



July 2024

As we head into what we hope will be a relaxing and enjoyable time for many we lead with two important upcoming events about democracy - one national and one local. Even if you're taking it easy over the next few weeks do make sure your voice is heard!

General Election - in July

{Who would have bet on that?}

On Thursday 4 July, Victoria Hall once again is being used as a polling station. Briony and I look forward to receiving you whenever convenient between 7am and 10pm inclusive. As you may know, to physically vote you MUST bring along acceptable Voter ID; basically an acceptable form with your photograph on it. Full details can be found at www.electoralcommission.org.uk and includes documents such as passport, driving licence and Scottish National Entitlement Card. If unsure please check, but don't worry we will keep you right, even if it means sending you home to bring the necessary ID. We will not be able to issue a ballot paper without acceptable photographic ID.

Colin Dickie - Presiding Officer, Cromarty

Opportunity Black Isle

Your place, your future



Black Isle Local Place Plan Update

Your Cromarty & District Community Council (C&DCC) has been in detailed discussions with the other Black Isle Community Councils (BICC) over agreeing a Governance section for the Black Isle Place Plan (BIPP), that has already been registered with the Local Place Plan (LPP) department of the Highland Council (HC), following lengthy consultations with communities across the Black Isle.

In order to create a Governing Body to carry the BIPP forward, that is democratic, accountable and transparent, the BICC is working closely with HC, the Plan authors and well-respected independent experts. To achieve this, draft Terms of Reference for the BICC will be completed by early July, and this will enable the BICC to appoint an independent Chair in a proposed Governance section to be added to the already LPP registered BIPP. This is being fully supported by HC Officers who are keen for this BIPP structure to lead the way across the Highlands in establishing a democratic, accountable and transparent Plan that others can follow.

Once the full details have been agreed and registered, the C&DCC will start a process of identifying how Cromarty's needs are met by consulting with everyone in town to develop a Cromarty Community Action Plan that works in partnership with the BIPP to achieve the best results for our Town. 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. Thank you.

Use Of The Links For Community Events

As we continue to think positively about being able to organise more community events, we thought it a good idea to remind folk that the C&DCC runs a booking system for the use of the Links.

To avoid planning issues, on behalf of the landowner Cromarty Estate, we are allowed to open the Links for a limited number of occasions each year, to facilitate community events. However, this does not include events that have an element of commercial gain.

The booking calendar is managed by our Secretary, Claire Fraser, who can be contacted either directly or on the C&DCC email cromartydistrictcc@gmail.com, with any proposal to hold such an event.

Nearly £8,000 raised by Open Gardens and Art & Flowers event



Unseasonal temperatures, a chilly wind and some showers did not deter the hundreds of visitors who flocked to Cromarty for the Open Gardens and Art & Flowers display helping to make the event highly successful once again. As

a result, the organising team are delighted to announce that almost £8,000 will be distributed between fourteen groups and organisations locally.

The beneficiaries are:

Clunes House Art Group; Cromarty Bowling Club; Cromarty Camera Club; Cromarty Care; Cromarty Community Council (for the defibrillators); Cromarty Tennis Club; East Church; Fourways; Friends of Cromarty Harbour Trust; James Support Group; Nursery & After School Group; RNLI – Resolis & Cromarty Branch; Ross-Shire Flower Club; St Regulus Church

A very big Thank You is due to everyone who helped make the Open Gardens and the Art & Flowers display such a success. This includes volunteers too numerous to list, garden openers, botanical illustrators, flower arrangers and musicians and, last but definitely not least, the hundreds of visitors who came to our lovely town and enjoyed themselves so much. A special thank you must go to Marjorie and Nikki who so kindly allowed us to use their gardens as a venue for the Teas and Home Baking.

The generous support of local businesses and the sponsorship of the event by two major companies - Global Energy-Port of Nigg and Highland Broadband - meant that almost all our overheads were covered, enabling us to distribute such a large amount to such deserving local groups. Thank you everyone.

