

May 2023

Summer Is A-Coming (Yes, really)



Bowling Club

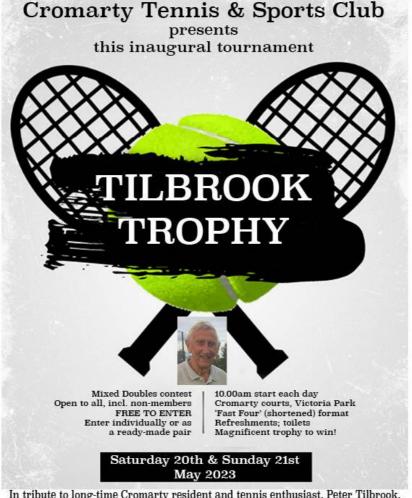
The first jack of the new season was thrown by Douglas Cooper on Saturday 22nd April and we are delighted to say that the green is now open for play.

It was nice to welcome some new and some returning members and we are always happy to welcome anyone who would like to join us.

Annual playing membership costs £70, or Friend's membership is available for £15 with a further £3 charge each time you play. Our normal playing sessions are from 2.00pm on Friday and Sunday afternoons and a Spoon night competition runs throughout the season on Wednesday evenings from 7.00pm.

Details can be found on our website and updates are posted on our Facebook page.

It's a very pleasant way to get some exercise and friendly conversation on a summer evening so why not give it a try. You will be made very welcome.



In tribute to long-time Cromarty resident and tennis enthusiast, Peter Tilbrook, who passed away in July 2022. Peter was the oldest club member playing regularly, still competing aged 80!

To enter: email vicky.benjamin@btinternet.com OR georgia@macleod9.plus.com Deadline for entries is one week before the tournament: FRIDAY 12TH MAY

The Club Chair will create the draw in advance and contact all participants with their timings. Matches umpired throughout. Good luck!

In honour of Peter Tilbrook, the **Cromarty Tennis & Sports Club** are holding this new tournament on **20th & 21st May** - a mixed doubles contest to win the Tilbrook
Trophy! A Cromarty resident for 47 years, Peter was a
keen tennis player his whole life, competing in the
tournaments at the Cromarty court as well as Inverness
Tennis & Squash Club where he was a regular player for
over 40 years. He played right up to his 80th year and
would still manage one of his lethal drop shots, despite
the frustrations of the inevitable slowing down. Having
passed away last July aged 83, Peter would be bashful but

also delighted that his name and memory live on in this way.

This contest is just a bit of fun and open to all. You can enter as a ready-made mixed double duo or individually and you will be paired up with another solo player. The 'Fast Four' style of reduced length games will be played and an umpire will be on hand throughout the weekend to keep tantrums and tears to a minimum! The magnificent new trophy will be awarded to the winners at the end of the weekend by Peter's widow, Fran.

Full details are on the poster. Hope to see you there!



On Monday 8 May 2023
At the Victoria Park, Cromarty



Youth Cafe Members have planned a Coronation Community event for ALL young people as part of their Inspire 2022 project with Youth Scotland. We will celebrate this 'once, or twice, in a lifetime event' together and have fun. Our sense of community will strengthen as we meet new people. We want to capture the memories of this moment in history.

-Bouncy Balmoral Castle -Lawn Tennis - The Highland Dancer
-Inverness Caley Thistle Football - A banquet fit for a King
- Dressing up, Face painting and Tattoos (Allergy Free)
-Omnikin Ball fun -The Royal Piper - Hook a Royal Duck
- Cromarty Fire and Rescue Service with their fire truck
- The Royal Portrait Photo Booth -Kings Crowns design

Crime & Thrillers and a lot more besides

Cromarty Arts Trust had another great Crime & Thrillers weekend last weekend, our 11th year. A huge thank you to the authors, everybody who came along and to everyone who volunteered and helped make it such a success, it's going from strength to strength! If it's not too early you can get next years dates in your diaries already, 3 – 5th May 2024.

