



**Scarecrow Festival as part of Dunton's  
Big Weekender 2018  
29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
Something to Crow About  
How to make a Scarecrow**



Thinking of something to do towards the end of the summer holidays! Why not start to make your scarecrow for Dunton's Big Weekender 2018 Scarecrow Weekend, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018!

In the past scarecrows were very much a part of the countryside, used by farmers to keep birds away from crops.

Scarecrows are not expensive to make. You can have fun by making a traditional scarecrow from straw or from everyday items that are lying about the house. They can be as traditional or original you like. For inspiration look on the internet.

Here are some simple instructions for making your scarecrow which do not require any complicated skills.

At the very least you will only need a few items to make your scarecrow:-

Old clothes, possibly including a pair of tights or nylons, a shirt, a pair of jeans, scraps of fabric, a hat, some glue, rope for the hair, and paper or hay for stuffing.

### **Making the scarecrow head**

Tie knots at the top of the legs of your tights, then stuff the top, not the legs with hay or shredded paper. When the top of the tights is full of hay tie a further knot in the top. You now have a large round base for the head.

Cut scraps of fabric or felt into shapes for the eyes, nose and mouth. Simple triangles, circles and squares work will work.

Glue the shapes to the face and allow them to dry. Of course, you can just buy a mask for your scarecrow.

Add hair made of long pieces of fabric, string etc and glue in place.

### **Making the body**

Button up the shirt. Starting with the arms fill with straw or shredded paper. Use hay to resemble hands. Tie up the wrists with string.

### **Making the legs**

Stuff the jeans or trousers with shredded paper or hay. Fill from the ankles to the waist. Tie the trousers close to the bottom with string, and let some hay hang out for feet. Leave the trousers open at the top.

### **Scarecrow assembly**

Attach the empty tight legs of the head to the body by running one leg through the neck of the shirt at the front and the other through the back of shirt neck. Pull the tight legs all the way through to the bottom of the shirt. Tug firmly on the legs so that the head sits firmly on the top of the shirt neck.

Tie one tight leg to the belt loop in the front of the trousers, making sure to pull the tight leg through the loop until its tight. Then do the same for the tight leg at the back of the shirt.

If your scarecrow is going to stand it will need a stick or broom handle up the back of the shirt, but of course it could just sit in a chair or a paddling pool. Go on the internet for some wonderful ideas!

### **Partially weatherproofing your scarecrow**

Put the hay/straw/paper stuffing inside dustbin or bin bags.