

Tall Ships Edition

ICOD Raises Concerns over Disabled Parking provision at Tall Ships Event

Despite lengthy discussions and providing advice to Sail Inverclyde since February, ICOD still have concerns about the disabled parking facilities being provided for blue badge holders near the event site.

Whilst 150 spaces are being provided at pottery street, only approximately 20 spaces will be on a tar mac surface. The remaining 130 spaces are on a stone chipping surface, which may not be suitable or safe for disabled people to negotiate.

Johanna Stewart, vice chairperson of ICOD said:

“This stone-chipped surface may prove a great difficulty for disabled

people and their carers to use. Wheelchair users and people with other mobility impairments could find it very difficult or impossible to push or walk over, and may risk falling or damaging their mobility equipment. Over 8,000 spaces are being provided at the park and ride facilities at IBM (Greenock) and at Bishopton, it is really disappointing that only 20 spaces for disabled visitors will be provided on a suitable surface near the event.”

Elizabeth Grant, Company Secretary with ICOD said:

“We have been discussing access issues with Sail Inverclyde over the past 4 months, and we are extremely disappointed that they are unable to

provide better parking facilities for disabled visitors. We are concerned that many disabled people will be let-down and angry, after paying the £10 fee for their parking, to find that the car park surface is unsuitable for their needs. The last thing we want is local disabled people, their family and carers, or those from further afield, leaving with a negative experience of the event, and Inverclyde in general.”

ICOD would advise anyone booking the disabled parking to bear this information in mind when making their travel choices, and on arrival let the event staff know if you require parking on the tar mac surface.

See inside for more information...

See inside for Access Information and ICOD Scooter provision at the event

Tall Ships Scooter Provision

We will be providing mobility equipment for use at the Tall Ships event.

When?

Saturday 9th July, 12pm – 6pm

Sunday 10th July, 12pm – 6pm

Monday 11th July, 12pm – 6pm

Where?

Our scooter stall will be located near the Clyde View Business Centre (and designated disabled parking), accessed at the southern end of Pottery Street (PA15 2UH), adjacent to the new Clyde View Business Centre.

What?

We will be providing electric scooters and power chairs, manual wheelchairs and walkers/rollators.

How much?

A hire fee of £5 will be charged to all equipment users, including existing members if using equipment from the event stall.

Registration

All users (including existing members) will be required to complete a registration form, and also bring 2 forms of identification, this should be:

ID with a photograph or signature (e.g. bank card, blue badge, driving licence)

and

ID with current address (e.g. utility bill, driving licence).

Booking

We will be making some equipment available for pre-booking. This can be done by contacting Shopmobility on **01475 732600**, email: **shopmobility@icod.org.uk** or textphone/minicom (for Deaf and Hard of Hearing service users) **01475 732995**

To check if equipment is available each day, call the Shopmobility stand

on: **07760 461146** or **07826 222489**

Event Programme in Braille

ICOD, in conjunction with Inverclyde Libraries, are providing copies of the event programme in Braille. Copies are available on request from the ICOD Offices by telephoning **01475 732700**, email:

enquiries@icod.org.uk

A limited number of Braille programmes will also be available from our Scooter Stall at Pottery Street, PA15 2UH, adjacent to the new Clyde View Business Centre on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Parade of Sail - Tuesday 12th July

The main event on Tuesday will be the Parade of Sail and fly-past by the Red Arrows at Greenock Esplanade. Why not book a scooter from the ICOD offices at 10 Clyde Square and pop down to the Esplanade to enjoy the event. Scooters will be available from 10am, we recommend booking to avoid disappointment!

Accessible port-a-loos will be provided on the Esplanade for the Parade of Sail

More information about the event can be found at the Tall Ships Website:

www.tallshipsracesgreenock.com

Parking Provision for Blue Badge Holders

As detailed on our front page, there is parking available for blue badge holders near the event site (Pottery Street (South) side i.e. next to Clyde View Business Centre, PA15 2UH.

