



November 2023

Welcome to Winter!

Last weekend Cromarty received a stark warning that winter was knocking at the door when high winds and high tides combined to make things difficult for folk on Shore Street. Sadly the glorious day(s) of autumn colour have passed (it was last Monday in case you missed it). Let's just hope we don't lose too much more of the foreshore in the coming months.



After the splendid work to upgrade the Reeds Loop path a few years ago some serious reconstruction is now going to have to be considered. Image by Rebecca Garratt Schreiber

Christmas Lights Fundraiser

And while we're about it, there are still some tickets available for the ceilidh on Saturday 4th (Victoria Hall 8pm - 12). The event is to raise funds for the Christmas tree and the lights, that always make the town look so welcoming over the festive season. Licensed bar and some cracking raffle prizes too. Tickets from Calluna.

Cromarty Youth Café - Intergenerational Work



After 2 years of work with Creativity in Care , we attended the Cromarty Fourways Club (60+ Club) to showcase the work we have done with Karrie, Chris, Chris and Frank from Creativity In Care - watching a film created about our puppet making workshops and then a performance from the puppets made at Cromarty Youth Cafe.

- Singing together the Fourways Song & The Cromarty song
- Lots of laughs , smiles and memories made
- Everyone was given a bar of homemade soap made by team ER

- A deluxe buffet was created and served to our Golden Oldies

Our Project aim was to:

- Reduce issues of social isolation and loneliness for both generations.
- Improve relationships in our communities by combating negative stereotypes.
- Take part in creative arts sessions!
- Reduce the stigma around Death and Dying, but to celebrate life in the here and now, connecting generations now.

Table Tennis

- We organised an intergenerational session with the local table tennis group. Several YP have never played table tennis before they learned the skills from older people how to play the game.

YP learned new skills and really enjoyed the session, while building relationship with older people in the community, they knew these people to see but not their names.



Cromarty Care Project

Monday Lunch Club



Monday Lunch Club for the over-60s returned last month to the Fishertown Inn and, as you can see from the smiling faces, we had lovely weather for our first meeting. The charge this year is only £3! Please note the new time of 12.00 p.m.

Please book with the Fishertown Inn no later than the day before, on 01381 600988

The Lunch Club is supported by the Bank of Scotland Foundation, the Albert Hunt Trust and Making a Difference Locally.

Crisis in Home Care!

Cromarty and the Black Isle need Home Carers. Unless Home Carers can be recruited, there will be a shortfall of 205 hours of care a week across the Black Isle in mid-December. Here in Cromarty, we will be short of 40 hours per week of care. Please have a think about whether you could offer a few hours - if you are looking for a regular income then this could be something worth investigating. The Eilean Dubh Home Care company are very friendly and flexible and keen to support their staff. They are based in Culbokie (see advert below). They provide training and members of staff are issued with contracts. Just contact them and have a chat.



We are currently expanding our business to cover Cromarty, Avoch, Fortrose, Rosemarkie and Munlochy due to a **critical need**

Home Carer Vacancies

We are a family run home care business based on the Black Isle and are looking to recruit

Full & Part-Time Carers

Pay up to £15 per hour

Mileage Allowance

Pension | Uniform | Training

If you are interested in a much needed, rewarding career,
Please Call us on **07859 795029** or
Email **audrey@edhomecare.co.uk**



The “Trikes” Bid Farewell to Shirley and Welcome Maxine!



Since 2019, the “Trikes” have become a familiar taxi service around Cromarty. They were sourced and funded through the work of Shirley Matheson (seen here piloting to the Lunch Club). Shirley has been a Trustee with CCP since 2018 and now she is about to retire as a Trustee and as Co-ordinator of the Trikes. On behalf of the whole community, Cromarty Care Project would like to express our appreciation to Shirley for her enterprise and effort over the years and we wish her well on her Travels Without a Trike!

The work of co-ordinating the Trikes and their pilots now passes to Maxine, who joined us as a trustee at the beginning of this year. Maxine is keen to help you ride in style around Cromarty while there is still some fine weather – fingers crossed!

