

August 2024

Something Different This Way Comes



Rising Up from the Rubbish Tip

(An amazing exhibition of Mark Stevens' Extraordinary Machines)

Mark has been waging his very own 'war on waste' for many years, long before it became fashionable! Only Mark does this in his own extraordinary way. He creates whimsical, imaginary, fantastic, non-functional machines out of the everyday objects that people throw away and often end up in the rubbish tip or discarded by the side of the road. Objects include old vacuum cleaners, car wipers, headphones, hair brushes, and even Kinder Egg cases. The result is a fantastic collection of over thirty large-scale models that have taken almost three decades to create.

Models that are all very different are incredibly detailed and stunning, each in its own way.

The exhibition will be open to viewing at the Old Brewery in Cromarty over the Bank Holiday weekend between 10 am and 4 pm, **starting on Friday, August 2nd**. All are welcome, so don't miss this very special opportunity to see these incredible creations and to meet and ask Mark all about them.

In addition, on Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 p.m., Mark will be hosting special workshops explaining and showing in detail how he made these incredible creations and demonstrating many of the techniques he employs to give them their unique look. This will include information on how he initially comes up with a design idea, followed by how he selects the various items he'll use for a particular model. Other aspects covered will include body moulding and contouring, texturing and painting. Mark will also talk in more detail about the many tools and techniques he uses to construct the models.

And speaking of rubbish...



Please Help Us to Help You

We know everybody in Cromarty has less space in their bins for non recyclable waste, but this behaviour does NOT help the Community. The person responsible was seen and should consider retrieval because this does not help us getting the Town bins uplifted by THC, please don't do it again. The Town bins are not meant for excess residential waste. The C&DCC is making representations to remedy our problem of reduced non recyclable waste bins, but with the tourist season and threatened bin strikes upon us, this behaviour does NOT help!

Any helpful comments welcome. Please email us on cromartydistrictcc@gmail.com. Thank you.

More from the Community Council

Future Affordable Housing in Cromarty

The new Inner Moray Firth Development Plan (IMFDP) was adopted by the Highland Council on 24th June.

Apart from designating Protected Green Spaces in Cromarty, it also confirmed that the only area designated for Affordable Housing development is the 'Jock's Field'/Townlands Barn site (CMO1) bordered by High Street & Church Street houses and the Kirkie Brae. This has been owned by Albyn Housing Society for over 15 years, during which time there have been many reasons for little or no action. It is now hoped to see some movement.

The C&DCC will continue to take the lead in representing the Community's interests but given that the Cromarty Community Development Trust owns Townlands Barn, which could be an important solution in providing site access, we are working together closely to drive progress on this subject. Albyn are saying that they are now in position to discuss proposals so hopefully a meeting in the near future is planned.

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

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

Farewell and thanks...

to Dominic Scott-Lodge who has completed his 2-year tenure as a C&DCC Youth Member. Dom has been a great asset to the team, adding a more youthful vision on Cromarty life and in particular doing challenging and important work in helping to improve the Academy School transport service to and from the Town. Dom, good luck with your future plans and please know your thoughts and advice will always be welcomed by the Community Council. But also...

Welcome

...to Allan Munro who has joined as the latest Youth Member on the C&DCC. Allan is already very active in providing invaluable knowledge, and time, keeping the pavements of Cromarty safe in the winter. His contributions to the Resilience services provided by the Community Council will only grow and we are certain Allan will be yet another successful Youth Member appointment. Welcome Allan.

If you are between 16 & 18 years old and interested in joining the Team, we have a vacancy for another Youth Member, so for more information about how you can make a difference to the Community, please email us on cromartydistrictcc@gmail.com. Thank you.

Black Isle Local Place Plan (BIPP)

Last month we reported that the Black Isle Community Councils (BICC), in cooperation with the Highland Council and the authors of the BIPP, were creating Terms of Reference for the BICC to create a Governance body to manage and drive the BIPP. The first draft of these Terms of Reference will be considered at the next BICC meeting on Tuesday 30th July 2024.

