

# Kempsford

(with Whelford, Dunfield and Dudgrove)

## Parish Newsletter

### September 2021

Towards the Future of Kempsford.

Your Parish Council needs your input.

Speeding \* Roads \* Quarries

\* Water (lack of pressure!) \* Sewage (blocked pipes!)

Planning

What new housing development?

Anything else?

**We are sure there is.....but need your ideas, concerns, thoughts or comments.**

As we have not had a face to face Parish Annual General Meeting since April 2019, the Parish Council would like to hear from you as a way of moving forward.

To this end an Open Evening, with time to meet and discuss issues or simply just to leave comments, regarding the Parish and the community, will be held in the Kempsford Village Hall on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October starting at 7.30pm.

Come and have a chat over tea, coffee and/or refreshments

# *KEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL*

Clerk: Teresa Griffin, Winterwood, Whelford, Fairford, Glos. GL7 4EB

Tel: 01285 713691 Email: [clerk@kempsfordparishcouncil.net](mailto:clerk@kempsfordparishcouncil.net)

**[www.kempsfordparishcouncil.net](http://www.kempsfordparishcouncil.net)**

<b>Parish Councillors</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Tel.</b>
Mr Mark Strange (Chair)	<a href="mailto:markstrange@kempsfordparishcouncil.net">markstrange@kempsfordparishcouncil.net</a>	01285 810635
Mr Tony Williams (Vice -Chair)	<a href="mailto:tonywilliams@kempsfordparishcouncil.net">tonywilliams@kempsfordparishcouncil.net</a>	01285 810628
Mr Jerry Stokes	<a href="mailto:jerrystokes@kempsfordparishcouncil.net">jerrystokes@kempsfordparishcouncil.net</a>	07834 369645
Mrs Christine Nugent	<a href="mailto:christinenugent@kempsfordparishcouncil.net">christinenugent@kempsfordparishcouncil.net</a>	01285 810306
Mr Philip Nickson	<a href="mailto:philnickson@kempsfordparishcouncil.net">philnickson@kempsfordparishcouncil.net</a>	07801 295331
Mrs Karen Saunders	<a href="mailto:karensaunders@kempsfordparishcouncil.net">karensaunders@kempsfordparishcouncil.net</a>	01285 713155
Mr John O'Connell	<a href="mailto:johnoconnell@kempsfordparishcouncil.net">johnoconnell@kempsfordparishcouncil.net</a>	01285 810512

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES**

Tuesday 21st September 2021 at 7.45pm, Kempsford Village Hall

Tuesday 19th October 2021 at 7.45pm, Kempsford Village Hall

Parish Open Evening - Tuesday 5th October, 7.30pm Kempsford Village Hall

## **Thank you**

The Parish Council would like to thank Alan Griffin for repainting the red telephone box at Whelford.

## **OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER**

Copy for the above Newsletter to Teresa Griffin by

**MONDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2021 PLEASE**

Email: [clerk@kempsfordparishcouncil.net](mailto:clerk@kempsfordparishcouncil.net)

# Family Social

At

Jenners Barn, Whelford

(By kind permission of BJ Arkell & partners)

