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MARCH 2026



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In FOCUS

As 2026 gets properly underway, it is already shaping up to be a busy and positive year for TYHA. It was fantastic to meet so many members and associates recently at BOOT Düsseldorf. Events like this provide a valuable opportunity to reconnect, share ideas and hear first-hand what is happening across our industry. A big thank you goes to the IGY Marinas team for hosting the joint IGY, TYHA and CMM networking event on their stand. It was a great success and it was particularly encouraging to see so many new relationships being formed.

Behind the scenes, work continues on the 8th Edition of the TYHA Code of Practice. We are preparing to release Volumes 1 and 2 - Planning and Design and Operations - to members, with both currently undergoing final legal review. At the same time, the Marina Projects team are working closely with members on the Superyacht and Boatyard volumes and we would like to thank everyone involved for



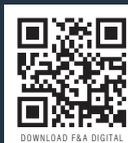
Jon White
 TYHA General Manager

their valuable input and support. Gold Anchor and Clean Marina assessments continue to keep our assessor team travelling extensively, supporting and advising members across many countries. We will continue to announce new accreditations in Fore and Aft and we look forward to celebrating Gold Anchor and Clean Marina recipients later in the year through our Marina of the Year Awards, kindly sponsored by Haven Knox-Johnston.

We are also looking forward to the upcoming TYHA UK Tour, where we will share more detail on the rewritten Code of Practice. Sessions will also cover the Marinas and Boatyards Health and Safety Code of Practice alongside the ongoing relevance of the Port Marine Facilities Safety Code for UK marinas. Our sincere thanks go to our tour sponsors - Dura Composites, Inland and Coastal Marina Systems, MHPS and Haven Knox-Johnston.

We recognise that not everyone can attend events in person, so we are planning online sessions for international members and those unable to travel.

The TYHA Directors and staff team wish you a very successful 2026 and look forward to engaging with many of you throughout the year.

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 Jon White
 TYHA Gold Anchor Executive:
 Hayley Cloke



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**PORTONOVI MARINA
ACHIEVES PLATINUM
GOLD ANCHOR**

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INVITATION

TYHA Code of Practice Tours 2026

We are delighted to confirm that TYHA will be offering the opportunity for our members and invited guests to come along to one of our complimentary TYHA Code of Practice Tours

Location	Venue	Date/Time
Inland – NE	York Marina	11/3/26 1pm-4pm
East	Suffolk Yacht Harbour	12/3/26 1pm-4pm
Inland – NW	Aqueduct Marina	17/3/26 10am-1pm
Inland – South	Tingdene Upton Marina	19/3/2026 1pm – 4pm
Ireland South – Banagher	Inland & Coastal Head Office	24/3/26 12.30pm-4.30pm
South Coast (Solent)	Bucklers Hard Marina	22/4/26 1pm-4pm
Scotland – North	Caley Marina Inverness	28/4/26 10am – 4pm including complimentary Dolphin Boat Tour
Scotland – West	Portavadie Marina	7/5/26 1pm-4pm
London & Thames Valley	Haven Knox-Johnston Head Office	20/5/26 10am-1pm
Southwest	Mayflower Marina	16/4/26 10am-1pm
Inland – Midlands	Dunchurch Pools Marina	TBC

Key topics and interactive sessions to include:

- Revised TYHA Code of Practice in partnership with Marina Projects
- British Marinas new Marinas & Boatyards Health & Safety Code of Practice
- Port Marine Safety Code

Tours kindly sponsored by



To secure your complimentary place or find out more please contact Hayley Cloke

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SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AT SHEPPERTON MARINA



Shepperton Marina has recently completed a series of significant infrastructure improvements, reinforcing its commitment to environmental protection, operational efficiency and site safety. Central to these works was the installation of a new interceptor system, supplied and installed by Filtabund, alongside major civil engineering works delivered by Thames Riverworks.

The Filtabund interceptor has been designed to capture wash-off generated during routine boat lifts and wash-

down activities. This wash-off can contain harmful pollutants such as antifoul paint flakes and surface contaminants, which present a risk to the surrounding water environment. The system intercepts runoff at source, filtering the water to remove these pollutants before reusing the treated water for boat wash-downs. This closed-loop process significantly reduces water consumption while preventing contaminants from entering the wider river system.

The interceptor installation formed part of a wider yard reconfiguration project, which

included relocating the marina crane to the rear of the yard. To facilitate this, Riverworks undertook extensive civil engineering works, including the installation of approximately 50 metres of new sheet piling along the yard edge as well as two lifting bays located either side of the crane. This provided a robust and durable waterfront structure capable of supporting the revised operational layout.

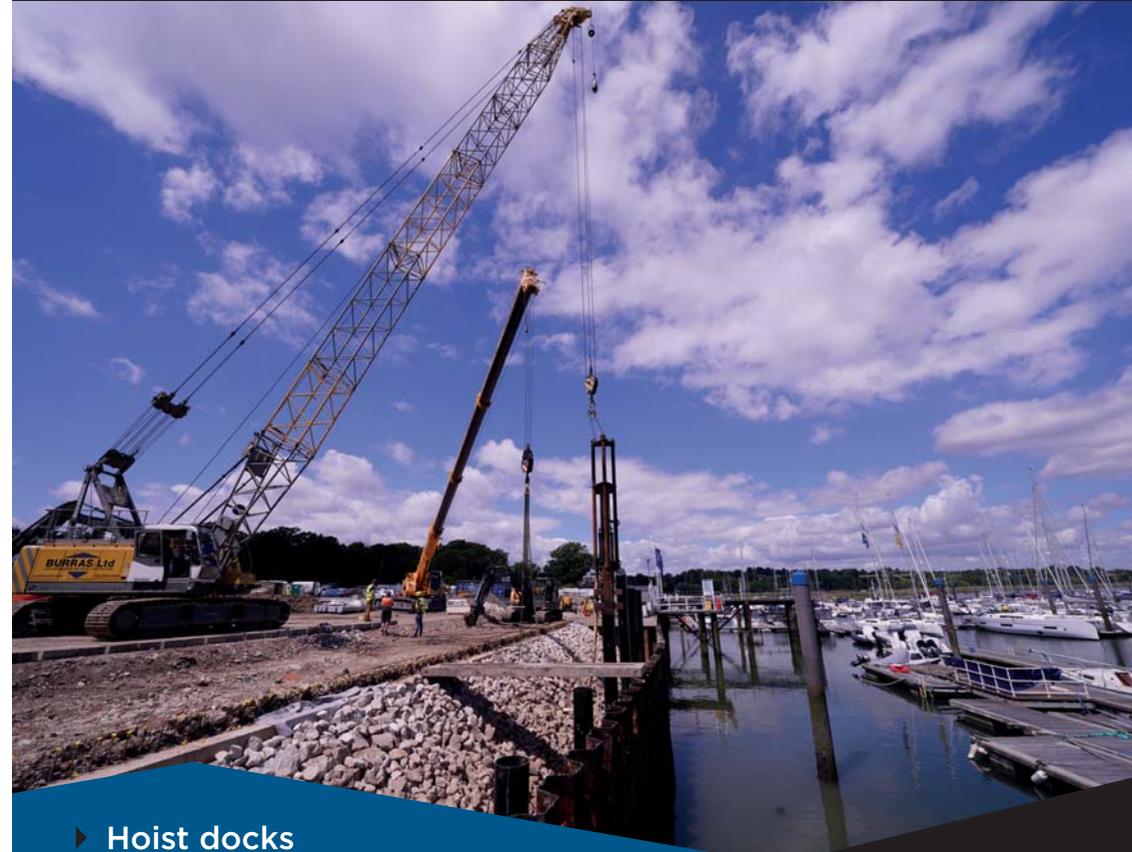
Relocating the crane and opening up the quayside has delivered both visual and practical benefits. The improved layout has reduced congestion, enhanced sightlines and created a safer separation between lifting operations and pedestrian areas. Visually, the opened quayside has transformed the waterfront, creating a cleaner, more accessible environment.

Together, the works delivered by Filtabund and Riverworks demonstrate Shepperton Marina's proactive approach to sustainable investment, combining environmental responsibility with high-quality engineering and long-term operational improvements.

To find out more about what Shepperton Marina has to offer, visit the website here. www.sheppertonmarina.co.uk

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“ END OF LIFE PONTOONS

Inland & Coastal are leading the way in recycling

As marina infrastructure across the UK and Ireland begins to reach the end of its design life, the question of what happens next is becoming increasingly important. For Inland & Coastal, responsible dismantling and recycling is already happening on the ground at the company's Banagher headquarters in Ireland, where old pontoons are being processed in line with circular economy principles.

“Awareness has increased in recent years, with more emphasis on responsible dismantling, recycling and reuse of marina infrastructure,” says Jamie Twamley, Inland & Coastal's Environmental Sustainability Engineer. “Dismantling projects are becoming more common as older marinas reach the end of their lifespan.”

