

DATE NEWS

31/01/09 **Loch Alainn** dep Gourock at 1000 for Campbeltown eta 1730. Her final destination is Lochaline where she is to relieve the **Loch Fyne** for overhaul on the clyde.

Oban – Craignure: Due to adverse weather the 1600 Oban/Craignure and 1700 Craignure/Oban services will be delayed by 2 hours as follows:- dep Oban 1800, arr Craignure 1846, dep Craignure 1900, arr Oban 1946.

Oban- Coll- Tiree: Due to adverse weather. The following timetable will operate: Dep Oban 0900, arrive Tiree 1240, dep Tiree 1255, arrive Coll 1355, dep Coll 1400, arrive Craignure 1645, dep Craignure 1700, arrive Oban 1745.

Oban – Colonsay: Yesterdays disrupted sailing will run today, dep Oban 1400.

Mallaig - Eigg - Muck - Rum – Canna: The Small Isles Service will be operating as follows: Depart Mallaig 0915, arrive Canna 1120, depart Canna 1130, arrive Rum 1225, depart Rum 1245, arrive Muck 1400, depart Muck 1410, arrive Eigg 1445, depart Eigg 1455, arrive Mallaig 1620.



Loch Alainn heading for Campbeltown today, and Loch Dunvegan sitting at Rhubodach

30/01/09 **Barra - Eriskay (Sound of Barra):** Cancelled due to adverse weather (review at 1500).

Oban - Lochboisdale/Castlebay – Oban: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Fionnphort – Iona: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Oban – Lismore: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Sconser – Raasay: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Mallaig – Armadale: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Berneray - Leverburgh (Sound of Harris): Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Mallaig - Eigg - Muck - Rum – Canna: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Oban-Colonsay: Cancelled due to adverse weather. The next sailing from Oban will be on Saturday 31st Jan at 14:00.

Tayinloan – Gigha: Due to adverse weather conditions this service has been **suspended** meantime. The situation will be reviewed later in the day.

Kennacraig-Port Ellen/Port Askaig: The 0945 from Kennacraig has diverted to Port Askaig in favour of Port Ellen, this in effect will mean that the scheduled 1800 sailing will leave from Port Askaig NOT Port Ellen as timetabled. Due to adverse weather conditions the 1800 sailing from Kennacraig tonight has been **cancelled**, also the 0700 sailing from Islay tomorrow (Saturday 31st January) has also been **cancelled**.

Gourock – Dunoon: This service is disrupted/delayed due to tidal conditions. Due to a high tide the 1420 from Gourock & 1450 from Dunoon have both been **cancelled**.

Tarbert (Loch Fyne) – Portavadie: Due to adverse weather conditions this service is running late.

29/01/09 **Loch Shira** resumed the Largs-Cumbrae slip route today after her recent overhaul. **Loch Alainn** moved to Gourock.

Strong winds were causing problems again today

Tarbert (Loch Fyne) - Lochranza (winter only): Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Barra - Eriskay (Sound of Barra): Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Oban - Lochboisdale/Castlebay – Oban: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Oban- Coll- Tiree: The vessel did not manage to berth at Coll, therefore the sailing is cancelled and is returning to Oban.

Fionnphort – Iona: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Kennacraig-Port Ellen/Port Askaig: Due to adverse weather conditions the 0700 sailing from Kennacraig this morning has now diverted to Port Askaig in favour of Port Ellen. This means that the 0945 from Islay will now be leaving from Port Askaig and NOT Port Ellen as timetabled.

Kennacraig-Port Ellen/Port Askaig: Due to adverse weather conditions the 0945 sailing from Kennacraig to Islay today will be diverting to Port Askaig in favour of Port Ellen. This means that the 1700 sailing from Islay tonight will be from Port Askaig and not Port Ellen as timetabled.

Kennacraig-Port Ellen/Port Askaig: Due to Adverse Weather the 1800 sailing from Kennacraig tonight has been cancelled. This in effect will mean that the 0700 sailing from Port Ellen (Friday 30/01/09) has also been **cancelled**.

Ullapool – Stornoway: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Ullapool – Stornoway(Freight): Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Berneray - Leverburgh (Sound of Harris): Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Sconser – Raasay: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

28/01/09 **Isle of Cumbrae** departed Tobermory at 0915 today for Campbeltown. She changed over with **Loch Linnhe** who has resumed the Tobermory-Kilhoan roster.

Kennacraig-Port Ellen/Port Askaig: Due to an adverse weather forecast and a running swell at Port Ellen, the 1800 sailing from Kennacraig to Islay tonight is diverting to Port Askaig in favour of Port Ellen. This means that the 0700 sailing from Islay tomorrow 29/01/09 will depart from Port Askaig and NOT Port Ellen as timetabled.

27/01/09 **Isle of Lewis** moved into dry dock this morning to begin her overhaul. **Raasay** moved at 1120 from Gigha south pier to Oban, while **Loch Linnhe** left Oban for Tobermory.

26/01/09 A slipway inspection of Tayinloan this morning (passed) let **Raasay** move to Gigha south pier(1050) with **Loch Linnhe** resuming full service. **Loch Ranza** departed Campbeltown this morning for Gigha. After a quick change over with **Loch Linnhe**, **Loch Ranza** resumed the Gigha - Tayinloan service at 1400. **Loch Linnhe** departed Tayinloan at 1300 for Oban.

Isle of Lewis arrived at Fredericia this evening at 2215 to begin her overhaul. She was delayed slightly in her long journey due to some rough weather in the North Sea.

25/01/09 **Loch Ranza** departed Rothesay for Gigha via a berth at Campbeltown. **Caledonian Isles** resumed the Arran roster this morning after her recent overhaul.

Wemyss Bay – Rothesay: Due to adverse weather and tidal conditions, services were diverted to Gourock. Sailings from Gourock were 1245 and 1430. Service resumed at 1515 to Wemyss Bay. The following sailings were cancelled from Wemyss Bay 1300, 1345 and 1430 and from Rothesay 1300 and 1345.

Gourock – Dunoon: Due to tidal conditions the 1220 from Gourock and the 1250 from Dunoon were **cancelled**. Service resumed at 1320.

Tayinloan – Gigha: Due to adverse weather conditions this service has been **cancelled** for the remainder of

the day. Normal service will resume tomorrow 26/01/09, weather permitting.

Kennacraig-Port Ellen/Port Askaig: Due to adverse weather the 1800 sailing from Kennacraig tonight will divert to Port Askaig in favour of Port Ellen. This means that the 0700 sailing from Islay tomorrow 26/01/09 will be from Port Askaig and NOT Port Ellen as timetabled.

Update: Tayinloan – Gigha: Due to an improvement in the weather conditions the **Raasay** will carry out additional sailings as follows:- Depart Gigha - 15:30hrs Depart Tayinloan- 16:00hrs The service will then be over until normal timetable commences tomorrow 26/01/09, weather permitting.

24/01/09 After completing today's runs, **Clansman** departed Ardrossan for Stornoway via a brief call at Castlebay to unload her gangways. **Clansman** is heading for Stornoway to cover **Isle of Lewis** for Overhaul.

Isle of Lewis also departed Stornoway today this time heading for Fredericia in Denmark for her overhaul and fuel conversion to heavy oil.

23/01/09 **Berneray - Leverburgh (Sound of Harris):** The 0800 Berneray to Leverburgh and 0920 Leverburgh to Berneray was delayed due to a technical issue.

Oban - Lismore: Due to a technical problem, the 1000 & 1100 sailings were cancelled. Service resumed at 1400.

Fionnphort – Iona: Due to essential repair work to the Iona slipway this service is operating a restricted timetable until further notice. Sailings depart Mon- Sat: Ex Iona - 0900, 1230, 1500, and 1815. Ex Fionnphort - 0845, 1215, 1445 and 1800.

22/01/09 Both **Caledonian Isles** and **Loch Shira** were towed out of Garvel dry dock this morning and moved back into JWD next door.

Strong winds were causing problems again for a while today:

Tayinloan - Gigha: **Raasay** was off for a while this morning but appears to have been sailing for a while later on. The service was suspended again from 1230.

Kennacraig - Islay: Sailings today are yet again running to and from Port Askaig.

Ullapool - Stornoway: The freight run will not be running this evening.

21/01/09 **Raasay** is confirmed as sailing on the Tayinloan - Gigha route today, as the pictures below show. **Loch Linnhe** remains tied up at the overnight berth at the south pier on Gigha. This also means that **Isle of Cumbrae** is covering on the Tobermory - Kilchoan run at the moment.

Loch Ranza came out of Ardmaleish and made her way back to Rothesay to finish off her overhaul.

In the Western Isles meanwhile, **Isle of Arran** was once again diverted to Port Askaig this evening instead of Port Ellen.



Raasay employed at Tayinloan today, and Loch Ranza making her way back to Rothesay

20/01/09 We believe **Isle of Cumbrae** is now running the sailings from Tobermory to Kilchoan and that **Raasay** is now covering on the Tayinloan - Gigha run. She should be able to get in at Tayinloan due to her having conventional propellers rather than Voith units protruding out beneath the hull, as **Loch Linnhe** does.

Not as many disruptions today - the only one being that the Islay sailing this evening is running to Port Askaig instead of Port Ellen once more.

19/01/09 WESTERN ISLES:

Tayinloan - Gigha: This service was today being advertised as running to and from Kennacraig. Also, from tomorrow it is to run to a set timetable: 0800 and 1300 ex Gigha and 1000 and 1445 ex Kennacraig. Passenger numbers are restricted to 12.

Berneray - Leverburgh: **Loch Portain** returned to Berneray on her first sailing today. This was to be reviewed at 1000 with a view to possibly sailing later on.

Barra - Eriskay: There were no sailings on the Sound of Barra run this morning.

Loch Striven was called out for emergency purposes last night. She was brought into overnight service to convey emergency vehicles across to Raasay to deal with a fire at Raasay House.

18/01/09 **Loch Tarbert** retraced her steps as far as Rhubodach this morning and dropped off crew cars she had been carrying since Lochranza yesterday.

CLYDE:

Ardrossan - Brodick: **Clansman** had her 1350 ex Brodick and 1515 ex Ardrossan cancelled, with a review due at 1600 regarding further sailings. In fact the 1640 sailing was diverted to Gourock and upon returning to Brodick, the ferry tied up for the night. Tomorrow's 0700 ex Ardrossan is therefore cancelled.

WESTERN ISLES:

Barra - Eriskay: Another idle day for **Loch Bhrusda** with no sailings across the Sound of Barra due to the weather.

