDSONG

A relaxed walk that helps you tune into the hidden birdsong woven through everyday urban life. We'll help you notice birdsong and recognise some amazing local species by sound. Binoculars are provided - just bring your curiosity and desire to slow down and listen to the world around you.

Suitable for: All ages

Standard ticket is £20. Choose £10 Concession price for all festival bookings directly from

www.naturenell.com/book-online (Under 5 are Free)

Thursday 24 September, 6 – 7.30pm Start from Priory Memorial Gardens, Royston (venue 4)

FESTIVAL LATE NIGHT

The Nicholas Penn Fine Art Gallery will remain open into the evening, giving visitors the opportunity to browse the exhibition outside normal opening hours. It's a chance to enjoy the artwork at a more relaxed pace, meet local artists, and explore the gallery after hours.

Suitable for: All ages

FREE Drop-in, no booking required.

Thursday 24 September, 6 – 9pm

Nicholas Penn Fine Art Gallery, Royston (venue 11)

ABOVE AND BEYOND: TALK BY AUTHOR & CLIMBER DANIEL LIGHT

In conversation about The White Ladder, his award-winning history of mountaineering, Daniel will take audiences on a thought-provoking journey, as he discusses going above and beyond with reflections on human achievement, resilience and our relationship with technology. Whether you're a climber, history enthusiast or simply enjoy hearing great stories, don't miss this inspiring event. Book signing and audience Q&A included.

Suitable for: Adults + Young Adults

Tickets: £7 from the library or online at <https://tinyurl.com/3az8wpsj>

Thursday 24 September 7 – 9pm Royston Library (venue 5)

ROYSTON LIVE FOLK CLUB

Thursday's Band is a spellbinding mix of free-flowing strings, locked down guitars, and vocal harmony. Their songs are mostly original, and come seasoned with folk, country, cajun and classical.

Suitable for: All ages

<https://www.roystonlivefolkclub.co.uk/> Suggested donation £10

Thursday 24 September, 8 – 11pm

The Old Bull Inn, Royston (venue 10)

FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

BEER & MUSIC FESTIVAL

Royston Conservative Club opens its doors to members and non-members alike over the weekend with a beer festival and live music throughout the weekend.

Suitable for: Over 18s

FREE entry <https://www.facebook.com/roystoncons/>

Friday 25 September open from noon onwards

18-20 Kneesworth St, Royston SG8 5AA

THEATRETRAIN MINIS

Dance, Act, Sing, Fun! Build basic skills in the arts along with developing confidence, communication, friendship and social skills.

Suitable for: Under 5s

FREE Contact us directly at royston@theatretrein.co.uk

or via www.theatretrein.co.uk/royston/new-customers

Friday 25 September, 3.45 – 5.15pm

Stage Right Studios, Royston (venue 14)

THEATRETRAIN MAIN COMPANY

Dancing, acting and singing classes in an evening of fun and engaging sessions led by the Theatretrain team! Learn lots of new skills in a warm and inviting atmosphere. Students have lots of extra opportunities such as theatre trips, exams, shows and more!

Suitable for: 5 to 13, 13 to 17

FREE Contact us directly at royston@theatretrain.co.uk

or via www.theatretrain.co.uk/royston/new-customers

Friday 25 September, 4 – 7pm

Stage Right Studios, Royston (**venue 14**)

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Explore the basics of relief printmaking using our 150-year-old press. Draw your design, make your printing block, ink up and print! Wouldn't it be nice to have your very own print hanging on your wall?

