

C R S C NEWSLETTER

01.10.11 – 08.11.11

CalMac Ferries Ltd:

- Argyle** **Wemyss Bay–Rothesay** rosters.
- Bute** **Wemyss Bay–Rothesay** rosters. T 4 Oct off service till 1900 (tech). S 5 Nov handed over to *Coruisk* at 1805, to **Garvel Greenock** (JWD) for annual survey; Su 6 drydocked (with *Loch Dunvegan*).
- Caledonian Isles** **Ardrossan–Brodict** roster. Occasional weather disruptions → berthing overnight at Brodict. T 6 Oct 1350/1515 cancelled (weather); Su 9 0945/1105 cancelled (weather); Su 23 0945 cancelled (tech) → Brodict for roster.
- Clansman** **Oban–Coll–Tiree/Barra–S Uist** roster. M 3 Oct stormbound Lochboisdale; T 4 to Castlebay, Tiree (for stranded traffic) and Oban, resumed roster; Th 6 Coll/Tiree only (weather delay); Su 16 Castlebay overnight (weather); M 17 to Lochboisdale for roster; S 22 unable to berth Coll/Tiree a.m., after roster to Oban for start of winter Oban–Coll–Tiree/ Barra–S Uist/ **Craignure** roster; M 24 unable to call at Castlebay (weather, diverted north of Small Isles on return); F 28 Lochboisdale omitted (weather); S 29 + p.m. Tiree (livestock)
- Coruisk** **Mallaig–Armadale** roster. Occasional weather disruption. S 22 Oct after roster ex-Mallaig for **Ardrossan** (arr 0840 Su 23); M 24 to **Rothesay, Wemyss Bay** and **Garvel Greenock** for annual survey (with *Lord of the Isles*). F 4 Nov to JWD; S 5 trials, to Wemyss Bay for Rothesay roster from 1815 (relieving *Bute*).
- Eigg** **Oban–Lismore** roster. Occasional weather disruptions.
- Finlaggan** **Kennacraig–Port Askaig** roster. F 4 Nov 'cruised' towards **Port Ellen** during layover period (did not berth!).
- Hebridean Isles** At **Garvel Greenock** (JWD) undergoing modifications to propulsion control systems. S 1 Oct to **Kennacraig**; Su 2 resumed **Port Askaig/Colonsay/Oban** roster; Su 9 off service p.m. (tech → *Isle of Arran* recalled); Th 13 resumed service; W 19 to **Garvel Troon** for emergency repairs (drydocked); Th 20 to Kennacraig; F 21 resumed roster; S 29 introduced **new SO PA-Colonsay-Oban service**.
- Hebrides** **Uig–Lochmaddy/Tarbert** roster. M 3 Oct stormbound after 0940 Uig–Lochmaddy.
- Isle of Arran** **Kennacraig–Port Askaig/Colonsay/Oban** roster. Su 2 handed over to *Hebridean Isles* but remained at Kennacraig on standby; T 4 Oct to **Campbeltown** (lay-up); Su 9 to Kennacraig for Islay roster from M 10; Th 13 to Campbeltown after 0700 ex-Port Askaig; W 19 to Kennacraig for Islay roster; F 21 to Campbeltown; Th 27 to **Craignure**; F 28 to **Stornoway** for **Ullapool** freight roster from S 29 (occasional weather disruptions).