Oban - Barra - South Uist: Todays outward sailing and tomorrow's inward sailing have been cancelled due to the weather.

Oban - Tiree - Coll: **Lord of the Isles** successfully berthed at Tiree this morning, however she was only able to offload a handful of vehicles before being forced to vacate the berth by very high winds. She was unable to call at Coll and made direct for Oban.

Tayinloan - Gigha: Winter seaweed and sand build-up at Tayinloan today caused the Gigha service to be diverted to Kennacraig. **Loch Linnhe** sailed from Gigha at 1045 and returned from Kennacraig at 1330.

Fionnphort - Iona: The afternoon sailings across the Sound of Iona were cancelled by the weather.

Oban - Lismore: Sailings were cancelled from 1430 onwards this afternoon.

Kennacraig - Islay: Once again, Islay sailings were diverted to Port Askaig today. **Hebridean Isles** made her way back to Islay from Oban after spending last night at the North Pier. She called at Colonsay to offload traffic from **Isle of Mull**'s aborted 1000 sailing on Friday.



Loch Tarbert at Rhubodach and Hebridean Isles back at Islay

17/01/09 No change in the weather today...

CLYDE:

Ardrossan - Brodick: Clansman carried out her sailings until 1325 when she arrived at Brodick. Sailings were then cancelled for the remainder of the day.

Wemyss Bay - Rothesay: Argyle saw her 1600 ex Rothesay cancelled. In fact there were no further sailings on the route after

then. **Argyle** and **Bute** changed berths at 1635 following cessation of sailings.

Colintraive - Rhubodach: Even **Loch Dunvegan** was forced off service from 1640 due to the winds.

Gourock - Dunoon: The 1620 and 1720 ex Gourock were both cancelled due to the wind and tides, however conditions didn't improve and all sailings thereafter were also off.

Tarbert - Portavadie / Lochranza: Despite successfully switching with **Loch Tarbert** at Lochranza this lunchtime, **Loch Riddon** was forced to miss her afternoon sailings to Portavadie. **Loch Tarbert** meanwhile made straight for Rothesay, omitting the usual call at Rhubodach to drop off crew cars.

Largs - Cumbrae Slip: Loch Alainn was off duty from 1610 onwards today



Loch Riddon back at Tarbert

WESTERN ISLES:

Tobermory - Kilchoan: The 1530 ex Tobermory was cancelled due to the weather.

Barra - Eriskay: Loch Bhrusda didn't sail at all today due to conditions in the Sound of Barra.

Tayinloan - Gigha: There were no sailings from 1310 onwards this afternoon, as **Loch Linnhe** was forced off service.

Uig - Tarbert - Lochmaddy: Hebrides only sailed at 1145 today, from Lochmaddy to Tarbert. She didn't sail after that.

Fionnphort - Iona: Loch Buie was unable to sail this afternoon due to the swell in the Sound of Iona.

Kennacraig - Islay: Isle of Arran was stormbound a Port Askaig this afternoon; th 1530 to Kennacraig and 1800 back to the island being cancelled.

Ullapool - Stornoway: Isle of Lewis' afternoon sailing at 1430 ex Stornoway was cancelled.

Oban - Lismore: This afternoon's 1700 ex Oban an 1800 ex Lismore were both cancelled.

Oban - Craignure: Isle of Mull stayed in Oban this afternoon. The 1600 and 2145 ex Oban and 1700 ex Craignure were cancelled.

Lochaline - Fishnish: Loch Fyne completed her 1600 ex Lochaline and return and then cancelled her 1645 ex Lochaline and all sailings thereafter.

Berneray - Leverburgh: Traffic for the afternoon sailing across the Sound of Harris was carried by **Hebrides** at 1145. **Loch Portain's** 1405 ex Berneray was cancelled due to the weather.

Oban - Barra - South Uist: Lord of the Isles sailed from Barra via Tiree and Coll on the delayed inward leg of her sailing yesterday, after being stormbound at Castlebay overnight.

Sconser - Raasay: Loch Striven was unable to sail due to the weather this afternoon.

16/01/09 More wind and therefore more disruptions, details shown below:

CLYDE:

Wemyss Bay - Rothesay: The 1510 ex Rothesay and 1600 ex Wemyss Bay were cancelled due to the weather.

Gourock - Dunoon: **Jupiter** was off between 1515 and 1720 this afternoon.

WESTERN ISLES:

Oban - Barra - South Uist: Lord of the Isles left Oban at 0600 this morning and carried out the outward leg of her special combined Coll/Tiree/Barra run but then became stormbound at Castlebay. She will sail back at 0800 tomorrow, again via Tiree and Coll.

Oban - Coll - Tiree: The rescheduled 1710 ex Tiree to Oban was cancelled as a result of the vessel being stuck at Barra.

Oban - Colonsay: Isle of Mull returned to Oban due to conditions making Colonsay inaccessible. **Hebidean Isles** will pick up traffic from Colonsay to Oban tomorrow, returning to Islay via Colonsay on Sunday morning.

Oban - Lismore: Isle of Cumbrae missed the 1700 ex Oban and 1800 ex Lismore due to the weather.

Uig - Tarbert / Lochmaddy: Hebrides sailed on an amended timetable today as follows: 0730 ex Lochmaddy to Uig, 0940 Uig - Lochmaddy, 1145 Lochmaddy - Tarbert - Uig, 1550 Uig - Tarbert - Lochmaddy.

Fionnphort - Iona: Loch Buie was off this afternoon due to weather and tidal conditions.

Kennacraig - Islay: all sailings were to and from Port Askaig today.

Ullapool - Stornoway: the afternoon sailing was delayed with a view to sailing at 1530. In the end this sailing was cancelled altogether

In other news now, **Isle of Cumbrae** was in charge of the Lismore run today, with **Loch Riddon** leaving Oban at 0640 for Campbeltown. **Eigg** arrived back in Oban at 1720 from Corpach where she has been undergoing repairs for the last few days.

15/01/09 After a quiet couple of days, the winds were back again today:

CLYDE:

Tarbert - Portavadie / Lochranza: Loch Tarbert was subject to disruption throughout the day on the Tarbert - Portavadie run. Her 1515/1545 run was cancelled but she did however manage a sailing at 1615.

Gourock - Dunoon: Jupiter was off service between 1415 and 1620 due to a very high tide.

Ardrossan - Brodick: Clansman made her fourth visit to Gouruock in three days with the 1640 ex Brodick.

WESTERN ISLES:

Barra - Eriskay: Loch Bhrusda had another enforced day off at the hands of the weather, with no sailings possible across the Sound of Barra.

Fionnphort - Iona & Tayinloan - Gigha: Iona and Gigha were once again cut off by the weather conditions preventing **Loch Buie** and **Loch Linnhe**, respectively, from sailing, however an attempt was made to get in at Tayinloan on the 1530 sailing, seaweed and sand permitting.

Islay services were operating to and from Port Askaig once more.

Oban - Lismore: With **Loch Riddon** on the scene in Oban, relieving for **Eigg**, it was her turn to become stormbound and Lismore again saw no sailings today.

Oban - Coll - Tiree: **Lord of the Isles** was unable to berth at Coll and returned straight to Oban. She will sail tomorrow, weather permitting to Barra via Coll and Tiree in a similar fashion to the summer Thursday sailings operated by **Clansman**.

Ullapool - Stornoway: Isle of Lewis became stormbound in Ullapool this morning and **Loch Portain** didn't sail at all. **Hebrides** was unusually also off for the whole day again.

14/01/09 **Loch Riddon** is confirmed as being in service on the Oban - Lismore route, as can be seen in these pictures below



Loch Riddon in action on the Lismore run

12/01/09 **Isle of Cumbrae** left Rosneath today and after calling at Gourock began to make her way out to Oban. She is off to relieve the **Eigg** which is suffering technical problems and has been off the Lismore run for the last

couple of days. **Loch Riddon** arrived in Oban this afternoon and took over the Lismore roster from 1400 and will continue until **Isle of Cumbrae** arrives on Wednesday.

The Oban - Craignure service was disrupted this afternoon. **Lord of the Isles** was unable to perform the 1600 ex Oban due to her relief sailing to Barra and back. She did call at Craignure on the way in to collect traffic for the 1700 sailing, while **Isle of Mull** carried out a delayed 1600 sailing from Oban at 1700, after her return from Colonsay.

11/01/09 Much the same today with more bad weather - here goes:

CLYDE:

Ardrossan - Brodick: **Clansman's** 1105 ex Brodick (she had berthed there overnight so the 0945 ex Ardrossan was off) was diverted to Gourock again today. As with yesterday, the 1640 also went northwards on departure from Brodick.

Tarbert - Lochranza: The sailing also didn't go today, with **Loch Tarbert** coming off duty at 1010.

Wemyss Bay - Rothesay: Following on from yesterday, the Polish twins were again sailing to and from Gourock throughout today.

Gourock - Dunoon: The 0920 ex Gourock sailed to Dunoon for passengers only and the service was then suspended until 1520.

Largs to Cumbrae sailings were again on and off through the day, however the planned vessel switch did take place, with **Loch Alainn** leaving Rothesay and making her way over to Largs to relieve **Loch Shira**, which in turn made for Gourock.



A rough day on the Clyde!

WESTERN ISLES:

Barra - Eriskay: Another easy day for **Loch Bhrusda**, as she remained tied up at Ardmhor all day.

Oban - Barra - South Uist: **Lord of the Isles** missed her Outer Isles sailing this afternoon. A decision was due at 1300 regarding the next sailing. This will in fact be tomorrow morning at 0600 when she will sail for Barra only.

Oban - Lismore: There were no sailings at all on the Iona, Lismore and Gigha crossings. Lismore was again falling foul of Eigg's technical issues.

Lochaline - Fishnish: **Loch Fyne** was unusually off this morning, though she did manage to carry out her 1600 sailing.

Uig - Tarbert - Lochaddy - Hebrides: **Hebrides** was off all day, as was **Loch Portain** on the Berneray - Leverburgh run.

10/01/09 More rough weather arrived on the scene today...well it is January after all!

CLYDE:

Ardrossan - Brodick: **Caledonian Isles** was running approximately half an hour late with the 0945 ex Ardrossan. After arriving at Brodick she then loaded up and diverted her delayed 1105 sailing to Gourock, returning at 1420 from the more sheltered pier. The 1640 ex Brodick was also diverted to Gourock, though by this time **Clansman** had arrived to relieve the regular vessel. **Caledonian Isles** then followed her relief upriver and made for JWD.

