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## May 2022

Welcome to the latest round up of news and events.  
There's lots going on in May so why not grab a cuppa and read on?



A wee snippet of exciting things to see during the Cromarty Open Gardens and Studios: Sat 2nd - Sun 3rd July.

## Cromarty and District Community Council



## **Goodbye but not Farewell**

The latest C&DCC meeting, on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April, saw Councillor Craig Fraser attending for the last time as our Ex-Officio Member representing the Highland Council. He is retiring as a Highland Councillor on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May.

To say “he will be missed” is an understatement. His tenacious ability to see things through, and get jobs done, has been the hallmark of his contribution to Cromarty, and the wider Black Isle community, since he became a Councillor in 2007. Knowing how much he loves Cromarty, he will still be very much a person who cares about the community and he is already establishing links to continue supporting whoever is elected on 5<sup>th</sup> May. Whoever it is, they have a very hard act to follow.

Lastly, thank you Dorrie for lending Craig to the community over the last 15 years. His contribution has been invaluable and your support in this is so recognised, and hugely appreciated.

## **Thank you Cromarty!**

The C&DCC, on behalf of the community and all of its businesses, would like thank everyone for their support in helping to get the Allan Square Toilets reopened in time for Easter. Everyone’s contributions made a difference.

We would also like to thank the Highland Council for listening to the Cromarty ‘voice’ and finding the resources to get the work done. This has been a useful exercise in getting the whole community to respect essential facilities that many take for granted. Thank you!

## **Youth Members Needed**

As many will know, the C&DCC has successfully utilised the Highlands initiative to have 16 – 18 year olds at the centre of our work by having two Youth Members with full voting rights. Over the last few years we have had Gregor Fox, Tilly Grist and Coll Fullerton making important contributions to the community and we thank them enormously for everything they have done.

Unfortunately (although they might say fortunately!) their tenure is short and limited to only two years. As a result, we are constantly looking for 'new blood' to keep this initiative working. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in getting involved, then please contact our Chair Paige (youngest Chair in the Highlands!), organisers of the Youth Cafe or simply email us on [cromartydistrictcc@gmail.com](mailto:cromartydistrictcc@gmail.com). Please don't think it is not for you: you dictate how much of your time you can offer. Just ask Gregor, Tilly or Coll if you are not sure!

### **New Member Joins the Community Council**

At the latest C&DCC meeting, Andy Thurgood was elected to be a Co-opted Member.

Andy, although fairly new to Cromarty, has already made his mark with valuable work in making sure Cromarty's interests are well protected as he has been in discussions with both the Port Authority and Global Energy. He has many transferable skills that will help the Community Council and represent the community better. Members are looking forward to working with Andy. Welcome!

### **Classical Cromarty**

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June, the BBC Radio 3 Breakfast Show will be broadcast live from down on the Links. For fans of this show, the presenter is likely to be Petroc Trelawny. More details to follow, but the show is planning to feature live Highland music as well as recorded segments in places like the Courthouse - all broadcast with the sounds of the Firth in the background.



## **Business Updates**

### **Calluna**

Our summer footwear collection has arrived and it's moving fast: flip flops, sandals and sliders. Fun, bright colours and prices from £14.99.

We are looking forward to the sun coming out and an opportunity for us to wear lovely dresses again! Whether for a day out in the Highlands, a holiday abroad or a special occasion, we have a selection of beautiful dresses, jumpsuits and outfits to suit!

The team at Calluna absolutely love to help customers find the right piece through trying on and finding what's right for their wardrobe and budget. Sometimes it's a whole outfit or it might be the finishing touch accessories. Recently we have assisted local business women, stay at home mums, working mums, TV presenters and wedding guests to name a few... there are so many amazing stories of women who are either lacking confidence, needing advice or just looking for something to make them feel fabulous. Making women feel good brings us joy ❤️

Open daily 10-5pm with private shopping by appointment and online at [www.callunacromarty.co.uk](http://www.callunacromarty.co.uk)

### **Sutor Creek**

We will be open daily 11am-8pm from Wednesday 4th May for coffees, cakes, deli, wood-fired pizza and seasonal dishes. Order online at [www.sutorcreek.co.uk](http://www.sutorcreek.co.uk), phone 01381 600 855 or pop in and see what's new. May's wood-fired pizza special is asparagus and parma ham - only available while asparagus is in season.

