



WA AGM NEWSLETTER 2026



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Final Touches for the AGM at WA HQ

We are in the final stages of preparing for our Annual General Meeting (AGM). Your valuable feedback has been taken into consideration as we finalise our plans.

This year, we are thrilled to host the event at the Hilton Majestic in Harrogate, providing a new and exciting backdrop that we believe will make this AGM the best one yet. The Hilton Harrogate Majestic Hotel & Spa offers a stylish and inviting atmosphere in the heart of Harrogate, skillfully blending historic charm with modern amenities. Guests will enjoy comfortable accommodations, exceptional dining, a dedicated spa and leisure facilities, along with professional service from a seasoned team. The hotel also features extensive meeting and event spaces, complete with tailored packages and dedicated support to ensure that every occasion runs seamlessly.

In this newsletter, you'll find all the essential information about the event, including the agenda and travel details to the venue.

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Travel Information

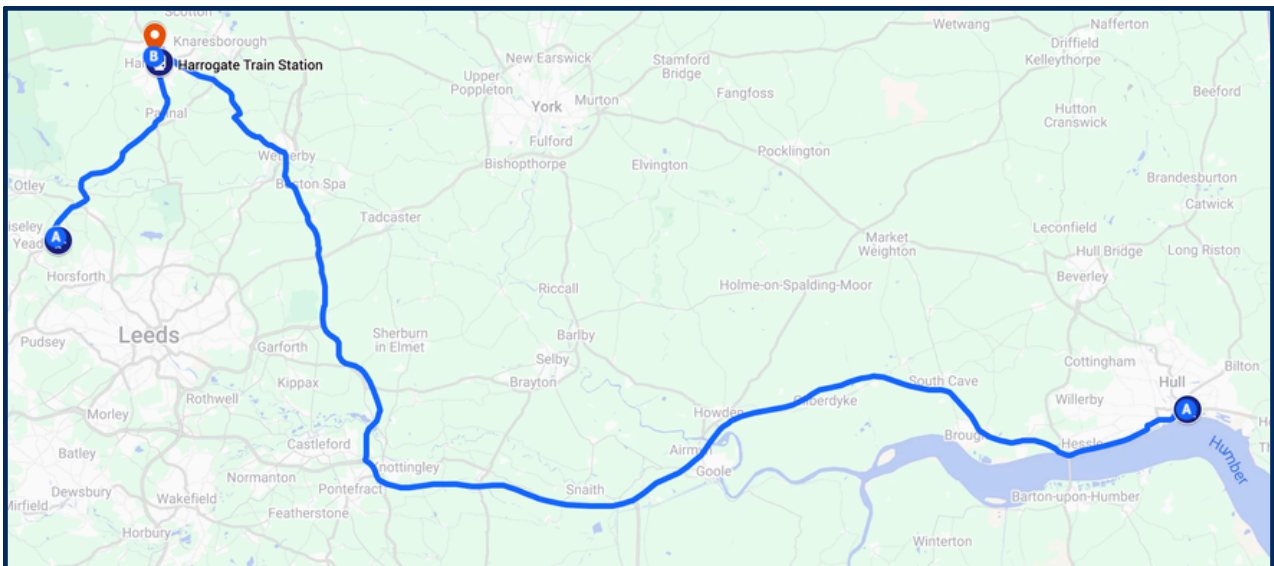
The Hilton's address is as follows: **Ripon Rd, Harrogate HG1 2HU.**

Situated in the heart of Harrogate, reaching the venue is quite convenient, as it is just a short walk from the train station.

The closest airport to the hotel is Leeds Bradford Airport, which is approximately a 30-minute drive away, depending on traffic conditions.

For those arriving by ferry, you will enter through the port of Hull and then drive about 1 hour and 30 minutes to the hotel, again depending on traffic.

Please note: There is an additional charge of £18 per night, per vehicle for parking at the hotel, which can be paid at reception.



