

October 2024

The Cheviot, the Stag, the Black, Black Oil... and the rush for renewable energy

A significant motion was passed by Highland Council on Monday (September 30th) which should go some way to bringing order – and, more importantly, greater community consultation – in an otherwise anticipated major increase in electricity ‘infrastructure’ projects over the coming months and years.

Councillor Helen Crawford (representing the Aird and Loch Ness Ward) tabled a motion calling on THC to get a grip on a situation which could easily get out of control – namely, the rush for renewable electricity by private companies (and the UK Government) produced in the Highlands and exported south of the border. The motion calls for a region-wide view of planning applications relating to electricity infrastructure and not simply allowing local, single applications to be considered piecemeal. ‘A Real Time ONLINE Mapping of all applications within the knowledge of Council to be published on the Council website for members of the public to view. It will include all renewables developments.’

The map will present a ‘big picture’ overview of the applications that are currently in the pipeline, including but not limited to, all proposed electricity generation, storage and transmission developments, grid connection, energy generation stations, BESS, and wind farms.

The motion was only narrowly passed (33-31) but it could go a long way to preventing the Highlands once again

being recklessly used and abused by multi-national corporations with little regard for the impact on the landscape and those who actually live and work here.

Local Place Plan Update

Following the latest Black Isle Community Councils (BICC) meeting, on 23rd September 2024, we can confirm that nominations were accepted for at least three of the initial five 'Community Councillor' Directors of the BILPP Governance Body. They were Rebecca Richmond, Paige Shepherd and Theo Stratton. Two further nominations are being actively sought.

The BICC also agreed a recruitment process (including timescale) for the selection of five Black Isle community members and hopefully agreed the process for the appointment of an independent Chair of the Governance Body.

All the Black Isle Community Councils will be receiving the opportunity to discuss, question, contribute to and agree the final 'package' during October. Hopefully by then, the Highland Council will have confirmed the registration of the BILPP (already submitted), to which the BICC's Governance section can then be attached. It is hoped that all this can be finalised at the BICC's next meeting currently scheduled for 11th November 2024.

For many this will seem a complicated process and difficult to understand its relevance to everyday life on the Black Isle. But it is important and to clarify –

Although the BILPP does not have 'legal status', its adoption by Black Isle and Easter Ross Area Committee (BIER) means they have agreed to using it as a tool to inform and support decision making about the Black Isle.

The BILPP is both a Local Place Plan, in line with national Planning Legislation and an Area Place Plan in line with Highland's Place Based Framework.

The BILPP will be used in preparation of the Highland Local Development Plan (HLDP) as guided by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019.

Once the Governing body has been established, they will begin the work of keeping the BILPP at the forefront of the Public Sector bodies' minds, when they are making decisions that affect the Black Isle. Community Councils and Community groups will be encouraged to refer to the BILPP when they are considering projects for their local area. There are lots of established groups on the Black Isle that will be capable of delivering aspects of the BILPP.

Once the BILPP is registered, the HC Planning team will also use it in the same way.

Further updates will appear, as they are known, in future Newsletters and on the Community Council website <http://www.cromartylive.co.uk>. So 'watch this space'.

More from the Community Council...

Refuse and Recycling Bins

Since the Highland Council introduced the new system of recycling and delivered the new Grey bins for both residential and business use, there has been some confusion and debate.

What has also sometimes been misunderstood is the status and use of Cromarty 'Town' bins. These bins are distributed around the town and are meant to be used for general town litter, including bagged dog waste, only. These town bins can be either black (dark grey) or green (not helpful when there are plastics etc recycling green bins for residential and business use!), but all these Town bins should be labelled as such, with guidance as to what should and should not be put in. Cromarty has 17 of these Town bins (the C&DCC will shortly be publishing a location map on its [Cromarty Live website](#) and they are (hopefully!) uplifted every Tuesday. Cromarty is very fortunate to have these Town bins because, due to budget restrictions, they are no longer supplied by the Highland Council. So please make sure they are not misused (no excess residential waste and no garden waste) or we could lose them! The red 'dog waste' bins are also no longer supplied by the Highland Council, although the existing ones will be emptied into the Town bins for uplifting.

We appreciate that the reduced size non-recyclable waste grey bins and the Highland Council's continued

refusal/inability to make brown 'garden waste' bins available in Cromarty are challenges to residents. But we are working on meeting those challenges and hope to improve things in 2025.

Further updates will appear, as they are known, in future Newsletters and on our [website](#). So 'watch this space'.