Further updates will appear, as they are known, in future Newsletters and on our Cromarty Live website. So 'watch this space'.

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

Cromarty Library

Black Isle Housebound Library Service

Are you or do you know someone who was an avid library user but who now struggles to get along to choose books? Morning Call offers a brilliant housebound service which can offer a lifeline to readers who can't manage along to visit the library in person anymore. Our local volunteer will work with the library to help choose and deliver books to your home.

To find out more please contact the Morning Call coordinator Sue Hill on 07514494053 or contact Cromarty library during normal opening hours.

Monday 10-12, Tuesday 2-7, Thursday 12-5

Tel: 01381 600318 Email:

Cromarty.library@highlifehighland.com



Getting Out and About

A new website shows the Highland Council's Core Paths around the Black Isle, with descriptions of each route.

<https://www.geograph.org.uk/article/Core-Paths-on-the-Black-Isle>

Core paths are usually the most popular paths and are often signposted as the law requires. Core paths have an extra level of legal protection, as authorities have powers to keep such paths free from obstruction, even if landowners refuse to act.

Here's the page covering the Cromarty area. Each link has a description

Map: 12 a-c Cromarty, Eathie & Muirhead Wood	
	Contents <ul style="list-style-type: none">IntroductionPaths in ScotlandScotland's Core PathsThe Highland Council's Core Path Network in the Black IsleMap: 10 Culbokie & MillbuieMap: 11 Cullcudden & JenninavilleMap: 12 a-c Cromarty, Eathie & Muirhead WoodMap: 13 Fortrose & AvochMap: 14 Munlochy & AvochMap: 15 North KessockMap: 16 Muir of Ord & Monadh MorMap: 17 Conon Bridge & MaryburghHow to best use this article
For a full resolution map visit Link	
Path No. RC11.01 Eathie Path. Constructed path (stone) 1.6 km long	
	The steep track bends left at this corner where there is more daylight than experienced along the majority of the track. The Moray Firth can be seen through the trees. by Julian Paren

All of the paths around the Black Isle are also shown on the Transition Black Isle's Active Travel Map, online here - <https://www.transitionblackisle.org/active-travel-map.asp> - or free paper copies from Sheila Currie

Arts Trust

We're kicking August off in style – the first weekend is going to be a really busy one with a **gig**, a **craft market**,

an **exhibition** and a model making **workshop**. Read on for details.....



We're holding a great Summer Craft Market in the Old Buoy Store by the harbour, starting on **Friday 2 August** with a welcome evening from 6 - 8pm and then all day **Saturday 3** and **Sunday 4 August** from 10am - 4pm. We have lovely work from some new stall holders as well as some firm favourites. Enter from the harbour side unless you need the accessible entrance through the lighthouse carpark.

The North Atlantic Project are playing up at the Stables on **Saturday 3 August**. Coming from Evanton, this trio of talented musicians are: Cheyenne Brown on harp, Graham Muir on bass and Dave Currie on dobro, guitar and vocals. This will be a great night, expect a cross over between Scottish folk and American bluegrass - a unique cross-genre blending of instruments, cultures and soundscapes. £14, BYOB. Booking through the office here or on our website. www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk



The North Atlantic Project play the Stables on Saturday 3rd

The Old Brewery will be busy too with master model maker, Mark Stevens, holding a free exhibition of his extraordinary work made from recycled items. (As *highlighted in our opening article - Ed*). Mark is also running a model making demonstration and workshop on Saturday and Sunday. The workshops cost £10 and last about an hour a half. Booking essential by email info@cromartyartstrust.org.uk

There are two other exhibitions running in August. The Cromarty Group is showing at the Stables from **10 - 18 August** from 10am - 5pm every day, with an invitation only preview on Friday 9 August. This is the 48th year for this important local group, make sure to go along and see some stunning work.

