



Charity number SC053395

## **WHAM AGM 2026**

### **Secretary's report**

2025 has been a busy year for WHAM as always with issues such as the Oban HRO, conservancy fees, the CMAL HT(C)O and the work to convert WHAM into a SCIO charity keeping us busy.

WHAM completed the change in status to a SCIO charity during the year which included setting up a new bank account. The website reflects the changes to the new charity.

As normal, we have received several enquiries about moorings and related issues in the West Highland area from individuals and mooring associations during the year on which we have given advice and where appropriate referred to the relevant body or person.

An issue we discussed at the last AGM was the growing lack of diver capacity to inspect and service moorings on the west coast. The capacity has improved during the year but was then impacted by storms requiring routine work to be delayed to carry out essential repairs. Our latest newsletter (which is on the website) has more details.

As a Coastal Watcher I have been consulted / reviewed 186 marine licence applications during the year which is approx. 25 more than the previous year. Most are very straight forward but some involve a degree of work to ensure that the licence area does not impact existing mooring and anchoring areas. Our work alongside others has ensured that all proposed developments will have no or very minimal impact on coastal areas. David Vass stood down as a Coastal Watcher during the year and I would like on behalf of all marine users on the west coast to thank David for his years of valuable work. I hope I learned well from him as his boots are big boots to fill!

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

We continue to liaise with Crown Estates Scotland (CES), RYA Scotland, Marine Scotland and others as required and enjoy positive relationships with key stakeholders.

Since the last AGM, the WHAM committee has met on two occasions and exchanged many emails and phone calls to ensure that we continue to represent the membership and work on relevant and key issues.

The newsletter that we now issue twice a year continues to receive good feedback and helps to keep members updated on key issues and the work being carried out by WHAM. Any contributions or content suggestions for the newsletter will always be gratefully received.

The WHAM database has been frequently updated during the year and I would urge members to continue to email details of changes to your office bearers to me so that we are able to communicate with the right people.

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Duncan Tannahill  
Secretary  
December 2025