



April 2024

A happy spring break to one and all. In the prolonged moments of sunshine one feels the warmth and a sense of turning a corner - to the prospect of longer, more leisurely, days ahead. Enjoy the coming weeks and make the most of all that our wee town has on offer. There's plenty to mark in your diary below.

Community Development Trust

It's been a very busy time across most of our projects.

Royal Hotel

We are ABSOLUTELY DELIGHTED to be able to announce that we've got funding from the Scottish Land Fund to carry out a Feasibility Study into the possible community buyout of the Royal Hotel.

We have appointed contractors (Impact Hub of Inverness, who have a lot of experience of this type of work). They will be going over the building with a fine-tooth comb, assessing the business possibilities, doing community consultations to translate the list of possible ideas you told us last Autumn (and any new ones!) into viable ideas.

We absolutely have to know that the building is good for the community's needs, that there are strong and realistic and affordable ways of using the buildings and bringing in income to cover costs, and - not least - that there are strong and realistic community bodies able and willing to take on such a large venture and keep it going over many years.

We will be keeping everyone informed as we go on. Look out for a timeline of when we expect the different phases and work to happen. If you have any questions, please get in touch. cromartydevelopmenttrust@gmail.com

East Church Hall

Following the Open Day in February, a number of local interested parties came forward with ideas about using this building (a Common Good property currently managed by Highland Council/Highland Highlife). We are working with all of them as they develop their Business Plans and then the Trust will see how each idea can best use the building, ensure community benefit and cover its costs.

Cromarty Campsite

You might have noticed more and more camper vans staying at our campsite, which is great! and we had our first 'full house' last weekend, with every pitch taken.

More income pays wages and visitors spend more money in the town. We're noticing that many of the campers come here because of other Cromarty things - such as the good food, the pubs, the cinema, Cromarty Arts events, the great shops - which supports all our businesses.

Every £ spent in the town circulates amongst our shops and businesses and pays local wages, after all.

Most of the vans are here via word of mouth as we've not really been doing much advertising to date (better to start slow and iron out the wrinkles early!) but we're starting to get our site better known in the tourism marketing media.

Spread the word - <https://cromartycamping.com/book/>

New Apprentice

The Development Trust is also delighted to welcome Rory Mackay as our first Apprentice. Rory did some paid days last year and has been volunteering recently, but has now started on a proper apprenticeship, working alongside John Nevin, our Campsite Warden and occasionally on other work. Helping folk into employment is one of the

aims of the Trust, and we hope this will be the start of great things.

Ferry Slipway

People may have noticed a digger and some concrete blocks at the slipway. Simpsons (who renovated and extended the slipways here and at Nigg) were back doing some repairs to the very bottom end, which was only exposed at very low tides, so they worked overnight. They have some work at the Nigg side to enhance the slip there; but all the work will be finished well before the ferry starts up again at the beginning of June.

Fourways Club

Matt Hall (chair) and Julie Macrae (Development Officer) met the Fourways in February and discussed our ideas for the town and what is important for Fourways members. They got to hear the Cromarty Song too!

Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop reopens for its first day this year on Saturday 6 April. Lots of bargains! Every £ spent there helps future Trust projects in Cromarty.

Care Project

A New Venue for the Lunch Club

Cromarty Care Project is delighted to announce that the Lunch Club for the Over-60s have been invited to a “Summer Café” at Cromarty Primary School. This will take place over the school Summer Term and will be a practical opportunity for the pupils to engage with the world of work and run a “mini-business”. This will also be a great opportunity for the Lunch Club members to enjoy a tasty lunch and socialise with the young folk.

We are delighted to collaborate with Cromarty Primary on this project, which has been made possible with support from the Bank of Scotland Foundation,

The first meeting of the Summer Café will be on Tuesday 30th April at 1.15. (Interestingly, that will be Global

Intergenerational Week – a very appropriate start to our intergenerational project!) To reserve your place, please contact Alison on 07470 583641, no later than the day before.

New Shelves for the New Larder Shed



Our new shed is now kitted out with a robust shelving unit – ideal for all those heavy tins and jars for the Larder. We were able to purchase the shelving, thanks to a generous donation from the Marsh Charitable Trust. Thanks also to Ryan McManus who assembled the unit for us (and nearly missed the Six Nations that Saturday!) The shelving has made such a difference to our organising and has made the lives of our wonderful volunteers much easier!

