



New feature!

If you wish you can now listen to an audio version of the newsletter...

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September 2022

The summer holidays are over for most, and we're back to school, but there's plenty going on in Cromarty in September!

And from all the updates we've had, it looks like there was lots going on in Cromarty in August!

Cromarty Community Council

Alan Plampton writes:

NEW YOUTH MEMBER JOINS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

At the latest C&DCC meeting, Dominic-Aiden Scott-Lodge was appointed to be a Youth Member.

Dominic replaces Coll Fullerton (who recently 'retired' once 18!) and joins Tilly Grist to bring us up to our maximum allowed number of Youth Members. He is a well known young person who has grown up in Cromarty and is already involved in running Black Isle Bikes.

He 'hit the ground running' by instantly raising issues over the Cromarty School Bus, which is actually the public

bus and runs at the wrong time, as it arrives too late for those needing to attend the Academy's Breakfast Club! Chairwoman Paige will be urgently speaking to Stagecoach to seek an explanation and hopefully get a resolution. Well done Dominic.

Alongside Tilly, Dominic's appointment will bring an exciting mix of youth and dynamism to the C&DCC's role of representing ALL the community.



New Youth Member Dominic Scott-Lodge

NEWS ABOUT MONITORING THE RIG & THE NIGG NOISE

This continues to be the most talked about problem in Cromarty and at his recent surgery, held at the Victoria Hall, our MP Ian Blackford discovered just how passionate the community is on the subject and how it is making so many lives an absolute misery. As a result, and armed with his constituents' words, he has agreed to contact Global Energy at Nigg to seek some explanation as to why their activities are causing so much physical and mental anguish.

In the meantime please can we remind you that the Environmental Health Officer from the Highland Council has requested that noise/nuisance record sheets are completed regarding the noise. If they don't receive any noise/nuisance record sheets, they will not be able to investigate further. Download the sheet and notes [here](#)

Please consider the impact of the noise on you, your physical and mental health, your relationships, your work and anything else you think is important.

Once completed, please send the records to The Environmental Health Officer, Community Services, Highland Council Area Office, 84 High Street, Dingwall IV159QN.

Please also send a copy to the C&DCC at cromartydistrictcc@gmail.com so we can collate the number of responses for future contact with the Environmental Health team. Thank you.

100 STEPS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are three damaged sections of the 100 steps that are beyond the ability of the previous volunteers to fix - one fence and two bridges.

An approved local contractor has agreed to do the repairs and has given the C&DCC two quotes

- one with volunteers helping to move his equipment and the materials needed for the repair down to the sites and back again and

- one without volunteers.

If we can get a team of 2 to 4 volunteers together, the C&DCC can afford to pay for all 3 repairs. The three repairs would take 2 days and the contractor has very kindly agreed that he could work weekends. Volunteers would not need to do both days - we just need 2-3 people on site to help and we can easily swap people in and out. But the more volunteers we have will make the whole job easier.

The scheduled date for the weekend is 8th/9th October 2022.

Can you help?

If you can, please contact Kari on cromartydistrictcc@gmail.com

VICTORIA HALL TAKES DECISION TO MEET RISES IN ENERGY COSTS

Unfortunately the Hall has had to take steps to meet the effects of the current energy crisis. Taking the figures for our 'normal' year and factoring in the new increased prices per unit, for both heating oil and electricity, it will be necessary for the Hall to find another £3,000 per annum, at the current levels, to break even.

Obviously this is going to be subject to continuous scrutiny but we need to take action now. If further changes are necessary then that will happen when needed. The Hall's only source of income, to pay for energy costs, is our Lettings Income from the Hall rentals.

In an attempt to support the community, the present Letting Fees have not changed since the C&DCC/VHMC took over management of the Hall in 2010! The C&DCC/VHMC should be proud that with sensible cost control and re-investment in the Hall's internal well-being, over 12 years, we have managed to keep the Fees at this level and survived (so far!) the financial blows inflicted by the pandemic. However now has to be the time for change or risk the future of the Hall. Attached is agreed increase to our scale of Letting Fees to be applied from 1st September 2022. This is based on raising £3k from a 'normal' full year of lettings and if Hall Rental Income does not return to that level then further action will be required. Sadly this currently requires an average rise of 35%.

