



Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2018

stoudrafrace.org.uk

01453 756745

stoud.raft.race@cotswoldcanals.com



## Information for Competitors 2018

Welcome aboard the 2018 Stroud Raft Race, raising funds for the Cotswold Canals Trust and The Door Youth Project

This pack contains everything you need to know about this year's event including a Raft Check List, the Race Safety Rules and Raft Specification as well as fundraising tools and other useful information.

If you have any questions along the way please do get in touch with the team using [stoud.raft.race@cotswoldcanals.com](mailto:stoud.raft.race@cotswoldcanals.com)

or call Anne at The Door on 01453 756745

Happy building!

*Anne and Shelley* (Raft Race Coordinators)



The Door: Reg Charity 1131919  
Cotswold Canal Trust Reg Charity: 269721



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## 3 Steps to Entering the race

1. Choose your Crew
2. Pay for your place
3. Build Your Raft

### 1. Choose your Crew

All rafts must have a crew of between 4 and 6 people

All members of the crew must be over 14 years of age on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2018, and any crew member under the age of 18 must have the supervision (on or off the water) of a responsible adult throughout the race day.

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Crew Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Captain 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Crew Member 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Crew Member 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Crew Member 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Crew Member 5: \_\_\_\_\_ Crew Member 6: \_\_\_\_\_

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### 2. Pay for your Place

Entry into the race is broken down as follows:

£60 for a 4 person raft (£15 per crew member)

£75 for a 6 person raft (£12.50 per crew member)

**Secure your place in the race today at [stoudrafrace.org](http://stoudrafrace.org)**



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## Before you begin building

Like a scout every raft builder should be prepared, before you begin building your raft make sure to:

- Read the raft building specifications on page 5 of this pack
- Decide on a theme for your raft (prizes available for the 'best dressed' raft and team)
- Locate suitable area for raft building and storage
- Source raft-building materials and make sure it is constructed from clean, non-toxic materials

Undertake your raft design with consideration of:

- The Race Entry Terms and Conditions (Page 4) (rafts to be no more than 4 metres long and 2 metres wide)
- The amount of space required to build and store the raft
- The weight of the raft – keep it light for ease of lifting into and out of the canal
- Make sure your raft design does not include protruding or sharp parts
- Make sure your design includes a point for tying on identification numbers to both sides of the raft above the water line

## Before Race Day

- Don't forget to make paddles (including water wheels, propellers or poles).
- **Test** your raft to make sure it floats.
- Identify raft transport vehicle and driver – will it be transported intact or assembled on the day?
- Make sure you have suitable tools on hand as required.
- Obtain buoyancy aids.
- Start your fundraising (more details later in this pack).

## The Day of The Race

- Bring a change of dry clothes for after the race.
- Pack raft supplies including water, snacks, hat, sunglasses and sunscreen.
- Please arrive with plenty of time to unload your raft and remove your vehicle from site before your allotted start time.
- Bring lots of friends and family to cheer you on.



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## Raft Race 2018 Terms and Conditions for Entry

### Participants

- All participants enter at their own risk. No responsibility will be accepted by the organisers for loss or damage to persons or property, howsoever caused. Each participant will be expected to sign a disclaimer form before being allowed to start.
- All participants must be able to swim, whilst clothed, in moving water.
- All participants must be of 14 years or older.
- All participants under 18 must have the permission of a responsible adult to take part in the race and be supervised by a responsible adult (on or off the water) throughout race day.
- No crew member to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

### Rafts

All rafts must pass scrutiny before the race and must conform with the requirements below.

- Life Jackets to be worn by all team members.
- Raft numbers must be displayed on each side of the raft and be clearly visible from both riverbanks.
- No less than 4 and no more than 6 persons to each raft.
- Raft to be less than 4 metres long and 2 meters wide.
- No engines, row-locks or surf boards.
- Rafts to be safely and securely constructed and are not permitted to be built of solid polystyrene.
- Crews to have completed registration before entering the water.
- All rafts must attend the start point in an orderly fashion and all rafts must go into the canal as directed by the marshals.
- Please inform a marshal as soon as possible if one of your crew has to leave the raft and the race.
- No glass bottles or glasses must be taken onto the raft.
- All rafts must be removed from the canal course on the day of the race.
- From 3.00 pm the organisers will start clearing the canal. Any raft found after that time may be towed away, and the cost charged back to the entrant.
- Any complaints must be lodged at the Race Coordinator's tent found at Wallbridge Lock, before 4.00 pm on the day of the race. In case of dispute, the Event Manager's decision is final.



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## Raft Building Specifications

### How to build a raft

1. Each team is responsible for removing their raft from the canal at the finish and carrying it to its transport vehicle. The best idea is to design your raft to be as light as possible, so you can easily carry it at the finish. Our marshals may be able to offer you some physical handling resource, but this is not guaranteed. Unsealed barrels fill with water and large wooden struts become heavy when wet so please think about all weight reduction opportunities!
2. Rafts shall comprise two or more hulls that are held in position by struts or a platform. Use of tyre inner tubes is permitted. A canoe design is not permitted.
3. To ensure stability and prevent rafts overturning, the inside distance between the outer hulls should be a minimum of one metre. The overall length of the raft should be 4 metres long maximum and 2 metres wide.
4. To ensure the safety of other raft crews, rafts must be designed such that they do not have any protruding or sharp parts and must be constructed from non-toxic materials. Any barrels or containers must be clean both inside and out.
5. If outriggers are used, they should always be in full contact with the water along their full length.
6. The rafts shall only be propelled by paddles including waterwheels, propellers or poles. The use of oars or rowlocks is not permitted. All paddles shall be home made and be of a single blade design. The use of commercially manufactured paddles is discouraged.
- 7 For safety reasons paddles shall not be attached to crew members.
8. For safety and timekeeping reasons it is important that the race marshals can identify all rafts at all race checkpoints. See point 9 below.
9. The allocated identification number of the raft must be visible from front and both sides. It must be clearly displayed above the water line in figures that are at least 230mm (9 inches) high. (You will receive laminated identification numbers at registration on the day of the event).
10. The crew must be able to manoeuvre their raft into the canal without any additional external assistance.
11. The use of polystyrene is forbidden even if it is enclosed or wrapped. The danger to the environment is too great to permit its use.