It's a wrap!!

The small organising team of the Open Gardens and Art & Flowers display have decided to take a rest and do not plan to hold the event in 2025. The combination of lack of time, old age and ill health of the current organisers means that new blood will have to step forward if Cromarty wants to keep this fundraising event going in the future – something to think about.



Middleton Trust

It has been a very busy time for the Middleton Trust's recipients recently! Here is a quick look at some of the projects that have been funded or partially funded by Middleton Trust this year.

Cromarty Tennis club organised a try-out event at Cromarty Primary School this term which resulted in almost all the school pupils having a go at tennis – what a result. The Primary School has been able to build and furnish a reading shed so pupils can have a cosy place to go to read their books and enjoy literacy projects, while Cromarty Primary Parent Team used their funding to help with the transportation costs for the residential trips for P5/6/7.

Cromarty Arts Trust has organised a sewing course for local children which will take place in July – it was completely booked up on the first day of going live! Continuing on the crafty side of things, Cromba Creative have been helped to fund another term of creative projects held weekly after school.

Finally, Cromarty Youth Café is well into its busy summer programme and have been helped by Middleton Trust to fund a youth worker for another year.

These are just some of the projects run by local organisations that are currently being supported by Middleton Trust. Meanwhile, the Trust is currently hoping to recruit more Trustees. If you would like to put yourself forward to become a Trustee please contact the secretary, Jenny Pyle, middletontrust@gmail.com



Getting the reading shed ready!

Cromarty Library

Summer Reading Challenge 2024

It's that time of year again and we are super excited for the Summer Reading Challenge. This year's challenge is Marvellous Makers and we're tapping into our imaginations as we celebrate the creative arts.

We have brilliant challenge cards, stickers and prizes ready to go and can't wait to hear about all the books our young readers enjoy over the summer.

Summer Bookbug

Join us every Tuesday 1.15-1.45pm for songs, rhymes and ridiculously good fun. If you are aged between 0 and 4 years old, you and your grown up should come hang out with us and sing along.

Opening Hours: Monday 10-12; Tuesday 2-7; Thursday
12-5

For more information please phone us on 01381 600318
or email Cromarty.library@highlifehighland.com

Rowing Club

After a brilliant day out last weekend at the Strathpeffer regatta we are looking for some more rowers for Golspie regatta (6th July) and Ullapool (13th & 14th July) which are both great days out too!!! Please don't be put off by the competition side of a regatta, it's just brilliant to get out for a day to beautiful places and get a bit of exercise with great camaraderie from newbie to seasoned rower!! Please either complete the google form or names to Sophie/Kirsti/Lynn Adam.

We've had a real lull in attendance for regattas since Covid (which other clubs also report) but with the Skiffie Worlds in Stranraer in 2025 we are hoping for a revival in Team Cromba 🥰🥰 and great to get some experience in regattas beforehand.

Please take advantage of the open rows on Saturdays at midday and please let someone on the committee know if you are interested in race training as various groups go out at different times in the week and we can sign post you- everyone is warmly welcomed no matter of experience!

We've got loads of folk signed up to our own regatta on August 10/11th which is amazing and we are so looking forward to hosting lots of clubs from around Scotland but still loads of space so please put names forward and we'll make sure everyone gets a row no matter experience.

Our merchandise can be ordered on our website or from Lindy 🥰

Come rowing!!!! You'll not regret it 🥰❤️🚣🏻👥👥

A promotional poster for the Cromarty Community Rowing Club. The top section features the club's name in white text on a blue background. Below this, the words 'OPEN ROWS' are written in large, bold, yellow capital letters. A black rowing oar is shown diagonally across the middle of the poster, set against a background of a blue sea and a light sky. The text 'Fancy giving rowing a go? Here's your chance!' is written in white over the oar and sea. On the right side, there is a circular logo with a blue and white wave pattern and the words 'CROMARTY ROWING' around it. The bottom section of the poster is a solid blue color with white and yellow text. It includes the text 'OUR OPEN ROWS ARE BACK', 'Saturdays at 12 Midday', 'Starting this Saturday* 1st June', 'Meet at West Beach (Below Royal Hotel)', 'All Welcome + No experience needed', and '12+ (Under 16 with an adult)'. A small asterisk note says '* weather willing'. Below that, it says 'Wear comfortable loose light clothing, and footwear you don't mind getting wet (wellies are fine) We'll provide lifejackets'. At the very bottom, the website 'www.cromartyrowing.com' is listed.

