

## Notes from attendees.

- Sarah Hillman: U3A current affairs group (Royston). Charities and community organisations supporting vulnerable people during the cost of living crisis\* can apply for grants as part of a £76 million Government support package. (\*E.g. provision of food, emergency provisions, shelter, safe spaces, warmth, and financial or housing advice). Grants between £10,000 and £75,000 are available to cover project and core costs, including rent, utilities, staff and volunteers – from now until the end of March. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/charity-and-community-organisations-helping-vulnerable-people-set-to-benefit-from-76-million-government-support>
- Karin Weston: Rotary Club of Royston. The Kite Festival was a great success and preliminary figures suggest around £8000 has been raised for charity, mostly the President's charity, the Angels Support Group.
- Ray Munden: Friends of Therfield Heath; Royston Wildlife Group; Meridian Men's Keep Fit. On Sep 1st the FOTH are repeating the very well regarded bat walk on Therfield Heath but there are only two spaces left. The RWG season starts in September through to February (excluding December), last Tuesday each month with some very exciting sounding presentations and lots of stunning photos.
- John Hedges (not present):  
HealthAid Royston, has risen to the challenge of encouraging response to the C&P ICS "Let's Talk Royston" conversation and the ICS's short notice meeting at Coombes Centre on 2<sup>nd</sup> August. 69 people attended.  
Royston and District Community Transport. (RDCT): Our longest serving volunteer driver, Gerry Primett, was awarded the Order of Mercy on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July in a ceremony at the Mansion House in London.
- Lynn Burgess: Royston Library. The Summer Reading Challenge continues until 2<sup>nd</sup> September with the aim of keeping children reading during the summer break in an enjoyable and fun way. 500 children have been involved with 25 volunteers helping. There's a sporting theme this year, "Ready, Steady, Read". There is a family Nature Walk on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August, featuring a relevant story followed by a walk in the park, £3/child. There will be a professional show for children at next half term. The Library welcomes posters for local events.
- Jackie Cotton (not present): HomeStart. Literary Lunch - Thursday 21st September, the Old Bull, Royston – buffet lunch at 12.15pm followed by a chat between Jude Simpson and author Kate Moore. There will be an opportunity to ask Kate questions during the event and she will sign any books you may wish to purchase. Kate Moore is the New York Times bestselling author of The Radium Girls and The Woman They Could Not Silence. The Radium Girls, winner of the 2017 Goodreads Choice Award for Best History. In this thrilling and carefully crafted book she tells the shocking story of how early twentieth-century corporate and legal America set about silencing dozens of working-class women who had been systematically poisoned by radiation. Tickets £15 to include your buffet lunch and available by calling the Home-Start office on 01763 262262, emailing [events@hrsdc.org.uk](mailto:events@hrsdc.org.uk) or book online here [Purchase your ticket here – Literary Lunch with Kate Moore – The Old Bull Inn, Royston, Thu 21 Sep 2023 12:15 PM - 2:15 PM \(tickettailor.com\)](https://www.tickettailor.com/events/hrsdc/123456) please remember to let us know of any dietary requirements when booking.
- Chris Lee: Repair Cafe; Royston Choral Society; Princes Trust. Repair Cafe Report: Next Repair Cafe is on Saturday 19th August at Coombes Community Centre -

bookings via <http://www.facebook.com/RoystonRepairCafe> but hurry - nearly fully booked! There will be specialist knowledge about turntables and amplifiers present, courtesy of Revolution Records.

- **John Froggett:** Royston Radio. We attended the Royston Fire Station Open Day and had a great turnout and lots of song requests and positive feedback. Our Radio Mascot dog's name was chosen by Henry and he is now called Baxter. Royston Radio attended the Kite festival on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August and sold a fantastic number of raffle tickets thanks to our newest volunteer, Lee Poulton, and we wish to thank Royston Rotary for their help and support. We sponsored a free event for the over 65's called 'Memory Lane' at Royston Town Council which took place on Weds 9<sup>th</sup> August. We had approx. 70 people in attendance and feedback was very positive, so we are looking to making this a regular event. We are running a retro fayre on Saturday September 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Retreat Room at Coombes Community Centre from 10am where you can buy vintage comics, magazines, books and programmes from the 1900's to the 1990's. Refreshments will be available. We have a new presenter on a Sunday – Peter Ross with his show 'Pete's Time capsule.' His first show airs this Sunday at 11am. Our Director Fonz Chamberlain will also be starting his show, Vinyl Rewind, very soon. We have taken delivery of brand new banners promoting the station. One has just gone up at Tesco. We also have a banner outside Royston Fire Station. We are looking forward to being part of the Arts Festival in September. Our Radio schedule is almost full with shows on every day to suit all tastes. We have 60's, 70's, 80's 90's, 00's, Jazz, Country, Dance, Love Songs, Pop, Blues, Soul, Dance, Folk and 3 chat shows including the very popular Royston Rant show which is broadcast on a Sunday between 5pm and 6pm and are looking forward to hosting some live music events this year inviting local bands to perform. We have also donated Alexa devices to local care homes and community-based businesses. Royston Radio will soon have a new app and we will be announcing an official launch date soon. We have also been asked to participate in this year's Creative Royston "Force of Nature" and will be running open days.
- **Joyce Goodall:**

*Cherryhomes:* We have just invited a new member onto our committee which is wonderful and extends our areas of expertise in the NHS. We continue to support all our sponsored members and receive regular donations from individuals allowing us to meet financial requests for specialised equipment to allow our sponsored members to live in their own homes. We will be distributing our flyers and leaflets through the social prescribers in the Granta Medical Practices to advertise our charity in the hopes that we will get new referrals.

