

C R S C NEWSLETTER

01.01.12 – 07.02.12

CalMac Ferries Ltd:

- Argyle** **Wemyss Bay – Rothesay** rosters. T 3 Jan stormbound all day; W 4 roster 0845 to 1635 only (power cut at Rothesay, weather); W 25 diverted to **Gourock** p.m.
- Bute** **Wemyss Bay – Rothesay** rosters. T 3 Jan stormbound all day; W 4 roster 0800 to 1535 only (power cut at Rothesay, weather); M 9 off service a.m. (tech); W 25 diverted to **Gourock** p.m.
- Caledonian Isles** **Ardrossan – Brodick** roster. T 3 Jan stormbound Brodick all day; W 4 two runs only to **Gourock** (Ardrossan linkspan u/s); Th 5 to **Garvel** for annual survey (Th 5 – Th 19 drydocked with *Isle of Arran*); Su 22 to Ardrossan; M 23 resumed roster.
- Clansman** **Oban – Coll – Tiree/Barra – S Uist/Craignure** roster. T 3 Jan stormbound at Oban; Th 5 returned direct to Oban p.m.; F 6 + 0830 Oban – S Uist – Barra – Oban; Th 19 Outer Isles cancelled (weather); F 20 + 0530 Oban – S Uist – Barra – Oban; Su 22 after roster to **Stornoway** (arr 0700 M 23) for **Ullapool** roster; W 25 unable to berth Stornoway till 1745 (weather) → p.m. run cancelled.
- Coruisk** **At Rosneath** (winter lay-up).
- Eigg** **Oban – Lismore** roster. Occasional weather disruptions.
- Finlaggan** **Kennacraig – Port Askaig** roster. Th 26 – S 28 Jan off service (tech, *Isle of Arran* relieving).
- Hebridean Isles** **Kennacraig – Port Askaig** roster.
- Hebrides** **Uig – Lochmaddy/Tarbert** roster.
- Isle of Arran** At **Campbeltown** (spare). Th 5 Jan to **Garvel** for annual survey (Th 5 – Th 19 drydocked with *Caledonian Isles*); F 20 trials; S 21 to **Brodick** for Ardrossan roster but remained stormbound on arrival; Su 22 two runs to **Wemyss Bay** (Ardrossan closed by weather); M 23 to Campbeltown; W 25 to **Kennacraig**; Th 26 & F 27 **Islay** roster (*Finlaggan* off service); S 28 to Campbeltown.
- Isle of Cumbrae** At **Rosneath** (winter lay-up). Th 19 Jan to **Rothesay**; F 20 to **Ardmaleish** for annual survey. F 3 Feb to Rothesay.
- Isle of Lewis** **Stornoway – Ullapool** roster. Th 19 Jan p.m. run cancelled (weather); S 21 after first run remained Ullapool till 1025 Su 22 (weather); Su 22 after roster to **Birkenhead** (arr 2200 M 23) for annual survey.
- Isle of Mull** **Oban – Craignure/Colonsay** roster. T 3 Jan roster from 1200 (weather); W 4 turned back on Colonsay sailing; Th 19 remained Craignure overnight (weather); S 21 1100/1210 Craignure only (weather); W 25 Colonsay cancelled (weather).
- Loch Alainn** **Largs – Cumbrae Slip** roster. T 3 Jan roster till 1110, then 1315 'sailing by sailing' till 1740; W 4 roster till 1740 (no lighting at Cumbrae Slip); M 9 roster till 1540, then spare at Largs (*Loch Shira* on service); F 20 resumed Cumbrae Slip roster (*Loch Shira* off for survey). S 4 Feb roster till 1510; Su 5 to **Ardmaleish** for repairs; T 7 to Largs.
- Loch Bhrusda** **Ardmhor – Eriskay** roster. Occasional weather disruptions. M 6 Feb to **Lochmaddy**.
- Loch Buie** **Fionnphort – Iona** roster. Occasional weather disruptions.
- Loch Dunvegan** **Colintraive – Rhubodach** roster. T3 to Th 5 Jan roster affected by weather and power cuts (no slipway lighting at Rhubodach).
- Loch Fyne** **Lochaline – Fishnish** roster. T 3 and S 21 roster affected by weather.
- Loch Linnhe** At **Tobermory**. [*Erratum*: S 31 Dec 2011 Mallaig – Tobermory] T 5 Jan to **Gigha**; W 6 **Tayinloan** roster till 1550 (weed/sand blocking slip); occasional other disruptions (weather); S 28 to Kennacraig (diverted sailing) but unable to discharge traffic → returned to Gigha, roster cancelled; Su 29 to Kennacraig (diverted sailings, p.m. sailing pax only), on arrival Kennacraig p.m. no traffic → direct to Tobermory (*Loch Ranza* back); T 31 took 1000 & 1130 **Kilchoan** sailings. Th 2 Feb to **Ardmhor** for **Eriskay** roster from M 6.
- Loch Portain** **Berneray – Leverburgh** roster. Occasional weather disruptions incl. stormbound all day S 21 Jan.
- Loch Ranza** **Gigha – Tayinloan** roster. M 2 Jan diverted to **Kennacraig** (slip at Tayinloan obstructed by weed and sand); T 3 stormbound all day; W 4 to Kennacraig; Th 5 resumed roster; F 6 to **Lochranza**; S 7 to **Ardmaleish** for annual survey; F 20 to **Rothesay**; Th 26 to **Campbeltown**; Su 29 to Gigha; M 30 resumed roster.