At Banagher, recently returned pontoons and marina systems are fully stripped down, with all components separated on site for responsible processing. Metal frames and fittings are organised and prepared for recycling, while timber sections are carefully set aside for reuse.



Inland & Coastal recycling pontoons

Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) flotation cores are reconditioned and reused wherever possible, helping to extend the life of materials that would otherwise go to waste.

EPS that cannot be reconditioned is sent to a specialist polystyrene recycling company, where it is shredded, heated and compressed into reusable material, diverting waste from landfill. All metal elements are recycled through a fully accredited recycler holding ISO 9001 (Quality Management), ISO 14001 (Environmental Management) and ISO 45001

(Occupational Health & Safety) certifications, as well as operating in compliance with EU Regulation 333/2011. Any timber or other materials that cannot be reused are segregated and recycled through an (ISO 14001) accredited recycling company.

“Old structures can pose environmental risks, including habitat disturbance and long-term pollution,” Jamie explains. “Without a plan, valuable materials are also lost to landfill unnecessarily.”

Inland & Coastal has already supported recycling initiatives from returning marinas such as the River Hamble in the UK and Carrick-on-Shannon in Ireland, where older pontoon systems were dismantled and materials recovered. “These projects were suitable for recycling because materials could be separated, allowing steel, timber and flotation components to be recovered and processed through approved recycling streams,” Jamie says.

Recovered materials are already finding practical new uses. “Recovered timber from dismantled marinas has been

reused for practical purposes in the yard such as timber planks to support EPS during storage. Also, EPS has been reconditioned for upcoming projects,” he adds.

While dismantling and recycling does produce some carbon emissions through transport and processing, Jamie is clear about the environmental benefits. “Recycling uses far less energy and produces fewer emissions. It also reduces

extraction of raw materials and waste generation.”

Inland & Coastal is embedding end-of-life thinking into new marina designs so that materials can be more easily dismantled, reused or recycled in the future. “Marina recycling keeps materials in use for longer, reduces waste and supports circular economy principles within marine infrastructure,” Jamie says.

With many marinas now reaching the end of their lifespan, he believes the industry must act. “Plan for end of life from the start. It reduces environmental impact, and future-proofs assets.”

Through its work at Banagher and beyond, Inland & Coastal is showing how end-of-life marinas can be dismantled responsibly – and how yesterday's pontoons can become tomorrow's resources.



This hands-on approach to sustainability has also been recognised at a national level. Inland & Coastal has recently been shortlisted for Sustainability Team of the Year at Ireland's Green Awards 2026, acknowledging the work of its Banagher-based team across areas including recycling end-of-life marinas, supporting biodiversity, using solar energy and improving waste management. The winners will be announced in February 2026.

“Triangle Berth Brokers Celebrates 35 Years



Nic Parton - Director



Marie Parton - Director

Europe’s leading berth broker, Triangle Berth Brokers is proud to celebrate 35 years in business. Supporting sailors, marinas and yacht captains with long-lease and annual berthing solutions across the UK and Europe. Based in Hampshire, the company is owned and run by Nic and Marie Parton, who continue to build on decades of trusted expertise in the marine industry.

For 35 years, Triangle has helped boat owners navigate the often time-consuming world of securing a suitable marina berth. Whether sourcing an annual berth on the UK’s South Coast or identifying long-lease opportunities across Europe, the company focuses on providing independent, efficient and personalised advice.

Making Berth Sourcing Simple

The core of the Triangle business remains unchanged since day one: to save boat owners time and hassle. Instead of contacting multiple marinas and sitting through lengthy sales pitches, clients can rely on Triangle Berth Brokers to gather accurate berthing availability, pricing and options. Helping them to compare all berthing solutions together.

“The boating world is full of people who are passionate about being on the water, but many are time-poor,” says managing director Nic Parton. “Our job is to make securing a berth as quick and straightforward as possible.”

Supporting Owners Across Europe

In recent years, Triangle has seen growing demand from clients seeking advice on relocating to Mediterranean marinas. While Greece remains a favourite among British boat owners, enquiries for Montenegro, Portugal, Spain and Turkey have increased significantly.

Drawing on more than three decades of marine industry knowledge, the team helps clients choose marinas that suit their cruising plans, budget and lifestyle. Whether they’re looking for an annual rental or a long-term lease.

Long Lease Berths in the UK and Europe

Triangle Berth Brokers specialises in the sale of long-lease berths and provides impartial guidance for those considering them as an investment or long-term mooring solution.

Long-lease berths first appeared in the late 1960s and were quickly snapped up by owners who recognised their value. Today, many remain a “best-kept secret”, often changing hands through experts like Triangle.

“Buying a long-lease berth is much like purchasing a piece of property,” says Nic. “You make an initial investment, pay an annual service fee, and enjoy the security of a guaranteed berth. Over time, the savings compared to annual fees can be substantial.”

In Europe, particularly in the Côte d’Azur and the Balearics, berth leasing is the dominant model. In high-demand locations, such as Palma, buying a berth is often the only way to secure a space in a marina. With several major long leases in the South of France due to expire in the coming years, Nic notes that now is an ideal time for early enquiries.

Owners also often benefit from the option to sublet their berth, helping offset costs during periods when they’re not using their boat or are cruising further afield.

35 Years of Trusted Expertise

“Triangle Berth Brokers has spent 35 years building contacts, knowledge and a reputation for making the process of finding or buying a berth as smooth as possible,” Nic says. “There’s no extra cost to boat owners. Our fees are covered by the berth owners or marinas we choose to work with.”

Find Out More. Whether you're looking for an lease or annual berth in the UK or exploring the same opportunities across Europe, Triangle Berth Brokers can help. Visit www.triangleberthbrokers.com or email info@triangleberthbrokers.com to get started.



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More clarity. Less complexity. One unified marina operation.

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- **Faster billing and reduced admin**
Automated processes reduce manual workload and human error.
- **Built on Microsoft for reliability, security, and continuous innovation**
Your platform evolves with you – not the other way around.
- **Designed to scale**
From single marinas to multi-location operators. EliteMarinas grows with your business.



What is it?

A single marina management system built natively on Microsoft Dynamics 365 and Business Central, bringing operations, finance and customer data together in one unified platform, without reliance on integrations, providing an enterprise-grade foundation for security, resilience and future growth.

Continuous development

EliteMarinas is actively developed throughout the year, with regular enhancements driven by operator feedback, regulatory change and evolving operational needs.

Developed with the industry

Product development is shaped in partnership with marina operators, ensuring new functionality reflects real-world requirements rather than theoretical use cases.

Who it's for?

Designed for every marina environment – coastal, inland, dry stack, multi-site – built to scale globally.

Designed to scale

From single-site operations to complex, multi-location marina groups, EliteMarinas grows with the business without introducing additional systems.

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It offers the automation, and scalability we need to take Ayia Napa Marina to the next level. The solution aligns perfectly with our vision for operational efficiency and exceptional customer experience.

Pavlos Charalambous, Ayia Napa Marina

"the real win is that it will bring all sides of the Port together – commercial, recreational, and international – into one cohesive system.

Mark Brown, Port of Newport

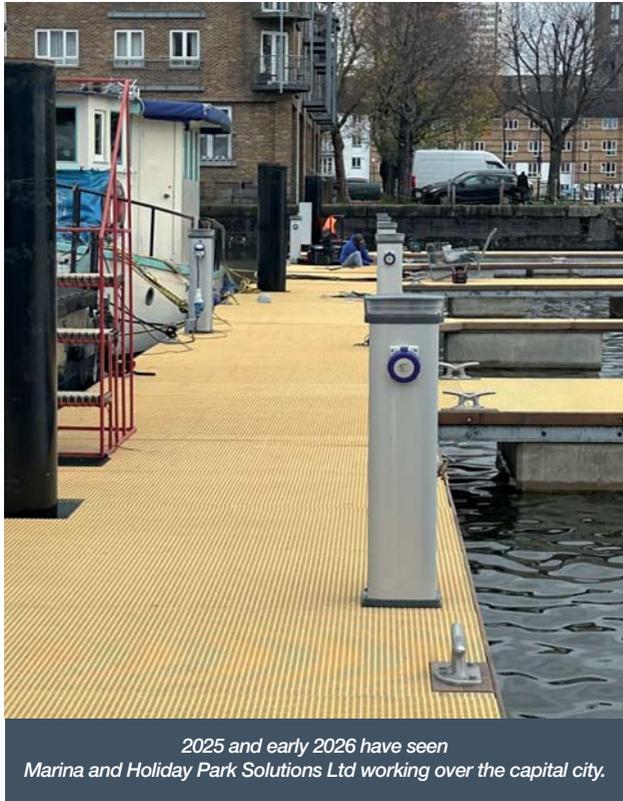


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On a different scale a solution was required on the Thames for a prestigious client who needed a new water supply to compile to WRAS regulations MHPS came up with a design incorporating a 1500l insulated water tank complete with air gap and twin duty standby pumps to allow a constant flow rate to fill the vessels with potable water.

