



TELFORD CANOE CLUB WELCOME PACK

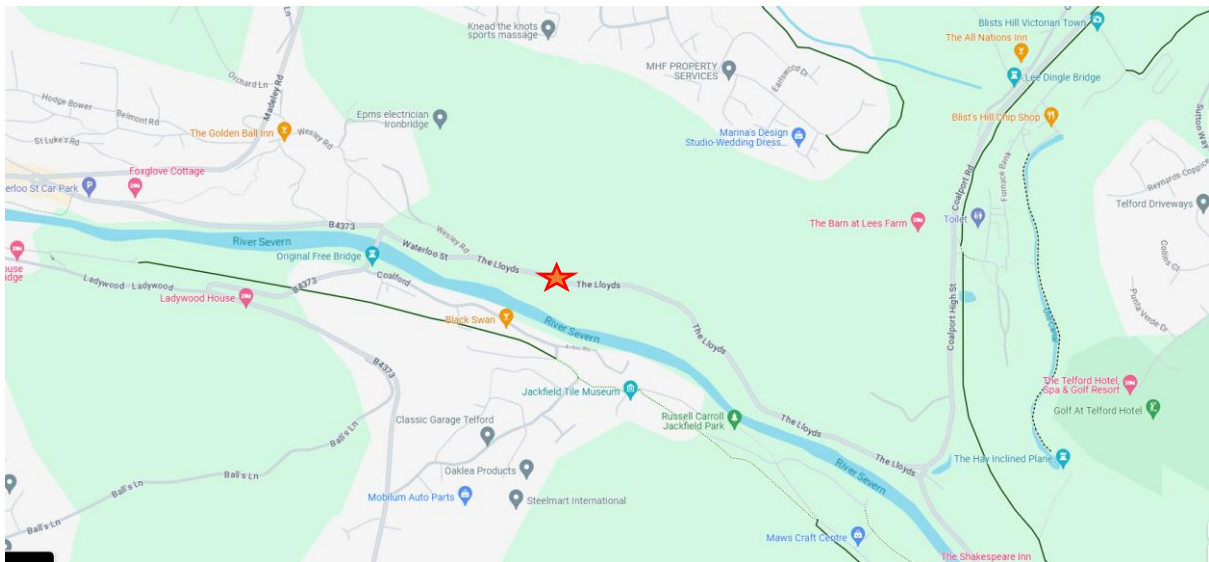
"TELFORD CANOE CLUB is strongly committed to encouraging our members to take part, but the health, wellbeing and safety of each individual is always our paramount concern. We recommend the level/nature of training and activities to be dependent on age and ability, and expect our members to participate within these boundaries."

Please familiarise yourself with all the club policies shown on the club website, specifically to include the Club code of Conduct, and Health and Safety Policy, and Safeguarding policies.

- **How to access the site**

Jackfield Rapids access is via the **club gate and lock** accessed from the Lloyds road.

The Lloyds, Jackfield, Telford TF8 7HJ. <https://what3words.com/boards.submerge.earplugs>



- Members receive the **current gate code** through the club's internal communication channels.
- Always **scramble the code** after entry.
- Keep the gate **closed** to prevent unauthorised access.

- Do not share the gate code with non members: **Failure to abide by this rule will result in cancellation of membership.** Please let the committee know if you believe the code has been shared.
- Parking and toilets are available in the area immediately after the gate. Additional parking is also available further down the track towards the river. Do not take an vehicles past the second picnic table.

What if I haven't received the Gate code

- Check your email again. And recheck. 99% of times the email is there, unnoticed. Many times it is in the spam or junk folder, or has been deleted. It will be from admin@telfordcanoecub.co.uk
- If you still can't find it, admin@telfordcanoecub.co.uk

What if the lock doesn't work

- Try the code again firmly, ensuring he numbers are perfectly aligned.
- Check for **grit, mud, or ice** obstructing the mechanism.
- If still stuck:
 - Contact a **committee member**
 - If urgent (e.g., paddlers waiting), use the **alternate access points** (laybys in each direction along the Lloyds road, and carry boats in)
 - **Do not force** the lock—damage causes costly repairs and access issues.

Club Activities

Weekly Club paddling – Wednesday nights

Weekly club nights typically include:

- Social paddling
- Skills development
- Safety practice
- Opportunities for new paddlers to meet the group

Check the **Events** page for current dates.

Pool Sessions

Winter pool sessions at local leisure centres focus on:

- Rolling practice
- Rescue drills
- Freestyle skills
- Controlled beginner coaching

These sessions are ideal for new paddlers wanting confidence before heading outdoors.

Types of Club Events

Telford Canoe Club runs two broad categories of paddling:

1. Led Sessions

- Run by qualified leaders or coaches
- Suitable for beginners and improvers
- Safety briefings and group management provided
- Follows Paddle UK's **Standards for Deployment**

2. Peer Paddles

- For competent paddlers who can manage themselves
- No formal leader
- Everyone shares responsibility
- You must be able to self-rescue and support others

Club Expectations

- Use appropriate equipment for the conditions.
- Respect the environment and local community.
- Keep the site tidy.
- Follow Paddle UK's and TELFORD CANOE CLUB **Code of Conduct**, and other policies as documented on the website.
- Maintain your **JustGo** membership profile with Telford Canoe Club selected.

What to do in an emergency

Call 999 immediately and request **Fire & Rescue** for water incidents. Then:

- **Alert a committee member** or session leader.
- **Stop activity** and ensure all paddlers are accounted for.
- **Use throwlines** or bank-based assistance only—no unplanned rescues by inexperienced paddlers.
- **Follow Paddle UK's Clubs Standard Operating Procedures** for incident reporting.
- After the incident, complete a **club accident/near-miss form** and notify Paddle UK if required.
- First aid kit and Fire Extinguisher is available in the Toilet Container

Obstructions on site

Common obstructions at Jackfield include:

- Fallen branches
- Debris washed down from upstream
- Fishermen or public at the beach
- Vehicles parked near the gate

If you encounter an obstruction:

- **Do not move heavy or unsafe debris.**
- Report it to the **committee** so they can log it and escalate if needed.
- For river obstructions, follow Paddle UK's **Access & Environment guidance** and submit a hazard report if appropriate.

Unauthorised access

If someone is inside the club area without permission:

- Politely ask if they are aware it is a **private club access point**.
- Do **not** confront aggressively.
- If they refuse to leave or behave suspiciously:
 - Move members away from the area.
 - Contact a **committee member**.
 - If threatening, call **101** (non-emergency police).

Behaviour issues

Behaviour concerns include:

- Unsafe paddling
- Aggressive conduct
- Repeated disregard for safety briefings
- Bullying or harassment

Actions:

- Raise concerns with the **session leader** or **Welfare Officer**.
- Follow Paddle UK's **Club Disciplinary & Complaints Policy**.
- Serious issues may result in suspension from sessions until resolved.

Fishermen at the put-in / beach

Jackfield is a shared space, however no fishing is permitted between the launch point and the beach.

- Approach respectfully and let them know you're launching or landing, and direct them to areas where fishing is permitted
- Avoid paddling directly over lines.
- If conflict arises, remain calm and follow Paddle UK's **Shared Access Guidance**.
- Report repeated issues to the committee so they can liaise with local angling groups.