If you need a trike before 7th November, Shirley can be contacted on 01381 600451

From 7th November, you should contact Maxine on 07875 963570

Table Tennis

Table Tennis takes place on Monday mornings, 10.30 – 12 noon at the Victoria Hall. It’s a great opportunity to improve health and wellbeing and it’s open to everyone, whatever your ability. We were delighted to welcome some young folk during the October holiday last month – proving that Table Tennis is fun for all! All equipment supplied. Entry is free, donations are welcome. For more information, text Simon Evans 07717 172385

Community Playgroup

The Playgroup takes place weekly on Tuesdays during the school term. Parents and carers with their babies and toddlers are very welcome to join us at the Victoria Hall, 10 – 11.30 Charge: £1.50 per session.

Community Sharing Larder

The Larder is available to everyone in the community 24/7 and continues to be well-used. If you would like to donate, toiletries would be very much appreciated. Please

leave all donations in the donations box next to the Larder cupboard.

Major Donation from Global Energy

Cromarty Care Project is delighted to announce that Global Energy have stepped in to help Cromarty Primary School with the costs of this year's school trips. Costs have risen dramatically recently, affecting everyone, and Global Energy's generous contribution will certainly lighten the load, ensuring that trips can go ahead for P5, P6 and P7 pupils. In total, 25 families will benefit from this much-appreciated assistance to the school and the community.

Cromarty Care Project AGM

We will be holding our AGM on Monday 6th November at 7.00 p.m. in the Old Brewery. All Friends of CCP are cordially invited to attend. If you would like to find out more about our work, or you would like to become a Friend or volunteer, you are welcome to come along.

The AGM will be very short but will allow the opportunity for questions. It will be followed by a Trustee Meeting to elect office-bearers and discuss ongoing priorities.

Business Updates

The Walled Garden

The Walled Garden, Cromarty is open for Pick Your Own (PYO). We are open every Monday from 12 noon – 3 pm. We will also occasionally open on a Thursday and Saturday depending on staff availability and the weather. Its always best to check our [Facebook page](#) where we will post regularly on opening days, times and produce availability.

For those of you that don't know where we are – the entrance is opposite the Bowling Green. If the 5 bar gate is open its fine to come in and pick.....

Currently we have spinach, swiss chard, rocket, spring onions, salad leaves, land cress, leeks, potatoes, sprouting

broccoli and herbs available to pick. We also have some Quince available (great stewed with apples).

On Saturday 10 November we will be at the Community Market.

Payment is by card and you will need to bring your own bags for the produce you pick.



Cromarty Brewing Co.

The Autumn Season hasn't put a dampener on production at the Brewery and we have had a great month. We are also gearing up for the pre Christmas production this month so will be very busy getting stocks up for all our customers. We have however managed to squeeze in the time to get a few new beers in Can which will be available later in the month so keep your eyes peeled!

In other big news last month saw us install our CO₂ recapture plant from DALUM beverage equipment. This plant allows us to capture all of the carbon dioxide produced during fermentations (which would otherwise go into the atmosphere) and store it for process use. This storage of carbon dioxide means we no longer require gas to be filled and delivered which further reduces our CO₂

footprint, not to mention that the machine is powered by our solar panels installed earlier in the year!

In November we will be heading out for Christmas Markets at Crathes Castle, Eden Court and Blair Castle and we look forward to seeing everyone there and helping them get stocked up for the festivities.

We have received 2 more CAMRA awards for Champion Beer of Scotland in the IPA category for both our Rogue Wave, which took 3rd place, and Raptor, which took 1st place. Big thanks again to CAMRA for the recognition.

Our onsite shop opening hours remain Monday to Friday 10am till 4pm and Saturday 10am till 2pm, closed on Sundays.

