

C R S C NEWSLETTER

09.11.11 – 31.12.11

During this period repeated spells of bad weather resulted in widespread disruption throughout the entire CalMac network, and beyond, and caused numerous altered, diverted and cancelled sailings.

CalMac Ferries Ltd:

- Argyle** **Wemyss Bay – Rothesay** rosters. Th 17 Nov to **Garvel (JWD)** for annual survey. Th 1 Dec to **Troon** for drydocking; Su 4 to Wemyss Bay, resumed own roster.
- Bute** At **Garvel** for annual survey. M 14 Nov undocked; W 16 trials; Th 17 resumed service on **Wemyss Bay – Rothesay** rosters.
- Caledonian Isles** **Ardrossan – Brodick** roster. Th 24 Nov diverted to **Gourock**.
- Clansman** **Oban – Coll – Tiree/Barra – S Uist/Craignure** roster.
- Coruisk** **Wemyss Bay – Rothesay** rosters (relieving *Bute* and *Argyle*). Su 4 Dec to **Rosneath** for winter lay-up.
- Eigg** **Oban – Lismore** roster.
- Finlaggan** **Kennacraig – Port Askaig** roster. M 21 Nov to **Colonsay** for berthing trials.
- Hebridean Isles** **Kennacraig – Port Askaig/Colonsay/Oban** roster. Su 13 Nov to **Garvel** for annual survey; T 15 – Su 27 drydocked. Th 1 Dec to **Campbeltown**; F 2 to Kennacraig for roster; T 13 diverted to **Craignure** (weather & tech problems en route); W 14 to Oban, repaired, to Port Askaig for roster.
- Hebrides** **Uig – Lochmaddy/Tarbert** roster. F 30 Dec delayed by engine problems (*Isle of Arran* assisting).
- Isle of Arran** **Stornoway – Ullapool** freight roster. T 20 Dec spare (*Muirneag* back); Th 29 relief sailing to Ullapool (freight); F 30 to **Tarbert** for one return sailing to **Uig** (*Hebrides* u/s), then to **Campbeltown** (arr 1100 S 31).
- Isle of Cumbrae** **Largs – Cumbrae Slip** roster (*Loch Shira* u/s). Su 13 Nov spare at Largs; T 22 to **Rosneath**.
- Isle of Lewis** **Stornoway – Ullapool** roster.
- Isle of Mull** **Oban – Craignure/Colonsay** roster. Su 4 Dec to **Garvel**; M 5 – M 19 drydocked (with *Hebridean Princess*); Th 22 trials; F 23 to Oban; S 24 resumed own roster; M 26 amended Craignure roster (*Lord of the Isles* → Colonsay).
- Loch Alainn** **Colintraive – Rhubodach** roster. W 23 Nov to **Largs**; Th 24 to **Tarbert** (shelter); S 26 to **Ardmaleish**. M 5 Dec to **Rothesay**; T 13 trials; W 14 to **Gourock** and **Rosneath**; T 20 to Largs for **Cumbrae Slip** roster (*Loch Shira* u/s); W 21 standby at Largs; T 27 resumed roster (*L/Shira* u/s).
- Loch Bhrusda** **Ardmhor – Eriskay** roster. M 5 Dec off service (tech); W 7 to **Stornoway** for repairs (arr 0345 Th 8); S 10 to Ardmhor; Su 11 resumed roster.
- Loch Buie** At **Rothesay** awaiting survey. Th 10 Nov to **Ardmaleish**; F 25 to Rothesay; T 29 to **Rhubodach** (ramp trials); W 30 to **Campbeltown** (tbc). Th 1 Dec to **Gigha** (tbc); F 2 to **Tobermory**; T 6 to **Fionnphort** for **Iona** roster.
- Loch Dunvegan** At **Garvel** for annual survey. M 14 Nov undocked; M 21 trials; W 23 to **Colintraive** for **Rhubodach** roster.
- Loch Fyne** **Lochaline – Fishnish** roster.
- Loch Linnhe** At **Ardmaleish** for annual survey. Th 10 Nov to **Rothesay**; Th 17 to **Largs**; S 19 to **Campbeltown**; Su 20 to **Tobermory**; M 21 to **Raasay** for **Sconser** roster. F 30 Dec to **Mallaig**.
- Loch Portain** **Berneray – Leverburgh** roster.
- Loch Ranza** **Gigha – Tayinloan** roster.
- Loch Riddon** **Fionnphort – Iona** roster. W 7 Dec to **Ardmhor** for **Eriskay** roster (*Loch Bhrusda* u/s); Su 11 to **Tobermory** for **Kilchoan** roster from M 12; M 19 handed over to *Raasay*; F 30/S 31 on roster again (*Raasay* off service).

