

OGA RBC Skippers Pack for Blyth

The North East Old Gaffers Association, NEOGA, and the Royal Northumberland Yacht Club, RNYC, welcome crews who are taking part in the OGA RBC celebrations to Blyth and we hope you enjoy your stay with us. The Blyth Schedule of Events is on the NE OGA OGA60 RBC website:

https://www.oga.org.uk/oga60/rbc60_events.html

The information in this pack is to help you during your stay in Blyth. NEOGA members will be available to help with any queries you may have. The party Port Venue is:

Royal Northumberland Yacht Club
South Harbour
Blyth NE24 3PB
01670 353636

Please contact Des O'Meara on 07917 137 965 on his WhatsApp or Roger Vaughan on VHF Ch 80 an hour or so before your arrival so the Berthing Master can allocate you a berth.

Berths cost £2.50 per metre, minimum £17 for 24 hours and can be paid for electronically as you arrive on the pontoon.

Port of Blyth

Prior to entry into the channel all vessels must call in to Port control on Channel 12

Hazards: Commercial shipping, drying rocks in approach from N, small wind turbine farm (5) just offshore.

Harbour Master recommends using Port of Blyth Tide Tables 2023

You **must** have this year's digital chart for this particular coast as the buoyage and lights are constantly changing. If you purchase the latest UKHO chart be sure to apply any script amendments which accompany it. The leading lights are being changed.

Any approach from the North is complicated by rocky patches projecting seawards from the east Pier, The Sow and The Pigs. It is necessary to maintain at least half a mile's offing to clear these and even at high water it is not safe to attempt to cross them.

Blyth Harbour has deep water and is easy to enter in all conditions except in very strong winds from the east and south-east. In common with most of the other harbours along this coast strong offshore winds kick up breaking seas in the close approaches, making entry dangerous for small craft.

The Harbour masters office number is 01670 357020

Sailing within the harbour is forbidden once past the entrance to the South Harbour on your port hand side. A foray deeper into the harbour will have to be made under

engine. Visiting craft will make straight for the visitor's pontoon at the Royal Northumberland Yacht Club entrance on the port side of the South harbour. When commencing your turn into the South Harbour do it from the starboard side of the main channel and leave enough room for vessels exiting. The website for RNYC is

<http://www.rnyc.org.uk/>

(visitmyharbour.com)

Local boatyards and chandlers

Chandlers open on Saturday are:

PA Lynch Ltd
The Captain's Locker
Coopies Way, Morpeth, NE61 6JT
01670 512291

Storror Marine
181-183 Coast Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE7 7RR
0191 266 1037

In addition, Hugo McGowan a local engineer, has offered to assist with engine and rigging problems. Please contact him on WhatsApp with a description of the problem and with photo, if possible, on 07708 062 950.

Getting around – Information for Crew Changes

Travel around Blyth will be provided by NEOGA with a minibus and cars. Please advise us if you need help with crew changes who should arrive at **Morpeth** station (Newcastle station is a nightmare to get to from Blyth).

Arriva Bus service no. 2 runs between Blyth and Morpeth, where trains can be taken south to Newcastle and beyond, and Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Amongst the taxis operating in the area:

Call a Car, 01670 540300
Phoenix Taxis & Minicoaches, 01670 540222
Diamond Private Hire, 01670 353535
Blue Line Taxis, 01670 355900

More taxi firms can be found online.

Local facilities

All the facilities of RNYC are available to visiting crews i.e. toilets, showers, rubbish disposal, food and bar. The facilities in Blyth are a good walk away.

Groceries: Premier Wensleydale Convenience Store, 19 Wensleydale Terrace,
01670 351640

open 7 days a week 6.30 – 22.30
Morrisons, Regent St, Blyth, NE24 1ES, 01670 361688,
deliveroo.co.uk
Aldi, Cowpen Road, Blyth, NE24 5EZ, 0800 0420800
Asda, Cowpen Road, Blyth, NE24 4LZ, 01670 719356
Lidl, Cowpen Road, Blyth, NE24 5SU, 0800 9777766

Launderette: Broadway Circle Launderette and Dry Cleaners, staffed 01670 354778

Hotel: The Commissioner's Quay Inn, Blyth Quayside, 01670 601707

Restaurants: Asmara Indian, 1 Freehold Street, Blyth 01670797454
The Commissioner's Quay Inn, 01670 601 707
Coastline Fish and Chips Restaurant and Takeaway, Links Rd Blyth,
01670 797428 (closes at 7pm Friday, Saturday 6pm Sunday)
Sambuca Indian, 62 Waterloo Road, 01670 365369

Pubs: RNYC Bar
Blyth and Tyne, 38 Regent Street
The Commissioner's Quay Inn, Quay Road
South Beach pub and restaurant
The Masons Arms, Plessey Road
The Wallaw, 14 Union Street

Blyth

The port of Blyth dates from the 12th century, but the development of the modern town only began in the first quarter of the 18th century. The main industries which helped the town prosper were coal mining and export, shipbuilding (including the UK's first aircraft carrier, HMS Ark Royal), with the salt trade, fishing and the railways also playing an important role. These industries have largely vanished, but the port still thrives, receiving alumina, bulk wood chip, paper and pulp for the newspaper industries of England and Scotland. The town has been regenerated since the early 1990s with the Keel Row shopping centre and redevelopment of the marketplace. The Quayside has also seen much redevelopment and has been transformed into a peaceful open space. There is an Offshore Windfarm, offshore supply base and the Catapult R&D centre specialising in renewable energy.

Emergency Services

Defibrillators at RYNC and the Blyth Tall Ship Project (BTS)

999 or 112 for Police, Fire, Ambulance and Coast Guard.

111 for urgent non-emergency health advice.

European Union citizens can receive necessary healthcare in the UK on presentation of an EHIC card.

A&E: Northumberland Emergency Specialist Care Hospital, Northumbria Way,
Cramlington NE23 6NZ, 0344 811 8111

Pharmacy: Boots Pharmacy, 60-62 Maddison St, Blyth NE24 1EY, 01670 546092