

From: Cromarty News <editor@cromarty-courthouse.org.uk>
To: alan.plampton@btinternet.com
Date: May 31, 2025 10:21:05 PM
Subject: Cromarty News - June 2025

CROMARTY NEWS



June 2025

“The leafy month of June...”

What a month of delights in store: Open Gardens, summer solstice rowing, Tilbrook tennis trophy and lots more!

Lynn in our library creates imaginative displays relating to current local events.

It's good to keep watching!

Cromarty Library

Open: Mondays 10-12am, Tuesdays 2-7pm and Thursdays 12-5pm

Hugh Miller Institute, Church Street
Cromarty IV11 8XA
For more information please telephone: 01381 600318
or [email](#)



Cromarty Open Gardens

21-22 June

Cromarty Open Gardens 2025

21st & 22nd June

PARKING, GARDENS ,
POP-UP CAFE, PLANT
STALL, CHILDRENS
CRAFT ACTIVITY,
RAFFLE DRAW



**Join us for Open Gardens and
support our fundraising for
Cromarty groups and charities**

Open Studios on same weekend

**Tickets on the day, please bring
cash**

Open Gardens 2025 organised by Cromarty Community Development Trust

- 28+ Gardens,
- Huge raffle prize list,
- Teas/baking and crafts at The Old Brewery,
- Music at the Courthouse,
- Cycling Without Age trikes,
- Plants stalls at Hugh Millers and James' Support group,
- Parking on the Links,

- Tickets £5 (children under 12 free) from Links or Cromarty Courthouse

Monty Don reminds us of the benefits of gardening, so whilst visiting and appreciating the other gardens, it is also important to take a little while to enjoy our own space too and this little anecdote stuck a chord:

Out on a walk, an affluent Greek American comes upon an old Greek man sitting on a rock, sipping a glass of ouzo, and lazily staring at the sun setting into the sea. The American notices there are untended olive trees growing on the hills behind the old Greek, with olives dropping here and there onto the ground. He asks the old man who the trees belong to. "They're mine," the Greek replies. "Don't you gather the olives?" the American asks.

"I just pick one when I want one," the old man says.

"But don't you realise that if you pruned the trees and picked the olives at their peak, you could sell them? In America everybody is crazy about virgin olive oil and they pay a good price for it."

"What would I do with the money?" the old Greek asks. "Why, you could build yourself a big house and hire servants to do everything for you."

"And then what would I do?"

"You could do anything you want!"

"You mean like sit outside and sip ouzo at sunset?"

from Travels with Epicurus; Daniel Klein

Cromarty Pottery

EXHIBITION



CERAMICS AND WATERCOLOURS

Recent work by Fiona Feilberg, Barbel Dister & Colin Dunn

At the Old Brewery, Shore Street, Cromarty

Opening: Monday 2nd June, 6pm-8pm (wine & nibbles)

Tuesday 3rd - Sunday 8th June, 10.30am-4.30pm

FREE ENTRY

It has been a busy month at Cromarty Pottery, getting prepared for '**Ceramics & Watercolours**' - an exhibition of work by Barbel Dister, Colin Dunn and Fiona Feilberg at the **Old Brewery**, Shore Street, Cromarty, IV11 8XQ, from **Tuesday 3rd to Sunday 8th June, 10.30am to 4.30pm** each day. Come along for the **open night on Monday 2nd June, 6pm - 8pm and have some wine & nibbles with us**. We hope that you can all make it!

For the shop, we have been making lots of ceramics for gardeners in preparation for Open Gardens

weekend! You will be able to find a wide range of vases, plant sticks and pot feet here, alongside our usual stock. We look forward to seeing you all both at the exhibition and in the shop!



Cromarty Tennis and Sports Club

Tennis News!

The **8th June sees our Tilbrook Trophy**. It's not too late to enter, email vicky.benjamin@btinternet.com asap. Feel free to come along to cheer everyone on; it's a great day of camaraderie and remembering Cromarty's own Peter Tilbrook, a much missed member of our club.