If you have a question or comments, please email us on cromartydistrictcc@gmail.com. Thank you.



LITTER AND BAGGED DOG WASTE ONLY

X-NO BUSINESS WASTE-X

X-NO HOUSEHOLD WASTE-X

X-NO GARDEN WASTE-X

X-NO RECYCLABLE WASTE-X

**THIS IS A COMMUNITY BIN THAT SUP-
PORTS THE WORK OF OUR VOLUNTEER
LITTER PICKERS**

**PLEASE DO NOT ABUSE THIS
COMMUNITY FACILITY (supported by the
Highland Council) or CROMARTY WILL
LOSE IT! THANK YOU C&DCC**

Winter Resilience Starts Now

Sadly, we need to prepare for winter weather, even if there are a few sunny days left!



The C&DCC Winter Resilience team start in the week commencing 14th October, as they get all the machinery and supplies ready for action.

If you are already a regular or previous volunteer to the gritting team, we hope you are willing and able again to

keep the community safe, but we are always looking for 'fresh blood'. More volunteers are needed and welcomed (introductory training provided), so please just contact us on cromartydistrictcc@gmail.com and join the Team.

Thank you.

Things To Keep You Active This Autumn...





Cromarty Playgroup!

Open to all from newborn age, across the Black Isle and beyond
Every Tuesday during term time
10:00am - 11:30am
Cromarty Victoria Hall

- *Allows children to socialise*
- *Free play with lots of toys*
- *Enjoy a hot cuppa*
- *Meet other parents*

£2 per family
Come along next week - we'd love to see you!

Come Play, Learn, and Grow Together!





YOUTHWORK



October Programme Activities

Day	Date	Activity	Location	Time	Age
Monday	14 th Oct	<u>Outdoor Coastal Rowing</u> With a visit from Mileysline 'live on the road'	Cromarty Harbour	10am - 12.30	12+
Monday	14 th Oct	<u>Multi-Sports with Active Schools</u> Fun and games in the park	Victoria Hall / Park	10am - 12noon	5+
Tuesday	15 th Oct	<u>Trip to Cromarty Courthouse Museum</u> Creating interviews about objects that interest people in the Courthouse	Cromarty Courthouse	10.30am - 12noon	8+
Wednesday	16 th Oct	<u>Climbing Wall</u> Visit to the Ledge Climbing Wall.	The Ledge Climbing Wall Inverness	1.30pm - 3pm	10+
Thursday	17 th Oct	<u>Cookwell / Bakewell</u> Cook / bake up a storm for our visit to Aways	Victoria Hall	10am - 12noon	8+
Thursday	17 th Oct	<u>Intergenerational Visit to our Favourite Golden Dishes at Cromarty A Ways</u> Recording interviews about memories of old Cromarty.	Victoria Hall	2pm - 4pm	8+
<p>All activities are FREE of charge and open to everyone across the Black Isle</p> <p>Snacks and Refreshments served at each activity.</p> <p>If you have any questions, please contact: Fraser Thomson - Assistant Youth Worker - 07470 522172</p>					

This programme has been made possible with funding and support from:



Bowling

Cromarty Indoor Bowling Club restarts for the 2024/25 season in The Victoria Hall on **Sunday 6th October** at 2.00pm.

Regular sessions will be held every Friday and Sunday from 2.00 to 4.00pm.

Bowls can be provided. Come along and try the game. All welcome.

Knit and Natter

The Knit and Natter has continued through the summer and this is just a reminder that the group gets together on **Tuesday afternoons** at the Fishertown Inn from 3pm. You don't have to be a knitter but do bring along any craft that you enjoy, or none at all and relax with us with a cup of tea or coffee for a couple of hours. All welcome.

Allotments

The Cromarty Allotments (beside the Bowling Green) has a range of different size plots to suit everyone; from keen folk wanting to grow as much of their own fruit or veg as possible, to folk who just want a bit of ground to grow a few things. Tools can be shared, as well as advice and seeds and chat.

At the moment, we have no-one on the waiting list, so it's a great time to say yes.

Pop along and have a look - the entrance is beside 'The Kennels' on Causeway or off Reeds Loop - or contact Della Matheson at cagssecretary@gmail.com

Apple Pressing

Saturday 12th October. Bring your apples **and containers to put your juice in** to the Community Market in the Victoria Hall from 10.30am till the market stops.

We'll provide boards and knives to chop your fruit (or chop it at home first to save time) and we'll show you how to make the pulp and squeeze it into lovely fresh apple juice.