‘David Vaughan - the Furniture Designs of John Vaughan’ is at the Old Brewery from **9-11 August**. This is a show curated by the family of the late John Vaughan, with original furniture designed and made by John and his son David. Opening Night **Friday 9 August** 6 - 8pm, **Saturday 10** and **Sunday 11 August** from 10am - 4pm.

And finally, artist and tutor Anna Wimbledon is back in Cromarty teaching a three-day landscape in oil course from **23 – 25 July** and a portrait painting class over **28** and **29 August**. There are just a couple of places left on both courses, full details and booking info is on our website.

As always if you have any questions or want to book anything, call in to the office in Ardyne during office hours (just come in the big blue door), ring us on 01381 600354 or email Nicki or Gail on info@cromartyartstrust.org.uk

History Society

From Scilla Aitcheson:

I'm the new Secretary of Cromarty History Society and am delighted to attach the programme of talks for 2024-5:

As always, the programme is varied and relevant to our Cromarty and Black Isle history. Among others we are delighted to welcome Professor Donna Heddle from UHI Orkney who will tell us about the Vikings in our area, local architect Calum Maclean from Avoch telling us about the work of Alexander Ross, and Dr Jim Mackay explaining those marriage stones that we all see on local houses but don't know the stories behind them.

Fees have had to go up to £15 per year for membership and eight meetings, or £5 for just one meeting, making membership a bargain. Free for under sixteens.

As always, the Committee look forward to welcoming old and new members and visitors to the first meeting at 7.30pm on September 17th in the Victoria Hall and for a cuppa and biscuits afterwards.

Cromarty History Society & Friends of Cromarty Courthouse

Talks programme for September 2024 - April 2025

All meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm, with the exception of the January meeting. All meetings are in the Victoria Hall.

17 th September	The Hospitals of Ross and Cromarty <i>Their Origin and Development</i> Speakers: Jim and Steve Leslie
15 th October	High Pasture Cave <i>Ritual, Memory and Identity in the Iron Age of Skye</i> Speaker: Steve Birch
26 th November (Please note: Victoria Hall unavailable for 19 th)	Dingwall and the British Empire <i>The Sun Never Sets over the Dingwallian Diaspora</i> Speaker: Jonathan McColl
17 th December	The History of Medicine <i>The Ancient Origins of Modern Clinical Practice</i> Speaker: Andrew Newton Followed by Seasonal Mulled Wine and Mince Pies
30 th January 2.00 – 4.00pm Joining with Fourways	The Countess of Sutherland's Shopping List Speaker: Scilla Aitchison
18 th February	Only The Brave Sail from Here <i>The Vikings in Northern Scotland</i> Speaker: Professor Donna Heddle
18 th March	Alexander Ross (1834-1925) <i>The Lasting Legacy of a Highland Architect</i> Speaker: Calum MacLean
15 th April AGM	Romancing the Stone <i>Marriage Lintels and Date Stones Close to You</i> Speaker: Dr Jim Mackay

Memories of Open Gardens

Whether you enjoyed the Cromarty Open Gardens weekend and the Art & Flowers display in June, or if you may have missed it you can see some wonderful images taken by Cromarty Camera Club of the event by clicking on this link:-

<https://lightroom.adobe.com/shares/d27fee3f9c1f4c04bb7a24068104d19c>

A big thank you to Camera Club members – we are so lucky to have such a talented group of photographers here in Cromarty.

Cromarty Care Project

Seagull Trust Canal Cruises

We have a cruise booked for the morning of Friday 2nd August. Please join us then, or put your name down for a later date. Cromarty Care Project will provide drivers to take you to Inverness where you can embark on a

specially modified canal boat and enjoy the landscape and wildlife from Caley Marina to Dochgarroch and return. It's all free and you'll be home in time for lunch! To reserve a place, email info@cromartycareproject.co.uk or phone Denise on 07769 170773



Table Tennis

Table Tennis continues throughout August. Open to all, at any level. Please join us on Monday mornings, 10.30 – 12 noon at the Victoria Hall. Suggested donation is £3 per session.

