



September 2024

Stronger Local Democracy

Black Isle Place Plan Adopted

At the beginning of August, while parts of the UK were beset by rioting and disorder from sections of the community claiming they weren't being listened to, the Black Isle witnessed a very different, peaceful and orderly process of local voices being heard. The local place plan was formally accepted by elected councillors at the Highland Council Area Committee. The plan is the result of the largest consultation of residents ever to have taken place on the Black Isle. It represents, as far as is possible, a shared vision of the kind of environment those of us living and working here wish the Black Isle to be. It is a significant milestone because the plan will now have legal status. Any proposed developments in the area - affecting everything from housing, jobs, infrastructure and services - must comply with the plan. Of course, much of the content is aspirational and, especially given the current financial climate, there is no guarantee it will all come to fruition. But it provides a very detailed framework which we can all work within to build a better future in our wee corner of the Highlands.

You can watch a clear and informative presentation of the plan to the Black Isle and Easter Ross Area Committee [here](#). The item starts at around 38mins into the video.

The concept of a Local Place Plan is relatively new. To date, the Black Isle version is the largest of its kind to be undertaken in Scotland. It is good to know that not only are we forging the way in 'grass roots' development

planning but also that it will likely provide inspiration for others to follow.

Update from the Community Council

Last month we reported that the Black Isle Community Councils (BICC), in cooperation with the Highland Council and the authors of the Black Isle Place Plan (BIPP), were meeting to confirm Terms of Reference for the BICC to create a Governance body to manage and drive the BIPP. This was agreed and there is now a further BICC meeting on 3rd September, to start the process of selecting the first members of the BIPP Governance Body.

Further updates will appear, as they are known, in future newsletters and on our Cromarty Live website. So 'watch this space'. If you have a question or comments, please email us on cromartydistrictcc@gmail.com. Thank you.

Future Affordable Housing

C&DCC, and a CCDT director, met with Albyn representatives who confirmed that they are now in position to push forward with proposals to build Affordable Housing on the 'Jock's Field'/Townlands Barn site (CMO1). It was confirmed that the Victoria Park is a 'protected greenspace' under the new IMFDP and only the strip of land between Kirkie Brae and the goalposts/tennis court would be considered for access to the CMO1 site.

Although details are at a very early stage, any development is likely to be a mixture of rented dwellings (at both affordable social and mid-market rents) and shared ownership. The density is likely to be around 25 dwellings to make it financially viable.

The current thinking is that any building is unlikely to commence before 2026, and there are plenty of issues still to agree before any timetable is a reality.

When we have any further news or updates, they will appear, as they are known, in future Newsletters and on our Cromarty Live website. So 'watch this space'.

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

For those reading the Community Council's minutes, you may have noticed that the Cromarty Community Development Trust had asked that we produce guidance to the community showing the differences between us. We have now agreed the following –

Working Together on Community Needs

Cromarty & District Community Council (CDCC) and Cromarty Community Development Trust (CCDT): What's the difference?

The CCDT is often asked what the difference is between these two important community bodies. Suffice to say, we have far more in common than difference, as both groups work hard to improve the lives of people living in Cromarty. But we are different things, so here are the main differences.

In Scotland, development trusts and community councils serve distinct purposes in supporting local communities, but they differ in their structures, roles, and functions. However, Development Trusts are not meant to replace Community Councils, who remain as the democratically accountable body representing their communities.

| Development Trust (CCDT) |
|--|
| <u>Definition and Purpose</u> - A development trust needs to be a community-led organization focused on the regeneration and sustainable development of a specific area. CCDT aims to improve the economic, social, and environmental well-being of Cromarty. |
| <u>Structure</u> - CCDT is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee. We operate independently of local government and are governed by our articles of association and are only accountable to Companies House and their 'members'. |
| <u>Functions</u> - CCDT undertakes a variety of projects (developing the campsite, looking after the slipway, ownership of Sandilands House, developing the East Church Hall). CCDT's activities are aimed at creating jobs, fostering community cohesion, and generating income that is reinvested into the community. |
| <u>Funding</u> - CCDT can generate income through trading activities, grants, and donations. We also manage assets - the campsite, the slipway and Sandilands House. |

Community Council (CDCC)

Definition and Purpose

- The community council is a voluntary organisation that is the democratically accountable body representing the local community to the Scottish Government, the Highland Council and other bodies. We act as a liaison between the community and government.

