



THE ROYAL INTERNATIONAL AIR TATTOO

RIAT



RESIDENTS' NEWSLETTER



02

WELCOME

PAUL ATHERTON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE, RAFCTE



Last year's Royal International Air Tattoo was hugely successful yet again. We welcomed 168,000 people and a vast range of aircraft from across the world as we continue to showcase the unique role that aviation and aerospace plays in the world. RIAT24 also saw a landmark moment at RAF Fairford as the RAF Typhoon displayed on a blend of sustainable aviation fuel for the very first time.

Sticking with landmark moments and looking ahead to this summer, some of you will of course already know that 2025 marks 40-years since Air Tattoo first touched down in Gloucestershire.

Over the last four decades we have seen some incredible sights at RAF Fairford, and we hope to keep them coming for many years as we continue to build on our event.

On a personal note, I'd like to inform you that this year will be my last as Chief

Executive as I have taken the decision to retire later this year. This job has been an honour and not without its challenges as we had to navigate two show postponements due to the Covid-19 pandemic, before returning in 2022.

However, I am delighted with the show's growth in recent years and would like to announce that after an extensive recruitment process, our current Finance Director, Gavin Gager, will be taking up the role later this year.

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Atherton'.

 **ROYAL** Charitable Trust
AIR FORCE Enterprises

WELCOME

PHILIP OSBORN
CHAIRMAN, RAFCT



With only a few months to go until the Gloucestershire skies are again full of aircraft from around the world, the charity impact of the Royal Air Force Charitable Trust, RIAT's parent charity, continues upward.

Our work is funded by the profits from the Tattoo and its success, and your continued support, is helping us to become one of the most influential STEM-related charities in the UK.

RIAT continues to power our year-round work to inspire future generations of aviators and engineers, and tech and maths experts, and we are on track to be able to support more than 500,000 young people in STEM every year from 2026.

As you know, inspiring young people has always been at the heart of RIAT and this year is no different. Techno Zone®, our world-class interactive technology experience, will be 25% bigger than in 2024 (and 100% bigger than in 2023). This means that even more young people and their families can get hands-on with cutting-edge tech from leading UK and international aerospace and technology companies.

The Inspire Stage is also back this year at RIAT with an exciting line-up of speakers which already includes TV's Grace Webb and the Red Arrows, and STEM role models from many organisations including the RAF, GCHQ, BAE Systems and Lockheed Martin. The Stage will additionally feature young people who are just starting out in their STEM careers, sharing their passion and letting us into the secrets of working on some of the most innovative and ground-breaking projects in air and space.

We know that the Charity's exciting and important work would not be at all possible without the selfless support of local residents, volunteers and visitors. So, on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of young people we inspire every year, I want to offer you our most sincere thanks for helping us host RIAT, the world's greatest air show!

ROYAL Charitable
AIR FORCE Trust
Inspire

RAFCT ACTIVITY

The Royal Air Force Charitable Trust has the privilege and responsibility of converting the profits from The Royal International Air Tattoo into grants that fund meaningful and transformational Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) opportunities all around the UK, all year round!

HOW DOES STEM LINK INTO RIAT?

STEM explains and shapes the world around us, and enables mankind's ability to push ever greater boundaries of possibility. Mankind's progress is perhaps best symbolised by advances in aviation and space exploration; 66 years is all that separates the first powered flight and the "one giant leap for mankind" moment on the moon. Back here on earth, everything your senses experience at RIAT rely on STEM; flying is a highly technical skill that relies on science and mathematics. Pilots must understand principles like aerodynamics, weather, navigation, and physics while operating an aircraft. As aircraft continue to evolve, engineers and scientists play a critical role in pushing the boundaries of possibility ever further.

Children are passionate about green technologies, and we share this passion to understand how they will shape and enable the future of aviation. This is why our annual schools' competitions like Road to RIAT include sustainable aviation focus, encouraging children to design what an aircraft of the future may look like.



We would love it if your school is local to RIAT and wants to engage in these competitions, especially if seeing aircraft in the sky in July makes them want to find out more. You might also have a young person who is part of the Scouts; they can explore their Air Activities badge, which is supported by RAFCT.

WHAT ELSE DOES RAFCT GET INVOLVED IN?

Flying of course! We have strong links with the Royal Air Force and each year, some junior members are selected to embark on flying scholarships to increase their airmindedness and personal skills. With such a range of professions within the RAF, many don't normally have opportunity to get hands on with an aircraft, RAFCT responded to this by funding flying training through RAF Flying Clubs.