Suitable for: 8 - 13

FREE Drop-in roystonmuseum.org.uk

Friday 25 September, 4 – 6pm Royston Museum (**venue 12**)

COLLECTING ORIGINAL ART: A BEGINNER'S GUIDE

Thinking about buying original art but not sure where to start? Join us for an informal evening exploring how to begin collecting original artwork with confidence. We'll discuss how to choose pieces you love, understand different mediums and pricing, care for your artwork, and why collecting original art is such a rewarding way to support artists. Whether you're looking to buy your first piece or are simply curious about the world of art collecting, everyone is welcome. Suitable for: 18+

FREE but advance booking is recommended due to limited seating.

www.tickettailor.com/events/nicholaspennfineart/2307319

Friday 25 September, 7 – 8pm

Nicholas Penn Fine Art Gallery, Royston (**venue 11**)

ORGAN RECITAL

Returning for another year by popular demand, the Vicar of Royston, Steven Sivyer, who used to be a professional organist who has performed across many venues both nationally and internationally, will provide an evening of organ music which will include well-known pieces and a piece that depicts 'Above and Beyond', the theme of this year's Arts Festival. Bar available when doors open or during interval.

Suitable for: All ages Tickets £10 adult £3 under 18s in advance: <https://roystonparishchurch.org.uk/>

Friday 25 September, Doors open 7 for 7.30 – 9pm

Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Royston (**venue 3**)

RAS AUTUMN EXHIBITION

This is Royston Arts Society's major annual open exhibition which in recent years has typically included 400 plus framed and unframed painting by 60-70 artists, both members and non-members.

Suitable for: All ages **FREE** Drop-in, no booking required.

Friday 25 September, 7.30 – 9.30pm

Royston Town Hall (**venue 1**) Lower Hall

SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

OUTSIDE THE EXHIBIT

A range of short taster workshops from BEEE Creative in dance, film, story sharing, photography for all ages which celebrate the 'Above and Beyond' spirit by recognising the everyday heroes who help care for our environment and green spaces, inspiring our community to connect, create and take action.

Suitable for: All ages

FREE Drop in sessions throughout the day to try a range of different activities.

Saturday 26 September, 10am – 3pm

Royston Museum (**venue 12**)

ROYSTON ARTS FESTIVAL 2026 – REMAINING EVENTS

PRIORY QUILTERS' EXHIBITION OF QUILTS

Display of a range made by our members including our interpretations of a Mystery Quilt worked on over the past few months. We will hold a competition for members relating to the festival theme of Above and Beyond to be voted on by visitors to the exhibition. A quilt will be raffled which has been a collaboration of our members in aid of Garden House Hospice. Refreshments provided.

Suitable for: All ages

FREE Drop-in, no booking required.

Saturday 26 September, 10am – 5pm Market Hill Rooms, Royston (**venue 9**)

RAS AUTUMN EXHIBITION

This is Royston Arts Society's major annual open exhibition which in recent years has typically included 400 plus framed and unframed painting by 60-70 artists, both members and non-members.

Suitable for: All ages

FREE Drop-in, no booking required.

Saturday 26 September, 10am – 5pm Royston Town Hall (**venue 1**) Lower Hall

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

Images cover a wide range of subjects of interest to all ages. All visitors get to vote for their favourite image and society members will be there to answer any queries.

Suitable for: All ages

FREE Drop-in, no booking required.

Saturday 26 September, 10am – 4.30pm

Royston Town Hall (**venue 1**) Upper Hall

BOW BOOKS FOR KIDS

Meet Helen Rose for a fun story telling and book signing for her new rhyming story paperback The SuperSonic Fart (with free Fart Chart!) Pictures by bestselling illustrator Garry Parsons.

Suitable for: ages 4 - 7

FREE to attend but ticket required...collect from Bow Books Kids, 12 Angel Pavement, Royston SG8 9AS.

07715 593516 enquiries@bow-books.co.uk

Saturday 26 September, 10am

Bow Books Kids, Royston (**venue 8**)

BOOK FAIR

Come and meet your next favourite author! Over 20 local writers will be gathering to showcase their books, covering fiction, non fiction and poetry. From the very young to the young-at-heart, we guarantee that there will be something for everyone as Royston Arts Festival celebrates the literary talent that surrounds us.

