



**Severn  
Hospice**

here and at home



**Your  
participant  
pack**



**July 19 & 20**

**Pengwern & Shrewsbury  
School boat clubs**

# Welcome to Dragons!



Thank you so much for getting on board our wonderful flagship event – your support means the world to us. While you and your crew are having fun, you'll be raising thousands of pounds for our care.

We've been running this event for more than 20 years, and it's thanks to you that it's such a success.

## At a glance

**Captains' drop-off: 7.45am – 8.30am**  
vehicle permit holders can access the site

**Registration: 8.00am – 9.15am**

**Safety briefings: 9.30am**

**Qualifying heats: 9.45am – 3.25pm**

**Final: 3.30pm**

**Awards: 4pm**

Please note, timings of heats, the final and presentations are approximate

## The important bits

- Captains will need to sign a waiver form for their team. This will be sent by us and needs to be returned before the event.
- Don't walk on the pontoons or slipway unless directed to by the Dragon Boats UK team.
- **Your team MUST attend the safety briefing. No briefing, no entry to the boats.**
- You will get wet – so bring clothes to change in to.
- Don't use body/face paint where it may rub off on to the buoyancy aid.
- Remember to wear a T-shirt to protect your skin from chafing on the life jacket.
- Gas BBQs are allowed – but don't use one in your tent and no charcoal.
- To help to ensure the safety of all participants, anyone showing signs of excessive alcohol consumption will not be allowed to race.
- If you need to withdraw from the event at any time, you must contact us.





On the  
day...



## Action stations

The racing takes place on the section of river between the Kingsland bridge and the Pengwern Boat Club.

Your team will have its own 3m x 3m tent set up ready for you on the riverside opposite The Quarry, overlooking the raceway.

## Parking for permit holders

Parking and vehicle access to the teams' area is restricted so only one vehicle permit per team is allowed. Captains will allocate the team's parking permit.

Permit holders' access to the teams' area is only from the Kingsland Bridge entrance to **Shrewsbury School Boat Club (what3words coffee.hops.bench)**. See below for more detailed instructions.

From here, vehicles with a permit can access the site to drop off any bulky or heavy items at the team tent before parking up as directed by our volunteer marshals. Please follow their instructions.

**Strictly no vehicle movements are allowed on site after 8.30.**

## Parking for team members and spectators

The rest of your team and spectators are advised to use pay and display town centre car parks and walk to the venue. The nearest and largest is Frankwell Main Car Park, and there are others at Barker Street, St Austin's Street and Abbey Foregate.

We have also provided free parking nearby at Burrs Field (**what3words towers.tolls.nuns**), which is on the river side of Kingsland Road, Shrewsbury.

Please note that if it is very wet in the run-up to the festival, or on the day, we might not be able to use Burrs Field or allow parking on the festival site. Please keep an eye on your inbox and our socials for updates as we get nearer to the event.

**Directions for parking permit holders**  
**Shrewsbury School Boat Club SY3 7AQ,**  
**what3words – coffee.hops.bench**

### From Kennedy Road

Drive towards Kingsland Bridge. Just before the bridge, take a left. Go over the cattle grid and follow the Captains' parking signs.

### From Shrewsbury town centre

Go over Kingsland Bridge (this is a toll bridge and costs 30p). Take the first right after the bridge, go over the cattle grid and follow the Captains' parking signs.



**On the  
day...**



## **8.00am – 9.15am Registration**

- Team captains must register their teams with event HQ – outside Pengwern Boat Club
- (**what3words** [visit.smug.alien](https://www.what3words.com/visit/smug.alien)). This boat club is only accessible on foot.
- You will be allocated your own team tent for the day. Your tent will be labelled with your team name. Please look after the area around your tent and keep it clean and tidy by placing all rubbish in the bin bags and bins provided. Family, friends and dogs are welcome to join you.

## **9.30am Safety briefings start**

- All members of your team must attend a safety briefing which will take place at Pengwern Boat Club ([what3words visit.smug.alien](https://www.what3words.com/visit/smug.alien)). Once you have taken part in a briefing you will be issued with a wristband. Anyone without this wristband will be unable to race.

## **9.45am – 3.25pm Qualifying heats**

- Listen out for your team to be called over the PA system. We aim to run three rounds of heats with the fastest four boats going on to compete for the title of Dragon Boat Champion 2025! You will have about an hour between each heat.

## **3.30pm Final**

## **4.00pm Award presentations**

### **Tag us in!**

Share your photos with us on social media – we'd love to see photos of your adventure!



Facebook: [@Severn Hospice](https://www.facebook.com/SevernHospice)  
Instagram: [@severn\\_hospice](https://www.instagram.com/severn_hospice)



# FAQs



## Do I have to raise sponsorship?

Teams should raise a minimum of £1,000 – it all makes a big difference. Our fundraising team are on hand to help; just give them a call on 01952 221351 or look at our **fantastic fundraising guide** for some inspiration!

## How many boats will be in each qualifying heat?

You will compete in heats of up to three boats to progress to the final. Competition is fierce, so be prepared for a bit of splashing and healthy rivalry.

## I'm under 16, can I still be part of the boat crew?

The minimum age for participants is 12 and any team members under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. A disclaimer form must have been signed and returned, these will be sent out to captains in advance.