If (like us) you're getting ready for Christmas then make sure to drop into the shop and take a look at what we have to offer. As well as award winning delicious beers we stock everything from hand poured candles to lovingly crafted gin, handmade glass ornaments, up-cycled cufflinks, beautifully handcrafted wooden jewellery and plenty more to suit all your loved ones. If you are in the shop from 25th November to 2nd December we will also be offering discounts on ALL of our clothing as well as some other Cromarty Brewing merchandise!



Some happy chappies after the installation of a CO2 recapture plant.

The Cheese House

We're gearing up for our final flourish before closing and we're anticipating a busy time in December. It's never too soon to put in orders for Christmas and/or New Year and it will certainly help us manage our stock!

November is traditionally the quietest month for cheesemongers so this year from now until 6th December, the shop will only be open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays (10.00 - 17.00). Please feel free to knock on our front door at other times if you're really desperate!

Post Office

In breaking news, the PO will be selling pizza! It's no threat to Sutor Creek's delicious offerings though as it's made of cardboard and comes pre-cut into 1000 pieces. Why not try both? You'll find this and other gifts and all your Christmas essentials in the post office from Monday November 6th. Christmas stamps are on sale from November 2nd. And a big thank you to Maria who managed almost the whole of October single-handed covering for my holiday, followed by a nasty bout of flu.



Sutor Creek

November Hours: Monday & Tuesday 10-4pm,
Wednesday to Sunday 10-8pm

Our Tasting Dinners are sold out but please let us know if you'd like to know about future events.

Christmas Menu bookings are coming in fast, we are taking reservations for December 1st to December 23rd. We also have a few bookings in for Hogmanay so if you are planning a nice dinner out before the bells book soon!

We have stocked up on our gins, whiskies, chocolates and gift selection at Sutors so if you are looking for something a wee bit different pop in for a look.

Fishertown Inn

RNLI pub quiz Friday November 3rd. If you can't make it along to the quiz you can still support this amazing charity by buying raffle tickets from the Fishertown Inn at any point during the week.

We will be offering a Christmas Menu again this year from the 1st of December, 2 courses £24, 3 courses £29, if you would like to make a group booking then please email info@fishertowninn.com or call 01381600988.

Our December quiz night in aid of The Cromarty Cinema will be on the 9th of December.

We are still open 7 days a week serving teas, coffees and cakes, lunches and evening meals. The fire is always roaring.

Emma Nightingale Glass

After a very successful summer Emma Nightingale Glass opened her first solo exhibition “**Incandescent**” at [Alchemist Gallery](#) in Dingwall on 2 October 2023. A beautifully curated selection of new work and specially selected pieces from Emma's personal archive. The exhibition runs until 14 November so you still have a chance to visit Dingwall and take in Emma's exhibition during your visit.

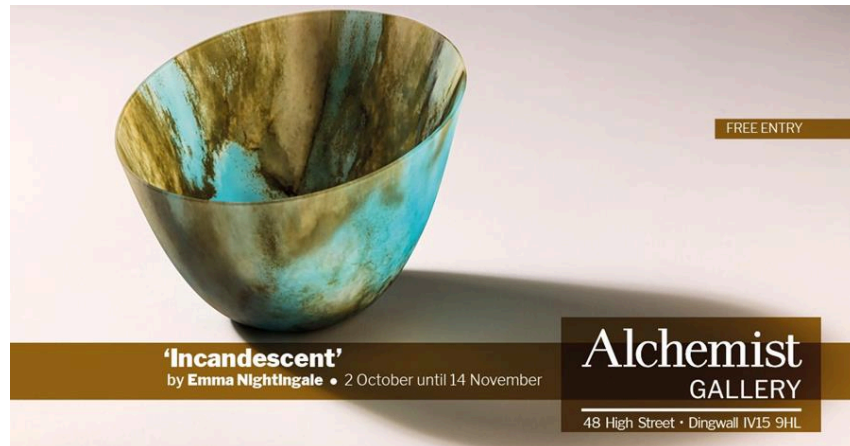
Emma Nightingale Glass kicks off its Christmas activity on Friday 10 November from 5-8pm This will be followed by Sunday openings in the run up to Christmas from 12

noon – 3pm. Its always best to check [Facebook](#) for the latest opening days and hours.

