

**From:** Cromarty News <editor@cromarty-courthouse.org.uk>  
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# CROMARTY NEWS



**April 2025**

## Some ferry (good) news!

**And now a Shipping Forecast:**

**Cromarty Rose, expected Wednesday April 3rd , S/N/S, 8am, good.**



Port of Nigg announced a partnership with Highland Ferries to extend the operation of the Nigg-Cromarty Ferry service for an additional two months this year. The service will now start in the first week of April, providing increased connectivity for local communities and visitors. Under the agreement, Port of Nigg (owned and operated by Global Energy Group) will fund the extended ferry service, ensuring greater

Rory Gunn, Facilities Director at PoN, commented: As a key part of the Ross-shire community, we are proud to support this initiative. PoN, along with the supply chain businesses on site, recognise the importance of reliable transport links for both locals and businesses. This investment aligns with our commitment to supporting the communities surrounding the Cromarty Firth. We also appreciate the challenges facing local businesses, and hope that this initiative will give them a welcome boost.

accessibility across the Cromarty Firth during the busy spring months. The Highland Council will contribute by covering the cost of concession tickets for eligible foot passengers.

Dougie Robertson, owner of Highland Ferries, sees this is as a significant step towards strengthening the ferry's long-term sustainability and said, "We are excited about this development and our growing partnership with Port of Nigg. This funding not only benefits commuters but also enhances tourism opportunities in the region. Over the last 12 months we've invested in key improvements to the service, including new adapted access and upgraded engines. Looking ahead, we aim to further develop this vital service and work towards acquiring a larger ferry to accommodate more passengers." [Highland Ferries](#)

David Summers, Principal Transport Officer for The Highland Council, added, "We are pleased to be supporting this initiative to extend the ferry's operating season and confirm that as a scheduled service the extra two months are eligible to be included in the concessionary ticket scheme. Ensuring access to reliable transport links is crucial for both local communities and tourism and we welcome the collaboration between Port of Nigg and Highland Ferries in making this happen."

## Shorewatch

### Passionate about Whales and Dolphins?

#### Take part in a WDC Shorewatch Social Survey

Come to a free taster session where you'll learn about volunteering with us - at Cromarty Ferry slipway, **Tuesday 8th April**, anytime between 4pm and 7pm.

## Cromarty Beach Cleaning

## **Join us this Easter holiday - Two beaches, two efforts**

### **Sunday 13 April 9.30 to 10.30am Harbour Beach**

Meet opposite the Royal Hotel

### **Wednesday 16 April 9.30 to 10.30am Links Beach**

Meet at top of ferry slipway

You are invited to join our Spring Beach Cleans. Choose the day which suits you best - or come to both. We'll record everything that we find and send the data to the Marine Conservation Society and help them to look after our seas.

Wrap up well. If you have gardening gloves then bring those along (we have a few pairs for you to borrow too). We will supply litter pickers and bin bags.

Great activity for the Easter holiday - children are very welcome but must be accompanied by an adult. Watch out on Cromarty Community Noticeboard Facebook page or the MCS website for news of change or cancellation if the weather looks bad.

## **Cromarty Courthouse Museum**

### **Grand Re-opening: You are invited!**

Join us to celebrate the re-opening of the museum, and for the official launch of two brand new exhibitions, 'Changing Tides: Cromarty's Firth' and 'A Window to the Past' celebrating 150 years of Cromarty School. Please RSVP and let us know what time you can come by scanning the QR code or clicking the link below.

[RSVP here](#)

YOU ARE INVITED



# GRAND RE-OPENING

## AND EXHIBITION LAUNCH

Friday 18th April 2025, 12-2pm and 4-6pm

Join us to celebrate the re-opening of the museum, and the launch of two brand new exhibitions, 'Changing Tides: Cromarty's Firth' and 'A Window to the Past' celebrating 150 years of Cromarty School.

Please RSVP by scanning the QR code below, or by clicking the link.



Cromarty  
Courthouse  
Museum, Church  
Street, IV11 8XA



# Hugh Miller's Birthplace Cottage & Museum

## What's happening this month?

First of all a big thank you to everyone who has come by to see the mourning ring, now on display in the museum, after seeing the amazing press coverage we received. The article about the mysterious ring found in South Africa was picked up by several newspapers and we even made it onto Reporting Scotland! Hopefully this will make a few more people come to Cromarty and discover what an incredible place it is.

We continue to host the Carrick Arts Collective in the Birthplace Cottage with an art exhibition exploring the links between Hugh Miller and the South West of Scotland. The pieces include paintings, glasswork and some lovely silver jewellery. The exhibition runs until **4th May** so be sure to stop by and check them out.

This month brings the Easter break and we thought it the perfect time to get a bit creative! James will be holding a free workshop for kids all around cave paintings and Ice Age animals on **7th April**. We are going to create paint our own Stone Age paint and will have Ice Age fossils to show off to all who attend. Book a spot now on our website.

And, on Easter weekend we are teaming up with Cromarty Courthouse again to offer an Easter Trail through our gardens with a sweet treat at the end. The Easter Trail will run **18th, 19th, & 20th April from 12-4** and is open to all ages.

Remember visiting the museum is FREE for Cromarty residents and we share all our latest news on our Facebook page.

P.S. We might have a couple of special items being prepared for display in museum soon! We'll let you know as soon as they are ready!

<https://www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/hugh-millers-birthplace>




## East Church

From the East Church guide: More than 700 years ago a church was built on a spot nestled next to a burn and close to the settlement of Cromarty.

