

The Queen sails to the Isles14th August 1956

Barrow-in-Furness: The Royal Yacht "Britannia" was waiting for the Queen and the Duke at the end of their successful tour of the Westmorland Lake District.

And so were two happy children, Prince Charles and Princess Anne (who had joined Britannia at Southampton) ~~and the Duke and Duchess of York~~
~~the~~ yacht set ^{out} for the Western Isles. A birthday cruise for Princess Anne - celebrating her sixth anniversary.

Northwards then - sailing into the rugged beauty of ~~these islands~~ ^{the Isles -}
 steeped in ~~both~~ history and legend.

A wind-swept journey, too, that made the landing, by Royal barge, at Iona - a difficult operation.

But the hardy Islanders were waiting to welcome their Queen, as she passed with the Lord Lieutenant of Argyllshire, followed by the Duke and Princess Margaret.

After visiting the restored 11th century Abbey - the Queen examined ~~with~~
~~the ancient tomb called~~ interest, the "Ridge of Kings", ~~an ancient tomb where,~~ As recorded in 1549, forty-eight Scottish Kings, eight Norwegian and two from France, are buried here.

Fourteen centuries ago, Iona was the ~~centre of Scottish~~ ^{centre of Scottish Christianity -}

sending out missionaries to Scotland and Northern England. ~~Her~~ Her

Majesty received replicas of ~~ancient~~ ^{Celtic} crosses - as a memento of her visit.

Then, back to the Britannia, to continue a romantic ~~Hebridean~~ ^{Hebridean} journey...