VICTORIA HALL LETTING FEES

Hourly Rate: Old £8.00 (residents)/£10.00 (non-resident) **New** £11.00 (residents)/£13.50 (non-resident)

Daily Hire Private Functions e.g. Party/Wedding **Old:** £80.00 (residents)/£100.00 (non-residents) **New:** £110.00 (residents)/£135.00 (non-residents)

Public Functions (i.e. entry by ticket) **Old:** £100.00 **New:** £135.00

Political Elections - All Day **Old;** £150.00 **New:** £200.00

HIGHLAND COUNCIL COMMUNITY FUNDING CONSULTATION

The Community Regeneration funding team has the responsibility for the delivery of a number of area based

external funding streams that are intended to support communities to realise their ambitions. They are currently asking for residents' views and ideas about where the funds should best be spent. There is an online survey where you can submit your ideas. The link is [here](#).

Please note that the deadline for participation has been extended to 9th September 2022.

Middleton Trust News

Gillian McNaught writes:

2023 Middleton Trust Grant Awards Deadline

A wee reminder to groups and organisations seeking funding for projects or activities benefitting the young people of Cromarty & District, to please submit your completed application form (available to download on the Cromarty Live Middleton Trust page) before the closing date of **Friday 30th September 2022**.

If you have any questions or would like an informal chat about your idea, the Trust's Secretary, Gillian McNaught can be contacted on 01381 600337 or by email middletontrust@gmail.com

Cromarty Community Orchard

Sheila Currie writes:

Wee reminder that the Community Orchard exists for everyone. It's in the garden behind the Courthouse, and has a range of fruit trees and bushes that are there for anyone to help themselves from.

Blackcurrants, Gooseberries then Cherries come on in early summer and the Apple trees (cookers) and Plums are coming in soon.

They were planted by the Cromarty Allotment and Gardens Society, who look after the plants along with the Courthouse volunteers

Weaving Beelines

This month sees the culmination of the Cromarty Courthouse Museum's partnership with three local artists, Alice Taylor, Izzy Thomson and Jacqueline Briggs to create the story of the Cromarty bees to highlight the benefit of creating pollen-rich pathways for bees around Cromarty - weaving bee lines between streets and across town.



The artists have been making a 'Humble Bee' map which highlights the favourite spots for bees - from wildflower meadows to flower- rich gardens. They have also created a garden trail, based on Hugh Miller stories and surprising bee facts. Their artwork is dotted around the Courthouse garden for you to find.



Drawing on the Humble Bee Map

The map and trail will be on display during September, both inside and outside the museum. You are invited to come along and view the exhibition and add your own bee drawings, thoughts and stories. Perhaps you are growing flowers for supporting bees or making (and eating!) honey, even reviving tired bees when you come across them – let us know! This project was enabled with funding from Museums Galleries Scotland and Year of Stories 2022.



Following the Bee Trail

Corrie's Seven Mile Swim

Corrie Jeffery writes:

Pancreatic is an under researched cancer, grim and almost always rapidly fatal. Twelve years ago my brother in law was diagnosed and the family experienced the his last months battling this disease.

When the challenge to swim 7 miles during the month of August to raise funds for this cancer was advertised I decided to try to swim the distance in the Cromarty Firth.

I'm no athlete but with slow breaststrokes I swam up and down the Firth.

I had wonderful support from the amazing Cromarty Mermaids, especially the stalwarts who turned up every weekday at 7am with me to swim 200 or 250 meters wearing togs and a rash vest in case of jelly fish. We had Tarka the elderly Labrador standing guard on the shore.

The longer stints were in wetsuits and steadily the miles added up...7 miles is 11 kilometers which seemed to stretch on and on until the 30th of the month and the last 200 meters with a celebratory cocktail at the emigrants' stone to finish.

I loved feeling the changes in the sea with the ebb and flow of the tide, mirror calm and bouncing waves and the wild life...dolphins, curious seals , gulls, guillemots and

my favourite gossiping eider ducks. It has been a lovely August and I recommend the experience to anyone.