If you would like to give in kind to the Larder, please leave any donations in the Donations Box – we are always grateful for toiletries. Alternatively, you can donate online at www.cromartycareproject.co.uk

Table Tennis

Table Tennis will continue throughout the whole of April. Open to all, at any level. Work off all those Hot Cross

Buns and Easter Eggs here! Monday mornings, 10.30 – 12 noon at the Victoria Hall. Suggested donation is £3 per session.

Community Playgroup

The Playgroup will resume on Tuesday 16th April. Parents and carers with their babies and toddlers are very welcome to join us at the Victoria Hall, 10 – 11.30 on Tuesdays Charge: £1.50 per session.

Classic Cinema Club

The Cinema Club will meet this month at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday 10th and Wednesday 24th.

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

(Supported by the Albert Hunt Trust and the Bank of Scotland Foundation).

The Trikes are looking for new pilots!

We are in need of volunteers to train to pilot the Trikes (Cromarty's own fair-weather transport). If you would like to offer this sociable and leisurely service, please get in touch with Maxine. If you need transport to the Lunch club, Classic Cinema Club, or anywhere around Cromarty, 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 every month, starting this month on Tuesday 16th April. 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 . . . Benefits if you have children

Child Benefit

You can get Child Benefit for any of your children who are under 16 and live in the UK. If they stay in school, college or training after that age you can get Child Benefit until they're 20. If you get Child Benefit, you will get £24 per week for your eldest child and £15.90 per week for every other child. Only one person can claim Child Benefit for a child. You should claim Child Benefit as soon as your child is born or, if they're adopted, as soon as they come to live with you. Child Benefit can only be backdated for up to 3 months so if you claim it any time after this you'll miss some payments.

Scottish Child Payment

You may be able to get Scottish Child Payment to help towards the costs of supporting a family. It's a weekly payment of £25 that you can get for every child you look

after who's under 16 years of age. You'll get the payment every 4 weeks if your application is successful.

You may be able to get Scottish Child Payment if all of the following apply:

- you live in Scotland
- you or your partner are getting certain benefits or payments
- you or your partner are the main person looking after a child who's under 16 years old

Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods

Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods are payments that help towards the costs of being pregnant or looking after a child. Best Start Grant is made up of 3 one-off payments: Pregnancy and Baby Payment; Early Learning Payment; School Age Payment. Best Start Foods is a payment every 4 weeks during pregnancy and when your child is under 3. You will need to be receiving certain benefits to get these payments.

Universal Credit

If you receive Universal Credit, you could get an extra amount for your children if they live with you. You'll only get an extra amount for your first and second child. You will not get an extra amount for any more children unless your children were born before 6 April 2017.

Child Disability Payment

Child Disability Payment provides support for the extra costs that a disabled child might have. You can apply for Child Disability Payment for a child under 16 with mental or physical disabilities. You can also apply if the child's disability has not yet been diagnosed.

Youth Café Easter Programme

Tuesday 2nd April

Coastal Rowing on the Cromarty Firth. 10am – 12noon.
Meet outside the Royal. Age: 12+

Tennis Coaching with Cromarty Tennis Club. P 1-3
-10am-11am, P4 – P7 – 11am–12noon, S1-S6 – 12noon –
1pm. Cromarty Tennis Court. Age: 5+

Football Coaching with ICT Youth Academy, Skills, Drills
& Games 10am – 11am. Victoria Park. Age: 5+

Intergenerational Table Tennis with breakfast rolls. 11am
– 12noon. Victoria Hall. Age: 8+

Wednesday 3rd April

Tennis Coaching with Cromarty Tennis Club. P 1-3
-10am-11am, P4 – P7 – 11am–12noon, S1-S6 – 12noon –
1pm. Cromarty Tennis Court. Age: 5+

Easter Fun in the Sun, Easter Egg hunt, arts & crafts &
Bakewell. 10am – 12noon. Victoria Park. Age: 5+

Snr Trip to Vue Cinema & Pizza Hut. TBC Dependant on
Film Timing. Vue Cinema & Pizza Hut. Age: 13+

Thursday 4th April

Tennis Coaching with Cromarty Tennis Club. P 1-3
-10am-11am, P4 – P7 – 11am–12noon, S1-S6 – 12noon –
1pm. Cromarty Tennis Court. Age: 5+

Visit to Cromarty Fourways Club – Games, bite, and
blether. 2pm – 4pm. Victoria Hall. Age: 8+

Friday 5th April

Tennis Coaching with Cromarty Tennis Club. P 1-3
-10am-11am, P4 – P7 – 11am–12noon, S1-S6 – 12noon –
1pm. Cromarty Tennis Court. Age: 5+