Suitable for: All ages

FREE Drop-in <http://www.roystonbookfair.co.uk/>

Saturday 26 September, Midday – 4pm

Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Royston (**venue 3**)

GALA IN THE GARDENS

Members of the Rotary Club of Royston have once again kindly joined forces with and become Creative Royston volunteers and committee members. They have used their considerable experience of organising Royston's Kite Festival to bring you a range of family oriented entertainments and a wide selection of stalls selling food and other commodities or publicising ongoing activities and opportunities in the town.

Suitable for: All ages

FREE Drop-in

Saturday 26 September, Midday – 4pm

Priory Memorial Gardens, Royston (**venue 4**)

PAINT THE PARK

Part of the Gala In The Gardens and organised by the 'en plein-air Painting and Sketching Group' and The Friends of Therfield Heath. Come and try your hand at plein-air art.

For more information please ring Joan Munden on 01763 241217

<https://www.friendsoftherfieldheath.org.uk/>

FREE Drop-in Saturday 26 September, Midday – 5pm

Priory Memorial Gardens, Royston (**venue 4**)

BEER & MUSIC FESTIVAL

Royston Conservative Club opens its doors to members and non-members alike over the weekend with a beer festival and live music throughout the weekend.

Suitable for: Over 18s

FREE entry <https://www.facebook.com/roystoncons/>

Saturday 26 September open from noon onwards

18-20 Kneesworth St, Royston SG8 5AA

ROYSTON CAVE TOURS

Public tours of the mysterious Royston Cave discovered by accident in 1742. Theories abound around its use by the Knights Templar, as a Freemason's Lodge or for a host of other purposes. Come and see for yourself.

Suitable for: All ages

Adult £10, Concession (65+, Student) £8, Child (3-15)* £4

Under 3* Free *must be accompanied by paying adult

Saturday 26 September

Weekend tour times are 1pm, 1.45pm, 2.35pm & 3.20pm

Tickets must be purchased online in advance: <https://www.roystoncave.co.uk/>

Royston Cave (venue 6)

COSMIC CRAFTING

A space themed story time, followed by a selection of space themed craft activities reflecting the festival theme, space being 'Above and Beyond' most things.

Suitable for: Children aged 4 -10.

FREE Drop-in, no booking required

Saturday 26 September 2 - 3.30pm

Royston Library (**venue 5**)

CELLS TO STARS: NATURE IN 3 LENSES

Experience the natural world through 3 lenses: microscopes, binoculars and telescopes. We'll explore the micro world through microscopes, then walk towards Therfield Heath, observing urban birds along the way. Our journey ends at a prime viewing spot, where we'll observe the full Harvest Moon and night sky.

Suitable for: All ages

Standard ticket is £20. Choose £10 Concession price for all festival bookings directly from

www.naturenell.com/book-online (Under 5 are Free)

Saturday 26 September, 5.30 – 7.30pm

Start from Priory Memorial Gardens, Royston (**venue 4**)

PERFECT TEN!

In a truly special evening we celebrate and say a fond farewell to Jude Simpson, marking ten remarkable years as Home-Start Royston, Buntingford & South Cambridgeshire's Poet in Residence. The performance will feature a wonderful mix of new material and favourite pieces from the past ten years, as Jude reflects on a decade of creativity and connection with Home-Start. Licensed bar and raffle. All proceeds to Home-Start.

Suitable for: All ages.

Tickets: £20, including light bites from www.hsrsc.org.uk/events

Saturday 26 September, 7 – 10pm

The Old Schoolhouse, Royston (**venue 7**)

ROYSTON ARTS FESTIVAL 2026 – REMAINING EVENTS

SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

LOCALS THAT WE LOVE

A celebration of creativity from our local community, showcasing artwork by local artists, The Art Room tutors, and selected work created by our students. This exhibition celebrates the wealth of artistic talent in and around Royston, giving visitors the opportunity to discover and support local creatives.

Suitable for: All ages **FREE** Drop-in, no booking required.

