



November 2022

October was very busy with peeping through keyholes, rioting in Resolis, and 220th birthdays being celebrated! And it looks as if there is going to be no slow down in November. Brace yourselves - it's a big one!

Gluren bij de Buren



The Disclaimers at Wellington House

After a break of two years the last Sunday of October saw the town bustling with happy folk once more for the annual 'Peeking on the Neighbours' event. Always hard to gauge precise numbers but well over a hundred locals and visitors enjoyed a broad range of creative offerings – from a traditional piper in Hugh Miller Cottage and fiddlers in the Fishertown Inn to retro synthesizers, film showings, a reflective monologue on recent events and a talking monkey! It is a unique platform to show off local musical talent which this year also included 14-year-old Orlagh McIver playing her first public performance and the 'more

experienced' Disclaimers and the ever-present Greg Fullarton.

In the words of one of the hosts: 'It's a great event, which impresses visitors and locals, brings a real buzz to the town and, which I'm sure, hosts enjoy as much as the 'Peekers'... cheering up the town when all the summer bustle has faded!'

A big thank you and congratulations to all involved.



Jeremy Price delivering a thought-provoking monologue at Clunes Chalet

Cromarty Community Development Trust

Sheila Currie writes:

We may have been a bit quiet in the newsletter recently, but there IS a lot going on, it's just that a lot of it is 'work in progress'. Here goes anyway...

Campervan Site

Huge amount of progress getting all our ducks in a row: working with Engineers to clarify what groundworks are needed, having all the proper drawings, costings etc. etc. etc. in hand. Hoping very soon to get tenders out for work on site.

I know we've been saying this before, but there were a lot of unexpected extra bits needed doing on the preparation work.



Groundwork for the campsite

Julie Macrae (our Development Officer) has been visiting other community-run campervan sites to learn the best ways of doing this and delivering real community benefits (such as job and income).

East Church Hall

The Development Trust registered a Community Interest when the hall became vacant, as a way to make sure it wasn't sold off or disposed of without community involvement.

We have been having good discussions with Highland Council (it is a Common Good asset, which they manage) about the types of potential uses the building could have - it must be a sustainable proposal in terms of how it is funded and managed, used for community benefit, and it would great if it could also bring in income and create employment.

We have put in a request to the Highland Council common Good to host a 'doors open day' one weekend, ensuring everyone has a chance to visit and be reminded – or find out! - what the building has to offer – before any plans are made

There may be other potential community uses we don't know of and there could be other organisations who could run it - the Dev Trust is acting for the community here and would love to hear about uses and users that could be considered. Get in touch at cromartydevelopmenttrust@gmail.com



Bus Passes

Julie worked with the Youth workers to get more young people signed up for their free Under 22 bus passes, and to get to know them better.

Development Trusts Association Scotland (DTAS)

Julie's post is funded by DTAS, and we had a visit from DTAS to see what the Trust is working on. Hugely reassuring to hear that what we are doing is seen as good work.

Housing

We have had a bit more communication recently from Albyn Housing about starting up the process of getting going on this on the in-town site beside the Barn. The Community Council are leading on Housing and the Trust is working with them.

New Director

We are delighted to announce that Phoebe Fox is joining as a new Director for the Development Trust. She will bring a lot of oomph and experience!

Thrift Shop

Rosemarie Hogg writes:

The Thrift shop finally opened its doors at the end of May, after a 2-year covid hiatus and an ongoing battle with SEE to connect us up to the grid. It took the Scottish

Government to intercede on our behalf to get the electrical connection finally!

This year we decided to advertise our goods on facebook and the Cromarty and Black Isle Sites, and the difference that made was quite remarkable. Many Black Isle residents hadn't known of our existence until that point, so our footfall increased greatly.

We raised £5,601.86 this year and spent £41.95 on a new clothing rack!

In the past week we were delighted to receive an extremely generous donation of new goods from Judy in the Emporium. She wanted to get rid of all her excess goods and we accepted it with open arms. These goods will be stored until Easter 2023, when we re-open for the next season. We are extremely grateful to Judy for her generosity and will be making a donation to the RNLI as she requested. All the goods being sold will benefit the community and stay in Cromarty. We also inherited some of the Emporium's shelving units and a bookcase.