The project was adjacent to the Thames Barrier and included frost protection tape and insulation for all round use.



A comprehensive tender was successfully awarded to MHPS which saw the removal of an old electrical system and pontoons, with new pontoons and water and electrical serviced along with emergency lighting installed the later part of 2025.

The design work allows 63amp sockets for these purely residential moorings set in the heart of London

To complement MHPS have utilised there app based metering solution with prepayment and credit-based payment option, the system has no monthly fees

Further news to follow this year on some major projects awarded due for completion throughout the year.

Visit the website to find out more about how MHPS services can help your marina www.mhpsolutions.co.uk

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CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON THE EXPANSION OF MARINA DE LAGOS



A second phase, planned for 2028/2029, will include a prestigious Yacht Club with restaurant and event spaces, a large outdoor public square and a new exclusive commercial area. With a strong focus on sustainability and strategic partnerships in this field, Marina de Lagos & Yacht Club aims to become a benchmark for innovation in balancing environmental responsibility with economic activity.

Operating since 1994 and currently offering 474 berths, the Marina de Lagos has received the Blue Flag of Europe since 1996, the 5 Gold Anchors from TYHA since 2006 and the 5 Blue Star Marina from IMCI since 2010. The expansion is expected to further enhance Lagos's appeal as a premier Algarve destination, support the local economy and strengthen a marina-based business cluster of over 100 companies generating close to €30 million in annual turnover.

Marlagos, S.A. would like to thank all partners, investors and collaborators who have made this decisive moment possible and remains committed to ensuring that the expansion of the Marina de Lagos & Yacht Club is delivered to the highest standards of quality, safety and environmental and social sustainability.

Marina de Lagos, “anchored” in the heart of the sunny and authentic town of Lagos, Portugal, has officially launched construction works for the Marina de Lagos & Yacht Club project, marked by the symbolic “First Pile” ceremony. This milestone signals start of a major expansion aimed at strengthening the marina's capacity, quality and versatility, reinforcing its position as a leading nautical and tourism hub in Portugal and the Atlantic.

Developed by Marlagos, S.A., a company with experience in the management and promotion of nautical tourism and leisure infrastructures since the 1990s, and responsible not only for Marina de Lagos but also for Marina Club Lagos Resort and

around 35 commercial units within the marina, the project has been in preparation since 2008. The expansion includes the creation of new berths from 12 to 30 metres, alongside support facilities and social and commercial spaces that will revitalise the surrounding area, which until now has been disorganised and occupied by fish-farming support activities. Located just a few metres from the stunning Meia Praia beach, the project will regenerate a degraded, polluted and underutilised area, rightfully enhancing it as an attractive destination for sailors, residents and visitors.

The project foresees the creation of 100 new berths with dedicated parking, scheduled for completion in September 2026.

WATERSIDE WORKSPACE AT BUCKLER'S HARD YACHT HARBOUR

On the banks of the Beaulieu River, the newly opened boatshed offices are redefining what a waterside workspace can be. Designed for professionals who find themselves working from their boats or simply seek a peaceful environment to stay productive, the facility offers an appealing blend of high-quality practicality and charm. Hot desks are available from £15 an hour, with private room hire priced at £125 for half a day or £200 for a full day - ideal for meetings or focused work sessions.

For businesses considering a more permanent riverside base, the offices provide sweeping panoramic views across the water and a comprehensive lettings package. Parking, a communal kitchen, electricity, Wi-Fi and a secure leased line for guaranteed bandwidth are included, with optional extras including access to meeting rooms.

The redeveloped boatshed has already earned a reputation for excellence. When the first vessel entered one of the units for repairs, its owner described the experience as “the equivalent

of putting your boat into a Rolls-Royce garage”. For those requiring specialist care, undercover storage is available at £20 per metre per week, in the fully insulated units equipped with roller shutter doors.

To check availability, contact the reception team at 01590 616200 or email harbour.office@beaulieu.co.uk

For further details and a virtual tour of the facilities are available at beaulieuiriver.co.uk/boatyard-development



BOOT Düsseldorf

TYHA Connects with Members and Industry Leaders

The Yacht Harbour Association (TYHA) was delighted to attend BOOT Düsseldorf Boat Show at the end of January, one of the world's leading marine trade events, providing an invaluable opportunity to connect with members and industry colleagues from across the globe.

Representing TYHA, General Manager Jon White attended the ICOMIA Marinas Group meeting, engaging in discussions on key developments, challenges and opportunities facing the global marina sector. The show also offered a perfect platform for a series of productive meetings with TYHA members, both from the UK and internationally, reinforcing TYHA's commitment



to supporting and representing its diverse membership.

A particular highlight of the week took place on Thursday 22nd January, when IGY Marinas kindly hosted a fantastic networking event on their stand. The event was expertly arranged by Charlotte Williams and brought together a wide range of TYHA members, IGY guests, industry professionals and Certified Marina Managers (CMMs) for an informal afternoon of drinks, conversation and networking.

The gathering provided an excellent opportunity to reconnect with familiar faces and meet new contacts, as well as to discuss important industry topics, including the revised TYHA Code of Practice, which is due to be launched soon. The positive engagement and insightful discussions underlined the strong sense of collaboration within the marina community.

Overall, BOOT Düsseldorf proved to be a hugely successful and rewarding event for TYHA. It was fantastic to meet with so many of our members, from both the UK and international markets and to continue strengthening relationships across the global marina industry.



IT IS YOUR TIME TO VOTE FOR TYHA'S MARINA AWARDS 2026!

Any TYHA Member Marina with a Gold Anchor status is eligible for one of the eight categories in TYHA's Marina Awards 2026, anchored by Haven Knox-Johnston.

Plus, any marina, berth holder or member of the public can nominate a marina employee of the Year and Marina Team of the Year Awards.

You can vote for your favourite TYHA marina using the TYHA website voting link here : www.tyha.co.uk

There are eight categories;

- Marina Employee of the Year
- Coastal Marina of the Year - under 250 berths
- Coastal Marina of the Year - over 250 berths
- Inland Marina of the Year
- International Marina of the Year
- Superyacht Marina of the Year
- Marina Team of the Year
- Sustainable marina of the year

There will be one winner per category, decided by public vote. This is based on: The number of votes per marina divided by the number of berths in that marina.

TYHA will announce the winners at the Southampton International Boat Show on Wednesday 23rd September 2026 at the TYHA awards ceremony.

Votes received after midnight on the 28th August 2026, will not be considered. Votes are limited to one vote per person and must be placed through the online web form at - www.tyha.co.uk/marina-awards

For the Employee of the Year award, Marina Team of the Year award and Sustainable Marina of the Year award, a panel of judges will consider various comments provided to determine the winner. Verbal permission must be received for somebody to nominate an employee. The panel of judge's decision is final.



Voting is now open!

The closing date is midnight on the 28th August 2026

Terms and Conditions of TYHA's Marina Awards 2026 (Owned and operated by The Yacht Harbour Association and anchored by Haven Knox-Johnston).

BRAUNSTON

Historic Narrowboat Rally 21st Anniversary



The Braunston Historic Narrowboat Rally remains as popular as ever, writes Tim Coghlan.

Despite a crowded summer events calendar concerns over water shortages and an emergency stoppage on the Grand Union Canal near Leamington, this year's Braunston Historic Narrowboat Rally once again proved its enduring appeal. Held in its traditional slot over the last weekend in June the rally

attracted 79 historic narrowboats—an increase on last year's 74.

Nearly 100 boats had originally booked to attend which would have marked the strongest potential turnout for many years but regrettably a number were forced to withdraw. Even so the final gathering was an impressive one and a testament to the

resilience and commitment of the historic boating community. Taken together the boats that have appeared at Braunston rallies over the years represent around two-thirds of the surviving fleet of historic narrowboats in reasonable-to-good condition. With an estimated total of just 250 historic boats remaining

that the Braunston Historic Narrowboat Rally continues to inspire new restoration projects many undertaken with the specific aim of debuting boats at the rally. Encouragingly a growing number of younger and highly enthusiastic owners are also coming on board, helping to safeguard this precious fleet for future generations.

This year's rally was officially opened by the distinguished actor Sir David Suchet, accompanied by his wife, Lady Sheila.

Looking ahead, Braunston Marina will host the event again in June 2026. It is hoped that the rally will be opened by Pete Waterman aboard the restored President, towing her butty

compared with some 35,000 modern narrowboats on today's waterways their significance cannot be overstated. They are, in many ways an endangered species. Their continued survival owes much to the dedication of museums, canal societies and private owners who invest time, skill and passion in their preservation.

