

Accessibility and Scottish Coastal Rowing



St Andrews Coastal Rowing Club, East Sands Beach
Woodburn Place, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 8LA

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Venue Description

Amateur Scottish Coastal Rowing Club with beach, harbour slip way and pontoon launch. Two St Ayles and one Wemyss skiff.

Accessibility

We are located beside a children's play park at East Sands beach adjacent to the public and accessible toilet which is accessible with a radar key. The boats are stored on a grass covered quay along a gravel path. There are two blue badge parking bays 50 metres away. Pontoon access is within the historic St Andrews harbour and is accessed down a ramp onto the pontoons and is suitable for wheelchair users. A crew lift hoist is located on the north section of the pontoons. The incline of the ramp can vary depending upon the tide height. There are no dedicated blue badge parking bays within the harbour precinct.

About us

We are an amateur sports club made up of volunteers from varying walks of life and have modified our skiffs to accommodate adaptive rowers many of whom have gone on to become club members.

Wheelchair access is limited to approximately two hours either side of high tide and is via pontoons. A crew lift hoist is available if required and the skiff has an adapted seat in the bow position. Alternative harbour access is via a mud slipway or a concrete slipway similarly tide dependent and is not suitable for wheelchairs. A beach launch can take place at any point in the tide and is surf / sea conditions dependent. The distance walked on sand will vary on the tide height from 20 – 200 meters.

We endeavour to adapt equipment to suit the needs of individual rowers in consultation with them. All our work is with wood, building oar, boats and associated accessories by hand.

Location

On public transport, our nearest railway station is Leuchars which is located 15 minutes away by car and is well served by a regular bus service or taxi into St Andrews. The bus station is located on City Road as is a 5-minute drive to the beach.

By car, access to the harbour (pontoons) from the north through St Andrews along the A917 turn left onto The Shore, the harbour is at the end of this road approximately 500 meters.



Harbour access from the south along the A917.
Turn left

Harbour access from the south along the A917. Turn right



The shore with pontoons on the left



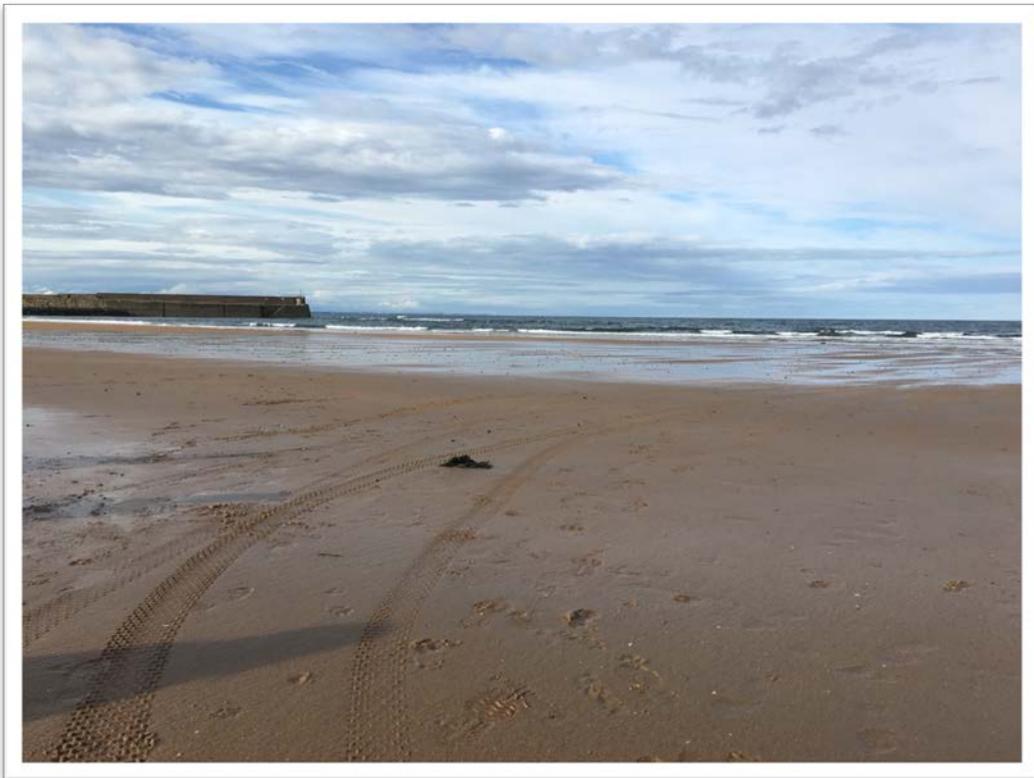
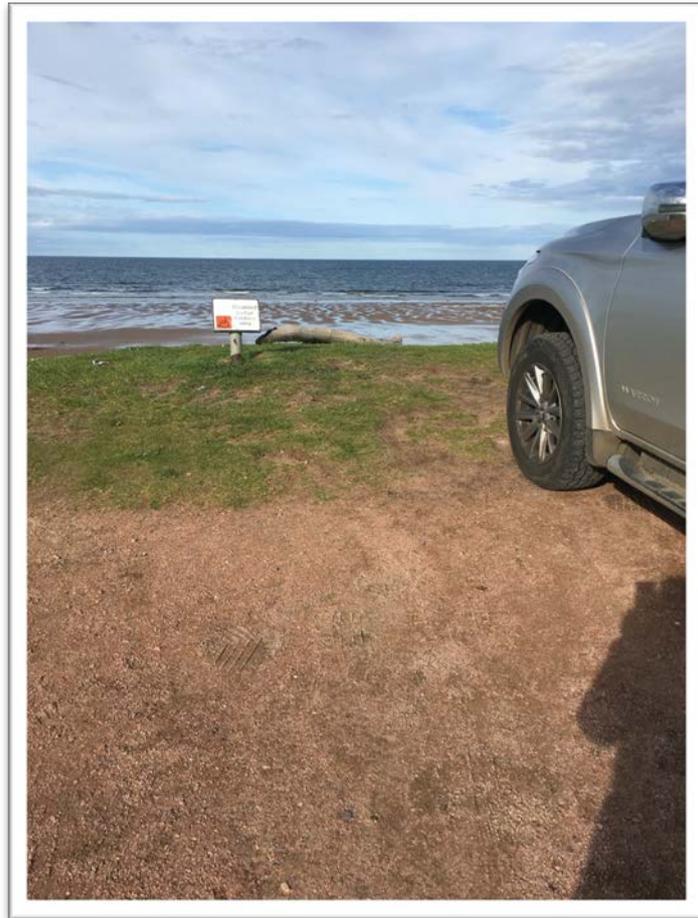
Access to East Sands beach from the north through St Andrews,
turn left onto Woodburn Place