We would like to thank the community for their support during the year and look forward to welcoming customers old and new at Easter 2023.

Thank you from our volunteer group: Chrissie, Ewa, Irene, Jon, Mairi, Marjorie, Mary Rae, Moira, Nora, Rhona and Rosemarie.

Community Council

Further Accolades for Local Talent

Fraser Thomson writes:

With over 670 hours in her Saltire awards and over 550 HLH leadership hours, Tilly Grist has been awarded HLH Volunteer of the Year Award for 2022.

Tilly has made an Outstanding Contribution to our Youthwork in Cromarty Youth Cafe, Cromarty Rowing Club, Fortrose Academy many projects, sessions, committees. Tilly's smile brightens each day, she is kind, caring and always considerate of helping others. Other

young people look up to Tilly, she has inspired them to volunteer and lead to grow in confidence and gain many skills.



Reflection Buddy Bench

The unveiling of the new Reflection Buddy Bench (in Victoria Park) attracted media interest with it being filmed and shown on the STV News. The bench was designed by our young and older people at various sessions, and was then created by the very talented Iain Chalmers at Chainsaw Creations.



Cromarty Care Project

Sharing larder

Jill Stoner writes:

The larder has been running since December 2020 – restocked every day by a wonderful team of volunteers. We are grateful for deliveries of food from Fareshare, an organisation that distributes food that is surplus from supermarkets. The Masonic lodge has been very supportive providing help over the past year with storage and food. We do have to purchase supplies too which are paid for from our unrestricted fund.

The larder is well used and is there for everyone.

If you feel able to donate to the Care Project, you can do this through our website www.cromartycareproject.co.uk

Cromarty Stores

Many thanks to Marcel Gommers of the Cromarty Stores who has successfully applied for grants from ‘Make a Difference Locally ‘ a charity run by NISA (the Coop owned main supplier).

The Care Project is very grateful to receive £2,500 for our general fund and £500 to purchase a bench for the community. We hope this will help individuals in coping with the current crisis of additional costs we are all experiencing.

Home Care

Would you consider being a home carer?

Cromarty needs carers. There are more people needing care in Cromarty than there are care staff to provide it. Top Care Inverness are the employer and they are looking for relief bank, part time and fulltime staff. Pay is weekly. Basic pay rate starts at £11 per hour with an extra 30p at weekends. Work phones are available as is the use of company cars. If you use your own car the mileage rate is 40p. All training is provided – no experience is necessary. Uniforms are provided.

Contact Maxine Worsfold on 07483881981 or info@topcareinverness.co.uk for an application form.

Business Updates

Cromarty Post Office

Estelle writes:

Christmas will be coming to the post office over the weekend of November 5th/6th. We'll have all the usual Christmas essentials from cards, wrapping and crackers to decorations and lights, as well as toys and games, gifts and plenty of luscious chocolates. New gift ranges include Scott Innes homeware and Heilan coo hot water bottles and door stops. Don't miss them!



Who wouldn't want a cheery coo to hold open their door?

The Cheese House

We celebrated our ten-year anniversary in style last weekend with a Black Isle tour of 'The Riot of Resolis'. It attracted audiences of almost 250 over three nights. At the Cromarty performance on the Saturday folk were also treated to a ten-minute slide show with images from

events we have run over the past ten years. This was accompanied by music from Lauren MacColl listened to on headsets, which seamlessly led into a silent disco.

Monies raised over the three nights (plus surplus from Gluren bij de Buren donations) are going to: Culbokie Community Trust (£500), Resolis Memorial Hall (£500 to install wifi), James' Support Group (£200), Black Isle Need to Play (£200) and Culbokie Players (£150). We have also started a 'pot' to support costs for a new and exciting community event to be held next year – watch this space for further details!

Fishertown Inn

We have started serving Sunday Roasts 1pm-6pm every Sunday. Booking advised, please call 01381 600988. We are also taking group bookings for Christmas lunches throughout December. Please email info@fishertowninn.com to discuss.