*ALL WELCOME*

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September

6pm onwards

£8 per adult, children free

Includes BBQ

BAR AVAILABLE

All proceeds for local charity

Please come and enjoy fun and games

Tickets available from the Egg Farm, Whelford

or

Sue Griffin 01285 712979 or

Ann Ellis 01285 712516

## Kempsford Village Hall booking for the month

	Sunday	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays	Saturdays
AM		10:00 - 11:00 <b>Pilates</b> Rona Bennett 01865 820754		12:00 - 13:00 <b>Pilates</b> Janice Koo			9:00 - 11:00 <b>Yoga</b> Charlie McKenna
PM		15:30 - 16:30 <b>Rainbows</b> Caroline Gooch			12:00 - 14:00 <b>Post Office</b>		
Evening			20:00 - 21:00 <b>Yoga</b> Charlie McKenna (Except 3rd Tues- day of month)	19:00 - 20:00 <b>Pilates</b> Rona Bennett 07885 991673	15:30 - 17:00 <b>Brownies</b> Philippa Griffin 01285 810754/ 0779 3562704		
	20:00 - 21:00 <b>Yoga</b> Charlie McKenna		19:45 - 21:45 <b>Parish Council Meeting</b> (monthly, 3rd Tuesday)	20:00 - 21:30 <b>Village Hall Meeting</b> (monthly, 2nd Wednesday)	20:00 - 21:00 <b>Meditation</b> Shilpa		

### KEMPSFORD VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- |                                      |                                |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| * Hannah Dickens (Chair)             | * Mark Britt (Vice-Chair)      |
| * Jo Colson (Treasurer)              | * Joy Cross (Secretary)        |
| * Mel Denny (Bookings Secretary)     | * Amy Durban (Health & Safety) |
| * Kate Collins                       | Louise Jeffrey (Safeguarding)  |
| Karen Saunders (Parish Council Rep.) | Louise Edwards                 |
| Rev Kim Brown                        |                                |

*\* Denotes Trustee*

To contact any Committee Member email [infokempsfordvillagehall@kempsford.net](mailto:infokempsfordvillagehall@kempsford.net)

**New members are always welcome!**



TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF C/172 CHAPEL ROAD  
(KEMPSFORD PARISH) COTSWOLD DISTRICT

Gloucestershire County Council intend to make an order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) to temporarily close part of C/172 Chapel Road from its junction with 400994 Top Road to outside the property known as Honeysuckle Cottage for a distance of approximately 100 metres.

The reason for the closure is for drainage works.

The road is expected to be closed from the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 until the 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021 only or until the works have been completed. For further information, please contact Gloucestershire Highways on **08000 514 514** or visit **[www.gloucestershire.gov.uk](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk)**.

**Alternative Route** – As signed on site.

Pedestrian access to premises on or next to the road will be maintained.  
Emergency access will not be maintained as the excavation is across the carriageway.

DATED: 26<sup>th</sup> August 2021

For Assistant Director of Legal Services  
EB/73222

Legal Services, Shire Hall, Westgate Street, Gloucester GL1 2TG



## Lake 104 Update

The temporary footpath closures implemented around Lake 103, 103A and 104 in March has sparked lots of comments and concerns.

There will be many people who have moved to the area who possibly are unaware of the planning permission granted back in 2010.

Kempsford and Fairford Council recognise the importance of the area for walkers and in particular the link between the Whelford Road and Fairford. We have had many discussions with the developers since the closures were put in place and are very pleased to say that they have agreed to allow more sections of path to reopen and also a temporary diversion route linking to the Whelford Road.

Alterations to the fencing and signage are currently being undertaken prior to it becoming an active construction site. It will also be monitored daily for health and safety purposes.

On the North side of the Lake - the erected fencing will remain in place as it will be required for some drainage work in the future. These works will be short and intermittent so in the meantime an opening will be created to allow access along the north edge of the lake. Any short subsequent closures will be advertised prior to works being undertaken.

Please note that the land is privately owned and although there is a public right of way/footpath around the lake, much of the land which we have been used to walking over the years is not a public right of way.

We STRONGLY request that the new fencing and signage is respected to prevent more extensive closures being put back. Construction is expected to take some time and it is hoped that by working together and being respectful of essential closures these can be kept to a minimum.

Thank you.

# Lake 104 Footpath Closures



SATURDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2021  
11AM TIL 5PM @ RIVERSIDE PARK  
HALFPENNY BRIDGE, LECHLADE, GLOS

A DAY FULL OF FAMILY FUN...  
FUNFAIR RIDES / INFLATABLES  
TRADERS VILLAGE / MOBILE FARM  
CLIMBING WALL / FOOD AND DRINK

**BLOOR HOMES**

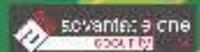
PRESENTS

£300 CASH  
AND MANY  
MORE PRIZES  
TO BE WON

KIDS £1  
ADULTS £2  
UNDER 5 YRS  
FREE!