Structure

- Community councils are statutory bodies established by local authorities under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, then amended by the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994 which adopted the 'Scheme' for the Establishment of Community Councils (last updated in September 2019). We are composed of elected community members who serve on a voluntary basis and are governed by their Constitution, Standing Orders and Member's Code of Conduct as legally established by the 'Scheme'.

Functions

- CDCC's primary role is to act as a voice for their local area. This will involve them articulating the views and concerns of local people in their area on a wide range of issues of public concern and making representations to The Highland Council, other public sector bodies and private agencies with specific statutory responsibilities regarding all Planning and Liquor applications in their area. We undertake small-scale projects and initiatives to benefit the local area. We also manage assets and services to the community. These include the Cromarty Victoria Hall, the Cromarty Youth Café, Cromarty Resilience (incl Emergency Action Plan) and Defibrillator administration.

Funding

- CDCC receives a small amount of funding (based on the size of the electorate they represent) from the Highland Council to cover administrative expenses. Unlike development trusts, they do not typically engage in significant income-generating activities although they do raise income through various activities which are 100% reinvested in the Community it represents. In addition, they receive grants and donations from various funders to finance community projects and services.

Summary of Key Differences

| | Community Council | Development Trust |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Purpose and Scope | Community councils focus on representing and being accountable to community views and acting as the consultative body to the Highland Council as per their legal remit, as well as providing services to our community. | Development trusts focus on broader economic, social, and environmental development projects, often involving asset management and income generation. |
| Structure | Community councils are statutory bodies, representing their community, with a formal role defined by local government legislation. | Development trusts are independent organisations, in our case registered as a limited company and accountable to Companies House and their members |
| Funding and Income | CDCC receive limited revenue funding from Highland Council and although we do not generally engage in substantial income-generating activities, we receive funding to provide community projects and services. | Development trusts generate income through various activities and manage assets. |
| Activities | Community councils primarily focus on advocacy, consultation, and representing community interests, although we also provide small scale projects, community services and manage community assets. | Development trusts undertake diverse projects, including economic development, property management, and community services |

In summary, while both the development trust and community council play crucial roles in the Cromarty community, and work very closely together, our objectives, structures, and functions are quite distinct, with development trusts focusing on larger scale community development and community councils acting as the representatives of local residents and providing various services to the community. To help residents know what the CDCC does we have included our latest list of portfolio responsibilities here: [CDCC-Member-Portfolios-July-2024.pdf \(web-cdn.org\)](#).

So, to keep you fully in the loop, here's an update from (pay attention at the back)...

The Development Trust



Its not all motorhomes...

Cromarty Camping

As we write, we are approaching the end of our first year of trading – come 31 August 24 - as a community owned and operated campsite. Woohoo. What an enormous learning experience we have been on, and simultaneously what a good first year – as a fledgling business - we have had.

At capacity and over many dates in August, we could have filled the campsite 2.5 times over. Demand was at times 250% of availability; and you'll likely have detected this if you passed by the site or witnessed an overflow on Shore Street. Consequently, we are now going back into the business plan, to map what needs still must be addressed and how best to go forward working with the community; in short to explore and understand all our options, however big or small. This is possible with a good team in place and a sustainable and revenue generating community business.

New and emerging markets or customers are also surfacing. Along with other community organisations and businesses, we have also accepted a blanket booking of the campsite for a weekend in May 2025, to accommodate wedding guests. These kinds of bookings add to the diversity and sustainability of this community business.

Cromarty Camping is one of the good news stories for the Trust and the town.

Unit 2 Whitedykes Industrial Estate

In tandem with our interests in the campsite a funding application is currently being considered by the Scottish Land Fund to fund the first stage of works – exploring viability v liability – of taking this unit into local ownership under an asset transfer. It is intended that this could expand and safeguard the remit of Cromarty Camping, and equally provide opportunities for other community businesses / local social enterprise; further boosting local enterprise, employment, training and well-being.

This application was submitted at the end of July 2024, and we await the outcome of this.

East Church Hall

So, to the East Church Hall; and opening it as a proposed Community Hub.

Progress continues – b u t s l o w l y.

We recognise we are operating in a very challenging and shifting economic climate at present, which requires due diligence and patience. This is a complex project with multiple stakeholders, representing many differing and varied interests, with cross parties and a potential mix of funding sources involved. In a project of this nature there is a lot to coordinate and agree.