Our first traditional music session is starting on Thursday the 3rd at 8pm, we would love to see you there.

Book night is the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm. More details on Facebook and Instagram.

Ingrid's House

The shop is now full of our Winter stock and we are open 7 days a week up to and including Christmas Eve. Have you got your Scandi star yet? Every home needs one!



Sutor Creek

Sutor Creek Restaurant Reopens (At The Old Brewery)!!

We are delighted to announce that Sutor Creek Restaurant will pop up at The Old Brewery from Wednesday 14th to Saturday 17th December for four nights of Christmas parties. Graham has created a fabulous 3 course menu (with prosecco, coffee & truffles) that's perfect for celebrating the season with your work colleagues, friends and family. Our wee bar will be open for drinks and bar snacks from 5pm and the licensed restaurant will serve dinner from 6pm with reservations until 8pm.

With the new renovations at The Old Brewery including heating, flooring, fresh paint and soft furnishings - we are really excited about the cosy ambience that we will create for your festive night out. There is also an option to reserve a gorgeous private dining room that's suitable for 8 guests. Reservations are going to be limited so please phone us on 01381 600 855 to book as soon as possible.



Sutor Creek Restaurant At the Old Brewery

CHRISTMAS MENU
WEDNESDAY 14TH TO SATURDAY 17TH DECEMBER 6 - 8PM

Glass of fizz on arrival

STARTERS

Gin cured salmon, beetroot salad, watercress
or
Potted duck and pork terrine, poached pears, herb salad, granary bread
or
Goats cheese, apple, caramelised onion bruschetta, mustard, black garlic

MAIN

Roast turkey with all the trimmings
or
Bay roasted hake, buttered potatoes, leeks, salsify, chive veloute
or
Slow braised ox cheek, dauphinoise potatoes, neep puree, crispy cabbage
or
Rosemary roasted root vegetables, spiced lentils, cauliflower cream

DESSERT

Passion fruit tart, curd, meringue
or
Christmas pudding, brandy custard
or
Dark chocolate cremeux, orange, salted caramel

TEA OR COFFEE

Chocolate Truffles

*£35 per person | Phone 01381 600 855 to reserve | Private Dining Option available for
tables of 8 - limited availability | Wee Bar open from 5pm with bar snacks 5.30-8.30pm*

Finalists

Sutor Creek has made it to the finals for Best Chef and Best Pizza in the Scottish Italian Awards. Graham hopes to attend the final cook off for the face to face judging but even getting this far is very exciting! We want to thank our team for their commitment to Sutor Creek and our customers for their ongoing support and votes!

Sutor Creek is open Wednesday to Sunday 12-8pm with free delivery in Cromarty Friday to Sunday 5-7.30pm. Order online, phone 01381 600 855 or pop in.

Calluna

The sequins and sparkles are in - lots of gorgeous styles in a range of sizes and price points to add a bit of cheer to the season. Our gift corner is bursting with beautiful gifts from cosy socks to chunky knits and sparkly earrings to Cromarty calendars.. open every day and sometimes a wee bit later at night - if the lights are on come on in!! We are

also more than happy to host a private shopping night to help you find the perfect gift or outfit - just give us a call on 01381 600 464 to arrange and we can help you with your gift buying.

The Emporium - end of an era

The Emporium sign is down, the shelves are empty and the welcoming lights in the window no longer twinkle. In its place is a white sheet in the window and a sign on the chalk board that says the business is closed. What an adventure it has been. Many challenges and many changes. The best part was meeting the various people from all around the world and enjoying the support and friendship from the Black Isle communities, especially our own Cromarty.

On the 28th October, the sale of the shop and flat was finalised. As I convey my beloved property to the new owners, I am happy to join the ranks of the retired. I look forward to the creative ideas the new owners will share with the community. I know I can count on each of you to welcome them with warm Cromarty friendliness and to give your support as the property takes shape in a new and exciting format.

