

Parking:

Please read this carefully – even if you have been to Bedford events before!

We have had to battle hard to be allowed to use Council-owned land for parking of trailers and towing vehicles on Longholme Island. As you can appreciate, without this facility it would be virtually impossible to run the event.

With a large entry, Longholme Island (where trailers usually park for head races and other regattas in the town) will only be available for trailers and towing vehicles. All other vehicles must use the fairground site, mentioned on some older maps as a park & ride car park.

ALL VEHICLES are advised to avoid Bedford's notorious Saturday traffic by accessing the area via the **A421 Bedford by-pass** and take the **A603** turn into town (near the 'Cardington' text on the map overleaf). Take the Cardington Road into town, past the Barns Hotel, the pyramid-shaped swimming pool and Tesco, **filter into the right hand lane** after the Tesco roundabout for the A5140 signposted towards Cambridge.

Towing vehicles should take the fourth exit, the A5140 Longholme Way, cross the river, take the first left into the embankment then immediately left again over the white bridge onto Longholme Island.

All other vehicles – including minibuses – should take the third exit from the roundabout, bear right up the ramp and park in the large area available. This site is next to the river. After parking, the regatta can easily be reached by crossing the footbridge over the river.

Buses/coaches have parked on this site in previous years – it is obviously for the driver to assess if their vehicle can negotiate the ramp.

No vehicles are allowed to park on the grass between the Embankment and the river. Boats can be left on trestles here, but if you want to get trailers here then arrive early as it will get busy early on.

Crews arriving on Friday need to make arrangements for entry with Gavin Dods, Regatta secretary on 07721 622729, as the island has a locking barrier post. **We do not recommend that you leave trailers anywhere near the riverside on Friday night, though appreciate that in cases this is the only way you can manage logistics. We take no responsibility for losses or damage occurring due the locals having a bit of fun with your equipment.** Clubs must wheel clamp their trailer to prevent the locals shoving it into the river.

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE look after our river environment; the Council WILL be inspecting the site before, during and after the day and we may never be allowed to use the site again if damage is caused. The Council has stated that they will use the civil powers in their possession to take action against vehicles parked on the grass verge of the Embankment or any vehicle/person causing damage to the site. They can do this – it's their land and they have plenty of Parking Attendants and Parks Marshals at their disposal. ***Please be warned!!!***