Cost: Free. Open to EVERYONE Across the Black Isle

There will be refreshments and hot food provided at every
activity. Any questions please contact Fraser Thomson -
Mobile- 07470 52217



Curry Night

Friday 19th April

Victoria Hall at 7 for 7.30pm



Don't miss our Curry Night fundraising event

Tickets **£15** per person, available from

Fishertown Inn • Ingrid's House

or from Diane Brawn 01381 600558

Bring your Own Bottle Raffle • Fun & Games

Cromarty & Resolis RNLi

Harbour News

From Colin Dickie:

Perhaps a month early with this but the reason will become obvious. The month May is a significant one in the history of Cromarty Harbour, for on 17th May 1784, 'An Act for the better preferring and maintaining the Piers and Harbour of Cromarty in North Britain' came into being. June is also another highlight month, as on 16th June 1834, a revised Act with much the same title as before, but replacing preferring with preserving and dropping North Britain, received Royal Assent.

Despite a couple of technical updates, the provisions within the 1834 Act still governs much of how we operate today. Moving forward and doing the maths, 2034 will then become significant year; the harbour will be 250 or 200 years old? There are ten years to plan a party!

Firstly though, operational matters, the new information and safety board has replaced the previous dilapidated one.



Three of the pontoon fingers will be back in the water in two weeks, the other two are being held back on the grass to effect repairs caused by storms Antoni and Betty coinciding with especially high tides during August last year. The damage led to a review of aspects of their design which stretched our engineering prowess, however we are hopeful that the redesign and repairs will make them more resilient, the replacement parts are in production and will be delivered in late April.

The harbour will be full again this year as has become the norm.

Turning to the East Pier repair and renovation; whilst we have been highly successful in accumulating over £100k to match a commitment from Historic Environment Scotland, there remains a small funding gap to bridge and now the clock is ticking as some grant funding offers may expire. We are grateful to those that have helped us accumulate such an impressive total and work continues to secure the necessary funds for the project to move forward.

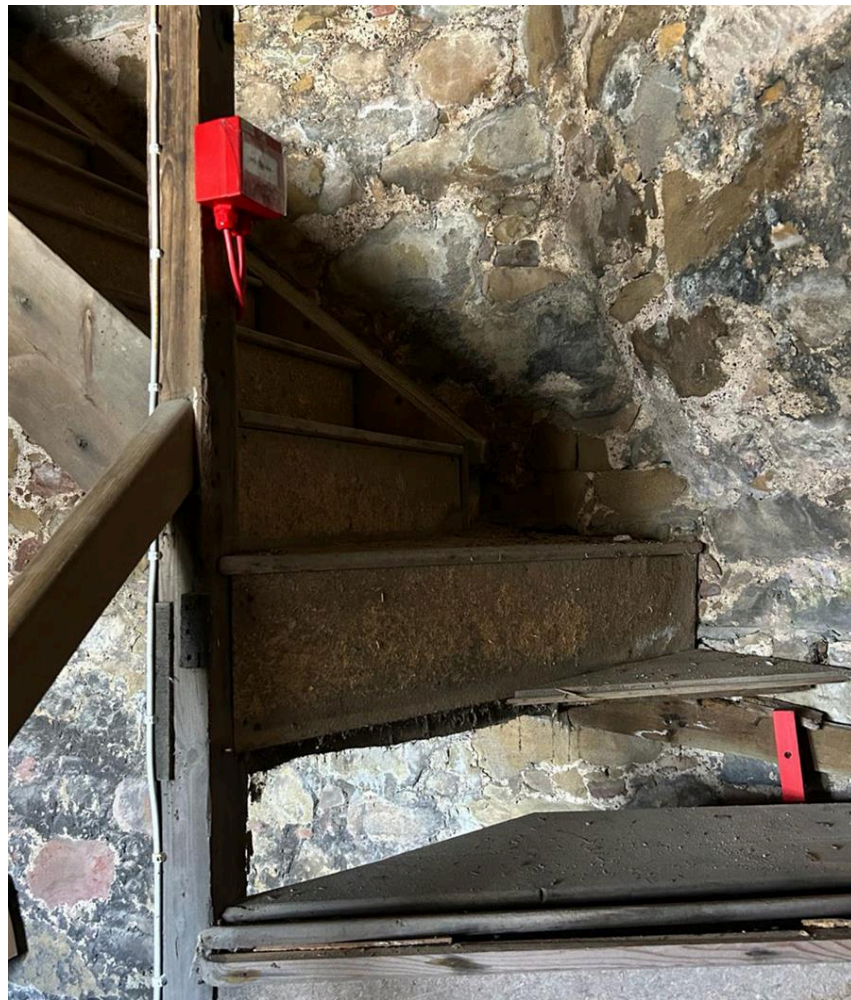
Our newly redesigned, and advert free, harbour website acknowledges past and current supporters. Fundraising to support the ongoing repairs and renovation is a continuous process and our revised website now gives dedicated space to Friends of Cromarty Harbour to support their efforts to raise funding. Merchandise sales continue through the website and in some local shops; sorry the jigsaws are out-of-print.