Now known as the East Church, the former parish church has stood firm on the same foundations ever since, a witness to changing religious practice, ups and down in the fortunes of the townspeople, and new building and design styles.

The church today reflects many of these changes, and is both a spiritually inspiring and historically fascinating building.

The church is open to all to visit, hosts community events and is available for christenings, weddings and funerals.



Join us for a  
**Spring clean**

**of the**



**East Church**

**Wednesday 16 April**

**At 10.00 - 11.00**  
**All Welcome, just turn up**

**Cromarty History Society**

Cromarty History Society  
& Friends of Cromarty Courthouse



APRIL 2025 MEETING & AGM

**Romancing the Stone:**

Marriage Lintels and Date Stones Close to You



a talk by

**Dr Jim Mackay**

of the Kirkmichael Trust

Tuesday 15 April

7.30pm

Victoria Hall, Cromarty

All Welcome

Non-members £5

Under 16 Free

[www.cromartyhistory.scot](http://www.cromartyhistory.scot)

## 'Romancing the Stone -

## Marriage Lintels and Date Stones close to you'.

**Victoria Hall at 7.30pm on April 15th**

Dr Jim Mackay of the Kirkmichael Trust will tell the stories behind our local marriage lintels and date stones, with copious beautiful images of the often extravagant carving on these stones. The focus will be on Cromarty, but with examples drawn from every village in the Black Isle, as well as some from Easter Ross and Inverness. Jim will be relating the tales, sometimes sad sometimes amusing, of the people behind the inscriptions on these stones.

Dr Jim Mackay is Chair of the Kirkmichael Trust which maintains medieval Kirkmichael in the Black Isle, subject of an award-winning restoration. He is a popular speaker, his lively talks combining information with entertaining stories. He is the author of 'Resolis "Slope of Light" Guide to a Black Isle Parish', 'Tales from Kirkmichael' and 'Guide to Jemimaville and the Colony "Reachfar") creative home of Jane Duncan, author'. J

The meeting begins with a short AGM and will be followed by refreshments, £5 for non-members.

## Friends of Hugh Miller

**FOHM Sennachie weekend**





**The Friends of Hugh Miller - Join us for the weekend!**

**THE SENNACHIE FESTIVAL & FOHM AGM 2025**

**THE OLD BREWERY, CROMARTY**

**FRIDAY, 23rd MAY and SATURDAY, 24th MAY, 2025**

The Friends of Hugh Miller are delighted to announce a two-day celebration of Cromarty's son, Hugh Miller, and his passion for the stories and legends of his people and their lands.

In a packed line-up for the Sennachie Festival, there is a wonderful mix of authors, musicians and poets. Among them are **Dr. Lori Watson**, a Lecturer in Scottish Ethnology & EHRC Fellow in Celtic & Scottish Studies at the University of Edinburgh, who will talk about her work. Lori will also entertain us in her other persona as a folk singer and fiddle player, most notably with the critically acclaimed band **Malinky**. On this occasion, she will be joined by her partner, the award-winning musician **Duncan Lyall**.

Also appearing are authors **James Robertson, Ralph O'Connor, Ross Barnett and Elsa Pancioli**, along with clarsach player **Gillian Fleetwood**, singer-songwriter **C Duncan**, and Black Isle poets **Gill Shaw** and **Cait O'Neill McCullagh**.

On Friday 23rd May, the 2025 FOHM AGM will take place at the Old Brewery – further details and timings to follow shortly.

A variety of ticket options for the Sennachie Festival events will be announced at the start of April. Please keep an eye on The Friends of Hugh Miller website

<https://www.thefriendsofhughmiller.org.uk/> for updates,

or email [admin@thefriendsofhughmiller.org.uk](mailto:admin@thefriendsofhughmiller.org.uk) with any questions.

## **Stagecoach bus timetable for 26 while Fairy Glen closed - 7th April for two weeks for critical road repair**

**Please find the timetable on the Cromarty Live website:**

<https://www.cromartylive.co.uk/>

# **Cromarty & District Community Council**

## **Working with the Highland Council**

### **Providing community services**

The C&DCC is currently in discussion with the Highland Council to create more formal partnership arrangements to provide services at a community level. The C&DCC already does this by maintaining the Reeds Loop Path on behalf of the Highland Council Core Paths Department. We are looking to expand this arrangement. So watch for updates in Cromarty News and on our Cromarty Live website and/or contact us on [cromartydcc@cromartylive.co.uk](mailto:cromartydcc@cromartylive.co.uk)

## **The Team just got a bit more youthful!**

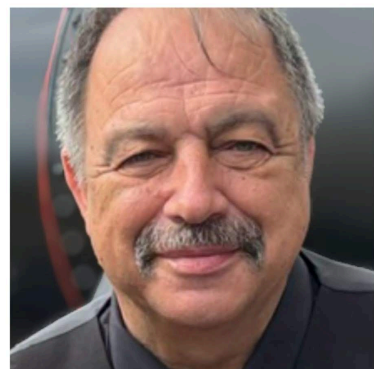
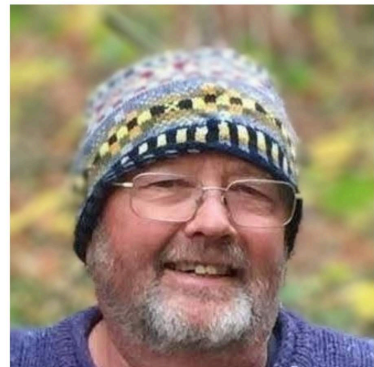
### **Orlagh joins Allan on the C&DCC**