It is particularly rewarding

The annual Braunston Historic Narrowboat Rally remains by a considerable margin, the largest gathering of historic narrowboats anywhere on the inland waterways. It is also a magnet for gongoozlers, who attend in their thousands—around 5,000 this year—travelling from across the UK and from overseas to enjoy the unique spectacle.

Kildare. We very much look forward to welcoming everyone back—see you in June!

The Braunston Historic Narrowboat Rally is sponsored by Braunston Marina and supported by the Canal & River Trust.



BRITISH MARINE COURSES

MARCH 2026

- 18th – 19th e-Propulsion (Tagus House, Southampton)
- 25th Introduction to Lithium-Ion Battery Installations on Small craft (online) 4 hours
- 26th Lithium-Ion Essentials for professional advisers (online) 2 hours
- 30th – 31st BMET (Bournemouth & Poole College)

APRIL 2026

- 01st MEI (Bournemouth & Poole College)
- 13th – 16th IMM (Dublin)
- 20th – 23rd IMM (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia)

MAY 2026

- 12th Introduction to Lithium-Ion Battery Installations on Small craft (online) 4 hours
- 20th Port Marine Safety Code (Tagus House, Southampton)

JUNE 2026

- 17th Introduction to Lithium-Ion Battery Installations on Small craft (online) 4 hours
- 23rd Lithium-Ion Essentials for professional advisers (online) 2 hours

SEPT 2026

- 14th – 18th AMM (Southampton)

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KIP MARINA CAPITAL DREDGING AND INVESTMENT TO FUTURE-PROOF SCOTLAND'S PREMIER MARINA

Kip Marina, Scotland's first and one of the best-known marinas in the UK, is investing in major dredging work to protect its future and improve the experience for everyone who uses the marina. This work is part of a wider plan to keep the marina safe, accessible and in good condition for years to come.

The marina has over 600 sheltered pontoon berths and is known for its high-quality facilities and customer service. From mid-January 2026, dredging work has been taking

place in the marina basin and entrance channels.

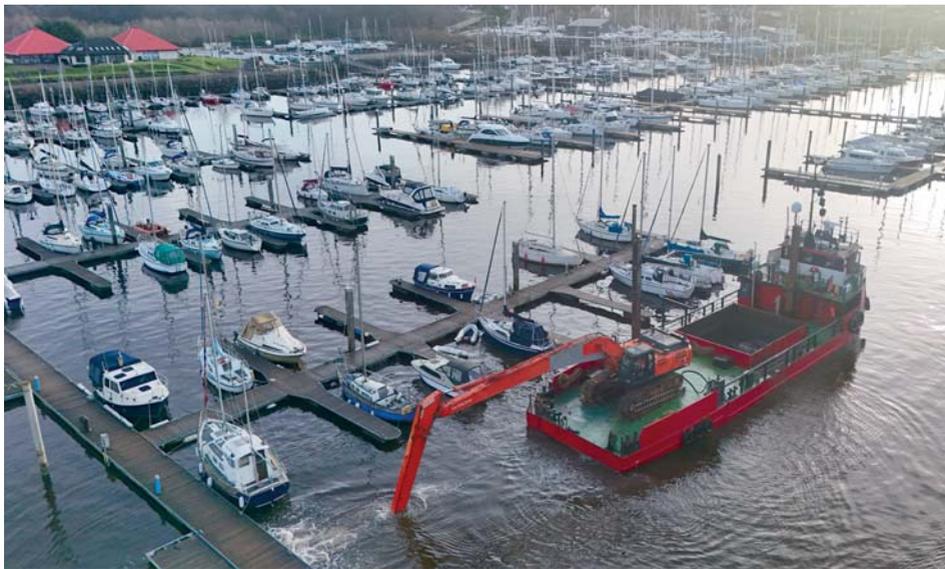
This will maintain safe and reliable access for sailing boats, motorboats and the larger yachts that have been visiting Scotland more often in recent years.

The dredging will increase water depth removing built-up silt ensuring boats will remain being able to access the marina comfortably in all seasons and tidal conditions for the foreseeable future. This is hopefully a once in a lifetime exercise helping secure future growth and full use of all berths.

We would like to thank Marine Licensing Scotland and Peelports for their assistance with our permissions.

Dredging is just one part of Kip Marina's ongoing investment, continued improvements to shore facilities, new pontoons, lighting and improving operations will maintain its position as Scotland's Premier marina.

To keep up to date with all works at Kip Marina, visit the marina website or following social media platforms. www.kipmarina.co.uk



MARPOL

Operational Pollution and the Role of Marinas

For marina and harbour operators, environmental compliance is rarely about dramatic incidents. It is about the cumulative impact of routine activity and how that activity is managed, guided and evidenced day after day.

MARPOL, the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, has applied to all vessels (commercial and leisure) since the 1970s. While it is often associated with large-scale shipping, it's relevance to marinas and harbours lies firmly in everyday operational practice rather than exceptional events.

Increasingly, MARPOL is being viewed not as a distant regulation but as a practical method for managing marine environments.

The International Maritime Organization has long highlighted that operational pollution presents a greater long-term challenge than accidental pollution. Accidental incidents tend to be visible, localised and time-limited. Operational pollution, by contrast, occurs daily, across multiple locations, in small but cumulative quantities, as part of normal activity. Because it has no single defining moment, it is harder



Peter Wallbank - August Race Group

Historically, MARPOL compliance in the leisure sector has been inconsistently understood

to identify and regulate, yet collectively it represents a far greater environmental burden.

In the marina context, MARPOL Annex V is most commonly engaged through routine activities such as vessel cleaning, maintenance and yard work and the discharge of bilge, grey or black water. Boat washing is a normal part of marina life, but chemical run-off entering the water may constitute a breach if the products used are harmful to the marine environment.

Many products marketed as "marine" are not necessarily non-harmful when discharged and from an operational perspective, outcome matters more than intent.

A similar assumption often exists around treated bilge or grey water, which may still contain residues from detergents and degreasers used during normal operation.

Historically, MARPOL compliance in the leisure sector has been inconsistently understood. That position is changing, driven by greater environmental scrutiny, evidence-led sustainability expectations and increasing insurance focus on activities that may be classed as unlawful. For marina operators, the issue is not enforcement but defensibility – being able to demonstrate clear guidance, reasonable measures and consistent communication.

Operational pollution is a daily challenge, but one that can be managed effectively through clarity, education and consistency. In that context, MARPOL is not a constraint but a long-established framework supporting good environmental stewardship and long-term risk management.

“BOATING & Biosecurity

Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) are plants, animals or pathogens that have been introduced by human activity into new areas outside of their native ranges where they cause environmental and/or economic harm. These harms can include preying on native species, disrupting ecosystems and introducing diseases. Within the boating sector, impacts can include excessive fouling, which can reduce efficiency and require costly maintenance, impeding access or entangling equipment and clogging or weighing down infrastructure, pipes and navigational aids.

Pathways are how INNS are moved from one geographic location to another. They allow INNS to sidestep natural barriers that would otherwise prevent them from arriving in a new area. In the marine environment, INNS can be moved via commercial shipping, recreational boating and aquaculture activities.

*Photo by - Lucinda Lintott :
Marine INNS fouling on a
dangling fender in a marina.*



In boating, INNS can be introduced or spread by:

- Becoming attached to boat hulls or other submerged surfaces (e.g., propellers)
- Being taken up in small gaps or water-retaining features of watercraft
- Getting stuck in/on/to or tangled in equipment and clothing (e.g., tenders, fenders, buoyancy aids)

Biosecurity actions prevent (or reduce the risk of) the spread of INNS. One key message about biosecurity is to STOP THE SPREAD. When moving between sites, even those that might seem close to each other (e.g., neighbouring bays), be aware that you might be spreading species. You can minimise this risk by checking, cleaning (and drying) your boats, equipment and clothing before moving to another area or site, making sure that animals and plants remain at the site that they came from.

Here are some biosecurity actions that recreational boaters can take:

- Check, remove and clean fouling or organic debris on immersed surfaces and on tenders.
- Ensure boats have appropriate antifouling treatment.
- Check and remove any animals, plants or debris from hauled anchors, ropes, warp and chains before storing.
- Dispose of fouling away from the water's edge or in designated waste bins.

Marina managers and harbourmasters can also take on biosecurity actions at their sites to reduce the risk of INNS spreading to or from them:

- Remove unused equipment from the water (e.g., buoys, ropes, moorings).
- Inspect infrastructure regularly for biofouling, including pontoons, chains and submerged surfaces. Be on the lookout for excessive growth or species that look out of the ordinary.