We have lots going on in May, but can I just sneak in an April mention for the brilliant TRIO DOYENNE playing on **30th April**, at the Stables at 3pm. They are playing Beethoven and Schubert piano music and it will be a lovely Sunday afternoon concert.

TWO IN A BARREL is a lively kids show at the Stables on **Tuesday 9 May** at 10am. It's suitable for mums, dads, carers, grannies and grandads, preschool age and P1-3 The tickets are £5, and you can buy on the door. Happily, we have funding so that Cromarty Primary P1 - 3 will be attending free as a school outing. The theatre company are going into the school to run a workshop in the afternoon. Lots of fun to be had!

Some beautiful art will be on show and for sale from the REDCASTLE ART GROUP. They are coming to the Stables for their annual exhibition, running from **13th to 21st May**, free entry. They have a musical recital with ROBIN VERSTEEG & CHRISTOPHER JOSEY in the evening of **13th May**. Recital tickets from the Redcastle organisers at paintbrush@btinternet.com

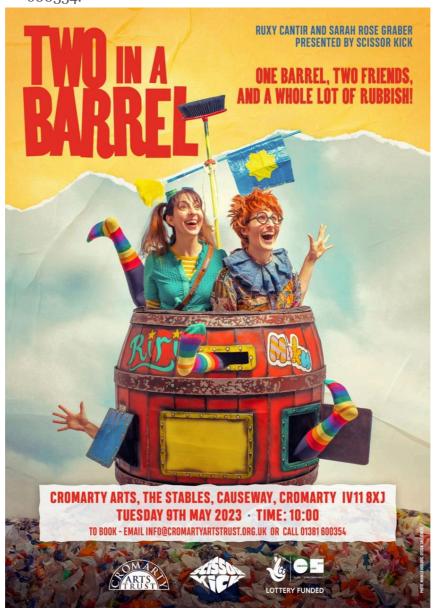
We are really lucky to have SARAH MCQUAID playing in Cromarty as part of her UK tour on **Monday 15 May**. Sarah is a gifted singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, she was born in Spain, lives in Cornwall and is an extraordinary musical talent. You can sample her music on her You Tube channel here https://www.youtube.com/sarahmcquaid . So, I know it's a Monday and a school night, but it will be well worth it!

Two different one day workshops are happening over the last weekend on **May 27th and 28th**. We have a STAINED GLASS WORKSHOP at the Old Brewery and PRINT MAKING at the Stables, only a few places left on all four days. Stained glass conservator Mark Bamburgh is kindly going to give a brief talk in St Regulus on the Saturday lunchtime about some of their windows, made

by famous glass artist many years ago. The talk is free, and anyone can come along. Thank you Mark.

HAVE YOUR SAY. Finally, we are starting the process of asking everyone in Cromarty what they would like to see more of from the Arts Trust. The Cromarty Arts Trust is a charity, here to bring all types of art, performance, craft skills and music to the people of Cromarty and the Black Isle. All ideas welcome and it would be great if you could fill in our new survey and get back to us. Here is a link on our website if you want to have a look and download it here, but there are also blank copies in Ardyne, so please pop in and pick one up. The big blue door is open every day, Monday morning until Friday lunchtime. As usual all the information is on our website

<u>www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk</u>, pop into Ardyne, email <u>info@cromartyartstrust.org.uk</u> or phone us 01381 600354.



Town Turns Out For Trust

The Middleton Trust has been supporting the young people of Cromarty & District for a decade and the Trustees organised a celebratory 'Trust Turns Ten' event in the Victoria Hall last month.

Beneficiary groups were there to demonstrate just how the Trust Award had made a difference to their sporting activities, film, arts and wellbeing. Those attending were also treated to music and dancing from some of Cromarty's younger talent as well as the chance to win a luxury hamper filled with items kindly donated by local businesses.



