



# Minster Matters

**SATURDAY 18 & SUNDAY 19 JUNE  
9.30AM - 5.30PM  
AN ASSORTMENT OF PRIZES TO BE WON  
OPEN TO ALL MINSTER RESIDENTS  
JUST £3.00 PER SCARECROW**

# Official Minster Matters Scarecrow Challenge Entry Form 2016

Scarecrows are to be displayed on Saturday 18 & Sunday 19 June 2016  
(And PM : Friday 17 June for judging)

Please provide the following information for each entry (BLOCK CAPITALS please)

NOTE: A separate form is required for each scarecrow (you may copy this form)

Forms and rules will be available from businesses displaying our poster  
or via our website : [www.minstermatters.uk/scarecrow/entryform-rules.pdf](http://www.minstermatters.uk/scarecrow/entryform-rules.pdf)

<b>Name (Forename &amp; Surname)</b>	
<b>Address (including postcode)</b>	
<b>Phone Number Mobile/Landline or both</b>	
<b>Email (optional)</b>	
<b>Age (if this is a childs entry)</b>	
<b>Confirm you have read and agreed our 'Terms' as set out below (simply enter YES in the box)</b>	
<b>Entry Fee (Enclosed) £3.00 per entry (delete as necessary) If emailing click option to delete</b>	<b>YES / NO</b>
<b>Signature (Parent/Guardian if this is a childs entry) If emailing please enter Initials &amp; Surname</b>	

## Terms

**PAPER ENTRIES:** please sign to indicate agreement of rules. **Entry fee must be enclosed.**

**EMAIL ENTRIES:** the email itself will be accepted in lieu of a signature and your **entry fee will be collected** by the committee prior to the event, or you can drop it into the library marked FAO Minster Matters.

All entrants agree to abide by the published rules of entry, as per page 2 of this document, and as displayed on our website at [www.minstermatters.uk/scarecrows.html](http://www.minstermatters.uk/scarecrows.html)

By entering our competition you are agreeing that the organisers may photograph your entry both for the purpose of judging and also for displaying on our website or elsewhere after the event.

Please return your entry by one of the following means:

Email entries: Send completed forms to: [scarecrows@minstermatters.org.uk](mailto:scarecrows@minstermatters.org.uk)

This form is specifically designed to be able to be completed online.

**NOTE: Email entries MUST be received by midnight on Thursday 2 June 2016.**

Paper entries: **Deliver or post your completed forms to the address below to arrive no later than midday on Friday 3 June 2016.**

**No late entries will be accepted for whatever reason.**

MM Office, c/o Minster Library & Neighbourhood Centre, 4A Monkton Road, Minster CT12 4EA

If you have further questions please email: [scarecrows@minstermatters.org.uk](mailto:scarecrows@minstermatters.org.uk)

For office use only									
Entry accepted		Fee received		Number issued		Judges		Points awarded	

### Rules of the Minster Matters Scarecrow Challenge - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2016:

1. All entry forms must be submitted to the 'Minster Matters Scarecrow Challenge Committee' at the library by Midday on Friday 3rd June 2016 (email entries by Thursday 2nd). **NO** late entries for whatever reason will be accepted.
2. All scarecrows will be judged on the following criteria:
  - a. *Reduce, reuse and recycle* - where possible recycle or re-use materials. New materials used should be able to be recycled or reused. All scarecrows must be built from scratch by the entrant (no commercial creations allowed). These steps could be demonstrated by taking photographs of the process with a listing of the materials you have used. If no additional information is given beside the scarecrow, the judges will use what they can see to estimate how environmentally friendly your scarecrow is.
  - b. *Creativity and originality* - judges will be looking for scarecrows with that little bit extra, it may be the materials used, the way the scarecrow has been made, how the scarecrow is displayed, or simply a fantastic idea that catches the judges eye.
  - c. *Artistic merit* - will be judged on the visual impact of your scarecrow. It may be the detail, the use of colours, and the care with which it has been shaped or sculpted or it may simply look fantastic. The more fabulous your entry looks, the higher your score is likely to be in this category.
3. The majority of the work should be done by the child if it is a child's entry.
4. Children's ages will be taken into account and this information should be displayed with the scarecrow or given on the entry form (if known at that time).
5. The scarecrow can be smaller but should not be larger than: 2.5m wide x 3.0m high.
6. All scarecrows should be constructed to consider the prospect of inclement weather.
7. You can use any materials you like to build your scarecrow, there are no restrictions - with just one exception: pre-moulded or commercially available face masks ARE NOT permitted.
8. All entrants are reminded that this is a public event and all scarecrows must be made and displayed in good taste. The Committee reserve the right to withdraw any scarecrows that they deem unsuitable. Any entrant designing their scarecrow to cause deliberate offence will be disqualified and may be barred from future events.
9. Scarecrows need to be clearly labelled with their own name and entry number (Entry numbers will be provided by the committee during the week leading up to the event).
10. All scarecrows must be displayed at the front of your property and should be positioned so as it is unnecessary for anyone to access your property in order to view them. They must also be secured in a manner that they will not blow away and will not otherwise be a danger to or possibly cause injury to anyone. The 'Minster Matters Scarecrow Challenge Committee' will not be held responsible for any damage to Third Party property caused by the creation or insecurity of scarecrows. Owners are held solely responsible for the safety and security of their scarecrow(s).
11. There is an entry fee payable for each scarecrow. Families may enter more than one scarecrow but each scarecrow will require a separate entry form and each will incur a separate entry fee. Entry forms will be available from shops displaying our poster or via the Minster Matters website at [www.minstermatters.uk/scarecrows.html](http://www.minstermatters.uk/scarecrows.html)
12. Judging will take place across the weekend starting on the evening of Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June (weather permitting) and scarecrows must remain on display over the whole of the weekend for the general public to view. There will also be a 'Public Vote' over the weekend and a further prize will be awarded to the winner of this category. All winners will be notified and prizes will be awarded at 6.30pm on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> at The Bell Inn. All entrants are asked to attend if possible. The scarecrow committee and judges' interpretation of these rules (and any decisions made by them) are absolutely final – and can't be challenged!
13. You may take your scarecrow in after 9pm on Friday (earlier if it has been judged), if you feel it would be beneficial to do so, in order to prevent overnight weather or vandalism damage. A judges' card will be attached to each scarecrow when it has been viewed and photographed. Scarecrows should however be replaced in the same position on Saturday by 9.30am. Saturday evening you may again take them in but not until after 5.30pm, replacing them by 9.30am on Sunday. They should remain on display until 5.30pm on Sunday.
14. Finally... The most important rule: **MAKE SURE YOU ENJOY YOURSELVES!!!!**