Tarbert - Lochranza: **Loch Tarbert** didn't venture out to Lochranza today due to the weather.

Wemyss Bay - Rothesay: **Argyle and Bute** were diverted to Gourock today, the last sailing from the mainland being at 1715.

Gourock - Dunoon: **Jupiter** was stormbound at Gourock at various points throughout the day.

Largs - Cumbrae Slip: **Loch Shira** was subject to disruptions throughout the day, sometimes managing to sail, sometimes not.

WESTERN ISLES:

Barra - Eriskay: **Loch Bhrusda** didn't sail on her first three rostered departures today - we are not sure if the 1710 sailed or not.

Oban - Coll - Tiree: **Lord of the Isles** didn't sail this morning, though weather permitting there should be a sailing tomorrow at 0600.

Uig - Tarbert / Lochmaddy: **Hebrides** was off until early afternoon, taking a delayed sailing from Lochmaddy at 1400 to Uig, via Tarbert.

Fionnphort - Iona: **Loch Buie** was welcomed back to her home station by being stormbound all day.

Kennacraig - Islay: Islay services were diverted once again to Port Askaig.

Ullapool - Stornoway: **Isle of Lewis** missed her morning run to Ullapool, with a review to take place at 1300 regarding the afternoon sailing. She did indeed sail in the afternoon, with an intended departure time of 1430 from Stornoway.

Oban to Lismore: Sailings were off today, but this was not due to the weather - **Eigg** instead deciding to develop technical problems.

Berneray - Leverburgh: **Loch Portain's** reason for missing her sailings was entirely down to the weather though and she didn't leave Otternish all day.

Sconser - Raasay: **Loch Striven** initially had her sailings cancelled from 0845 onwards, however a moderation in conditions led to an attempted sailing at 1530 to Sconser and back - the only sailing of the day.

Mallaig - Small Isle & Armadale: **Lochnevis** didn't leave Mallaig today, again due to the weather.

09/01/09 Rough weather in the Western Isles led to **Loch Bhrusda's** last sailing from Ardmhor to Eriskay being brought forward from 1710 to 1515.

Elsewhere, **Loch Buie** left Port Askaig this morning and returned to Fionnphort where she relieved **Loch Riddon** and took over the temporarily restricted Iona service. **Loch Riddon** then made her way round the north end of Mull and berthed at Tobermory.

08/01/09 **Loch Buie** left Campbeltown this morning and made it as far as Port Askaig, where she has tied up for the night.

Loch Dunvegan was off service again for a while today with water pump problems. Zak observed a white van on her car deck and a lot of hammering coming from onboard, indicating that work was in progress, while **Loch Alainn** tended to the Colintraive - Rhubodach service.



Loch Buie alongside on Islay

07/01/09 **Loch Buie** left Rosneath this morning as she starts her return journey to Iona. We believe part of the reason for her extended stay on the Clyde is due to the large vehicles being carried over to Iona to work on the slipway, which **Loch Riddon's** lack of car deck height restriction is better suited to carry. She is staying tonight at Campbeltown.

Jupiter missed several sailings this afternoon. **Ali Cat** was called in to take the 1420 sailing to Dunoon and back for passengers only, and **Jupiter** was then back on service from 1520.

05/01/09 Services on the Fionnphort - Iona crossing are restricted again until further notice due to ongoing slipway repairs. **Loch Riddon** will depart Fionnphort at 0845, 1215, 1445 and 1800, returning from Iona 15 minutes later. These are once again in addition to the request sailings earlier in the morning.

04/01/09 **Loch Ranza** moved round from the wires at Gourock and took her place at Ardmaleish today. She had to head up to Gourock a few days ago because there was no space at Rothesay; the inner berth being taken by **Loch Alainn**, which is in turn waiting for **Loch Shira** to go for her own overhaul in a few days' time.

03/01/09 **Lord of the Isles** spent today playing musical berths. Having spent last night at Oban's No1 berth, she had to move to No2 at 0720 so that **Isle of Mull** could get in. Later in the day she had to cross to Craignure to allow both **Clansman** and **Isle of Mull** in at Oban for the afternoon. The south berth at Craignure was unavailable, being taken by HM Customs vessel **Seeker**. **Lord of the Isles** then had to vacate the linkspan again at 1630 so that **Isle of Mull** could get in once more.



Pictures from the SoC trip to Mull today, Isle of Mull, Loch Riddon and Raasay in service

02/01/09 It was Boxing Day all over again today with reduced timetables in effect once more for the bank holiday. Normal timetables will resume tomorrow.

01/01/09 Happy New Year to all from the SoC Team

We hope your hangovers haven't been too severe this fine, crisp morning. As with Christmas, there hasn't been any movement today and services will resume tomorrow. So with no news to report, why not have a look back at the last 12 months in our temporary feature [here](#).

DATE NEWS

28/02/09 **Loch Fyne** departed Gourock for Mull this morning. After completing ramp trials at both Largs and Cumbrae slip, she made for Cambeltown.

Kennacraig-Port Ellen/Port Askaig: This morning's 0415 departure from Islay is from Port Ellen rather than Port Askaig, due to last night's diversion.

Leverburgh-Berneray: Disrupted today due to a low tide, please contact local offices for today's timetable.

Mallaig-Armadale(Vehicle): Due to essential maintenance being carried out on Armadale Linkspan, this service will be passenger only.

27/02/09 **Loch Bhrusda** sailed for Craignure today, after leaving Port Askaig at 0615 she called briefly at Oban before arriving at Craignure at 1430. **Loch Fyne** conducted sea trials today. After completion, she berthed at Gourock for the rest of the day, arriving there around 1130.

Kennacraig-Port Ellen/Port Askaig: The 1800 departure from Kennacraig tonight has diverted to Port Ellen due to adverse weather.

Leverburgh-Berneray: Disrupted today due to a low tide, please contact local offices for today's timetable.

Mallaig-Armadale(Vehicle): Due to essential maintenance being carried out on Armadale Linkspan, this service will be passenger only.

26/02/09 **Isle of Arran** conducted sea trials today, departing JWD at 1100. After adjusting compasses etc, at the tail of the bank, she went for a quick sail down the Clyde and back up to JWD to continue her overhaul. **Loch Bhrusda** sailed at 0930 from Campbeltown for Port Askaig where she arrived at 1610.



Isle of Arran in JWD

Leverburgh-Berneray: Disrupted today due to a low tide, please contact local offices for today's timetable.

Mallaig-Armadale(Vehicle): Due to essential maintenance being carried out on Armadale Linkspan, this service will be passenger only.

25/02/09 **Loch Bhrusda** departed Rothesay at 1005 today for Campbeltown where she arrived at 1500.

Stornoway-Ullapool: Due to technical problems, today's 0715 departure from Stornoway departed at 0800.

Leverburgh-Berneray: Disrupted today due to a low tide, please contact local offices for today's timetable.

Mallaig-Armadale(Vehicle): Due to essential maintenance being carried out on Armadale Linkspan, this service will be passenger only.

24/02/09 **Mallaig-Armadale(Vehicle):** Due to essential maintenance being carried out on Armadale Linkspan, this service will be passenger only.

23/02/09 **Clansman** arrived at Gourock HQ this morning to unload crew cars. After sitting in Loch Long, she moved over to Gourock. She then made for Garvel Dry Dock to begin her 2 week overhaul.

Mallaig-Armadale(Vehicle): Due to essential maintenance being carried out on Armadale Linkspan, this service will be passenger only for this coming week.

Gourock-Dunoon: the 1520/1550 sailing from Gourock today was cancelled due to technical reasons.

22/02/09 **Clansman** sailed to Coll and Tiree today covering **Lord of the Isles**. After returning to Oban, **Clansman** swapped back with **Lord of the Isles** who sailed to the Outer Isles as per timetable. **Clansman** remained in Oban for a few hours before setting off for Gourock to begin her overhaul.

21/02/09 **Clansman** moved down to Oban this morning after handing back the Ullapool-Stornoway service to the **Isle of Lewis** last night. **Clansman** is temporarily in Oban to let **Lord of the Isles** undertake some visor maintenance at the North Pier. **Clansman** sailed to Coll and Tiree as per timetable.

20/02/09 **Isle of Lewis** still remains in Ullapool today, only moving to let **Clansman** in with service traffic. It is unusual for a returning vessel, from overhaul, not to take up service immediately. **Clansman** is due for overhaul this coming Monday, 23rd February.

19/02/09 **Isle of Lewis** arrived back in Ullapool this morning around 1000. She has remained there all day, only moving to let **Clansman** in to the berth with service traffic. **Isle of Mull** arrived into Craignure 10 minutes early today on her 1200 sailing from Oban, arriving at 1235 instead of 1245 as timetabled.

18/02/09 **Loch Bhrusda** came off Ardmaleish slip tonight and moved to Rothesay harbour to complete her overhaul. She is due to move to the Sound of Harris service, once overhaul is complete, to let **Loch Portain** away to Greenock for overhaul.

Wemyss Bay – Rothesay: Due to technical reasons the 1600 and 1730 sailings from Rothesay and the 1645 and 1815 sailings from Wemyss Bay have been cancelled.

17/02/09 After completing extensive trials, **Isle of Lewis** departed Fredericia for home waters. Her ETA to Ullapool is midday on Thursday, 19th February.

10/02/09 Today's 1300hrs departure from Kennacraig was delayed by 30 minutes due to technical problems. The **Hebridean Isles** departed Kennacraig at 1330hrs arriving at Port Askaig at 1530hrs.

09/02/09 **Loch Fyne** and **Isle of Arran** moved into Garvel Dry Dock this morning to begin their annual overhaul.

07/02/09 **Loch Tarbert** moved from Rothesay harbor to Rosneath for lay up today until the beginning of the summer timetable. **Loch Tarbert** was noted to be using her newly fitted AIS system. **Isle of Arran** left Kennacraig this morning for JWD, Greenock, to begin her overhaul along with the **Loch Fyne**.



Kennacraig-Port Ellen/Port Askaig: The early morning sailing from Islay on 07/02/09 will now leave at 0700 from Port Askaig - NOT 0415 **Loch Tarbert heading for Rosneath** as timetabled.

06/02/09 **Loch Bhrusda** swapped places with **Loch Tarbert** on Ardmaleish slip today. **Loch Tarbert** then moved to Rothesay harbor to complete her overhaul. **Isle of Cumbrae** has also been noted to be on Ardmaleish slip undergoing her annual overhaul.

Ullapool – Stornoway: Due to the heavy volumes of traffic, **Clansman's** lower carrying capacity and a heavy northerly swell, this service is currently running 1.5-2hrs late.