Alison Vandyke, Chair of the Trust was delighted with the turnout and particularly appreciative of the efforts to which the community groups had gone to showcase their projects. "it was both humbling and inspiring to see how the dedication and enthusiasm of Cromarty locals has made such a difference to young lives, and we hope that the Middleton Trust can continue to support a wide range of projects into the next decade and beyond."

Applications for funding to support projects taking place in 2024 will open on Tuesday 1st August 2023, with further details about how to apply appearing locally and on the MT webpage www.cromartylive.co.uk/middleton-trust.asp

Please Get Growing

Cromarty Open Gardens Plant Stall

If you have been busy in your garden sowing seed and dividing your perennials don't forget to pot up a few spare plants for the plant stall at this year's Open Gardens plant stall at the end of June. The plant stall is extremely popular so the more plants we have to sell the more we can raise. Cromarty Open Gardens is a fundraising event for the benefit of local organisations - last year we raised well over £5,000 so to ensure it is as successful this year we need your support. If you can Get Growing to help us, or if you would like more information, please get in touch: Julie & Jeremy Price 01381 600709 / Alison Palmer 01381 600466 / Ginny Hourston 01381 600409

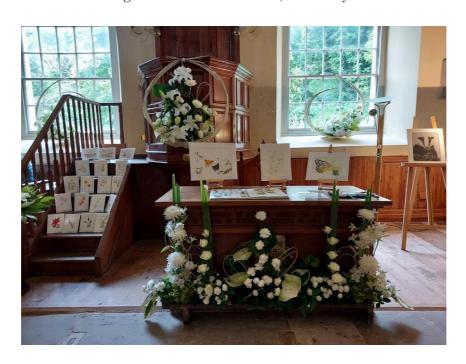
Not to be missed, put this in your diary now:

Cromarty Open Gardens - Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th June

Come and see the variety of gardens hidden behind Cromarty's walls, get some ideas for your own space, buy some plants then enjoy a cuppa and some Home Baking – a great day out for everyone.

Cromarty Art and Flowers - Sunday 17th to Sunday 25th June

An outstanding week-long display of botanical art and flower arrangements in East Church, Cromarty



Open Studios

Cromarty Open Studios will take place over the weekend of **Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 June** from 11am – 4pm each day. Cromarty Open Gardens will also be taking place over the same weekend. (Ed - to paraphrase a quote from a certain film: 'We're gonna need a bigger car park!')

This year a small group of artists and makers will be taking part – Liz Hall (paintings), Andrea Huntley (Prints) Emma Nightingale (Glass), Jim Pennie (Woodturning) and Neil Thomson (paintings).

New to Cromarty Open Studios weekend will be an openair gallery along the front gate of Cromarty Primary School. On show will be the creative works of the local P2-P7 pupils who attend Cromba Creative. Cromba Creative is a programme of creative workshops with a forward-thinking purpose; the drives of all projects focus on recycling and repurposing foraged materials from the environment and the local community. Aimed to inspire their curiosity, educate the value of their creativity, and support mental health, the weekly free workshops are developed and run by local friends Andrea Huntley and JoJo. For Open Studios weekend, the local pupils will be putting some of their creative works up for sale to fundraise for their school, so make sure you don't miss out on any of their beautifully original handmade crafts!

Both Liz Hall and Emma Nightingale will be offering short workshops over the weekend in Mixed Media and Glass. Places are limited so sign up as soon to bag your place. You can do this by messaging cromartyopenstudios@gmail.com. Include your name, the number of places you want, contact details, and which workshops you are interested in.

Emma Nightingale will be offering Glass Making workshops where participants can have the fun experience of making a colourful and creative coaster or pendant. All materials and firing are included in the cost. Workshops will run from 9.30 – 10.30 am and 4.30 – 5.30pm on both Saturday 24 June and Sunday 25 June. The cost is £30.00 per person.