Classic Cinema Club

The Cinema Club will meet this month at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday 14th. Please note, this is the only meeting of the Cinema Club this month.

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 (Cycling Without Age Trishaws)

The Trikes are Cromarty's own fair-weather taxi service and are available if you need transport to the Classic Cinema Club, or anywhere around Cromarty. Please contact Maxine on 07875 963570



Trikes ahoy!

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

Community Sharing Larder

Many thanks to those who have donated foodstuffs to our Donations Box. We are always especially grateful for toiletries. If you would like to make a financial donation, please do so online at www.cromartycareproject.co.uk



Christine Macdonald, from Ross & Cromarty Citizens Advice Bureau, will be offering face-to-face appointments in the Victoria Hall on the third Tuesday of this month (20th August). It's also possible to have a telephone appointment if that is more convenient. CAB can give advice on a whole range of issues including benefits, debt and money, energy, work issues, relationships and housing, and we can help you to fill out benefit forms. To book an appointment with Christine, telephone 01349 883333 or email adviser@alnesscab.casonline.org.uk

Below is this month's information from CAB:

CAB Focus on . . . Patient Advice and Support Service

The Patient Advice and Support Service (PASS) is part of the Scottish Citizens Advice Bureau Service.

The Patient Advice and Support Service can:

- Help you to give feedback or comments, raise concerns, or make complaints about the treatment you have received from the NHS in Scotland.
- Help you to prepare if the NHS offers a meeting to discuss a complaint or concern.
- Help you write letters and make phone calls.

- Help you access your medical and clinical records.
- Help you to understand your options regarding treatment, care and support.
- Help you make a complaint on behalf of someone else. You will need to have signed authorisation, be a legal guardian or have welfare Power of Attorney (POA).
- Help you make a complaint on behalf of someone who has passed away.

The Patient Advice and Support Service can't:

- Give medical advice.
- Give legal advice.
- Give advice about private healthcare.
- Give advice about social care.
- Give advocacy service.

There are two ways that you can contact the Patient Advice and Support Service:

- You can fill in your contact details on their web contact form, which you can find at <https://pass-scotland.org.uk/contact/>
- You can call them on the PASS Advice Line: 0800 917 2127 (Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm).

If all the PASS advisers are busy or you call out of hours, you can leave a message. Let them know your name, phone number, postcode, and whether they can leave a message if you aren't available when they return your call.

Business Updates

Post Office

Back to school or first timer? We have some special offers for the start of the new term.

- Bundle of basics: pencil case, pencils, colouring pencils, eraser, sharpener and ruler £2.50 (worth £3.82 if bought separately).

- Geometry and maths sets 50p off, now £1.30.

- 10% off all files and folders

But fingers crossed for some more sunshine before the end of the holidays!



Pottery

Scottish Potters Association - Roots & Wings 50th Anniversary Exhibition.

Barbel will be participating in this exhibition being held at Inverness Creative Academy, Midmills Building, Stephens Street, Inverness IV2 3JP.

It runs 27th July - 10th August 2024 (closed Sunday 4th August) - 10.30 am - 4.30 pm

Please come support!

Ingrid's House



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

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

Fishertown Inn

On the 6th of August we will have been open for 2 years, we can't thank everyone enough for the support you have all given us. We are loving running the pub and hope there are many more years ahead. We are working on the flat above the pub which will be open for holiday lets soon, we hope.

On the **25th of August** we are involved in **Black Isle Feast**. As part of this we are having a Black Isle Tapas night at the pub in the evening. This is to follow the Cromarty cinema's showing of Rooted.