Later in June we are running three sessions with Cromarty Primary School, where the entire contingent - approximately 50 Cromarty youngsters - will attend coaching sessions to learn tennis or consolidate their skills. Also coming up in the summer we have the Cromarty Summer Tennis coaching scheme (21st - 25th July) culminating in our own 'Crombledon' tournament! This is open to all school aged young people. Last year we had approximately 30 attendees.

So if you're a parent or carer of one of these enthusiastic young tennis players, why not join the club with a family membership and help them to consolidate their skills? You will get a key to the court and the container storing balls and racquets - all you need.

As an enticement we've extended the offer of 10% discount until the middle of June! By joining you'll be supporting the club in our activities and supporting Cromarty children, and who knows you might take a notion for it yourself and join in one of our events! Please note that if you have any barrier to joining, whether physical, financial or otherwise, please contact the club and we will do our very best to help.

We have started a **fun knockabout night for all**, leading on from the success of the coaching evenings: **Wednesday nights from 6 - all welcome.**

A poster for Cromarty Tennis 2025 Membership Renewal. It features a green border and two tennis rackets at the top. The text is centered and includes details about membership renewal, discounts, and pricing for various age groups and family packages. A stack of yellow tennis balls is visible on the right side of the poster.

Cromarty Tennis

2025 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Its time to renew your tennis club membership.
Renew before the 31st May for a 10% discount.
New members very welcome

Cromarty children under 13 – Free
Junior (13-18) – £13.50 (full price £15.00)
Student (18-25) - £18.00 (full price £20.00)
Adult (19-64) - £22.50 (full price £25.00)
Senior (>65) - £13.50 (full price £15.00)
Family (same address) - £36.00 (full price £40.00)

Ways to pay:

1. BACS transfer – Cromarty Tennis and Sports Club,
Bank of Scotland 80-22-60 10135862
2. Cheque or cash to:
a) Club Treasurer, Barbara, at 8 Bank Street
b) The Cromarty Post Office

Visit our website for more details including booking the court, court keys, tournaments and latest news.
www.cromartytennisclub.co.uk

Tennis Club

Cromarty Community Rowing Club

Come and Row Solstice Event

Cromarty Community Rowing club have a fantastic opportunity for all rowers - experienced rowers, new rowers and 'never rowed before' rowers!!

On **Friday 20th June into Saturday 21st June we have an all night Solstice row.** This is a fundraiser (£5 per rower) to enable as many rowers as possible to attend the World Skiffie event in Stranraer in July.

See poster attached or go to Cromarty Community Rowing Club website for full details and sign up at The Last Splash - coffee spot by the ferry jetty.

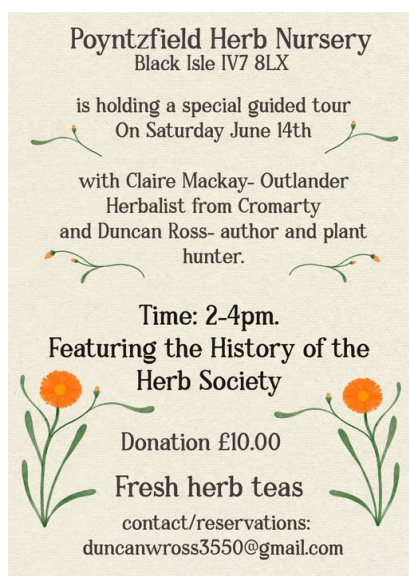
There will be lots of fun going on around the row, through the night and refreshments will be available.

Please come and join in the fun, have a row and celebrate the longest day with us.

[Facebook](#)



Poyntzfield Herb Nursery



On **June 14th** Claire Mackay will be at Poyntzfield Herb Nursery giving a special guided tour with Duncan Ross, garden founder, author and plant-hunter.

We'll be giving a talk on the History of the Herb Society as well as taking a look at the medicinal properties of the plants grown in the gardens.

It's a beautiful time to visit and the gardens are spectacular.

We'll be finishing the day with some tea-tasting, with fresh, organic and biodynamic herbs from the garden.

June 14th, 2-4pm, suggested donation £10.