Liz Hall will be offering Time and Tide workshops on Saturday 24 June and Sunday 25 June from 9.30 – 11.00am. All you need to do is to bring along a beach find as a point of inspiration, or Liz will provide one if you don't have time to find one. All materials will be provided. The cost is £20.00 per person.

To book a place on either of these workshops or if you want more information please register your interest by messaging cromartyopenstudios@gmail.com. Places will be limited and will be allocated to participants who register on a sequential basis. To register please include your name, contact details (email and mobile) and whether you are interested in Glass or Time and Tide. Please put COS Workshops as the subject line in your message. Any participant not allocated a place will be added to our wait list. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult. You'll be amazed at what you can do!

We look forward to seeing you for what will be a very exciting weekend with a real creative vibe, in both studios and gardens across Cromarty let's hope the sun shines for all of us......





'Cromarty Rooftops' by Neil Thomson

Cromarty Community Development Trust

Campsite

We are on the home straight with the campsite:

- * BT connection being installed (security, booking system, wifi)
- * We are all good now to cast the slabs for the waste water collection, refuse collection and close up the drainage / finish up the site.
- * Scottish Water connections all set to be done and then we can close up the big 'holes' on site.
- * Mains electricity is installed and we're sorting out a supplier.
- * Building is going up (showers, toilets)
- * Plants are ordered.
- * Website, logos and booking system in hand with Plexus.

ESTABLISHING THE PLANTING

We are going to need a team of volunteers to water the planting when it's in the ground, probably for a month's daily watering schedule, unless it rains regularly after we have planted (mid May?). Are there groups in town who could take on part of this? There are 2-3 outdoor taps, and we'll be buying a very long hose, but we can set up sprinklers and run further hoses if needed.

Thrift Shop

The thrift shop has had a very successful April. Thank you to all the volunteers, donors and customers. Check our Facebook page for the latest news on great items up for grabs and other updates. We're open every Saturday from 11-4 next to the Victoria Hall. Donations can be dropped off on Thursday mornings.

And don't forget our **AGM** this coming **Thursday 4th May** at Victoria Hall. All welcome, though membership allows you to vote on any issues.



A day of Hugh Miller related activities!

Sunday 28 May - do join us!

10am - 12pm Walk with Hugh Miller - starting at The Old Brewery - a free guided walk with our Chairman Bob Davidson, MBE, FGS, taking in the Cromarty shoreline before heading back round the loop via the Coal Heugh Well to the historic St Regulus' graveyard.

All welcome, especially families and children.

2.30-3.30pm Annual General Meeting Royal Hotel, Cromarty.

3.30pm Special Guest Speaker: Anna Fleming - author of Time on a Rock - shortlisted for The Wainwright Prize and the Boardman Tasker Award for Mountain Literature.

At the AGM we will be launching a wonderful new project
- The Martin Gostwick Writer's Residency and Anna
Fleming will be our first writer-in-residence. Anna is a
former winner of the Hugh Miller Writing Competition -

You can read a review of her book here: <u>Time on Rock by</u>
<u>Anna Fleming review – vertiginous adventures |</u>
Autobiography and memoir | The Guardian.

She was shortlisted for the Wainwright Prize and the Boardman Tasker Award.

For more information about Anna see this link to her publisher <u>Canongate</u>

For more information contact Stephanie Kulesza - membership@thefriendsofhughmiller.org.uk

Cromarty Courthouse

This year, we took the decision to extend our exhibition space by making use of the Exercise Yard adjacent to the museum cell block. We had been offered the opportunity to use the puppets made for the Resolis Riot play (part of the Crime & Thriller weekend last year). The Exercise Yard was an ideal spot for this display, as the Resolis Riot of 1843 ended in a cell of the Courthouse.



The background to the Resolis Riot was the anger caused by the Church of Scotland appointing new ministers for parishes on the recommendation of the local lairds. This upset the many congregations who wished to appoint their own minister and so they broke away to establish a new church – the Free Church of Scotland.