We also open by appointment on a day and time that works for you.

Message emma@emmanightingaleglass.co.uk your request to us and we will get back to you with availability options.

We look forward to seeing you over the next few weeks in the run up to Christmas.....



Calluna

Wow. Thank you to everyone who came to Clearance Sale last Saturday. What an unbelievable turnout and what a great buzz in the hall.

Christmas Shopping Night

We are excited to be taking part in the Cromarty Christmas Shopping night on Friday 10th November 5-8pm. Plan a night out with friends for some fizz, fun and a fabulous prize draw.

We have all our Partywear out in the shop now - lots of gorgeous styles in sizes XS to XL and in a range of prices. Come and have a browse and add a bit of sparkle to your festive wardrobe!

Ingrid's House

Our Christmas open evening is on Wednesday the 1st of November from 6pm-9pm. Please come along and see our wonderful winter stock and join us for a glass of mulled wine at the Fishertown Inn. Everyone attending will be

put in a prize draw to win one of our amazing Pappelina rugs or an amazing Picto watch.

Ingrid's House
Christmas open evening
Wednesday November 1st
6pm-9pm



Followed by mulled wine at
The Fishertown Inn
All Welcome

Harbour Update

As many will be aware, the harbour has been undergoing periodic improvements, repairs and renovations since 2018. Some of the improvements are visible such as the new sheds and quayside ladders. Less obvious, but in some ways more important, has been the stabilisation of the physical structure, most notably on the Mole and West Pier. Behind the scenes this work continues and now we move on to the East Pier, where, subject to contracts – and there are many – we have secured the necessary funding to repair and repaint the East Pier. Back in April, the tender price came in at £157k plus VAT, which we have now met with possibly change to spare, courtesy of funding from eight different sources. It is quite remarkable to get so much financial support from such a diverse range of funding bodies and supporters and gives

encouragement and validation for the restorative work we continue to do. We are presently updating the price due to inflationary concerns and seeking a start date with the contractor, most likely April 2024. This will mean that the East Pier will be closed to all traffic for the period when work is taking place.

Whilst the harbour escaped lightly from Storm Babet, it did not escape Betty in August, she left us with two damaged pontoon brackets and an engineering and financial challenge to be resolved before April next year.

Lastly, thanks to all that supported Friends of Cromarty Harbour Rugby World Cup 2023 sweepstake. Winning £75 were David Kent, Ceri Williams & Jackie Morrison; winning £25 were David Guthrie, Jane Ashcroft & Becky Hewitt. Squaring the circle, it will come as no surprise that FoCH is a contributor to the East Pier project.

Development Trust

Bird and Bat Boxes

We want to make some bird and bat roosting boxes to put up around the Campsite. This feels like a nice winter craft/making project. I'm sure we could rustle up suitable wood and tools, and maybe organise a small community event. If anyone is interested in being part of this, please get in touch - cromartydevelopmenttrust@gmail.com

And if someone has a suitable shed or workshop and would be happy to allow a few folk in to work with wood, that would be fab!

OR - it could be something folk do individually. Either way, we can advise on the right kind of wood and designs.

Looking after the Townlands Barn

While we (the community) think about what to do with the Barn, we could do with some help to keep the ground round it tidy - basic weeding, cutting back ivy and tree shoots. If anyone wants to help, please get in touch and we can organise a session.

In Case You Missed It...

We issued an update earlier this month - by email to members and on various Facebook groups - about a possible Community Buyout of the Royal Hotel, the East Church Hall, Townlands Barn, and Becoming A Member.

Some folk who aren't members and don't do Facebook may have missed it, so here's the short version of what we wrote.

Possible Community Buyout of Royal Hotel

We got a huge amount of very useful ideas from the nearly 100 people who came to the meeting. You suggested lots of ideas for what the buildings could be used for. There is support for continuing as some kind of hotel.