A meeting between CCDT with all the HC stakeholders - first planned for early June - has been postponed several times by the Highland Council team, owing to structural and staffing changes. We are still requesting this; and hope to agree a rescheduled date for this soon, once summer holidays are firmly out of the way.

In the interim and undeterred, we are focused on the business plan. A plan which is not set in stone, instead one which becomes a working document and best captures the ideas which have come forward from the community along with the knowledge and experience we can bring. This one is a project which is very much at the

heart of the community. With regard to this we have and will consult the community as we go – we fully acknowledge that we need your input, help and backing over this one – as such we will share as and when we can.

We have also approached Impact Hub Inverness, HIE and DTAS for their support for this work; which has been confirmed. Locally there will need to be a wider engagement session for this – again – in the forthcoming months.

In considering a potential entry date of Spring 2025, we took a chance on a funding application over summer – through HC's Community Regeneration Fund - for assistance with making aspects of the building more fit for purpose. But without a firm agreement in place with the HC wide team (which we had considered possible) we have been pushed back on this one for now.

Nonetheless, a crucial stage of this work has now been done which forms part of the business plan and will be the basis for a later application, as the project progresses.

We know that entry to the ECH won't be achievable in early 2025 - Highland Council have now confirmed as much at their end - but we are still working towards this happening, later in 2025.

Therefore we will consult the community on aspects of the business plan. This is to bring your contribution to it: to best represent and capture the spirit of the community, harness the opportunities that lie with this project, align with current policy and ensure that we address needs. Essentially to work together for the greater whole, and get this building back into wide scale community use.

The Thrift Shop

Goes from strength to strength, backed by our superb and self-organised volunteer team; and thanks to the generosity of your donations.

We can also see areas in which we can further strengthen this enterprise and grow; and plan to start to introduce these along with keeping what is great about this project – and the community benefit it delivers - at core.

Never a dull day in the world of community development!

Youth Announcements

Eric Lidell Award

- We are overjoyed to announce with you all our Winner of the Prestigious 'Eric Lidell' recognition award (and pin) for her Outstanding Contribution to our community through her involvement in youth work in Cromarty, Black Isle and Nationally in Scotland
- Orlagh had been invited to ablack tie red carpet event in Glasgow to collect this award but was unable to attend due to receiving another award, so Jane from Youth Link Scotland came to Cromarty to present her instead.
- When I was told Orlagh's nomination had went through unanimously I was delighted and in touch with Orlagh to let her know the great news, and of course in true Orlagh fashion she was out on her Duke of Edinburgh Award camp, she let me know that while she was in P 6
- She had did a presentation on Eric Lidell as her inspiring Scots person. (So coincidental) that she is now ours.
- Orlagh recently received her HLH Platinum Hoodie for over 750 hours of Leadership and The Wanda Mackay Award at Fortrose Academy for Outstanding Contribution to Volunteering, so this today makes it a Trio for our young Inspiring Superstar - we are all so proud of you
- Some words about the Award and presentation from Jane
- This award is presented on behalf of the Eric Lidell Community
- But he is remembered, not just for his sporting achievements, but for his passion for and dedication to helping others. For his selflessness and community mindedness and his integrity in the face of hardship.
- To mark 100 years since his against the odds Olympic win, the Eric Lidell Community is recognizing 20 young people from across Scotland who display those same values and who have made an outstanding contribution to their community.
- And today we have among us...a very special young person who lives those values day-day-out. (and who is also... a gold medal winner herself in her own sport coastal rowing)
- She has literally made her community a better place to be for people of all ages through her volunteering, leadership and compassion for others particularly through her intergeneration work-tackling social isolation and loneliness in the community.
- She cares deeply about the need to support and look after people's mental health and has turned her concern into positive action- clocking up at least 1500 combined hours with volunteering and leadership in the community helping others.
- She embodies the passion, enthusiasm, selflessness and care for the people around her and her community that this award celebrates.
- So, with great pleasure and admiration on my part I'm honoured to present this award to the remarkable and inspirational Orlagh MacIver
- We were delighted to also be joined by our very good friends the Lord Lieutenant's and her deputy Angus and many members of our fabulous community who Love a wee celebration



COME ALONG TO WEEKLY

TENNIS

FREE
DAY: MONDAY
TIME: 4:15 - 5:15 PM
AGE: P1 - P7
LOCATION: CROMARTY TENNIS COURT

Run by our amazing HLH Young Leaders!

