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Cullen Connected 

Edition 14, May '25

CULLEN

CONNECTED

KEEPING YOU INFORMED FROM
THE MULTI-FACETED CULLEN:
'THE DIAMOND OF MORAY'

Welcome to your Spring edition of the Cullen Connected newsletter.
Thanks again to those people and organisations who have submitted articles.

The newsletter is supported with funding from the Moray Health and Wellbeing Fund via TSiMoray and administered locally by the Cullen and Deskford Community Council.

This is a community newsletter and we welcome any person who would like to be involved. Many hands make light work so please do consider if you can help in any way, including delivering as we go out to every household in Cullen and Lintmill which is a lot of walking (you can do as little or as much as you like).

On 9th April, Princess Anne came to town. She took time to meet many people involved in all kinds of groups and everyone reported how interested she was in their stories. In this edition we will include a number of photos that were taken on the day, as space permits, so your newsletter will be a little larger than usual. We hope you will enjoy it just as much and that it is useful to you if you are looking to get involved in Cullen's wide range of activities.



Knitters Winnie Miller and Janet Wood welcome Cullen's royal visitor

Wildlife Watch

Well, Spring seems finally to have sprung, and nowhere has it sprung better than down at the beach.

The summer visitors - swallows, sand martins and the odd house martin have all been seen skimming over the sand feeding (hopefully on any midges they find). The eider ducks seem to have paired up, so hopefully not long until we see some fluffy ducklings.

On the cetacean front, the end of April and the beginning of May have been fantastic, with sightings of Bottlenose Dolphins as close as 120 metres from the shore and a possible sighting of Common Dolphins, which are actually not that common on the east coast. Little Harbour Porpoise which are only about a metre and a half have been seen and also Orca on several occasions, which can be around ten metres long. There have also been some grey and harbour (Common) seals.

The Whale and Dolphin Conservation are holding the first of this year's Big Watch Weekends on **5th, 6th and 7th June** from the beach car park, so if you are about and see any of the watchers please come and say hello.

The Scottish Dolphin Centre at Spey Bay will again be running Nature Champions activities for children aged **6-9** years to learn about nature every Thursday from **3rd July** up to **14th August**.

There is a small charge of **£3** per child. Booking through Eventbrite

Cullen and Deskford Parish Church

The annual Cullen and Deskford Parish Church Thrift Shop takes place from Tuesday **July 8th** to Saturday **July 12th**. We would greatly appreciate any donations of good quality household goods, electrical goods, dishes, clothes, bedding, shoes and handbags. Sorry, we can't take large items of furniture such as settees and beds. If you would like anything to be collected, please contact Dr. Kay Gauld on **07951 059272** and she will happily pick up your donations. Thanking you in anticipation of your usual kindness and generosity.

On **July 26th**, Dr. Kay, Mrs Sheila Sellar and the Rev. John Gow are doing a sponsored walk from Hopeman to Buckie - a total of 25 miles - to raise funds for the church. If anyone would like to join them to raise funds for their own charities, or would like to sponsor them, please contact Dr. Kay.

HANDS UP! Who knew there was a Viking Galley being built in Cullen?

If you're walking down by the Sea School any time it's open, wander in and have a look.

The boat is being built at the Sea School by 12 pupils from Banff Academy, under the experienced guidance of the Sea School's experts, Bert Reid, Willie Henderson and John Smith (pictured).

The Sea School was asked if they could build it by the Portsoy 75 Club who are celebrating the 50th anniversary of their group.

The Galley measures 8 metres long and 2 ½ metres wide. It will be adorned with shields designed by local primary schools and headed by a fantastic figurehead. All of the materials have been donated, much of the wood by Keith Builders Merchants, and is being built with no plan - it's a make it up as you go along job. On Saturday **30th August** it will be paraded around the streets of Portsoy – and then set fire to! It is hoped there will be over 200 torches, many of them coming down from Shetland.

Call in by and watch its progress. It's an exciting project for Cullen.

Oh, and there's plenty more going on at the Sea School too, Check them out for all kinds of watersports on offer.



Cullen Art Group

On Saturday **21st June** the group will be holding their annual Community Paint Out. This is open to everyone, no matter how well or badly you think you can paint or draw. It's a chance to be out in the inspiring surroundings of Cullen and to have a go. The group will be helped out by Art Teacher, Wendy Hay, along with Chairperson of the group, Sue Thornton. They will be moving between you all to give advice (only if wanted) and encouragement, or just to chat and top up your water pots.

Registration is at **10am** at the harbour and costs **£2** to cover the cost of refreshments. Children under **14** are free. The event finishes at **3pm** or whenever you are done and paintings will be displayed at the Annual Exhibition – with your permission of course. It's all for fun. There is no competition. Everyone who takes part is a winner! For more information contact cullenartgroup2024@gmail.com

The group will be holding their 40th Annual Summer Exhibition on Friday, **1st August** until Sunday **3rd August, 10am-5pm** each day. All new works. Lots of local scenes at affordable prices. And delicious home bakes. Free entry to all.