Spaces are limited, so please do get in touch with Duncan to book.

duncanwross3550@gmail.com

Cromarty Arts Trust

What's On in June + B&B News

Old Brewery B&B for the summer. Sleeps 22 people over 12 bedrooms. Combination of singles, twins and triples, one double. Separate shower rooms & toilets shared between two bedrooms. Per person, per night rates are: bed-only £50, continental self-service breakfast £60, full cooked breakfast £65. Veggie, vegan, gluten free available. – Breakfast will be in the café area and the two sitting rooms downstairs and the garden are available for relaxing in the evening.

Booking 01381 600354 or info@cromartyartstrust.org.uk.

You can book one room for just one night or the whole place with friends and family for a fun weekend!

Sun 8 June, afternoon concert from Harris String Quartet. Many will know violinist Emma Donald and cellist Katy Bell from their days with the Fyrish Quartet. Programme: Haydn, Ravel, Mario Galeano Toro, Peter Longworth's - Boat Song & Alasdair Morton-Teng - Up Da Stroods / Veni Veni. **3pm, The Stables. £14**, under 18s free.

14 & 15 June. Life drawing class with artist Jonathan Shearer. Jonathan expertly guides those at all levels. £160

21 & 22 June. Mosaics with Sally Purdey. The class is fully booked but we are taking a note of names for the waiting list.

28 & 29 June. Master craftsman Robbie Schneider is teaching a weekend-long 'Introduction to Stone Letter Carving' £180

3 – 8 June. Free Ceramics & Watercolours Exhibition. Old Brewery. Work from local potter Barbel Dister, tile maker and artist Colin dunn and painter Fiona Feilberg,

10.30 – 4.30 every day.

<https://www.cromartyartstrust.org.uk/workshops-and-classes>



Cromarty Cinema

June at Cromarty Cinema - the place to be whatever the weather!

Summer is in full swing at your favourite community cinema, as we bring you a rich mix of true stories, thrilling mysteries, and heartfelt dramas. You're bound


to find a film or ten to tickle your fancy in the programme below!

For something special this month, to coincide with Cromarty Open Gardens, you, the community, picked a fabulous film to fit the theme. **Being There** is Hal Ashby's 1979 classic, starring Peter Sellers as the enigmatic Chance. It's satirical, serene, and as relevant today as ever.

Cromarty Cinema will also open its doors throughout the Open Gardens weekend so do drop by!



And there's so much more to explore so book your tickets at <https://cromartycinema.com/films/>,

the human box office on Thursdays 12-2, or at the door. See you all in June!



CROMARTY CINEMA

June 2025



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

Eden Court

HIGHLANDS

Friday 6	7pm	The Marching Band (15) 1h 43m A musician in need of a life-saving transplant discovers he is adopted and finds a long lost brother.
Saturday 7	7pm	Hallow Road (15) 1h 20m Two parents face a late-night race to rescue their daughter in this dark, gripping thriller.
Sunday 8	3pm	Bogdanloch (U) 1h 26m A man's solitary life in a Highland forest is seen through the changing seasons.
Friday 13	7pm	The Phoenician Scheme (15) 1h 41m Wes Anderson's latest, a black comedy tale of espionage and betrayal.
Sunday 15	3pm	The Phoenician Scheme (15) 1h 41m**
Tuesday 17	7pm	Riefenstahl (15) 1h 55m Director Leni Riefenstahl's complex relationship with the Nazi regime is revealed for the first time.
Friday 20	3pm	Along Came Love (15) 2h 3m A working-class waitress and a wealthy intellectual fall in love despite each having secrets.
Saturday 21	3pm	Thunderbolts (12A) 2h 6m Marvel adventure with an unconventional group of antiheroes embarking on a dangerous mission.
Saturday 21	7pm	The Surfer (15) 1h 40m A man revisits his childhood beach to surf with his son but becomes entangled in conflict.
Sunday 22	3pm	Being There (12) 2h 9m - first of our Community Choice Films: films selected by you! A withdrawn gardener becomes an unlikely trusted advisor to a powerful tycoon.
Tuesday 24	7pm	Thunderbolts (12A) 2h 6m**
Saturday 24	7pm	The Extraordinary Miss Flower (12A) 1h 13m Uncovers Geraldine Flower's collection of love letters, suggesting a potential double life as a spy.
Friday 27	7pm	The Salt Path (12A) 1h 55m A couple embarks on a year-long coastal trek after losing their home. Based on a true story.
Saturday 28	7pm	Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning (12A) 2h 50m Tom Cruise faces the ultimate challenge in the final instalment of the Mission: Impossible series.
Sunday 29	3pm	The Ballad of Wallis Island (12A) 1h 40m A lottery winner living on a remote island tries to get his favourite musicians to perform for him.
Tuesday 1	3pm	Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning (12A) 2h 50m**
Tuesday 1	7pm	UK Green Film Festival – As The Tide Comes In (TBC) 1h 28m Residents of the Danish island of Manda experience the forces of climate change.
Wednesday 2	3pm	The Salt Path (12A) 1h 55m** A couple embarks on a year-long coastal trek after losing their home. Based on a true story.