We are also a partner and supporter of the RAF Air Cadets, funding a number of programmes and air, space and sustainability qualifications.

We thank you for your support, without our local community we could not reach so many people, some of whom may be the future engineers that deliver sustainable air travel as standard.

Follow @rafcharitable on social media to keep up to date with what we do.

IN THE AIR, ON THE GROUND ALL AROUND

Eyes in the Skies – This year's theme will see us focus on specialised aircraft used for intelligence, surveillance, maritime patrol, search and rescue, surveying and reconnaissance.

40 years of Air Tattoo at RAF Fairford – Our airshow first touched down at RAF Fairford in 1985 and since then, we have seen an incredible amount of people come and visit the show. To celebrate this anniversary we will have an area on the showground dedicated to celebrating our history here with photos, testimony as well as some aircraft that were also here in 1985.

Techno Zone® - If you or your children are curious about air, space and technology, then the Techno Zone® is the place for you. Boasting a number of interactive tech exhibits from a range of industry leaders, this area aims to inspire the next generation of engineers and aviators. Our Inspire stage is also packed with entertaining and insightful speakers from across the world of aviation and space.

Display Teams – RAF Red Arrows and Freccie Tricolori will both be joining us this year and are always a welcome sight. The Reds are a firm favourite among our visitors, as are the Italian team who are returning after their last visit in 2022. Last year the Red Arrows marked their 60th anniversary with us, and we are pleased to say the 10-jet display team from Italy are joining us as part of their 65th anniversary.



THE ROYAL INTERNATIONAL
AIR TATTOO

RIAT 2025

USEFUL INFO

As usual, the Air Tattoo will conduct aircraft operations from RAF Fairford from 9:00am on Wednesday 16th July through to 6:00pm on Monday 21st July.

Many aircraft will be arriving at RAF Fairford on Wednesday and Thursday in the lead up to the event. There will be a number of scheduled practice displays. These practices are weather permitting and we will aim to restrict the timings at which noisier aircraft operate as we appreciate this can be disruptive.

Residents are advised that on Friday 18th July, during the period 3.00pm to 7.30pm, they may hear a volley of (blank) rifle fire, as part of a ceremonial display. This is an expected occurrence that will occur on three separate occasions – please do not be alarmed. Air Tattoo Live (radio, 87.7FM) will also announce the firing immediately beforehand.

To be as informative and collaborative as possible, we will:

- Publish the timings of any particularly loud aircraft for the following day on the 'Local Community' area of our website
- Take concerns on board. Despite many of you being used to managing this aspect of your lives during the weekend, we recognise this can't always be the case. If you have any serious concerns about specific display items, contact us via the Local Residents' Helpline

Provide free ear plugs to local residents. Residents in Kempsford and Whelford can collect theirs from the Kempsford Village Hall, while those who live in Fairford can find theirs at Fairford Town Council Offices. There will also be some available from our reception at Douglas Bader House



FLYING DETAIL

Ahead of this year's show, we'd like to remind residents that all flying at RIAT is compliant with the UK Ministry of Defence flying regulations. The flying display is overseen by highly experienced Flying Display Directors, who are accredited by the UK Military Aviation Authority. They are supported by the Flying Control Committee, who have countless years of display flying experience, and across the airfield, we have over 350 highly professional volunteers who make up our Air Operations Teams.

In addition to this, we are an active member of the British Air Display Association and European Airshow Council, and we are compliant with all UK regulatory requirements in respect of the organisation and management of public airshows.

Whilst every effort is made to minimise the effect of aircraft noise, it will inevitably be greater during RIAT than during the rest of the year during normal operations.



AIRSHOW TIMINGS

Wednesday 16 July & Thursday 17 July

Flying Operations 9.00am - 7.30pm

Friday 18 July

Flying operations 9.00am - 7.30pm
Flying display 11.00am - 3.00pm

Saturday 19 & Sunday 20 July

Flying operations 9.00am - 7.00pm
Public flying display 10.00am - 5.30pm*

Monday 21 July

Aircraft departures 8.00am - 6.00pm

* Exact duration of the flying display may increase / decrease dependant on aircraft participation.

THE ROYAL INTERNATIONAL AIR TATTOO

TRAFFIC

PLAN & ROUTES

The RIAT Traffic Management Plan has been developed in consultation with relevant police forces and highways departments.

Contracted traffic officers will be deployed at key junctions during the Air Tattoo and the whole traffic operation will be managed from the Event Control established at Fairford.