Back to the harbour's 250th anniversary. Friends of Cromarty Harbour has launched an opportunity for supporters to secure a 'Harbour Angel' share of a cask of whisky that will be bottled in 2034 to coincide with harbour's 250th birthday. A 200 litre rum cask will be filled with GlenWyvis spirit on Monday. Harbour Angel shares are available from today and will be limited to 200 shares of spirit. Each purchase through gift aid gives an additional donation to the charity. Please scan the QR code for more information or go to cromartyharbour.org for the full story. This is our big fundraiser for 2024, please support if you can.



Courthouse Museum

We have been busy refreshing some of the Courthouse interiors, developing new guided tours of the museum, and relocating the shop ahead of opening for the season. This is in addition to all the hard work that has been done raising funds to repair the clock and the clock tower! The clock is now keeping time and the mysterious bell is chiming again but we urgently need to repair the stairs in the tower. www.justgiving.com



This year as well as free entry we will also have bookable free guided tours each day so come along and see what's new. To open the season at the Courthouse we have two exhibitions; the Cromarty Camera Club and a local artist Jack Spowart.

The museum has just been awarded funds from Museums Galleries Scotland to make the working conditions in the museum warmer and less damp and also to make the shop more efficient - we are already feeling warmer with the new heaters!

Dates for your diary:

Every Wednesday 10:30-12:30: Museum Mornings - we will be working in the garden on good days this month, come along for a blether.

29th-31st March - free crafts at the Courthouse and an Easter trail with Hugh Miller's Cottage

3rd and 10th April - Children's Easter crafts and storytime, 10:30-12:30

4th April - A talk on the Mathesons and the Isle of Lewis community, featuring the Mathesons (portraits in the courtroom), by Kate Forbes at the Victoria Hall, 7pm. This is a fundraising talk organised by the History Society and the Museum. Entry by donation.



**CROMARTY HISTORY SOCIETY
& Friends of Cromarty Courthouse**

HISTORY STUDENT'S View of the Role of
Language & Culture Amongst

HIGHLAND
EMIGRANTS
French-Speaking
CANADA

7.00pm Thursday
4 April 2024

Speaker: Kate Forbes
Victoria Hall
Cromarty

Fundraiser for Cromarty Courthouse Museum. Entry by donation (Suggested £5)

www.cromartyhistory.scot

5th and 12th April - Cromarty Architectural Walking Tours with David Alston. Find out about the flourishing of Georgian architecture in Cromarty, the Rational architectural style influenced by the Scottish Enlightenment, and details that make Cromarty such an unusual townscape. Book online [here](#).

History Society

CROMARTY HISTORY SOCIETY & Friends of Cromarty Courthouse

AGM
followed by:



PAPeRS
relating to the
BLACK iSLE
National Archives

Non-local sources for local history

Speaker: Nicola Mills
Victoria Hall
Cromarty

7.30pm Tuesday
16 April 2024

ALL WELCOME NON MEMBERS £3.00 UNDER 16 FREE

www.cromartyhistory.scot

Yes, you get two John McNaught posters for the price of one in this issue! - Ed

Births, deaths and marriages, property records, wills, census, military service – most historians will know where to find these in national archives. But what about the little bits and pieces, the details of a place, the chance encounters? This talk, whilst not comprehensive, aims to tease out a few interesting sources for information on Cromarty in some of our larger archives across Scotland and perhaps beyond.