- Isle of Cumbrae** **Tarbert–Portavadie**. Occasional weather disruptions. Su 30 Oct handed over to *Loch Tarbert*, to **Largs** via Kyles of Bute; Su 31 on **Cumbrae Slip** roster (*Loch Shira u/s*). Su 6 Nov handed over to *Loch Shira* p.m., remained at Largs; T 8 resumed roster (*L/Shira u/s*).
- Isle of Lewis** **Stornoway–Ullapool** roster. T 18 & M 24 berthed Ullapool overnight (weather); S 22 delayed 2½ hours (weather); F 28 1735 sailing delayed till S 29 0500 (weather, *Muirneag* stormbound). T 2 Nov 1025/1350 cancelled (weather).
- Isle of Mull** **Oban–Craignure** roster. Occasional weather/tech disruptions. T 18 Oct stormbound Craignure p.m. Su 23 winter Oban–Craignure/**Colonsay** roster; M 24 no Colonsay (weather) → took p.m. Craignure (*Clansman* delayed). W 2 Nov turned back on Colonsay service (weather).
- Loch Alainn** **Ardmhor–Eriskay** roster. Occasional weather disruptions. Su 30 Oct to **Oban**; M 31 to **Campbeltown**. F 1 Nov to **Lochranza**; W 2 to **Largs**; Th 3 to **Colintraive** for **Rhubodach** roster.
- Loch Bhrusda** At **Rosneath** (spare). W 5 Oct to **Largs** and **Campbeltown**; F 7 to **Oban**; S 8 to **Mallaig**; M 10 took over **Small Isles** roster (occasional weather disruptions); Su 23 combined winter Small Isles/**Armadale** roster; S 29 to **Ardmhor** for **Eriskay** roster.
- Loch Buie** **Fionnphort–Iona** roster. Occasional weather disruptions. S 5 Nov to **Gigha**; Su 6 to **Lochranza**; M 7 to **Rothesay** to await slipping for survey.
- Loch Dunvegan** **Colintraive–Rhubodach** roster. Th 3 Nov to **Largs**, + ramp trials at **Cumbrae Slip** p.m., Su 6 to **Garvel Greenock** (drydocked with *Bute*) for annual survey.
- Loch Fyne** **Lochaline–Fishnish** roster.
- Loch Linnhe** **Tobermory–Kilchoan** roster. Th 20 Oct relieved by *Raasay* after 1300 service, to **Oban**; M 24 to **Gigha**; T 25 to **Largs**; W 26 to **Ardmaleish** for annual survey.
- Loch Portain** **Berneray–Leverburgh** roster. Occasional weather disruptions.
- Loch Ranza** **Gigha–Tayinloan** roster. Occasional weather disruptions.
- Loch Riddon** **Lochranza–Claonaig** roster (since T 27 Sep). S 1 Oct to **Largs**; F 14 to **Ardmaleish** for annual survey; T 25 to **Rothesay**. W 2 Nov to **Tarbert**; Th 3 combined winter **Portavadie/Lochranza** roster (*Loch Tarbert* off), to **Campbeltown** p.m.; F 4 to **Fionnphort**; S 5 **Iona** roster.