**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

Fishertown Inn

Summer approaching at The Fishertown Inn

We are looking forward to having our BBQ hut up and running soon. There will be a range of rental options including: with food provided, bring-your-own, and fire only. All details will be on social media as soon as we get everything finalised.

In the meantime, we can look forward to a quiz night on **14th June** in aid of **Scotland The Wave's Atlantic challenge**. If you can't make it on the night and would like to make a donation or leave a raffle prize, please do so at the pub.

Black Isle Dairy ice cream is available every day from the snug. The kiosk in the beer garden has had a revamp and now serves as a sitootery. Ideal in changeable weather.

Hope to see you all soon. Pete, Ingrid and the team.



Cromarty Courthouse Museum

Film premier in Cell A

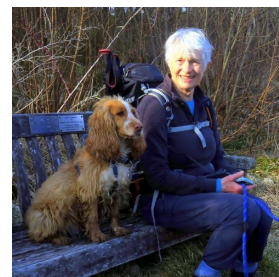
Thank you to everyone who filled in a survey for us; we had an astonishing 185 responses! They were overwhelmingly positive and will really help us as we develop our intentions for the museum's redevelopment as part of the feasibility process. We will update you on our next steps at the end of the feasibility stage in July.

In the meantime, Freya and the team have been busy refreshing Cell A and turning it into (possibly) Cromarty's smallest cinema so that we will have a space to show a newly commissioned film of life in Cromarty in the 1960s. We were awarded a grant from the Art Fund to work with an artist to turn a donation of cine film into a short narrative film about community life on the Black Isle. You may have seen the trailer in the Changing Tides exhibition but the **entire film will premier during Open Gardens** - come and see how many faces you recognise!

We are delighted that our trustee, Liz Broumley, has been nominated as SCVO's Trustee of the Year 2025 for her hard work, dedication, and commitment to Cromarty Courthouse Museum.

Despite facing profound disability herself, Liz has dedicated herself full-time over the last three years to supporting the museum. She applied for funding for the first professional member of staff in over a decade whilst she led a ground-breaking project to create a free audio tour on Cromarty's links to slavery. Liz's deep care and advocacy for accessibility has informed our entire approach and ethos as a charity. Her vision and drive has taken us from facing closure to a redevelopment project in 13 months. She is generous and curious, and has been transformational to our museum.

Voting is now closed, and we await the awards ceremony on 19th June in Glasgow. Whatever the result, we are so proud that Liz has been nominated, recognising her incredible work as part of our board.



Cromarty Courthouse

Take the plunge at Hugh Miller's Birthplace!

Historic museum celebrating World Ocean Day!

