



## 2020 Canoe Event

Brethren

The MMSA (Middlesex Masonic Sports Association) in association with the 2020 Festival are arranging a new event, which is hoped will become a regular event, to enable us to have fun with friends and at the same time raise money for charity.

This year's event will take place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019 with the canoeists leaving the Cowley and Uxbridge area at 9.00am before canoeing the 11 miles along a very beautiful stretch of the Grand Union canal to Rickmansworth Aquadrome, where the finish line festivities will take place. A BBQ and liquid refreshment will be available for all who attend.

Anyone (Mason or non Mason) can enter as an individual, while any number of canoeists can also participate as a team, covering the stages in relays. There will be various staging points along the route where the handover of the canoes can take place. All entrants for the main event must be over the age of 15.

The Canadian canoes (as pictured above) will be provided by The Bury Lake Young Mariners (BLYM) a registered charity, who will also be providing the life jackets and compulsory training for all entrants. You can sit or **kneel** to paddle these canoes.

We have arranged two days training - Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2019 and Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2019, both between 2 and 4pm at BLYM, located at Rickmansworth Aquadrome.

There is no registration fee for this event, however, all participants will be expected to attend at least one of these training days, if not both. The cost of attending each day is £20. This money will be donated to BLYM as a thank you for all their support.

We have already received about 20 positive replies from Middlesex Masons and friends. Many brethren have also volunteered to help on the day by marshalling and manning staging points. We still need more volunteers to man the locks and assist with the portage of the canoes.

**A lot of effort is being put into this day and there are, at present, only 30 two man Canadian canoes available. Therefore, it is requested that every person who takes part raise as much as they can for the 2020 Festival. Sponsor forms will be available once registered.**

**The money raised can be donated through your lodge or chapter and, therefore, will qualify towards the individuals' or teams' lodge's or chapter's honorifics. It is also hoped that the monies raised will, therefore, benefit from gift aid.**

Anyone interested in taking part as a canoeist or marshal should contact Paul Sully on 0208 429 0670 or email [paulmsully@gmail.com](mailto:paulmsully@gmail.com) to register. Registration and sponsorship forms will then be sent out to the individual or team captain.

Thank you for getting involved and helping the children and families our 2020 Festival is supporting.

***"A man never stands so tall as when he kneels to help a child"***