My love and blessings to you all. Judy

Hugh Miller's Birthplace Cottage & Museum

James Ryan writes

Hugh Miller is without a doubt Cromarty's most famous inhabitant, and in October we celebrated both his 220th birthday, and the 20th anniversary since the last main birthday events in Cromarty (which featured the immortal epic "Hugh Who?")

Over the course of two afternoons on Sunday 9th and Monday 10th October, we hosted a spectacular event which invited people to create art of prehistoric fish, share memories from the Bicentennial anniversary, and introduced people from around the world to the fossils Hugh Miller was best known for. I am so pleased to say the event was a huge hit: seeing around 100 attendees.



Going forward I am also excited to announce we will be remaining open at weekends until at least Christmas, and plan to host a wide variety of events: from tours of Cromarty to Christmas craft activities. Next year we hope to celebrate not just Hugh Miller's 221st birthday, but also 85 years of the National Trust for Scotland caring for this wonderful location!

Be sure to pay us a visit in the lead-up to Christmas (as ever the site is FREE ENTRY for Cromarty residents) and follow us on Facebook for updates on events and behind-the-scenes history of one of Victorian Britain's greatest minds!

Cromarty History Society

As a medieval burgh, Cromarty had a Town Council - one that lasted in various forms until 1975. This month's talk (Thursday 17th at 7.30pm) outlines all the changes to the present day, and then looks in detail at the activities of the last Town Council, as reported in the minutes of their meetings.

Sandy Thomson has been a member of Cromarty History Society for the past twenty-five years. He moved to Cromarty in 1997 following retirement from Strathclyde University. He has been a committee member, our Convener, and he reckons that this will be his sixteenth talk to the Society.

We are pleased that our complimentary cup of tea and biscuits and chance to chat has returned at the end of each talk. All welcome!