If anyone wants to help make this happen, just turn up at 10am or so to unpack the trailer and set up, or at the end to clean up and pack away. Colin Dickie is very kindly collecting it and returning the trailer to Culbokie.

If you make a lot of juice, you can hire the press yourself. Transition Black Isle also has a Pasteuriser to preserve the juice (or for any other home preserving). Both are free to hire for TBI members - [find out more here](#). Membership is free - [join here](#).

Many folk in Cromarty have apples going spare - and don't forget the fruit in the Community Orchard (behind the Courthouse) is for ANYONE to pick.

Courthouse News



L to R: Brian Marsh (who presented the award), Courthouse volunteers Nicole Bontemps, David Alston, Liz Broumley and a trustee of the British Museum.

A group of Courthouse volunteers have just been awarded the 2024 Scottish Marsh Volunteer Award for Museum Learning for their work creating the *Cromarty - Built on Slavery* walking tour of the town. They were invited to the awards ceremony at the British Museum to receive their award. If you haven't already done the tour you can find it for free [here!](#) (*Very enlightening and highly recommended - Ed*)

Dates for your diary:

12th-31st October Halloween at the Courthouse

31st October 5-7pm Spooktacular Halloween Party at the Courthouse

8th November 6-7:30pm Courthouse Update event at the Victoria Hall

History Society

On Tuesday **15th October** Cromarty History Society will be meeting at the Victoria Hall to learn more about the High Pasture Cave on Skye, an ancient Iron Age space under the Cuillin mountains now known to have been used for feasts, fire, crafts and hitherto unknown ceremonies throughout the period. Archaeologist (*and local resident*) Steve Birch,

who worked on the Cromarty Archaeological dig of 2013 is to tell us all about his latest discoveries at the Cave.

The meeting begins at 7.30pm and non-members entrance fee is £5, Membership £15 for the year, 7 meetings to come.

The meeting will be followed by tea, coffee and biscuits.

Harbour Update

Crane out this Friday (**4th October**). Three pontoons will be set down on the grass area as they need their hinges converting as per the two that were done last year. They may need to remain there for the winter.

Shed being erected in West corner of the grassy area at the harbour. This will be used to house our equipment such as our Oil Spill Kit and work tools. Also gives our volunteers an area where they can repair things out of the rain. There is a further benefit that it tidies up an area that is frequent the host for debris.

The matter of a chair!



An office swivel chair that was dumped at Cromarty Harbour in the Scottish Highlands (Image: Cromarty Harbour/Anna Howarth/SWNS)

NEWS POLITICS FOOTBALL CELEBS TV STRICTLY SHOPPING ROYALS

Anger as chair dumped at 'UK's most remote fly tipping site'

Cromarty Harbour has spoken of its concern over littering in the area, which is a 240-year-old historical landmark. The swivel chair has been left and if it is not claimed it will be removed

The story went viral and whilst certainly humorous we did not write the strapline. However, there is an element of

seriousness about it. The first couple of weeks in September was tricky around the harbour due to incoming mackerel and those wishing to fish. We managed, but littering did happen, and lines and hooks again were left behind. We just want users to be responsible and to take their rubbish away with them. I have read the suggestion that we should put bins onto the harbour. This just isn't an option as it would be a commercial disposal. We do not have the same problem in other areas around the harbour.

Cromarty Care Project

Return of the Monday Lunch Club

The Monday Lunch Club for the over-60s returns to the Fishertown Inn, from **Monday 7th October**.

Please telephone the Fishertown to reserve your place **no later than the day before**, on **01381 600988** and please let them know if you won't be able to attend, so your booking can be offered to someone else. If you are not currently a member and would like to join, please contact Alison on 07470 583641.

Lunch Club meets at 12.00 p.m. Charge: £3

Please note that, although costs have risen, the reduced charge to members remains the same as last year, thanks to new funding received from the Bank of Scotland Foundation.

Classic Film Club



We are delighted to announce that the Port of Cromarty Firth have awarded a generous grant to support the

Classic Film Club. This support will allow the Film Club to continue to offer two films every month – golden oldies or contemporary classics – to the over-60s. The Port Authority were impressed by the Film Club's collaboration with Cromarty Community Cinema and their state-of-the-art facilities, and also that the Club draws in members from further afield in the Black Isle as well as Cromarty. If you would like to join the Club (entirely free!), or for further information, please contact Helen Charley on 07889 181529 or email helen.charley@doctors.org.uk

Meetings this month will be at 2.30 p.m. on **Wednesday 9th and Wednesday 23rd**. Please arrive early to avoid disappointment!