- Clean and dry infrastructure and equipment (e.g., buoys, moorings and pontoons) before introducing, relocating, or removing it from site.
- Put up clear signage on INNS and biosecurity. Include, for example, INNS to look out for, INNS impacts, how to report an INNS and biosecurity good practice.

Find resources on biofouling management from the Check, Clean, Dry Campaign, The Green Blue project, International Maritime Organisation.

APEM Group provides industry leading marine environmental advice, supporting marinas, harbours and ports to develop sustainably while protecting biodiversity. Our teams deliver end to end expertise from biosecurity planning to benthic and fish ecology surveys, water and sediment quality assessments, coastal processes modelling and Marine Net Gain planning, ensuring developments are compliant, resilient and environmentally responsible.



APEM Group

From Legacy Marketplaces to Intelligent Platforms. How AI Is Changing Boat Buying and Selling

Much of the marine industry's digital infrastructure was built for a different era. While many platforms have modernised their appearance, the underlying systems often remain rooted in legacy technology, rigid data structures and manual workflows that no longer reflect how people actually buy and sell boats online.

Over the past twelve months, this disconnect has become increasingly apparent. Since its launch in January 2025, Tack and Jibe has evolved rapidly in response to real user behaviour rather than fixed assumptions. Buyers were not searching in neat specifications, sellers struggled with complex listing processes and both sides expected platforms to offer more guidance, clarity, and intelligence.

The February 2026 release of Version 3 represents a decisive shift: from static listings toward an intelligent, AI-assisted marketplace designed around how people actually think and act.

AI as Practical Infrastructure, Not Hype

In many sectors, artificial intelligence is treated as a headline feature. In practice, its real value lies in quietly removing friction from everyday tasks. In the marine sector, this friction often appears at two critical points: searching for the right boat and creating an effective listing.

One of the most visible changes in V3 is the introduction of natural language search. Rather than forcing buyers to translate their intent into rigid filters, users can describe what they are looking for in plain English; for example, "a small to medium-

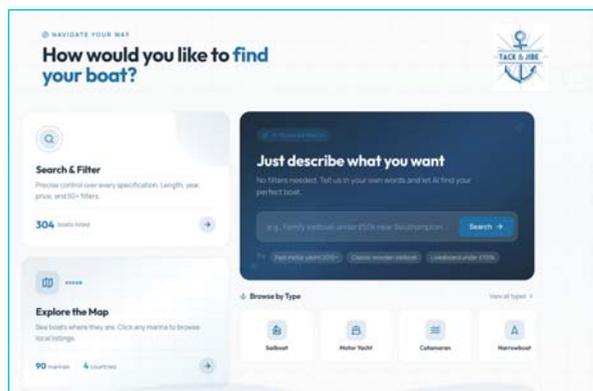
sized boat under £100,000 for summer use on a river."

The AI agent interprets intent, usage, budget and geography, returning relevant options without requiring the buyer to understand technical classifications before they begin.

Multiple Ways to Search, One Intelligent Platform

Recognising that not all users approach the market in the same way, V3 has been designed to support multiple, equally powerful avenues of search.

For buyers who know exactly what they are looking for, advanced filters and free-text



keyword search allow precise refinement by specifications, features, and terminology. These tools remain familiar, fast and highly configurable.

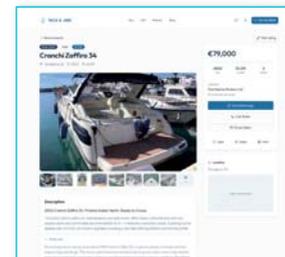
For those who think more visually or geographically, an interactive map-based search provides an alternative way to explore available boats by location. This allows users to browse regionally, understand proximity and discover opportunities they may not have actively searched for.

Together, these options are designed to accommodate every type of visitor, from experienced buyers with defined requirements to newcomers who are still exploring what might suit them best. Rather than forcing users into a single way of searching, the platform adapts to how individuals naturally think and browse.

Smarter Listings Through AI Support

For sellers, the challenge is rarely a lack of information, but uncertainty about how best to present it. Writing effective descriptions, completing mandatory fields, and knowing whether a listing is "good enough" can be daunting, particularly for private owners.

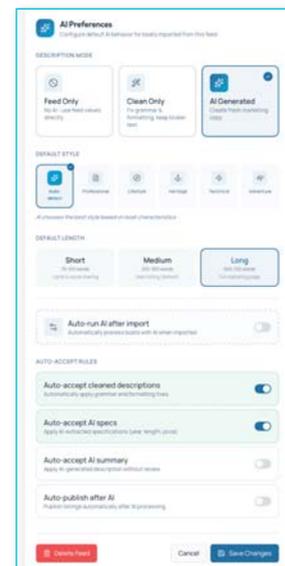
AI-powered description tools allow sellers to rewrite or enhance their listings instantly, improving clarity and structure without requiring marketing expertise. To reduce manual input further, smart field population tools scan the written description and automatically populate structured data wherever possible, improving consistency and reducing errors.



Alongside this, an AI-powered traffic-light system provides real-time guidance during the listing process. Missing information, weak sections, or opportunities for improvement are clearly highlighted, helping sellers create stronger listings without guesswork.

Building Intelligence in to the Platform

A key part of the transition to an AI-led platform has been strengthening the technical leadership behind it. In preparation for Version 3,



Tack and Jibe brought Pedro Monteiro into the business to lead the platform's architecture and AI development.

With decades of experience in software engineering and a long-standing focus on applied artificial intelligence, Pedro has worked across complex, data-driven systems where scalability, automation, and intelligent workflows are critical. His approach has been instrumental in ensuring that AI is embedded as practical infrastructure rather than treated as a surface-level feature.

This focus on experienced, specialist engineering reflects a broader philosophy behind V3: meaningful innovation comes from combining deep technical understanding with real-world user behaviour.

A Broader Industry Shift

What unites these developments is intent. AI is not being used to replace expertise, but to support it; guiding users, improving data quality and reducing friction at every stage of the journey.

Across the marine sector, expectations are changing. Platforms are no longer judged solely by how many listings they host, but by how effectively they connect the right buyers and sellers, how confidently users can navigate the process, and how well technology adapts to human behaviour.

As intelligent systems become embedded into digital marketplaces, guidance and adaptability are fast becoming baseline expectations rather than differentiators.

Project Kraken Relaunch

Border Force, in partnership with Crimestoppers, have refreshed and relaunched Project Kraken, a joint law enforcement operation tackling maritime threats to the UK this summer.

The refresh includes the creation of a Coast Crime Line, a single bespoke reporting telephone number (0800 011 3304), unique QR code for easier, quick, and anonymous reporting and a dedicated website to assist the public in understanding what coastal crime is and what to look out for.

What do we mean by coastal crime?

Essentially, it's any crime that has an impact on, or happens around, our coasts and borders, including smaller ports, docks and marinas. From theft, to smuggling, to criminal damage – whether you're a keen

PROJECT KRAKEN

BOATS ARRIVING AT UNUSUAL TIMES?

REPORT IT. LET'S SORT IT.

To report anonymously, call UK Border Watch powered by Crimestoppers on 0800 011 3304 or use the QR code to report online. In an emergency always call 999.

Logos: Border Force, Joint Maritime Security Centre, Crimestoppers, NCA, ACT, Met.

sailor, work in the maritime industry or are simply enjoying a coastal hike – if you see something suspicious,

the Coastal Crime Line is here for you. In an emergency, or if a crime is happening now, always call 999.

SEEN SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS?

REPORT IT. LET'S SORT IT.

Logos: Border Force, Joint Maritime Security Centre, Crimestoppers, NCA, ACT, Met.

Don't ignore it – report it.

Here in the UK, we are incredibly lucky to have so many stunning coastlines, bustling ports and harbour towns to enjoy and explore – but if crime and the people behind it are left unchecked, then everybody suffers. We all have the power to protect our coastal communities from crimes that put them at risk

The Coastal Crime Line brings together Project Kraken and Project Falco which seek to support and educate, making it easier to contact us and report suspicious behaviour.

Our recent social media campaign has amassed over 1 million 'impressions' and attracted 2000 visitors to the Coastal Crime website within the first two weeks. So please do retweet, like and share when you find our post and help spread the word.

Report it, Lets sort it!

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“ OVER £1 MILLION INVESTMENT APPROVED

Major Redevelopment at Nottingham Castle Waterside & Marina

Aquavista has announced a significant investment of more than £1 million to transform Nottingham Castle Waterside & Marina, marking one of the largest upgrade programmes in the company’s history.

The redevelopment will deliver substantial improvements to the marina’s facilities, pontoons and overall customer experience, bringing the location in line with Aquavista’s brand standards across its UK network.

Paula Hewitt, Marina Manager at Nottingham Castle Waterside & Marina, said: “This investment represents an exciting new chapter for the marina. Our goal is to create first-class facilities, enhance the visual appeal of the site and elevate the waterside experience for all our customers.”