At Resolis Church, near Cromarty, a new minister was appointed by the laird and the unhappy congregation moved with their old minister to the new Free Church.

But, feelings there ran so high that a riot ensued. Eventually it was brought under control, with the arrest of one person - Margaret Cameron. She was taken to the cell at Cromarty Courthouse. Her supporters broke down the door of the cell and she was carried out in triumph! Come and read more about this infamous event and view some of the puppets again at close quarters.



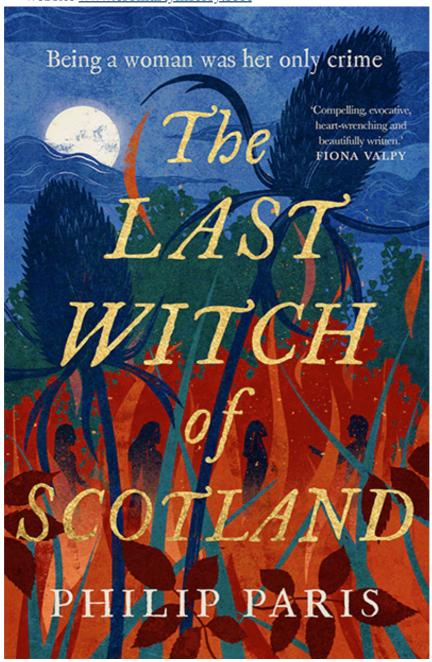
We would like to extend our thanks to all who participated, contributed raffle prizes and helped out on the night to make the Cromarty Courthouse Quiz at The Fishertown Inn a successful event last weekend. We raised over £800 – money which we can make really good use of to keep our museum running.

We are continuing our fundraising with a raffle to win a gin hamper. The hamper includes six bottles of craft gin, a variety of miniatures, mixers – in fact all you need for a perfect summer cocktail. Tickets will soon be going on sale around the town. Keep an eye out for the posters. To whet your appetite - above is a sneak preview of the first prize!

Cromarty History Society & Friends of Cromarty Courthouse

The 2022-23 series of talks hosted by the Cromarty History Society ended on a high last month with, "The Story of Cromarty in 6 Maps", researched and presented by Cromarty residents Liz Broumley and Pat Haynes.

The Committee wish to thank our audiences who come along to listen and all the speakers who so willingly give their time, conducting many hours of detailed research and generously sharing their findings. A summary of our year by Chairperson, Mary Bowers can be found on our website www.cromartyhistory.scot



As the friends organisation for Cromarty Courthouse Museum, we are delighted to announce a special summer talk to raise funds for the Museum on **Tuesday 25th July at 7pm in the Victoria Hall.** We welcome Author, Philip Paris to talk about *Scottish Witch Trials*, following the release of his new work of historical fiction, The Last Witch of Scotland. More details will follow in due course.

Another date for the diary - the new winter season opens with a talk presented by Dr Eric Grant on **Tuesday 19th September** 2023.

Gillian McNaught, CHS Secretary

Business Updates

Three new contributors this month!

Slaughterhouse

Slaughterhouse Coffee is currently open Thursday through to Monday from 9am til 3pm. It's been a great start to the season so far and we're looking forward to the weather allowing us to enjoy our coffee outdoors!

We're now part of the Highland Cup Movement, which collaborates with Keep Scotland Beautiful, encouraging people to bring their own cup when visiting coffee shops. This scheme has been put in place to target people travelling the NC500 who continue to use disposable coffee cups, some of which continue to litter our beautiful lands! Did you know, 200 million single-use cups are estimated to be used every year in Scotland alone!? So here at the Slaughterhouse we want you to bring your own cup to help reduce waste, and for every 10 times you do, you get a FREE drink! But don't worry, if you forget, you can borrow a cup via the Vytal app and drop it off at any business also participating in the Highland Cup Movement! Such a brilliant scheme, with such important goals so get involved!