The C&DCC is pleased to announce that Orlagh Maclver has been appointed as a new Youth Member. She joins existing Youth Member Allan Munro and the rest of the Team (see photos and visit the website link). We are able to appoint (subject to recommendation from the Highland Council Youth Development Services) two Youth Members. They are between the ages of 16 - 18 years old and serve for a maximum two year term. Youth Members are full voting Members of the Community Council (although not allowed to appoint other Youth and Co-opted Members) and are the democratic voice of young folk in the Cromarty & District community. But they are also so much more as invaluable members of your elected Team of Members, led by the (also youthful) Paige Shepherd as Chairwoman, supported by Associate Members and our existing Secretary and Minute Secretary (non-voting), Claire Fraser (also youthful!). The Youth Members might well bring down the average age of the Team but their voice is the future of our Community. Allan already leads the C&DCC Winter Resilience and has been instrumental in making sure the Stagecoach School bus service is keeping to its important timetable. Allan and Orlagh are also involved in the Associated British Ports/Youth Highland initiative to look at creating meaningful future employment for young folk on the Black Isle. If you have questions and/or comments for them or the rest of the Team, please email us on [cromartydcc@cromartylive.co.uk](mailto:cromartydcc@cromartylive.co.uk)

**'One Cromarty' Project: Workshop venue and date announced**

As an update on last month's introduction to Project 'One Cromarty', we can report that the initial community groups' workshop will be held at **Victoria Hall on Saturday 26th April at 10am**. The Community Council have approached 19 community groups, and to date, 9 groups have confirmed their attendance.

We would like this project to be as diverse and representative of the community as it can be, so if you are a member of a group that would like to be represented please get in touch with us at [cromartydcc@cromartylive.co.uk](mailto:cromartydcc@cromartylive.co.uk)





**Cromarty Community Development Trust**

**Open Gardens 2025**

Cromarty Community Development Trust is delighted to be organising **Open Gardens this year, on the weekend of 21 and 22 June**. As with previous year's events there will be cakes and refreshments available, this year at the café in the Old Brewery on both days.

Plans are underway for other popular features including a plant stall, children's activities and music so please follow the Open Gardens facebook page for all the latest information.

If you haven't already signed up to open your garden this year, or if you can support the event in other ways, please don't hesitate to get in touch – email the CCDT Events & Marketing Co-ordinator at [hayley@cromartycdt.org.uk](mailto:hayley@cromartycdt.org.uk).

We hope that we can encourage you to donate baking or plants or your time as a volunteer over the weekend and in the run up to it. The input of as many local folk as possible to help makes all the difference so please get in touch with anyone at CCDT or with Hayley by email to let us know how you can help.

And don't forget to plant up a few extra cuttings or sow a few more seeds for the Plant Stall. The more we have the more we can sell. We would also love to hear from you if you have a spare gazebo/marquee we could borrow if needed and we could use a couple of extra A Frame signs.

Hopefully we will be able to raise a substantial sum again this year so if your group or organisation, however big or small, could benefit from a donation please get in touch and we will add you to the list for consideration. Decisions on where the money is distributed will be decided after the event and depend on the amount raised.

# Cromarty Open Gardens 2025



**CALLING ALL CROMARTY  
GARDENS & ALLOTMENTS**

**21ST & 22ND JUNE**

**Be part of this year's Open Gardens and help fundraise for local groups and causes. This event will be organised by Cromarty Community Development Trust**

**email [hayley@cromartycdt.org.uk](mailto:hayley@cromartycdt.org.uk) to sign up  
deadline for participation 30 April 2025**

**CC Development Trust news**

It's been a busy month for CCDT.

Julie Macrae, our development officer has finished her contract and we'd like to thank her for all she's done for our town – without her, there would be no campsite. Hayley Muir (Community Events & Marketing Coordinator), Phoebe Fox, Fiona Deakin & Ronald Young (Directors) have taken over different aspects of managing and promoting the campsite. Hayley is also managing this year's Open Gardens – see separate item in this newsletter.

We have produced a Business Plan for the East Church Hall to go to Highland Council soon, and an application for funds to make the building work for the community. We are working hard with the different parts of Highland Council to align the various timescales and opportunities. We still hope to have access by autumn this year.

We are hopeful that we'll get a year's funding for a new Development Officer post and we have a Job Description/Person Specification ready. They would take on a range of community development work - hopefully including making the East Church Hall into a going concern - and other work across the Trust.

We contributed to a consultation workshop on Community Benefits from Renewable Energy, where we strongly made the case that communities near the CONSTRUCTION of renewables infrastructure should also see community benefit monies.

And we are delighted that Rory Mackay has officially started his Apprenticeship in Timber And Landscaping SCQF Level 5, building on his experience of doing exactly that kind of work at the Campsite.

