

# NEWSLETTER

## Monthly News Digest

Issue 2 / April 2025

Welcome to our new updated Stornoway Port newsletter. Following positive feedback on our regular Deep Water Port newsletters, we will be issuing a new SPA newsletter which will give project updates and news on what is happening right across Stornoway Port.

### Wheelhouse in place on Cromwell Street Quay



Cromwell Street Quay is now home to a Wheelhouse from a former fishing vessel which operated out of Stornoway Port. It is hoped that this will provide a meeting point for the local community, offering seating and shelter as a first stage of the redevelopment plans for Cromwell Street Quay.

There are plans to open the Wheelhouse at certain times for the community to have a closer look.



### First cruise ships of 2025

The first cruise ship of the season, the Spitsbergen, visited Pier No.1 on April 14. She has capacity for 335 passengers. She is the first of many cruise ships scheduled to visit Stornoway Port this year.



As the first anniversary of the opening of the Deep-Water Port passed on April 1, Stornoway Port is preparing to welcome 88 cruise ships due to visit the DWP and inner harbour between now and October. The record number of ships scheduled for 2025 demonstrates the growing popularity of the Outer Hebrides among cruise operators and their guests. Several vessels are making their maiden voyage to the Outer Hebrides this year including the Britannia and Oceania Vista.

Stornoway Port Authority is offering businesses free online training on how to showcase the Outer Hebrides effectively. The training is designed for companies that support the cruise, and also the wider tourism industry. It has five modules: area stories – Outer Hebrides, service excellence, an introduction to Gaelic, knowing your customer, and area essentials. Visitor-experience businesses are asked to contact [cruise@stornowayport.com](mailto:cruise@stornowayport.com) for more information.



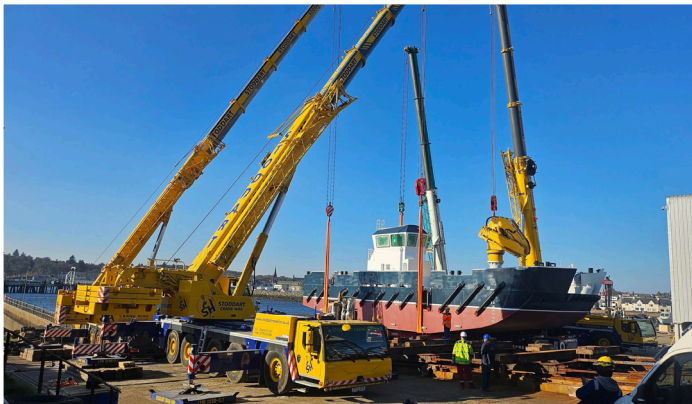
## New Harbour Master for Stornoway Port



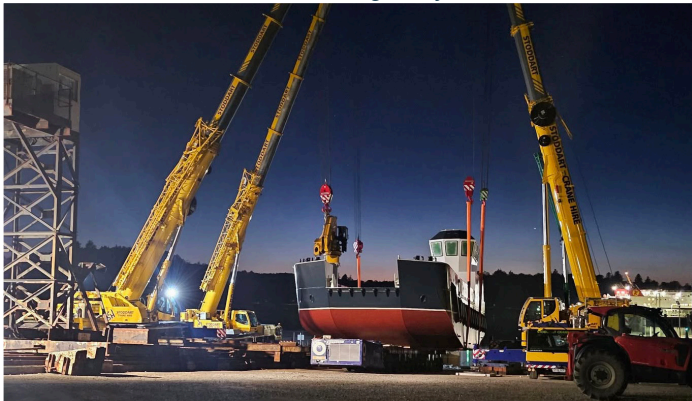
There has been a change of faces at Stornoway Port this month with our Harbour Master, Alasdair Smith, retiring. Martin Graham took over as Harbour Master at the start of April. Chris Macdonald has taken on the role of Assistant Harbour Master.

## Coastal Workboats launch vessel

The workboat being constructed by Coastal Workboats at the Marine Engineering Workshop at Goat Island has been moved from the engineering shed to the slipway. Works on the vessel will be completed on the slipway. Coastal Workboats is a leading builder of steel and aluminium commercial workboats and support services.



*Coastal Workboat images by Michael MacLennan.*



## 'Make Your Way to Stornoway' book now available in more local outlets



Make Your Way to Stornoway: A History of Cruise Ships to the Isle of Lewis by Colin Tucker is now available in further local outlets. It is already for sale in An Lanntair and the Baltic Bookshop and is also now stocked at Lews Castle shop and the Woodlands Centre shop.

The book written by respected maritime historian and author Colin Tucker, offers a detailed exploration of the Isle of Lewis's enduring relationship with cruise ships and their passengers.

## Rainbow Raiser for The Leanne Fund

Stornoway Port staff held a Rainbow Raiser event in March raising more than £200 for The Leanne Fund.



The Fund provides support services to children and families affected by Cystic Fibrosis across Scotland.



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