Contact Fraser if you would like to attend
07470522172



Middleton Trust

Applications are now open for Middleton Trust 2025 funding

The Middleton Trust funds projects which aim to advance the social, cultural, educational and recreational development of young people (up to 25 years) within the boundaries of Cromarty & District Community Council.

Please note that we can only fund organisations not individuals, and funds will not be awarded to any application that does not satisfy the above brief.

Most grants offered by the Middleton Trust have been in the range of £200 - £2,000. To see information on previous recipients, see www.cromartylive.co.uk/middleton-trust

Applications close **Friday 27 September 2024**

We will assess applications by Thursday 24th October 2024 and will get back to you shortly thereafter to advise if your application was successful. Grant payments will be made in early February 2025.

If you wish to apply for grant funding from the Middleton Trust please [click here](#) for an application form or contact the Trust's secretary Jenny Pyle at middletontrust@gmail.com or by phone on 07765321442.

If you have any questions or require help in completing the application form, please contact Jenny Pyle, secretary.

The Middleton Trust is Registered Charity SCO43079

Cromarty Care Project

Community Sharing Larder

Cromarty Care Project is delighted to announce that we have received a generous grant from the Corra Foundation towards the costs of stocking the Larder. This grant will enable us to continue to provide nutritious food and some basic toiletries for the next six months. We would also like to give a huge thank you to our local Masonic Lodge who have given us a generous donation of foodstuffs. Meanwhile, Keith Greenfield has been

volunteering his time and expertise to make a few repairs to the Larder cupboard – many thanks for your help, Keith!

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



'Take what you need, give what you can'

This is the motto of our Community Sharing Larder and, since it began in 2020, we know that the community of Cromarty have really taken the Larder and what it represents to their hearts. So we are saddened and disappointed to become aware that some people may have been exploiting the generosity of others for their own advantage. The Larder is not there for one or two people to stockpile from. The Larder is based on trust and provides a safety net for anyone who can't make ends meet. The folk who rely on the Larder understand this and so do the good neighbours of Cromarty.

New Bench at Sheltered Housing

The residents of the sheltered housing in Townlands now have a new bench to help them enjoy the sun! The bench was purchased with a "Chairs for Chats" grant from Making a Difference Locally, with help from Marcel and Kitty at the shop. Thanks to Highland Council for giving us permission and special thanks to Colin Keith for volunteering his time and donating the concrete slabs.



Classic Film Club

The Classic Film Club will meet this month at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday 11th and Wednesday 25th.

Please arrive early to avoid disappointment! If you would like to join the Cinema Club (entirely free!), or for further information, please contact Helen Charley on 07889 181529 or email helen.charley@doctors.org.uk

!!STOP PRESS!! Cromarty Care Project has just been awarded a generous grant from the Port of Cromarty Firth to support the Film Club. More details next month.

Seagull Trust Canal Cruises

September is the last month of the season for a Seagull Cruise. Cromarty Care Project will provide drivers to take you to Inverness where you can embark on a specially modified canal boat and enjoy the landscape and wildlife from Caley Marina to Dochgarroch and return. It's all free and you'll be home in time for lunch! To reserve a place, email info@cromartycareproject.co.uk or phone Denise on 07769 170773

Table Tennis

Table Tennis continues throughout September. 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 continues 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 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 Classic Film Club, or anywhere around Cromarty. For transport by Trike, or by car in bad weather, please contact Maxine on **07875 963570**

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



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 (17th September). 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 . . . Bereavement Benefits

Your income and financial circumstances may change if your husband, wife, partner or child dies. You may be able to get financial support to help you with the loss of someone.

Bereavement Support Payment

You may be able to get Bereavement Support Payment if your partner has died. Bereavement Support Payment is not means-tested.

When your partner died, you must have been:

- under State Pension age

- living in the UK or a country that pays bereavement benefits
- married to your partner, in a civil partnership with them, or living with them as if you were married

Your partner must have either:

- paid a certain amount of Class 1 or Class 2 National Insurance contributions in any one tax year since 6 April 1975, OR
- died because of an accident at work or a disease caused by work

You usually need to make a claim within 21 months of your partner's death. How soon you make your claim can affect how much money you'll get. [You can apply for Bereavement Support Payment online, by telephone or by post. For more information visit <https://www.gov.uk/bereavement-support-payment/how-to-claim>](#)

Funeral Support Payment

Funeral Support Payment helps pay for funeral costs if you live in Scotland. It usually will not cover the full cost of the funeral, but it should help pay for some costs.