## Cromarty Care Project

### Community Events

Monday 10.30-12 - **Table Tennis**, Victoria Hall, suggested donation £3

Monday 12.00 – **Lunch Club 60+**, Fishertown Inn, cost £3. Phone to reserve, or cancel a booking the day before on 01381 600988. **This is the final Lunch Club for this session.**

Tuesdays from 29 th April 1.15-2.45 - **Summer Café**, Cromarty Primary School, cost £3

Tuesday 10-11.30 – **Baby and Toddler Playgroup**, Victoria Hall, suggested donation

£3

Wednesday 9 th and 23 rd April 2.30pm – **Classic Film Club**, Cromarty Cinema. Arrive early to avoid disappointment. To join contact Helen Charley on 07889 181529 or email [helen.charley@doctors.org.uk](mailto:helen.charley@doctors.org.uk)

The Royal Hotel offer a pre-cinema lunch at 12.30, book by 4pm on Sunday before on

01381 600217

### **Community Sharing Larder**

Many thanks, as always for your generous donations, please ensure any food stuffs are within use by dates. CCP are delighted to be able to announce that we will have a new shed. We are working with Black Isle Men's Shed – we can't wait! If you would like to make a financial contribution please visit [cromartycareproject.co.uk](http://cromartycareproject.co.uk)

### **Drivers desperately needed**

Could you spare a little time just once a month, to give a lift to folks attending Lunch

Club or Classic Film Club? If so we really need you. Please contact Maxine on 07875 963570.

### **CAB in Cromarty**

Christine Macdonald remains away from work so in-person appointments are not currently possible. To book a phone appointment please call 01349 883333 or email to

[adviser@alnesscab.casonline.org.uk](mailto:adviser@alnesscab.casonline.org.uk)

## **Lantra Award - top award for Stewart**

Scotland's top land-based and aquaculture trainees were celebrated last night (Thursday 6th March) at Lantra Scotland's ALBAS (Awards for Land-based and Aquaculture Skills) at the Crieff Hydro Hotel in Perthshire.

Over 200 finalists, event supporters, employers, training providers and industry leaders, including Agriculture Minister Jim Fairlie, attended a glittering awards ceremony, hosted by Dr Jenna Ross OBE and Mike Duxbury of Inclusive Farm.

The evening's highlights included **Stewart Smith receiving the much-coveted Overall Winner Award, the highest accolade of the night. Stewart was also awarded Trees and Timber Learner of the Year and the Modern Apprentice of the Year Award.**

**Stewart from Cromarty in the Highlands is doing an SVQ in Trees & Timber through the Scottish School of Forestry UHI Inverness while working as an Apprentice Craftsperson with Forestry & Land Scotland.**



# Cromarty Camera Club

Cromarty Camera Club Members have enjoyed an active few weeks recently including the revealing of the results of the latest Club Competition, plus presentations by Club Members on their varied world travels. Members also undertook a special visit recently to Eden Court Theatre in Inverness to photograph final rehearsal preparations for the production of the Singin' in the Rain musical. The Club were most grateful for the opportunity to do so and Members relished the challenge of adjusting their camera settings to take account of the rapidly changing light conditions.

The most recently judged Club Competition was 'Portfolio'. For this, Members submit 4 prints on a common self-chosen theme with images sized up to A4. A good variety of quality entries were received giving our judge Neil Thomson the unenviable task of choosing the winning submission. Detailed feedback was provided by the judge at our recent results evening with all entries being praised plus the worthy winner being revealed as Nora Watson with her excellent series of prints on the theme of 'Track Bikes'. One of Nora's winning Portfolio images is reproduced below.

The planned Syllabus for the rest of the season includes our Club AGM plus Social and Prize-giving evening.

Our regular meetings are held in Victoria Hall, Cromarty on Thursday evenings at 7.15pm for 7.30pm. New members and interested individuals are always welcome to any Meetings, though do check ahead in case we are planning to be 'out in the field'. Further information is always available on via our website. <https://cromartycameraclub.com>



# Cromarty Arts Trust

We've got three great gigs in April starting on **Thur 3 April** in the **Old Brewery**.

Cromarty poet **Caroline Burrows** has teamed up with **classical tuba player Jon** for an evening of poetry, spoken word and classical tuba. Not a combination you hear very often so grab your tickets now! £10.

One of Ian Rankin's favourite bands are playing the **Stables on Fri 11 April**.

**Snowgoose** are ex BMX Bandits & Soup Dragons guitarist Jim McCulloch and a singer with a sublime voice, Californian Anna Sheard. £14.

After a sell out gig here in pre-covid times, **Cuban guitar duo Eduino & Ahmed** are back in the **Old Brewery on Sat 26 April**. This is top class Cuban guitar from 2 international musicians. Tickets selling fast. £14.

Two lots of crafts this month, Screen Printing with Timber + Stitch. Adults on **Sat 5**

(all day) & kids aged 8+ on **Sun 6** (morning only). Adults choose a tea towel or tote bag and kids bring a t-shirt. Few spaces left on each. £75 adults/£25 kids.

Rebecca is back **26 & 27 April** for Beginners Sewing. Make a tote bag, cushion cover, zippered pouch bag AND PJ bottoms! Two spaces left. £125.

Full details + booking forms on line [www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk](http://www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk) or call 01381 600354





## Cromarty Tennis Club

### **CROMARTY TENNIS AND SPORTS CLUB NEWS**

We're a small, friendly and enthusiastic club and we're keen to welcome new members who want to learn or rekindle their tennis playing! Tennis season will soon be here and we have lots planned.

**COACHING:** We have **Primary School** coaching in **June** again, many thanks to Middleton Trust for their support making this possible.

For **adults** (over 14) we're running 3 coaching evenings in **May**.

The first hourly session will be for complete beginners and the second hour will be for improvers. So if you've always wanted to play tennis but haven't had the confidence, now's your opportunity! We can provide racquets, so just bring your enthusiasm!

All these coaching sessions are free and you don't have to be a member (but hopefully you might join after!)

We're delighted that we can offer our young team of assistants at after school Monday sessions last season, Kelsey, Imogen, Orlagh and Loretta, part funding to complete an LTA coaching course.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Renewal fees are soon due, and we'll send a reminder email to our current members.