- Loch Shira** Off service at **Largs** (tech, *Isle of Cumbrae* on roster). Su 13 Nov resumed **Cumbrae Slip** roster. T 20 Dec off service p.m. (tech, *Loch Alainn* on roster); W 21 resumed service; T 27 to **JWD** for repairs.
- Loch Striven** **Raasay – Sconser** roster. M 21 Nov to **Mallaig**; T 22 to **Tobermory**; Th 24 to **Craignure**; F 25 set off for Campbeltown but turned back to **Oban**. Th 1 Dec to **Campbeltown**; F 2 to **Lochranza**, **Rhubodach** and **Rothsay**; M 5 to **Largs**; T 6 to **Ardmaleish** for annual survey; Th 16 to **Rothsay**; T 20 trials; W 22 to **Rhubodach** and **Campbeltown**; Th 23 to **Oban**; Th 29 to **Tobermory**; F 30 to **Raasay** for own roster.
- Loch Tarbert** **Tarbert – Portavadie/Lochranza** combined winter roster.
- Lochnevis** **Mallaig – Small Isles/Armadale** winter roster.
- Lord of the Isles** At **Campbeltown**. Su 13 Nov to **Kennacraig** for **Port Askaig/Colonsay/Oban** roster; Th 17 sustained damage at Port Askaig while berthing; F 18 to **JWD** for repairs; S 19 to **Kennacraig** (arr 0130 Su 20) for roster. F 2 Dec to **Craignure**; M 5 **Oban – Craignure/Colonsay** roster; S 24 + **Coll/Tiree**; M 26 + **Colonsay (IoM on Craignure)**; T 27/W 28 at **Craignure**; Th 29/F 30 + **Oban – Craignure** roster; S 31 + **Coll/Tiree**.
- Muirneag** At **Gydnia** for survey. M 12 Dec sailed for **Stornoway** (arr 0920 T 20 – delayed on passage by weather), resumed freight service to **Ullapool**.
- Raasay** **Tobermory – Kilchoan** roster. M 12 – S 17 Dec off service (*Loch Riddon* relieving); F 30/S 31 off service (*L/Riddon* relieving).
- Saturn** At **Rosneath** (laid up). W 16 Nov moved to inner face of pier head to clear berth for *Coruisk*.

Argyll Ferries Ltd

- Ali Cat** At **Ardmaleish** for annual survey. Th 17 Nov to **Gourock**; F 18 trials; S 19 resumed **Dunoon** roster.
- Argyll Flyer** **Gourock – Dunoon** rosters. Su 20 to **Ardmaleish** for survey; Th 24 trials, to **JWD**; S 26 trials; M 28 resumed service.

Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd:

- Canna** Chartered to **Rathlin Island Ferry Ltd** for Rathlin – Ballycastle service.

Other News:

CalMac Ferries Ltd: An interim Managing Director has been appointed. Mr Gary Robertson, who began work for the company on M 14 Nov, is on a six-month contract and has held a number of senior positions in both private and public sector organisations.

P&O Ferries: Following damage sustained while attempting to berth at Troon in bad weather at the end of November, the freighter *Norcape* was unexpectedly withdrawn from service and sold to Turkish shipbreakers, bringing to an end the company's freight service to Larne. P&O reiterated that the seasonal passenger service to the Ayrshire port given by *Express* between March and October would continue.

Stena Line: *Stena Superfast VII* arrived at Loch Ryan Port from Poland on S 12 Nov, followed by *Stena Superfast VIII* on S 19. On S 19 and Su 20 both vessels conducted berthing trials at Belfast. After 150 years, ferry services from Stranraer ceased on M 21 Nov with a final sailing by *Stena Caledonia* to Belfast taking place at 0330. Operations then moved to the newly completed Loch Ryan Port with the two new ships each making three return sailings daily. *Stena Caledonia*, *Stena Navigator* and the HSS *Stena Voyager* were all laid up at Belfast.

Northern Isles: Prospective bidders for the services currently operated by NorthLink were announced at the end of November. Six companies have been invited to tender, including NorthLink and P&O Ferries. Streamline Shipping and Serco also showed interest in running both bundles of services - the Orkney/Shetland routes from Aberdeen, and the Pentland Firth crossing. In addition Pentland Ferries expressed interest in the latter, while Norwegian-based Sea-Cargo A/S only wished to bid for the Aberdeen-based services. The new contracts are due to start in July 2012.

Scottish Ferries Review: The Draft Ferries Plan was finally published on W 21 Dec. Proposed changes under consideration include enhanced two-ship services to Arran and Mull and the restructuring of services for the Small Isles to separate carriage of vehicles from an all-islands daily passenger service. A twice-weekly freight service between Kintyre and Ayrshire is also suggested. The consultation period closes at the end of March and a final Ferries Plan is due to be published later in the year which will provide clear strategic guidance for the provision of ferry services through to 2022.