Sunday 27 September, 10am – 4pm

Nicholas Penn Fine Art Gallery, Royston (**venue 11**)

PRIORY QUILTERS' EXHIBITION OF QUILTS

Display of a range made by our members including our interpretations of a Mystery Quilt which we have worked on over the past few months. We will be holding a competition for our members relating to the festival theme of Above and Beyond which will be voted on by visitors to the exhibition. There will also be a raffle of a quilt which has been a collaboration of our members in aid of Garden House Hospice. Refreshments will be provided as well.

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Market Hill Rooms, Royston (**venue 9**)

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Suitable for: All ages **FREE** Drop-in, no booking required.

Sunday 27 September, 10am – 4.30pm

Royston Town Hall (**venue 1**) Upper Hall

POETRY & 'FILM SHORT' SCREENING

Join us for a morning of film and poetry. We will be showing "Breath" by David Van-Cauter which won in two categories at Dublin's Bloomsday Film Festival, June 2026 and was a runner up in Los Angeles Poetry Film Festival April 2026. Followed by a talk with readings from David Smith, of North Herts' Poetry ID.

Suitable for: All ages

FREE Drop-in, first come first served

Sunday 27 September 11 – 12.30am

Royston Museum (**venue 12**)

We will also be joined by Mayor Elizabeth Freeman.

FAMILY FOLK DAY WITH MEGSON

Award-winning folk duo Megson perform a gentle, entertaining concert specially for younger children, featuring folk songs old and new from their WHEN I WAS A LAD & LITTLE BIRD albums.

Suitable for: 0 - 8 + parents, grandparents & guardians

Tickets £8 each or Multi buy – four tickets for £25 online from www.megsonmusic.co.uk

Sunday 27 September, 11.30am

The Old Bull Inn, Royston (**venue 10**)

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Weekend tour times are 1pm, 1.45pm, 2.35pm & 3.20pm

Tickets must be purchased online in advance: <https://www.roystoncave.co.uk/>

Royston Cave (**venue 6**)

FINALE CONCERT

Not actually the final event of the festival but still a showcase of Royston's local musical talent compered by and featuring Soprano Hannah Long; pupils from King James Academy Royston and Freman College Buntingford; Revd Dr Steven Sivyer, St John The Baptist Church Choir, Royston Town Band & others ...

Suitable for: All ages

Tickets: £8 adults, £3 for 16 & under online from:

www.ticketsource.com/creative-royston

CASH BAR

Sunday 27 September,

Doors open 4.30 for 5pm start, finish around 7.15pm

Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Royston (**venue 3**)

ROYSTON WRITER'S CIRCLE on ROYSTON RADIO

Yesterday Radio hosts a Royston Radio programme which goes behind the scenes with the Royston Writer's Circle in a preview of the type of community programme that Royston Radio intends to focus on when it returns in January 2027.

FREE online at Yesterday Radio

Sunday 27 September at 6pm

FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER

MUSIC AT THE MUSEUM

The Friends of the Museum and Creative Royston join forces to bring you a rare opportunity to enjoy the brilliant 3Folk, consisting of Jane Ward (accordion), Simon Cooper (cello) and Bryan Causton (mandolin/guitar/bouzouki), and their eclectic mix of traditional folk, with a Celtic and European influence and a smattering of original compositions.

Also, a performance of 'Fen Song', a ballad of the Fen and a beautiful haunting sequence of poetry and folk music inspired by the East Anglian landscape, combining the words of the late Clare Crossman with songs by award winning singer- songwriter Penni McLaren Walker. Penni will be joined by Bryan Causton (mandolin/guitar), Fran Broady (violin & vocals) with Jeremy Harmer reading verse & poetry in place of Clare.

Suitable for: All ages

Tickets £15 online from roystonmuseum.org.uk CASH BAR

Friday 2 October, 7 – 9.30pm

Royston Museum (**venue 12**)

ROYSTON ARTS FESTIVAL 2026 – REMAINING EVENTS