cromarty community rowing club

OPEN ROWS

Fancy giving rowing a go?
Here's your chance!

OUR OPEN ROWS ARE BACK

Saturdays at 12 Midday
Starting this Saturday* 1st June
Meet at West Beach (Below Royal Hotel)
All Welcome + No experience needed
12+ (Under 16 with an adult)

* weather willing

Wear comfortable loose light clothing, and footwear you don't mind getting wet (wellies are fine) We'll provide lifejackets

www.cromartyrowing.com

Harbour Trust

The charity Friends of Cromarty Harbour is most grateful to Cromarty Open Gardens for the kind donation of £1,000 to help purchase a donation pillar. We have been keen for a while to have a tasteful, secure and robust donation box deployed on the harbour to assist with the repair and restoration efforts. As you may know from previous newsletters, the Harbour is almost solely dependent on grants for capital works such as restoration; this will allow visitors to make a contribution should they so wish, something we haven't been able to tap into in the past. No matter how small donations turn out to be, it all helps. Again, thank you to Open Gardens for facilitating this.

On harbour operations, gate open as previously advised; pontoon 3 is being lifted out towards the end of the July to effect a 48 hour re-engineered solution as we are concerned that the 'old style' fixing will not survive the season as we had hoped.

Images and Imagination in the Courthouse

We are delighted to be hosting a wonderful new exhibition of photography and design, by **Rekindled**, better known to Cromarty folk as the talented Georgia Macleod. Georgia launched **Rekindled** Photography & Design in the summer of 2023 and developed the range of products you see in the museum – a mix of montages, landscapes, mounted prints and her very popular canvas squares that can be hung on a small nail alone, in groups or framed. A treat for yourself or a gift for a friend?



While you are in the museum don't forget to pop in and see the stunning exhibition by Cromarty Camera Club on the theme of Climate Change.

In June we put Sir Thomas Urquhart back onto the stage he loved – the international stage. Thanks to the museums' App *Smartify*, Sir Thomas is now being seen and heard across the globe, including in countries even that polymath knew nothing about when he was alive. But you don't have to travel to see him, he's [here](#).

And finally a big thank you to everyone who visited us during **Open Gardens** particularly to the musicians who

delighted us all over the weekend.



Cromarty Care Project

Lunch Club Summer Café

The Summer Café in Cromarty Primary School came to an end on 11th June, with lunch, thanks and singing from the whole school! The Trustees of Cromarty Care Project thanked all the pupils of P6 and P7 for their hard work and effort to make the Lunch Club members feel very welcome and cared for. Miss Dinwoodie and her staff were also thanked for their support. Pupils were then each presented with a “Certificate of Appreciation” by Denise McIntosh, Chair of CCP. Lunch Club members also wanted to show their appreciation and presented the school with a cash collection along with a card signed by everyone.

The Summer Café has been such a success that the school intend to run it again for us next year. It has been a real-world experience for pupils, not only developing cookery skills, but maths skills and inter-personal skills as well. From the point of view of the Lunch Club members, it has been a real treat to socialise and spend time in the company of such lovely young people!

This inter-generational project was made possible with support from the Bank of Scotland Foundation.



Seagull Trust Canal Cruises

If you'd like a morning cruise on the Caledonian Canal, the "Highland Cross Seagull" is for you! 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

Community Sharing Larder

Many thanks to those who have donated foodstuffs to our Donations Box, or who have donated online at www.cromartycareproject.co.uk We are always especially grateful for toiletries.