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 **ROYAL  
AIR FORCES  
Association**  
The charity that supports the RAF family



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**SPONSOR A DUCK TODAY...ONLY £3!**

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**f LECHLADEDUCKRACE @THE\_DUCK\_RACE**

## **Don't lose your voice** – residents in the Cotswolds urged to check their voter registration details

Local residents are being reminded not to lose their voice on decisions that affect them by making sure their electoral registration details are up to date when contacted by the Council.

The annual canvass, which is run every year, will soon be taking place to ensure that Cotswold District Council can keep the electoral register up to date and identify any residents who are not registered to vote so that they can be encouraged to do so.

Residents will be sent a letter or email over the next few months with clear instructions asking them to confirm their details or update them.



Robert Weaver, Chief Executive and Electoral Registration Officer at Cotswold District Council, said: **“It’s important that residents lookout for messages from us so we can make sure we have the right details on the electoral register for every address in the Cotswolds ahead of future elections.**

**“Simply follow the instructions sent to you and if you receive an email, please respond to save us having to send any follow-up paper correspondence.**

**“If you’re not currently registered, your name will not appear in the messages we send. If you want to register, the easiest way is online at [gov.uk/register-to-vote](https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote), or we’ll send you information explaining how to do this in the post.”**

The emails should not be confused for a scam - all emails will be sent from **[elections@cotswold.gov.uk](mailto:elections@cotswold.gov.uk) with a subject line of ‘Cotswold District Council – Electoral Registration Canvas’.**

People who have moved recently are particularly encouraged to look out for the voter registration messages and check the details. Research by the Electoral Commission, published in 2019, indicates that recent home movers are far less likely to be registered than those who have lived at the same address for a long time (only 36% of people who have lived at an address for less than one year).

Information on registering to vote is available on the Electoral Commission website and residents can register by visiting the Government website at [gov.uk/register-to-vote](https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote).

Any residents who have any questions can contact their local registration team at 01285 623002 or email [elections@cotswold.gov.uk](mailto:elections@cotswold.gov.uk). Alternatively, residents can visit the Council website at [cotswold.gov.uk/elections](https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/elections)

# ST MARY'S KEMPSFORD WITH ST ANNE'S WHELFORD

## Contact details for the parish

Rev Kim Brown - 01285 810954 or [revkimbrown10a@gmail.com](mailto:revkimbrown10a@gmail.com)

Lay Preacher – Rob Mitchell 01285 712821

Church wardens: Elizabeth Emberson [dizzylizzie@sky.com](mailto:dizzylizzie@sky.com)

or Keith Howlett - 01285 712268 [keith.howlett1@btopenworld.com](mailto:keith.howlett1@btopenworld.com)

or there is a Facebook page The 5 Villages

September 2021

I hope you managed a break or a change of scene during summer. Already it feels like autumn. **Apple trees are laden, blackberries to pick in the hedgerows and there's a definite nip in the air** on my early morning dog walks. There will be apples outside my gate for the rest of the month, and soon pears and damsons will be added. Do help yourself and make a crumble! I love September, it is my favourite month of the year. To me it always represents new starts– when I was a child, I remember being taken to buy **new uniform, school shoes or a new pencil case. As an adult, I'd be** signing up to a new evening class or club, making the most of the time before winter comes calling and we hole up indoors with the fire on! Perhaps coming out of lockdown, it is a good time to start something new for you too?

**Thanks to everyone who helped organise and came to support the garden party at The Arkell's** in August. We had a great evening; it was the first time people had gathered together from our villages in some while, and we raised £2500 for our churches along the way. People often ask me **why we need to do this: our churches don't receive any money from the government or the** Diocese and due to Covid our income was significantly reduced but sadly our costs remained almost the same.