RIAT and the police request that you DO NOT REPOSITION OR REMOVE TRAFFIC CONES ONCE THEY ARE IN PLACE. Should you need assistance during RIAT25, please call the Local Residents' Helpline, which is now activated on 01285 713000. Your patience and understanding during the period of the Air Tattoo is greatly appreciated. The main approach routes on, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 18th, 19th and 20th are:

RED ROUTE - Bringing traffic from the northeast via Oxford, Burford and Lechlade along the A40, A361, and A417, through Whelford to the Red Car Parks. During the morning, the entire length of Whelford Road (from the Shell Garage to Allotment Corner, Kempsford) will be the subject of a tidal flow 'one way' Temporary Traffic Order, allowing dual flow traffic towards the car parks.

When considered no longer necessary, this restriction will be lifted and two-way traffic reinstated until the commencement of the departure phase. In order to streamline the flow of traffic leaving RIAT, the 'one way' order in Whelford Road will, when required, be reversed. This will be operational from the Red Car Park exit gates to the Shell Garage.

(NB: One-way restrictions **WILL NOT** be in place on the Red Route on Friday July 18th).

BLUE ROUTE - Bringing traffic from the M4 Junction 15 and the South along the A419(T), exiting on to the C124 over-bridge signposted Fairford, and along the C124 towards Kempsford. Vehicles will be



directed to the Blue Car Park along Top Road, Kempsford. The exit route will be reverse of entry, but due to route limitations a significant proportion of vehicles will also be directed to exit via the Purple Route.

BROWN ROUTE - As a 'pressure relief' for the A419(T) east of Swindon, traffic from the West, South West and Bristol direction will be directed off the M4 at Junction 17, north towards Malmesbury and then north-east through the Cotswold Water Park and the Spine Road junction before returning south to re-join either the Green Route via Down Ampney or the Blue Route at the C124 dependent upon inbound flow rates.

GREEN ROUTE - Traffic on the A417(T) dual carriageway will exit at the Burford Road roundabout near Cirencester, to travel briefly on to the A429 before joining the A417 via Cherry Tree Lane. Vehicles will be directed through Meysey Hampton to the Green Car Parks located to the north of Marston Meysey. In order to increase the vehicular flow rate during both 'Entry' and 'Exit' phases, the road between Meysey Hampton 'T' junction and Marston Meysey will be subject to a one-way Temporary Traffic Order'.

To allow for a dual flow of traffic towards the Green Car Parks, no vehicles will be permitted to travel from the village of Marston Meysey towards Fairford during the morning on Saturday 19th July and Sunday 20th July. The Green Triangle/northern end of Marston Meysey village will be manned and barriered to facilitate this. This will be in force from 6am on each day until lifted in the afternoon at around 1pm.

For anyone unfamiliar with the area, the recommended alternate route towards the A417 for Fairford or Cirencester is: leave the village travelling due south to the junction with the C124 turning right towards the A419(T), first right towards Down Ampney

then right again on the outskirts of Down Ampney towards Meysey Hampton and the A417 turning right for Fairford or left for Cirencester as appropriate.

Around 3pm, this one-way system will be reinstated in the reverse direction towards Meysey Hampton at which time traffic from the village will be allowed to join exiting car park traffic.

(NB: One Way restrictions **WILL NOT** be in place on the Green Route on Friday 18th July.

PURPLE ROUTE - This route leaves Swindon on the A361 towards Highworth, then to Kempsford via the 'Freke Arms', Hannington and Hannington Wick. The road between Hannington Wick and Kempsford is closed owing to the serious degradation of the road surface and damaged culverts immediately north of the River Thames. Arrangements are in place, with permission of the Highways Department, to construct bridging infrastructure over the damaged portion of the highway thus retaining the route for Air Tattoo vehicles. The usage of the temporary bridging infrastructure will be restricted to specific Air Tattoo vehicles, displaying the appropriate vehicle pass, during the period 18th to 20th July only. Under the terms of the agreement with the Highways Department, Local residents will not be permitted to utilise the bridging infrastructure.