You can get a Funeral Support Payment if you or your partner are getting certain benefits, and if you meet other eligibility criteria. You can apply for Funeral Support Payment online, by telephone or by post. For more information visit <https://www.mygov.scot/funeral-support-payment/how-to-apply>

Guardian's Allowance

You could get Guardian's Allowance if you're bringing up a child whose parents have died. You may also be eligible if there's one surviving parent. The Guardian's Allowance rate is £21.75 a week. For more information about claiming Guardian's Allowance visit <https://www.gov.uk/guardians-allowance/how-to-claim>

History Society

Cromarty History Society begins the new season with a talk from Jim and Steve Leslie who have been studying the history of the hospitals in Ross and Cromarty, including Cromarty, Dingwall and the Black Isle Combination site at Ness House, Fortrose.

The Origin and Development of the Hospitals of Ross and Cromarty

In early 2008, Steve and Jim Leslie started to study the history of Highland hospitals. With the help of a small group of prominent individuals they were awarded grants from NHS Highland Research & Development and UHI Centre for History for a pilot project. In 2010, the authors produced a report documenting the origins and history of over 60 Highland establishments to become the first comprehensive account of the history of Highland hospitals. Since then several A5 books have been published with updated and more focused local information.

On **17th September** Steve will present data from Jim's extensive research from the archives. This will cover the major hospitals in Dingwall, Strathpeffer and Cromarty, but will also cover wider aspects of healthcare.

Steve will also report on a poster exhibition at the Ross Memorial Hospital and Dingwall Museum and the latest development, an audio tour of the hospitals sites in Old Inverness which can be accessed by computer or mobile phone at Geotourist <https://geotourist.com>.

More details about the project and other information can be found at <http://www.historyofhighlandhospitals.com>.

About the authors

Jim was Head of Geography at Nairn Academy until 1991 when he was appointed Advisor in Social Subjects for Highland Council and some years later, an Education Manager in Ross and Cromarty.

Steve has been a consultant cardiologist in NHS Highland since 2006. He has an honorary visiting professorship at the University of the Highlands and Islands.

The talk begins at 7.30pm in the Victoria Hall, Cromarty and is followed by tea and biscuits. The cost will be £5 or £15 for a year's membership, comprising eight talks between September 2024 and April 2025. Free to under 16s. We look forward to seeing you there.

Cromarty Courthouse



We are getting ready for a spooktacular Halloween at the Courthouse this year! Keep an eye out for more details in the coming weeks.

Sonas Exhibition

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.



Arts Trust News

Lots coming up at Cromarty Arts Trust for September. Live music, art courses, craft workshops and more.

The craft workshops start on **7 and 8 September** with two, one-day classes in **Stained Glass making**. Anne Ferguson's classes are always hugely popular but there is still one place left on the Sunday 8 Sept.

At the end of this month and running into October, Master Craftsman Robbie Schneider is back in Cromarty teaching how to **hand carve letters into stone**. Cromarty is one of the very few places in Scotland that still teaches this ancient skill, which seems fitting for the home of writer, geologist and stonemason Hugh Miller. This course lasts all week and includes lunch every day.



As a complete contrast to stone carving, we are also offering a weekend of **Fair Isle knitting on 14 & 15 September**. The course is full with a waiting list so it is very likely we will run it again. Please get in touch if you'd like to be kept informed of future dates. Tutor and artist, Sophie Hale from Forest & Dot will supply the expertise and all the beautiful Shetland wool and you'll spend a peaceful weekend making a headband or cowl in the Stables. You will learn how to read Fair Isle charts whilst knitting in the round, all about the history of Fair Isle knitting and how colour choice is so important. This workshop is suitable for those with basic knitting knowledge, and can knit, purl, rib, cast on and off confidently and are looking to start out on their Fair Isle journey.

The popular **Cromarty Harp Village** is back for another year from **20 – 22 September**. Tutors Corrina Hewat, Cheyenne Brown and Heather Yule will focus on getting back to basics, finger coordination, strengthening techniques, making sure you have a firm base on which to make music. With massed harp playing, tutors sharing session, six workshops and three levels, elementary, intermediate and advanced there is something for everyone this weekend. Accommodation is all taken but there is plenty space on the individual workshops.

