

Catapult CLASS ASSOCIATION

National Championships

Royal Yorkshire Yacht Club, Bridlington

26-28 August 2023

The ***Catapult*** fleet is returning to ever-popular Bridlington over the August Bank Holiday weekend for our National Championships. Brid, as the locals call it, is situated at the northern end of a beautiful sweep of golden sand that stretches for miles from Flamborough Head all the way south to the mouth of the Humber. The sailing waters are protected by the Smethwick Bank, giving relatively flat water on which to sail.

Racing programme

We shall be sailing as part of the RYYC's Dinghy Regatta (we shall have a separate start). Registration will be open from 9.30, and the briefing will be at 12.00 on the Saturday. There will be 6 races: two back-to-back at 14.00 on Saturday, three on Sunday (11.00 plus two back-to-back at 14.30) and one on Monday morning at 11.00. One discard will apply when four or more races have been sailed.

The entry fee will be £30. Syd Gage (sydney.gage@gmail.com, 01964 204131 or 07949 851794) is the Association's liaison person for the event, and Joe Franks (07930 860932, joe5329@hotmail.co.uk) is the RYYC's organiser.

Accommodation

Bridlington is an Edwardian resort town, so there is B&B and hotel accommodation galore. A web search for Bridlington accommodation throws up a number of sites like www.bridlington.net or www.bridlington.co.uk.

The RYYC has its own camping field for tents, caravans and motorhomes just behind the clubhouse. Camping is free for race entrants' units over the 3 event days. Syd has provisionally pre-booked 6 pitches, all with electricity hook-ups, for the Wednesday to Monday nights inclusive. Prepayment cards can be bought on site. All camping fees should be paid for at Registration.

Catapult members can book extra camping days, which will be charged at £8 per unit per day. To comply with club camping rules Syd is responsible for Association members on the site, so the extra days are limited to the three days prior to the event (Wed 23rd to Fri 25th), when he and Mo will be camping themselves. The site must be vacated by mid-afternoon on Tuesday 29 August.

If your party includes non-sailing visitors bringing their own units, they will be charged at £12 per unit per day, with no free days.

If you haven't already done so, please let Syd know your camping requirements as soon as possible.

The social side

For early arrivals the Club will be offering *free burgers* (!) on the Friday evening, and the licensed bar will be open, as it will for the Saturday and Sunday evenings as well.

The galley will be open for bacon butty breakfasts and sandwich lunches on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

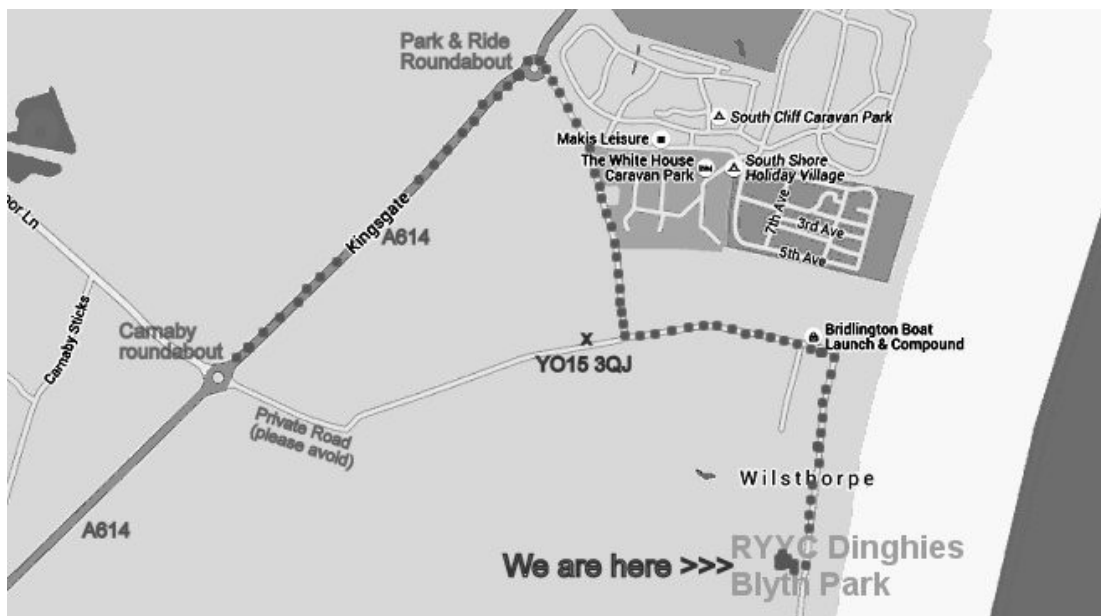
On Saturday evening the club has arranged for a fish and chip van to come to the site. That will cost £10 per head. **Please place your orders with Syd by Tuesday 22 August at the latest.** Be sure to let him know what extras you want like mushy peas, curry sauce, sausages etc.

Following consultation with regular attendees there will be no Sunday fleet meal this year. However, the Club can arrange for a pizza and kebab takeaways to be delivered to the site. Orders should be placed with Joe Franks by Saturday afternoon.

Annual General Meeting

Don't forget that our AGM will be held in the Club at 17.30 on Sunday 27 August. Papers will be sent out beforehand.

How to get there



[Thanks to Syd for the map and co-ordinates]

The club is situated a mile or so south of Bridlington town. The nearest postcode for your SatNav is YO15 3QJ (position shown on the map below). Entering coordinates N 54°03.454, W 0°12.818 is more accurate. Approaching on the A614 from Driffield or York, turn right at the first roundabout in Carnaby, which then takes you to the second Carnaby roundabout (shown on the map) where you turn left onto the A165 Hull to Bridlington road. At the next roundabout (signposted to Park & Ride) turn right, then right again at the next mini roundabout, then left at the T junction. As you approach the sea the road takes you right towards the dinghy park. The entrance to the camping field is on the right directly opposite the slipway entrance. The dotted line on map shows the route.

Local attractions

There is plenty to do for all the family. Bridlington offers all the traditional attractions of a seaside resort. Behind the town lie the relatively undiscovered Yorkshire Wolds, beautiful chalk downs that are gaining increasing fame through the landscapes of East Riding born David Hockney who has forsaken LA for Brid.

The Wolds meet the sea at spectacular Flamborough Head. Just round from the Head is the famous bird sanctuary at Bempton Cliffs, where there are colonies of puffins, gannets, razorbills and guillemots. Nature lovers can also enjoy Hornsea Mere and Spurn Point further down the coast.

The stately homes of Sledmere and Burton Agnes are well worth a visit, as is Castle Howard ('Brideshead') just a bit further afield. Alternatively you can walk the ancient streets of Beverley or York, or visit Hull Old Town which houses the Museums Quarter, where you can see the merchants' houses alongside the River Hull, including that of William Wilberforce. Just a step or two away is the Deep, the largest oceanarium in the world.

Heading north up the coast you come to the classic seaside resort of Scarborough watched over by its historic castle. Beyond that is Whitby, the former whaling port and home port to Captain Cook that is dominated by the atmospheric St Hilda's Abbey and St Mary's church, supposedly the burial place of Count Dracula, a mecca for the Goth community.

Behind Whitby and Scarborough stretches the glorious walking country of the North York Moors National Park. If you are of a lazier disposition, you can view it from the comfort of the North York Moors Steam Railway or the picturesque Esk Valley line. And where the Moors come down to the sea there are more quaint fishing ports like Robin Hood's Bay, Runswick Bay and Staithes (known for its artists colony).

If you would like any more recommendations for what to see and do, Syd will be pleased to help. So get your bags packed and your accommodation booked and head for Yorkshire's promised land!