We think this is going to be a great event and we are really excited to be involved. Tables for tapas can be booked by calling 01381 600988

Sutor Creek

Returning Sutor Creek to function as a restaurant serving lunch & dinner has proved to be the right decision following the chaos of Covid. We really appreciate all the support from locals bringing in their visiting family and friends. We were also thrilled to be highlighted in a national newspaper for providing "some of the best food in Scotland". Graham and his kitchen team continue to create seasonal dishes that are innovative, delicious and beautiful on the plate so we are delighted that they are getting recognition for their hard work.



Image: roasted cod with seasonal vegetables

Our summer hours are daily 12-7.30pm for table reservations and 12-8pm for take-away (all our wood-fired pizzas, Fish & Chips and desserts).

To book or order use our website www.sutorcreek.co.uk or phone us on 01381 600 855.

Calluna

SALE now on - come and grab yourself a bargain with up to 50% off. Our summer hasn't been the best (unless you love the rain, then it's been brilliant), so if you are planning a holiday in warmer climes there are lots of summer styles in our sale to help with your wardrobe planning ❤️

Our Autumn styles will be starting to make an appearance during August so keep an eye on our windows for what's new (or go online to our website for a sneak peek).

Open daily 10-5pm so pop in for a browse!

Cinema

Summer at Cromarty cinema is not slowing down as we've got another jam-packed month of films to cater to every taste this August.

If you loved Yorgos Lanthimos' award-winning smash hit *Poor Things* earlier this year, you absolutely cannot miss his latest, **Kinds of Kindness**, starring Emma Stone and Willian Defoe. Expect the unexpected. And speaking of, **Longlegs** is the buzzworthy horror of the year. Prepare to be unnerved and seeing Nicholas Cage as you've never seen him before! If you're after more thrills, **I Saw the TV Glow** is already being described as a future classic, where two teenagers bond over a mysterious TV-show, leading to their grasp on reality beginning to crack.

As always, fans of drama are well catered for in August. Julia Louis-Dreyfus stars in **Tuesday**, where a mother and daughter confront death in the form of a mysterious talking bird. Ahead of its time, **Alma's Rainbow** is a coming-of-age drama about African American women in Brooklyn, and is getting a well-deserved 20th anniversary re-release. We're also screening two fascinating Turkish dramas this month: **About Dry Grasses**, where a teacher's world is rocked by sexual abuse claims, and **Crossing**, where a woman searches for her missing niece.

If your summer is missing the light touch, indulge in romantic comedy **Fly Me to the Moon**, starring Scarlett Johansson and Channing Tatum before the American moon landings.

There's plenty of entertainment suitable for all the family in August too, with the return of the beloved Studio Ghibli classic **My Neighbour Totoro**, the animation adaptation of Michael Morpurgo's **Kensuke's Kingdom**, and the latest Minion extravaganza **Despicable Me 4**.

August also brings us four very different but equally fascinating documentaries. Back by popular demand is the Bhutanese film **Agent of Happiness** which sold out in July, definitely not to be missed. **Orlando: My Political Biography** is a bold and joyous celebration of trans and non-binary identity, told through the lens of

Virginia Woolf's iconic novel. Follow Palestinian Succession star Hiam Abbas as she makes a return to the village she grew up in in **Bye Bye Tiberius**. And the very special cherry on top is **Rooted**, focussing on creating a sustainable food system. This is part of the **Black Isle Feast** weekend <https://highlandgoodfood.scot/feast/>. There will be a short discussion session after the screening, after which everyone is invited to come along to the Fishertown Inn to continue the conversation over some excellent local food. A wonderful evening out!

We are also pleased to confirm that the cinema carpark will get a makeover in the form of a resurface. I'm sure none of you will miss the puddles and potholes! This however means that the car park will be unavailable to customers from 12th to 26th August. Access to the cinema will remain clear, and we will be open as usual. We kindly request that customers with accessibility needs, such as wheelchair users, contact us in advance so we can guarantee clear access for you.

