

# ***Night at the Museum 2* Steampunk Festival**

**5<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

**West Street Galleries, working in partnership with Retford Steampunk Society and many local supporters, will be holding another Steampunk Festival 'Night at the Museum 2' on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2017 in response to local demand, this time focussing on helping community groups.**

Kenny Roach, founder of West Street Galleries, is committed to keeping the event local giving everyone a chance to participate, support, help and enjoy. The event is being run on a not-for-profit basis, at the same time, raising funds and awareness for three or four local charities or groups, yet to be selected.

**One of the most important missions of the event, is to raise awareness of the ethos of Steampunk to young people, especially those who may not fit mainstream expectations. Kenny said 'the whole approach of Steampunk allows people to be creative, have fun and share their experiences, without being judged. Everyone should have opportunity to create on their own terms, knowing that their efforts won't be picked apart. There aren't many occasions where this happens in everyday life, and for some young people, being able to express themselves is crucial to them finding out who they are. Young people need that chance, and that's what West Street Galleries is aiming to provide.'**

Steampunk teenager Kaci Bailey from Worksop volunteered to help with the festivals' publicity photo shoot last November; although nervous at first, she loved every minute of it. Kaci also helped out with the Steampunk Festival at Bassetlaw Museum in February where she felt quite at home and enjoyed the work experience. Kenny wants to expand on opportunities for work and life experience for young people at the next festival, so anyone who is interested is invited to contact Kenny as soon as they can.

**Volunteers, traders, performers and artists are all welcome to contact Kenny to be part of the Festival, particularly those who can offer a Steampunk twist or community involvement to their offering. More information about the Festival can be found at [retfordsteampunk.co.uk](http://retfordsteampunk.co.uk) and Kenny can be contacted on 07880 728 512.**