**As well as paying our bills, we are fundraising for the cost of putting toilet facilities into St. Mary's** church. For those travelling a long way for a wedding or a funeral, this is a long overdue and much needed facility! A lovely book called Collecting Rainbows has been published to support this and is being sold all over the county in bookshops. The George has some copies – it is a book full of cheer and good news of the many ways our communities came together to support one another during the pandemic and is guaranteed to raise your spirits. To order a copy, contact Ann or Myra via [collectingrainbows4pcc@gmail.com](mailto:collectingrainbows4pcc@gmail.com)

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 5.20pm our Youth Club will re-start with lots of games and fun in the Village Hall (school years 4-8) cost 50p. On Sunday 26 September at 9.30am we will give thanks to God for the blessings of creation and pray for all our local farmers as we hold our Harvest Festival Service **at St. Mary's. Please bring along some food** which will be donated to the Foodbank.

We were hoping to hold a fete on Sat 25<sup>th</sup> September, but other local events that day and some people away on holiday means we are short staffed. So instead, on the same date we will hold a Garden Party in the garden of The Parsonage with a brass band, cream teas and some stalls – a mini fete! If you can help by baking a cake or making jam, bringing some plants or jewellery, or could help out on the day please contact me on 01285 810954 or [revkimbrown10a@gmail.com](mailto:revkimbrown10a@gmail.com) Please do come along and enjoy the afternoon from 12pm – 2.30pm.

I hope to see you at something this month!

With love, Rev Kim

## St Mary's, Kempford with St Anne's, Whelford

### Church Services

Sunday 5 September	9.30 am Kempford	Holy Communion
Sunday 12 September	8.30 am Whelford 9.30 am Kempford	Holy Communion Service of the Word
Sunday 19 September	9.30 am Whelford 4 pm Kempford	Holy Communion and Harvest Festival Family Service
Sunday 26 September	9.30 am Kempford	Holy Communion and Harvest Festival

### Dates for your diary

Morning Prayer continues to take place, via The 5 Villages Facebook page, every weekday at 8 am.

**St Mary's is now open every** day for prayer and reflection. **St Anne's** is open on Fridays for prayer and reflection.

Church Fete planned for Saturday 25 September will not now take place. There may be a small event in the gardens of the Parsonage. Please check Facebook closer to the date for more information.

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September at Whelford and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September Harvest Festival at Kempford we shall be celebrating the Harvest Festival. All food stuffs donated at both services will go to the Food Bank.

Thank you for your continued generous donations to the Food bank. Collection boxes are **in place in the porches at both St Mary's and St Anne's and are emptied regularly.** Items that are particularly in short supply at the moment are: Sweets & chocolate, jam, peanut butter, marmite spreads, breakfast bars, sponge puddings, custard, and longlife large juice cartons.

# Flood Defence

In recent weeks we will have all seen reports of flooding in Europe and whilst we would all hope never to see such volumes of water here we can all do our little bit to try and prevent the worst happening. In the June Newsletter we made **you aware of 'Floodsax' as a way of stopping water entering the home** and they are reasonably inexpensive and can be obtained locally at Travis Perkins (part number 868499).

During heavy rain approximately 600 gallons of water an hour can run from an average roof

An increasing proportion of flood insurance claims are now from surface water flooding, so we should all be aware and contribute to keep our villages as low risk as possible. A leaking gutter will severely increase the surface and groundwater around your home so ensure all seals are maintained and water is guided efficiently into your drain. Regularly inspect and keep your drains free from debris and blockages as excess water will either seep into the ground around your home or run away and contribute to the surface water around the villages. These simple things combined make a tremendous difference to our wellbeing.

On a wider note our local farmers help us so much by cutting drainage channels from the roads making sure surface water finds it way off the tarmac. They use their machinery to keep the ditches around the area clear and free from blockages and this vital work ensures water finds it way safely away from our villages. A big thank you to them.