Ullapool – Stornoway (Freight): Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Fionnphort – Iona: Maintenance on the Iona Slipway has been extended by an additional 4 weeks until the end of February. This service is operating a restricted timetable until further notice. Sailings depart Mon-Sat: Ex Iona - 0900, 1230, 1500, and 1815. Ex Fionnphort - 0845, 1215, 1445 and 1800.

This week's Oban Times reports that funding for a new Lismore ferry is unlikely in the next five years. To read the full article, follow this link – [Oban Times Lismore article](#)

05/02/09 **Loch Bhrusda** arrived on the Clyde today. After unloading crew cars at Rhubodach she moved to Rothesay harbor to await overhaul.

Ullapool – Stornoway (Freight): Cancelled due to a heavy northerly swell.

04/02/09 **Ullapool – Stornoway:** Ullapool 1735 dep on Wed 4th and Stornoway 0700 dep on Thurs 5th Feb have been cancelled due to adverse weather conditions.

Ullapool – Stornoway (Freight): Cancelled due to adverse weather.

03/02/09 **Loch Bhrusda** departed Tobermory at 0930 this morning for Kennacraig for an overnight berth. With **Loch Linnhe** covering the Sound of Barra roster, **Loch Bhrusda** is heading for Ardmaleish on the Clyde for overhaul.

Ullapool – Stornoway (Freight): Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Uig – Lochmaddy: The 0940 sailing has been cancelled due to adverse weather. **Hebrides** has diverted to Tarbert and is due to arrive in Tarbert at 1150.

Fionnphort – Iona: Due to essential repair work to the Iona slipway this service is operating a restricted timetable until further notice. Sailings depart Mon- Sat: Ex Iona - 0900, 1230, 1500, and 1815. Ex Fionnphort - 0845, 1215, 1445 and 1800.

01/02/09 **Caledonian Isles** was suffering from some technical problems this morning. The 1230 sailing from Ardrossan departed at 1250. She is due to arrive in Brodick at 13.45 and will depart again as soon as possible.

Loch Alainn continued on her journey to Lochaline, today departing Campbeltown for Craignure for an overnight berth. She is due to change with **loch Fyne** at Lochaline at 0630 tomorrow morning.

Fionnphort – Iona: Due to essential repair work to the Iona slipway this service is operating a restricted timetable until further notice. Sailings depart Mon- Sat: Ex Iona - 0900, 1230, 1500, and 1815. Ex Fionnphort - 0845, 1215, 1445 and 1800.

DATE NEWS

31/03/09 **Isle of Arran** arrived at Birkenhead today. **Loch Bhrusda** handed the Sound of Harris service back to **Loch Portain** and headed for Craignure.

Kennacraig – Islay: Due to technical reasons the 0700hrs sailing from Islay has been rescheduled to be departing at 0415hrs on Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st March. The following sailings have been withdrawn from service x Kennacraig at 0945hrs and x Islay at 1800hrs on the 30th and 31st March.

30/03/09 **Isle of Arran** left Oban today for Birkenhead where she is to have repairs carried out. **Loch Portain** moved from Craignure out to Otternish today to resume her own roster.

Ardrossan – Brodick: Due to technical problems with Brodick gangway, the delayed 1640hrs sailing departed Brodick at 1900hrs. The expected arrival in Ardrossan is approximately 1955hrs where she will return to Brodick once loaded to berth overnight. As a result, the 1920hrs sailing from Brodick this evening and the 0700hrs sailing from Ardrossan tomorrow are cancelled. The first sailing will depart Brodick at 0820hrs.

Kennacraig – Islay: Due to technical reasons the 0700hrs sailing from Islay has been rescheduled to be departing at 0415hrs on Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st March. The following sailings have been withdrawn from service x Kennacraig at 0945hrs and x Islay at 1800hrs on the 30th and 31st March.

29/03/09 **Loch Portain** left Campbeltown for Craignure today.

Kennacraig – Islay: the 0900 sailing from Kennacraig and the 1250 from Islay cancelled for technical reasons. 30th March - the scheduled 0700 sailing from Islay is rescheduled to depart at 0415 and the 0945 sailing from Kennacraig is cancelled.

Berneray – Leverburgh: Cancelled due to technical reasons.

Claonaig – Lochranza: Due to adverse weather conditions the 1715 sailing from Lochranza has been diverted to Tarbert, due to arrive approximately 1830. There will be a 1845 from Tarbert to Lochranza due to arrive at approximately 2010, and this will be the last sailing of the day.

28/03/09 **Loch Portain** successful sailed to Campbeltown today on the first leg of her homeward journey. **Hebrides** arrived in Oban this morning after her overnight sail from JWD. After berthing at berth 2, she lay there until 1600 where she departed for Barra and later Lochmaddy. **Isle of Arran** undertook this morning's Tiree roster before handing over to **Hebrides** in Oban. **Isle of Arran** was then timetable to undertake a special sailing to Colonsay and Kennacraig but suffered technical problems while leaving

Oban, so this run was cancelled. After completing today's runs, **Clansman** moved to Castlebay to resume her summer roster after relieving the **Hebrides**.

Mallaig – Small Isles: Disrupted due to adverse weather.

Kennacraig – Islay: Due to operational reasons the following sailings have been withdrawn or changed from service: - 0945hrs ex Kennacraig Saturday 28th March – withdrawn from service. 1800hrs ex Port Ellen Saturday 28th March – withdrawn from service.

Oban – Colonsay: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Berneray – Leverburgh: Disrupted due to tidal conditions. 1030 and 1330 sailing from Berneray cancelled - 1135 and 0445 from Leverburgh cancelled. Extra sailing will depart Berneray 0935 and Leverburgh 1230. Please contact Lochmaddy office (01876) 500337(option2) or Tarbert office 01859 502444 (option2).

Uig – Lochmaddy: Disrupted due to the volume of traffic.

27/03/09 **Loch Portain** attempted to sail to Campbeltown today on her way home to Oban, however, due to adverse weather she had to turn back off Garroch Head. After a brief call at Millport for a weather window, that did not come, she returned to Gourock. **Lord of the Isles** took today's Tiree roster with **Isle of Arran** taking the afternoon's Barra run. **Hebrides** left JWD tonight for Oban where she will take tomorrow's 1540 Barra run.

26/03/09 **Isle of Cumbrae** took today's Tarbert-Portavadie-Lochranza roster from **Loch Tarbert** who returned to Lochranza. **Hebrides** underwent trials today which included compass adjustments and a call at Gourock before returning to JWD. **Loch Portain** also underwent trials today. After completing today's runs, **Isle of Arran** left Kennacraig for Craignure.

Uig – Lochmaddy: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Uig – Tarbert: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Kennacraig – Islay: The 0700hrs from Kennacraig diverted to Port Askaig, this means that the 0945hrs from Islay will now be from Port Askaig and NOT Port Ellen as timetabled. Due to operational reasons the following sailings have been withdrawn or changed from service: - 17:00hrs ex Port Ellen Thursday 26th March – changed to 20:45hrs 07:00hrs ex Port Ellen Friday 27th March – withdrawn from service. 09:45hrs ex Kennacraig Friday 27th March – withdrawn from service. 18:00hrs ex Port Ellen 27th March - withdrawn from service. 07:00hrs ex Port Askaig Saturday 28th March – changed to 04:15hrs. 09:45hrs ex Kennacraig Saturday 28th March – withdrawn from service. 18:00hrs ex Port Ellen Saturday 28th March – withdrawn from service. Normal service will resume on Sunday 29th March as per timetable.

Stornoway – Ullapool: Disrupted due to adverse weather.

Stornoway – Ullapool (freight): Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Mallaig – Small Isles: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Oban – Barra/Lochboisdale: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Ardrossan – Brodick: Due to technical problems, **Caledonian Isles** is running 1 hour late. *Update:* Due to continuing Adverse Weather conditions **Caledonian Isles** will be berthing overnight in Brodick and the 1920hrs sailing this evening, and the 0700hrs sailing from Ardrossan tomorrow, Friday 27th March 2009, have both been cancelled. This service will remain liable to disruptions or cancellations for the remainder of the day.

Fionnphort – Iona: Disrupted due to adverse weather.

Berneray – Leverburgh: 1000 & 1530 sailings from Berneray and 1640 sailing from Leverburgh have been cancelled. Next sailing will be 0715 from Berneray on Friday 27th March weather permitting.

25/03/09 **Isle of Cumbrae** left Rosneath today, after a brief call at Gourock she left for Lochranza.

Ardrossan – Brodick: Due to adverse weather the 1350/1515 sailing from Brodick has been cancelled. The situation will be reviewed at 1600.

24/03/09 **Hebrides** and **Loch Portain** moved from Garvel Dry Dock to James Watt Dock and Gourock to complete their annual overhaul.

23/03/09 **Oban - Colonsay:** Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Ardrossan – Brodick: Due to adverse weather; 0700/0820 delayed to 0945/1105. 1640/1800 cancelled.
Final sailing from Brodick to Ardrossan is at 1920.

22/03/09 **Stornoway - Ullapool (Freight):** Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Colintraive – Rhubodach: Disrupted due to adverse weather.
Largs - Cumbrae Slip: Disrupted due to adverse weather.

17/03/09 CMAL have published Executive Summaries for both Port Ellen & Kennacraig. These include proposed plans for the pier works. Click links below:

[**Port Ellen Report**](#)

[**Kennacraig Report**](#)

Wemyss Bay – Rothesay: Due to technical reasons with **Bute** the 0930 sailing from Rothesay and the 1015 sailing from Wemyss Bay are both cancelled. **Bute** resumed service with the 1100 dep from Rothesay.

15/03/09 **Hebrides** arrived on the Clyde this morning to begin her overhaul, after a brief call at Gourock, she moved to James Watt Dock to join **Loch Portain** in the wet basin.

Update: **Hebrides** entered Garvel Dry Dock at 1300 today along with **Loch Portain**.

Fionnphort – Iona: Due to essential repair work to the Iona slipway this service will be operating a restricted timetable until further notice Sailings are: Dep Iona 0845 1215 1445 and 1800 hrs. Dep Fionnphort 0900 1230 1500 1815. Tel 01680812343

14/03/09 **Clansman** arrived at Lochmaddy this morning to relieve **Hebrides** for overhaul. After a quick change, **Hebrides** left for Garvel.

Update: **Hebrides** entered the Sound of Mull at 1630 on her journey to her birthplace. She is due at Gourock at 0620 tomorrow morning.