I owe huge thanks to all who supported me and contributed to continue research.

The contribution page is still open on my face book page but the link is [here](#) if you wish to donate.

Finally, enjoy the sea it is free and on our doorstep!



Corrie celebrating the finish with refreshments provided by her support team. (At 7am? - ed)

Cromarty Harbour

Colin Dickie writes:

Something different from the harbour this month and maybe something for us all to reflect upon.

There was an article in The Times last month on the value of The Colosseum. This got me thinking about the 'social asset value' of our harbour. On The Colosseum, the salient points mentioned were:

- Accounting firm Deloitte recently calculated a value for The Colosseum in Rome of €77Bn.
- This was based both on the value to the economy where it was estimated it supports the employment of some 42,700 people, and a social value Italian citizens

placed on it as well as increasing land values locally by some €400m.

- This social value was calculated by asking people how much they might be prepared to pledge for its upkeep with Roman citizens pledging €90 and wider Italians suggesting €57.

Now please don't be jumping to the conclusion that we will be asking for pledges (well not yet). It was more that as trustees and volunteers of the harbour, we undertake this role because of our belief that the harbour is a significant focal point for our town and therefore needs to be maintained and promoted for the benefit of the community. It has a social value.

July and August are always busy months for the harbour with increased visitor numbers coming to the town and enjoying the harbour, largely on a free and open access basis. It would be nice if we could measure the economic impact, but that would require a bit more work. Whilst we do our best with limited resources to run and maintain the harbour, articles like this do make one stop and think and hopefully justify why we do what we do in supporting such an important landmark within our town. Maybe next year we could introduce a mackerel tax to raise revenue!

On mackerel and wider safety issues we have now implemented additional fencing on the north side of The Mole. This is our most structurally fatigued area and safety issues are being ignored during the fishing season. Further, vessels are being impacted by careless casting, leading to damage. On some occasions the users of these vessels are being abused when the dangerousness of where some are casting is pointed out to them, including ignoring signage. We cannot allow our users to be impacted like this.

The Moray Firth Coastal Partnership

The Moray Firth Coastal Partnership have officially launched the '**Our Firth, Our Seashore**' project with a series of beach cleaning events on the coastline of the Moray Firth.

The project aims to promote community group engagement and empower Highland communities to take ownership of their coastal environment.

Through the means of marine education workshops, the creation of educational video clips and a series of beach cleaning events, the project will look to work with the Highland community's schools, businesses, and stakeholders to remove increasingly damaging litter from the Moray Firth shore.

The partnership will be launching beach cleaning efforts in September to contribute to the Marine Conservation Societies annual Great British Beach Clean, with a series of events in the Highlands.

The first public event will be held on Cromarty beach on **Monday 19th of September**, with the second on Wednesday 21st of September on Golspie beach.

Drew Ferguson, Project Officer for the Moray Firth Coastal Partnership said:

“We are excited to launch the ‘Our Firth, Our Seashore’ project to engage the next generation in the amazing resource they have on their doorstep. From resident bottlenose dolphins to vital fishing communities, excellent food and drink sectors and a strong tourism trade the Moray Firth is a jewel in Scotland’s coastal crown. However, it needs protected and celebrated which is where our project comes in and we would encourage everyone to get involved and find out more about their local shores and what they can do to help

Working with individuals, schools, and businesses in the area to bring them closer to the importance of our marine environment offers the chance to take a huge step towards making the Moray Firth the most sustainable marine region in Scotland – our goal for 2030.

This is a fantastic opportunity to bring people with an interest in conserving our marine environment together and raise awareness of the impacts we are having on our oceans”

GREAT BRITISH BEACH CLEAN CROMARTY BEACH



Date & Time:
September 19th
from 11:00-15:00



Meeting Location:
Cromarty Community
Cinema

Join the Moray Firth Coastal Partnership (MFCP) and the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) in our efforts to remove marine litter from the coastline of the Moray Firth.

Open to all members of the public to come along and join us in removing marine litter from our shores and contributing to the conservation of our marine habitats and species.

If you would like to register your interest in attending our event and receive your beach clean information pack please email drew@morayfirth-partnership.org and let us know what time we can expect you, and we will make sure there is equipment available for you.