We will continue to work with our local CDC councillor, Dom Morris , who is trying and get all the road drains cleared before the winter approaches. One of his priorities is flood defence so we will offer him all the support we are able and work with him and other local Parish Councils to share best practice and resources.

Please do your bit to keep us all safe and there is loads of Environment Agency information and advice online, well worth a look.

# Could you be a Community Flood Warden for the Cotswolds?



Residents at risk of flooding in the Cotswolds could soon be getting a helping hand from community flood wardens thanks to a new initiative from Cotswold District Council.

Cotswold District Council is launching a new flood warden scheme with the help of Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC). The scheme will involve recruiting and training volunteer flood wardens from across the district and provide information and advice to householders on flood precautions.

The Flood Warden programme will look to work closely with town and parish councils to recruit and train volunteers across the district, with those areas most prone to flooding targeted first for the scheme.

Flood Wardens act as the eyes and ears of the community. Whether they are out walking their dog, riding a horse or just walking to the shop they can keep an eye out for blocked drains and culverts, tree branches in rivers, and anything else that may cause a flood risk and act as a communication channel between the community and authorities. The Council will provide volunteer wardens with the tools and training necessary to get the job done.

In addition to being community flood watchers, flood wardens are trained to raise awareness of **flooding with residents and promote 'self-help'**. The knowledge of local flood wardens is then used to support the preparation and review of Community Flood/Emergency Plans.

Cotswold District Council is working alongside GRCC to roll the initiative out in advance of the next winter season. Further details will be published on our website over the next few weeks.

**Earlier in the year, over 100 residents attended the 'flooding forum' run by Cotswold District Council** for residents affected by the flooding over the winter with the aim of surfacing issues with the responsible agencies and solving long-standing issues with flooding across the Cotswolds. The Council also wrote to Thames Water in an open letter to try and resolve some of the problems with sewage flooding in Cirencester.

For advice and guidance on flooding, please visit: [cotswold.gov.uk/flooding](http://cotswold.gov.uk/flooding)





**FRIENDS OF FAIRFORD & LECHLADE  
COMMUNITIES**

**(Reg. Charity No: 1180059)**

**YOUR LOCAL CHARITY**

*Serving Fairford, Lechlade and the surrounding villages.*

*(Formerly League of Friends of Fairford Hospital)*

*News and Information from your Community Friends*



**JULY AND AUGUST SUCCESSFUL GARDEN EVENTS**

In July Community Friends were asked to provide tea and cakes at The National Open Garden event at The Old Rectory in Quenington and raised £565 for the Charity. Over 100 people enjoyed the lovely garden on the banks of the River Coln. Our thanks to Lady Abel Smith for her support.

We are also very grateful to Gavin and Caroline MacErchern for their generous support in opening their beautiful garden at Langford Downs Farm for an afternoon in early August in aid of Community Friends. Tremendously lucky with the weather over 55 people enjoyed the surroundings and tea and cake. A total of just over £700 was raised for the Charity. Our thanks to Gavin and Caroline MacErchern.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2-5pm  
CHARITY CRAFT FAIR LECHLADE MEMORIAL HALL**

A whole host of festive stalls for you to enjoy. Light refreshments will be available and a raffle. Charity and Private sellers welcome. For further info please contact Val Harvey [voluntarycarservicelof@gmail.com](mailto:voluntarycarservicelof@gmail.com) or on 07540798226.

**CHARITY SHOP**

**Please note that you can now drop off donations any day the shop is open  
no appointment necessary.**

**Monday Closed All Day: Tuesday-Friday 9.30am-3.45pm: Saturday 9.30am- 1.15pm**

Unfortunately, we have seen a loss of some of our previous volunteers following the pandemic. We are looking to increase our volunteers to ensure we can maintain the friendly customer service and much sought-after facility we provide through our charity shop in Lechlade. If you, or anyone you know could help, please visit the shop, call 01367 252189 or email [Fairford.lof@hotmail.com](mailto:Fairford.lof@hotmail.com)

**COVID-19 COMMUNITY FUNDING SUPPORT – REMAINS OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS**

The Community Friends' Covid-19 Support Fund established to provide financial support to local organisations, charities, volunteer groups, families and individuals who have been impacted by Covid-19 remains open for applications. To date the fund has provided grants exceeding £77,000 to local individuals, organisations and charities. Please refer to our website for details of how to apply and the criteria we use to assess applications ([www.friendsoffairford.org.uk](http://www.friendsoffairford.org.uk)).

**VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED URGENTLY**

Our team of volunteer drivers provide a lifeline to many in our community who need to get to their medical appointments at the GPs and hospitals. With appointments opening again we urgently need more drivers to help with this vital community service. We ask our volunteers to complete a DBS check as this service provides much needed support and assistance to many vulnerable people in the community. Car running costs are paid for.

**If you think you can help, please contact Val Harvey on 07540 798226 or email Val at [voluntarycarservicelof@gmail.com](mailto:voluntarycarservicelof@gmail.com)**

With thanks for all your support. Please refer to our website [www.friendsoffairford.org.uk](http://www.friendsoffairford.org.uk) for more information about the Community Friends

**Graham Hewitt, Chair**

**Friends of Fairford & Lechlade Communities (Reg. Charity No. 1180059)**

# Unmanned Aircraft Flight Restrictions around RAF Fairford

RAF Fairford is experiencing an increasing number of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), or drones, flying within its Flight Restriction Zone.

UAS operators flying drones near any military airfield must ensure they are aware of the UK policy for their safe operation. When you fly a drone in the UK it is your legal responsibility to be aware of the rules that are in place to keep everyone safe. Due to their small size and maneuverability they are hard to spot and identify by pilots of larger, faster moving aircraft. This means they may not see it until they have already hit it, which could cause major damage and potentially loss of life. The Operations and Safety teams at RAF Fairford are committed to providing a safe operating environment and will provide the latest information as it becomes available.

The Drone Code forms part of the Civil Aviation Authority's guidance to drone operators which can be found on the website <https://dronesafe.uk/drone-code/>

The infographic is titled "THE DRONE CODE" and is published by the UK Civil Aviation Authority. It contains eight panels, each with an illustration and a rule:

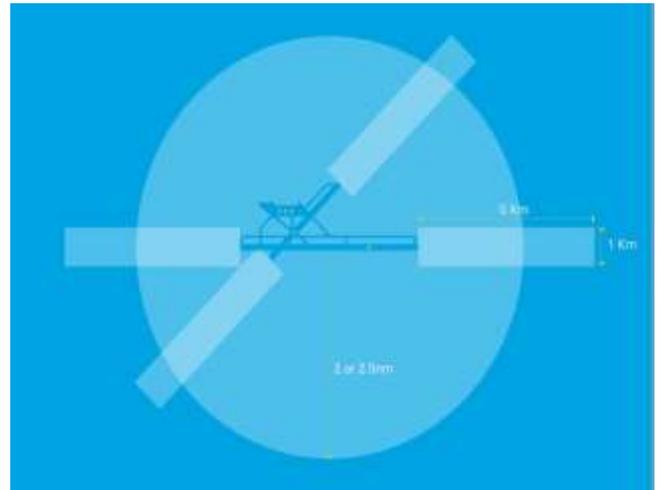
- Panel 1:** Illustration of a person flying a drone. Text: "Always keep your drone or model aircraft in direct sight."
- Panel 2:** Illustration of a drone flying high above a landscape. Text: "Never fly more than 400ft (120m) above the surface and stay well away from aircraft, airports and airfields." (Note: The illustration shows 400ft and 120m, but the text says 120m).
- Panel 3:** Illustration of a red dome representing a 50m radius. Text: "Never fly closer than 50m to people. Even when your drone is more than 50m away from people it is safer to avoid directly overflying them."
- Panel 4:** Illustration of a red dome representing a 50m radius. Text: "Never fly closer than 50m to buildings, cars, trains or boats."
- Panel 5:** Illustration of a red dome representing a 150m radius. Text: "Never fly closer than 150m to a crowd of 1,000 people or more. Never fly directly over a crowd." (Note: The illustration shows 150m and 1,000 people).
- Panel 6:** Illustration of a red dome representing a 150m radius. Text: "Never fly closer than 150m to built-up areas. Never fly directly over a built-up area." (Note: The illustration shows 150m and a built-up area).
- Panel 7:** Illustration of an airport's flight restriction zone. Text: "Never fly in an airport's flight restriction zone. For further info, see: [dronesafe.uk/dronesafe.com](https://dronesafe.uk/dronesafe.com)"
- Panel 8:** Illustration of a red biplane and a drone. Text: "It is illegal to fly a drone or model aircraft between 250g-20kg that does not show a valid operator ID."

