



# WA NEWSLETTER

## FEBRUARY 2026

Chris Hendry - Coastworks delivery of stone and rock for a new ferry slipway upgrade.



### WA, KVNR & Seaworks Get Set for Workboat 2050

From Training to Tech: Scaling Sustainable Change in the Workboat Sector

Thursday, 26 March 2026  
1 day event  
Live - In Person - Rotterdam



Series 6  
in partnership with



Get Set for Workboat 2050, in partnership with Seawork, Maritime Journal and The Workboat Association, is a series of conferences which deal with decarbonisation and improving OPEX efficiencies. Learn about the latest developments, innovations, and insights from expert speakers in Series 6.



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## Workboat Warriors

Every other Friday we have a new feature on our social media channels. Workboat Warriors highlights the vessels that’s You use everyday. If your interested email Harry for more information.

**WORKBOAT WARRIORS**

MERICAL RIB CHARTER

YEAR BUILT	2022
TOP SPEED	24.0 kt
LENGTH	12.8 m
CREW CARRY	8
GROSS TONAGE	12 tons
DRAUGHT	1.2 m

# SEAWORK SUBGROUP

**Our Seawork 2026 Subgroup meetings are occuring every last Tuesday of the month.**



## February Round Up

It has been a busy and productive month across several key areas. We attended an eLoran stakeholder briefing to discuss proposals to reintroduce radio-assisted positioning as a resilient backup to GNSS, alongside a SwiftTrack software meeting to review ongoing development. Planning is also progressing well, with venues confirmed for both the Summer Golf Day and the next AGM.

We also met with Polestar Publications to begin converting our first Good Practice Guides into an e-learning format, and held discussions with The Nautical Institute regarding the IMO's considerations around making Dynamic Positioning Training mandatory. In addition, we participated in the MCA Seafarers Workshop in London, contributing to important discussions on safety, standards and future industry developments.

## Fair Work Charter Launch Signals New Standards for AR8 and Beyond

The Fair Work Charter was launched earlier today, developed collaboratively by trade unions including the RMT, RenewableUK and the UK Government. Effective from Allocation Round 8 (AR8), the Charter sets clear expectations around fair pay, skills, and working standards across the offshore wind supply chain. With a strengthened version already confirmed for AR9 following the Government's response to the Clean Industry Bonus consultation, now is the time for Workboat Association members to familiarise themselves with the requirements and prepare for what's ahead.

Click [HERE](#) to Read the Government Article.



## Funding & Opportunities

Click [HERE](#) to read all of the latest funding and opportunities.

## How UK Vessel Operators Can decarbonise now.

With UK maritime emissions targets accelerating towards net zero by 2050, near-shore vessel operators face the dual challenge of reducing emissions while managing cost and uncertainty. This article explores practical short-, medium- and long-term decarbonisation options – from efficiency upgrades and battery systems to hybrid technologies and alternative fuels – and highlights how specialist financing and strategic planning can help small and medium-sized shipowners navigate the transition and unlock new opportunities.

Click [HERE](#) to read the article.

## PSS training courses in 2026

PSS training courses are developed specifically for the port sector, delivering focused, relevant learning that strengthens operational performance and reinforces high safety standards. Ensure your workforce is equipped with the practical skills and up-to-date knowledge required to operate safely, competently, and confidently.

Click [HERE](#) to Read more.

## Hebridean Princess, Biter incident inc 2 fatalities – MAIB publication of safety bulletin and video

The MAIB has published a safety bulletin, including a link to a safety video, highlighting correct practice and lessons learned after the above incident (full MAIB report issued 13 Nov 2024). Specific within the publication is a request that the bulletin and video be circulated to members by the British Tugowners Association and Workboat Association (amongst others).

Click [HERE](#) to Read.

## Workboat Code Edition 3: Operators Urged to Act Ahead of December 2026 Deadline

The MCA and the Workboat Association are urging operators to act now ahead of the 13 December 2026 deadline to transition to Workboat Code Edition 3. Vessels certified under earlier codes must complete the necessary survey to remain operational, and high demand later in the year could limit availability. Operators are advised to check the code, prepare their vessel, and book their survey early to avoid disruption and ensure continued compliance.

Click [HERE](#) to Read more.

## MCA Workshop – Register Interest for MLC Post Implementation Review

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) is inviting expressions of interest for an all-day workshop, planned for June 2026 (date TBC), as part of the Post Implementation Review of the UK's Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) implementing legislation. The review, required every five years, will assess whether the legislation's original objectives have been met and remain fit for purpose ahead of the next review in early 2027. Members wishing to attend (online or in person) should RSVP by 13 March 2026 to [mlc@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:mlc@mcga.gov.uk), providing their contact details and any dates to avoid in June. Further information and a pre-workshop questionnaire will be issued to registered participants.

## WhatsApp Community

If you would like to join the WA's WhatsApp community please send an email to Lys – [ljohnson@workboatassociation.org](mailto:ljohnson@workboatassociation.org) including your mobile number.

## Workgroup Corner

It's been a busy month for the workgroups: The Pilot Vessel subgroup met earlier this month, many attendees from the UKMPA joined us along with guests from KPM Marine, SeaSure/Shock WBV and Maritime Systems discussing seating and Whole Body Vibration onboard vessels. We also shared a draft Sliding Safety Rail good practice poster for comment. You can view that [here](#) - comments still welcome.

The Training & Safety workgroups have also kicked off the year. Blue Davies from the Thames Skills Alliance joined the Training Workgroup to share their work with the Thames CPD Scheme, why, how, who and when it needs to be completed.

The next Training workgroup will be held at Seawork on the 8th June at ABP offices. Look out for registration for this workgroup closer to the time. IMCA joined the Safety Workgroup to talk all things Mooring and Lines under Tension, they have conducted a large amount of work over the years on the subject and had a lot to show. The Safety workgroup also looked at the Safety Stats collected for 2025 so far. There is still time to send your stats - you can do that [HERE](#). The Safety workgroup are planning their next session on the pontoons at Seawork, looking closer at lines under tension onboard the vessels at the show. You can view the recordings of all the workgroups on WA on Demand - if you have any issues locating what you are looking for please contact Lys at [l.johnson@workboatassociation.org](mailto:l.johnson@workboatassociation.org).

**MAINTENANCE:** We are busy moving historic recordings to keep WA on Demand available for new content. These recordings will be archived safely, and you will still be able to access them. More information on how to find older recordings will be shared soon.

## Get To Know



### PATRICK MCCABE

Clyde Marine Director at Serco & WA Committee Member

Click [HERE](#) or on the photo to read



## News From Our Stakeholders

- Click [HERE](#) for the PSS Newsletter
- Click [HERE](#) for the MSA Newsletter
- Click [HERE](#) for the IMCA Newsletter
- Click [HERE](#) for the IIMS News Bulletin
- Click [HERE](#) for the Seafarers' Charity Newsletter
- Click [HERE](#) for SMI Newsletter
- Click [HERE](#) for CHIRP Newsletter
- Click [HERE](#) for the Seaworks Show News