As we creep closer to the school holidays, Hugh Miller's Birthplace is gearing up for the **Summer of Science!** We have already started taking bookings for our school holiday kids club and citizen science beach walks - it seems everyone wants to explore the natural world with us. So we have added another special event this summer: join us on **Sunday 8th June for World Ocean Day!** This internationally recognised event celebrates the amazing worlds below the waves and the creatures that live in them. We will be hosting a series of activities that day at the museum; from kids crafts to inspire young ones, to displays of fossils from oceans long since vanished. We will also be using this day to launch the return of **Cromarty Coastal Critters** - our marine life and dolphin watching walking tour. Our World Ocean Day activities are included with admission with the exception of our **Critter's tour which requires online booking.**

We also have more brand new fossils, this time from England's Isle of Wight, that were kindly donated by Wight Coast Fossils - we have new dinosaurs! Visit us during the **first week in June** to see the tail from a Brachiosaur, and the bones from Iguanodon and Mantellisaurus! These fossils will be on display in our gift shop.

We have more good news too: in June we will be **open daily from 11am** (last entry 15:30) so you can enjoy Hugh Miller for even longer - and with Open Gardens weekend almost upon us, there is no better time to visit the birthplace of Cromarty's most famous historical individual.

Remember - Cromarty townsfolk always get **FREE ENTRY** to the museum!

www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/hugh-millers-birthplace

www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/hugh-millers-birthplace-cottage-amp-museum-33806402821

www.facebook.com/HughMillersBirthplaceCottageMuseum



Summer Fun at Hugh Miller's Birthplace

Join us in Cromarty over the Summer Holidays and
enjoy some fabulously family fun adventures!



Travel back in time on a **Fossil Walk** to take
part in citizen science and discover the fossils
of prehistoric creatures!

Fridays and Saturdays (Tide dependent)
Prebook via our website

Take a deep breath and dive into the sea to meet
Cromarty's Coastal Critters on our new and
improved shoreline walking tour!

Every Wednesday from 9th July to 27th Aug
Prebook via our website



Join the Hugh Miller Science Team and explore
the natural world through science experiments
and kids crafts on our **Summer Science Club!**

Every Thursday from 10th July to 28th Aug
Prebook via our website

For more information about all our events and activities
throughout the holidays, scan the QR code or visit our website

nts.org.uk/visit/places/hugh-millers-birthplace

Church Street, Cromarty, IV11 8XA – 01381 600 245



nts.org.uk



**NATIONAL
TRUST for
SCOTLAND**

The National Trust for Scotland is a Scottish charity, SC007410

The Walled Garden, Cromarty

The Walled Garden goes online

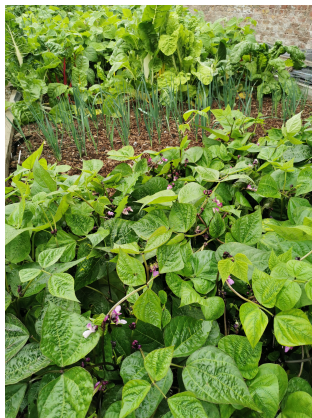
The Walled Garden, Cromarty is once again participating in Cromarty Open Gardens on **21-22 June 2025** and PYO will be operational over that weekend.

For the first time you will be able to come and pick your veg, salad leaves, herbs and soft fruit and pay for them online using your debit or credit card. Initially we will be **open on a Tuesday between 11am - 3pm or by special arrangement.**

Full details will be on our Facebook page we look forward to seeing some of you during our 2025 season.....

www.facebook.com/thewalledgardencromarty

<http://walled-garden-cromarty.sumupstore.com>



Last Splash

New coffee shop at the slipway

Hello Cromarty,

My name is Heather More and I'm delighted to introduce your new coffee shop Last Splash. Having freshly arrived from Glasgow I have been over the moon with the support and feedback from everyone. I aim to bring a friendly welcome and relaxed coffee shop that suits everyone in the community. It's a wee bit bare at the moment as people wanted coffee first, and I took that call to action.

I am handing over my current café in Glasgow (Rose & Grants) to devote my work to my new wee shop here in Cromarty. I am satisfied that Rose & Grants will continue stronger than ever and winning best café in Glasgow 2025 certainly attained to our efforts. I spent many years working in various cafes in New Zealand from Auckland city centre to off-grid islands. There is an incredible culture of quality within a relaxed atmosphere that I aim to provide in Last Splash.