## What safety measures are there?

Dragon Boats UK are the industry leaders and count amongst their crew Commonwealth and world ranked rowers. They have a manned rescue boat and know their dragon boats inside out. There are registered first aiders on site. If you need help, go to event HQ directly or speak with one of our volunteer marshals, who are all equipped with walkie talkies. We'll have lost children and lost property tents too.

## What if the event is postponed due to bad weather or flooding?

Our fundraising team will get in touch with captains before the event to let them know if the event is postponed, don't worry!

## Do we have to dress up?

There will be a prize for the crew with the best fancy dress outfit – so whatever floats your boat!

## Will there be food available to purchase?

Oh yes! All day, from 8.30am, our Refresh pop-up café will be serving a delicious selection of breakfast baps, burgers, hot dogs and Greek salad boxes all with veggie and vegan options. They'll also have hot and cold drinks and sweet treats available.



## Come & visit our cafe...

We serve delicious food and drinks every day at our Bicton Heath site – and all profits support Severn Hospice.

Our amazing afternoon teas are the perfect way to celebrate any special event.

Or let us cater for you – we offer buffet spreads for all occasions either to take away, or we can host you in the café.

Could our pop-up café be the cherry on the cake for your big event?

To find out more about about catering, table bookings, special occasions or venue hire  
w [refresh@severnospice.org.uk](mailto:refresh@severnospice.org.uk) e [refreshcafesevernhospice.com](http://refreshcafesevernhospice.com) t 01743 211142



# Thank you!



## Raising sponsorship

Raising sponsorship as part of your challenge is a fantastic way to ignite excitement and support from family, friends, and colleagues.

Stuck for ideas? Take a look at our **fantastic fundraising guide** which has everything you need to super-charge your fundraising including a printable sponsorship form if you're raising money offline.

## Paying in

**Don't forget to get your sponsorship money to us by 19 September 2025.**

- You can drop your money in to one of our hospices or shops.
- If you prefer to do it online visit our website [severnospice.org.uk](https://severnospice.org.uk). Click on 'pay in' and then follow the 'one-off donation' route.
- Or send your sponsor form and donations, with cheques payable to Severn Hospice, to: **Income Generation, Severn Hospice, Apley Castle, Telford TF1 6RH**. Please don't send cash in the post.

Thank you  
to our boat  
sponsors



DAVID WILSON HOMES  
WHERE QUALITY LIVES



BARRATT  
HOMES

## Here to help you!

If you want to pick our brains about any fundraising ideas, our friendly team can help you.

You can contact us at any time if you have any questions too – simply email [fundraising@severnospice.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@severnospice.org.uk) or call 01952 221 351.

**Ready  
to go again?**

Save the date for next  
year's Dragons –  
18 & 19 July 2026

Lizzy and Cathy from our fundraising team



Last year, almost 3,000 local families living with incurable illness received our care

**35**

We're proud to have been at the heart of your community for 35 years

In that time, we have cared for more than

**48,000**

local people facing heartbreak



All our care is free, but it's not without cost

Every day we spend

**£26,526**

on caring for local families

Our nurses walked around

**10,000**

steps every day last year as they provided care

**4** out of **5** of our patients are cared for at home

How does your support help..?

£909 would pay for ward supplies for a week

£875 provides a bereavement support day for a group of children and their carers

£100 would cover a year's worth of clay – used in our creative therapy sessions

£17 would provide a set of scrubs for a nurse

£208 would allow our Hospice at Home team to spend the night with a family

£20 would give an hour of complementary therapy

£27 would fund an hour's physiotherapy session

Did you know?

Last year, our Patient & Family Support Service saw

**554**

patients

**1,521**

people attended our coffee mornings

Our Hospice at Home Day & Night Care team gave

**16,350**

hours of care

Every month we bring

**30**

people together, with our bereavement walking groups



# Want to help?

Last year our fantastic  
community supporters  
raised nearly

**£750,000**

donating gifts, running their  
own fundraisers or taking  
part in one of our events

We have to raise £2 of every £3 we spend  
You can make a difference

## Leave a gift in your will

Gifts in wills help pay for  
the care of one in four of  
our patients

## Gift Aid

More than 6,500 people  
signed up to Gift Aid  
their shop donations,  
adding an incredible  
£378k  
towards our care

## Support our shops

We've got over 30 stores!  
Shop with us, and you'll help  
add £1.6 million towards the  
care we provide

## Join our lottery

Our lottery costs just £1  
a week to join and it raises  
almost £1 million a year.  
With £150k in prizes  
each year, it's win-win!

84p of every £1 donated  
to us is spent on caring.  
We use the remaining 16p  
to raise the next £1



Registered charity 512394

## Fundraising facts!

Last year, around

**3,500**

people took part in our  
fundraising events

Our amazing local support  
groups raised almost

**£60,000**

Every month

**1,000**

volunteers give their time  
to help deliver the care  
we provide

The new sculpture in our  
Garden of Memories can hold

**600**

Hospice Hearts, each carrying  
a personal tribute to a  
loved one missed

Simply scan the  
QR to find out more



Make a difference  
[severnhospice.org.uk](http://severnhospice.org.uk)

01952 221 351  
[fundraising@severnhospice.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@severnhospice.org.uk)



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