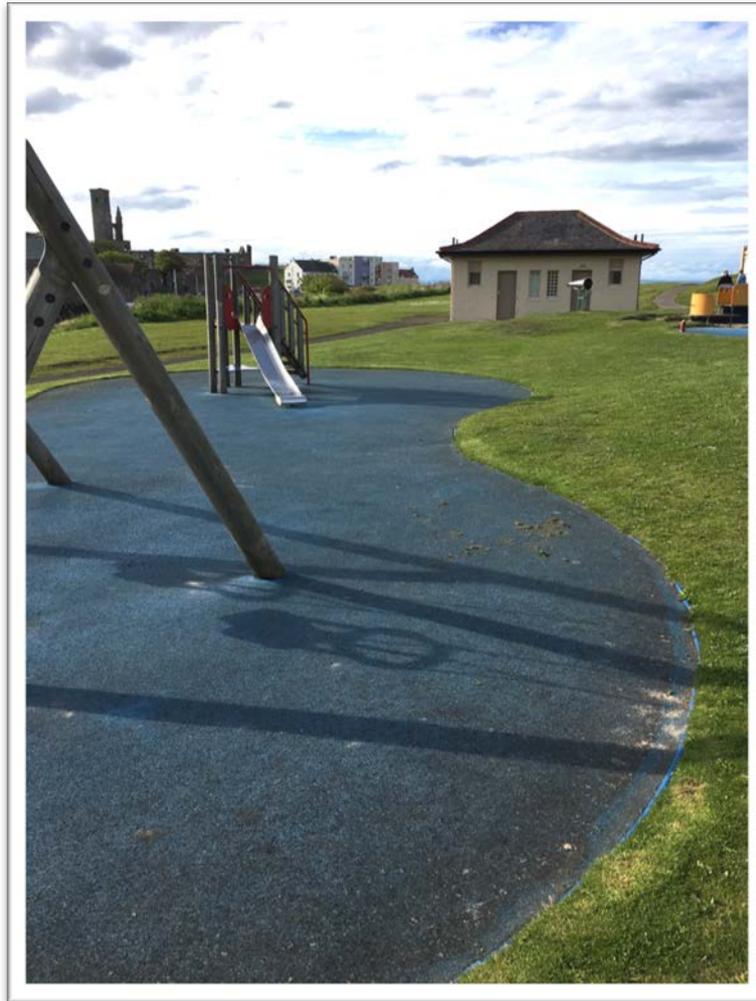
Continue along Woodburn Place for 200 meters past the Sailing Club, the beach is straight ahead, two blue badge parking spaces are in the carpark to the right overlooking the beach.
If the blue badge parking is either full or unsuitable, we can organise an alternative by arrangement.