We have managed to keep prices at the same rate and details are on the website (link is below):

Under £13 years Free   Junior £15   Students £20

Adults £25   Seniors £15

Family at the same address £40

**BOOKING THE COURT** You do not have to be a member to play but can rent the court for £10 per hour via a booking system on our website or pick up a key and pay at the **POST OFFICE** (thanks Estelle and Maria!)

## **EVENTS**

We are again holding our popular Tilbrook Trophy on **Sunday 8th June** in honour of club member and well loved Cromarty man Peter Tilbrook. It's a mixed doubles knockout one-day tournament, with teams entering from Inverness and around the Black Isle. It's always a great day.

We're also hoping to plan a club get-together with Fortrose Tennis Club women.

Keep an eye on our website for updates on both of these events.

## **KNOCKABOUTS**

Men's knockabout sessions will be starting again soon, these are usually on a Monday evening.

Women's knockabout are **Tuesdays 6-8**, all welcome - non competitive and good fun.

## **MAINTAINANCE**

Ahead of the season starting we'll be doing some maintenance on the court and we're grateful to Grounds and Gardens who have kindly helped with maintaining the court for the last few years.

Remember to check for updates on our Facebook page and website, you'll also find all our club policies, details of how to join, and links to book the court.

And if you'd like to join our committee you'll be welcomed with gusto!

<https://www.spanglefish.com/cromartytennisandsportsclub>

# Royal Hotel

## What's on April 2025

Happy Spring! We are delighted to be open again after our winter break. A wee reminder of our opening hours: **Wed-Sun 11am-late** (currently closing at 5pm on Sundays). Closed Mon & Tues.

### Boozy Brunch

Join us for our popular Boozy Brunch on **Sunday 12 April**. Enjoy a glass of fizz on arrival, your choice of two cocktails from our Brunch Cocktail menu and one of our delicious brunch dishes. £35/person. Great excuse to get together with friends or treat the one you love! Please get in touch to book.

### Would you like to join our team?

We have full and part time positions available, email Jenny on [info@royalhotel-cromarty.co.uk](mailto:info@royalhotel-cromarty.co.uk) for more info or just pop in.

### Did you know...?

As well as serving lunch, dinner & drinks; we also serve **coffee, handmade cakes & breakfast rolls**. You are more than welcome to pop in 'just for a coffee'.

Takeaway coffees are also available and we have a takeaway menu for food – give us a phone to order (or just pop in and enjoy a local beer whilst you wait!)

Hope to see you soon!

[www.royalhotel-cromarty.co.uk](http://www.royalhotel-cromarty.co.uk)

# Boozy Brunch!

**Saturday 12 April**

**11.30-3pm**

**at The Royal Hotel, Cromarty**

**Enjoy a glass of fizz on arrival,  
your choice of two cocktails  
and one of our delicious brunch dishes  
*£35 per person***

*Reservations required - 01381 600217 or  
info@royalhotel-cromarty.co.uk*

## **Fishtown Inn**

We are looking forward to having our beer garden open again for the spring and summer. There's an exciting new addition planned in April which we know you are going to love. Be sure to pop in and have a sneaky peek!

We continue to serve lunch and evening meals 7 days a week, with some menu changes on the way. There's always plenty of Black Isle Dairy ice-cream too, with a great range of delicious flavours to keep everyone happy.

If, like us, you're going to miss the Slaughterhouse, we offer some consolation with tea and coffee served every day from eleven. We always have a great choice of cakes and there are freshly baked scones as well if you're quick!

Our quiz nights are ever-popular and a great way to raise funds for a good cause. Please get in touch if you would like to host one. We have availability in April.



## **Sutor Creek**

### **Spring Menu**

Our seasonal menu focuses on all the delicious Spring ingredients available to accompany the best Scottish fish & meats we can source.

New starters include Shetland Scallops with Rhubarb; Haggis Scotch Egg with leeks & spinach; Local crab salad, Granny Smith apple, curry mayonnaise, apple puree.

Mains include Wild Mushroom Tart, spinach, pearly barley, truffle foam; Sea Trout, flageolet beans, mussels, leeks, shallots, mussel sauce; and Slow Braised Lamb Shoulder, potato & goat cheese fritter, neeps, purple sprouting broccoli, lamb jus.

For those who like to choose their dessert first, our Sticky Toffee Pudding or Vanilla & Rhubarb Cheesecake are proving to be customer favourites!

Our wood-fired pizzas and take-away menu are available Wednesday to Sunday. Book a table or order online or phone us on **01381 600 855**.

[www.sutorcreek.co.uk](http://www.sutorcreek.co.uk)

## Cromarty Brewing Co

We have had a busy March with the install of our new bottler. We are looking forward to seeing how this helps our efficiency in the canning and bottling of our beers. With the re-opening of many seasonal bars and restaurants we have been working hard to get stocks up the last month.

We will be releasing our yearly blood orange and earl grey infused **Breakfast in Berlin** in the next week or 2 so keep an eye on socials for this dropping in the shop and online.

We have sent over some of our beers to America to be entered into the World Beer Cup for 2025 and are very excited to see how we do with this.

We will be back for the **Etape at Loch Ness** this year on **26th and 27th April** pouring pints of Happy Chappy and Lager. We wish any participants all the best for this event.

Our on-site shop has fridges full of beer including all our latest offerings. We also have Cromarty Brewing merchandise to suit everyone and every occasion and lots of lovely gifts and cards from various Scottish suppliers.