Nicola Mills graduated with a PhD from St. Andrews University before going on to train as an archivist in London. She worked at the School of Oriental and African Studies, the Scottish United Services Museum (now the National War Museum of Scotland) in Edinburgh Castle and the Scottish Record Office (now the National Records of Scotland) before becoming freelance. Since then she

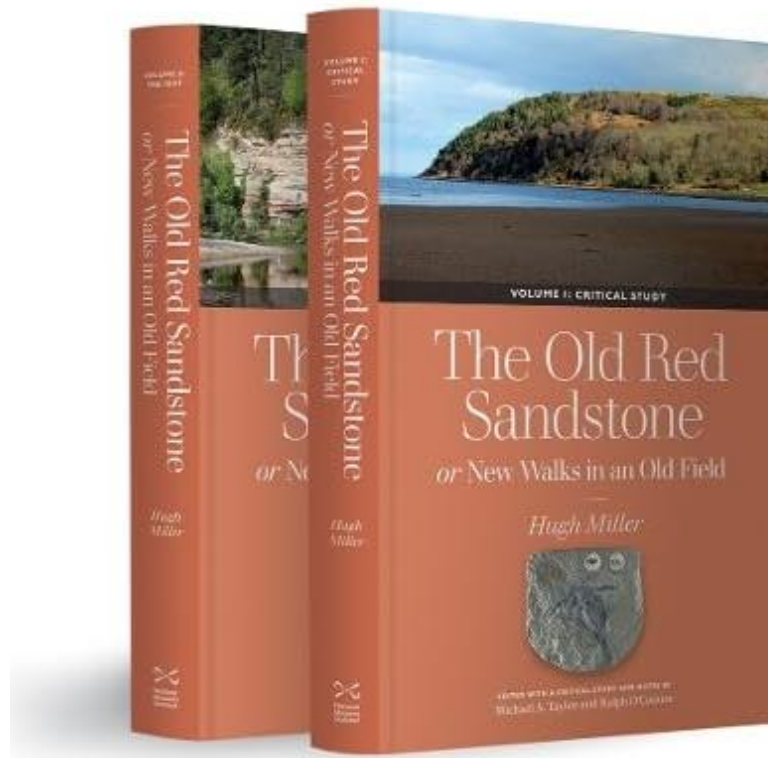
has specialised in estate archives and military, medical and distillery records, working for Aberdeen City and Shire archives, Aberdeen University, and the Scottish Episcopal Church amongst others. She also teaches the Latin modules on the Dundee University archive course.

Business Updates

Post Office

April 1st (no joke!) is the last day you can buy 1st and 2nd class stamps at the old price before they go up by 10p each. They're valid indefinitely so it's a chance to stock up and beat the rise. From April 2nd we'll also be able to offer Tracked 24 and 48 which were previously only available online. Over the last few months you've probably heard about Post Office Ltd's troubles and the state of the branch network. Cromarty PO is barely viable and anything you can do in the branch instead of online will help us to stay open. Apart from postage our other services include cash withdrawals and deposits, cheque deposits, bill payments, phone and electricity top-ups and foreign currency. We'll soon have M&S gift cards to add to the existing range of Amazon and OneForAll and we also sell vouchers for Xbox, Nintendo, Sony, Spotify and others.

The summer stock is coming out in the shop; footballs and buckets and spades for all those lovely sunny days over the Easter holidays! As an alternative we have umbrellas, woolly scarves and cuddly hot water bottles. The new two volume edition of Hugh Miller's *The Old Red Sandstone* is excellent and in high demand so if you would like a copy please pre-order. And finally don't forget our usual range of stationery, cards, toys, gifts and chocolate. Happy Easter everyone, fingers crossed for a warm and sunny spring.



Fishertown Inn

We are so excited to have our Ice Cream Hut up and running in the beer garden. If the pub is open then the Ice Cream Hut is open. It can be accessed via Miller Lane, so no need to go through the pub. At quieter times there will be a bell to ring on the hut that will call someone out from the pub to serve you. We are serving Black Isle Dairy Ice Cream and we have some amazing flavours for you to try. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our next pub quiz is part of Cromarty's Crime & Thrillers weekend and will be on Saturday the **4th of May**.

Traditional music night on **4th and 8th of April**. Knit and Natter every Tuesday at 3pm.



Cromarty Brewing Co.

March has seen us preparing for the spring season kicking off. We have a new keg washer being installed to help speed up production.

We released our 80-/ (80 shilling) in March, which is available in can, both online and in the on-site shop. The label for the 80-/ was designed by our very talented friend Ed from By Sea By Land and showcases the old Cromarty fishertown. This month will see the return of Double Rocker, our imperial red rye beer and Breakfast in Berlin, our blood orange and earl grey tea infused seasonal beer.

The Etape Loch Ness will take place on 28th April and we are looking forward to, once again, supplying the participants with a cold pint at the end of the race. We will also be at the Big Swally in Dunfermline on 5th and 6th April for anyone looking for a great wee event to head to.

We have some new merchandise and gifts in the onsite shop, alongside our beers so don't forget to come in and have a wee browse.