Major works begin January 2026

The investment programme, which began in January 2026, will see the replacement of the marina’s pontoons with durable, anti-slip GRP mesh Duradeck installed by pontoon specialists Solent Marine. The site will also benefit from new utility bollards, new safety equipment and a reconfiguration of the marina layout to provide 156 berths.

In addition, the marina’s facilities building will be completely refurbished to create five brand-new luxury ensuite bathrooms. A new dog-wash station will also be introduced - an increasingly popular feature across Aquavista’s network - alongside upgraded Wi-Fi, improved CCTV coverage, wet dock enhancements and a number of aesthetic improvements to uplift the overall look and usability of the site.

Residential moorings launching April 2026

Aquavista has also confirmed plans to launch residential moorings at Nottingham Castle Waterside & Marina from 1 April 2026, bringing the site in line with residential packages available across the group. The residential offering will include an official UK registered address, a personal lockable post box and storage box, free weekly laundry, free monthly pump-out, plus additional benefits.

“A fantastic waterside location”

Deborah Hunt, Sales & Marketing Director at Aquavista, added: “Nottingham Castle Waterside & Marina is an exceptional location right in the heart of Nottingham’s vibrant city centre. You have everything the city offers just moments away, yet you still benefit from the calm, neighbourhood feel that comes with life on the water. This investment will transform the marina and firmly establish it as a fantastic place for our moorers to live, relax and enjoy their time on the water.”

Part of a wider investment programme

Nottingham Castle Waterside & Marina is the latest location to receive major investment as part of Aquavista’s commitment to continually developing its network and offering the very best of waterside life. Over the past 12 months, Aquavista has completed significant refurbishments at both Crick and Buckden marinas.

To find out more about the project visit the website www.aquavista.com



ST KATHARINE DOCKS CELEBRATE FIVE GOLD ANCHOR STATUS FOR A THIRD CONSECUTIVE TIME



Anchor network, which includes 151 marinas across 30 countries.

Marina Manager, Tom Lord explained “We are delighted to announce that we have successfully renewed our TYHA Gold Anchor accreditation at the 5 Gold Anchor level. This recognition counts St Katharine Docks Marina among the highest level of marina facilities across the UK and abroad. Ongoing accreditation at this level is testament to the consistent effort put in across the whole site, from the various teams that contribute to its daily operation. The marina team are very proud to have achieved renewal of this prestigious industry accreditation and remain dedicated to providing the best possible marina experience to our berth holders and visitors, at our historic marina.”

The Gold Anchor scheme has been developed by the marina industry with the specific objective of raising standards and providing

This new year, St Katharine Docks Marina is celebrating the achievement of five gold anchor status for a third consecutive time

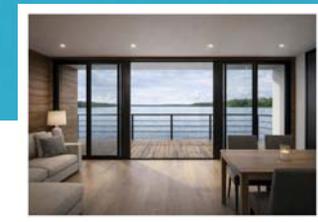
The central London marina, St. Katharine Docks, has once again been awarded this esteemed marina accreditation, recognising outstanding customer services and facilities.

The prestigious Five Gold Anchor Award is a scheme run by TYHA (The Yacht Harbour Association), that assesses a marina’s quality of facilities, customer service and infrastructure. In late October, the Docks were subject to a rigorous assessment with all elements of the marina and operations audited. St Katharine Docks is part of the TYHA Gold

“
Congratulations on another 5 Gold Anchor Accreditation status”



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NEW LEESAN ELSAN DISCHARGE FACILITY AT BRISTOL TEMPLEBACK SAILED INTO PLACE!

Boat owners in the central area of Bristol have been asking for an Elsan disposal facility for some time now - the next nearest one is some distance away. Recently, Bristol City Council contracted Warwickshire based Marine Sanitation Specialists LeeSan to install one on the floating harbour at Templeback.

Templeback is situated on a diverted section of the famous river Avon, which runs through the centre of the city. However, the City Council only own the floating pontoon on which the unit is situated, meaning that the installation could not be land based.

The team at LeeSan are used to overcoming such challenges and the solution they arrived at was to load the new system onto a work boat at the harbour office and then "sail" it down the river and into place on the pontoon.

The new facility is an LSPortaway stainless Elsan vandal proof unit with transfer tank including submersible pump. It is fitted with its own operation panel. It has full flush capability and a rinse hose on a non-concussive tap for cleaning the sink and rinsing cassettes.

It has been installed next to the existing 13-year-old LS60W Pumpout station, which still looks pretty much as good as new and is still working perfectly.

Karl Sutcliffe, Technical Director of LeeSan comments "This is just another example of how we can use our experience and expertise to overcome location and installation challenges for clients. When there is a perceived challenge our team can nearly always offer a practical and workable solution.

We think this set-up looks really good and is yet another step towards helping boat owners to keep our rivers and waterways clean and pollution free".

For more information contact Lee Sanitation Ltd 01295 770000 or visit www.leesan.com



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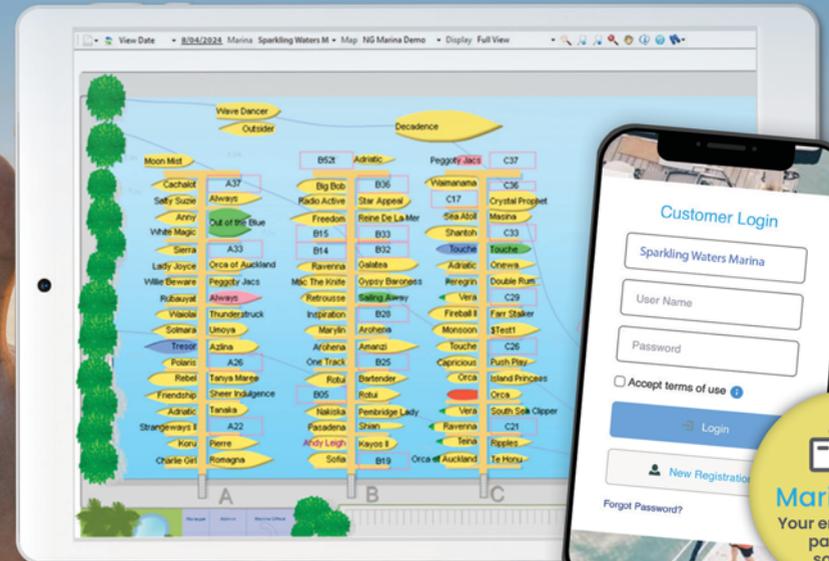
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- Sale included adjacent pub



HOLY LOCH MARINA

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- 250-berth Marina
- Situated at the gateway to the West of Scotland and the Western Isles



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Scotland

- Sold to a first-time buyer
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- Operating from purpose-built shore side premises



FARDON MARINA

Nottinghamshire

- Acquired by Tingdene Group
- 300+ berths
- Owned by the same family since 1966



PORT DINORWIC MARINA

North Wales

- Sold to a local consortium on behalf of the joint administrators
- Competitive bidding process



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Plymouth Boat Fest

to return in 2026

The organisers of South West's major boat show have announced it will return in 2026 after a successful inaugural event in June 2025.

Plymouth Boat Fest 2025 attracted over 50 exhibiting companies and 30 vessels, ranging from marine technology to leisure, services, conservation

and more. Next year's event is scheduled for Saturday 20th June 2026 hosted at Plymouth Yacht Haven.

Announcing the 2026 event, organisers Yacht Havens Group spoke of plans to expand next year's event. "This year was a great starting point for Plymouth Boat Fest," said event organiser Steve Cox

from Plymouth Yacht Haven. "It became a showcase for the Westcountry's broad maritime sector with companies looking to not only showcase their vessels, products and services, but engage the local community for future skills and employment. Next year's show will build on these foundations as well as increased ticket capacity and, by popular demand, expanding the on-water demonstration schedule."

Early plans for the 2026 show include the expansion of the Marine Technology Zone, highlighting Plymouth's growing reputation in the marine autonomy sector. Supported by Turnchapel Wharf, the home of UK maritime autonomy, the zone will include demonstrations of

remotely-operated and autonomous vessels, as well as on-water displays showcasing the capabilities of the sector.

The on-water area will also be expanded with additional pontoon space allocated to the show, inviting more vessels to be on-display. On-water exhibitors from 2025 included Princess Motor Yacht Sales, The Island Trust's 96ft tallship, Plymouth RNLi lifeboat, Wolf Rock Boat Company, and Cattewater Harbour Commissioners' vessels to name a few.

To support the event's continued growth, organisers have also launched a new standalone website dedicated exclusively to Plymouth Boat Fest. The platform brings together exhibitor information,

visitor guides, ticketing information and the latest show updates, reflecting the long-term commitment to establishing the Boat Fest as a key date in the South West's maritime calendar. "Creating a standalone website underlines our ambition to grow the show year-on-year and provide a central hub for everyone involved" commented Steve Cox.