Table Tennis

Table Tennis continues throughout October. Open to all, at any level. Please join us on **Monday mornings, 10.30 – 12 noon** at the Victoria Hall. Suggested donation is £3 per session.

Baby and Toddler Playgroup

The Playgroup takes place during the school term (October 1st, 8th, 29th). Parents and carers with their babies and toddlers are very welcome to join us at the Victoria Hall, **10 – 11.30 on Tuesdays** Charge: £2 per session.

The Trikes (Cycling Without Age Trishaws)

The Trikes are Cromarty's own fair-weather taxi service and are available if you need transport to the Lunch Club, Classic Film Club, or anywhere around Cromarty. To book, please contact Maxine on **07875 963570**

Community Sharing Larder

We really appreciate everyone who has donated foodstuffs to our Donations Box and we are always especially grateful for toiletries. If you would like to make a financial donation, please do so online at www.cromartycareproject.co.uk

Cromarty Needs Carers

Could you be a home carer? No experience is necessary, since training is provided. Eilean Dubh Home Care are a very friendly and flexible company. Staff are well supported and issued with contracts. Pay up to £15 per hour, plus mileage and pension. Contact to have a chat on 07859 795029 or email audrey@edhomecare.co.uk

AGM

Cromarty Care Project will hold our Annual General Meeting on **Tuesday 22nd October**. All Friends of CCP are invited to attend. If you want to know more about what we've been doing over the past year, please come along to find out. The AGM will be held in the Old Buoys Store (near the Lighthouse) at 7.00 p.m. on the 22nd.



Christine Macdonald, from Ross & Cromarty Citizens Advice Bureau, will be offering face-to-face appointments in the Victoria Hall on the third Tuesday of this month (**15th October**). It's also possible to have a telephone appointment if that is more convenient. CAB can give advice on a whole range of issues including benefits, debt and money, energy, work issues, relationships and housing, and we can help you to fill out benefit forms. To

book an appointment with Christine, telephone 01349 883333 or email adviser@alnesscab.casonline.org.uk

CAB Focus on . . . the Warmer Homes Scotland scheme

The Warmer Homes Scotland scheme can fund home improvements that include:

- wall insulation
- loft insulation
- draught-proofing
- central heating – including new gas boilers or air source heat pumps
- renewables

Warmer Homes Scotland cannot fund work that's already been done, or work done by non-approved installers.

You can apply to Warmer Homes Scotland if you're a homeowner or private rental tenant and meet the eligibility requirements for both your household and home.

You need to have lived in your home for at least 6 months, unless you're terminally ill.

You cannot apply if you've been supported by Warmer Homes Scotland since October 2023.

Requirements for your household

You can apply if your household includes someone who's either:

- over 75 and has no central heating
- terminally ill
- receiving certain benefits

Requirements for your home

You can apply if your home meets all of the following criteria:

- it's in council tax band A to F
- it's your main home
- it has a poor energy rating – Warmer Homes Scotland can check this for you

- it has a floor area of 230m² or less
- it is fit to live in – it has to meet the tolerable standard

How to apply

You apply by contacting Home Energy Scotland on 0808 808 2282 – Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm and Saturday 9am to 5pm. You can find out more information about the application process on the Home Energy Scotland website <https://www.homeenergyscotland.org/>

Business Updates

Cromarty Brewing Co.

The sun finally appeared in September! And with the burst of good weather folk seemed to be craving a cold beer in the sunshine so we have been busy brewing away up here.

Our newest Hop Showcase beer, Harlequin has been going down very well and we have also restocked our 80 shilling this month, our take on a traditional Scottish style. Both these beers plus ALOT more are available online and in the brewery shop.

Our Rogue Wave took Champion IPA of Scotland 2024 from CAMRA. We are so grateful for the continued support of CAMRA and delighted to be consistently recognised for our craft beers.

We returned to Leeds Beer Festival earlier this month and enjoyed introducing people to the Cromarty beers and seeing plenty of familiar faces. We also had the bar for Monster the Loch, a 21 mile boat race at Loch Ness. We were also delighted to provide a bar for the Baxters Marathon again last weekend (28th and 29th September).

We are currently getting some new gift stock in for Christmas, so don't forget to come up and take a look at new soaps, fused glass decorations, candles, jewellery and much more. We are also working on some new Cromarty branded items which will be here in the next month or so, including new bobble hats, beanies, T-shirts, hoodies and posters.