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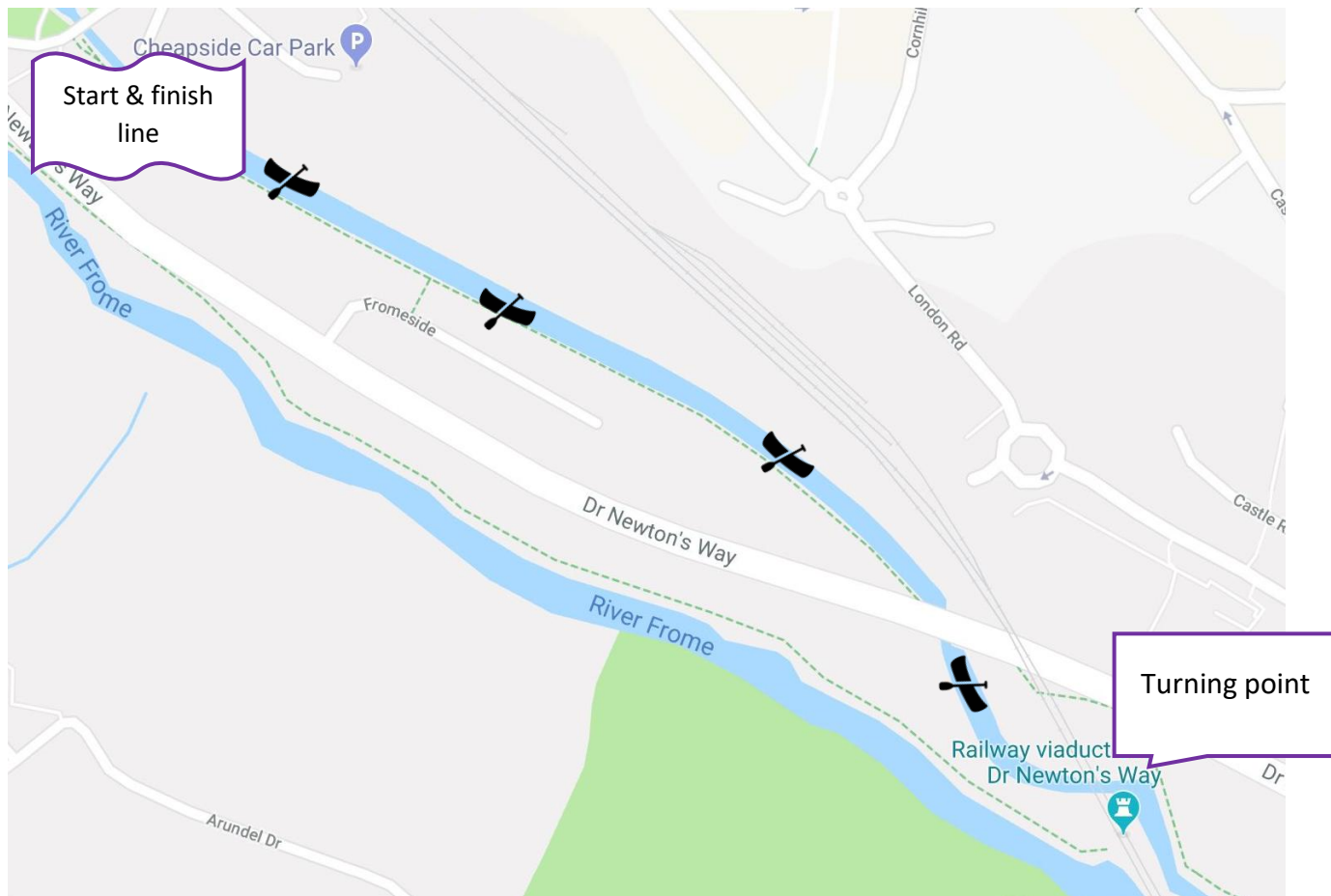
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## Site Plan / Course Plan



## Fundraising Tools

The Raft Race is the perfect opportunity to raise money for a cause close to your heart through sponsorship.

We would like to encourage you to fundraise for The Door and the Cotswold Canal Trust - but you are welcome to raise funds for any cause

We recommend BT MyDonate as it has the highest return for charities from donations and they handle the gift aid for you!

[https://mydonate.bt.com/event/secure/charity-search.html?journey=create\\_my\\_challenge](https://mydonate.bt.com/event/secure/charity-search.html?journey=create_my_challenge)

Simply register or sign in to BT MyDonate, create your raft race challenge and choose which charities you want to support. Don't forget you can also raise funds offline just make sure to let the charities you are raising funds for, know so they can help you sort out any gift aid and paying in arrangements. Any questions email the team: [stroud.raft.race@cotswoldcanals.com](mailto:stroud.raft.race@cotswoldcanals.com).



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