The CCDT Board will now apply for funding to do a feasibility study to tell us in much more detail what works and what doesn't.

If you want to be part of this, ask (we have some names already). All of this will take months rather than weeks.

East Church Hall

The building is sound.

Directors don't have spare capacity right now.

We are putting together a working group to explore next steps, but we need your support. Please offer (we have some names already)

Townlands Barn

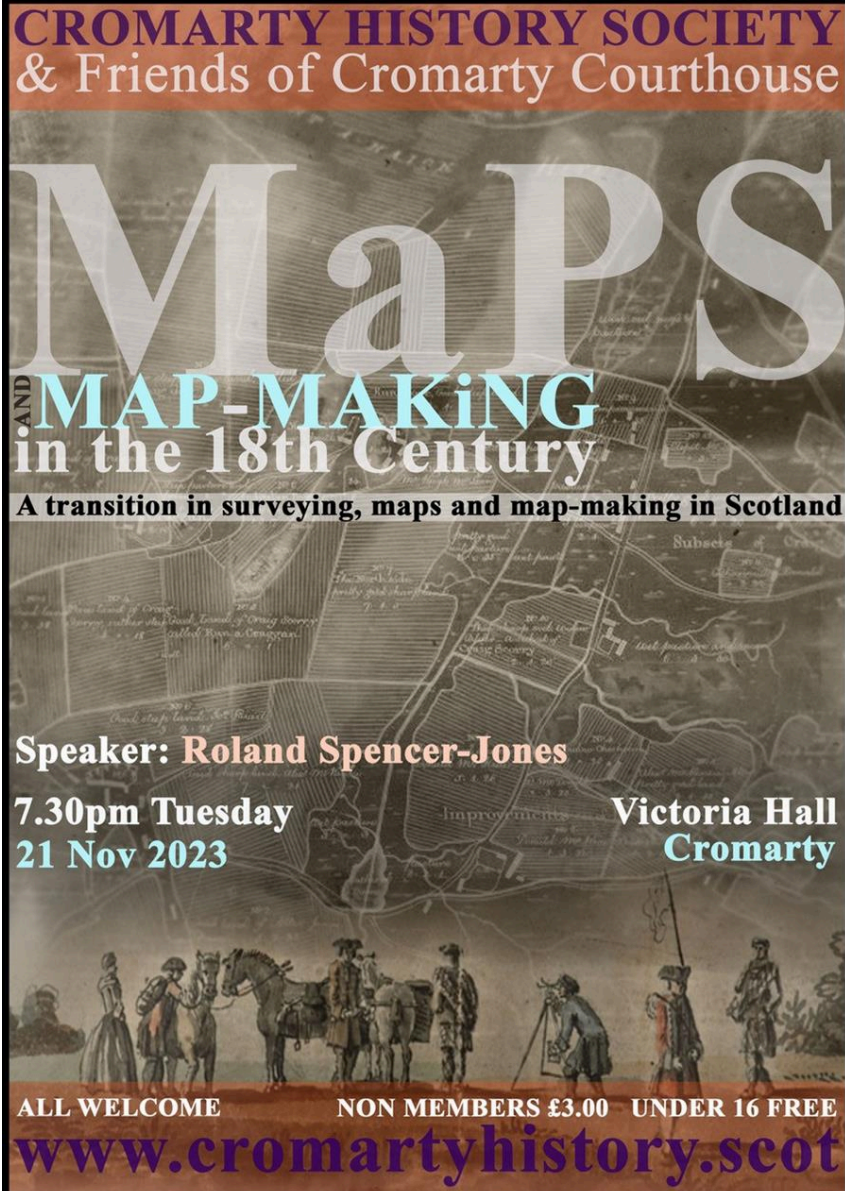
We have no current ideas on how to use it. Do you? There seems little community interest in saving it. It may be limiting access for building new housing. We're contacting Albyn Housing (about their plans) and Historic Environment Scotland.