Our team has grown recently (welcome Eva!) but Slaughterhouse Coffee is also recruiting. We're on the look out for a part-time member to start in late July/ August time with the plan to continue through to the new year and hopefully beyond! Hospitality and barista experience is preferable but not essential. Must be over 18 and hours/days are flexible depending on the applicant and time of year. Send your CV to slaughterhousecoffee@gmail.com if you're interested!

Look forward to seeing you all this May!

Laura, Grace & Eva



Cromarty Brewing Co.

We had been doing our usual maintenance and re-jigging at the brewery over the colder winter months, and we are now well underway to another successful season with our local suppliers keeping us busy, just how we like it. We have a couple of new beers in this month, namely Breakfast in Berlin our fresh blood orange and earl grey infused sour and Raspberry Cannon a one-off barrel aged milk stout with fresh raspberries. Looking forward to seeing more people enjoying a cold Cromarty beer in the sun!

The shop's current opening hours are Monday to Friday 10am till 4pm and Saturday 10am till 2pm, we are closed on Sundays.

We will also be offering tasting tours once a month in the brewery on a Saturday at 11:30am (our next tasting will be on 3rd June). For more information call on us 01381 600 440 or email enquiries@cromartybrewing.co.uk.

Emma Nightingale Glass

We are re-opening for the summer on Sunday 21 May from 12 noon to 16.00. The studio will be open most Sundays...... It is always best to check our Facebook page for the latest opening hours.

We also open by appointment on a day and time that works for you. Message your request to us and we will get back to you with availability options.

In early June we will be launching a programme of glass making workshops. These will include a beginners workshop, workshops through which you can build your skills and a Glass Club where you can put your learning into practice. Message

<u>emma@emmanightingaleglass.co.uk</u> to be one of the first to receive information, availability, dates and to book places.

During Open Studios (Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 June) there will be an opportunity to do a short glassmaking workshop Message <u>cromartyopenstudios@gmail.com</u> to receive further details and to register.

We will be providing regular updates through the Cromarty Newsletter and on Facebook – keep an eye open for some exciting developments......

We look forward to working with you over the summer.......



Calluna

MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY SALE

We will have a ONE DAY - MAY DAY 50%-70% off sale on **1st MAY** - lots of last one items (from size 8-18). Mark your calendar and come in and grab a bargain!

New stock includes summer sandals from £34.99, a range of colourful jumpsuits, dresses and tops from SugarHill Brighton, and a lovely selection of dresses perfect for summer weddings and holidays! Open every day from 10-5pm and online at www.callunacromarty.co.uk.

Sutor Creek

Now open daily!

We will open 10-4pm on Mondays and Tuesday from May 1st for coffee & cake, wood-fired pizza, cullen skink and deli items. Wednesday to Sunday will continue as normal from 10-8pm with our full seasonal menu and reservations available in the evenings for dinner.

Best Cafe Award

Sutor Creek has been nominated into the finals of the Best Cafe Category in the Best Chippy Awards. We don't claim to be a chippy but we do know that our local tatties, double blanching, homemade rosemary salt and care & attention to cooking does mean that our chips have certainly helped get us into the finals! Thank you to our local farmers for producing the best produce!

Stuart Hill

After 12 years of exceptional hard-work and commitment to his role, Stuart is off to a new job in the catering industry. Joining us while still at school, Stuart has completed his Modern Apprenticeships through to the Professional Head Chef level and learned every aspect of managing a kitchen, he has been a huge part of Sutor Creek's journey and we wish him all the very best for his future.



Back in the day!