Table Tennis

Table Tennis will continue throughout July. 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 10th. 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 were out and about during the Open Gardens weekend last month and are available if you need transport to the 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

Thank You!

Cromarty Care Project is one of several organisations in town to receive a generous donation from the Open Gardens Committee, following the Open Gardens weekend last month. We really appreciate the Committee's continued support for our work and will use the donation, as we do all donations, to benefit Cromarty residents in need.



Christine Macdonald, from Ross & Cromarty Citizens Advice Bureau, will be offering face-to-face appointments in the Victoria Hall on the third Tuesday of the month (16th July). 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 . . . Carer Benefits

Carer's Allowance – You might be able to claim it if you:

- spend at least 35 hours a week caring for someone,
- are aged 16 or over,

- aren't in full-time education or studying for 21 hours a week or more, and
- earn £151 (2024/25) a week or less after tax, National Insurance, and expenses.
- The person you're caring for must also be getting a qualifying benefit because of their illness or disability.

Carer's Allowance can affect other benefits you might be already getting – so you might be paid less in another benefit. It will count as income if you're getting Universal Credit. Although you might also qualify for extra Universal Credit because you're a carer. It can also affect the benefits of the person you're caring for.

Carer's Allowance is currently being replaced by Carer Support Payment in Scotland. You will also get Carer's Allowance Supplement payments in Scotland.

Carer's Credit is a credit that fills up gaps in your National Insurance record. It helps towards your State Pension while you're not making any contributions because of your caring role. You might be able to get Carer's Credit if you're aged 16 or over, you're not yet getting State Pension, you don't qualify for Carer's Allowance, you spend at least 20 hours a week caring for someone, and the person you're looking after gets a qualifying benefit.

Carer Premium is an allowance that you may get on top of some benefits. You can get it if you already get certain benefits, such as Income Support or Housing Benefit. You can ask about it at your local Jobcentre Plus, although it is usually included automatically.

Child Disability Payment provides support for the extra costs that a disabled child might have. You can apply for Child Disability Payment for a disabled child under 16. The disability can be mental or physical.

Young Carer Grant is a yearly payment of £383.75. You can apply if you're aged between 16 and 18 and care for between one and three people for an average of 16 hours a week and have been for at least the past three months.

Arts Trust

Things are livening up in July! We're starting off with the Cromarty Fiddle Weekend running from **Friday 5 to Sunday 7 July**. There are three levels, Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced and three great tutors, and they will be covering a lot of ground over eight workshops. You can book as many or as few of the workshops as you wish, they are all an hour and half long and cost £20 each.

And speaking about fiddles, the young people from Feis Rois will be giving us a ceilidh on **Saturday 20 July**. Just head up to the Stables, it's not that far on a summer evening! Tickets are £10, under 16 £5 and under 5 free, you can BYOB. The dancing starts at 8pm and you'll be supporting the trad stars of tomorrow. These young people do an intensive rehearsal together at the Old Brewery all week then start a huge tour of Scotland, playing almost every night for 4 weeks, from the Highlands to the Borders. It is an extraordinary opportunity for them and a great chance for us to dust off our dancing shoes. Please come along and show your support and appreciation for this important part of our culture.

There's more music at the Stables on **Thursday 25 July**, we are incredibly lucky to host Shetlander Amy Laurenson playing with Portuguese guitarist Miguel Girão. Amy was named Young Traditional Musician of the year at Celtic Connections last year. She has been touring since then and played at Shetland and Cambridge folk festivals, Edinburgh Tradfest and performed at the BBC Burns Night celebrations in Glasgow this year. She was named in The Lists Hot 100 of 2023 for her contribution to Scotland's cultural landscape. Miguel trained as a classical guitarist and now collaborates with folk musicians from Scotland and Ireland between teaching and composing.

This will be a great night with two musicians with a unique take on trad and folk. Expect an exploration of traditional and folk music from Shetland, Eastern Europe and Scandinavia which ebbs and flows between traditional, classic and jazz influences.