Tickets will be released in early-2026 but mark your calendar for the Westcountry's biggest maritime celebration. Exhibitors can register now for the show at www.plymouthboatfest.com

“ PORTONOV MARINA

Setting a New Platinum Benchmark for Adriatic Luxury

With its ascent to 5 Gold Anchor Platinum status – the highest possible accreditation awarded by The Yacht Harbour Association (TYHA) – Portonovi Marina has firmly established itself as one of the Mediterranean’s most distinguished nautical destinations. More than a milestone, this recognition marks Portonovi’s definitive arrival on the global superyacht stage.

Platinum accreditation is reserved for marinas that go far beyond exceptional facilities. It reflects a relentless commitment to operational precision, service excellence, and an uncompromising guest experience. Portonovi Marina’s achievement places it within an elite international circle, affirming its capability to meet—and exceed—the expectations of the world’s most discerning superyacht owners and professional crews.

At the core of this success lies elite infrastructure. With 238 berths designed to accommodate vessels up to 140 metres, Portonovi is purpose-built for the largest and most sophisticated yachts navigating the Mediterranean and Adriatic seas.



Operational excellence defines every aspect of the marina experience. From 24/7 technical and concierge support to duty-free fuel services and high-speed fibre-optic connectivity, Portonovi ensures seamless functionality both at berth and beyond—allowing captains and crews to operate at peak efficiency while owners enjoy absolute peace of mind.

What truly distinguishes Portonovi, however, is its integration of lifestyle and leisure. Unlike traditional standalone ports, the marina forms part of a meticulously curated luxury ecosystem. The presence of One&Only Portonovi, alongside the world-renowned Chenot Espace Wellness Spa, elevates the destination from a place to moor to a place to truly arrive—where wellness, gastronomy, and refined living unfold effortlessly on the waterfront.

Portonovi Marina’s Platinum status is further strengthened by its International Clean Marina and Superyacht Ready accreditations. These recognitions underscore the marina’s leadership in sustainable operations and its commitment to safeguarding the pristine ecosystem of Boka Bay through rigorous waste management systems and environmentally responsible protocols—all while accommodating some of the world’s largest mega-yachts.

This rare balance between scale, sophistication, and sustainability has not gone unnoticed. In 2024, Portonovi Marina was voted Best International Marina of the Year by the global yachting community—a testament to its growing influence and reputation on the world stage.

“On behalf of The Yacht Harbour Association Board of Directors, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to Novica Radojičić and the entire team at Portonovi Marina on

achieving the Gold Anchor Platinum Accreditation. This highest level of recognition reflects not only exceptional infrastructure, but a sustained commitment to operational excellence, service quality and the overall marina experience. Portonovi Marina now stands among the very finest marinas in the world, setting a new benchmark for the Adriatic and the global yachting community.

It was my honour to present Novica with his Platinum Award

at BOOT Dusseldorf Boat Show”. Colin Watts, TYHA Director, The Yacht Harbour Association

By securing these top-tier accolades, Portonovi has achieved more than individual recognition. It has repositioned Montenegro as a primary nautical centre of the Mediterranean, redefining expectations of Adriatic luxury and setting a new platinum benchmark for marinas worldwide.



TYHA Director, Colin Watts, presenting the TYHA Gold Anchor Platinum status award to Novica Radojičić



its long experience in marine access and flotation, ScaffoldFloat has developed ReefFloat - an EPS free float, designed specifically for marinas and pontoons.

ReefFloat replaces EPS with a specially engineered, ultra-low-density foamed concrete core, encased in a full-strength structural skin. The result is a float that is very strong, has a long design life and is inert in the marine environment. Although heavier than traditional EPS floats, ReefFloat requires only a modest increase in depth to achieve equivalent buoyancy, while delivering improved stability, higher inertia, and a lower centre of gravity. At the end of its service life, the float can be crushed and reused

as hardcore, avoiding the costly and complex disposal process associated with EPS-filled concrete floats, which are classed as hazardous waste in the UK.

Industry response has been strong. ReefFloat was shortlisted for a DAME Design Award and attracted significant interest at METS Amsterdam, where marina owners and pontoon manufacturers consistently expressed frustration with EPS and a desire for change.

Now operating at TRL 7, ScaffoldFloat is progressing ReefFloat toward full commercial release by 2027—offering the marina industry a practical, proven route away from foam and toward a cleaner, more sustainable future.

TAKE PART IN A PILOT

The ReefFloat team have already deployed their first float in the water as a demonstrator of its technical and marine suitability. They are now looking for an additional 12 UK locations where they can install further floats, so if you own a marina or set of pontoons and would like to be a part of the solution to this problem, please email: alex@scafffloat.co.uk

The team are looking for pontoons in a range of locations - tidal, inland, grounding, exposed, etc

“ REEFFLOAT Foam Free Marina For The Future?”

For decades, Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) foam has been the default solution for buoyancy in marinas and pontoons. While cheap and effective, EPS has created a growing environmental problem as aging infrastructure fails and releases millions of foam beads into the sea. With no viable way to clean up these so-called

“White Spill” events, the industry urgently needs a credible alternative.

That alternative is now emerging from ScaffoldFloat, a UK company best known for inventing the widely adopted ScaffoldFloat system, which uses modular plastic floats and scaffolding to create pontoons and workboats. Building on

wave cleaner VAC

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British Marine persuades Treasury to amend its business rates legislation

Since 2020 retail, hospitality and leisure (RHL) businesses, including marinas, have benefited from rate relief awarded by local authorities. This is now ending as part of the major reforms to the business rate system. The relief will be replaced by new permanent lower multipliers for “qualifying” RHL businesses with rateable values below £500,000. Although announced by the Treasury with much fanfare as a key tax cut for RHL businesses, late last year it slipped through legislation with almost no scrutiny nor consultation and which wrongly excluded marinas from qualifying for the lower multipliers.

On discovering this British Marine made the strongest possible representations to the Treasury and alerted other government departments to its demand that the legislation (Statutory Instrument 2025/1093) be amended, highlight that fact marinas are a key part of the RHL sector.

In addition to British Marine’s Chief Executive’s direct representations to the Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, its

Public Affairs Manager spoke to government officials to make it clear that many TYHA members and other BM members had long

been in receipt of RHL relief and were relying on qualifying for new RHL lower multipliers. Noting the local MP for Southsea,

Stephen Morgan – who is also a Treasury whip - had signed off the legislation, British Marine secured help from Premier Marinas who wrote to the MP on behalf of Southsea Marina reiterating British Marine’s concerns.

Within a month of British Marine lobbying the Treasury, TYHA was informed the legislation will be amended before April 2026. This means that leisure marinas with a

rateable values below £500,000 will be eligible for the lower business rate multipliers. What is clear is that the Treasury had not fully understand our sector and the Exchequer Secretary has since apologised to British Marine for the concern caused and given his assurance the matter will be corrected and the online guidance updated.

Commenting on this significant win, Steve di Polo, CEO of Aquavista Watersides

Ltd, said: “The impact of the government listening to British Marine and agreeing to reclassify marina businesses as qualifying RHL business will have profound benefits for the sector. It will enable the marina sector and companies like Aquavista to continue investing in its infrastructure and inspiring growth in the sector by improving its offerings to customers.

We are delighted by British Marine’s quick intervention and the common sense of Ministers to correct the error. Making this legislative amendment will provide crucial help to the wider sector at a critical time when major weather events, higher taxation, and financial challenges for customers appear ever present.”

According to Paul Nash, Head of Rating at Lambert Smith Hampton, the annual saving for marinas qualifying for the RHL lower multipliers in England alone is estimated to be in the region of £1.42m. (note this figure is an estimate based on the 5p discount announced in the 2025 Budget and does not take account of other reliefs marinas may benefit from) In the meantime, British Marine continues to call for further changes that would ease the tax burden on our industry including raising the 5p discount for all RHL businesses.

For further information on British Marine’s campaigns visit www.britishmarine.co.uk/publicaffairs or contact British Marine’s External Affairs Manager, Joanna Richardson jrichardson@britishmarine.co.uk



AQUAVISTA COMPLETES ACQUISITION OF CAEN HILL MARINA



Aquavista, the UK's largest residential and leisure mooring provider, has today announced the expansion of its marina portfolio with the acquisition of Caen Hill Marina in the South West of England.

Speaking about the announcement Aquavista CEO Steve de Polo said: "We are delighted to announce the acquisition of Caen Hill Marina, a marina in an excellent location near Devizes on the Kennet &

Avon Canal. It complements our existing network of 32 marinas, with its nearest Aquavista neighbours being Bath and Portavon marinas.