Click the map to get a better view of the nearest travel and routes to the hotel

What's On

We have an exhilarating two-day agenda, started off with an additional day dedicated to golf and networking. During these two days, you can anticipate a lineup of captivating presentations. Wednesday is officially designated as “Workgroup Wednesday,” where we will explore the projects and advancements made by the workgroups throughout the year.

Monday 16th November

Times TBC	Winter Golf Event
1900 Onwards	Casual Dinner and Light Entertainment

Tuesday 17th November

0830-1000	Committee Meeting
1000-1030	Coffee for arrivals
1030-1130	Welcome and Networking Workshop
1130-1215	AGM
1215-1300	Lunch
1300-1330	Platinum Sponsor Presentation
1330-1400	Guest Presentation
1400-1500	Get Set for Workboat 2050
1500-1515	Coffee Break
1515-1545	Workgroup Overview
1545-1630	Navigating Risk Series - Session 1
1630-1700	Guest Presentation
1830-1930	Drink Reception
1930 Onwards	Dinner and Entertainment

Wednesday 18th November

0900-1030	Technical Workgroup
1030-1100	Coffee Break and Checkout
1100-1230	Safety Workgroup
1230-1315	Lunch
1315-1445	Training Workgroup

A Look Ahead:

Networking Session.

Dive into a unique networking experience where tables host a collaborative challenge-solving session. Introduce yourself to fellow industry professionals and work collectively on the sessions activity.

Foster innovation and provide diverse perspectives. As the session progresses, the complexity will increase, making a stimulating exercise to encourage new networks, out of the box thinking and active engagement.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to connect, collaborate and break the ice. See you there!

Workgroup Overview.

Showcasing three lightening presentations by the Chairs of our workgroups, highlighting their activities from the past twelve months. All three workgroups will convene for their quarterly meetings on Workgroup Wednesday.

All members are encouraged to join any of the workgroups throughout the year. You can participate as regular attendees or drop in when the agenda piques your interest.

Our goal for this session is to showcase the fantastic work being accomplished.

Navigating Risk Series.

The Workboat Association, in partnership with ShipOwners, is pleased to announce the launch of Navigating Risk—a new online training series designed to strengthen risk-assessment practices across the workboat and wider maritime community.

Running weekly between the Workboat Association AGM and Christmas this year, each online 'one-hour' session will bring together expert speakers and regular attendees to explore what truly defines a good risk assessment. Participants will examine best practice, common pitfalls, and the practical habits that make the difference in real-world operations.

The series has been created in response to industry demand for clearer, more confident approaches to risk management. As workboat operations diversify and expectations on crews increase, the ability to identify, evaluate, communicate and manage risk effectively has never been more important.

“Risk assessment is not a paperwork exercise—it’s a mindset,” says Kerrie Forster, CEO of The Workboat Association. “This series is about bringing people together to learn from one another, challenge assumptions, and raise the bar for safe, consistent decision-making using a unified approach.”

Attendees who register and participate in at least four of the five sessions will receive a 'Certificate of Participation'.

Registration is open now, see the poster for more details;



NAVIGATING RISK

Sharing **knowledge, experience and practical** approaches to **risk assessment**.

Learn from **experts and Members** in peer-led, **collaborative exercises**.

Schedule

17 Nov | **Why it matters**
Hilton Majestic Hotel, Harrogate
15:45 - 16:30

23 Nov | **The human factor**
Webinar
14:00 - 15:00

30 Nov | **Spotting the risk**
Webinar
14:00 - 15:00

7 Dec | **Risk in real time**
Webinar
14:00 - 15:00

14 Dec | **Lessons learned**
Webinar
14:00 - 15:00

The first session takes place on the day of the WA AGM.

Register your attendance [here](#)
or scan the QR code



Receive a **Certificate of Participation** if you attend all four webinars

Dinner Menus

At the conclusion of Day 1, we will host our AGM Dinner, complete with some entertainment, though we won't reveal the details just yet.

The menu for the evening is outlined below.



On Monday, we will also enjoy a casual dinner, just like we did last year. You can find the menu for this dinner, along with our lunch menus, listed below.



Dinner Menu For Monday



Lunch Menu For Tuesday



Lunch Menu For Wednesday