



Scottish Charity 044698

## **WHAM AGM 2023**

### **Secretary's report**

The biggest task undertaken by the secretary this year has been the rewriting of the WHAM constitution and seeking legal advice on its suitability. This task has been completed and the AGM will debate and hopefully approve the new constitution which is designed to improve the governance of WHAM and set out more clearly how we operate.

We have received several enquiries about moorings in the West Highland area from individuals during the year on which we have given advice and where appropriate referred to the relevant Mooring Associations.

The WHAM database has been updated during the year and this work is ongoing to incorporate details from previous database versions so that we have a fully up to date and comprehensive list. Members will shortly be asked to check their details and advise of any changes required due to personnel changes in the associations etc.

I have attended all the RYA Cruising and General Purposes Committee meetings on behalf of WHAM. These are now conducted both in person and using online which is convenient. I have also attended the Scottish Government Cross-Party Group on Recreational Boating and Marine Tourism to represent the interest of WHAM and our members.

WHAM has been contacted on a range of issues including a new development at Dornie, resolution of a licencing issue for moorings and pontoons for a member, mooring disputes and a number of other related issues where we can help with advice or signposting to the appropriate resource.

A new area of coastal development on which we have been consulted this year is the growth in seaweed farms and their impact on navigation and areas used for anchoring and moorings. This has been an interesting debate and one which will continue as the industry grows in volume.

I am copied in on all coastal watcher notifications by the RYA but responses to these is handled by David Vass who will mention as appropriate at the AGM.

We continue to liaise with Crown Estates Scotland, RYA, Marine Scotland and others as required and enjoy positive relationships with these key stakeholders. At the AGM the issue of what more we can do to collaborate will be raised so that we continue to play our part in promoting the west coast and its sustainable use by all interested parties.

This has been my first year in office as your secretary. It has been a steep but enjoyable learning curve! I look forward to seeing as many members as possible at the AGM.

Duncan Tannahill  
Secretary  
December 2022