We will offer savoury food at the weekend and as we grow our team. I have incredible support from my partner Tom, an ornithologist and ex chef. I am so lucky to have his expertise with irresistible home bakes, and creative sandwiches in the making. I am also hanging artwork by local painter Jess Gunn this week. If you haven't already popped in we'd love to say hello.

The name is a nod to Kim Deal from 90s alt rock band the Breeders, but also in keeping with location and nature of business!

Last Splash opened on the 17th of May



Cromarty Care Project

Community Events

Monday 10.30-12 - Table Tennis, Victoria Hall, suggested donation £3; All welcome.

Tuesday 3rd, 10th, 17th June 1.15 -2.45 – Summer Café, Cromarty Primary School cost £3 Final Summer Café 17th June

Tuesday 10-11.30 – Baby & Toddler Group, Victoria Hall, suggested donation £3

Wednesday 4th & 18th June 2.30pm – Classic Film Club, Cromarty Cinema. Arrive early to avoid disappointment. To join contact Helen Charley 07889 181529 or email helen.charley@doctors.org.uk. The Royal Hotel offer pre-cinema lunch at 12.30, book on 01381 600217

Community Sharing Larder

Many thanks for your generous donations, please ensure any food stuffs are within use by dates. If you would like to contribute financially please visit www.cromartycareproject.co.uk

Funding Success

CCP have secured a further year's funding for Classic Film Club and funding to support Cromarty Youth Club's 'Quiet Space.'

CAB in Cromarty

Christine Macdonald is away just now. To book a phone appointment please call 01349 883333 or email to adviser@alnesscab.casonline.org.uk

Playlist for Life

We are looking for interest from anyone who may wish to create a 'playlist' for someone they care for/know of with dementia. We have funding for short, 2 hour courses, in using music to support those suffering with dementia. If you would like to know more please contact Alison on info@cromartycareproject.co.uk

CCP 10 Year Anniversary

We are seeking any memories/photos that you may have of CCP and their work in the community over the last 10 years. Please get in touch on info@cromartycareproject.co.uk with anything to share.

Summer at Sutor Creek

We are now open **Tuesday to Saturday 12-8pm and Sunday 12-4pm** for the summer.

Reservations for our seasonal menu are available for lunch (12-2.30) and dinner (5-7.30) with our wood-fired pizzas available during opening hours for both sit-in and take-away.

We recommend booking in advance especially for events such as Open Gardens on June 21st and 22nd. Tables can be reserved using our website www.sutorcreek.co.uk or phoning **01381 600 855**.

Cromarty Brewing Co.



What a May we've had! Lots of sunshine has meant record beer sales this month and we have been working hard here at the brewery to keep up stocks for all our cracking customers.

Back in stock this month in cask, keg AND can is our **Cascade**, a bold pale ale brewed with Cascade hops. Also back this week is our **Goldilocks**, another pale ale brewed using oats. Goldilocks will be available exclusively in cask. Last month also saw the return of our New England Pale, **Not the Foggiest**, which is also available in can now.... like we said it's been a busy May!

We have some events coming up this month including **Stonehaven Beer Festival, Glasgow Real Ale Festival and The Ainess Gala** so if you're looking for a day/weekend out you'll get Cromarty beers at all these events and you might even see a Middleton or 2 there serving.

Our on-site beer/gift shop has also been busy the last month, and we are getting re-stocked on merchandise, including more of our T-shirts and Hoodies in all colours/styles, so don't forget to pop in for a look.

Our shop open hours remain: -

Monday to Friday - 10am till 4pm

Saturday - 10am till 2pm

Sundays - CLOSED

Cromarty & District Community Council

The C&DCC has held its AGM on 27th May 2025. Highland Councillor Sarah Atkin chaired the AGM and the usual business was transacted, with the following officers confirmed to serve as the Community's representative Officers for the next year in accordance with SG legislation.

Chairwoman - Paige Shepherd

Vice Chair - Andy Thurgood

Treasurer - Alan Plampton

Secretary (non-voting) - Claire Fraser

Paige delivered the Cromarty and District Community Council Chairwoman's Report for 2025 (full details of which can be found on the Cromarty Live link).