- Loch Shira** **Largs–Cumbrae Slip** roster. Su 30 Oct off service (tech – *Isle of Cumbrae* relieving). Su 6 Nov resumed roster p.m.; T 8 off service (tech – *I/Cumbrae* on roster).
- Loch Striven** **Raasay–Sconser** roster.
- Loch Tarbert** At **Rosneath** for repairs. F 30 Sep to **Largs** and **Lochranza**. S 1 Oct resumed **Claonaig** roster. Occasional weather disruptions incl. stormbound all day M 24; S 29 last day of Claonaig roster but only run diverted to **Tarbert** p.m.; Su 30 to Tarbert for winter combined **Portavadie/Lochranza** roster. Th 3 Nov off service till p.m. (*Loch Riddon* on roster).
- Lochnevis** **Mallaig–Small Isles** roster. S 9 Oct to **Craignure, Wemyss Bay** (arr 0900 M 10), and **Garvel Greenock** (JWD) for annual survey; W 12 – F 21 drydocked; Su 23 to **Gourock** (no berths at Garvel); M 24 trials; T 25 to Wemyss Bay and Mallaig; F 28 resumed combined winter Small Isles/**Armadale** roster; Su 30 **Canna/Armadale** roster cancelled (tech); M 31 ex-Mallaig for **Birkenhead**. W 2 Nov arr **Cammell Laird** drydock 0200 for emergency repairs; F 4 refloated; S 5 ex-Birkenhead p.m. for Mallaig; Su 6 diverted to **Ardrossan**; M 7 to Mallaig; T 8 resumed roster.
- Lord of the Isles** **Oban–Coll–Tiree/Barra–S Uist/ Colonsay/Craignure** roster. M 3 Oct unable to berth at Coll or Tiree, Colonsay cancelled p.m.; T 4 0730 to Colonsay for roster; Th 6 & M 17 Colonsay cancelled (weather); T 18 no Outer Isles (weather) → W 19 Oban–Lochboisdale–Castlebay–Oban; F 21 0700 ex-Castlebay delayed (weather); S 22 after roster ex-Oban for Clyde; Su 23 picked up pilot off Gourock, to **Garvel Greenock** (James Watt Dock); M 24 drydocked (with *Coruisk*) for annual survey. F 4 Nov to JWD; T 8 trials, to **Wemyss Bay, Brodick, Ardrossan** and **Campbeltown** (to await Islay service).
- Muirneag** **Stornoway–Ullapool freight** roster. Numerous weather disruptions. S 29 Oct handed over to *Isle of Arran*, ex-Stornoway p.m. for **Gydna** for survey (arr 2200 W 2 Nov).
- Orion** Chartered from Sea.fari, Armadale for **Mallaig–Small Isles** roster during *Lochnevis*' absence, sharing duties with *Loch Bhrusda* as required. Chartered again after *Lochnevis*' breakdown.
- Raasay** At **Oban** (spare). Th 20 Oct to **Tobermory** for **Kilchoan** roster from 1430.
- Saturn** At **Rosneath** (laid up).
- Spanish John II** Chartered from Milligan Transport to convey vehicles after *Lochnevis*' breakdown.
- Argyll Ferries Ltd**
- Ali Cat** **Gourock–Dunoon** rosters. Occasional disruptions. Su 6 Nov to **Ardmaleish** for annual survey.
- Argyll Flyer** **Gourock–Dunoon** rosters. Numerous disruptions including off service p.m. Su 2 until p.m. W 5 Oct (tech); F 21 & M 24 first few runs missed (tech). M 7 Nov commenced single vessel service for overhaul period.
- Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd:**
- Canna** Chartered to **Rathlin Island Ferry Ltd** for Rathlin–Ballycastle service.
- Other News:**
- CalMac Ferries Ltd:** After winning, for the second year in a row, 'Public Transport Operator of the Year' and 'Best ferry Company' awards, it came as a surprise when, on T 8 Nov, it was revealed that "as part of a re-focus" the company's Managing Director, Mr Phil Preston, had agreed to step down from his role within CalMac. No replacement was named at the time of the announcement.
- CMAL** announced on Th 3 Nov that Ferguson Shipbuilders, Port Glasgow, had been selected to construct two new 'hybrid' ferries, which would use lithium battery technology to supplement diesel-electric power. The first, destined for the Raasay service, should be delivered mid-2013. The ferries, a development of the 'Loch' class, will carry 150 passengers and 23 cars.
- Waverley Excursions:** *Waverley* began her season on F 22 Apr, sailing from Glasgow to Oban, calling at Campbeltown and (briefly) Colonsay. On S 23 she visited Tobermory and **Rum**. Next day saw her giving a '4 Lochs Cruise' and calls at Fort William. M 25 took her around Mull, calling at Tobermory instead of Iona because of sea conditions. On T 26 she headed north to Armadale, Mallaig, Inverie and Kyle. Next morning took her to Raasay and Broadford before cruising to Loch Nevis. Th 28 saw the steamer paying her first visit to **Gairloch**, while on F 29 she cruised Round Raasay before returning to Oban. S 30 she was back at Armadale, Mallaig and Inverie before sailing on Su 1 May to Coll. A cruise to Staffa was given on M 2, before *Waverley* returned to the Clyde on T 3. She moved into Garvel Drydock on W 4, remaining there until S 5 Jun, with the result that her first Bristol Channel sailings were cancelled. Back on the Clyde by the end of June, *Waverley* operated to a slightly modified schedule this year: she now cruised to Carrick Castle on Tuesdays and to Tarbert on Wednesdays. Special sailings were given during the Tall Ships visit to the Clyde in July. She left for the South Coast late on M 29 Aug, and returned in time to operate sailings mid-October. Her final cruise of the year – on Su 16 Oct from Glasgow to Largs, Rothesay and Tighnabruaich - was very well patronised, *Waverley* sailing with a full complement between Largs and Rothesay.
- Western Ferries:** The company announced at the beginning of September that they were intending to build two new ferries to replace *Sounds of Scalpay* and *Sanda*. It was hoped that the order could be placed on the Clyde or, at least, in the UK. *Sound of Shuna* was at Garvel from T 25 Oct until Th 3 Nov for annual survey.