The charge for this is £10 per day and can be booked online at: <http://www.mytownhomepage.co.uk/inverclyde/daily-deals-109.html>

Your Blue Badge Serial is required to gain access to the car park. Please note that the Blue Badge Holder MUST be in the car when it is being parked.

ICOD have prepared the following access statement for Sail Inverclyde regarding the parking surfaces, and you should consider this before booking:

“Sail Inverclyde is providing 150 parking spaces for blue badge holders adjacent to the event site. Approximately 20 of these are on a tarmac surface, however the remaining 150 spaces are on a rolled stone-chipped surface. The stone-chipped surface may not be suitable for some disabled people. Where possible we will allocate spaces on the tarmac surface according to visitor requirements, however dependent on demand this may not always be possible.”

Alternatively there is a park and ride facility at IBM on the Inverkip Road (A78) (Cost £15) with regular shuttle buses from the site. The majority of the shuttle buses from the park-and-ride will be accessible with space for wheelchair users. You can book the park and ride facility at the same web address provided above.

Surfaces around the event site

The event site is also a working dock area, and Sail Inverclyde have been working to improve surfaces where possible, however some areas may be cobbled or have a loose surface. Those with mobility impairments or wheelchair/scooter users should take particular care when negotiating such areas.

Event Seating

There will be benches provided around the site for people to stop and have a rest. Alternatively you can hire one of our Rollators/Walkers (see page 2) which have a built in seat for when you need a breather!

Event Toilets

Port-a-loo facilities will be provided across the site, with some of these being accessible units.

Shopmobility Opening Hours

Our Shopmobility Service at 10 Clyde Square will be open as usual at the times below. We will however have a reduced range of equipment available on Saturday and Monday, so we recommend booking if possible.

Saturday 9th July 10am-4pm, **Sunday 10th July Closed**,
Monday 11th July 10am - 4pm

Getting to the Event from Greenock Town Centre

Members of our Access & Awareness group have been out on their scooters to check access from Greenock Town Centre to the event site, and recommend the following route for scooter and wheelchair users:

- From the town centre, go along Cathcart Street and proceed to the Traffic Lights adjacent to Morrisons or the traffic junction at Morrisons

Petrol Station

-Cross safely at either sets of traffic lights to the "river side" of the dual carriageway.

- Keep on the "river side" of the dual carriageway, past T Mobile (roundabout here) and the RBS Mortgage Centre.

-Continue along to the second Roundabout (Misco & MacDonalds)

- From the roundabout here you can take the second exit at the roundabout past

the Premier Inn and Point Bar/Restaurant and follow the road along to the event entrance.

-Alternatively you can take the 3rd exit at the roundabout and follow the dual carriageway along to the Main Event entrance at the James Watt Dock.

Please make sure that you take particular care crossing road junctions, particularly where there are no traffic light pedestrian crossings, and at the roundabout junctions!

Travelling by Rail & Bus

Port Glasgow Station

There is level access to both Platforms at Port Glasgow Station. This is the designated accessible station for the Tall Ships event.

Bogston

There is no "step-free" access at Bogston Station.

Carttsyke

There is no "step-free" access at Carttsyke Station.

Greenock Central

There is ramped/level access to both platforms at Greenock Central

(Station information from First Scotrail website)

To arrange assistance for your train journey call First Scotrail on **0800 912 2901**. Deaf or Hard of Hearing Visitors with Minicomms should precede this number with **18001 using typetalk**.

Buses - We understand that additional bus services will be operating during the event

**LinkAbility is Published by Inverclyde Council on Disability Ltd, 10 Clyde Square, Greenock
Tel: 01475 732700 TextPhone: 01475 732995 Fax: 01475 791622
email: enquiries@icod.org.uk**

Although Inverclyde Council on Disability Ltd makes every effort to ensure that all details within this publication are correct, we can accept no liability for any errors or omissions which may be contained within these pages. If you spot any errors, or would like to contribute to linkability please contact us at the numbers above. We also supply Linkability in other formats such as audio tape and large print. If you would prefer a copy in a different format or language please contact us.


Inverclyde Council on Disability

is supported by


Inverclyde
council

LLOYDS TSB

FOUNDATIONS


LOTTERY FUNDED