Our on-site shop opening hours remain Monday to Friday 10am till 4pm and Saturday 10am till 2pm.

Sutor Creek



Sutor Creek's
Afternoon Tea
Sandwiches, cakes, scones & tea £21.95pp
Cocktails, mini Champagne and Prosecco available
Reservations required (min 48 hours)

 Wednesday to Friday.
Served from 3-4pm

 21 Bank Street
Cromarty, IV11 8YE

 www.sutorcreek.com
01381 600 855

****NEW** AFTERNOON TEA**

We are excited to launch our winter Afternoon Teas at Sutor Creek. Tables are available to reserve between 3 and 4pm, every Wednesday to Friday for a traditional tea featuring finger sandwiches, cakes, scones & your choice of tea. Graham has been busy creating a menu for this tea that will make it the perfect destination for a special occasion or treat. £21.95 per person with 48 hours advance booking required. A 10% off at Calluna voucher will be issued to everyone booking Afternoon Tea at Sutor Creek.

WINTER HOURS

We are now closed every Monday and Tuesday to allow our team consistent days off. Our Wednesday to Sunday hours will remain 12-8pm with lunch, afternoon tea, dinner and wood-fired pizzas. Take-away continues to be busy so pre-order if possible to reserve the time of your choice.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Our Christmas Menu is available from Wednesday 4th December until the 23rd. Perfect for a work party or to celebrate the season with family and friends. Bookings required and can be made now online or by phoning 01381 600 855.

Calluna

Thank you to all our local customers who have been in for our Autumn collections; lots of lovely new styles that are perfect for the colder months. Our winter scarves, hats, turtle dove gloves and ponchos are all in the shop - great for Autumn and transitioning into winter.

**CHRISTMAS SHOPPING NIGHT
IN CROMARTY**

FRIDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 5-8PM

..... ❖

INGRID'S HOUSE
Scandinavian Homeware & Gifts

CALLUNA
Clothing, accessories & gifts

FOUNDLING HOME
Artwork, homeware & gifts

..... ❖

Enjoy Mince Pies &
Mulled Wine at
Fishertown Inn

CROMARTY

JUST 22 MILES NORTH OF INVERNESS

Join us, Ingrid's House and Foundling Home from 5-8pm on **Friday 1st November** for our Christmas Shopping Night. This is a great opportunity to stock up early and to plan your festive season decorations & gifts! Mulled Wine & Mince Pies will be served at Fishertown Inn while Calluna will have some treats in store for customers. We look forward to welcoming you to what is always a fun night!

And There's More...

🎄 Cromarty Christmas Shopping Trail – November 15, 2024 🎄

We're pleased to announce that the **Cromarty Christmas Shopping Trail** is returning on **Friday, November 15th, 2024**, from **5:00 PM to 8:00 PM**. It's a great chance to explore Cromarty's unique shops and their Christmas stock, collect stamps, and win some prizes along the way.

We're inviting **Cromarty retail businesses** to take part. If you'd like to showcase your holiday collections and be part of the event, this is your opportunity to get involved and make the evening even more special.

If you're interested in joining, reach out to Elisa and she'll help you get set up. Either send a message on 07949910300 (Whatsapp preferred), or pop by the **pottery** on a Tuesday or Thursday between 10.30 and 5pm.

More details to come soon, so stay tuned. Looking forward to a lovely evening of festive shopping in the village.



Gallery 48

We are excited to have added 3 new paintings to our upstairs gallery, by local artist Alice V. Taylor. 'Shore Street Boat' (oil on board) depicts the boat that sits in the sea, directly across from us at gallery48. Come and visit us to view these alongside the other pieces that we have on display at the moment, including new artwork from Sheelagh Sparkes and Louise Scott!



Pottery

Last week an order from Michelle Lowe (previous Cromarty Pottery apprentice), arrived at the shop. We now have 4 very full shelves worth of Michelle's slipware pottery! This includes swimming themed mugs, tiles and bowls, floral plates and this wonderful teapot design on various items!



Sonas

Iain J. Matheson, part-time Cromarty resident, with long-term family connections, will be showing his "Cromarty doors" paintings in an exhibition at Sonas in Church Street, Cromarty, from the **17th – 20th October 2024**. What started as a lockdown project to paint a batch of Cromarty doors to create a calendar is going into its fourth year with calendars for 2025 also available to buy at the exhibition.

So, please come along and enjoy Iain's paintings, pick up a calendar for the rapidly approaching 2025 and see whether your door is included in the exhibition!