Cinema

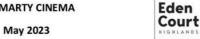
Scottish Spring is well and truly upon us and you can rely on Cromarty Cinema to keep you entertained whatever the weather. We have plenty of action and adventure on offer, including blockbusters such as John Wick: Chapter 4, Guardians of the Galaxy 3, and The Three Musketeers: D'Artagan. Those looking for some heart-warming drama and some laughs can sample The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry, starring Jim Broadbent; Polite Society, where a London teenager tried to sabotage her sister's wedding; Love Again; an American romcom where a woman continues to text her dead fiancé; or this month's volunteers' choice, the wonderful classic Amelie. Of course, we also have a solid selection of features for those looking for something a bit more off-beat, including Egyptian spy film Cairo Conspiracy; Irish psychological thriller God's Creatures; and Moroccan marriage drama The Blue Caftan. And as a special treat for fans of shorts, strong females and sports, we present a selection of Women's Adventure Films.

If you're feeling like testing out your 80s and 90s trivia skills, don't miss the cinema pub quiz on the 6th of May at 9pm at the Fishertown Inn. Plenty of laughs to be had and prices to be won. To book a table for dinner before the quiz, please contact Fishertown Inn at 01381 600988. Get your tickets for all films at https://cromartycinema.com/films/, the human box office on Thursdays 12-2, or at the door.

See you all in May!



CROMARTY CINEMA



Friday 5 May	7pm	The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry (12A) 1hr 48m Elderly man walks for 100s of miles to visit his dying friend. Jim Broadbent and Penelope Wilton star.
Sunday 7 May	4pm	The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry (12A) 1hr 48m DS
Tuesday 9 May	7pm	Cairo Conspiracy (12) 2hr01m Egyptian spy drama satirising corruption of church and state seen through the eyes of a university student.
Friday 12 May	7pm	John Wick: Chapter 4 (15) 2hr 49m The legend that is Keanu Reeves returns as hitman Wick for more stunt-filled action.
Saturday 13 May	7pm	God's Creatures (15) 1 hr 41m Irish psychological drama exploring cycles of male violence. Emily Watson and Paul Mescal star.
Sunday 14 May	4pm	Polite Society (12A) 1hr 44m London-based teenager tries to sabotage her sister's wedding plans in comedy drama.
Tuesday 16 May	7pm	Women's Adventure Film Tour (N/C) 1hr 30m Short films from around the world celebrating women in sport and outdoor adventures.
Friday 19 May	7pm	The Blue Caftan (12A) 2hr 02m Moroccan couple hire a new tailor with unforeseen consequences.
Saturday 20 May	7pm	Amelie (15) 1hr 57m - This month's volunteers' choice Amelie tries to create a world of happiness for the people around her in much-loved 2001 French comedy.
Sunday 21 May	4pm	Love Again (12A) 1 hr 44m Trying to deal with his death, Mira continues to send texts to her fiance's mobile in American romcom.
Friday 26 May	7pm	Guardians of the Galaxy 3 (12A) 2h 30m More from the Marvel franchise in action-filled space adventure. Vin Diesel and Karen Gillan star.
Saturday 27 May	7pm	The Three Musketeers: D'Artagnan (15) 2h 01m French version of the classic Dumas tale is a lavish blockbuster and the first of a two-film adaptation.
Sunday 28 May	4pm	Guardians of the Galaxy 3 (12A) 2h 30m DS
		Adults £9

More film info and book online at: cromartycinema.com or at eden-court.co.uk or in person at Cromarty Cinema on Thursdays 12 – 2pm. Show your support - become a Friend, and reduce your ticket price. Visit cromartycinema.com or email admin@cromartycinema.com The Cromarty Cinema, Cromarty, IV11 8XZ

And finally...

A full newsletter once again, bursting with all the good things the lighter months bring. Please be mindful that all this activity doesn't happen without a lot of effort, more often than not from volunteers. We hope you can get into the seasonal spirit by joining in or helping out wherever you can. There should be something for everyone!

- The Editorial Team

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 deadline for the next edition is always a few days before the end of the previous month.

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

If you have an interest in communication and would like to join the team please get in touch.

The Newsletter is currently sponsored by a private benefactor.

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