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

Slaughterhouse Coffee



Open Thursday to Monday, 9am - 3pm

Sutor Creek

We are now open 7 days! Monday & Tuesdays open 10-4pm and Wednesday to Sunday 10-8pm - sit-in and take-away available. Lots of lovely seafood including Scallops, Calamari, Cullen Skink and Monkfish in addition to vegetarian options, steak, haggis bon bons and wood-fired pizza! You can book a table online or order take-away at www.sutorcreek.co.uk

Large Groups

We've had lots of larger tables book recently for special occasions. If you are planning a get together, please don't hesitate to ask if we can help plan your event.

Calluna

Our Spring Collections are in! Lots of lovely tops & jumpers brands including SugarHill Brighton, French Connection and ICHI. Lots of our stock is now online at www.callunacromarty.co.uk so have a wee browse online or pop in and try on! Open daily 10-5pm.

We will be popping up in Stromness, Orkney from Monday 15th to Saturday 20th April. Please let any

friends or family know that may like a wee retail therapy up on the Island!

Ingrid's House

We have some wonderful Easter items in the shop at the moment including fair-trade felted characters, flowers and Spring tableware.

New stock arriving weekly. Open 11-4 Sunday-Friday, 11-5 on Saturdays.



Open Gardens

Help us make this year's Cromarty Art & Flowers and Open Gardens the best one ever

Time is flying by and it is only two months until the start of Cromarty's big fundraising event with the Art & Flowers display opening on Saturday 1st June in East Church for seven days with the popular Open Gardens at the end of the week on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th June. People come from far and near over the week and

the money raised benefits local groups and organisations – last year £6,970 was distributed between eleven groups.

The organising team are hard at work to ensure all goes smoothly but the input of as many local folk as possible to help out would be a bonus. If you have a few hours to spare on the Saturday or Sunday and could help man the car park, sell tickets, bake cakes and biscuits, serve teas and home baking or sell plants and bric-a-brac then please get in touch with one of those listed below.

Plants, tombola prizes, garden bric-a-brac wanted

Even if you are unable to help out, perhaps you could donate some small prizes for the Tombola or give us your unwanted bric-a-brac – household and garden items would be welcome. And don't forget to plant up a few extra cutting or sow a few more seeds for plants to sell at 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 that 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 are dependent on the amount raised.

If you can help, donate, offer items or need more information please contact:-

Julie & Jeremy Price – 01381 600709

Evelyn Wilson – 01381 600718

Ginny Hourston - 01381 600409:

Alison Palmer - 01381 600466
alison.palmer@btinternet.com

Cromarty Art & Flowers – **Saturday 1st June to Sunday 9th June**

Cromarty Open Gardens – **Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th June**



Image: Cromarty Camera Club

Cinema

It's officially Spring and Cromarty Cinema are celebrating with a vibrant April schedule.

We have a selection of eclectic international cinema – from **Driving Mum**, set in beautiful Iceland where a man tries to honour his mother's last wish in the most unusual way; to **Late Night with the Devil**, an Australian 'found footage' 70s talk show horror; and **Mapantsula**, an 80s South African crime drama embedded in the anti-apartheid struggle.

There's also plenty of stylish international drama on offer. **Red Island** takes us to a childhood on an army base in Madagascar; **Banel and Adama** find themselves in love despite the disapproval of their Senegalese village; **Italian Disco Boy** is a trippy, ambitious dive into the world of the French Legion; while **Evil Does not Exist** is an enigmatic Japanese eco-parable.

And we've of course not forgotten about the latest blockbusters. Many of you have been waiting for **Wicked Little Letters**, the hilarious black comedy starring Olivia Colman and Jessie Buckley and we've put on a few screenings to make sure as many of you can see it as possible. Alex Garland's dystopian drama **Civil War** meanwhile, stars Kirsten Dunst and Nick Offerman, and is guaranteed to keep you on the edge of your seat. And last but absolutely not the least, bring the whole family along to **Kung Fu Panda 4** – a guaranteed good day out.

And that's not all so please peruse the April schedule below, get your tickets at <https://cromartycinema.com/films/>, the human box office on Thursdays 12-2, or at the door.

We'd also like to let you know that we are making a slight increase to our ticket prices, in line with new Eden Court prices. However, unlike Eden Court, our prices won't go up until the 1st of May. New prices from May are as follows: full price £9.50, members £8.00, and low income £6. Our membership price will also go up to £28 from the 1st of May, so what better time to become a member than April!

As always, we look forward to welcoming you to your community cinema.



