



## A New Year Begins



Members of the Sunday Club bringing brightness through the dark days. Read their report at the end.

## Newsletter Gets The Thumbs Up

Thank you to everyone who responded to our survey in the last newsletter. 84% of you say that it provides a good source of local news - with just over 40% deeming it 'essential'. Although many people get a lot of their information from local Facebook pages, clearly many don't, and this poll suggests we're doing the right thing in providing a monthly round-up. However, we are equally conscious that, being digital, it is not accessible to everyone. We would like to return to providing hard copies for those in the community who might not use a computer.

If you know of anyone who would appreciate receiving a copy through their letterbox please let us know. We

intend to start a monthly delivery from February. In order for that to happen we could also do with volunteers to pick up copies and distribute them - probably not a huge number. If you'd be willing to help with this, again, please get in touch: [editor@cromartylive.co.uk](mailto:editor@cromartylive.co.uk)

## **A Thank You Letter**

*From The West Church and St. Regulus Cromarty  
Advent Window Trail 2021:*

The theme for this year's trail was Christmas Carols. Our trail launched on Wednesday 1st December at 4.00pm, at Hugh Miller's Cottage. The Hugh Miller NTS team of Alix Powers-Jones and James Ryan produced the most amazing Window to kick things off, setting the bar high. They also produced Quality Streets which went down a treat with those of you who came along for the launch – Thank you Alix, and thanks also to Rev. Terry Burns for opening the Trail.

A very big thank you goes to all this year's participants. The standard of the Windows has been exceptional, and it's been lovely to see so many of you out and about admiring them.

Thanks must go to Liz Hall, a member of the Advent Team Trail, who put together all the materials for each household creating a Window. An especially big thank you to the Art Department at Fortrose Academy, who saved the day and supplied us with the last two sheets of black card that we needed.

A particular thank you to St. Regulus and the West Church for funding all the materials. We couldn't put the Trail together without their help.

We had hoped to have a parade on Christmas Eve, but Covid once again put paid to that. Fingers crossed we will be third time lucky with the 2022 trail.

We've really enjoyed putting together this year's Trail. If you haven't had a chance to admire all the Windows, get out there quick. They will still be up for a couple more days.

That just leaves me to wish you all A Happy New Year  
from the Advent Trail Team.

Becky Richmond



At the start of the trail. James Ryan and Alix Powers-Jones outside  
Hugh Miller Cottage on Dec 1st.

# Cromarty Advent Window Trail



## Business Updates

Many of Cromarty's retailers stayed open for a late-night shopping evening on the last Wednesday before Christmas. With the new Covid variant running rampant there were concerns as to how successful this would be but all those taking part reported good footfall. Inadvertently it provided a safer way to shop, with many electing to come to Cromarty to do their Christmas shopping rather than heading into Inverness - and proved that Cromarty can cater for all needs in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

**Calluna** will be closed until January 4th, reopening with our annual WINTER SALE from Wednesday the 5th. Up to 50% off clothing, accessories and gifts. Follow us on Instagram or Facebook to catch our daily special offers

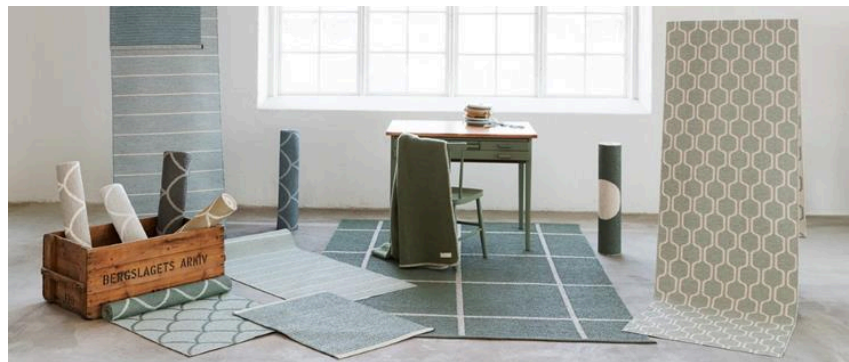
during the sale – free delivery in Cromarty for items bought via Social Media or website. Open daily on Church Street 10-5pm. Happy New Year!

**The Cheese House** is taking it's annual break, opening again on Saturday 22nd January. Jon and Emmy wish to thank all their customers for the support over the last year.

**Sutor Creek.** Thank you to our customers for ordering from Sutor Creek over the festive period – we very much appreciate your support. The team needs a wee break so we are closing for the first couple of weeks in January and will reopen on Wednesday 18th. Graham will be working on new menu ideas for pizza and our seasonal menu while we are closed which we look forward to sharing with you. All the best for 2022!

**Ingrid's House** will be open 7 days a week from the 5th of January. Are you planning some decorating over the dark months? If so we have an array of Danish Lighting and Swedish rugs to brighten up your home and add a bit of Hygge.

We are happy to advise on colours and designs. Thank you for all your support in 2021 and we look forward to seeing you in 2022. Ingrid and the team



## Support from NHS Highland

My name is Andrina Robb and I am the Project Support Manager for Near Me at NHS Highland.