COME VOLUNTEER WITH US

SIGN UP TO BECOME A
'FRIEND OF THE FIRTH'
www.morayfirth-partnership.org



Business Updates

Sutor Creek

Hours

We will be closed Monday 5th September for a wee staff day out... we will back bright and cheery on Tuesday 6th!! Sutor Creek will then remain open daily 10-8pm until the ferry ends on September 30th. Our hours will then return to our winter opening of Wednesday to Sunday 12-8pm. There will be free weekend deliveries for Cromarty residents, a selection of easy to cook at home meals, and the return of curries, Sunday Roasts and winter specials.

Korea Comes to Cromarty

Sutor Creek will be offering some Korean Specials throughout September to coincide with the Cromarty Cinema Korean & Anime season. Graham has been perfecting the Korean classic Janchi Gukso - a Korean noodle dish consisting of wheat flour noodles in a light broth made from anchovies, shrimp & seaweed. It is served with a sauce made from sesame oil, ganjang and small amounts of chili pepper powder and scallions. There will also be a Korean Fried Chicken dish served with sticky rice. These dishes will be available throughout the Korean Event at The Cinema. Check the Cromarty Cinema website or FaceBook page for a schedule of films and shorts - definitely worth adding to your calendar!

The Cheese House

Ten Year Anniversary

Things are shaping up nicely for the weekend of 29th/30th October when we will be celebrating TEN YEARS in Cromarty. Make a note in your diary.

On the Saturday evening, in Victoria Hall, there will be a performance of '**The Riot of Resolis**' followed by a **Silent Disco**. It's BYO and there's the promise of free cheese! We think this might prove a popular event (especially the free cheese) so if you wish to reserve tickets in advance, you can contact us now:

jon@cromartycheese.com / 600724 / or just call in to the shop.

On the Sunday it's **Gluren bij de Buren** (Peeking in on the Neighbours). We still have slots for a couple more performers - anything goes! - so don't be shy. Let us know. Equally, if you're happy to open your doors and host a performance we're always on the look out for new and interesting 'venues'. Talk to Jon or Emmy if you want to know more about what's involved.

We look forward to celebrating with as many of you as possible, who have made our time here (so far!) so special.

Calluna

Our Autumn clothing and accessories are arriving thick and fast and we are really pleased with what is inside the boxes! Cosy clothing, tops for layering, thick scarves, recycled cashmere gloves - lots of lovely goodies to help

keep us warm this winter. Sizes from 6-20 from a selection of brands.

For those of us lucky enough to be escaping to sunshine this Autumn, we have a selection of summer outfits available for your holidays. Happy to help source you a piece that suits your budget, style and size - just pop in and ask one of us for advice!

The Calluna Pop Up Shop is heading to to the islands! Plans are in place for the shop to be popping up in Portree, Elgol and Stromness over the next couple of months. Let your family and friends know that a wee piece of Cromarty is on the road!

More From The Courthouse

DOOR OPEN DAYS

We are again part of the annual Door Open Days event this year, on Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 September, but do remember that the museum is still open every day from 12.00-16.00 throughout the month..

TRUSTEES

Our board of Trustees is responsible for managing and keeping our small and friendly local museum thriving and punching above its weight. We have ambitious plans particularly using digital access to widen our visitor base and be a more inclusive attraction. If you would like to join our Board to help us achieve our goals please get in touch by contacting us at courthousecromarty@gmail.com to arrange an informal chat.