THE ROYAL INTERNATIONAL AIR TATTOO

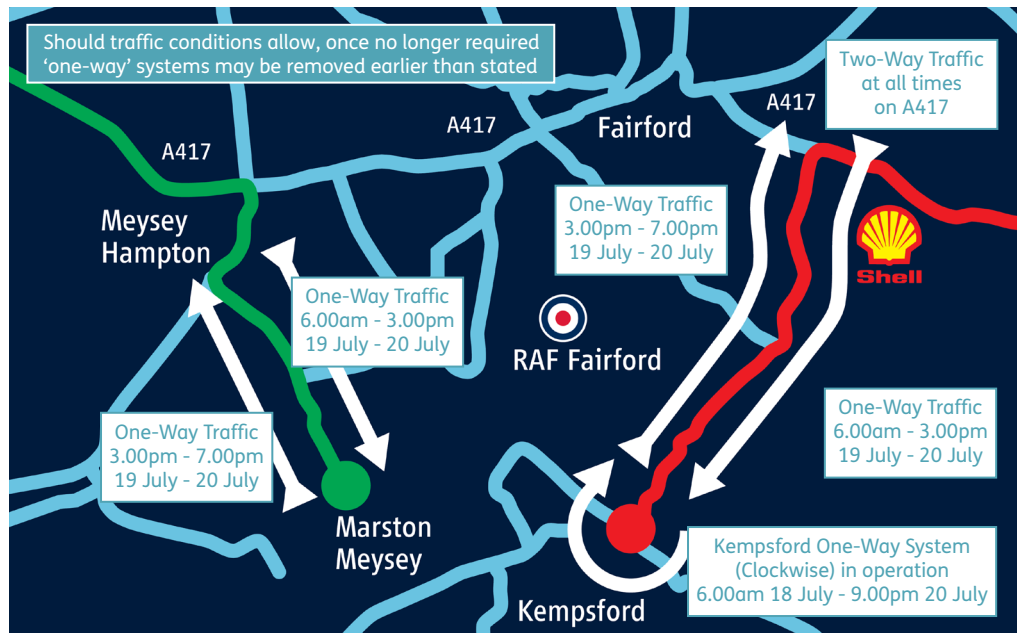
ENTRY AND EXIT PHASE

Subject to the operational requirements of the Traffic Plan, for the purposes of the above instructions, it is anticipated that there will be a period of approximately two hours between the 'Entry Phase' ending and the 'Exit Phase' beginning. During this period, two-way traffic will resume. Whilst road signage will be in place, indicating to motorists the prevailing direction of travel, should residents have any doubt they should contact the Local Residents' Helpline on 01285 713000. It is anticipated that the 'Exit Phase' will commence at around 3pm on Saturday and Sunday, but this will be decided on the basis of 'need'.

ONE-WAY SYSTEMS

KEMPSFORD ONE-WAY SYSTEM

Gloucestershire County Council has, once again, been asked to approve the introduction of a one-way system in Kempsford commencing 6:00am Friday 18th July through to 9:00pm Sunday July 20th. However, it is hoped that, traffic permitting, we will be able to lift this restriction before 9:00pm on Sunday 20th July in order to facilitate the safe departure of large vehicles from the showground and local area. If approved, a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order will create a clockwise flow around the village on Top Road, Chapel Street and High Street. This process will be enforced by accredited traffic officers during 'daylight hours' and by prominent temporary signage at all other times. Experience has shown that the one-way arrangement is a fundamental element in easing congestion that would otherwise occur around the village.



PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Any vehicle parked in contravention of any 'no waiting' restrictions may generate interest from Gloucestershire County Council parking enforcement officers. Any vehicle considered to be causing an obstruction or a danger will, under police powers, be removed. If you encounter any difficulties, please call the Local Residents' Helpline on 01285 713000.

LOCAL RESIDENTS' VEHICLE STICKER

Your local authority should have should have received an allocation of RIAT25 residents' vehicle stickers with this newsletter; a maximum of two stickers will be issued per household.

For the system to work, the stickers must be limited to people living near to RAF Fairford who are directly affected by our traffic routes – please help us to help you in this respect.

Please note that this sticker serves to assist the police and traffic officers in identifying you as a 'local resident'. Whilst this does not confer any specific rights of movement or access; it will allow, where possible, police and traffic officers to facilitate your ease of travel. Please display the sticker prominently in your windscreen to highlight to the police and traffic officers that you are a local resident.

CONTRACTOR & EXHIBITOR MOVEMENTS

As part of the build-up to RIAT25, Gate G on the south side of the airfield, in Kempsford, will be open to contractors on Monday 16th June and will close on Friday 8th August.



THE ROYAL INTERNATIONAL
AIR TATTOO
ONES
TO WATCH

Swedish Black Hawk – Incredibly, a Black Hawk has never featured in the flying display at RIAT and this will be the first time one has been seen in the flying display at a UK airshow since the 1990s.



