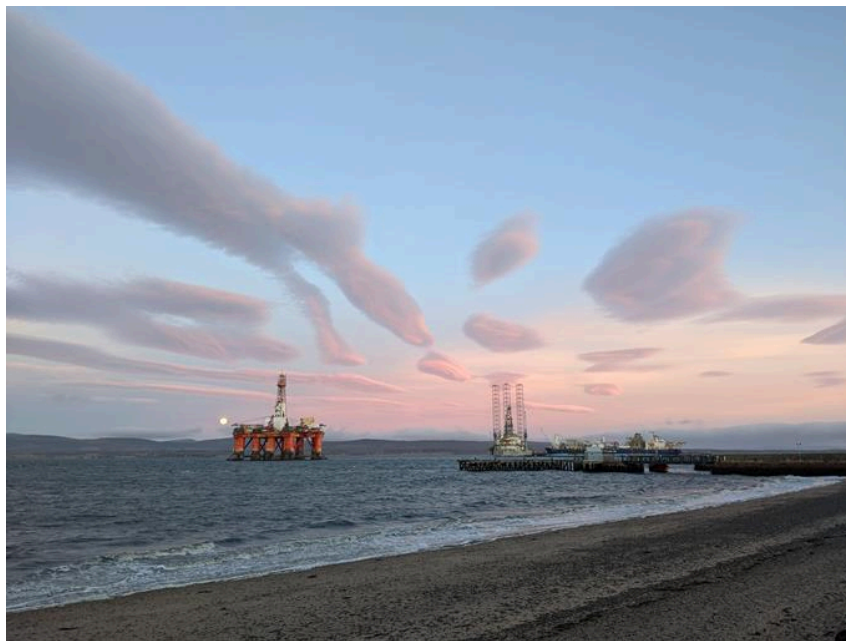


No images? [Click here](#)



## February 2022

Stormy nights, funky clouds and longer days... Welcome to the latest edition of the Cromarty Newsletter!



## Cromarty Harbour

*Colin Dickie writes:*

Regrettably, we missed our deadline for January's submission, so a belated Happy New Year to all our users, volunteers and to those that continue to support us in maintaining and improving the harbour!

2021 was another good year of achievement for Cromarty Harbour, with several improvements and repairs being completed. Some projects are worth highlighting, such as the repairs to the surface on The Mole and improving (as best we could) the pier up to the bridge. Add to that the addition of three more pontoons, ladders on both quaysides, and progress becomes much more visible. Needless to say, our financial resources continue to be stressed after three

years on near-continuous activity; our expectation is that 2022 will be a little more sedate.

Increasingly, we need to look at ways to demonstrate our own contributions to potential funders as we are challenged in getting scale into any match funding requirements, which are often conditional on some of the grants we target. We would also like to take on some small projects ourselves this year, so if you have some skills to offer - enthusiasm, mixing cement, pointing, etc., please do contact us. Whilst in recent times we have been project-driven, I'd like to give a shout out to those that carry out the day-to-day maintenance and safety monitoring. That work tends to just happen in the background, but is vital nonetheless.

Lastly, attention now turns to the summer season and although we do tend to be full for summer leisure users, please do let us know through the [website](#) if you have an interest in being added to our waiting list. It is important that we know who has an interest in a berthing space just in case we can accommodate!

## **Your Resilience in Your Community at Cromarty Youth Café – Mental Health UK**



*Fraser, Wanda and and John write:*

We are taking part in [Your Resilience](#), a UK-wide programme for 14-18 year olds which focuses on supporting and building mental health resilience. We at Cromarty Youth Cafe passionately believe in supporting all young people by offering them the necessary tools and knowledge for maintaining good mental health through life's transitions. Our young people recognise the importance of their mental health and resilience and were keen to take part.

Young people told us that they valued the resilience workshops which allowed them to discuss their thoughts and feelings in their safe space. For example, someone told us “the greatest weapon against stress is our ability to choose one thought over another.”

The course covered: What is Resilience?, Exam Stress, Managing Studies, Making Decisions about the Future, Social Pressures and Friendship. The project aims were to: develop a deep awareness of resilience and its importance, deepen young people's self-awareness of how the characteristics and strengths of resilience relate to themselves, understand the approaches and techniques that young people can use to improve their resilience, have more awareness of the mental health needs of others, feel more equipped to deal with challenges in life, deepen young people's awareness of who they can turn to for support and become more able to support their families and friends.

Well done and thank you to all involved.



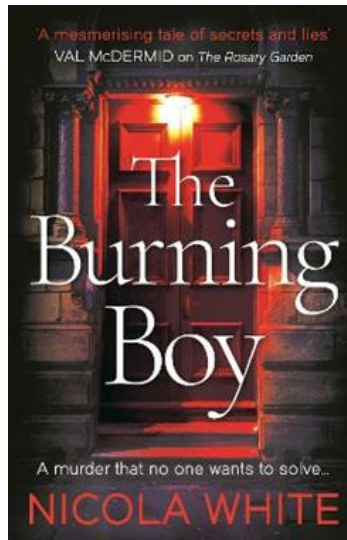
## Business Updates

**Calluna:** Our new Spring Collections are in! Beautiful, bright colours in a range of tops, jumpers and dresses as well as a great new selection of jeans and trousers. Pop in and have a browse - we are open **daily 10-5pm** and always happy to help find something you will love!

