

DECEMBER 2020

# THE BLACK ISLE BULLETIN

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER OF  
THE BLACK ISLE PARTNERSHIP

## *Christmas in Our Community*

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MANAGER AT THE BLACK ISLE  
PARTNERSHIP

In this very unusual year in the life of our community, we all finally have a chance to experience festive magic. History shows that in the toughest periods this was often a time of relief, reflection and reconnection.

Every community has made a tremendous effort to make this year and winter as special as it could be. Thank you to all the volunteers who have provided time and energy to help others less fortunate in the way the pandemic has affected them.

Warmest Winter Wishes,  
Asia+Black Isle Partnership



**On the next page:**

**FUN ACTIVITIES TO DO ON THE  
BLACK ISLE OVER THE FESTIVE  
PERIOD**

The Highland Council would like to thank all the local organisations for their amazing help this year. If in need please ring the Council Helpline on  
0300 303 1362

# *Christmas Inspiration- spread the cheer!*

CONTRIBUTED BY BIP STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

The tree lights are now glistening all across our beautiful area, WinterWoodz is exciting children and adults, Christmas Markets are popping up all across the Black Isle and online, carols are being played every evening while we all hope to exchange gifts, kind deeds and words with our families and neighbours.

We have collected a medley of invites for you to participate in and spread some cheer:

1. Since March two trusty souls have kept their beards for a final of the Cromarty Bushy Beard competition- by video on Boxing Day at 11 am. They have decided that it should be in aid of a local charity (<https://www.jamessupportgroup.com/>) which aims to prevent suicide and help its survivors. Enormous beards will be judged and shaved off. Look out for a Facebook announcement on how to join the fun, place a vote and see Bob the Barbarian versus Nigella the White Whiskered Wizard!!
2. Follow the Advent Window Trail through Cromarty. A new Window is revealed each day until the 24th December and stays until Sunday 3rd January. For more info join the Cromarty Advent Window Trail FB page.
3. A Radio Play called 'When the Wind Blows', based on experiences of COVID will be available for download from Monday 21st December from [www.culbokieplayers.com](http://www.culbokieplayers.com), and is free to download. The group is hoping to raise money for Befrienders Highland so you can give freely if you want to support that cause.
4. Every day at 7PM Mel Langille of St Andrew's Church in Fortrose is playing carols on the bagpipe out on his doorstep. Able pipers are invited to join via Mel's Facebook or Noticeboard links, where you can find music sheets and recordings.
5. Winter Solstice Sea Swim is planned on Rosemarkie beach at 9 AM on 21st of December. Please join our friendly group of informal swimmers via Facebook or simply turn up.

*"Follow these activities tips for cheerful festivities and gifting experiences without spending a fortune."*

7. From December 21st to 28th, eight fir trees in Culbokie Woods will be decorated in environmentally friendly, hand-made Christmas decorations, many of which are being created by pupils at local school. Everyone is invited to find the decorated trees by following a trail map which will be available from the Spar Shop, Culbokie or online at <https://www.culbokiect.org/news.asp>. Families, adults, teenagers and children, all ages, are welcome to follow the trail.
8. As the Christmas festivities come to a close, why not join Culbokie Community Trust (CCT) for an informal quiz on December 27th? Sponsored by The Chocolate Place, this event will be the sixth CCT Quiz Night-In via zoom. All are welcome! To reserve a place for your team, or simply for more info please email [info@culbokiect.org](mailto:info@culbokiect.org)