Membership

Members get to shape what the Trust does and get first word of any news or events. If you want to join or to renew your membership, go [here](#), and then drop cash to

Sheila Currie, 15 Duke Street (jamjar in porch) or pay by BACS (ask Sheila for bank details).

History Society



**CROMARTY HISTORY SOCIETY
& Friends of Cromarty Courthouse**

Maps

**AND MAP-MAKING
in the 18th Century**

A transition in surveying, maps and map-making in Scotland

Speaker: Roland Spencer-Jones

**7.30pm Tuesday
21 Nov 2023**

**Victoria Hall
Cromarty**

ALL WELCOME NON MEMBERS £3.00 UNDER 16 FREE

www.cromartyhistory.scot

The formulaic drawn maps of the 17th and early 18th centuries became measured indicators of reality, preceding the work of the Ordnance Survey. What were the drivers for that transition? And how did the surveyors acquire and deliver their mastery? The speaker will illustrate his talk with examples of local estate maps, particularly from the Lovat Estate Archive.

Roland Spencer-Jones was a previous GP in Cromarty, developing an interest in archaeology and heritage once he was released from servitude. He is currently a trustee of NOSAS (North of Scotland Archaeological Society) and ARCH (Archaeology for Communities in the Highlands).

A warm welcome is extended to stay for a chat and complimentary cup of tea and biscuits after the talk!

Cinema

Happy November from all of us at Cromarty Cinema! Before we get to the business of what films you can cozy up to at the cinema, we have a couple of exciting announcements. The 9th of December is the day to be in Cromarty, as your community cinema will be present at the **community market**. This is your opportunity to do some Christmas shopping, with t-shirts and gift memberships for sale. Or come and chat with us about becoming a volunteer! The very same night we are hosting our second ever pub quiz at Fishertown Inn. Get your teams together and book a table for dinner beforehand - it's time to test your cinematic trivia skills.

And now to the films. Eden Court's iconic Film Festival is coming to Cromarty Cinema so you don't have to go all the way to Inverness to enjoy the latest and greatest films. And speaking of festivals, Discovery Film Festival brings us Shorts for Middle Ones, a collection of exciting animated shorts.

If you appreciate the arts, we have another **Exhibition on Screen**, this time focussing on the work of Klimt and the Art Nouveau movement. **Anselm** meanwhile examines the work of Anselm Kiefer. Speaking of documentaries, we have a varied bunch on offer this month. In **The Nettle Dress**, a textile artist embarks on a seven-year journey to handweave a dress in the memory of his late wife. **Savage Waters** takes you the best and most dangerous waves in the Atlantic Ocean. **Being in Place: A Portrait of Margaret Tait**, tells the story of the artists' unrealised project about Orkney and includes a very special Q&A with director Luke Fowler. Definitely not one to miss! Or perhaps you'd like a trip to the eclectic world of Nessie hunters? **Loch Ness: They Created a Monster** offers that and more.

The big stars are out in force this November, with three screenings of Scorsese's **Killers of the Flower Moon**, starring the likes of Leonardo DiCaprio and Robert De Niro. If you're in the mood for some dark comedy drama, you can't miss **May December**, with Natalie Portman

and Julianne Moore. Or perhaps you'd like to take a roadtrip with Kelly Macdonald and Monica Dolan in **Artist Typist Pirate King**, in search for endings and reconciliation.

And we can't sign off without mentioning **Trolls Band Together**, colourful mischief for the whole family!

That is definitely not all so please take a closer look at our November schedule and then book your tickets at <https://cromartycinema.com/films/>, the human box office on Thursdays 12-2, or at the door.

See you in November!