Ardrossan-Brodick: With **Caledonian Isles** spending last night at Brodick, today's 0700 from Ardrossan has been cancelled. Service will begin with the 0820 from Brodick.

Oban-Coll-Tiree: Cancelled due to adverse weather

Kennacraig-Port Ellen/Port Askaig: due to adverse weather, the 0700 sailing to Port Ellen has been diverted to Port Askaig. This means the 0945 from Islay will be from Port Askaig and not Port Ellen as timetabled.

Fionnphort-Iona: Suspended due to adverse weather, situation will be reviewed at 1215

Barra-Eriskey: Cancelled due to adverse weather, will be reviewed at 1200

Berneray-Leverburgh: the 0945 and 1100 departures from Berneray have been cancelled due to adverse weather. Sailings will hopefully resume with the 1530 from Berneray.

Oban-Craignure: Disrupted, some sailings are cancelled/disrupted by adverse weather, contact Oban Office for up to date timetable information. Sailings will resume, weather permitting, at 1600 from Oban.

13/03/09 **Clansman** ventured out for trials this morning after overhaul. She proceeded to adjust compasses etc before heading down river to Cumbrae where she turned and sailed back up to the tail of the bank. She later berthed at Gourock linkspan to unload garvel crew and load crew cars. She then departed for Uig to relieve her sister.

Ardrossan-Brodick: Due to adverse forecast for tomorrow, **Caledonian Isles** will spend tonight at Brodick. As a result tomorrow's 0700 sailing from Ardrossan has been cancelled and the timetable will resume with the 0820 sailing from Brodick tomorrow morning.



Clansman returning to Gourock after trials this morning.

12/03/09 **Isle of Cumbrae** left Rothesay today and moved to Rosneath for lay up until the beginning of the summer timetable. **Raasay** resumed Lismore service this morning after suffering gearbox problems.

Oban-Craignure: disrupted due to Craignure gangway being out of order.

11/03/09 **Stornoway-Ullapool(Freight):** Cancelled due to adverse weather.

10/03/09 **Oban-Lismore:** Due to technical problems with **Raasay**, this service is cancelled.

09/03/09 **Loch Tarbert** moved from Rosneath to Gourock today. After a brief call at the linkspan, she berthed at the wires. **Loch Tarbert** later moved to Tarbert (Loch Fyne) to relieve **Loch Riddon** who is moving to Oban to cover the disabled **Raasay**.

Kennacraig_Port Ellen/Port Askaig: due to last night's diversion, today's 0700 sailing will be from Port Askaig, not Port Ellen.

Ardrossan-Brodick: this morning's 0700 sailing from Ardrossan has been cancelled, service will resume from Brodick as per timetable at 0820.

Berneray-Leverburgh: Due to tidal conditions, this service is liable to disruption today.

Oban-Lismore: Due to technical problems with **Raasay**, this service is cancelled. The situation will be reviewed in the afternoon.

Oban-Barra-Lochboisdale: Due to adverse weather, this service is cancelled.

08/03/09 **Loch Shira** will spend tonight at Gourock due to the weather forecast.

Oban-Coll-Tiree: Due to adverse weather, this service is cancelled.

Berneray-Leverburgh: Disrupted due to adverse weather.

Ardrossan-Brodick: **Caledonian Isles** undertook a 0820 sailing from Brodick to Ardrossan to pick up her 0920 timetabled sailing, after spending last night at Brodick. Today's sailings are liable to disruptions.

Update: Due to adverse weather forecast, **Caledonian Isles** will spend tonight at Brodick. As a result, tomorrow's 0700 sailing from Ardrossan is cancelled.

Stornoway-Ullapool: Due to yesterday's cancellations, there is an unscheduled sailing at 11am this morning from Ullapool to Stornoway.

Oban-Barra-Lochboisdale: Today's 1500 sailing from Oban has been cancelled due to adverse weather.

Kennacraig-Port Ellen/Port Askaig: Due to adverse weather, the 1800 sailing from Kennacraig is being

diverted to Port Askaig. As a result, tomorrow's 0700 sailing from Islay will be from Port Askaig, not Port Ellen as timetabled.

Oban-Lismore: Due to technical problems with **Raasay**, this service is cancelled.

07/03/09 **Stornoway-Ullapool:** the 0700 departure from Stornoway to Ullapool has been cancelled. The 1430 departure from Stornoway is delayed until further notice.

Update: Isle of Lewis departed Stornoway at 1820 (delayed 1430) this evening for Ullapool. The 1815 sailing from Ullapool has been cancelled.

Ardrossan-Brodick: Due to adverse forecast for tomorrow, **Caledonian Isles** will spend tonight at Brodick. As a result and weather permitting there will be an unscheduled 08:20 sailing from Brodick to Ardrossan tomorrow morning.

06/03/09 After unloading crew cars at Largs, **Loch Portain** arrived in JWD.

Stornoway-Ullapool: After suffering engine problems arriving in Ullapool, **Isle of Lewis** moved to the fishery berth at Ullapool for repairs. The 1735 dep from Ullapool and the 0700 dep from Stornoway tomorrow morning have been cancelled.



Loch Portain arriving at JWD

05/03/09 **Barra-Eriskey:** the 1815 sailing from Eriskey is delayed to accommodate school pupils returning from Stornoway.

04/03/09 **Raasay** relieved **Eigg** on the Lismore roster at 1150 this morning, who in turn moved from Oban (1240) to Corpach (1615) for overhaul. **Loch Portain** departed Oban this morning for Campbeltown. **Loch Tarbert** moved from Rosneath to Colintriave to assist **Loch Dunvegan**, but she was not required, so returned to her winter layup at Rosneath.

Colintriave-Rhubodach: due to **Loch Dunvegan** grounding on Rhubodach slip, this service is currently suspended, hoping to resume at high tide.

Update: at 1525 **Loch Dunvegan** was floated off Rhubodach slip and resumed service at 1545 with no damage or injuries sustained.

03/03/09 **Isle of Arran** departed JWD at 0745 this morning for Gourock. After loading crew cars, she departed at 0830 for Port Ellen. **Isle of Arran** resumed the Islay service with the 1700 sailing from Port Ellen to Kennacraig. **Loch Alainn** arrived back at her summer home, the Sound of Barra, today, relieving **Loch Linhne** at 1420. **Loch Linhne** then sailed for Tobermory. **Loch Bhrusda** moved from Lochmaddy to Leverburgh today, after spending a couple of days at the inner berth. After being relieved by **Loch Bhrusda**, **Loch Portain** made for Lochaline and Oban for an overnight berth.

Wemyss Bay-Rothesay: Diverted to Gourock due to adverse weather.

Lochaline-Fishnish: Due to technical problems, today's sailings began at 1345.

02/03/09 **Mallaig-Armadale(Vehicle):** With maintenance to Armadale linkspan complete, this service has resumed vehicle service.

01/03/09 **Loch Bhrusda** arrived at Lochmaddy (1245) today and berthed overnight.

Leverburgh-Berneray: Disrupted today due to a low tide, please contact local offices for today's timetable.

DATE NEWS

29/04/09 SoC were out and about as part of another week-long island hop today. Conveniently enough we were in Oban to witness **Hebridean Isles'** attempts at berthing at the new linkspan. Normally this would not cause a problem, however without a working bow thruster it took a while (and in fact 2 attempts, as this sequence of photos shows, courtesy of Gadget!) The 1530 to Colonsay and Port Askaig was on amber alert, however she did manage to get alongside at Colonsay without a problem.

28/04/09 **Isle of Arran** continued on the 'wrong' Islay roster until 1245; she then sailed from Port Ellen to Port Askaig to take up her own roster from 1530 with the inward sailing to Kennacraig. Meanwhile **Hebridean Isles** was diverted on the 1300 from Kennacraig to Islay so that she could take up her own roster at 1800 with the sailing from Port Ellen.

27/04/09 **Berneray – Leverburgh:** Disrupted due to tidal conditions. The following sailings are cancelled. Depart Berneray **1330** Depart Leverburgh **1445**

25/04/09 **Berneray – Leverburgh:** Disrupted due to tidal conditions. The following sailings are cancelled. Depart Leverburgh **1135** Depart Berneray **1330**

Kennacraig – Islay: Due to technical problems, the 0700 sailing from Kennacraig to Port Ellen is being diverted to Port Askaig, this means the 0945 will be from Port Askaig rather than Port Ellen. **Isle of Arran** departed Port Ellen at 1210 bound for Port Askaig where she will take the 1530 Ex Port Askaig to Kennacraig. The 1300 departure from Kennacraig is diverting to Port Ellen rather than Port Askaig. This means the 1800 departure will be from Port Ellen rather than Port Askaig.

24/04/09 **Berneray – Leverburgh:** Disrupted due to tidal conditions. The following sailings are cancelled. Depart Leverburgh **1135** Depart Berneray **1330**

18/04/09 **Wemyss Bay – Rothesay:** Due to technical reasons, tonight's 1945 departure from W'Bay has been cancelled, **Bute** has moved to Gourock for repairs.

17/04/09 **Isle of Arran** arrived back at Kennacraig this morning after her recent visit to Birkenhead. She resumed service at lunchtime with a back up run to **Hebridean Isles's** 1300 sailing to Port Askaig. **Pentalina~B** followed **Isle of Arran** out of West Loch Tarbert as she left Kennacraig for St Margaret's Hope, ending her recent charter to CMAL.

Colintraive – Rhubodach: due to adverse weather conditions at Rhubodach, the 0820 ex Colintraive has been delayed until 0900 for a break in the weather.

16/04/09 **Isle of Arran** departed dry dock today and undertook trials on the Mersey.

Update: After successful trials, **Isle of Arran** has left Birkenhead for Kennacraig.

2230 update: **Isle of Arran** is currently east of Belfast making good time for her ETA at Kennacraig of 0800 tomorrow morning.

Kennacraig – Islay: Due to technical reasons the 0700hrs sailing from Kennacraig to Islay will divert to Port Askaig, this in effect will mean that the 0945hrs sailing from Islay at 0945hrs will be from Port Askaig NOT Port Ellen.

Colintraive – Rhubodach: Disrupted due to adverse weather.

15/04/09 Kennacraig – Islay: The 1800hrs from Kennacraig this evening will be diverting to Port Askaig and the 0415hrs from Islay tomorrow morning (Thursday) will now be departing from Port Askaig not Port Ellen as timetabled.

13/04/09 Gourock – Dunoon: The 1220 and 1320 sailings departing Gourock and the 1250 and 1350 sailings departing Dunoon have been cancelled due to technical difficulties.