Cullen Centre Camera Club

Come and join the fun at Cullen Centre Camera Club - a relaxed welcoming space where photography lovers of all skill levels come together to learn, share, and grow. Whether you're just starting out or have years of experience, you'll find a supportive community eager to exchange ideas, explore new techniques, swap tips, and inspire creativity. We meet every Wednesday evening at The Haven from **7-9pm**.

No pressure - just a shared passion for capturing great shots and enjoying the journey together.

The Cullen Centre Camera Club have been working hard with the talented children at Cullen Primary School and are in the midst of completing the Cullen 2026 Calendar.

Don't miss our quiz night on Friday **13th June**. It starts at **7pm**, max 6 people in a team, **£5 pp** and is at the Community Centre. BYOB and snacks. Contact Anne at the Haven or book through the Community Centre.

Cullen and Deskford Community Council has launched a web site to help improve its engagement with the residents of Cullen and Deskford. The site contains:

Home – will always bring you back to the home page.

About CDCC – will provide you with information about the community council.

Engagement – provides information on various aspects of community engagement.

Election '25 –provides information on the upcoming community council elections due on **2nd October 2025**.

Planning – has information on the Moray Council planning process, and the latest planning applications being considered.

Resilience – has information on the resilience plan being developed, and some general information on community resilience and household resilience.

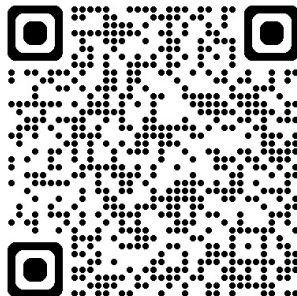
News – will hold a collection of the latest news posts loaded on the site.

Contact Us – has a contact form and other details on how to contact the community council.

Visitors can also register for an eNewsletter of the latest posts that appear on the site and will receive a weekly email.

Site Address: www.cullendeskford.org

Or use this QR code which will take you to the front page



Moray Community Council Elections '25

Elections to form the new Moray Community Councils for the next 4 years will take place on the **2nd October 2025**. Anyone who is over 16 and resident in the Cullen, Lintmill or Deskford areas is eligible to stand for election.

Community Councils form the bridge between the residents of an area and the local authority, Moray Council. They also organise local projects and events aimed at improving the lives of people within their community.

Watch out over the next few months for events promoting the work of the community council. For more information, contact info@cullendeskford.org, or visit the web site www.cullendeskford.org

Other recent things that your Community Council have been involved with are:

- Meet with Vattenfall representatives (Aultmore windfarm).
- Feedback regards Moray Council Campervan proposals consultation.
- Posting various information on social media and the new CDCC website.
- Having representation at the Moray Council JCC (Joint Community Council) meet.
- Continuing to support the Community lunches and Cullen Connected newsletter.

www: www.cullendeskford.org

Tel: 07549 040515

Cullen Bowling and Tennis Club

Cullen Bowling and Tennis Club's outdoor season started on **19th April**.

We extend an invitation to come and join us. Our regular days for playing are Monday and Thursday afternoons at **2pm**, evenings are Tuesday and Friday. All ages and beginners are welcome. Coaching is available.

We are to hold an Open/Fun Day on Sunday **15th June**. Come along and try your luck on various games, wheel of fortune, and tombola. A barbeque and bouncy castle will be available and you can try your hand at bowls or tennis (or both). Bar will be open with music. All welcome.

Our Open competitions will be held on **22nd June** and **7th September**.

Our hall is available to hire for parties, funeral teas, fund raising events etc. Contact Margaret on **07791968439**

Cullen Skink World Championships

Congratulations to Cullen's very own **Lynne Watson** on winning this prestigious competition. Lynne is based at **Lily's Kitchen Cafe** on Seafield Street. This is her second time of winning and we look forward to many more awards and many more of her bowls of Cullen Skink.

Along with all the cooking that was going on at the Cullen Skink Championships, the CDCC ran a drawing competition for the pupils of Cullen Primary school with the subject, "If Cullen Skink was a thing or animal, what would it look like?"

There were two winners, **Faith** and **Esme**, and each won a voucher to spend in local shops.

A member of the Cullen Art Group, Rhona Lewis, offered to interpret one of the drawings into a needlefelt model. This model will be displayed at the Tourist Information office. We are also looking to get this scanned and reproduced as a 3D object. Work on that is ongoing.



Colin Burch, Chairperson of the CDCC, with Faith, Rhona, Esme and the needlefelt Skink.

Cullen Community Lunches

Cullen Community Lunches continue throughout the summer. They will take place on the last Wednesday of every month and will be held at the Community Centre. If the location has to be changed for any reason because of a residential group being in the Centre, this will be advertised on Facebook Cullen's Past and Present page or people will be informed at the previous lunch. All welcome. Suggested donation £2.