CROMARTY CINEMA

April 2024



Tuesday 2 April	7pm	Driving Mum (12A) 1hr 53m A man tries to honour his mother's wish to be buried at home in scenic Icelandic drama.
Thursday 4 April	7pm	Touch of Evil – Noir Season (12A) 1hr 51m 1958 Noir classic directed by Orson Wells stars Charlton Heston and Janet Leigh.
Friday 5 April	7hpm	Wicked Little Letters (15) 1hr 40m Olivia Colman and Jessie Buckley star in swearsy British comedy based on true poison-pen mystery.
Saturday 6 April	7pm	Red Island (12A) 1hr 57m Tender drama - 70's childhood in Madagascar on French army base.
Sunday 7 April	3pm	Wicked Little Letters DS (15) 1hr 40m
Tuesday 9 April	7pm	Wicked Little Letters (15) 1hr 40m
Friday 12 April	7pm	Banel and Adama (12A) 1hr 27m A young couple must contend with the disapproval of their village in Senegalese love story.
Saturday 13 April	7pm	Kung Fu Panda 4 (PG) 1hr 34m The latest DreamWorks animation again featuring Po the Panda.
Tuesday 16 April	7pm	Exhibition on Screen – John Singer Sargent () 1hr 30m Lush exhibition examining how Sargent has influenced modern art, fashion and culture.
Friday 19 April	7pm	Late Night with the Devil (15) 1hr 33m Australian horror sendup of 70s talk shows.
Sunday 21 April	3pm	Showing Up (12) 1hr 48m A sculptor prepares to open a new show amid the dramas in her arty world.
Tuesday 23 April	7pm	Disco Boy (15) 1hr 33m Italian director's stylish drama is a dreamy study of life in the French Foreign Legion.
Friday 26 April	7pm	Evil Does Not Exist (12A) 1hr 46m Japanese drama examines corporate capitalism and the tricky judgements that we must make.
Saturday 27 April	7pm	Civil War (15) 1hr 49m Dystopian action film written and directed by Alex Garland and starring Kirsten Dunst.
Sunday 28 April	3pm	Mapantsula (15) 1hr 40m 1988 South African crime film tells story of a petty gangster caught up in anti-apartheid struggle.
Tuesday 30 April	7pm	Civil War DS (15) 1hr 49m

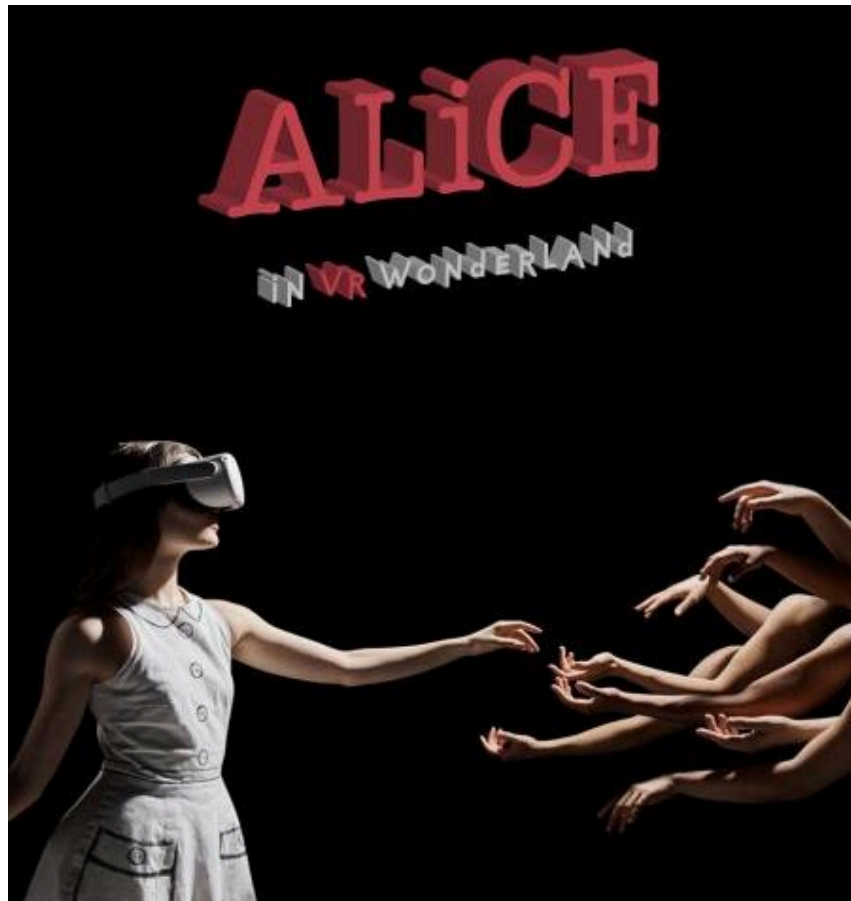
Adults £9 Under 26 £5.50 Friends £7.50

More film info and book online at: cromartycinema.com or at eden-court.co.uk or in person at Cromarty Cinema on Thursdays 12 – 2pm.