10/04/09 Lochboisdale/Barra – Oban: Due to yesterday's adverse weather, this service will be arriving in Oban 2 hours late.

Berneray – Leverburgh: Disrupted due to tidal conditions.

Kennacraig – Islay: Due to adverse weather the 0700hrs sailing from Kennacraig to Islay will divert to Port Askaig, this in effect will mean that the 0945hrs sailing from Islay at 0945hrs will be from Port Askaig NOT Port Ellen.

Uig – Tarbert: Disrupted due to the volume of traffic.

09/04/09 Claonaig - Lochranza: Disrupted due to adverse weather. May be diverted to Tarbert.

Barra – Eriskey: Disrupted due to adverse weather.

Fionnphort – Iona: Disrupted due to adverse weather.

Kennacraig – Islay: Due to adverse weather the 0700hrs sailing from Kennacraig to Islay will divert to Port Askaig, this in effect will mean that the 0945hrs sailing from Islay at 0945hrs will be from Port Askaig NOT Port Ellen. The 1800hrs sailing from Kennacraig will divert to Port Askaig and the 0415hrs sailing from Islay tomorrow will be operating from Port Askaig.

Wemyss Bay – Rothesay: Disrupted due to adverse weather.

Fionnphort – Iona: Disrupted due to adverse weather.

Mallaig – Armadale: Disrupted due to adverse weather.

Sconser – Raasay: Disrupted due to adverse weather Loch Striven is unable to land at Raasay slip.

Lochboisdale/Barra – Oban: Cancelled due to adverse weather.

Oban – Tiree/Barra: Due to adverse weather, Clansman was running 1 hour behind timetable.



Clansman arriving at a windy Scarinish Pier, Tiree.

08/04/09 Berneray – Leverburgh: Disrupted due to tidal conditions.

Kennacraig – Islay: Disrupted due to adverse weather, services are running to Port Askaig rather than Port Ellen.

Largs – Cumbrae Slip: Disrupted due to technical reasons. This service is running at a reduced vehicle and passenger capacity.

Portavadie – Tarbert: Disrupted due to technical reasons.

07/04/09 Oban – Colonsay: Due to technical problems we will be operating the Wednesday Kennacraig / Port Askaig / Colonsay – Oban Service from Oban NOT Kennacraig as per timetable. Sailings from Oban (Wednesday) until further notice will be: 1530 Oban-Colonsay 1800 Colonsay-Port Askaig 1915 Port Askaig - Colonsay 2030 Colonsay – Oban.

Claonaig – Lochranza: Due to a technical problem, the 10:45hr departure from Lochranza and the 11:20hr departure from Claonaig have both been cancelled.

Fionnphort – Lochranza: Disrupted due to adverse weather, running a restricted service until further

notice.

Berneray – Leverburgh: Disrupted due to tidal conditions.

04/04/09 **Eigg** resumed the Lismore roster today from **Raasay**. After a brief call at Gourock, **Loch Bhrusda** arrived at Rosneath from Lochranza for layup.

Fionnphort – Iona: Suspended due to technical problems.

03/04/09 **Isle of Arran** entered Dry Dock this morning to begin repairs on her damaged hull. **Loch Bhrusda** moved to Lochranza. **Loch Riddon** arrived on the Clyde today, after a brief call at Largs to unload crew cars, she moved to Fairlie due to pier works at Largs.

02/04/09 **Eigg** returned to Oban this evening after completing her recent overhaul at Corpach. **Loch Bhrusda** left Craignure for Port Askaig. **Pentalina~B** began a twice daily roster to Port Askaig from Kennacraig, mainly carrying freight due to her restricted capacity.

01/04/09 After being laid up in Tobermory for the past 2 weeks, **Loch Riddon** moved to Oban today. **Pentalina~B** arrived at Kennacraig today to begin a 4 week cover on the Islay route for the **Isle of Arran**.

DATE	NEWS
31/05/09	Well this weekend has seen the Oban fleet (and indeed half of the Islay fleet) sailing all over the place. Isle of Arran was put straight into service when she got to Oban last night, or rather this morning, and she left at 0225 on an emergency sailing to Castlebay, which hadn't seen a ferry since Lord of the Isles left on Friday morning. She then took the scheduled 0920 sailing to Oban, though was late in due to her slower speed. While all this was going on, Lord of the Isles was lying overnight at Lochboisdale, having arrived at 0035. She then left South Uist at 0730 and made Oban at 1245. She wasn't there long though and she picked up her regular Sunday sailing to Coll and Tiree, leaving at 1330. Isle of Arran was therefore required to take the 1730 sailing to Colonsay. Isle of Mull , after arriving back in Oban shortly after midnight, was able to leave the others to their fun and games, picking up her regular schedule with the 0950 for Craignure. The cause of all the unusual sailings, Clansman , was finally repaired this morning and undertook successful sea trials before resuming her regular duties with the 1540 sailing to Castlebay and Lochboisdale. Isle of Arran is spending tonight at Oban and will return south tomorrow to join Hebridean Isles , which has been maintaining a one-ship service to Islay.
	Elsewhere, the service to Cumbrae has now become the full 15-minute interval timetable and Loch Riddon is once again employed.
30/05/09	Clansman 's repairs turned out to be unsuccessful and she has moved to Oban's Lighthouse Pier for further attention. Last night, Lord of the Isles did the delayed Oban – Tiree – Coll – Oban sailing and returned to her home port at 0645. Her 0815 sailing to Lochboisdale had to be put back to allow for some ingenious vessel switching to take place...more on that in a minute! Isle of Mull picked up her own roster with the 0830 ex Craignure and sailed as normal until 1330. Lord of the Isles then stepped in and took the remaining Mull sailings, though the 1800 and 2000 sailings to Craignure, and the 1900 to Oban were cancelled. Lord of the Isles then took her South Uist sailing, albeit nearly 12 hours late. Isle of Mull had come off her own roster in order to take a 1515 sailing to Coll and Tiree, calling at Coll on both directions. She will return to Oban at around midnight tonight. With both vessels engaged in relief work, traffic returning from Craignure had to be diverted to Fishnish where Loch Fyne was waiting. Even the Waverley stepped in and rescued some passengers stranded at Tobermory and

returned them to Oban!

Things don't end there either...for **Isle of Arran** has been summoned north from Islay and is expected to arrive in Oban in the early hours.

29/05/09 **Clansman** suffered a main engine failure on her morning run from Oban to Coll and Tiree and had to turn back without calling at either pier. She reached Oban around noon after returning down the Sound of Mull at a leisurely 10 knots. An extra sailing is running tonight at 2220, using **Lord of the Isles** after her return from Colonsay. **Isle of Mull** is taking the 2230 sailing to Craignure, though tomorrow morning's 0730 to Mull will be cancelled as a result.

Further north, **Hebrides** was held at Uig by an hour while she waited for traffic coming up from Oban. **Jupiter** left the James Watt Dock at 1040 and, after sea trials following her annual overhaul, she berthed at the top wires at Gourock at 1230.

Loch Riddon has returned to being standby vessel at Largs following her big sister's return to service.

28/05/09 As **Loch Shira** has once again been repaired, **Loch Bhrusda** finished her service on the Largs-Cumbrae route at 1440 and returned to Gourock to lie.

27/05/09 **Loch Ranza** was out of service between 1030 and noon today as she could not berth at the Tayinloan slipway because of an obstruction.

26/05/09 **Hebridean Isles**, duly repaired, left Kennacraig at 1550 for Port Ellen; she took up her roster again with the inward sailing at 1800.

25/05/09 **Loch Shira** is once again dogged by technical woes and has spent the day at Fairlie awaiting repairs. **Loch Riddon** went onto the main roster while **Loch Bhrusda** left Rosneath for Largs at 1215 and sailed at the hour and half past from Largs, as the smaller Loch does not have the necessary capacity to run by herself. With **Loch Shira** being repaired at Fairlie, and **Loch Riddon** also berthing there overnight due to the construction work at Largs, **Loch Bhrusda** will have to make for Gourock each evening. **Hebridean Isles** also suffered problems once again and came off her roster at Kennacraig at 1825 (for 1735). **Isle of Arran** was diverted to take the evening run from Kennacraig. **Isle of Lewis** too suffered technical problems and was only able to leave Stornoway at 1545.

24/05/09 **Loch Buie** was off service for repairs between 1230 and 1400.

23/05/09 **Loch Shira** had to cancel her 1945 run from Largs because of a broken down coach.

21/05/09 **Loch Bhrusda** left Gourock at 1050 for Rosneath to return to her spare role, while **Loch Shira** returned to the Largs-Cumbrae Slip service, with **Loch Riddon** once again becoming the second vessel.

20/05/09 Following repairs at Gourock, **Loch Shira**, left at 1615 and sailed direct for Fairlie. **Loch Bhrusda** returned to Gourock after her day's work, arriving at 1915.

19/05/09 **Loch Riddon** was put on the main roster from today in **Loch Shira**'s absence, backed up by **Loch Bhrusda** sailing on the hour and half hour from Largs in order to maintain the two ship timetable.

18/05/09 **Loch Shira** suffered technical problems and had to move to Gourock this evening for repairs. **Loch Bhrusda** meanwhile left Rosneath at 1230 and, after a call at Gourock at 1300, made for Fairlie for an overnight berth before entering service tomorrow.

17/05/09 Several extra Sunday sailings have commenced from today as the timetable is stepped up into high season mode:

Hebrides now gives two double runs from Uig to Lochmaddy. This means she sails from Tarbert to Uig on a Saturday night and returns early on Monday morning.

Isle of Mull now carries out an additional 1800 ex Oban and 1900 return from Craignure.

Loch Portain now gives a third Sunday sailing across the Sound of Harris, leaving Berneray at 1300 and back from Leverburgh at 1410.

16/05/09 **Hebridean Isles** diverted to Port Askaig on the 1800 ex Kennacraig, following the usual trend when bad weather prevails!

Down on the Clyde meanwhile, **Jupiter** moved from the Garvel Drydock to the James Watt Dock to have the final bits and pieces of her annual overhaul carried out.

15/05/09 **Ali Cat** did not venture forth from James Watt Dock this afternoon. She missed her single round trip to Dunoon on account of the weather.

12/05/09 **Caledonian Isles** was called to assist in an emergency while on her 1920 sailing from Brodick. A jet skier was in trouble and the ferry responded to an emergency call at the request of the MCA. She eventually reached Ardrossan at 2055.