For any further information about the exhibition or the 2025 calendars please email Lynn at lynnsempleart@gmail.com and for further updates please follow me (Iain's daughter) on instagram and/or facebook at Lynn Semple Art.

Fishertown Inn

Our Black Isle Dairy ice cream has now moved inside the inn for the winter. As long as the pub is open the ice cream is being served. We will also be doing some amazing ice cream sundaes.

Our Sunday roast are back and served 12-3 every Sunday.

Our next quiz is on **Saturday 5th October** in aid of Lucy's London marathon run for Brain Research UK.

Have you tried any of our new Mocktails? Perfect if you are the designated driver!

We are open 7 days a week from 11am. Serving hot drinks and cakes all day, Lunch 11-3 and evening meal 5:30-8.



Lucy's London Marathon



Pub Quiz night



Fishertown Inn

Cromarty

Saturday 5th October



Book for dinner beforehand to guarantee a table

Call 01381 600988 to book a table

(If you wish to take part in the quiz just turn up for 9pm)



Quiz starts at 9 pm



£5 per person (up to 6 per team)

Please bring cash for entry and games

All money raised goes towards vital neurological research helping people survive brain injuries and its aftereffects.

Brain Research UK - registered charity No. 7345516.

Ingrid's House

We are gearing up for Christmas, there will be bargains to be had through October as we make space for all of our Winter stock. Our **Christmas Open night** will be on November 1st as always and there will be lots of shopping to do that night as most of the shops in Cromarty are doing theirs too. So get ready to shop till you drop!

The pub will be open and serving mulled wine and mince pies to warm you up after shopping.

Watch social media for more information on Cromarty Christmas shopping night.

We are open 7 days a week right up to and including Christmas Eve.

Post Office

Some Royal Mail prices including 1st class stamps are going up on **October 7th**. 2nd class stamps are staying unchanged. If you're going to need 1st class stamps over the next few months it's worth stocking up before the 7th. As the stamps don't have a value printed on them they remain valid indefinitely regardless of future price increases.

Christmas will be coming to the post office over the weekend of **November 2nd/3rd**. We'll have all the usual Christmas essentials - cards, wrapping, decorations, crackers etc - as well as toys, gifts and chocolates. Between ourselves and the other lovely shops in Cromarty there's a wide range of choice available. Please do your Christmas shopping locally if you can!

The Cromarty shops are currently trying to coordinate a pre-Christmas evening opening in November (herding cats comes to mind). Depending on what's decided, the post office might become Christmassy a week earlier, over the weekend of October 26/27. Before Halloween - eek!



Cinema

Welcome to October! With the spooky season upon us, our cinema is packed with a mix of thrills, chills, and

heartfelt stories across every genre.

We start off with a bang with **Kill**, where brothers in the Scottish Highlands decide to kill their cruel father. But is he really dead? And is someone now hunting them? In **The Critic**, Sir Ian McKellen stars as a powerful London theatre critic who lures a struggling actress into a blackmail scheme with deadly consequences. And of course, we're celebrating Halloween with two nights of **Beetlejuice Beetlejuice** madness. Get ready for laughs, frights, and a touch of eerie nostalgia.

Sci-fi horror **The Substance** explores the dangers of an experimental drug gone wrong. And in **Joker - Folie à Deux**, you can dive deep into the gritty, unsettling world of Gotham's infamous villain. Why not take a journey into the future with **Megalopolis**, a visionary sci-fi epic that explores the rise and fall of civilizations?

For fans of historical drama, **Firebrand** tells the story of Katherine Parr, the sixth wife of King Henry VIII, who is named regent while the tyrant battles abroad. With rich performances and stunning visuals, it's a gripping tale. Starring Kate Winslet, **Lee** is a fascinating biopic of wartime photographer Lee Miller, bringing to life her fearless career as she transitions from fashion model to one of World War II's most daring journalists. Based on the bestselling memoir, **The Outrun** is a deeply moving drama about a woman returning to the remote Orkney Islands to rebuild her life after addiction.

Girls Will Be Girls is a darkly comedic coming-of-age film that explores the rebellious and complex lives of women in a conservative boarding school in India. And why not sweeten your October with **My Favourite Cake**? Mahin lives alone in Tehran, until an afternoon tea with friends leads her to break her solitary routine and opens up the door to romance.