Show your support - become a Friend and reduce your ticket price. Visit cromartycinema.com or email admin@cromartycinema.com

The Cromarty Cinema, Cromarty, IV11 8XZ

Arts Trust



Another busy month coming up for the Cromarty Arts Trust.

On **Saturday 6 April**, the Old Brewery will be transformed when Resolis community Arts and Cromarty Arts Trust jointly host Alice in Virtual Reality Wonderland. It's going to be a busy day!

10am – 5pm – Alice in VR Wonderland. £5

Book your 30-minute slot to wear Oculus 360 virtual reality headsets and immerse yourself in a wild fantasy world of Alice as she dances through Wonderland. The London-based Jasmin Vardimon Dance Company is known for innovative interpretations of classic stories. They are touring their Alice in VR Wonderland in the Highlands, also going to Eden Court, Ardross, Applecross and Nairn Community arts. We are really delighted to have them come to Cromarty. Booking essential, call us on 01381 600354, there are only a few spaces left.

10am – 5pm **Mad Hatters Café**. Tea, coffee, squash and baking. £3

Pop in all day for tea, coffee and tasty baking. As long as it's dry, we'll have croquet sets to play outside. No

booking needed, just come along to the Old Brewery.

2pm – 4pm **Close Up Magic Tricks**. Free

We'll be joined by Highland Magician who will tour the café tables showing sleight of hand tricks and close-up magic, he might even show you how it's done! Just come along, no need to book.

1.30pm – 2.30pm 360-degree **Wand Camera Filming Workshop**. £2

Aimed at young people aged 12+, you'll learn how to operate the type of camera used for filming in VR, make a short film and then take it home on a USB stick. Booking essential.

With a change of pace up at the Stables, Rebecca the Sewist is running a Beginners Dressmaking weekend over **6 & 7 April**. Choose either the Cleo, Lotta or Stevie dresses or tops, Rebecca will guide you through making a garment you can be proud of. If you are more experienced and would like to bring your own project for a reduced course fee with Rebecca there to help, just let us know. info@cromartyartstrust.org.uk

Friday 12 April - Càrnan play at the Stables. A young duo from the Highlands on guitar and accordion, Louden and Arthur play energetic and lively indie trad music. Would be great to see folk come up and support a young act as they start to make their way in the live music scene. Years from now, you'll be saying 'I heard them in Cromarty when they just started out'. The Stables, 7.30pm, £14 BYOB. Keep live music alive!

Saturday 20 & Sunday 21 April, temporary artist in residence is teaching a still life drawing and painting weekend. As an experienced community art tutor, Sarah Wren Kay, will lead absolute beginners and those with more experience through a relaxed two days of art.



New kids on the block, Carnan play at the Stables on April 12th

And finally...

Former Arts Trust artist-in-residence Caroline Burrows enjoyed her time so much in Cromarty last year she returned of her own free will to spend the first few months of this year as a resident in her own right (brave lass).

She has just had her first full book of poetry published which locals may be interested to peruse.

'Join cycling poet Caroline Burrows for poetry ranging from her literary adventures by bike visiting Wilfred Owen locations, to bad weather stopping her reaching Wordsworth's Tintern Abbey; there's a love of astronomy combining science and art in her Solar Sonnets; verses written in Rabbinic stanzas as she cycles through the Highlands and Islands; dealing with being 'Heartbroken and Hungover in Oxfam Books and Music', soothed with the self-help poem in 'If My Heart was my Bicycle'; there's eco-poetry in a selection of 'It's Not Easy Being Green' verses, plus a sonnet for a genuinely ethical bank; a love affair with Bristol in a selection of 'Bristol Bike Bard' verses; themes to do with mental health such as in 'I Heard a Bird'; social commentary in 'Junkies in the Underpass', and a fair few about trees'.

Verse Cycles by Caroline Burrows, is available online from the publisher Wessex Media / The Jawbone

Collective: <https://www.wessex.media/publications/caroline-burrows/>

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.

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