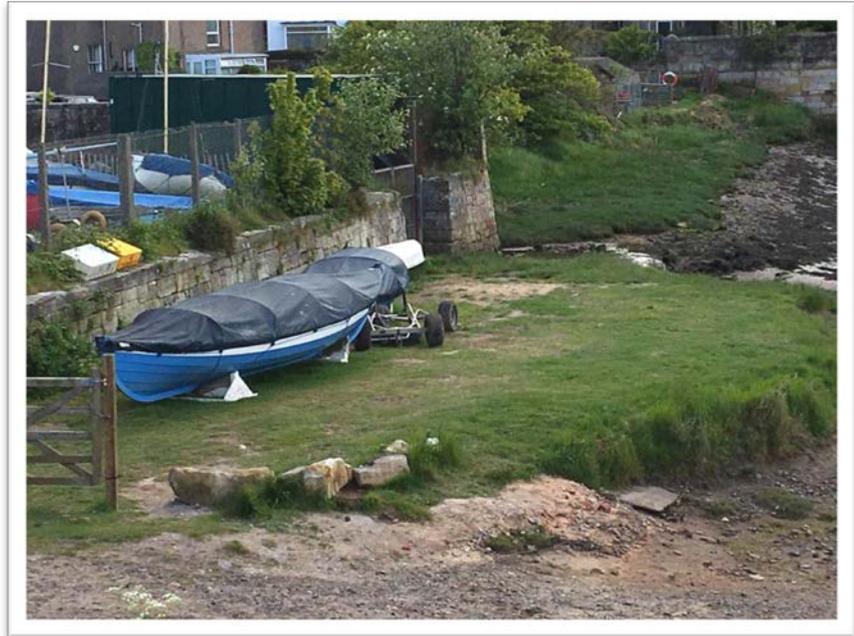
Car park overlooking the beach



Our hut is located next to a children's play park with a wheelchair accessible toilet pictured to the left and is accessible with a radar key.



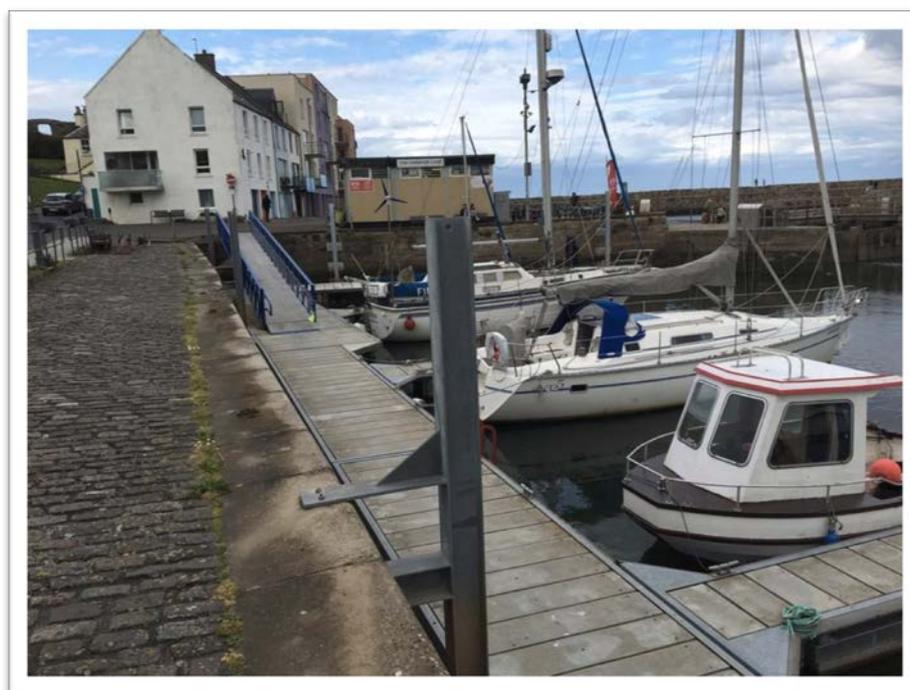
The skiffs are stored on a grassy area known as the south quay. The most direct access is down a steep grassy bank between the hut and south quay. There is an alternative route along the gravel path with a minimal incline of approximately 50 metres.



