

**WELCOME
TO LONDON
AND THE**



**Royal Thames
Cumberland Cup**

London. Home to Britain's Royal Family, national art collections, museums, a host of major attractions – and the oldest yacht club in the Kingdom. London's rich history, striking architecture and over 200 museums offer a unique cultural experience. Add to that the spur of a high-level two-boat team race competition in J80 keelboats, a wealth of international competitors and a social programme that includes a Royal reception (literally), accommodation in the fashionable West End, informal drinks, a formal dinner and still leaves time to enjoy the capital's special attractions and the 2010 Royal Thames Cumberland Cup international inter-club team racing challenge is not one to turn down.

Take the opportunity of the yacht racing to give yourself the perfect excuse to visit London in the Merry Month of May and stay a day or two longer.

The Royal Thames Yacht Club

The Royal Thames Yacht Club is the oldest sailing club in the United Kingdom. Our members participate in a wide range of sailing events in home waters and worldwide. At the same time our unique London clubhouse provides a focal point for the yachting world.



The elegant Clubhouse is located in Knightsbridge in Central London, right opposite Harvey Nichols famous department store and just a five minute walk from Harrods and London's theatre land.



The Clubhouse backs onto Hyde Park, one of London's finest historic landscapes covering 350 acres. There is something for everyone in Hyde Park with over 4,000 trees, a boating lake, a meadow, horse rides and more. It is easy to forget you



are in the centre of London.

Social Events and Event Programme

While all the sailing will take place at our London base on Queen Mary reservoir, hard by Heathrow airport in west Greater London, the social epicentre of the Cumberland Challenge will be our Clubhouse in Knightsbridge. Competitors and supporters will naturally be welcome at all times in the clubhouse, and we hope you will make yourselves at home. Registration will take place on Wednesday in the Club's Library, followed at 1900 by a Skippers' Briefing in the model room, which houses one of the world's most significant collection of yacht half-models, tracing the evolution of yacht design from the mid-Nineteenth century through to the present day. Following the Briefing there will be a welcome reception and buffet supper. The Regatta Reception in St James's Palace is on Thursday evening, Friday leaves you free to enjoy the attractions of London and the Regatta Dinner is on Saturday. Throughout the week the Clubhouse will be open for dinner and lunch for those not involved in the sailing.



Each visiting team will be allocated a Team Host who will be able to liaise, advise and present a friendly face and ready source of information on all aspects of the event, as well as helping organise day activities for non-sailing team members.

(left) Royal Thames YC's Commodore His Royal Highness Prince Andrew, Duke of York, welcomes competitors and supporters at the 2008 Royal Thames Cumberland Cup to the Regatta Reception in St James's Palace. In 2010 HRH Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, will be our host.

Accommodation

We have some 30 bedrooms available in the Clubhouse itself, from pleasant 3-star en-suite double bedrooms overlooking Hyde Park to smart single-occupancy cabins in which Cumberland Cup competitors may stay at the same rates as our own members. In addition the Clubhouse is convenient to a wide variety of hotels.



Transport

London is a city well-supplied with public transport and taxis – and not a venue where one would recommend hiring a car. Knightsbridge is about 40 minutes from the Queen Mary and on racing days we plan to have transport between the two venues. However the Clubhouse is adjacent to Knightsbridge Underground Station which is on the Piccadilly Line and has excellent links to other places of interest. Transport around London is very simple on buses, the underground – famous world-wide as The Tube - and by taxi. London Transport operates a prepaid 'Oyster' travel card, without doubt now the most popular way for Londoners themselves to get around the city, which can be bought from underground stations, newsagents and local stores at a cost of £5 and can be loaded with any amount from £5 to £90. These cards are swiped in and out at the entrance and exit to each station or as you get on a bus and the cost of the journey deducted from the card.

The Cost

Each J80 carries a crew of four including helmsman so for the eight sailors of the team the event entry fee of £2,000 works out at just £250 per person. This includes:

- four days of top-level international sailing competition;
- the Welcome Party and opening supper;
- the Reception at St James's Palace;
- the Regatta Dinner at 60 Knightsbridge;
- the Prize-giving BBQ and party at Queen Mary.

For more information on the Royal Thames Cumberland Cup 2010 and an application to enter, contact Malcolm McKeag, Chief Sailing Officer, Royal Thames Yacht Club, 60 Knightsbridge, LONDON SW1X 7LF. Direct phone +44 207201 6265 email sailing@royalthames.com