Please visit our website for further details

www.cromartyhistory.scot

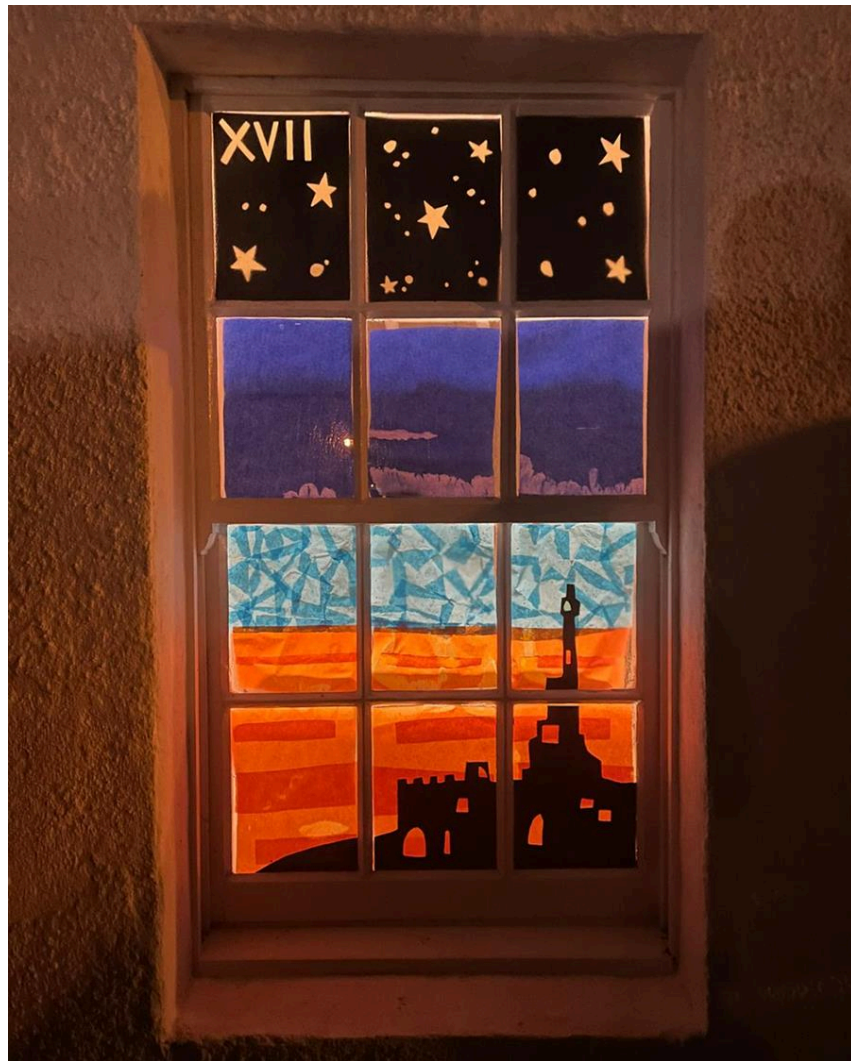
Cromarty Parish Mission Church

Becky Richmond writes:

Cromarty Advent Window Trail Workshop

Saturday 26th November 10.30am - 4.00pm at the West Church

We will be holding a workshop style session for any participants of the Advent Window Trail who may like a hand producing their Windows. We have wanted to do this ever since we started the Trail, however, this is the first time there are currently no covid restrictions in place. Come for the whole session or drop in at any point through the day. We will have plenty of Christmas music and a few festive treats to help us focus on creating lovely Windows. If you're hosting a Window, why not pop in and give us an idea of what you'd like to see on your Window.



Sunday Club Big ADVENTure

Calling all Children.

Join us on Sunday 27th November for a big ADVENTure as we prepare for Advent and the season of Christmas. We will be making Advent Calendars and if there are enough of us, we have a great play to act out. We will also be launching our new look Sunday Club, as we rename ourselves the Cromarty Adventure Club, because Adventures aren't just for ADVENT. All children are welcome.

We will be meeting at the West Church and the session will run from 2.30 - 5pm.

For more information, please contact Becky Richmond at becky@blackislestud.co.uk Tel: 07732181264



Service Dates for November

Sunday 6th November - 11am - The Old Brewery - join us for a new approach to Church. Plenty of coffee, cake and chat on offer as we explore faith and worship in a new way.

Sunday 13th November - Remembrance Sunday

10.45am at the cemetery for a short service of Remembrance led by the Rev Mike Rattenbury.

11.15am - West Church - Service of Remembrance led by the Rev Mike Rattenbury. Everyone welcome. Tea and cake will follow the service.

Sunday 20th and 27th November - 11am - venue to be confirmed.

Advanced Notice of this year's Watchnight Service, which will be held in the East Church this year. Come and enjoy lots of traditional carols and a Nativity Play as we welcome in Christmas Day. Wrap up warm - blankets and hot water bottles recommended. Hot mulled drinks will be available.

Cinema

From Anna Terje:

With the nights becoming colder and darker, what better way to spend them than at our warm and cosy community cinema! This month, we have a variety of films on offer, starting with three very special film screenings in association with Inverness Film Festival.



The Oil Machine screens as part of the Inverness Film Festival on Sunday 6th

We are also screening a series of Taiwanese shorts as part of the Taiwan Film Festival Edinburgh, as well as The Gravedigger's Wife, part of Somali Stories. And if you missed the almost sold out Bowie documentary Moonage Daydream in October, you get a second chance this month!

For art enthusiasts, we have Hilma, exploring Hilma af Klint's enigmatic life, and if you're looking for a beautiful nature documentary, you can't miss All That Breathes, a film that finds beauty within the debris of New Delhi, India, as two brothers rescue injured black kites and ponder the interconnectedness of existence.

From November, our box office at the cinema will be open on Thursdays, 12-2pm.

We also now have beautiful Cromarty Cinema t-shirts for sale for just £17.50. Look stylish while representing your community cinema, or treat a loved one!

These are just a few examples of what our community cinema has on offer in November.