At the bottom, it says "THE DRONE CODE" and "The UK Drone Code is published by the Civil Aviation Authority to assist drone users in flying safely." It also includes the "DRONE SAFE" logo and the website [dronesafe.uk](https://dronesafe.uk). The date "October 2019" is also present.

The Drone Code refers to an airfield's Flight Restriction Zone and it is illegal to fly anywhere in this area without permission from the air traffic control unit at the aerodrome.

The permitted 'operating height' is limited to a maximum distance of 400 feet (120 metres) from the closest point of the **earth's surface**.

The Flight Restriction Zone also includes a 2.5 nautical **mile radius "cylinder"** around the airfield, extending 2,000 ft above ground level; a rectangle extending 5km from the threshold of each runway away from the airfield and 500m either side, also to a height of 2,000 ft above ground level; and can be extended across unprotected areas by 1km beyond the airfield boundary.



Further information is available on the drone safe website.

Operations within the Flight Restriction Zone may be permitted, but permission **MUST** be sought from the appropriate authority, which in this case is RAF Fairford Airfield Operations.

The base has a Drone Request Procedure and all enquiries should, in the first instance, be sent to the Community Relations Adviser, Jenny Collyer, at [jennifer.collyer.2.gb@us.af.mil](mailto:jennifer.collyer.2.gb@us.af.mil) / 01285 714965, or the Airfield Operations Chief at [420abs.osa@us.af.mil](mailto:420abs.osa@us.af.mil) / 01285 714820. A minimum of 5 working days is required to process a drone request

If you see any activity which you believe contravenes the Drone Code, or have any safety concerns, please contact the Ministry of Defence Police using the number 01285 714225.

July 2021

## Walk 7: Thames Path and Watery Lane



Distance **5.04mi**      Moving Time **1:39:37**      Pace **19.46/mi**

This month's walk starts from our house. It could have started from The George but just as I am putting my running shoes on an email came in from my literary agent aka the Kempford PC Clerk wondering whether there would be a WOTM for the September Parish News. The George is 108 paces from our back door (never measured on the way back!) so you can add that to the Strave 5.04 miles if you like.

This walk does involve too much road, but you could start from where we started the Thames Path East and the Pentylands Lane walks i.e the first right hand bend after the Thames bridge. To reduce the road content I walked up Ham Lane and then took the 1st right at the 5 way junction. This will take you to the road to Hannington but first you walk alongside a small lake on the right (Pic 1) and cross the route of the old canal. Perhaps one day we will hear the sound of narrowboats chugging along there instead of the screech of the spy plane above me. I can't believe the steps some people take to learn the Walk of the Month route before it is published in the PN. When you emerge at the road turn left and head to Hannington Wick. Pic 2 shows the Thames from the bridge, which many of you will know.