We have an extensive new selection of Single Malt Whisky and miniatures from Balblair, Dalwhinnie, Glen Farclas, Highland Park and Talisker. Perfect for gifts (and don't forget Father's Day in June 🍷).

We look forward to seeing you soon! Graham, Phoebe and the Team at Sutors x

## **Cromarty Community Development Trust**

*Sheila Currie writes:*

We have received promising applications for the **post of Development Officer** (closing date was Monday) and Directors will be choosing who to call for interview. This will be some time in May.

We now have all the paperwork in place for the **Campervan site** (Planning Permissions and Building Control) and the next stage is talking to contractors. Bear in mind that the grants awarded to Cromarty to pay for this work were 2+years ago now and that prices of everything have gone up, so we need to work out what can be afforded and whether other funding may be available. Any help here would be hugely appreciated.

Work on **maintaining the slipways** here and at Nigg are being done in time for the new season starting on 1 May.

The **Thrift Shop** volunteers are keen to get back in, but really want electricity for heating and lighting first (it's too cold!). We are getting ~~quite~~ very annoyed with different parts of SSE not talking to each other to get the (perfectly good wiring and meter) turned on.

## **Transition Black Isle: Cromarty Market**

A wee reminder: don't forget the Community Market is on **Saturday 14 May 10.30 to 12.30** for all your food, plants and craft needs.



## The Riot of Resolis

Cromarty is all set to host the premiere of this groundbreaking play, which has involved more than 25 local people in its creation. The story, though vaguely familiar to many, is told in great detail and explores the notion that local history is not without controversy. Who do we believe? The aristocracy, the clergy, the land-workers or the upholders of the law? Each has a different perspective on what actually happened. 12 puppets representing characters from each of the four groups are animated by a team of six. The story is told through the eyes of a modern-day journalist who steps back in time to seek out the truth. Original live music composed by Marjorie Paterson provides another layer of interest in this multimedia extravaganza produced and directed by Jon Palmer.

Performances take place in the Victoria Hall on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm and 8pm. Tickets for the evening show are almost sold out but there are still seats left for the afternoon. Be part of the first ever audience to witness this authentic piece of Black Isle theatre! Become part of history!!

Tickets available through Cromarty Arts Trust - either in person at Ardyne or call 600354.

## Cromarty Cinema

May brings another feast of varied film offerings, including a link up with the Havana Glasgow Film Festival (HGFF) for some Cuban fun, chat and kids' animations/workshops on 13/14<sup>th</sup> May.



### Cromarty Cinema May 2022 Programme



	Date	Time	Film	Rating	Duration
FRI	06/05	19:00	The Lost City	12A	1h52
SAT	07/05	11:00	Rabbit Academy: Mission Eggpossible	U	1h16
SUN	08/05	15:00	The Lost City**	12A	1h52
TUE	10/05	19:00	Playground	15	1h12
FRI	13/05	19:00	HGFF: Queens of The Revolution + Intro + Q&A	18	1h20+
SAT	14/05	11:00	HGFF: Animation + Workshop	U	1h
SAT	14/05	19:00	Wild Men	15	1h42
SUN	15/05	15:00	Downton Abbey: A New Era	PG	2h05
TUE	17/05	19:00	The Drover's Wife		1h49
FRI	20/05	19:00	The Road Dance	15	1h57
SAT	21/05	19:00	Cries and Whispers	15	1h32
SUN	22/05	15:00	Ennio	15	2h36
TUE	24/05	19:00	Downton Abbey: A New Era**	PG	2h05
FRI	27/05	19:00	Benediction	12A	2h17
SAT	28/05	19:00	The Road Dance	15	1h57
SUN	29/05	15:00	NTL: Henry V	15	3h

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

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

**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)



# Cromarty Arts Trust



The poster for the Crime & Thrillers Weekend 2022 features a dark, textured background with red splatters. At the top, the title 'CRIME & THRILLERS WEEKEND' is written in large, stylized white and red letters. A yellow diagonal banner in the top right corner reads '10th ANNIVERSARY!'. Below the title, the dates '6th - 8th MAY 2022, CROMARTY' are displayed in yellow. The central part of the poster shows five author portraits: Ian Rankin, Elly Griffiths, Matt Johnson, Mary Paulson-Ellis, and Nicola White. Below the portraits, the text lists activities: 'Writing Workshop with ALEX WALTERS', 'Desert Island Crooks led by JONATHAN WHITELAW', and 'Spotlight authors: COLIN McANDREW, G.R. HALLIDAY, JONATHAN WHITELAW'. A paragraph describes the weekend's events, including talks, interviews, book signings, and the premiere of 'The Riot of Resolis'. It also mentions all-inclusive packages with B&B accommodation. At the bottom, contact information for info and bookings is provided, including the website [www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk/crime-and-thrillers](http://www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk/crime-and-thrillers).