Cromarty History Society

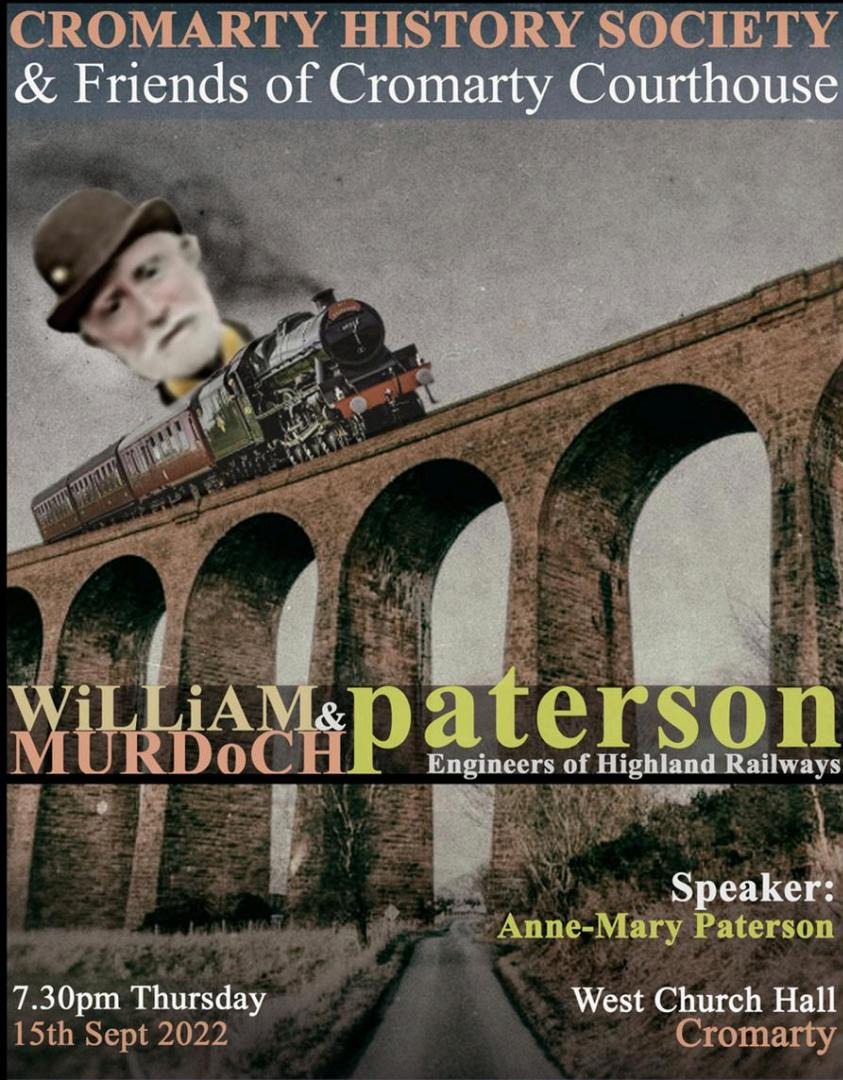
John and Gillian McNaught write:

For over two years the talks programme of the Society has been disrupted by Covid-19 regulations, but that's all history now! There's a new season of eight talks beginning in September (15th) and running through to April next year on the third Thursday of each month, and we invite

everyone along to the West Church Hall to hear local members and invited guest speakers on a range of different topics. Refreshments are also provided.

The series opens with Anne-Mary Paterson giving an account of her ancestors' role in the making of the Highland Railway, later speakers dealing with the history of the modern fire service, coastal history of the Moray Firth, Cromarty's Town Council, some local heroes, and even a potted history of the town as explored through the evidence of six maps. Annual membership of the Society is £10 (£3 per meeting for non-members). We look forward to seeing you all again soon.

For further information, visit www.cromartyhistory.scot



CROMARTY HISTORY SOCIETY
& Friends of Cromarty Courthouse

WILLIAM & MURDOCH **paterson**
Engineers of Highland Railways

Speaker:
Anne-Mary Paterson

7.30pm Thursday
15th Sept 2022

West Church Hall
Cromarty

ALL WELCOME NON-MEMBERS £3.00

www.cromartyhistory.scot

**Cromarty Cinema:
Korean/Anime Season**

A Special Season at Cromarty Cinema launches on Thursday 1st September – ***Playing Together/Hamkke Noneun*** which celebrates Korean film + anime.

The programme was developed in response to audience surveys and feedback. As well as film, the Korean/anime season offers the chance to learn a little bit about the Korean language, sample Korean food and drink, learn about traditions and get creative!