Alan presented the Audited C&DCC Financial Statements for the year ending 31st March 2025 (full details of which can be found on the Cromarty Live link).

These were all approved by the Members present along with the reappointment of the Auditor for 2026.

It was noted that as usual the AGM was poorly attended by invited members of the community and it was agreed that next year extra efforts will be made to encourage attendance and showcase how the C&DCC continues to serve the community it represents.

<https://www.cromartylive.co.uk/>

Cromarty Community Development Trust

Exciting New Job!

We have a new **One-Year Development Officer post** which we'd like to start soon, so note **deadline of Thursday 12 June**.

The main focus is working with the community, funders and public bodies to get the East Church Hall ready for use & occupied, plus possible other projects. The Job Description & Person Specification can be found [here](#)

Open Gardens

Plant donations should be delivered to our two locations for plant stalls - James Support Group at Bayview or Hugh Millers Cottage on Church Street.

More helpers are needed beforehand and on the day:

Pre Event town tidy - contact Nige Shapcott

Pre Event signage on Black Isle

Pre Event info delivery to participating Gardens on 2 June

Pre Event: Contributions of baking is requested.

Gazebos - June 21st installed at Links & Courthouse garden, taken down, cleaned and returned.

Tickets & Raffle - 1 Director & a member for Saturday 9.30-1.30 and/or 1.30-5.30 Sunday 9.30-1.30 and/or 1.30-5.30

Catering - hopefully in hand, but extra help always welcome!

contact hayley@cromartycdt.org.uk or Phoebe Fox.

Our **AGM on 5 June**.

Members will get an email soon with all our reports. Non-members welcome, but aren't able to vote. Tea and coffee will be served before the meeting **starts at 7pm**.

To join, fill in this [form](#)

Cromarty Harbour

Work starts on East Pier

Last Tuesday saw work start with our contractor Aberdeen Marine coming on site. That's the East Pier now closed to vessels and pedestrians. Whilst the work is scheduled for six months, the team are hopeful that if we have a good summer, it can be reduced. That doesn't mean longer workdays, just hopeful of good weather.

To remind readers, we are looking to replace damaged stones, remove patched infills, repoint in lime mortar, fill in voids, especially around the bullnose and to have two new sandstone staircases as our centre piece. Do all that and we will have secured the pier for future generations to enjoy. More information will be posted on cromartyharbour.org as the project progresses.

Lastly, we have added a **donation pillar at the West Pier entrance** which we hope will be supported by visitors looking to help us in our restoration efforts. The money raised only goes to restoration.



News from Nigg

The Red Zed1

On the 28th May, the Red Zed1 arrived in the Cromarty Firth to float off a cable barge from its deck.

The vessel sailed from the Far East and the ballasting operation to move the barge off the deck was conducted on the 29th May in the deep pocket of water between Nigg and Cromarty. The high voltage cables which are on the barge will be used to connect large infrastructure such as offshore wind farms into the national grid network. These are typical of the cables which will be manufactured at the Sumitomo factory.

Upon completion of the float-off operation, the barge will dock at the East Quay at Nigg, where one of the cables will be spooled off, and put into storage at the Port of Nigg. The other cable will be taken away for installation for an offshore wind project.

These "float-off" operations are impressive to see, and very technical to perform. A large number of tugs (6 in total) are utilised to prevent the large carrier vessel from turning with the tide, and others are used to safely hold and manoeuvre the barge from the deck of the carrier when it begins to float.



New face at Cromarty PO

This month we welcome our new postie Kenny, who has taken over from Wilma. Kenny is an experienced postman who used to do a round in Lochcarron so I'm sure he won't have any trouble settling in and picking up Cromarty's postal quirks. I don't think he makes lemon curd or tablet though but might be proved wrong!