**CRIME & THRILLERS WEEKEND**  
**6th - 8th MAY 2022, CROMARTY**

WITH: **ELLY Griffiths**

**IAN RANKIN** **MATT JOHNSON** **Mary Paulson-Ellis** **NICOLA WHITE**

Writing Workshop with **ALEX WALTERS**  
Desert Island Crooks led by **JONATHAN WHITELAW**  
Spotlight authors:  
**COLIN McANDREW, G.R. HALLIDAY, JONATHAN WHITELAW**

A weekend of talks, interviews, book signings, Q&As and evening entertainment, including the premiere of 'The Riot of Resolis', a dramatic Black Isle event uniquely brought to life using local voices.

All-inclusive packages available with B&B accommodation in the stunning 18th Century Old Brewery plus lunches & dinners.

**FOR INFO & BOOKINGS:**  
[www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk/crime-and-thrillers](http://www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk/crime-and-thrillers)

May is a busy one for us! The biggest event of our year-long programme takes place from the 6-8th May: **The Crime & Thrillers Weekend** is now in its 10th year and we have another full and varied programme for you.

As well as the RIOT OF RESOLIS premiere on Friday 6th at 2pm (tickets available) and 8pm (almost sold out) mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, you can enjoy:

## Sat 7th

10.00-11.30: IAN RANKIN - 'Completing The Dark Remains' plus COLIN MCANDREW

12.00-13.30: ELLY GRIFFITHS - 'Becoming Elly Griffiths' plus JONATHAN WHITELAW

14.30-17.00: ALEX WALTERS Writing Workshop - 'Building Fictional Worlds'



15.00-16.30: NICOLA WHITE & MARY PAULSON-ELLIS  
- 'The Lure of the Past'

20.00: Saturday Movie Night at Cromarty Cinema - watch classic Bogart thriller, THE MALTESE FALCON on the big screen and take part in our visual quiz. £15. A few tickets remaining.

### **Sun 8th**

10.00-11.30: MATT JOHNSON - 'From PTSD to Publication: A Cop's Story' plus G.R.HALLIDAY

12.00-13.30: DESERT ISLAND CROOKS - hosted by Jonathan Whitelaw, the above key authors discuss their favourite books for a fun, lively end session.

All the talks above take place in the Stables and cost £15 each. More info and booking forms on our website: [www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk](http://www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk)

### **Also in May:**

Sat 14th: LIZABETT RUSSO gig, Stables, 20.00 Tickets £12/£8

Sat 28th: SING FOR JOY - fun, relaxed singing workshop in the Stables, 10.00-15.30 £35

Sun 29th: FYRISH STRING QUARTET, Stables, 16.00 (doors 15.30) Tickets £10/£6.



# **Cromarty Bowling Club: Opening this Sunday!**

*Alistair Hourston writes:*

It's that time of year again and volunteers have been busy getting the bowling green and the clubhouse ready for the new season.

The first jack of the year will be thrown by club president Rita Storr on **Sunday May 1st at 2.00pm**. Play will commence after that, weather and green condition permitting. This is a special time for the club as we celebrate our centenary this year.

We would like to welcome as many people as possible to our opening day and it would be wonderful if we can encourage more people to join the club. It is a very pleasant way to spend a couple of hours on a sunny summer evening. Membership for the season is £70 and that allows access to the green at any time unless it is undergoing maintenance. There are also specific club afternoons and evenings and for the more competitive amongst you there are several competitions running throughout the season.

We look forward to seeing you on the 1st!