We have lots of live music coming up too starting with a pocket opera called **CarmenCo**. This lively afternoon will have everyone seated round tables with tea and coffee, while the musicians give a performance of Spanish and Spanish inspired music. This will be presented as a play, with costumes, props and a storyline which roughly follows the story of Bizet's opera Carmen, but told from her point of view. Dare you consult the cards with her? What does she think of the men in her story? Did she foresee her gruesome ending? And does she like the opera Bizet wrote about her?

CarmenCo trio is Emily Andrews on flute/mezzo, and David Massey and Francisco Correa on guitars, they are all prizewinning Royal Academy of Music graduates and in demand soloists in their own right. This will be a really entertaining afternoon on **22 September**, tea and coffee are included and as always for our Sunday afternoon concerts, under 18s are free.

Trad fans are in for a treat with an evening with **Rachel Walker and Aaron Jones** on **28 September**. After years of writing, touring and performing with many of traditional music's finest, Rachel and Aaron have joined forces to create one of the scenes most exciting new collaborations. Their combined passion for song and the exploration of the wide repertoire across the tradition, blended with beautiful and heartfelt original songs, ensure an evening of captivating live music and song with two of Scotland's finest singers & musicians. This evening is in the small scale and intimate Old Brewery and tickets are limited so don't delay booking up.

We have a new tutor, Sheree Young, joining us for a day long **Introduction to Watercolours** on **27 September**. If you have always wanted to try water colours but were afraid to pick up the brush, this day is for you. We will supply you with brushes, paint and paper and Sheree will supply the knowledge and inspiration.

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



Don't miss a ~~night~~ *afternoon* at the opera on Sunday 22nd September.

Business Updates

Post Office

We still have a couple of the lovely Scottish gin bottle lamps and are hoping to be able to get more. They are £24.99 including the shade and bulb. Sadly the bottles are empty. Black Isle calendars for 2025 are also in, with several pictures of Cromarty. I hate to mention it but they'd make a great Christmas present! More on this dreaded subject next month.



Royal Hotel

It's been a busy summer - thanks for all your support, it is much appreciated.

Earlier in the summer, we started opening at 10.30am (as opposed to 11am), offering coffee, bacon/egg rolls, homemade cakes etc. We will continue during September and will review if there is demand after that - no point being open if it's not needed or wanted!

As our students return to their studies, we are looking for someone else to join our team - please do get in touch if you'd like to join us. We have a variety of roles - front of house, kitchen and housekeeping - which could be part-time or merge together to a full-time role. Please do get in touch as we would love to hear from you info@royalhotel-cromarty.co.uk or pop in to the Royal.

We are currently open Wednesday - Sunday from 10.30am - late (closed on Sundays at 6pm), serving lunch from 12noon and dinner from 5pm with all of our classic favourites plus our ever-changing special's board. Takeaway also available for when you can't be bothered to cook!

Let's hope September brings lots of sunshine, hope to see you soon!

We have been at a trade fair choosing lots of new products for the shop that will be arriving over the next few weeks, including this beautiful Oil, Vinegar, salt and pepper set.

We are open 7 days a week, 11-5 Monday to Saturday and 11-4 on Sundays

Cinema

It's been a busy summer and while we're (definitely!) not saying it's over, we do think we're all due some downtime at our cosy Cromarty community cinema, in front of a good film – or ten!

This month's blockbusters are big on budget, big on action, and big on drama and adventure! **Deadpool & Wolverine** join forces to save Wolverine's universe, **Alien: Romulus** takes a group of teens to a derelict space station where they face more than they bargained for, and **The Count of Monte Cristo** breathes new life into Alexandre Dumas' classic.

You know we always bring the drama! Colleen Hoover's novel **It Ends with Us** has been beautifully adapted to screen, starring Blake Lively. **Widow Clicquot** depicts the story of the patriarchy-defying champagne innovator Barbe-Nicole Ponsardin Clicquot, while Icelandic drama **Touch** pans several decades and continents as a man searches for his first love.

For a cinematic trip back in time, why not come see **Drylongso** – a groundbreaking and captivating coming-of-age drama about a girl who takes Polaroids of young black men as an endangered-species record. And you can't go wrong with Sydney Pollack's political thriller **Three Days of the Condor**, starring Faye Dunaway and Robert Redford.