*Girlguiding UK (with Marion Kett).* We have had a change in leadership in Royston District and are now led by Anna Bond, a Brownie Guider. We are planning to replace the doors to the HQ so we're looking for grants at present. Unfortunately, we have had to suspend a Rainbow unit because we can't find a replacement leadership team. The girls will be offered places in the remaining 2 units. We are looking for prospective leaders so if you know of anyone wishing to volunteer, please let us know.

*Methodist Church,* is currently undergoing renovations to their premises. We are installing 3 gender-neutral toilets, an additional disabled toilet and a platform lift into church. The works are going well and should be completed by 13th October.

David Allard: Royston Ramblers; History Society. Bookings are still being accepted for the Church Tour arranged by the Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, when churches at Bourn, Arrington, Orwell, Bassingbourn and Royston will be visited. Cost to non-members is £40. Application form from David Allard 01763 242677 david.slade.allard@gmail.com

- Heather White – Leisure Centre: Men's Club happening at Royston Leisure Centre, SATURDAYS September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> October, 12:00-1:30. It is four FREE workshop, WK 1 matter of the mind, WK 2 choosing the right Fuel, WK 3 looking after the nuts and bolts and WK4 looking after the Chassis. It also includes mindfulness techniques each week to help improve your mental and physical health. It allows you free access to the centre's facilities for a month. I have 6 spots left and it is for anyone who feels that they will benefit from it.
- Lisa Megraw: Leisure Centre. Lisa also mentioned the outdoor gym equipment. It will be open to the public. The men's Club still have a few spaces left, details via the Centre or Facebook. There is a forthcoming 4 week course of activities and chats to help with mental health, including free use of the gym equipment.
- Amanda Treadaway: Supporter coordinator, North Herts Reach Out project, North Herts CVS. This provides support (not medical) for people coming out of hospital and who may be vulnerable. They will be matched up with volunteers. There is need for more volunteers so please contact Amanda if interested.
- Joanna Aldridge: Granta Medical Social Navigator, Granta Medical Practices has started to see Royston Health Centre patients and will be based there on a Wednesday (afternoon to start with). The Tesco Community Garden is open tomorrow from 2-4pm. *Barkway Market* went well – it was very well attended with over 2800 paying adults – plus children Joanna Aldridge: Social Prescriber for Market Hill and Barley Surgeries. Anybody, including non-clinical, can refer people to Joanna. She currently supports an audience of 22,000 patients and recruiting is taking place for a care-coordinator to concentrate on older patients so Joanna can concentrate on the younger. There is an event in October about Parkinsons to raise awareness of what is available to help cope with the disease.
- Bob Tulloch: All Saints Church, Melbourn. The Church is getting a new vicar, to whom Bob will be showing the pagan symbols mentioned a previous month's meeting.
- Kimmi Crosby: All Saints Church Community Hall, Melbourn. On 7th October there is a concert featuring Joe Rose. The Church need to raise £8000 to repair broken bells. <https://www.communityhallmelbourn.com/>
- Cllr Matt Barnes: Outdoor gym equipment has been installed at the leisure centre, funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The official opening is on Thursday at 12pm. Leisure centre staff are offering assistance to anyone who wants to familiarise themselves with the equipment over the coming weeks. The next Royston and District Area Forum is on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, at 1930 in Royston Town Hall. The topics are grant presentations, recycling & waste, and the cost of living – we are also expecting a representative from Citizens Advice to join. The meeting is open for all to attend.
- Fiona Hughes: Green Heat Coop will be attending Sustain-Ability on 30th September. Sustain-Ability is Royston's annual eco-fair, with lots of opportunities to learn about transitioning to a more sustainable lifestyle. This year the fair is combined with the Royston Arts Festival, with the theme "Force of Nature."

- Paul Bowes: Bow Books. The shop is doing well and has many events coming up: two nights of talks with Hafida Latta mid-August, but now fully booked; six Monday 4pm story times for 5-8 year olds with Zoe Thorne from September 11<sup>th</sup>; Workshop etc 7.30 September 14th fully booked but probably repeating on October 6<sup>th</sup> with Elizabeth Goodman on self-development/coaching, coaching in the Helix; Saturday noon September 23rd signing/discussion with Jane Hind (history/psychology), Humans in the Extreme; Saturday noon September 30th signing/writing workshop with Chris Lake, creative writing. Nameless Lake, a novel.
- Reg Hounsell; Model Railway Club; U3A. The U3A Keep Fit class is ongoing but temporarily relocated to the Town Hall while the RMC is undergoing refurbishment. The History Group has talks of ca. 45 minutes on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month and needs recommendations for speakers on any history related topics.

Our next Breakfast is on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September when Paul Bowes will talk about Bows Books