## **The Friends of Hugh Miller AGM**

**Saturday 21st May at the Old Brewery, Cromarty**

Members and interested parties are most warmly invited to attend our AGM, preceded by a fossil hunt on the Cromarty shore led by our chairperson, Bob Davidson. Bob will also give a talk on an intriguing Miller-related fossil mystery after our AGM in the afternoon. The talk is open to all, and the public are most welcome to attend. Full details:

**10am - 12 noon:** Fossil walk led by Bob Davidson, leaving from the Old Brewery at 10am, taking in Cromarty

shoreline for a fossil hunt before heading back round the loop to the St Regulus' graveyard. All are welcome,

**2pm – Annual General Meeting**

**3pm** – Talk by FOHM chairperson Bob Davidson on the topic: 'Detecting 'fake news' in Geology - past and present'. All are welcome. Free coffee/tea and shortbread will be provided during the afternoon.

## **Cycling Without Age**



**Patsy and Gracie, our Cycling Without Age trikes are back out on the road again!**

*Shirley Matheson writes:*

There may be some folk who don't know about our trikes as we haven't been out much in the last 2 years so I will give a wee recap...

We have two electric powered trikes to take folk who have limited mobility out and about around Cromarty. The trikes were funded by Highland Cross. Outings can be whatever the passengers wish to do, to get out and about and feel the wind in their hair once more, or for a trip to the shops or café. It's all about slow travel, stopping to speak to folk (and of course every dog!) on the journey. We can take up to two passengers at a time in each trike. The trike pilots are fully trained to take out passengers and all pilots have had Disclosure Scotland clearance.

Trips are available for residents and visitors to Cromarty, so if you have an elderly or disabled person visiting please do get in touch. We have also used the trikes to transport folk around various community including as the Open Gardens and Film Festival. Hopefully, we will be able to start doing all these things again.

If you wish to arrange for yourself or you know someone who would benefit from getting out on the trikes, please call Shirley on 600451. All trips are free, but donations are always welcome.

Also, if you would like to become part of our team of trike pilots please get in touch with Shirley on 600451. Remember, you don't have to be super fit as the trikes are electric. All trike pilots must be over 16 years of age. Full training will be provided. You can follow us on Facebook: [Cycling Without Age Cromarty](#).

**Retired Cromarty GP Dr Helen Charlie invites you to join her in the Cromarty Classic Film Club.**

This is a great opportunity to watch classic films in the comfort of the Cromarty Community Cinema. It is on once a month on the second Wednesday of the month from 2:30-5:30. The first showing will be on Wednesday 11th May.

For more information or if you fancy attending please contact Helen by text on 07889181529 or email [helen.charley@doctors.org.uk](mailto:helen.charley@doctors.org.uk). Entry is by donation. For Cromarty residents who require transport, please contact Shirley on 600451 to arrange transport by trike!

## **Cromarty Courthouse Museum**



*Mary Bowers writes:*

## **Cromarty Courthouse is looking for your help!**

As much as we love the Courthouse with its interesting objects and displays, it is not the easiest of places to get into or move around.



Until recently there was very little we could do about that, but now Plexus Media have created a powerful [new website](#) for us to think about creating digital access to the Courthouse. We are planning to apply for funding to make this digital access a reality, but before we do, we'd like to know what people would like to see on the website. So if you or anyone you know has problems accessing the museum but would like to, please let us know what you would find most useful in a digital Cromarty Courthouse Museum.

If you would be interested in taking part in a longer term study to test out different ideas please tell us that as well. You can let us know your thoughts by: emailing [info@courthousecromarty.gmail.com](mailto:info@courthousecromarty.gmail.com) or using our [website contact page](#). Thanks!

## **Cromarty Open Gardens and Studios**



*Jeremy Price writes:*

We are still looking for volunteers to help with the running of Cromarty Open Gardens and Studios weekend that will be held on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd July. Also, we still need more gardens to throw open their gates and give visitors access to some of the wonderful spaces we have hidden from view in and around the town!

In terms of volunteering, there's no need to commit to both days or even a full day - even 4 hours would be time well spent meeting and greeting, selling plants and books or even welcoming folk to gardens where the owners are away! It would be nice, though, if you could open your garden on both days. Any garden of whatever size, condition could be inspirational to someone, so if you haven't cut your lawn or dug out every centimetre of ground elder root, don't worry at all. This isn't about formality, it's about your own space and what you like about it!

If you would like to help in any capacity, please call Jeremy or Julie on 600709. The time is fast approaching, so don't leave it too late as we need at least a month to do the logistics, so need to hear from you by the end of May at the latest!



Well, there's rather a lot going on! Thanks for reading.

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, let us know. See you next month!

*- The Editorial Team*

Forward

We hope 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.

The Newsletter is currently sponsored by a local benefactor.

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