5 free workshops with Scottish/Japanese illustrator Emily Katagiri will be taking place to learn how to draw manga. Four sessions will be taking place at Cromarty Primary School with one open *first-come-first-served* workshop with Emily on **Saturday 24th Sept** from 12:30 – 13:30 at the Old Buoys Store, next to Cromarty Lighthouse. Open to all ages. Contact susechristie@gmail.com for info.

For the whole month of September **Sutor Creek Restaurant** will be featuring a Korean dish on the menu. This dish is featured in one of the short films being screened on Thursday 15th September. It is rumoured that a *second* Korean dish may also be included in the menu – check Sutor Creek’s website for details.

As well as learning about South Korea, there will be insight into life in North Korea with Special Guest **Vicky Inam Mohieddeen** visiting on Thursday 8th September. Vicky will be present for the screening of comedy *Comrade Kim Goes Flying*.

“I’m looking forward to sharing my experiences of North Korean cinema with audiences in Cromarty Cinema.”

We are delighted to be supported by Film Hub Scotland BFI Film Audience Network through the National Lottery.

“We hope that audiences will embrace the programme as a whole and take risks with the films. Perhaps you haven’t engaged with anime or are unfamiliar with older Korean classics. We invite everyone to take a chance!”

Susan Christie, cinema volunteer

TICKETS - Special reduced ticket prices in place for *Playing Together/Hamkke Noneun* - £5 Standard, £3

Under 26 from Cromarty Cinema's website or in-person from the Box Office on Wednesdays from 12-2pm.

www.cromartycinema.com



Cromarty Cinema

September 2022 Programme



	Date	Time	Film	Rating	Duration
THU	01/09	19:00	The Host (KAS)	15	2h
FRI	02/09	19:00	Eric Ravilious: Drawn To War	PG	1h28
SAT	03/09	19:00	Akira (KAS)	15	2h04
SUN	04/09	15:00	Elvis	12A	2h39
THU	08/09	19:00	Comrade Kim Goes Flying (KAS)	U	1h21
FRI	09/09	19:00	Nope	15	2h10
SAT	10/09	11:00	Weathering With You (KAS)	12A	1h52
SUN	11/09	15:00	It Snows In Benidorm	15	1h57
THU	15/09	19:00	Korean Shorts (KAS)		2h
FRI	16/09	19:00	Queen Of Glory	15	1h19
SAT	17/09	11:00	When Marnie Was There (KAS)	U	1h43
SUN	18/09	11:00	Chicken Run	U	1h21
THU	22/09	19:00	The Beauty Inside (KAS)	PG	2h07
FRI	23/09	19:00	Official Competition	15	1h55
SAT	24/09	15:00	Princess Mononoke (KAS)	PG	2h14
SUN	25/09	15:00	Vertigo	PG	2h08
THU	29/09	19:00	The Man From Nowhere (KAS)	18	1h59
FRI	30/09	19:00	Both Sides Of The Blade	TBC	1h56

KAS – Korean + Anime Special Season
more info: <https://cromartycinema.com/playing-together/>
KAS tickets: £5 / £3

Adults - £7.50 Under 26 - £5.00 Friends - £6.00

For info on all films and to book tickets please visit our website:

www.cromartycinema.com OR <https://eden-court.co.uk/booking-information>

OR Wednesdays in-person from 12:00-2:00pm at Cromarty Cinema Box Office

BECOME A FRIEND: For info on Friend's Membership, visit our website

www.cromartycinema.com

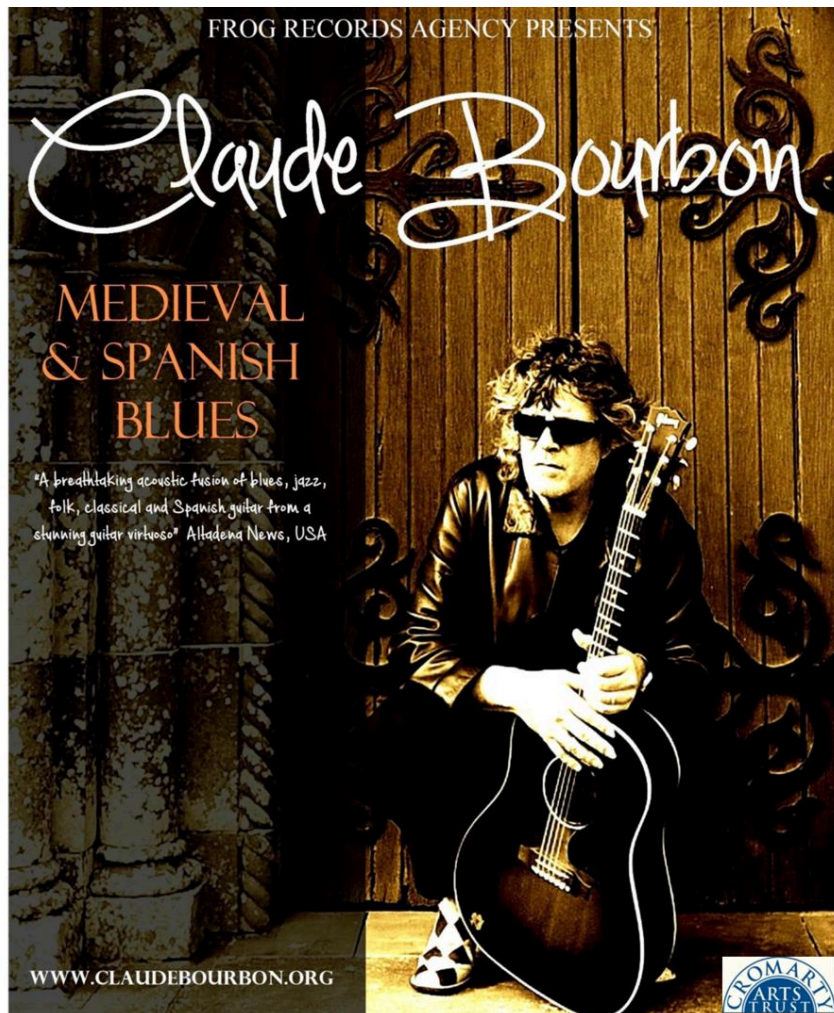
admin@cromartycinema.com

The Cromarty Cinema, Cromarty, IV11 8XZ



All these activities are detailed on our website - www.cromartycinema.com. This website is also the easiest way to book tickets as the links will take you directly to the purchase of a ticket. However, you can also buy in person at the Cinema every Wednesday between 12.00 and 2 pm or just turn up from 30 minutes before each showing and purchase at the door!

Cromarty Arts Trust



Events with Cromarty Arts Trust in September 2022:

2nd SIMON KEMPSTON GIG Old Brewery 8pm
£10/£7

3rd & 4th PORTRAIT PAINTING IN OILS Stables 10am
- 4.30pm £155 including lunches

10th & 11th DRESSMAKING IMPROVERS Stables 10am
- 4.30pm £120 FULLY BOOKED

13th & 14th STILL LIFE USING MIXED MEDIA Stables
10am - 4.30pm £120

17th CLAUDE BOURBON GIG Stables 8pm
£12/£8

17th & 18th STAINED GLASS Old Brewery 10am -
4.30pm £80 FULLY BOOKED

24th HEAL & HARROW GIG Stables 8pm £14/
£12

3rd -8th Oct STONE LETTER CARVING Stables
9.30am -5pm £550 including lunches

We do keep a waiting list for our classes so if you are keen on one of the fully booked courses or want to book tickets for one of our events or workshops email us at info@cromartyartstrust.org.uk or call the office on 01381 600354.



HEAL & HARROW

Music from the highly acclaimed album by Rachel Newton and Lauren MacColl,
inspired by stories from Mairi Kidd's forthcoming book 'We Are All Witches'
With visuals by Alison Piper



healandharrow.com

THE STABLES, CROMARTY, IV1 8YE

SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 8PM START

Tickets: £14/£12 info@cromartyartstrust.org.uk or call 01381 600354

That's it for this month. Have a brilliant September and see you next time. And don't forget the bees!

- The Editorial Team



[Forward](#)

We hope you've found this an interesting and informative read. Please let us know what you think, or send suggestions and ideas for articles via editor@cromartylive.co.uk

The Cromarty Live Newsletter team is Briony Moses, Jon Palmer, Jeremy Price and Laura Shepherd.

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