As the nights grow darker we could all use some laughs. **The Queen of My Dreams** grapples with the thorny subject of intergenerational culture gaps through the eyes of a Pakistani woman living in Toronto – it's hilarious and heartfelt. And family matters are also at the heart of

Babes, a laugh-out-loud unvarnished look at motherhood and female friendships. For something completely different, **Kneecap** is the fictionalised origin story of the real-life Irish-language rap group – who play themselves. You'll see nothing else like it this year so make sure you don't miss out!

So much to look forward to in September so get your tickets at www.cromartycinema.com/films, the human box office on Thursdays 12-2, or at the door. And for discounted tickets and the chance to book your very own private rental of the cinema, why not become a friend? It's easy, just fill in the form at <https://cromartycinema.com/join-us/>. See you in September!



CROMARTY CINEMA September 2024



| | | |
|-------------------------|-----|---|
| Friday 6 September | 7pm | It Ends with Us (15) 2hr 10m Adaptation of Colleen Hoover's bestselling romance novel, starring Blake Lively. |
| Saturday 7 September | 7pm | Drylongso (15) 1h 22m Re-released 1998 genre-defying drama is an incisive look into racial injustice. |
| Sunday 8 September | 3pm | The Mountain Within Me (12A) 1hr 29m Documentary following rugby pro Ed Jackson, who attempts to mountaineer after a spinal injury. |
| Friday 13 September | 7pm | Widow Clicquot (15) 1hr 30m Dramatisation of how the Veuve Clicquot champagne empire began. |
| Sat 14 September | 7pm | Deadpool & Wolverine (15) 2h 08m The latest Marvel offering starring Hugh Jackman and Emma Corrin. |
| Sun 15 September | 3pm | The Count of Monte Cristo (12A) 2hr 58m French version of the classic tale is a big-budget, lavish epic. |
| Tues 17 September | 7pm | Deadpool & Wolverine DS** (15) 2h 08m The latest Marvel offering starring Hugh Jackman and Emma Corrin. |
| Friday 20 September | 7pm | The Queen of My Dreams (12A) 0hr 99m Comedy drama follows Azra, a young Pakistani woman living in Toronto. |
| Sat 21 September | 7pm | Babes (15) 1h 44m Quick-fire comedy celebrates pregnancy, motherhood and friendship. |
| Sun 22 September | 3pm | Three Days of the Condor (15) 1hr 57m 1975 classic political thriller starring Faye Dunaway and Robert Redford. |
| Tues 24 September | 7pm | Touch (15) 1hr 01m Icelandic romantic drama – a widower searches for his lost first love. |
| Friday 27 September | 7pm | Alien: Romulus (15) 1hr 59m In the latest version of the franchise, teens are being picked off one by one.... |
| Sat 29 September | 7pm | Kneecap (18) 1hr 45m Real-life Irish rappers Kneecap's fictionalised 'origin story' in irreverent and original comedy. |
| Sunday 30 September | 3pm | Alien: Romulus DS (PG) 1hr 24m |

**Screening with Descriptive Subtitles

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

Adam and the Antacids?

Sometime resident Caroline Burrows (the cycling poet) and other Cromarty faces, along with others from further afield, have recreated Adam and the Ants' **Stand and Deliver** video to raise money for MIND: The Mental

Health Charity. There are five Cromarty residents in the video and one external Cromarty location.

Caroline writes:

'A brave bunch of mostly middle-aged dandies have stuck medical tape across their noses and paraded about in pirate hats to recreate Adam and the Ants' 'Stand and Deliver' video, in a low-budget, hammily acted in a so very, very, bad it's a really, really, good way.

Please help up raise money for MIND the mental health charity. They helped me and others in the past and we'd all like to now help them help other people when they need it the most.

Please like and share the video (and tell Adam Ant about us ;-) by clicking on the link below:

[Adam and the Antacids 'Stand and Deliver' Raising Money for MIND: the Mental Health Charity \(youtube.com\)](#)

Any donations, big or small, very gratefully received. <https://www.justgiving.com/page/caroline-burrows-1722589739206>



And finally...

Now you see it, now you don't

The Trans Ocean Leader has finally departed our (very close to) shore. (Unceremoniously dragged off, more like). Strange how something so alien and, at first, out of place

became an accepted and familiar part of our local landscape. Now its gone it maybe feels like a little piece of us has been lost. Not so sure it will be missed though.



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.

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)