Cromarty Cinema

November 2022 Programme



	Date	Time	Film	Rating	Duration
FRI	04/11	19:00	Full Time (IFF)	15+	1h28
SAT	05/11	19:00	Nobody Has To Know (IFF)	15+	1h39
SUN	06/11	15:00	The Oil Machine (IFF)	U	1h21
FRI	11/11	19:00	Living	12A	1h42
SAT	12/11	19:00	Gravedigger's Wife + Somali Stories shorts**	12A	1h22+
SUN	13/11	15:00	Triangle Of Sadness	15	2h20
TUE	15/11	19:00	Living DS	12A	1h42
FRI	18/11	19:00	Moonage Daydream	15	2h15
SAT	19/11	19:00	Decision To Leave	15	2h19
SUN	20/11	15:00	All That Breathes	12A	1h34
FRI	25/11	19:00	Call Jane	12A	1h21
SAT	26/11	19:00	Taiwan Film Festival Edinburgh - Shorts***	15	1h30+
SUN	27/11	15:00	Hilma	12A	1h59
TUE	29/11	19:00	Call Jane	12A	1h42

IFF – Inverness Film Festival
DS – Descriptive Subtitles

** Part of Somali Stories
*** Visit by the festival curator Kuan-ping Liu

Adults - £8.50 Under 26 - £5.00 Friends - £7.00

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

www.cromartycinema.com OR <https://eden-court.co.uk/booking-information>

OR Thursdays 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

Looking back at last month, the Korean + Anime Season was a huge success with sell-out shows and enthusiastic responses to the workshops, screenings, talks and of course, the food! We'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who helped, who came to the screenings or workshops, bought a T-shirt and helped to make the whole thing a fun experience.

Japanese Scottish illustrator, Emily Katagiri ran the manga drawing workshops:

'This was the first time I'd been to Cromarty, and I was charmed by the beautiful ocean view and its friendly people. All of the local children had wonderful energy in these sessions. Many young kids tend to draw very solidly with their pencils, so giving them short and punchy sessions to observe poses can stretch their comfort zone. I was surprised by how many more of the younger children recognised anime and manga compared to the older ones. I had assumed it would be the other way around, and that dynamic was somewhat unusual in my experience.'



Young workshop participants at The Old Buoy Store

Thank you to everyone who visited us last month, we look forward to seeing you again in November!

Cromarty Arts Trust

MAHLER PLAYERS WIND QUINTET

The Stables - Sun 6th Nov
3.00pm (doors 2.30pm)



Mahler Players Wind Quintet are Catherine O'Rourke (Flute), Rachel Farmer (Clarinet), Bruce Gordon (Bassoon), Leslie Callander (Oboe), Rob Farmer (Horn).

Programme will include works by
Damase, Arrieu & Bozza.



Tickets: £10 / £6 students/unwaged

Available in advance via:
info@cromartyartstrust.org.uk / 01381 600354
and on the door
www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk

Chamber
Music
Scotland

Other Events in November

5th & 6th BEGINNERS NOVEL WRITING Brewery 10-16.30 £130 (bring packed lunch)

6th MAHLER PLAYERS WIND QUINTET Stables 15.00 £10/£6 BYOB. Tea & Coffee provided

12th FREE MOTION EMBROIDERY Stables 10-16.30 £60 (1 SPACE REMAINING)

13th SEWING CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS Stables 10-16.30 £60 (bring lunch)

16th KISSING LINFORD CHRISTIE Stables 11.00 Donation age 8+

25-27th WINTER MARKET Brewery 10.30-16.30 Free entry (Preview 25th 6-8pm)

To book tickets for one of our events or workshops email us at info@cromartyartstrust.org.uk or call the office on 01381 600354.



CHRISTMAS MARKET



Sat 26th & Sun 27th Nov

10.30am—4.30pm

Preview: Fri 25th, 6-8pm

Old Brewery, Cromarty

A range of unique, quality crafts & goodies under one roof.
FREE ENTRY. SHOP LOCAL!

And finally...

Lest we forget.

As we should always, November is a time for reflection. With democracies around the world appearing to face an existential crisis it is poignant to be reminded by our talented postie of the sacrifices people have made defending freedom. And how the world would be a better place without conflicts. Yarn bombs not real bombs.



That's it for another month. Remember, anyone and everyone can contribute to the newsletter, so send in your news!

- 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

The Cromarty Live Newsletter team is Briony Moses, Jon Palmer, Jeremy Price and Laura Shepherd.

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