Young Traditional Musician of the Year Amy Laurenson plays at the Stables on 25th July.

We're delighted to be running a silver jewellery workshop again after a long break. We have a lovely new tutor in Ailsa Wilde. Originally from Inverness, Ailsa has recently returned home after time in New Zealand and Edinburgh. Her class is suitable for beginners or those who want to refine and hone skills. The weekend runs **27 & 28 July** and you'll be making a silver ring one day and a pair of silver earrings on the Sunday, there are a couple of spaces left and available for booking now.

Rebecca the Sewist is back Cromarty in July. She is running an adult's sewing class over **13 – 14 July** making summer jackets and a young people's summer sewing school over **16 – 19 July** (with thanks to the Middleton Trust). Both these sessions are fully booked but if you want to be added to the waiting list, just drop us an email.

And I know it's sneaking into August but you'll definitely want to get this date in your diaries. On **Friday 2 to Sunday 4 August**, we will be running a summer Craft Fair in the Old Buoy Store by the harbour. There will be lots of beautiful home-made crafts available and we'll be open Friday evening 6 – 8pm and all day Saturday and Sunday from 10am – 4pm.

Cinema

Summer is in full swing at Cromarty Cinema and boy do we have some great films for you to enjoy this July!

There's blockbuster galore with **Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga** to raise your pulse, and the Bad Boys are back with a need for speed in **Ride or Die**. And speaking of speed, Jodie Comer stars in **The Bikeriders**, capturing the rebellious spirit of 60s America where a motorcycle club becomes a gathering place for outsiders. Or how about something completely different, still prominently featuring motorbikes? Well, 93-year-old June is out for revenge on a motorbike in outrageous comedy **Thelma**.

Francis Ford Coppola's classic **The Conversation** gets a 4k 50-year anniversary re-release so you can relive the tense Gene Hackman-starring thriller on the big screen. In British drama **Unicorns**, a car mechanic falls for a drag queen, resulting in an unexpected path of transformation. Meanwhile, in **Morocco**, a father and son have to dispose of a body in crime drama **Hounds**.

As usual, we also have a great selection of documentaries for you. Take a trip to Bhutan and follow 'happiness officials' on a visually stunning journey through the country in **Agent of Happiness**, or join Blur in the wake of their sell-out shows at Wembley in **Blur: To The End**. Following on from the success of *Zone of Interest*, in **The Commandant's Shadow**, the son of the Commandant of Auschwitz attempts to reckon with the past by meeting survivors.

And finally, for a bit of fun, why not check out **Hundreds of Beavers**, the best kind of silly slapstick comedy about a hunt for beavers – you won't believe your eyes! Or take the whole family along to **Inside Out 2**, Pixar's latest fabulous animation with your favourite emotion characters.

So what are you waiting for? Go get your tickets at <https://cromartycinema.com/films/>, the human box office on Thursday's 12-2, or at the door. See you there!