Music lovers won't want to miss **Since Yesterday**, a documentary uncovering the rich, yet often overlooked, history of Scotland's all-female bands. **Notes from Sheepland** follows a visual artist finding her creativity amidst the pressures of sustainable farming.

On Saturday 19th October we have a special presentation of **Strike: An Uncivil War** - which tells the story of the

Battle of Orgreave, the most violent confrontation between Miners and Police during the 1984/85 Miners' Strike. The documentary features former miner and former Cromarty resident Ian Mitchell who was there at Orgreave and who will be with us for a Q&A following the screening.

Bring your little ones to enjoy the magic of Disney on the big screen, with new fun-filled cinema experience **Disney Cinema Club**, featuring Mickey Mouse, Spidey and His Amazing Friends, Ariel, Bluey and more. Bringing together songs, interactive games, and episodes for pre-schoolers, it's bound to be loads of fun – and tickets are only £5 for all!

As you can see, October offers a film for every taste and mood! Whether you're craving thrills, laughs, or inspiring stories, it's all taking place at Cromarty Cinema. Mark your calendars, gather your friends, and get your tickets at <https://cromartycinema.com/films/>, the human box office on Thursdays 12-2, or at the door.



CROMARTY CINEMA October 2024



Friday 4 October	7pm	Kill (15) 1hr 34m Brothers in the Scottish Highlands resolve to kill their father. But is someone now after them?
Saturday 5 October	7pm	The Critic (15) 1h 41m Drama set in 1930s London starring Ian McKellen in his element playing caustic cinema critic.
Sunday 6 October	3pm	Firebrand (15) 2hr Tudor court drama focuses on Katherine Parr and stars a scene-stealing Jude Law as Henry VIII.
Tuesday 9 October	7pm	Notes from Sheepland (15) 1hr 11m Documentary about visual artist Ola Barry who raises sheep and documents them through video.
Friday 11 October	7pm	Girls will be Girls (15) 1h 59m Indian coming of age drama about Mira, top student in a smart boarding school.
Saturday 12 October	7pm	Lee (15) 1hr 57m Kate Winslet stars as war photographer Lee Miller in WW2-set drama.
Sunday 13 October	11am	Disney Cinema Club (U) 50m Short cartoons for the wee ones, featuring lots of favourite characters including Mickey Mouse.
Sunday 13 October	3pm	Megalopolis (15) 2h 18m Francis Ford Coppola directs futuristic drama pondering humanity's future - starring Adam Driver.
Friday 18 October	7pm	Since Yesterday: The Untold Story of Scotland's Girl Bands (12A) 1hr 34m Documentary focuses on Scotland's lost girl bands – Strawberry Switchblade, Ettes, Lungleg et al.
Saturday 19 October	7pm	Strike: An Uncivil War + Q&A (15) 1h 51m Documentary examines the Miners' Strike of 1984/85, followed by Q&A with striker Ian Mitchell.
Sunday 20 October	3pm	Beetlejuice Beetlejuice (12A) 1hr 45m A mere 36 years after the original, Tim Burton directs a sequel - again starring Michael Keaton.
Sunday 20 October	7pm	Beetlejuice Beetlejuice (12A) 1hr 45m
Friday 25 October	7pm	The Outrun (15) 1hr 58m Adaptation based on Amy Liptrot's memoir stars Saoirse Ronan as a young alcoholic who returns to Orkney where she grew up.
Saturday 26 October	3pm	The Outrun (15) 1hr 58m
Saturday 26 October	7pm	Joker - Folie a Deux (15) 2hr 18m Comic book musical movie sequel starring Joaquin Phoenix and Lady Gaga.
Sunday 27 October	11am	Disney Cinema Club (U) 50m
Sunday 27 October	3pm	My Favourite Cake (12A) 1hr 37m Gentle Iranian drama about Mahin, a widow with a quiet life who longs to meet a man.
Tuesday 29 October	7pm	The Substance (18) 2hr 21m Demi Moore plays a Hollywood star who is offered a secret procedure in body-horror comedy.

Adults £9.50 Under 26 £6 Friends £8

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

Arts Trust

Cromarty Arts Trust is slightly quieter this month as we get busy planning for next years' gigs, events and courses!

ART

Artist Jana Emburey is back in Cromarty teaching a life drawing weekend over **12th and 13th October**, there is just one place left at time of writing. £193 for two days of tuition and buffet lunch both days. You will look at a variety of ways to explore life drawing, examining how to get proportions correct and exploring a variety of ways to 'mark-make' in direct response to the model.