**The Cheese House:** We are giving away a £10 gift voucher every month for the next ten months! This is just one of a series of promotions to help celebrate our tenth year in business. All you have to do to be in with a chance of winning is provide us with your name and an e-mail address. Names will be drawn at random at the end of each month – so you have 10 goes in total! The only condition is that you're happy for us to add your details to our customer database. You will then receive occasional news updates and be the first to hear of other Cromarty-cheese-related promotions. Contact: [jon@cromartycheese.com](mailto:jon@cromartycheese.com) or call into the shop. You've got to be in it to win it! We are now back to our normal opening times of **Wed-Sat 10.00-17.00 and Sunday 12.00-16.00**

**Sutor Creek: Buy one pizza, get one 50% off!** Every Wednesday and Thursday in February. Order online, phone 01381 600 855 or pop in. Please also note our change of hours: we will **open 12-8pm Wednesday to Sunday until the ferry resumes**. We will then **open daily 9-8pm**.

## Book News from Cromarty Post Office



*Estelle Quick writes:*

*The Burning Boy*, the new book by Cromarty writer Nicola White, has just been published and is available at the Post Office. It's the third in Nicola's loosely linked series of crime novels set in Dublin in the 1980s and is a gripping read. If you want to catch up with the earlier activities of detectives Considine and Swan, we also have the first two books, *A Famished Heart* and *The Rosary Garden* available. Nicola's books have been praised by leading crime writers including Val McDermid ("a mesmerising tale of secrets and lies") and Denise Mina ("a fabulous closed room mystery that will keep you guessing until the very end"). Don't miss them!

Other local books in stock include Hugh Miller's *My Schools and Schoolmasters*; Tim Stenton's stunning *Moray Firth Dolphins*; *Medieval Cromarty Uncovered*, a fascinating write-up of the dig at the medieval burgh site; *Archie's Lights*, an account of Archie McEachern's eventful 50 year career as a keeper at Scottish lighthouses from the Flannan Isles to Chanonry Point; and (of course) the Cromarty guide and fisherfolk dialect books. We also have a good range of Ordnance Survey maps and walks guides.

## Slaughterhouse Coffee: Recruitment!



*Laura Thompson writes:*

Happy New Year Cromarty and beyond! As we head into another busy year, Slaughterhouse Coffee is on the hunt for staff to help serve the caffeine addicts! A hard-working, friendly and reliable person is needed to fill the part-time front of house/assistant role. Customer service experience is preferable but not necessary, and of course there's potential for future barista training.

Please send your CV to [slaughterhouse@gmail.com](mailto:slaughterhouse@gmail.com) if you're interested, or feel free to spread the word to those who might be. Thank you!

Current opening hours are **Thursday to Monday (9-3)** and closed on Tuesday and Wednesday. See you for a coffee soon!

## **Cromarty Library**

*Lynn Anderson writes:*

Our weekly Bookbug sessions will start back on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 9.30am. There is no longer a requirement to book a space so please just turn up and enjoy. We look forward to seeing you for lots of songs, rhymes, tickles and giggles!

Our current opening hours are: **Monday 10-12, Tuesday 12-7 and Wednesday 12-5.**

## **Cromarty Cinema**

Here's your February programme of screenings! At time of going to press, there are a few films still to be confirmed and a couple not yet listed on the Eden Court website for online bookings - please keep checking back as this should be rectified very soon. Enjoy!



# Cromarty Cinema

February 2022 Programme



Date	Time	Film	Rating	Duration
FRI 04/02	19:00	Parallel Mothers	15	2h03
SAT 05/02	11:00	Encanto	PG	1h38
SAT 05/02	19:00	Torn	12A	1h02
SUN 06/02	15:00	Parallel Mothers	15	2h03
FRI 11/02	19:00	William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet*	12A	2h
SAT 12/02	15:00	Belle*	12A	2h01
SUN 13/02	15:00	Taming The Garden	15	1h31
FRI 18/02	19:00	Minyan	15	1h59
SAT 19/02	11:00	Sing 2	PG	1h50
SUN 20/02	15:00	In The Heat Of The Night*	12A	1h50
FRI 25/02	19:00	Cyrano	12A	2h03
SAT 26/02	19:00	Lingui, The Sacred Bond*		1h27
SUN 27/02	15:00	Cyrano**	12A	2h03
TUE 01/03	19:00	Cyrano	12A	2h03

\* TBC  
\*\* Captioned screening

Adults - £7.50 Under 26 - £5.00 Friends - £6.00

For info on all films and to book tickets please visit our website:

[www.cromartycinema.com](http://www.cromartycinema.com)

OR Eden Court Box Office at:

<https://eden-court.co.uk/booking-information>

OR Wednesdays in-person from 12:00-2:00pm at Cromarty Cinema Box Office.

Covid protocols in place for safety & comfort.