CROMARTY CINEMA

July 2024



Friday 5 July	7pm	Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga (15) 2hr 28m The backstory of Furiosa starring Anna Taylor-Joy in huge, post-apocalyptic all-action epic.
Saturday 6 July	7pm	The Conversation (12A) 1h 54m 4K 50-year re-release of the Francis Ford Coppola tense, paranoid thriller starring Gene Hackman.
Sunday 7 July	3pm	Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga DS** (15) 2hr 28m
Tuesday 9 July	7pm	Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga (15) 2hr 28m
Friday 12 July	7pm	Hundreds of Beavers (12A) 1hr 48m Slapstick comedy set in 19th century North America involving a crazy hunt for a colony of beavers.
Saturday 13 July	7pm	Bad Boys: Ride and Die (15) 1hr 55m Two Miami cops must clear the name of their boss in action thriller.
Sunday 14 July	11am	Inside Out 2 (U) 1hr 36m Riley's emotion 'characters' – joined by Anxiety - negotiate puberty in exuberant Pixar sequel.
Sunday 14 July	3pm	Unicorns (15) 2hr British drama. Luke, a car mechanic, must rethink his identity when he falls for a drag queen.
Friday 19 July	7pm	The Bikeriders (15) 1hr 56m Austen Butler and Jodie Comer star in 60s-set drama
Saturday 20 July	7pm	Blur: To the End (15) 1hr 44m Documentary following the band before their sell-out shows at Wembley in 2023.
Sunday 21 July	3pm	The Bikeriders DS** (15) 1hr 56m
Tuesday 23 July	7pm	Agent of Happiness (TBC) 1hr 33m Documentary following Bhutan's 'happiness officials' as they travel through the country - a visual feast.
Friday 26 July	7pm	Thelma (12A) 1h 38m Action comedy drama starring 93 year-old June Squibb - who is out for revenge on her motorbike.
Saturday 27 July	7pm	The Commandant's Shadow (12A) 1hr 43m The son of Rudolf Hoss, the notorious Commandant of Auschwitz, attempts to face the past by meeting survivors.
Sunday 28 July	3pm	Thelma DS** (12A) 1 hr 38m
Tuesday 30 July	7pm	Hounds (15) 1hr 34m Moroccan crime drama set in Casablanca as father and son attempt to dispose of a body.

**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

Business Updates

Cromarty Brewing Co.

June has been another busy month in the Brewery. With the summer sun out and Scotland in the Euros, the beers were flying out across the pubs!

This month will see our Kool Runnings and Jungle Hijinx back in stock. Kool Runnings is our Pilsner style lager and Jungle Hijinx is our Bavarian style wheat beer.

We have also done a collaboration beer Dipping Lugger for its namesake restaurant with rooms in Ullapool. If you're over that way we highly recommend you pop in and give it a try!! It is a session ale made with the modern UK hop Jester and has a refreshingly tropical finish.

We attended the annual Midsummer Beer Happening in Stonehaven on 13th-15th June which was a great success

again, raising £61,000 for various charities. We will be at the Alness Gala on 29th June serving up Happy Chappy. We will also be attending the Scottish Game Fair from 5th-7th July and Black Isle Show on 31st July-1st August, I'm sure we will see a few familiar faces at the latter!

We have been getting our on-site shop merchandise stocks up too and have added a few extra Cromarty branded items to the roster including branded coasters and fridge magnets featuring some of our can and bottle artwork. Make sure to come in for a wee look if your passing.

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

Post Office

You might have noticed that your post has been arriving at a different time the last wee while. Royal Mail has changed the posties' working times so they now start a couple of hours later than before. It's a permanent arrangement and they'll be coming and going more while the post office is open. We're not looking forward to how it will work at Christmas when there are mountains of mail and the shop is full of customers!

We have some new lines in for the summer including locally made home and car reed diffusers, Scottish themed ceramic storage jars, Montezuma's luscious new fudge (chocolate, clotted cream, and cherry chocolate) and an extended range of maps and walking books. Fingers crossed for some settled weather!



Pottery

In June, Bärbel's friend from Germany, Doris, arrived and will be staying with us for a few months. Doris is not only a skilled potter but she can also whittle. Since arriving, she has been working on a new design of ceramic bowls to go with her handmade wooden spoons! Come down to Cromarty Pottery to meet Doris and see all of the other wonderful things we have been making here! We are open daily, from 10.30 am - 5 pm. If you would like to see our work online, follow us on instagram @cromartypottery and Facebook - Cromarty Pottery

Gallery 48



This month gallery48 has been busy stocking up for the busy summer season ahead. We have new artwork in from artists such as Pamela Grace, (Picture - "Wheelbarrow Washing"), and lots of new stock including jewellery, knitwear and more. Considering it was June, we had to stock up on our hats, scarves and gloves during those cold weeks we had! Gallery48 is everyday from 10.30 am - 5 pm. Please visit us in store or follow us on instagram - @gallery48cromarty and facebook - Gallery48 Cromarty, to keep up with what we have got to offer!