Our shop open hours are: -

Monday to Friday - 10am till 4pm

Saturday - 10am till 2pm

Sundays - CLOSED

## Cromarty Cinema



## April at Cromarty Cinema – Another Month of Unmissable Films

Spring is in full swing, and so is another fantastic lineup at Cromarty Cinema!

Deep-sea thriller *Last Breath* plunges us into a gripping true story of survival off the coast of Aberdeen. If espionage is your thing, *Black Bag*, starring Cate Blanchett and Michael Fassbender, delivers high-stakes thrills. Meanwhile, *Mickey 17* takes us on an epic sci-fi adventure starring Robert Pattinson.

*Wild at Heart*, David Lynch's cult classic, returns. Keeping the tension high, *The Monkey*, based on Stephen King's chilling short story, will have you gripping your seat. A more subtle horror lurks in the background of François Ozon's *When Autumn Falls*.

*Superboys of Malegaon* takes us to a world of amateur Bollywood epics. *Kim's Video* is a love letter to cult cinema, while *The Stimming Pool* is an experimental documentary offering a window into the world of autistic people.

*War Paint: Women at War* tells the untold stories of women on the frontlines. Meanwhile, *Unbound* is the remarkable story of a group of defiant young dancers. With its roots firmly in the Highlands, co-directors John English and Caitlin MacNeil Alexander will take part in a Q&A after the screening!

Gorgeous animation *Flow* is back, fresh off its Oscar win! And there's more animal fun for all the family with *The Sloth Lane*, following a lovable sloth.

And finally, get ready for a showstopping smash-hit musical spectacle with *Six the Musical Live!*

Book your tickets now at <https://cromartycinema.com/films/>, or swing by the box office on Thursdays 12-2—we'll see you at the cinema!

Book tickets here



## CROMARTY CINEMA April 2025



Friday 4	7pm	<b>Last Breath (12A) 1h 33m</b> A true story of deep-sea divers battling the North Sea elements to rescue their trapped crew mate.
Saturday 5	7pm	<b>Superboys of Malegaon (12A) 2h 08m</b> A group of Indian filmmakers create low-budget superhero movies.
Sunday 6	11am	<b>The Sloth Lane (U) 1h 30m</b> Animated adventure about a sloth seeking life in the fast-food lane.
Sunday 6	3pm	<b>Six The Musical Live! (12A) 1h 31m</b> A filmed performance of the hit musical re-telling the stories of Henry VIII's wives.
Friday 11	7pm	<b>Mickey 17 (15) 2h 17m</b> An "expendable" employee is sent on an expedition to colonise a new planet.
Saturday 12	7pm	<b>Wild At Heart (18) 2h 05m</b> David Lynch classic following a violent and surreal road trip fuelled by love and danger.
Tuesday 15	7pm	<b>When Autumn Falls (12A) 1h 44m</b> A devoted grandmother isn't what she seems in this understated French tale of family dysfunction.
Friday 18	7pm	<b>Unbound with Q&amp;A (N/C12+) 1h 31m + Q&amp;A</b> The story of a group of abuse survivors from the ballet world fighting back. Q&A with co-director John English, and trainee co-director Caitlin MacNeil Alexander.
Saturday 19	7pm	<b>Black Bag (15) 1h 34m</b> A spy in Steven Soderbergh's new drama faces the ultimate test – loyalty to his wife or his nation.
Sunday 20	3pm	<b>War Paint: Women At War (12A) 1h 30m</b> Shining a light on the trailblazing role of women war artists, on front lines round the world.
Friday 25	7pm	<b>The Monkey (15) 1h 38m</b> When twin brothers find a mysterious monkey toy, a series of outrageous deaths wreak havoc.
Saturday 26	7pm	<b>The Return (15) 1h 56m</b> Based on the latter part of Homer's Odyssey and Odysseus's emotionally scarred return home.
Sunday 27	11am	<b>Flow (U) 1h 25m</b> A beautifully animated, Oscar-winning film about a cat lost in a flooded world.
Sunday 27	3pm	<b>The Stimming Pool (12A) 1h 07m</b> A collective of neurodivergent filmmakers provide an artistic take on being different.
Tuesday 29	7pm	<b>Kim's Video (18) 1h 28m</b> A documentary about the legendary New York City video store and its eccentric owner.

**\*\*Screening with Descriptive Subtitles**

Adults £9.50      Under 26 £6      Friends £8

More film info and book online at: [cromartycinema.com](http://cromartycinema.com) or at [eden-court.co.uk](http://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](http://cromartycinema.com) or email [admin@cromartycinema.com](mailto:admin@cromartycinema.com)

The Cromarty Cinema, Cromarty, IV11 8XZ

# Did you ever play that memory game, "When I went shopping...?"

Well, In Cromarty, I bought:

<b>A</b> rtwork, antique	<b>N</b> oodles, newspaper
<b>B</b> ook, beer, buttons	<b>O</b> bjects d'art, ornament
<b>C</b> ompost, cake	<b>P</b> ottery, postcard
<b>D</b> inner, dental care product and a doughnut	<b>Q</b> uality clothing, Quorn
<b>E</b> lectricity card, espresso pot	<b>R</b> ibena, raincoat
<b>F</b> ruit, flour, fish	<b>S</b> tationery, stamps
<b>G</b> reeting card, gift	<b>T</b> ickets
<b>H</b> ot water bottle, handbag, hairbrush	<b>U</b> mbrella
<b>I</b> ce cream	<b>V</b> egetables
<b>J</b> ewellery	<b>W</b> ool
<b>K</b> nitwear	<b>eX</b> ercise book
<b>L</b> ight bulb (out)	<b>Y</b> oghurt, yard brush, yo-yo (sold
<b>M</b> eat, milk, memento	<b>Z</b> iplock freezer bags.