Portuguese Merlin – Adorned in beautiful camouflage, it will be performing a search and rescue demonstration as part of the RIAT flying display, which will surely be a highlight for aviation enthusiasts.

Battle of Britain Memorial Flight – Returning to the show this year with their Lancaster, Hurricane and Spitfire taking to the skies, we also have their Dakota on static in new colour scheme.



WHERE TO FOLLOW US SOCIAL MEDIA

Over the next few months there will be plenty of updates ahead of this year's show and the best place to catch them, is on our social media channels.

Through these accounts we will be revealing participating aircraft, ticketing updates and much more.

So, to make sure you don't miss out, visit:



x.com/airtattoo



facebook.com/airtattoo



instagram.com/airtattoo



youtube.com/c/RIATOfficial



tiktok.com/@air.tattoo



linkedin.com/company/the-royal-international-air-tattoo

Alternatively, for those who aren't social media users, there is plenty of information available on this year's RIAT and our other activity online at www.airtattoo.com.

SECURITY & COMMUNITY POLICY

Ensuring people can enjoy RIAT25 in a safe and secure atmosphere is hugely important to us and because of this, we are implementing a number of security measures throughout the duration of the airshow.

We will aim for these measures to cause minimal disruption to local residents and their everyday lives and to do this, we need your help. If you see anything concerning, we encourage you to bring it to our attention.

You can do this by calling the police at 101, or if you'd like to remain anonymous, Crimestoppers are available via 0800 555111.

Alternatively, please contact the Local Residents' Helpline on 01285 713000. As always, in the event of an emergency you should telephone 999.

**CALL YOUR
LOCAL POLICE**



101

**IN AN EMERGENCY
ALWAYS CALL 999**

THE ROYAL INTERNATIONAL AIR TATTOO

SUSTAINABILITY

We have made great progress since starting our sustainability journey in 2022, such as including free water stations across the showground, utilising more electric vehicles (EV) in our hire car fleet, providing a free shuttle bus service and increasing the efficiency of our power supply, though this list is not exhaustive.

We are striving to implement positive change both to the operational planning and delivery of the show as well as maximising our sustainable aviation exhibits and initiatives. In 2024, we welcomed the RAF Typhoon which displayed on a Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) blend for the first time, which was achieved by working alongside the RAF as well as our headline sponsor BAE Systems. As well as this, in 2024 the overall total waste removed from the show reduced by 21% from the year previous. These wins highlight the importance of actively engaging with stakeholders and is something we look to build upon this year.

This year we are looking to build upon these initiatives by introducing more sustainable aircraft equipment, making a car-share platform, Liftshare, available to all stakeholders travelling to the event and by installing a greater number of EV charging points for participants across the showground. We continue our commitment to make RIAT a more sustainable event.

To keep updated on all things sustainability at RIAT, please visit the 'Sustainability' area on our website which we regularly update with the latest developments within the event space and wider aviation industry: www.airtattoo.com/sustainability-news.

ENGAGEMENT

As a large event, we acknowledge that we inflict a huge amount of disruption to people who live in and around the local area and as a show of gratitude to the support of local people, we are proud to have offered some support to initiatives in Kempston, which directly benefit local residents.

Kempston Primary School pupils have received support, as we funded a mental health programme they offer to children at the school. This means young people who were attending the sessions received an appropriate level of guidance to help them with any issues they may be experiencing.

As an organisation we are keen to support where we can, so if you have activities you think we'd be interested in hearing about, please contact us via communitymatters@rafcte.com with the subject line of 'Local Engagement'.