Loch Riddon At **Tobermory** (spare). M 30 Jan to **Craighouse**; T 31 to **Tarbert** (tbc). T 7 Feb combined winter **Portavadie/Lochranza** roster.

Loch Shira In **JWD** for repairs. Th 5 Jan to **Largs**; M 9 trials, resumed **Cumbræ Slip** roster p.m.; F 20 to **Garvel** for annual survey (drydocked F 20 to M 30). Th 2 Feb trials; F 3 to Largs; S 4 resumed roster.

Loch Striven **Raasay – Sconser** roster.

Loch Tarbert **Tarbert – Portavadie/Lochranza** combined winter roster. Occasional weather disruptions. T 7 Feb to **Ardmaleish** for annual survey.

Lochnevis **Mallaig – Small Isles/Armadale** winter roster. Occasional weather disruptions.

Lord of the Isles At **Oban** (spare). M 2 Jan rostered **Colonsay** sailing; T 3 1100 ight to **Campbeltown** (in lieu 0900 to Ardrossan with pax); Th 5 to **Brodick** for **Ardrossan** roster from 1105 (weather); occasional weather disruptions; S 21 to Campbeltown (delayed by weather en route to relieve *Clansman*); Su 22 to **Lochboisdale** for Oban – **Coll – Tiree/Barra – S Uist/Craignure** roster from M 23.

Muirneag **Stornoway – Ullapool** freight roster. Numerous weather disruptions.

Raasay **Tobermory – Kilchoan** roster. Occasional weather disruptions.

Saturn At **Rosneath** (laid up).

Argyll Ferries Ltd

Ali Cat **Gourock – Dunoon** rosters.

Argyll Flyer **Gourock – Dunoon** rosters.

Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd:

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

Other News:

CMAL: The first steelwork for the first of the new hybrid ferries to be built at Port Glasgow was cut in a ceremony held on Monday 30 Jan.

Clyde Marine: The company has lost the SPT-funded contract to operate the ferry service between Gourock, Kilcreggan and Helensburgh. From the beginning of April, the Kilcreggan service will be operated by Clydelink (who currently run the Renfrew Ferry) using a new 60-passenger vessel, the company having submitted a significantly lower bid but which will not include a connection to Helensburgh. *Cruiser* was slipped at Ardmaleish for annual survey on M 6 Feb.

Western Ferries: *Sound of Scalpay* visited Garvel for annual survey (afloat) between Th 5 and T 17 Jan. *Sound of Scarba* was drydocked at Garvel for survey on W 1 Feb.

P&O Ferries: Fast craft *Express* was drydocked at Belfast for annual survey on M 6 Feb.

Strome Ferry: For the first time since October 1970, a ferry service was reinstated between Strome Ferry ("no ferry") and North Strome on M 16 Jan following a landslide on the A890 Strathcarron to Plockton road. The turntable ferry *Glenachulish*, usually employed at Kylerhea and able to carry six cars, has been chartered by Highland Council to provide sailings Mon-Sat from 0700 till 1800, with the passenger ferry *Sula Mhor* also providing morning and afternoon sailings, principally for schoolchildren.

NorthLink: *Hamnavoe* was relieved by *Hjaltland* on the Scrabster-Stromness service on Su 22 Jan, and headed to Birkenhead for her annual survey. During the company's refit period, the two freight ships are making additional sailings, each carrying up to 12 passengers.

Pentland Ferries: *Pentalina* had her annual survey at Aberdeen between M 9 and F 13 Jan: she resumed service next day. She also had an unusual overnight charter on M 30 Jan, conveying a cargo of contractors' plant to Sanday in connection with a new wind turbine development on the island.

Northern Isles: Late in January it was revealed that both Pentland Ferries and Sea-Cargo A/S had withdrawn from the bidding process for the Northern Isles ferry contract, leaving four companies – NorthLink, P&O Ferries, Serco and Streamline Shipping – all of whom intend bidding on both bundles (the Pentland Firth crossing and Aberdeen-Orkney-Lerwick services).

Orkney Ferries: *Earl Sigurd* was at Peterhead for annual survey from Su 8 to W 25 Jan. *Earl Thorfinn* left Kirkwall for survey at Peterhead on Th 26 Jan.