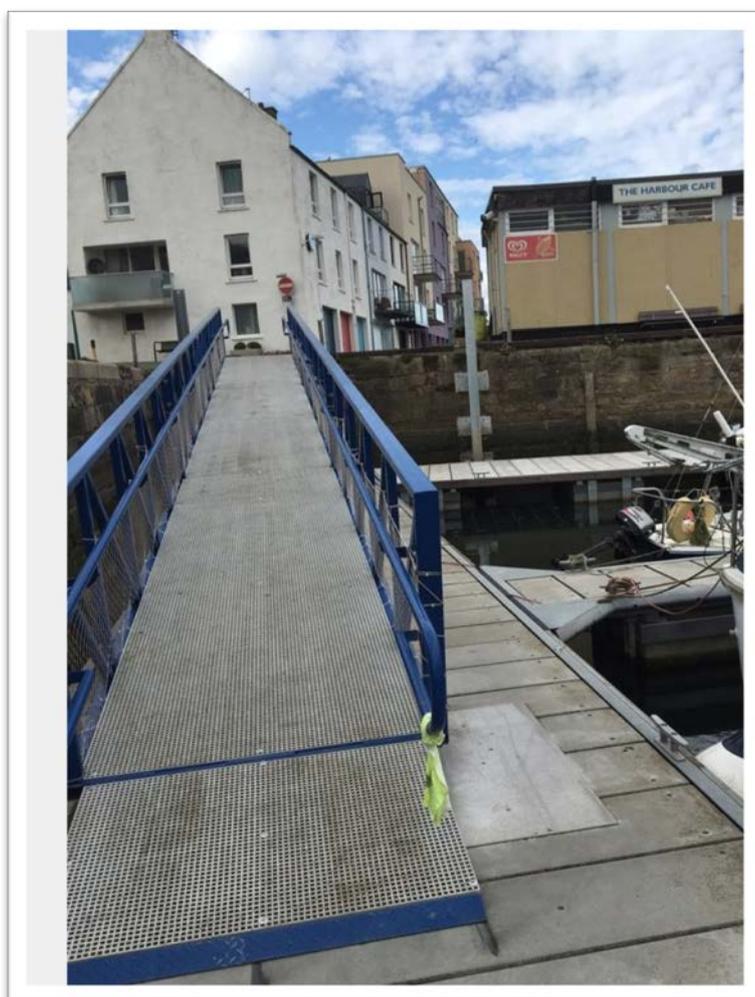
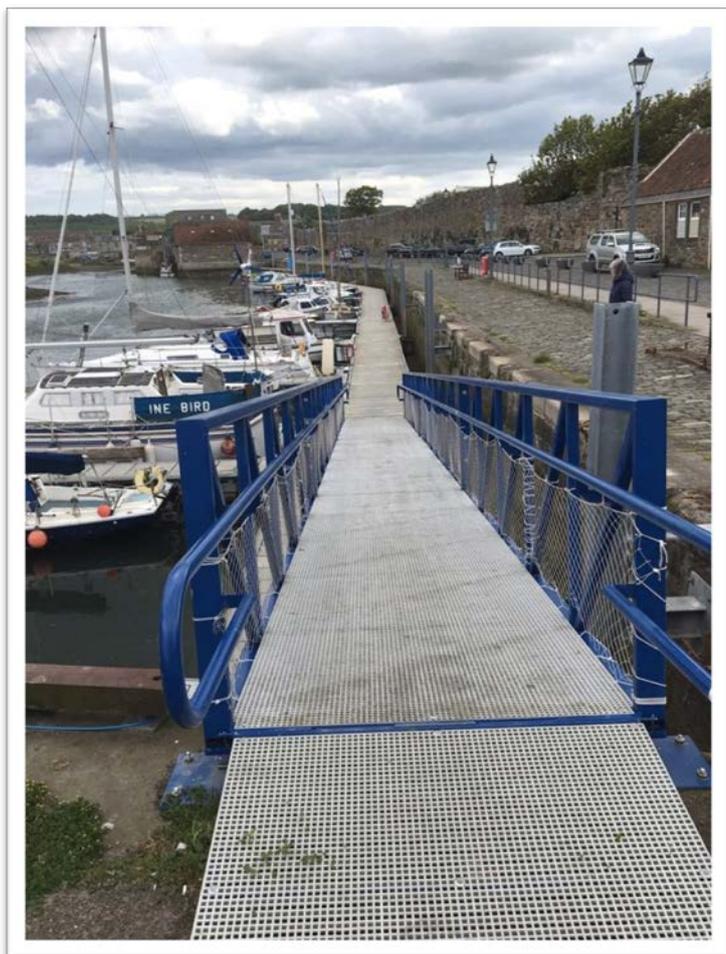
The south quay is accessed long a gravel path from Woodburn Place and is a 150-meter walk from the blue badge parking places.