Sutor Creek

Our summer menu features fresh seafood including scallops, monkfish, crab and sea bass in addition to some beautifully slow-braised & wood-fired meat and vegetarian dishes.

Lunch is served 12-4pm, dinner 5-7.30pm and wood-fired pizza from 12-8pm. Take-aways are available from 12-8pm and can be pre-ordered online.

We advise booking in advance which can be done online at www.sutorcreek.co.uk or phone 01381 600 855.

Calluna

Our new summer collections include lightweight jumpers, wide-leg linen trousers, bright & bold maxi dresses and styles perfect for making the most of festival season 🎵

Belladrum's theme this year is LOVE and we have a fantastic selection of fun jewellery, make up bags and accessories that are perfect for the weekend ❤️

Pop Ups!

We have two summer pop ups planned with Calluna - taking new collections and SALE rail from designers including French Connection, ICHI, SugarHill Brighton and FRNCH;

Eastgate Shopping Centre - Thursday 4th to Saturday 6th July

Stromness Shopping Week, Plainstones, Stromness -
Monday 22nd to Saturday 28th July



And finally...

Development Trust

Another busy month for the Development Trust:

Royal Hotel Feasibility Study

As published earlier this month, it is with regret that we have to withdraw from our potential community buy out of the Royal at this time. A full statement outlining the reasons can be found [here](#).

These decisions are never easy, but the point of a feasibility study is to find out if a good idea is a workable idea and manage it accordingly. Unfortunately this is just not the right time. We wish to thank Jenny Henderson for her considerable cooperation and patience in this process and wish her and Alick all the best with whatever they decide to do next.

Cromarty Camping

*“Beautiful small site, fabulous location and lovely clean facilities with not too many pitches so never overcrowded. This is a new community-run site and as it develops it will be a wee jewel in the Black Isle.” ******
David Hutchinson, Visitor, May 2024

The ferry has opened and we have had a terrific month in June, at the site, in line with what we hoped would be the case over the summer months. We have been full every weekend in June, and substantially full for the majority of the week; seeing a wide range of visitors, many with extended stays.

Part of our fortune is also owing to the Black Isle based communities and businesses who are doing their bit to make us successful, in various ways. You know who you are; and we look to thank you for your insights, direct help and your continued support. Thanks for getting us on our feet in year one and keeping it local.

East Church Hall

Until now we have been in detailed and multi-way discussions with Highlife Highland, Highland Council and Common Good, regarding the complex lease agreements associated with the building (regardless of it being unoccupied). Over June a welcome change was made to simplify all future lease agreements, cut out third parties, and pave the way forward for the possibility of community use of the East Church Hall again under community management - for a community hub - all the time still protected by and held under Common Good.

Highland Council have confirmed that they have now fully relieved Highlife Highland of their obligations under the remainder of the term associated with the long term lease they held on ECH. We are now able to have a two way discussion only, and pin down the details of a lease with Highland Council / Common Good in July.

Cromarty Development Trust AGM

We were delighted to welcome over 30 members to our AGM on 3rd June in Victoria Hall. It was an engaging and fruitful meeting, with the chair presenting a summary of the activities that have taken place this year and members

offering insightful and useful feedback on the above projects.

Thank You to Our Team

A big thank you to our brilliant team. John and Rory, who are working so hard to make the campsite such a special experience for our visitors. The brilliant team at the Thrift Shop who turn up week in, week out and give their time to this important enterprise. The board, who despite being volunteers, put in time, thought, effort and experience into driving our projects forward. And last, but by no means least, to our Development Officer, Julie. Julie works tirelessly for the Trust and the Cromarty community (often behind the scenes) and has had to suffer a period of real uncertainty (caused by doubt around funding) these past few months. She continues to approach the work unphased and with care and professionalism - Cromarty is lucky to have her!

Well done for getting to the bottom. Now go out and enjoy some of that... erm... sunshine?

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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