That's all for August and you know the drill – get your tickets at <https://cromartycinema.com/films/>, the human box office on Thursdays 12-2, or at the door. And if you're not yet a member, what are you waiting for? Go to <https://cromartycinema.com/join-us/> to enjoy discounts on your tickets and the chance to book the cinema for your very own private hire. See you in August!



CROMARTY CINEMA August 2024



Friday 2 August	7pm	Kinds of Kindness (18) 2hr 44m Yorgos Lanthimos (Poor Things) is back with another audacious drama, starring Emma Stone, William Defoe and Jesse Plemons.
Saturday 3 August	7pm	I Saw the TV Glow (15) 1h 40m Isolated teens Owen and Maddy become obsessed with a TV show in 90's-set drama.
Sunday 4 August	3pm	Bye Bye Tiberius (PG) 1hr 23m Documentary following Palestinian actor Hiam Abbass (Succession), as she returns to her village.
Tuesday 6 August	7pm	Kinds of Kindness **18) 2hr 44m
Friday 9 August	7pm	Orlando: My Political Biography (12A) 1h 39m Documentary celebrating trans identity through the lens of Woolf's classic novel.
Sunday 11 August	11am	Despicable Me 4 (U) 1h 34m Latest in the Minion series sees the family having to go into hiding.
Sunday 11 August	3pm	About Dry Grasses (15) 3hr 18m School teacher Samet's career is on the line after a sexual abuse claim in Turkish drama.
Saturday 17 August	7pm	Longlegs (15) 1hr 41m FBI agent is on a serial killer case in unnerving horror starring Nicolas Cage.
Sunday 18 August	11am	Despicable Me 4 (U) 1h 34m Latest in the Minion series sees the family having to go into hiding.
Sunday 18 August	3pm	Crossing (15) 1hr 46m Lia searches for her missing niece, a trans woman who may be in Istanbul, in Turkish drama.
Friday 23 August	7pm	Fly Me to the Moon (12A) 2hr 12m Romantic comedy starring Scarlett Johansson and Channing Tatum set just before the American moon landings.
Saturday 24 August	7pm	Agent of Happiness (TBC) 1hr 33min Documentary following Bhutan's 'happiness officials' as they travel through the country – a visual feast.
Sunday 25 August	11am	Kensuke's Kingdom (PG) 1hr 24m Michael is shipwrecked on a desert island in animation based on Michael Morpurgo's novel
Sunday 25 August	3pm	Rooted and Q&A, Black Isle Feast Part of the Black Isle FEAST (https://highlandgoodfood.scot/feast/) and there will be a short discussion session after the screening, after which everyone is invited to come along to the Fishertown Inn to continue the conversation over some excellent local food.
Friday 30 August	7pm	Alma's Rainbow (15) 1h 29m Coming of age drama about three African American women in Brooklyn - first released in 1994.
Saturday 31 August	7pm	Tuesday (15) 1hr 51m A mother and her teenage daughter confront death - in the form of a talking bird.
Sunday 1 August	11am	My neighbour Totoro (U) 1hr 27m The Ghibli classic returns, following sisters Satsuki and Mei's move to the country and their fantastic adventures with the forest creatures.

****Screening with Descriptive Subtitles**

Adults £9.50 Under 26 £6 Friends £8

More film info and book online at: cromartycinema.com or at eden-court.co.uk or in person at Cromarty Cinema on Thursdays 12 – 2pm.
Show your support - become a Friend and reduce your ticket price. Visit cromartycinema.com or email admin@cromartycinema.com

The Cromarty Cinema, Cromarty, IV11 8XZ

And finally...

We are so fortunate to have this much going on in our wee town - and not only in the summer months. Do please continue to support (and enjoy) as much of it as you can. It's the locals what make it so.

Forward

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

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

The Newsletter is currently sponsored by a local resident.

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