CROMARTY CINEMA
November 2023



Friday 3 Nov	7pm	If Only I Could Hibernate – Inverness Film Festival (N/A) 1hr 36m Mongolian film. Proud but poor, teen Ulzii wants to win a physics competition but life is tough.
Saturday 4 Nov	7pm	Anatomy Of A Fall – Inverness Film Festival (15) 2hr 32m A woman is suspected of her husband's murder, the only witness is their blind son.
Sunday 5 Nov	11am	Shorts for Middle Ones – Discovery Film Festival (8+) 1hr A mix of animation styles and content that promises something for everyone.
Sunday 5 Nov	3pm	Exhibition On Screen – Klimt and the Kiss (N/A) 1hr 30m A fascinating portrait of Klimt and the decadent Art Nouveau movement, a shimmering journey.
Tuesday 7 Nov	7pm	Anselm (PG) 1hr 33m A unique cinematic experience that examines artist Anselm Kiefer's work and inspiration.
Friday 10 Nov	7pm	Killers of the Flower Moon (15) 3hr 26m Leonardo DiCaprio, Robert De Niro, Lily Gladstone star. Members of the Osage tribe in the United States are murdered under mysterious circumstances in the 1920s.
Saturday 11 Nov	7pm	Typist Artist Pirate King (12A) 1hr 46m Two women take a road trip looking for endings and reconciliation. Monica Dolan, Gina McKee, Kelly Macdonald star.
Sunday 12 Nov	3pm	Killers of the Flower Moon – Descriptive Subtitles (15) 3hr 26m Leonardo DiCaprio, Robert De Niro, Lily Gladstone star. Members of the Osage tribe in the United States are murdered under mysterious circumstances in the 1920s.
Tuesday 14 Nov	7pm	Killers of the Flower Moon (15) 3hr 26m
Thursday 16 Nov	7pm	Being in a Place: A Portrait of Margaret Tait + Q&A with Director Luke Fowler 1hr+ Documentary on doctor, film maker and poet Margaret Tait's unrealised project about Orkney.
Friday 17 Nov	7pm	Nobody Has To Know (12A) 1hr 39m French drama shot in Outer Hebrides. A middle-aged man loses his memory. The woman who takes care of him falsely tells him that they were secretly in love before his accident.
Saturday 18 Nov	7pm	20,000 Species of Bees (12A) 2hr 09m Drama. An eight-year-old and her mother experience revelations that changes their lives forever.
Sunday 19 Nov	3pm	The Nettle Dress (12A) 1h 08m Documentary. Textile artist Allan Brown embarks on a seven-year endeavour to weave a hand-spun dress from stinging nettles in memory of his late wife.
Tuesday 21 Nov	7pm	Savage Waters (12A) 1h 33m Adventure documentary. Finding and surfing a spectacular wave in dangerous Atlantic waters.
Friday 24 Nov	7pm	May December (15) 1h 53m Drama starring Natalie Portman, Julianne Moore and Charles Melton.
Saturday 25 Nov	11am	Trolls Band Together (U) 1h 33m Cute faces, colourful hair and the voices of Justin Timberlake, Zooey Deschanel, Anna Kendrick.
Sunday 26 Nov	3pm	Red River (U) 2hr 07m Howard Hawks directs John Wayne and Montgomery Clift in this 1948 classic western.
Tuesday 28 Nov	7pm	May December – Descriptive Subtitles (15) 1h 53m Drama starring Natalie Portman, Julianne Moore and Charles Melton.
Thursday 30 Nov	7pm	Loch Ness: They Created a Monster (N/A) 1h A witty look at a lost world of rivalry, ridicule and rogues, the Nessie Hunters of the 1970s.

Adults £9 Under 26 £5.50 Friends £7.50

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...

Classic Film Club at Cromarty Cinema



Ever feel lonely?
Ever struggle to get out?
Ever find it hard to meet others?
Ever want some social contact in a safe warm space?

If so -
this could
be for
you!

We meet 2nd Wed of month, 2.30pm.
In addition: Winter Specials:
4th Wed at 2.30pm Oct, Nov, Jan-April.
Open to ALL - no fee! Run by fantastic volunteers!
Want to join: contact Helen Robinson
07889181529; helen.charley@doctors.org



Thanks to the Cromarty Care Project two grants have been awarded to Cromarty

Have a good November - 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 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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