**NOTE: Although we are running this across the same weekend as 'Open Gardens' you do not have to be opening your garden to be able to take part. This competition is being organised and run entirely separate to that event. However, if you are opening your garden then also entering this competition may attract further visitors to view your garden as well.**

**Photographs of all scarecrows and relevant prize winners will be displayed on the Minster Matters website and in Attwells Newsagents. Copies of photographs will be made available to the relevant entrants on request.**

**STUCK FOR IDEAS? Here are some useful web addresses.**

- <http://thequeso.com/how-to-make-a-scarecrow-without-involving-any-money-or-actual-skill/>
- [www.yates.com.au/kids-gardening/cool-projects/build-a-garden-scarecrow](http://www.yates.com.au/kids-gardening/cool-projects/build-a-garden-scarecrow)
- [www.hobbyfarms.com/crafts-and-nature/how-to-make-scarecrow.aspx](http://www.hobbyfarms.com/crafts-and-nature/how-to-make-scarecrow.aspx)
- [www.rd.com/home/gardening/how-to-make-a-scarecrow/](http://www.rd.com/home/gardening/how-to-make-a-scarecrow/)
- [www.henandhammock.co.uk/scarecrow-ideas](http://www.henandhammock.co.uk/scarecrow-ideas)
- [www.makescarecrows.com/](http://www.makescarecrows.com/)
- <https://uk.pinterest.com/lorrim/scarecrows/> (lots of images of interesting characters here)
- Also 'YouTube' has many ideas and tutorials that may help!

Scarecrows have been part of our farming heritage forever and a day. Their practical purpose in the fields is to scare birds which might otherwise eat the seeds or damage young crops.

**For those without Internet access here are some useful scarecrow building tips!**

### **Getting started**

A scarecrow is simple to make and will provide a great opportunity for the whole family or a group to share in its creation.

Each one will be individual and you'll be surprised at the personality they take on.

Thinking of a name also helps to develop their character.

First create a basic design and gather your material together.

A traditional scarecrow was usually a crossed timber figure that was dressed and stuffed to give him volume.

If you have never made a scarecrow before, you have a real treat in store.

### **How to make a simple scarecrow**

What you need:

Two pieces of timber, one slightly longer than the other.

Nails or screws and string or wire.

An old pillow case, tights or a small flour bag for the head.

Needle and thread or stapler.

Straw, or other material for stuffing.

Clothes, from a local charity shop or from your own wardrobe!

### **Building your scarecrow**

Attach the two pieces of timber together to form a cross. Make sure that the arms are not too long for a shirt or jacket to be put on later.

If you are using stockings for the head, cut off the legs and put one inside the other for extra strength.

Stuff it in the shape of a head. Tie the head loosely at the neck end.

Paint a face on with acrylic paint or permanent marker, or stitch features with wool or thread.

Slide the head onto the short end of the vertical pole, then attach to the body by tying with string or wire.

An old football, gourds or cut out discs could also be used for heads.

From here, use your own creativity. Drape any clothing onto the poles, stuff and tie off at the wrist, ankles and waist. Attach strands of wool, straw or other fibre under a hat. Tie gloves to the outstretched ends of the crossbar... and above all remember rule 14!!