08/05/09 Ongoing issues with the elements caused further disruption today. Arran was once again affected with the Lochranza service off until 1315. **Loch Tarbert** had actually sailed at 0820, however conditions at Claonaig prevented her from getting onto the slipway. **Caledonian Isles** of course started the day at Brodick, having cancelled the 0700 from Ardrossan.

Muirneag was able to sail with freight traffic at 1030 this morning. This was last night's sailing postponed by approximately ten hours.

Lochnevis was unable to call at Muck this morning due to conditions at the harbour entrance.

Clansman had her 1340 round trip from Oban to Barra extended by two hours to incorporate a call at Lochboisdale on the return leg.

Hebridean Isles returned to service today, having received attention to her bow thruster. **Isle of Arran** left Port Askaig at the unearthly time of 0415 to cross to Kennacraig in time to commence her own roster with the 0900 to Port Ellen.

07/05/09 Normally May is a quiet and calm month in Scottish waters... Not this year it seems!

Ali Cat was off after her first run, returning to James Watt Dock after unloading at Gourock at 0745.

Further down-river, **Argyle** was diverted twice to Gourock during the course of the day as Wemyss Bay proved inaccessible in the swell. **Bute** also had to use Gourock for part of the day when she eventually got started. Her first sailing was cancelled as a rope was caught around one of azi-pods.

Caledonian Isles didn't escape the conditions either. She is berthed overnight at Brodick, having cancelled her 1920 to Ardrossan. The other Arran service was subject to disruption as well, with **Loch Tarbert** finishing for the day at 1820.

Another Clyde Loch was spotted making a dash for cover; **Loch Riddon** was forced to move from Fairlie to Gourock for shelter, as the Fairlie berth was a tad exposed.

In the Hebrides meanwhile, the Outer Isles run from Oban was generally OK, however **Clansman** did finish an hour late, having been held up along the way by the elements. Further north however, **Hebrides** didn't fare so well. She only managed to sail at 1125 from Lochmaddy to Uig and back and then at 1715 to Tarbert. The most northern route across the Minch also suffered, with **Isle of Lewis** managing only one sailing, departing Stornoway at 1245 and returning from Ullapool at 1725. Perhaps unsurprisingly **Muirneag** had her overnight freight sailing postponed.

There were no sailings from Mallaig today, with both resident vessels being stormbound.

The smaller members of the fleet were out in to too. **Loch Alainn** was only to be found on one sailing

today, at 1200 from Ardmhor and 1300 from Eriskay. **Loch Buie** too was only in service from 1205 until 1725; spending the rest of the day in the Bull Hole.

In other news, not connected to the weather, **Hebridean Isles** was off service for repairs while **Isle of Arran** was on a single ship roster to Islay.

06/05/09 **Ali Cat** went off service after her first run due to the weather.

05/05/09 **Jupiter** moved from Gourock to the Garvel Drydock, arriving at 0800.

04/05/09 **Ali Cat**'s 0750 run from Gourock was cancelled this morning.

03/05/09 **Saturn** took over as the Gourock – Dunoon ferry this morning, having replaced **Jupiter** at 1020, the latter moving to the top wires.

01/05/09 The start of May and cue the bad weather! It caused **Loch Tarbert** to miss her 0930 and 1045 Lochranza-Claonaig sailings and **Loch Portain** to sail first at 1030 between Berneray and Leverburgh.

Isle of Lewis finished an hour and a half late on the Stornoway-Ullapool route because of increased traffic. This was all because **Muirneag** was unable to sail for technical reasons.

Saturn emerged from her long hibernation in the company of **Juno** and crossed from Rosneath to Gourock today. This is in readiness for her relieving **Jupiter** on the Dunoon crossing in a couple of days time.

DATE NEWS

29/06/09 **Argyle** was off service this morning due to technical problems and it wasn't until 1300 that she was able to return to service. **Bute** was able to cope on her own on a one-ship roster.

28/06/09 **Lochnevis** went off on another jaunt to the Outer Hebrides today - her second within a few weeks. She set sail from Mallaig on the early side of 0700, reaching Castlebay around 1200; her first ever visit to Barra. She landed her long stern ramp at the linkspan and loaded passengers on a special charter sailing. The Barra Heritage Society had arranged a special non-landing sailing from Castlebay to Mingulay, further south in the archipelago. Incidentally this was the first time a CalMac ferry has ventured into those waters since the **Columba** went there in 1980 as part of her St Kilda trip. The Small Isles ferry returned to Barra in glorious weather and then left at 1745 for the return sailing to Mallaig.

27/06/09 It was **Clansman**'s turn to suffer technical problems today. She wasn't able to leave Oban on her Coll-Tiree sailing until 0820. She was unable to make up time during her trip to the Inner Isles and as a result, the 1540 sailing to Barra was delayed until 1650.

25/06/09 A missing swimmer, or rather the search for him or her, was the reason for **Loch Buie** abandoning her Iona sailings for around an hour from 1315. Fortunately the swimmer was found safely. Tides again saw **Loch Portain** delaying her 1445 sailing, this time putting it back to 1600.

24/06/09 **Loch Portain** was subject to tidal disruption this afternoon, with her 1445 sailing being delayed until 1540.

21/06/09 Traffic sailing to and from Raasay today enjoyed the opportunity to revisit the days of old when reversing on or off the ferry was necessary. **Loch Striven** was sailing single-ended due to one of her ramps giving trouble.

19/06/09 There were more disruptions on the Clyde today. **Saturn** again missed her first run of the day, and **Loch Tarbert** missed more sailings on the Lochranza - Claonaig run. This time she was fully functioning and was

responding to an emergency call, in conjunction with the coastguard.

Isle of Cumbrae saw her second spell off the Portavadie run within a relatively short space of time. The reason was to do with technical issues.

Up in Oban, **Eigg** returned to service on her regular route, allowing **Raasay** to resume her life at the lay-up berth.

18/06/09 Weather conditions caused **Lochnevis** to miss her scheduled call at Muck today. Similarly, **Coruisk** saw her last sailing to Armadale fall by the wayside.

Things were also in the hands of the weather on the Clyde where **Saturn** was unable to carry out her 0715 round trip from Brodick; starting her day's work instead at 1025. **Loch Tarbert** was also disrupted again today, though this time it had nothing to do with the elements. No, this time ramp issues were to blame for the vessel lying at Lochranza between 1035 and 1315. Incidentally she also missed her last run for the same reason!

17/06/09 **Eigg** was able to leave the Sound of Islay this morning, following the return of the Jura ferry from Ardmaleish on Bute. **Eigg** sailed via the Sound of Jura back to Oban, arriving at around 1600.

Meanwhile, down on the Clyde the weather was making its presence known, forcing **Saturn** out of service after her arrival at Brodick at 1540. Just around the Arran coastline, **Loch Tarbert** had been unable to land her ramp on the slip at Claonaig on her first sailing and had to return to Lochranza where she was then stormbound. She returned to service at 1315.

12/06/09 The supplementary Arran sailings began this morning with the 0715 ex Brodick. **Saturn**'s roster sees her leaving Brodick at 0715, 1025, 1445 and 1740, and then Ardrossan at 0900, 1315, 1615 and 1845 on weekdays and then on a more limited roster at weekends.

Loch Bhrusda had to cover the Cumbrae run on her own for a while today following **Loch Riddon** succumbing to ramp problems between 0845 and 1215. With **Loch Shira** returning back downriver ready to resume service this evening, **Loch Bhrusda** was able to return to Gourock after her roster finished. She will now lie spare until she is next required. **Loch Shira** will return to service on the main Cumbrae roster tomorrow morning, with **Loch Riddon** resuming on the 2nd roster.

11/06/09 **Saturn** prepared to return to her summer role as 2nd Arran ferry today and repositioned from Gourock. This year, for the first time, and thanks to the suggestion of the Clyde River Steamer Club, the public were offered the opportunity to travel from Gourock to Brodick on the Streaker and then back to Ardrossan on the **Caledonian isles**. The special sailing left Gourock at 1200 and proceeded via the Cowal shore, Largs Channel, Wee Cumbrae, Garroch Head and the Sannox coastline before arriving at Brodick at 1440. Passengers were disembarked and the ferry then left for berthing trials at Ardrossan before returning to Brodick this evening, ready to commence service tomorrow.

08/06/09 **Eigg** is now the Jura ferry and will remain so until the *Eilean Dhuira* is able to return to service. She is currently at Ardmaleish receiving repairs.

07/06/09 **CLYDE:**

Loch Shira has moved up to Gourock for the necessary repairs, leaving **Loch Riddon** on the main Cumbrae roster once again. **Loch Bhrusda**, as predicted, returned to the 2nd roster until such time as **Loch shira** is fixed.

WESTERN ISLES:

Following a breakdown of the Jura ferry *Eilean Dhuira* a few days ago, compounded by the fact that the preferred relief vessel *Margaret Sinclair* was required elsewhere, **Eigg** came off the Oban - Lismore service this morning and made for the Sound of Islay. She has been chartered by ASP Ship Management to operate the Port Askaig - Feolin service. **Raasay** is now in charge of the Lismore service in the 'Tall One's'

absence.

Up in Mallaig, summer has reached the Armadale service. The additional Sunday sailings (1240 and 1440 ex Mallaig) are now operating.

06/06/09 **Loch Riddon** returned to the secondary Largs - Cumbrae roster (i.e. from Largs at xx00 and xx30) but discovered that from 1600 she was on her own; **Loch Shira** having developed a further fault which means she has had to return to Fairlie for further attention. With only **Loch Riddon** on the Cumbrae service it is perhaps inevitable that **Loch Bhrusda** will soon be back at Largs...

Full high summer service arrived today on the Bute service, with the 2110 ex Rothesay and 2200 ex Wemyss Bay being operated for the first time this year. Similarly **Loch Striven** has run her first 2100 ex Raasay and 2130 ex Sconser of 2009.

05/06/09 After a few days off, **Isle of Cumbrae** has been repaired and she is now back in service, having left Gourock at 0745, resuming the Tarbert - Portavadie run from 1145. **Loch Riddon** then got underway and returned to Largs to take over the main Cumbrae roster from 1445. This then allowed **Loch Bhrusda** to head for Gourock and an overnight berth.

02/06/09 Most unusually it was the turn of **Isle of Cumbrae** to be forced off duty today. The 33 year old vessel developed problems with one of her ramps and had to make for Gourock. She was spotted (by Zak!) passing Rothesay in the process. Another vessel switching session was called for and **Loch Bhrusda** was more set sail for Largs to cover for the **Loch Riddon** which was in turn dispatched to Tarbert to take over the Portavadie service.