We pride ourselves on investing in our marinas and waterside teams, ensuring that our customers' lives by the water are made easy and enjoyable. I look forward to working with the team and moorers at Caen Hill to further improve their marina experience as we welcome them into the Aquavista network."

Aquavista is focused on giving customers more freedom through choice of marinas, mooring types, and opportunities to explore the network. With the addition of Caen Hill Marina, Aquavista moorers now have access to all 33 Aquavista marinas, with the ability to take advantage of Explore 100 and Marina Swap benefits, offering even more options for cruising and enjoying life on the water.

For more information visit the website www.aquavista.com

“
Congratulations to Aquavista on the new Acquisition

GOLD ANCHOR MARINA



PORTONОВI MARINA

Portonovi is ideally located as a superyacht homeport, due to its sheltered position at the entrance to the Bay of Boka. It is situated within the Portonovi Resort and equipped with the most advanced technology and features, while offering high-end services at attractive prices.



CONWY QUAY MARINA

With the mountains of Snowdonia National Park as a backdrop, Conwy Marina is an ideal base from which to explore the picturesque cruising grounds of the North Wales coast.



TINGDENE UPTON MARINA

Tingdene Upton Marina is perfectly located for cruising the River Severn and offers a variety of itineraries since it stretches 58 miles from Sharpness to Stourport and forms part of the Avon Ring linking the Worcester and Birmingham, Staffs and Worcs canals.

CLEAN MARINA



PORT AZURE

Port Azure Gocek is a state-of-the-art superyacht marina nestled within Turkey's spectacular Turquoise Coast, purpose-built to accommodate vessels up to 140 meters LOA. Designed for privacy, comfort and operational excellence.



IGY ST KATHARINE DOCKS

St Katharine Docks is central London's only marina. The renovation of the Docks in 2017 offers 185 berths in three basins and can accommodate vessels up to 40m in length on visiting or long-term berthing contracts. The facilities meet the highest modern standards.



TINGDENE UPTON MARINA

On the mighty River Severn, Britain's longest river, lies Upton Marina, south of historic Worcester and north of Tewkesbury, Upton Marina offers secure pontoon and bankside moorings for all types of craft with hardstanding storage space and visitor berths.

How to Save Time, Reduce Costs and Improve the Efficiency of Refuelling Operations

Refuelling facilities within marinas, harbours, canals and river systems are essential to daily operations, yet they present unique challenges. Environmental risk, regulatory scrutiny and unexpected downtime can quickly become costly if fuel infrastructure is poorly managed. Issues such as inaccurate pump readings, equipment failure or incomplete compliance records can damage both finances and reputation.

A proactive approach to fuel infrastructure management helps save time, control costs, and ensure uninterrupted service.

Planned Maintenance and Compliance

Fuel infrastructure should be maintained in line with manufacturer guidance and recognised standards such as SFG20. This includes scheduled inspections, servicing and repairs, supported by accurate and up-to-date documentation. Key records include asset and equipment

registers, compliance certificates, service reports and environmental and safety documentation. Without these,

demonstrating compliance during audits or inspections becomes difficult, increasing the risk of fines or enforced shutdowns.



BMS Group supports marina and canal operators with comprehensive maintenance programmes that meet regulatory requirements. This includes compiling ATEX and asset registers and developing maintenance plans aligned with SFG20 guidance.

Reducing Downtime Through Scheduled Servicing

Unexpected equipment failure can result in lost revenue, emergency call-outs and operational disruption. Regular planned servicing significantly reduces the risk of breakdowns

while extending the lifespan of pumps, meters, tanks and associated systems. BMS Group manages and schedules servicing activities, ensuring inspections are completed on time and clients are notified when maintenance is due.

Bund Maintenance and Environmental Protection

Poorly maintained bunds can lead to serious fines, reputational damage and costly environmental remediation. Routine inspection and maintenance of bunds reduce the risk of spills and protects the surrounding marine and canal environments.

Accuracy, Technology and Specialist Support

Inaccurate pumps or flow meters can cause financial losses and customer disputes. Regular calibration ensures fuel is dispensed accurately and fairly. Modern fuel management systems further enhance efficiency by enabling remote monitoring, improved stock control, loss reduction and streamlined reporting.

BMS Group also provides a customer portal, giving clients easy access to service reports, compliance documents and upcoming maintenance schedules in one central location. With OFTEC and CompEx-qualified engineers, BMS Group delivers specialist support across all aspects of marina and canal fuel infrastructure.

Get professional advice, schedule inspections, servicing or installation, contact the BMS team: 01233 740149 sales@bms-ltd.com bms-ltd.com

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“Why Smart Energy Is Becoming the Global Standard

Walk through any major marine trade show today and one trend stands out: the world is going smart with energy. At METS last November, the message couldn't have been clearer. Ten different pedestal manufacturers were showcasing their “smart” systems, each promising a new era of visibility, control and efficiency for marina operators.

But beneath the noise, one truth emerged: smart energy isn't a fad – it's a structural shift. Rising energy costs, tighter environmental expectations and the operational pressures facing marinas are pushing the industry toward digitalisation at speed. And this shift isn't limited to Europe. Conversations with operators from South East Asia revealed the same story: legacy smartcard meters and early digital systems are being

ripped out in favour of modern, connected platforms that actually work. The global marina sector is entering a new phase, one where energy management is no longer a backoffice task but a strategic capability.

The Problem Is Not All “Smart” Solutions Are Truly Smart
METS also revealed something else: while many suppliers are



trying to badge their products as smart, the quality varies dramatically.

Some systems offered only partial realtime data. Others relied on outdated communication protocols. A few were simply reskinned versions of technology that has been around for a decade. Many lacked the scalability or reliability needed for a busy marina environment.

The result is a market full of ambition but short on execution and leaves marinas trying to separate genuine innovation from marketing gloss. This is where clarity



matters. A smart energy solution must do more than switch a socket on and off from a phone. It must support the operational, financial and customer experience needs of a modern marina.

Direction of Travel Is Clear
Smart energy is no longer optional. It's becoming the operational backbone of modern marinas; improving efficiency, reducing costs and enhancing the berthholder experience.

But the winners in this transition won't be the marinas that adopt technology first. They'll be the marinas that adopt technology that lasts. The sector doesn't need more “smart” labels. It needs solutions that deliver accuracy, reliability and transparency, at scale, across sites and without complexity. That's the standard Metpow and our partners Rolec are setting.

metpow In partnership with **ROLEC**

Goodbye smartcards
Hello future

www.metpow.com

“ A new partnership of Havens, as Haven Knox-Johnston and Yacht Havens agree collaboration

Haven Knox-Johnston and Yacht Havens are delighted to announce an exciting new collaboration. Working closely together, Haven Knox-Johnston and Yacht Havens will be providing berth holders and trade tenants across the nine Yacht Havens’ marinas with boat and marine trade insurance offerings, providing highly competitive, great value cover to meet their needs.

As two of the most recognisable and highly respected brands in the marine industry, both businesses share deep family roots and decades of experience serving the marine industry dating back to 1978 when Sir Robin Knox-Johnston was instrumental in transforming the inner basin of Troon into the marina you see today.

Their shared enthusiasm for boating, along with their commitment to fantastic customer service and the best possible product offerings make the new collaboration a perfect match. Further strengthening these ties, the Haven Knox-Johnston Specialist branch based in Plymouth will be relocating to the Yacht Haven Quay Plymouth site in January 2026, bringing even closer support and expertise to berth holders and marine businesses in the region.

Haven Knox-Johnston clients will automatically enjoy a 10% discount on policies when introduced through one of the Yacht Haven

marinas, plus an additional 10% discount as a UK marina berth holder. Clients have direct access to underwriters for quick, expert decisions and a superb claims service to resolve issues should the worst happen.

Marine Trade tenants of Yacht Havens will also have easy access to Haven Knox-Johnston Commercial’s team of industry experts, who can help them identify their specific business risks and ensure that they have appropriate and well-priced cover in place to protect against them.

Paul Knox-Johnston, Sales and Marketing Manager said, “We are excited to partner with the team at Yacht Havens. This partnership brings together two trusted brands, each with a strong reputation for exceptional customer service. By combining our expertise and shared commitment to excellence, we look forward to delivering even greater value and experiences for our customers.”

Jonathan Cook, Group Marketing Manager for Yacht Havens said, “The new partnership with Haven Knox-Johnston reinforces our commitment to a fully-serviced, accessible and secure boating experience for our berth holders.

As a long-standing brand, already trusted by thousands of boaters to protect their pride and joy, we believe our berth holders and trade tenants will be in safe hands with Haven Knox-Johnston.”



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To find out more about the boat insurance policies on offer through Haven Knox-Johnston visit HavenKJ.com or to find out more about Marine Trade insurance visit HavenKJCommercial.com. To look at berthing options with Yacht Havens visit yachthavens.com.

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