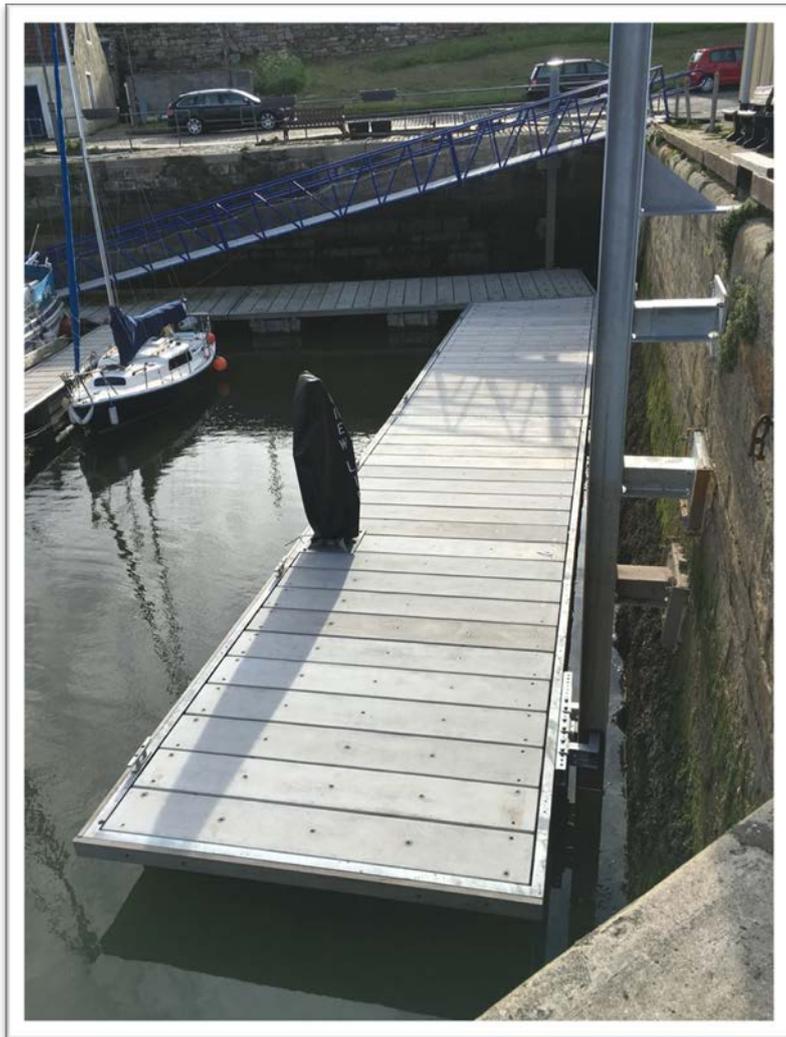
Launching from this point is via a muddy slipway that is unsuitable for wheelchairs. Wheelchair access via the pontoons within the harbour precinct.



The incline of the ramp can vary depending upon the tide height.



A crew lift hoist is available for use as required.



Competitions

We participate regularly in Scottish Coastal Rowing regattas and have been known to win on occasion.

Toilets

There are limited council run toilets with seasonal opening hours. The wheelchair accessible toilet, which is kept clean by the rowing club, is adjacent to our base at the East Sands and is available all year round with a radar key. The local swimming pool is 400 metres along a tarmac path and has public and accessible toilets that are free to use.

The Team

We have no paid staff and are all volunteers with a wealth of life and varied professional experiences that we use to create a happy and welcoming environment. A kind word, patience, willingness to try something new and a sense of humour forms the core ethos of our team.





University of
St Andrews