**BECOME A FRIEND:** For info on Friend's Membership, visit our website

[www.cromartycinema.com](http://www.cromartycinema.com)

The Cromarty Cinema, Cromarty, IV11 8XZ [admin@cromartycinema.com](mailto:admin@cromartycinema.com)

## Theatre Workshops



You may have been bemused by the eerie figures that appeared at the windows of the old brewery during lockdown. Those in the know will tell you they are in fact puppets, created for a special re-telling of the story of the Resolis Riot. It was going to be presented at the Crime Writer's weekend in 2020 but then... well we all know how that story goes. This year the Cromarty Arts Trust are determined that The Riot of Resolis will finally see the light of day.

If you would like to try your hand at puppeteering, or simply wish to have some creative fun, director Jon Palmer is looking for a team to help put on this unique play. The spoken words are already

recorded, using some familiar local voices. All that is required now is a group of willing volunteers to bring the puppets to life in response to the soundtrack. This is a great opportunity to get involved in an enthralling piece of story-telling – one of great local significance. By taking part you can become part of history too!

Exploratory workshops followed by formal rehearsals will take place from late March and throughout April, one evening a week. If you're not sure you want to be in the final performance but would like to have a go, why not give it a try? Those who do end up performing will need to be available for a full week of evening sessions in the first week of May. 'Opening night' is Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May. Contact Jon at The Cheese House to express an interest or to find out more. Tel: 600724

## **Transition Black Isle**

### **Black Isle Bike Hires**

Dom Scott-Lodge took over running the Black Isle Bikes business from home about a year ago, but work beckons! So we'd love someone else to take this up. Jon and Emmy at the Cheese Shop did it before for some years.

TBI has leg and electric powered bikes for hire - ideal for locals, visiting family, tourists. All you need is a shed to store them in and to be able to arrange for folk to pick them up and to pay you. You keep most of the income and TBI organises the website, servicing etc. If interested, speak to Dom, Jon or Emmy or Sheila Currie from TBI. And have a look at the website for more information: <https://blackislebicycles.co.uk/hires/>

### **Community Markets**

Keep your eyes open for news that we might be able to resume the monthly Community Markets soon. All our fingers are crossed...

## **Cromarty Arts Trust**



Well, our 2022 programme of workshops, events, exhibitions and concerts is out and already some courses have almost booked up! If you fancy your hand at something creative this year, take a look at [www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk](http://www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk) where you'll find details on everything from sewing, lino printing and basket making to singing, making a metal hare and creative writing. Courses are designed for complete beginners as well as those with some previous experience; classes are small and relaxed and participants are made to feel safe and comfortable.

We also have a range of great live music coming your way, from string quartets to folk combos; jazz legends to blues guitarists. We hope you can make it along to something and support musicians that are finally able to be back out on tour. You can [download a summary grid of our events](#) from the [web home page](#) or check the window of Ardyne, 19 Bank St.

Our only February event: ELMORE STRING QUARTET (Sunday 20th February at 3pm (doors 2.30pm), Stables. Tickets: £14 (£10 students/unwaged; school kids go FREE). Book via [info@cromartyartstrust.org.uk](mailto:info@cromartyartstrust.org.uk) / 01381 600354 / on the door

These guys are in a different league so an exciting concert lies ahead! They are a multi-award winning quartet playing a programme of Schubert, Britten and Beethoven.





Elmore String Quartet, playing Sunday 20th February. Get your tickets soon!

## Cromarty History Society

*Mary Bowers writes:*

Back in February 2020 we had a talk about the history of Cromarty harbour from Pat Haynes – a timely lecture with all the harbour renovations going on then. Little did we know that evening that we would have to wait for another two years before we could next meet as a group!

So, we are delighted to announce that our first meeting for the 2021/22 season will take place this month. We have been pleased to present a series of talks about various houses in our town over the years and now Arthur Bird will add to this, giving a talk on "7 Braehead: a Pickletoun house". This property has been in Arthur's family for over 100 years, extending five Fishertown generations.

He will cover how the site and the house have evolved through its 300 year history. Arthur says the house has an "interesting if somewhat chequered" history - there are sure to be some fascinating tales!

The meeting will commence at **7.30pm** in the **Old Brewery** on Thursday **17 February**. Please note the new venue. Appropriate covid measures will be in place - the welcome relaxation of most covid safety rules has been a contributing factor in our decision to press ahead. Membership fees have been suspended for some time, so we ask for a £3 donation for each talk for the rest of this season. All are welcome to attend!



*The marriage stone at 7, Braehead: come find out more on Thursday 17th February at the Old Brewery!*

Well, that's all we have folks! Here's hoping everyone stayed safe during the storms, and that your 2022 is shaping up to be a great year.

We're always happy for others to join the editorial team, and if you have any suggestions for how to improve our wee round-up of news, do let us know. See you next month!

*- The Editorial Team*

**Forward**

We trust you've found this an interesting and informative read. Please let us know what you think, or send suggestions and ideas for articles via [editor@cromartylive.co.uk](mailto:editor@cromartylive.co.uk)

The Cromarty Live Newsletter team is Catriona Mallows, Jon Palmer, Jeremy Price and Laura Shepherd.

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