**Think twice and Shop Local!!**

## **Cromarty Post Office**

### **Royal Mail changes**

First the nice bit (not that it's nice that they're going), the leaving collection for Wilma and Marion is in full swing at the post office and there is a card for each of them if you'd like to add your name. Please pop in if you already contributed to the collection before we had the cards ready.

The not so nice bit is that postage prices are going up on April 7th, but don't forget you can make a saving by stocking up on 1st and 2nd class stamps before then.

### **Easter goodies**

Easter is on the way and we have some new treats in the Post Office. Indulge your children (or yourself) with Tony's Chocolonely filled eggs, collectable tins of sweets featuring either Peter Rabbit or a broody hen, or just a wee bag of chocolate eggs. Then snuggle up with a very cuddly rabbit. There's a handsome donkey too but he didn't want to be in the photo.



## Foundling Home

It's been two years since we opened as Foundling Home in the building that was The Emporium, gradually moving the partition wall back as we introduced more small volume British makers to you. In our own way we are a mini Not on the High Street that is actually on your own High Street, always looking for new creative work to show you. And there is more on its way this year...

April looks busy after a spring refresh with new stock in, new makers busy making, as well as more of what you loved. We begin with extended opening hours, now from **Thursday to Saturday 10.30 to 4.30 and Sunday 12 to 4.00 for the first three weekends (except for Easter Sunday).**

As Easter is late this year we are excited to be able to offer bunches of exceedingly fresh mixed spring blooms grown locally and arranged for you by the talented **Lilyfield flowers**, beautifully wrapped and tied with ribbon. Bunches priced at £25 each are limited and will only be available to order in advance for the Easter weekend, so don't miss out and get your order in early via Instagram or drop me a text message. No chemicals, no air miles, they really couldn't be fresher or a more lovely way to grace your Easter table. **Deadline for orders is Friday 11th.**

For those of you eagerly awaiting the promised haberdashery 'department' it's on its way... you may have noticed tantalising glimpses in the window, but the hold up is, at least partly, due to works in the rear part of the shop that was previously the book shop. Trades are hard to pin down (even in a haberdashery it seems) but we are making progress. Until then, if there is anything you particularly need, please ask, be it needles, patterns, wool, threads or just a button, it might be sitting there waiting for you and saving you a drive.

07957 833901



## **Calluna**

### **New Brand, Spring Stock & Thank you!**

We are delighted to introduce a new brand Grace & Mila to our collection; Grace & Mila is a French clothing brand, named Grace after the princely charm of Grace Kelly, and Mila, the name of luck in Eastern countries, to evoke the woman loved by the people.

In addition to new collections from Grace & Mila, Calluna also has new Spring stock from Religion, CHALK, SugharHill Brighton, BYoung and ICHI - lots of bold and bright colours for the sunnier days ahead. Pop in and see what's new.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Spring Clearance at the Hall. It was lovely to see so many people and glad that so bargains were snapped up!

[www.callunacromarty.co.uk](http://www.callunacromarty.co.uk)

## **Ingrid's House**

### **New owners, same great style**

We are delighted to announce that from the **5th of April** Ingrid's House will be owned by the fabulous Louise Hoult. Louise and family have been regular customers for years and we are so excited that she will be taking the reins. We can't wait to see how she brings her own twist to Ingrid's House. We would like to thank all our wonderful customers for your support over the last ten and a half years and are sure you join us in wishing Louise the same success as she takes the helm.

## Cromarty Pottery

We are delighted to now stock ceramics by Erica Taylor Low at Cromarty Pottery. Some of you may know Erica as she spent some time here as a student in the past! You can now find a range of her slipware mugs, egg cups, jugs and vases here (Picture - ceramics by Erica Taylor Low).

We have also some more pieces by Maureen Minchin in stock, including tiles, mugs, etc. You can view these pieces in the shop or check out our Instagram and Facebook page for photographs.



## Gallery48

We have three new landscape paintings by William Philp available to buy at gallery48, based on Skye, Loch Sionascaig and Suilven. (Picture - 'Day break on Loch Sionascaig' by William Philp, acrylic).

You can also find new paintings by Mary Black and Fiona Matheson in the gallery, in addition to new jewellery, cards and more in the shop!

As we prepare for the busy season ahead, we are looking forward to sharing the new makers who will be stocking their work here. Keep up to date with our Instagram and Facebook page for more information and pictures.



## Faith Mission

### 'Hope for Life' - Easter Special

You are warmly invited to the 'Hope for Life' meetings held on the **second Sunday of each month at 6 p.m.** in Victoria Hall.

These are relaxed, informal evenings where we hear someone's life story, a short message from the Bible, and a free supper, including hot food, cakes, and plenty of tea and coffee.

This month: **SUNDAY 13th APRIL** at 6pm: Join us for our Easter special, where Jeff Townend will share why Jesus rising from the dead is so important. Someone will be sharing their life story and the implications that Jesus' death and



resurrection has had on their life. The 'kids' zone' running alongside the meeting will be a fun-filled Easter quiz that will involve lots of chocolate!

# St Regulus - Scottish Episcopal Church

## News, upcoming events and service times

The Scottish Episcopal Church on the Black Isle is preparing for the Holy Week which runs 13-20 April and Easter. This is the sixth and last week of Lent, beginning on Palm Sunday, including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and ending on Holy Saturday. The Black Isle Episcopal Church website lists all services, events and locations for this special time (see link below).