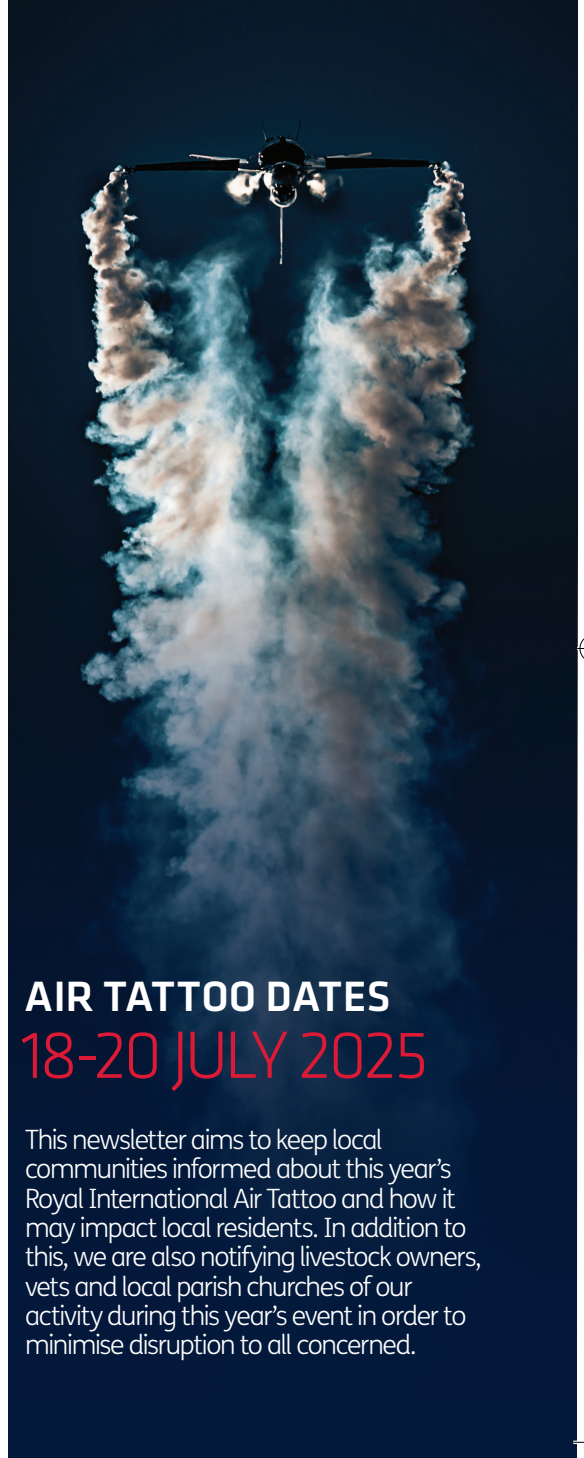
SAFETY INFORMATION DRONES

Flying a drone within RAF Fairford's Flight Restricted Zones is illegal unless permission has been granted by our RIAT Air Traffic Control. Even when the air traffic control tower isn't operational, permission must be granted by us as our restricted airspace is always active.

If you have any safety concerns, see someone preparing to fly a drone, or flying a drone please report it immediately to 01285 714244. (MOD)

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

Should a resident need urgent medical attention, they should contact either the ambulance service or their local GP in the normal way. Plans are in place to ensure a swift response regardless of the air show.



AIR TATTOO DATES 18-20 JULY 2025

This newsletter aims to keep local communities informed about this year's Royal International Air Tattoo and how it may impact local residents. In addition to this, we are also notifying livestock owners, vets and local parish churches of our activity during this year's event in order to minimise disruption to all concerned.



Air Tattoo Live is the Royal International Air Tattoo's very own radio station, which is run by a team of dedicated volunteers on 87.7fm

Broadcasting starts on Friday 19th July and comes to a close on Sunday evening. As last year, the station will feature live commentary of the flying displays, which are due from 11:00am-3:00pm on Friday and between 10:00am-5:30pm on Saturday and Sunday.

For dedications, requests or news call 01285 713300 ext 5140.

ANIMAL SAFETY

The Air Tattoo can be extremely loud at times. Whilst we make every effort to minimise any impact caused by informing residents of our plans, we heavily rely on residents being prepared, especially those with pets and livestock.

If you have opened a new stable or have started keeping livestock since last July, please contact our operations director at: operationsdirector@rafcte.com.

LOCAL RESIDENTS' HELPLINE

A team with excellent airshow and local knowledge will operate our helpline (01285 713000) in the lead up to and during the Air Tattoo. They will be on hand to answer any questions or queries you have regarding the event.

New for this year, the helpline has been activated earlier and will remain active until later in the year. Its operational hours are as follows:

Thursday 22nd May – Friday 11th July
(excluding weekends)
9:00am-5:00pm

Monday 14th July – Thursday 17th July
8:00am-6:00pm

Friday 18th July – Sunday 20th July
7:00am-6:00pm

Monday 21st July -Wednesday 7th August
(excluding weekends)
9:00am-5:00pm

Please be aware that during the event we receive a high number of calls, which can result in a delay before being answered.

Disclaimer: The information in this leaflet is correct as of April 2025. The images used in this leaflet are not an indication of the aircraft or entertainment that will appear at the Air Tattoo. The Royal Air Force Charitable Trust Enterprises as organiser of the Royal International Air Tattoo 2025 reserves the right to vary or cancel any part of the event at any time and cannot be held liable for variations in the content of the event.