Out west it was the fog that was causing problems, in particular for **Loch Portain**. She was delayed during the morning and indeed was unable to berth at all at Leverburgh on her first sailing of the day.

01/06/09 Normality returned to Oban as **Isle of Arran** slipped out of the bay at 0630, making her way back to Islay. She called at Port Askaig to collect inbound traffic and sailed from there at 1000. **Hebridean Isles** was simultaneously sailing from Port Ellen, having left at 0945, and the two ships followed one another up West Loch Tarbert to arrive at Kennacraig minutes apart.

Saturn was duly relieved as Dunoon ferry from 1020 this morning by the freshly overhauled **Jupiter**. The younger vessel moved to the Wires where she will lie until her time comes to sail for Arran. **Loch Bhrusda** was again called into action today, covering this time for **Loch Riddon** which was off duty with ramp problems for 5 hours. The larger (and louder) vessel returned to Gourock this evening.

DATE	NEWS
31/07/09	Jupiter again saw disruptions this morning and it was 1020 before she was able to start her day. Prior to this the Ali Cat carried out the timetable on a passenger only basis at 0920, after completing her own runs that is. Saturn missed her last sailing of the day and Loch Tarbert was unable to get in at Claonaig on her 1430 ex Lochranza. She then returned to service at 1715.

29/07/09 **Jupiter** was off service at Dunoon between 1350 and 1440 due to a technical problem, while earlier in the morning **Saturn** commenced her sailings with the 0900 ex Ardrossan.

27/07/09 More foul weather today and **Saturn** was again off following her 0715 ex Brodick. She returned to Arran with a 1730 sailing from Ardrossan. Elsewhere **Lochnevis** was unable to get in at Muck on her second run of the day.

26/07/09 Heavy weather made **Loch Tarbert** fall foul this morning. She was only able to sail on the 1045 ex Lochranza and after returning to Arran it was 1430 before she was to sail again. **Saturn** also suffered and she only managed to sail at 1615.
Loch Riddon's ramp was repaired and fully operational by 1000 this morning and she was able to return to full drive-through working.

25/07/09 **Isle of Cumbrae** was repaired and returned to service and **Loch Riddon** then came off duty for ramp repairs this afternoon. She too returned to service from 1945 but was sailing single ended.

24/07/09 Well, after a week or so of fun and games, life returned to normal with a few mere technical related issues to report. **Saturn** missed her 1615 sailing, while **Isle of Cumbrae** came off the Portavadie run at 1310.

23/07/09 **Lord of the Isles** returned to service with the 1540 sailing to the Outer Isles this afternoon, albeit with her carpets ripped up in the cafeteria. **Hebridean Isles** left Oban to return south and then carried out the 1800 sailing to Kennacraig, but from Port Askaig.
Over the next few days there will be some disruptions on the Sound of Harris route due to low tides. See the Official CalMac website for full details.

22/07/09 Following the inward sailing from Castlebay and Lochboisdale this morning, **Hebridean Isles** carried out an extra sailing to Colonsay and Port Askaig (as used to happen in the spring and autumn timetables of years gone by). She left Oban at 1530 and left Islay on the return sailing at 1915.

21/07/09 **Isle of Mull** arrived back in Oban at 0400, having sailed through the night on the Coll - Tiree run.
Unfortunately she was too late back to avoid missing her morning Mull runs, so **Hebridean Isles** stepped in and carried out the 0745 and 0950 round trips to Craignure. **Isle of Mull** resumed her roster with the 1155 ex Oban which in turn allowed **Hebridean Isles** to venture even further outwith her usual sphere of operations by taking the 1540 sailing to Lochboisdale and Castlebay. **Lord of the Isles** was able to return to Oban this afternoon to allow repairs to continue.
Isle of Arran once again carried out an additional sailing back to Kennacraig this evening, leaving Port Askaig at 2030. While the single ship roster is in operation, the vessel is based at Kennacraig overnight in order to carry out the main roster, with departures at 0700, 1300 and 1800.

20/07/09 What an eventful summer this is turning out to be... With **Lord of the Isles** unserviceable in Oban, thanks to her sprinkler system deciding to discharge its load all over the cafeteria, more vessel switching has been taking place to cover all routes. Her inward sailing from Coll and Tiree was carried out by **Clansman**, on her way in from Lochboisdale and Barra, while traffic on the morning sailing to Coll and Tiree was taken, somewhat late, by **Isle of Mull** at 2025 after she had completed her own Mull sailings.
Islay again drew the short straw today following the return of **Isle of Arran** yesterday. **Hebridean Isles** left this evening and made for Colonsay with traffic diverted via Kennacraig and then carried the regular inward sailing to Oban, albeit late. **Lord of the Isles** had to leave Oban at 1710 in order to free up an overnight berth and made for Craignure where she berthed on the south side of the pier.

19/07/09 **Isle of Lewis** returned to Stornoway following her additional 0130 sailing from Ullapool and then left again at 1430 to a rapturous send-off as she carried out the first ever timetabled Sunday sailing out of Stornoway. As expected, there were a number of protesters who wished to see the enforced prohibition of travel to one and all, but the mood at the pier was one of relief as the **Isle of Lewis** backed away with a blast on her horn.
Isle of Arran meanwhile finally got back to Stornoway at around 0300 this morning, unloaded traffic and then set sail light for Port Askaig, arriving at 1640.
Following her trip to Port Askaig last night, **Lord of the Isles** got back into Oban at 0200 this morning. She was then in service throughout the course of the day, sailing to Coll and Tiree and then to Colonsay and

back, but this evening a fault in her sprinkler system led to the cafeteria being flooded. She is consequently out of service.

18/07/09 **Isle of Arran** reached Stornoway at 0815 and then carried out two return sailings to Ullapool, leaving at 1130 and 2135, returning at 1530 and 0030. **Isle of Lewis** was repaired and returned to service at 2200 with another additional sailing, following her relief vessel across the Minch. **Hebrides** also carried out an additional sailing between Uig and Tarbert during the evening in order to clear traffic and eventually finished over 2 hours late.

With **Isle of Arran** away from home, Islay traffic was building up to the point where **Lord of the Isles** was called upon to provide an emergency sailing from Oban to Port Askaig at 1900. **Hebridean Isles** diverted her 1800 sailing to Port Askaig in order to provide a return sailing at 2110 (and also clear the linkspan to allow the Oban ferry to offload her traffic).

17/07/09 It turns out that the ramp related technical problems seen in the last couple of days were just the tip of the iceberg (forgive the rather unfortunate cliche). While on her 1025 sailing from Ullapool to Stornoway this morning, **Isle of Lewis** suffered a major breakdown in one of her engines. She completed the crossing at a reduced speed, arriving a mere 5 minute before her scheduled second departure time, at 1345. Traffic was unloaded and the ferry remained in port for the rest of the day.

Given the recent announcement of the long-overdue start of Sunday sailings, the breakdown prompted the traditionalists of Lewis to claim divine intervention... Sweeping that aside, vessels were redeployed and provided additional sailings to ensure that all the traffic got to its destination. **Hebrides** provided additional sailings from Uig to Tarbert through the night and further south, **Isle of Arran** was taken off the Islay run at 2025 in order to go north.

Elsewhere, **Jupiter's** starboard ramp was fixed while on Bute, the Rothesay gangway broke down and led to delays for **Argyle and Bute**.

16/07/09 More ramp trouble beset another vessel today. This time the victim was **Hebridean Isles** and she finally finished just over an hour late.

15/07/09 Following the yacht rescue yesterday off Tiree, it was **Saturn's** turn to act Thunderbird 1 today, responding to another yacht in trouble. This one took place during her 1615 sailing to Brodick. Further up the Clyde, a rare sight was noted at Dunoon today; a failure on **Jupiter's** starboard side ramp saw the oldest vessel in the fleet berthing at Dunoon the wrong way round in order to land her seldom-used port side ramp.

14/07/09 **Clansman** was called to assist a yacht in distress today. As a result she was 35 minutes late leaving Tiree.

13/07/09 **Hebrides** was delayed on her 0940 sailing from Uig by a rope around one of her propellers. She eventually got away at about 1100 and then proceeded to run late for the rest of the day.

12/07/09 It may be July, supposedly the middle of summer for crying out loud, but heavy weather returned to the north today. **Saturn** was the only casualty of the day with her morning Arran runs being cancelled. Her traffic was able to be accommodated on the **Caledonian Isles** which suffered no such disruptions.

04/07/09 Following the replacement of her liferaft, **Loch Riddon** was back up to her full passenger complement today.

03/07/09 Heavy traffic was the order of the day today, with many of the larger vessels running over an hour late by this evening. **Isle of Mull**, **Clansman**, **Hebrides** and **Isle of Lewis** were noted examples!

02/07/09 **Loch Riddon** was back in service today, albeit with a reduced passenger capacity. It turns out the problem was with a liferaft in the end. A few miles north, technical problems also saw the **Ali Cat** miss her 0750 sailing to Dunoon and back.

Loch Striven was again off for a while this morning, but the service to Raasay was back on later in the day.

01/07/09 A new month and things got off to a great start, with **Loch Striven** suffering ramp problems on her 0755 sailing which was forced to return to Raasay until she was able to resume the service at 0955.

Elsewhere, **Loch Riddon** was forced off service on completion of her 1545 sailing from Cumbrae Slip, leaving her larger consort to run the service to Cumbrae by herself. As luck (or rather misfortune) would have it, **Loch Shira** was also off between 1615 and 1715 so Cumbrae was not with a ferry service between those hours.

Further north however, heavy traffic was the cause of delays, with the **Isle of Lewis** completing the third of her sailings over an hour late.

DATE	NEWS
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07/08/09 **Isle of Cumbrae** left Tarbert for Gourock today so that repairs could be carried out.

03/08/09 With **Isle of Cumbrae's** ongoing woes, **Loch Riddon** was sent from Largs early this morning in order to step in and keep the cross-Fyne link open. Her Noisiness the **Loch Bhrusda** was then sent down from Gourock to Largs and took up the secondary Cumbrae roster from 1330, partnering **Loch Shira**.

02/08/09 More problems with **Isle of Cumbrae** led to her coming off duty at 1210 this afternoon. She is normally very reliable but this summer for some reason, she does appear to have fallen foul of technical troubles somewhat more than previous years.

01/08/09 The weather forced **Saturn** to miss her last round trip this evening. As ever **Caledonian Isles** was able to continue on her own roster without any disruption.

END OF FLEET NEWS REPORTING – UPDATES MOVED TO OUR FORUM