

Coblegram



The Coble and Keelboat Society

The North East and Yorkshire Coast Maritime Heritage

SPECIAL EDITION

Bridlington Sailing Coble Festival

13th – 14th August 2016



The Coble and Keelboat Society have over the years held sailing meetings which have given opportunities for members to enjoy time aboard sailing cobsles and at the same time demonstrate to the public the beauty and utility of these craft. In 1990 members were invited to sail in *Gratitude* in Whitby Harbour. Later the same year at *Bridlington Three Brothers and Kate & Violet* offered a similar opportunity. In June 1994 *Gratitude*, *Venus Providence* and *Christina* along with several other variant boats were on display at a coble 'gathering' at Hartlepool. 1996 saw a further 'gathering' at Hartlepool, with *Viking* under sail again and the late Dr Dave Kipling's foy coble '*Joan*' and Dave Carrick's *Elizabeth J* in the Jackson Dock. **There is now a chance to relive the great days of the sailing coble at the Bridlington Sailing Coble Festival**



Details of the event to date:-

Organised by the Bridlington Sailing Coble Preservation Society and The Coble and Keelboat Society, in co-operation with the Bridlington Harbour Commissioners and proudly sponsored by the Independent Shellfishermen's Co-operative (Bridlington) Limited, the Festival will bring together the largest gathering of sailing cobsles anywhere in the British Isles in recent years.

As the tides are favourable over the weekend, high water being 1331hrs on the Saturday, sailing will take place on both days of the Festival - weather permitting - and advantage taken of the ideal sailing conditions in the beautiful Bridlington Bay.

The four locally based sailing cobsles regularly moored in Bridlington harbour during the summer months; *Three Brothers*, *Imperialist*, *Madeleine Isabella*, *Gratitude*; will be joined by the two new cobsles; *Free Spirit*, and *Misnomer*; built by John Clarkson and Joe Gelsthorpe in 2014. In addition *Christina* from Mevagissey and *Grace* from Staithes have been confirmed as attending. Three further coble owners have also expressed interest in bringing their craft to Bridlington and confirmation is expected within the next few weeks. There is a possibility that the North East Maritime Trust may attend with the coble *Royal Diadem II* and one of the 40foot restored seine net keelboats, which would be an added attraction.

All the cobsles will be moored alongside the Harbour Road down by the Harbour Heritage Museum, which of course will be open to visitors with free admission as usual, and will be on full view from one of the busiest areas for visitors around the harbour. The Independent Shellfishermen's Co-operative (Bridlington) Limited have very kindly agreed to print the posters to promote the event and these will be distributed to various shops, hostleries, information centres in the weeks leading up to the Festival.

Hopefully there will be a good turn-out of traditional inshore craft for coblemen, enthusiasts and visitors alike to view. There has been a good response to the Festival from the coblemen and fishermen right along the coast, even though they may not have a sailing coble to bring down to Bridlington, many have spoken about travelling to the resort to savour the atmosphere and nostalgia of seeing so many sailing cobsles in one place.

Obviously, there is still time for any sailing coble owner who would like to be part of this spectacular event to make it known to the organisers and come along to Bridlington. It has the makings of a fantastic weekend.

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