



# ROYSTON ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

Newsletter 6

2023 Roundup

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## Thank you!

*Royston Environmental Group has continued to grow in profile and membership in 2023.*

*Thank you for your continued support this year and for playing your part tackling the issues that climate change brings.*

*If you have an event or an idea that you'd like to propose or organise, please get in touch.*

*We wish you all a very merry festive season. Here's to a more sustainable 2024.*

*We will be announcing the date for the AGM early next year. Looking forward to seeing you there!*

### Contact us via our website

[roystonenvironmentalgroup.org.uk](http://roystonenvironmentalgroup.org.uk)

### Follow us on Facebook

[@royston-environmental-group](https://www.facebook.com/royston-environmental-group)

### Membership enquiries

[membership@roystonenvironmentalgroup.org.uk](mailto:membership@roystonenvironmentalgroup.org.uk) (Lynne Beaney)

## SustainAbility 2023



**We held our third SustainAbility Festival on 30 September this year in conjunction with the Royston Arts Festival and Johnson Matthey.**

A huge thanks goes to **Johnson Matthey** whose very generous donation helped us to hold the festival. They have also helped us to pay for our public liability insurance, which allows us to participate in events and hold them.

It was great to have so many partner organisations share the day with us and showcase the work that they doing:

[Johnson Matthey](#)

[Green Heat Co-op](#)

[Friends of Therfield Heath](#)

[Conservators of Therfield Heath & Greens](#)

[Royston Repair Cafe](#)

[Shepreth Hedgehog Hospital](#)

[Cambridge Carbon Footprint](#)

[The Nappy Library](#)

## Thermal Imaging Camera

We are very excited to announce that with **Johnson Matthey's** help, we have purchased a thermal imaging camera!

Thermal imaging cameras help identify areas of heat loss on buildings. This can really help owners target the interventions and investments that they need to put in place to make their homes more cost effective to heat.

We are hoping to provide a service where members' homes are surveyed using the camera. **Johnson Matthey** are hoping to have volunteers trained up to help with the camera and its findings.

Watch this space....



## Tesco Community Garden



This is our third year of partnering with Tesco to maintain the community garden.

In July, we celebrated with our second annual garden party, selling some of our produce in aid of Homestart.

For the first time, we opened the garden throughout the summer holidays and enjoyed making bug hotels and harvesting our summer crops.

We held a Hallowe'en event during our October opening and had a lovely time decorating pumpkins. Our compost heap was turned over and we have generated enough compost to be almost fully sustainable next year.

The garden really is a hidden gem and everyone really is welcome, whether your fingers are green or gloved.

We hold open days on the second Saturday of each month from 2 to 4 pm (unless the weather is really unpleasant).

Our next open day is 9 December.

## Christmas Jumper Swap



We held our very first Christmas Jumper swap during the last week of November.

We plan to make this an annual event to help encourage a little less waste whilst having a little fun refreshing our winter fashion game.

Thank you to Tesco for their donation of mince pies to help us get in the Christmas spirit.

## Hedgehog Highways

Many of our gardens make ideal hedgehog habitats, but hedgehogs' access to them is limited by the artificial boundaries imposed by fences and other hard borders.

To make it easier for them to move around, consider making a small hole in or under your fences. It only needs to be 13cm by 13cm wide.

If you are replacing fencing or have neighbours who might be, please encourage them to put in these much needed gaps.

REG has written to the planning authority to ask them to make the provision of these



holes a condition of granting planning permission for future developments.

We have joined Hedgehog Street's fencing campaign and we are writing to fencing companies and landscapers to encourage them to provide and install hedgehog friendly fencing.

More information on this campaign can be found [here](#).