**DISTRIBUTION OF VESSELS
31 DECEMBER 2011**

CalMac Ferries Ltd

<i>Argyle</i>	Rothesay–Wemyss Bay	Own service	(Rothesay)
<i>Bute</i>	Rothesay–Wemyss Bay	Own service	(Rothesay)
<i>Caledonian Isles</i>	Ardrossan–Brodict	Own service	(Ardrossan)
<i>Clansman</i>	Oban–Coll–Tiree/Barra–S Uist/Craignure roster	Own service	(Lochboisdale)
<i>Coruisk</i>	Winter lay-up	—	(Rosneath)
<i>Eigg</i>	Oban–Lismore	Own service	(Oban)
<i>Finlaggan</i>	Kennacraig–Islay	Own service	(Kennacraig)
<i>Hebridean Isles</i>	Kennacraig–Islay	Own service	(Kennacraig)
<i>Hebrides</i>	Uig–Tarbert/Lochmaddy	Own service	(Lochmaddy)
<i>Isle of Arran</i>	Awaiting annual survey	—	(Campbeltown)
<i>Isle of Cumbrae</i>	Winter lay-up	—	(Rosneath)
<i>Isle of Lewis</i>	Stornoway–Ullapool	Own service	(Stornoway)
<i>Isle of Mull</i>	Oban–Craignure/Colonsay	Own service	(Oban No 1 linkspan)
<i>Loch Alainn</i>	Largs–Cumbrae Slip	Own service	(Largs)
<i>Loch Bhrusda</i>	Ardmhor–Eriskay	Own service	(Ardmhor)
<i>Loch Buie</i>	Fionnphort–Iona	Own Service	(Fionnphort)
<i>Loch Dunvegan</i>	Colintraive–Rhubodach	Own service	(Colintraive)
<i>Loch Fyne</i>	Lochaline–Fishnish	Own service	(Lochaline)
<i>Loch Linnhe</i>	Winter reliefs, on passage Raasay → Gigha	—	(Mallaig)
<i>Loch Portain</i>	Berneray–Leverburgh	Own service	(Otternish)
<i>Loch Ranza</i>	Gigha–Tayinloan	Own service	(South Pier, Gigha)
<i>Loch Riddon</i>	Tobermory–Kilchoan	Relieving	(Tobermory)
<i>Loch Shira</i>	Off service	Repairs	(JWD, Greenock)
<i>Loch Striven</i>	Raasay–Sconser	Own service	(Raasay)
<i>Loch Tarbert</i>	Tarbert–Portavadie/Lochranza	Own winter service	(Tarbert, L/Fyne)
<i>Lochnevis</i>	Mallaig–Armadale/Small Isles	Own service	(Mallaig)
<i>Lord of the Isles</i>	Coll/Tiree (for <i>Clansman</i>)	—	(Oban No 2 linkspan)
<i>Muirneag</i>	Stornoway–Ullapool freight service	Own service	(Stornoway)
<i>Raasay</i>	Tobermory–Kilchoan	Own service	(Tobermory)

Argyll Ferries Ltd

<i>Ali Cat</i>	Gourock–Dunoon	Own service	(Gourock)
<i>Argyll Flyer</i>	Gourock–Dunoon	Own service	(Gourock)

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<i>Canna</i>	On charter to Rathlin Island Ferry Ltd	Own service	(Rathlin)
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Waverley Steam Navigation Co Ltd

<i>Waverley</i>		Winter lay-up	(Glasgow)
<i>Balmoral</i>		Winter lay-up	(Bristol)

Western Ferries (Clyde) Ltd

<i>Sound of Sanda</i>		In service	(Sandbank)
<i>Sound of Scalpay</i>		In service	(Kilmun)
<i>Sound of Scarba</i>		In service	(Hunter's Quay)
<i>Sound of Shuna</i>		In service	(Hunter's Quay)

P&O Irish Sea

<i>European Causeway</i>		In service	(Larne)
<i>European Highlander</i>		In service	(Cairnryan)
<i>Express</i>		Winter lay-up	(Belfast)

Stena Lina

<i>Stena Caledonia</i>		Laid up	(Belfast)
<i>Stena Navigator</i>		Laid up	(Belfast)
<i>Stena Voyager</i>		Laid up	(Belfast)
<i>Stena Superfast VII</i>		In service	(Loch Ryan Port)
<i>Stena Superfast VIII</i>		In service	(Belfast)

NorthLink

<i>Hamnavoe</i>		In service	(Stromness)
<i>Helliar</i>		In service	(Lerwick)
<i>Hildasay</i>		Survey	(Birkenhead)
<i>Hjaltland</i>		In service	(Aberdeen)
<i>Hrossey</i>		In service	(Lerwick)