Cromarty Camera Club

Cromarty Camera Club Members enjoyed an active end to the season with our AGM followed by the ritual Prizegiving and Social Evening. Some very useful discussion was had at the productive AGM and the Social Evening was much enjoyed by those present including the traditional quiz compiled by our member Tony. Trophies were presented for the main Photographic Categories and congratulations to the winners as follows:

Cromarty Trust Trophy for Photographer of the Year - David Kent

Quaich for Portfolio - Nora Watson

Cromarty Camera Club Cup for best Digital Projected Image - David Greer

Hunters Cup for best Mono Print - Nigel Atkinson

Bank of Scotland Cup for best Colour Print - Nora Watson

Jeff Watson Trophy for Natural History - David Kent

The image below shows prize-winners, from the left, David Kent, Nora Watson and David Greer.

Do pop along to Cromarty Courthouse over the summer to see our exhibition of Firth images and also to Sonas Gallery between mid-June and mid-July when we will be exhibiting numerous prints which will also be available for purchase.

The planned Syllabus for the start of the next season is as varied and interesting as ever with outings, presentations and workshop evenings. Potential new members will be most welcome to join us any time from our first Meeting on **Thursday 11th Sept** and for this new Season we will have the added incentive of half-price Membership for New Members for their first year with us!

Our regular meetings are held in Victoria Hall, Cromarty on Thursday evenings at 7.15pm for 7.30pm and potential new members are always welcome.

<https://www.cromartycameraclub.co.uk>



The Most Wuthering Heights Day Ever: Cromarty/The Black Isle

Free dance event

Come and dance like Kate Bush, for The Most Wuthering Heights Day Ever!!! which will be happening in Cromarty on The Links, **Sunday 27th July 2025, 12-1pm.**

This will be a free event for everyone to turn up, dressed in red, to dance to Kate Bush's epic song Wuthering Heights, as happens in various open spaces around the world (see the video link for Edinburgh Wutherers in action).

Any donations will be gratefully received to go towards James Support Group: 'It's OK not to be OK.': <https://jamesupportgroup.com/>

(The Most Wuthering Heights Day Ever Event was created by Shambush in the UK and facilitated as a global organiser's community by Samantha Wareing in Berlin. It is a not-profit event to spread the joy of dancing to Kate Bush's wonderful song Wuthering Heights.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xurtC9DJwIM>





Cromarty History Society

End of season news

Our 2024-25 season ended with a talk by Bruce Keith. As enjoyable as ever, Bruce spoke on Scotland Beneath the Surface, a Subterranean Odyssey. This was a fundraiser for the Cromarty Courthouse. After a very successful season the Society is in a robust condition, and we have been able to donate £500 to the Courthouse. Thanks to everyone who came to all our sessions.

The next season of talks starts in September. All our speakers are booked and, as always, we aim to entertain as well as inform. The full programme will appear in the August Cromarty News. Meanwhile put **16th September** in your diary, 7.30pm in the Victoria Hall. Well worth renewing your membership then, or joining for the first time. Great value for money!

Calluna

New Shop!

We are excited to announce that Calluna has opened a second location in Dingwall! Open **Tuesday to Saturday 10-5pm**, Calluna Dingwall offers a selection of all our brands, accessories and gifts. Pop in and meet our team, Louise and Jenny, and discover the growing independent shops and galleries that Dingwall has to offer.

Calluna Cromarty has all its summer stock now available with a lovely selection of styles suitable for a Highland Summer (yes - we have new raincoats in:), as well as shorts, blouses, skirts, T-shirts and summer jackets. Lots of lovely dresses for special occasions too.

Open Monday to Saturday 10-5pm and Sunday 12-5pm.

To view what's new, visit our website www.callunacromarty.co.uk.

Gallery 48

This month we are looking forward to taking part in the Open Gardens weekend again. We hope that you all get an opportunity to enjoy our garden alongside the nature themed artwork and handmade crafts you can find here such as, 'Mrs Booth's Garden' by Pamela Grace and these Bee sippers & plant pot decorations by Joy McMillan!



Please let us know what you think, and/or continue to send suggestions and ideas for articles to editor@cromarty-courthouse.org.uk

We are grateful to Cromarty Courthouse for providing the digital platforms for the compilation process. Thanks too to the editorial team, Jeremy Price and Richard Robinson.



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