Near Me is a video consulting service that enables people to attend appointments from home or wherever is convenient. The service is already widely used across NHS Scotland for health and care appointments with around

20,000 consultation being held every week. The service is now being rolled out across a wide range of public services.

All you need is a device for making video calls like a smartphone, tablet or laptop and an internet connection. Near Me is a secure form of video consulting approved for use by the Scottish Government and NHS Scotland.

We have recently worked with some Community Groups on the Isle of Skye to enable members of the public to have a Near Me consultation with their GP, healthcare professional, social worker etc particularly where the internet connection is poor or where people need a bit of help.

The benefits of Near Me are:

- Better for the environment
- Reduced travel to appointments: time, cost, convenience, carbon footprint
- Reduced time away from work, school or home
- Easier to attend if someone is needed to take the person to appointments
- Enables people to have someone with them for support at their appointment (either with them in person or joining the consultation by video from another location, even from abroad)
- Reduces the spread of infectious diseases

If you would like to learn more about Near Me or how your Community Group could be involved, please reply to this email.

Yours sincerely

Andrina

Near Me Team - [nhsh.nhsnearme@nhs.scot](mailto:nhsh.nhsnearme@nhs.scot)

**Transition Black Isle**



Want to get Active? Fancy walking or cycling more but don't know where to go?

The TBI Active Travel map shows walks and bike routes across all of the Black Isle - short or long, near or far, discovering places you've never known existed! How many paths can you walk in 2022?

Maps are on sale at the Emporium or from Sheila Currie, 15 Duke St.

TBI also produces Cycle Route Maps between each of the Black Isle towns and villages, so if it's Culbokie to Avoch, or Cromarty to Rosemarkie or any other of the 13 routes, we have maps showing directions, distances, business of roads etc.

Maps (free) for each route (see photo) from Sheila and also online [here](#).

**Potato Week** - watch out in the TBI newsletter for news of the Seed Potato selling & Seed Swap week, probably in February. Get the newsletter by signing up [here](#).

# Inner Moray Firth Development Plan

From Highland Council:

- You will recall that you responded to this document's consultation at the beginning of 2021. The 7 relevant Council committees have now considered all comments and have decided which policy and development site options the Council wishes to take forward to the next Plan stage.
- That stage is called **the Proposed Plan and will commence in March 2022, when we will invite formal objections** (and other positive comments) on the Council's choice of policies and development sites.
- You can view the Council's choices via the committee links on this webpage [www.highland.gov.uk/imf](http://www.highland.gov.uk/imf)
- For those with an interest in housing requirements then the second draft [2020 Housing Need and Demand Assessment](#) has now been published.
- **We will contact you again in March 2022** with a link to the fully prepared document and details of how to lodge formal representations.

## Cromarty Community Development Trust

*Sheila Currie writes:*

We expect a decision on our application for funding for a 3 year Development Officer post to be decided in January now.

If we're successful, we'll need to get cracking to recruit and appoint the right person, so if you have any useful experience in that area - please get in touch!

And if we're not successful, then we'll want to rebuild our oomph with some new people to move things along in other ways.

Organisations are only as good as the people in them, after all.



## **Cromarty Cinema**

We are open but in light of the recently announced government restrictions, Cromarty Cinema will be limiting its audience numbers to allow for social distancing of one metre between groups. Tickets are available as before from Eden Court [box office](#) and/or [Cromartycinema.com](http://Cromartycinema.com). The seats you choose online will not necessarily be the seats you are allocated, as we need to work out the best audience plan before each screening. Our usual Covid safety measures will remain in place including mask wearing, our fab fresh air circulation system and cleaning between screenings.

The Programme for January is still being finalised but will include The Matrix: Resurrection, Eternals, Belfast, Boiling Point, Titane and Clifford the Big Red Dog. Please see the [website](#) and posters for more information.

We thank you for your continued support and ask for your patience at this time of changes. Here's to a New Year of less restrictions and fantastic films.

## **Cromarty Arts Trust**

The new 2022 programme of events, workshops, live music, exhibitions and more from the Cromarty Arts Trust is being finalised and uploaded to the website daily. Take a look [here](#).

## **Sunday Club**

Despite restrictions, we have managed to meet up on a monthly basis for most of the year. Our theme in 2021 has been Climate Change and looking after our environment. We have gone from being a club that met indoors to one that now meets outdoors and we hope to continue that in 2022. It's a popular move with our Clubbers and adds a new dimension to story telling and craft making when it's outside.

We meet the last Sunday of the month from 3pm until approximately 5pm depending on what we're up to.

We'd love to see some new faces, so if you fancy coming along keep an eye out for the posters that usually go out in the school newsletter. All children are welcome.

From Carsten, Becky and all the Sunday Clubbers



As the sun sets for the final time on 2021 we wish for bright days and a return to more sociable times in 2022. Whatever your hopes for the new year, we wish them well - *The Editorial Team*

[Forward](#)

We trust 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](mailto:editor@cromartylive.co.uk)

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

The Newsletter is currently sponsored by a local benefactor.

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