Also from April, there will be a change in timings for the normal Sunday Service at St Regulus Church in Cromarty. **The new start time from April onwards is 9:30am.**

Attention all Kids:

We will run **a small Easter Egg Hunt after the service on Easter Sunday** around St Regulus Church - all welcome.

After the Easter School Holidays, we are hoping to **re-start the Friday Garden Club** - once confirmed, details will be communicated via the school.

### Regular Services & events at St Regulus:

- Sundays, 9:30am Sunday Service \*
- Wednesdays, 9am Celtic Morning Prayer (online, Zoom)
- Wednesdays, 6:30pm Evening Prayer
- Wednesdays, 7pm Weekday Service

\*Please note: 13 April, Palm Sunday, there will be no service in Cromarty. Instead on Palm Sunday, Service including blessing of the palms & procession will be held in Fortrose at 11am.

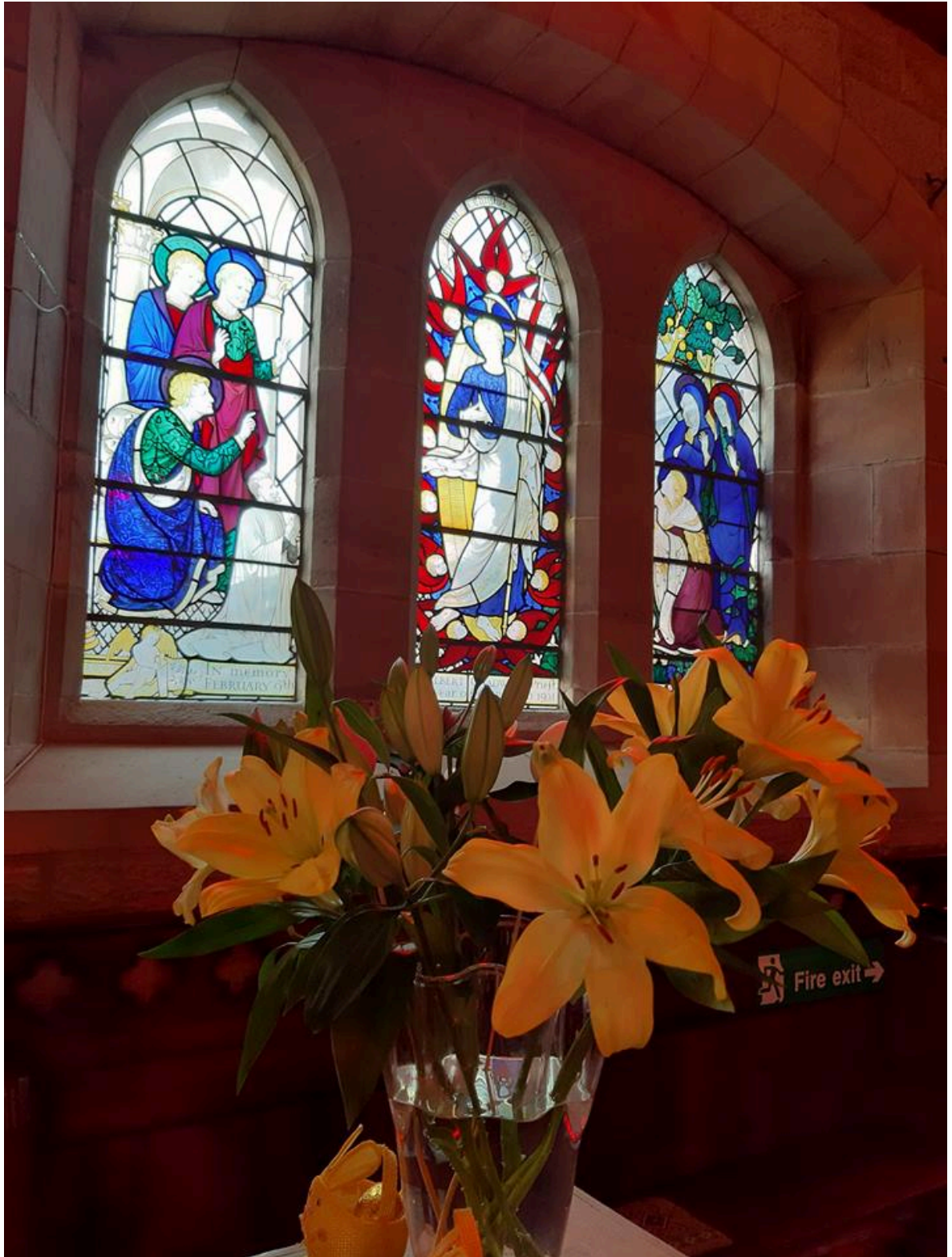
*St Regulus Church building in Cromarty is open most days during daylight hours -*

*everyone is welcome to visit for private prayers, a quiet moment or to simply enjoy the*

*atmosphere of this lovely building.*

The Scottish Episcopal Church on the Black Isle - Facebook

The Scottish Episcopal Church on the Black Isle - website



Please let us know what you think, and/or continue to send suggestions and ideas for articles to **[editor@cromarty-courthouse.org.uk](mailto:editor@cromarty-courthouse.org.uk)**

We are grateful to Cromarty Courthouse for providing the digital platforms for the compilation process. Thanks too to the editorial team, Jeremy Price and Richard Robinson.

[editor@cromarty-courthouse.org.uk](mailto:editor@cromarty-courthouse.org.uk)



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