Just after the bridge a “Wide Loads” vehicle appeared followed a few minutes later by a humongous combine harvester. I was by now on the next bridge and the driver motioned for me to cross the road hoping (I assume) that he had less chance of squashing me against the wall on that side. Just after this you turn right onto the Thames Path. Walk through 4-5 fields and look across the river at Kempford church (Pic 3). You will then come to a cottage (Pic 4) and the start of tarmac that would ultimately take you to Castle Eaton. However we need to turn left here down a bridleway and after perhaps 300m follow it around to the left. After a similar distance you will come to a bridge that leads into an arable field - see Pic 5. A heron heard me and flew out of the ditch. Is it just me or do you never see “Mr and Mrs Heron”? The barley didn’t look great which backs up what I had heard on the farming news on Saturday morning. Quite a few years ago my neighbour Pete and I had set a “hash” run ( [www.cvh3.co.uk](http://www.cvh3.co.uk) ) from either the George or the Red Lion, CE. That year the crop had not been sprayed where the path is and the healthy wheat “scythed” our thighs as we tested the route on the Sunday afternoon - knowing that we would have to repeat the pain on the Monday evening with the “athletes”.



At the end of the field carry straight on into Watery Lane (pic 6). This is now a good path and was not too wet even after all the rain on Saturday. I think it was probably on the same hash as above when Watery Lane lived up to its name - shin high water for most of the path. This will bring you out onto the Hannington Lane on the bend by Yew Tree farm. I’m guessing that a lot of you have seen the Watery Lane sign on that bend and wondered where it went.

Sadly there is no easy way back to Kempford to keep the walk around the 5 mile mark so I just walked up the road. At least you get the smoothest bit of tarmac in Gloucestershire (for about 50m!) where the badgers dug up the road.

Richard Caswell





Friends of Fairford and Lechlade  
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## Village Organisations & Useful Contacts

Church Wardens	Elizabeth Emberson	Email:dizzylizzy@sky.com	
	Keith Howlett		01285 712268
Church Choir	Mrs Cathy Stanford		713033
Church Bells	Iris Lewis		810770
Kempsford School	Mr Richard Mendum	(Head Teacher)	810367
Chairman of School Governors	Darren Jeffrey	chair@kempsford.gloucs.sch.uk	810875
Farmors School	Mr Matthew Evans (Head)		712302
Kempsford Village Hall Bookings	Mel Denny	villagehallbookings@kempsford.net	0734 1901986
Whelford Village Hall & bookings	Sue Griffin	374croft@gmail.com	712979
Kempsford Angling Club	Mr J Hussey		810446
Kempsford Brownies	Philippa Griffin	<a href="https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/">https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/</a>	
Cricket	Anthony Axel-Berg		07766222951
Royal British Legion	Mr A Hill		810035
Soldiers, Sailors & Airman's Acc. (SSAFA)	Mr & Mrs A Hill		810035
Scottish & Southern Electricity			0800 072 7282
Thames Water			0800 316 9800
Non-emergency Police Contact			101
NHS 111 Service		(when less urgent than 999)	111
Environment Agency	Floodline—0845 9881188	General Enquiries -	03708 506 506
Bulk Refuse	(phone to book)		01285 623000
Highway Matters & Street Light Faults		highways@gloucestershire.gov.uk	08000 514 514
Kempsford Hand Bell Team (Beaubells)	Iris Lewis		01285 810770
Cotswold District Councillors	Steve Trotter	Steve.trotter@cotswold.gov.uk	07710 405323
	Stephen Andrews	Stephen.andrews@cotswold.gov.uk	01285 719924
Cotswold District Council			623000
Gloucestershire County Council			01452 425000
		Out of hours <u>Social Care issues only</u>	01452 614194
Gloucestershire County Councillor	Mr Dom Morris	Dominic.morris@gloucestershire.gov.uk	07500894702
Constituency MP	Sir Geoffrey Clifton Brown	cliftonbrowng@parliament.uk	01242 514551
Parish Council Clerk (see Parish Council page for Councillors)	Mrs Teresa Griffin	teresagriffin@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	0781 8626158
Newsletter items	Mrs Teresa Griffin	As above	0781 8626158
Kempsford Website		www.kempsford.net	
Kempsford Parish Council Website		www.kempsfordparishcouncil.net	

Kempsford

Online



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