MUSIC

Cromarty's Rua Nicole has reached the final of Ness Factor 2024 and is raising money for the Highland Hospice. See her live at the Old Brewery for an unforgettable evening. **Saturday 12th October.**

Prepare to be captivated as Rua takes to the stage to perform a selection of her original songs, alongside an eclectic mix of jazz, pop, and rock covers. Her versatile voice and heartfelt performances promise an engaging and memorable night of music.

Don't miss this special opportunity to support a great cause while enjoying Rua Nicole's exceptional talent. Be there for a night of soulful melodies and energetic tunes that are sure to leave you inspired. Doors open 6.45 and Rua Nicole will be on stage at 7.30pm.

£12, BYOB. Booking through info@cromartyartstrust.org.uk, 01381 600354 or [through Eventbrite here.](#)

CRAFT

Inverness based jeweller and tutor Ailsa Wilde is back in Cromarty teaching another silver jewellery weekend. You'll make a trio of silver stacking rings on day one and a silver bangle on day two.

DAY 1: Silver Stacking Rings

During the first half of day one you will be introduced to working with silver, developing skills in texturising and mark making through samples in copper and learning the hot connection process of soldering, by creating a texturised ring. This will be the first of your stacking rings. Over the second half of this workshop, you will develop and consolidate your fine jewellery skills through the making of two further silver rings, which will complete your trio of silver stacking rings.

DAY 2: Silver Bangle

During the first half of day two, you will be working with thicker silver wire, developing skills in texturising, mark making and soldering, by creating a silver bangle. Over the second half of the day, you will develop and consolidate your fine jewellery skills through texturising, filing and finishing of your silver bangle.

This course is suitable for complete beginners and the more advanced jeweller. £170, includes tea, coffee and all materials.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

We always welcome volunteers for any of our events or courses, just give Nicki a shout if you would like to help. But this is a special plea to ask if anyone regularly works or visits anywhere outside of Cromarty, that might be able to take our posters and have them spread a bit wider across the Black Isle and Inverness and Dingwall. Please email or call if you can help, many thanks!

AND A CALL FOR INFORMATION

A fair few Cromarty and Black Isle folk went on the Paint your Pooch (or cat) day back in June, some amazing work was created! I'm wondering if there will be enough people who missed it and would like to do it next year? If there is enough interest, I can ask the tutor to come back some time in the second half of 2025. Let Nicki know if you fancy it!

As always more information, prices and booking for any Cromarty Arts Trust event can be found on our website at www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk or give us a call during

office hours on 01381 600354, or you can email Nicki and Gail at info@cromartyartstrust.org.uk



Can you put a name to a face - either pooch or owner?

Development Trust

Whitedykes Unit 2 (next to campsite)

We've been awarded Scottish Land Fund funding to begin the process of acquiring the building, and this will include community engagement - watch this space.

East Church Hall

We continue to work with Highland Council to unlock possibilities of getting an affordable lease, within recent constraints by the Common Good team. Again - watch this space;

Campsite

Thanks to folk who offered to become 'weekend supporters' to help keep an eye on the place, or willing to act as paid call-out people (see notice in CCDT and Community facebook pages and Post Office window). We are getting in touch to describe what that actually means. **We still need more, so please get in**

touch via our [facebook page](#) or shout out now to any of the directors.

Thrift Shop

Last day this season is **Saturday 12 October**.

If you want to know anything more about any of this or anything else, just ask.

And finally...

Fogbows by Jeremy Price

On Wednesday morning, 18th September when we were experiencing some very warm early Autumn sunshine, I took the dogs for a walk along the Sutor Path next to the Reeds Park Loop in Cromarty. It was a misty morning and the sun was trying to burn off the haar that obscured the view across the Firth.

As I turned to walk back towards the town, a bright arc of light appeared ahead of me, much smaller than a rainbow and with no colour. I knew that this was a rare sighting of a fogbow, known also as Ghost Rainbows, White Rainbows or, to sailors, Sea Dogs. It was something I had long wanted to see, having ticked off the Broken Spectre and Glory – two other ghostly images caused by the direction of light on clouds.

Caused by light refracting through either ice or liquid water, the phenomena is comparatively rare and those lucky enough to see it will, like the Broken Spectre or Glory, remember it for ever! The dogs, however, remained unmoved and failed to uncover any pots of gold ...



Phew! That was a long one! Thanks for reading. Until next month... make the best of what we have on our doorstep.

[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 Jon Palmer, Jeremy Price and Laura Shepherd.

The Newsletter is currently sponsored by a local resident.

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