Defibrillator Coffee Morning

This will take place on Saturday **26th July, 10am-12** at the Community Centre. As well as the usual coffee morning home bakes, butteries and unlimited coffee, it is hoped that each user group will take a stall and fundraise on that stall in whatever way they like, with all money being donated to buy a new defibrillator for the Centre. This is being co-ordinated by the BALL Group but they are hoping that all user groups will want to get involved to raise money for this lifesaving piece of equipment. Please contact the Centre if you can take part.

The Haven @ The Centre

The Haven @ The Centre is a welcoming community space open to everyone, from birth to 99 years! With a fun indoor and outdoor play area, kids can enjoy playing for free while adults relax. All food is freshly baked or cooked onsite in The Haven kitchen, offering a delicious, home-style experience. Every donation made helps keep The Haven and The Centre open and thriving, supporting everything from maintenance to activities.

The space is also available to hire, whether you need a room or the garden for parties, meetings, or group sessions. Volunteers are the heart of The Haven, doing everything from cleaning to serving with care and dedication. If you'd like to be part of this vibrant team, your help would be warmly welcomed. The Haven is more than just a café - it's a place where community grows, families connect, and everyone feels at home. Come and see what makes it special!



1st Cullen Rainbows and Brownies

1st Cullen Rainbows and Brownies meet every week during school term time having fun games and making friends. This term we have been out and about in our wonderful community of Cullen. At the Wakefield we had fun making Easter crafts, at the library enjoying some books and at the millennium garden we love helping watering the plants. We are looking forward to visiting the Lifeboat station at Buckie and our annual summer beach night.

GirlGuiding program girls can gain many bright colourful wonderful new badges.

Girls are welcome to join Rainbows from the age of 4 to 7 years then Brownies ages 7 to 10 years. Please go online to the GirlGuiding website to register your daughter or your interest in helping as an adult. Our volunteers are very valuable. If you are interested in helping at Rainbows or Brownies on a weekly basis please do get in touch with me or register your interest on GirlGuiding website.



Cullen Library

Every Thursday in May we host Lego Lates, 6–8pm

We have a Book Group – Our book this month is “Light over Liskeard” by Louis de Bernieres and our next book chat is Thursday 12th June.

More events and Story times to be added soon, keep an eye on our facebook page or pop into Cullen Library to find out more.

cullen.library@moray.gov.uk

01542 841140

Cullen Nursery

At Cullen nursery we come to the end of our first year as a ‘term time’ nursery. That means we follow school terms now instead of being open all year round.

Our children have had a busy year, learning, playing and being out in the community.

We had our first ever fundraiser back in the winter and are very thankful to the community for supplying us with so many wonderful prizes that we could ‘sell’ as raffles. This meant we raised just over **£900**. The children gave their views on what they would like for their nursery and the staff team worked hard to procure the items which ranged from magnetic toys, colouring pens to a Tonie story box. We really appreciate and thank everyone who offered a prize or bought a raffle, *Thank you!*

Discover Cullen

Discover Cullen is looking for some help approx 1-2 hours per month with treasurer type duties for the community tourism group. This would not be in the Tourist Office and can be done from home at a time to suit you.

If interested please email David at visit@discovercullen.com

Cullen seems to be becoming a big focus for some of the exciting challenges that it naturally lends itself to. In May alone it played a big part in the **Four Harbour Walk**, the **Ultramarathon** from Forres to Cullen and the **Five Harbours and an Island Row**. Here is an account of each by locals who took part.

Four Harbour Walk

Four members of our local 'run/walk' group set off on a cold and drizzly morning in May to walk the newly reinstated harbour walk. The route wound its way along the coastal path, beginning at Buckie Harbour along to Strathlene, and then up the cliff to skirt the golf course there. From there, our second harbour at Findochty came into view - just as the strong easterly, cold wind strengthened, and the rain began to fall.

From the harbour we climbed up into the teeth of the wind, up past the harbour at Portknockie and towards the majestic 'Bow Fiddle Rock', round the headland and on towards Cullen. The rain petered out, the sun broke through, and the views across the golden sands towards Cullen were beautifully framed by the yellow of the whin growing alongside the path. Down the steps we went, along the beach and on towards our fourth and final harbour, Cullen itself.

Once at Cullen, we enjoyed glorious sunshine. A right turn, up the brae and we were onto 'the line' to begin our way back to Buckie. The views from the viaduct were spectacular. Awaiting our arrival were freshly baked pancakes, a welcome cup of tea and... the added surprise of a MEDAL!!

Thank you to everyone involved in the arranging of this day - to the Rotary club of Banff, to Buckie Boys' Brigade, the pancake bakers and the tea servers..... and to all the volunteers who came out to marshal and steward, to keep us safe - your cheery smiles of encouragement added to the pleasure of the walk and somehow, helped make that half marathon much easier than anticipated. Well done everyone.



50 mile Moray Coastal Trail Ultramarathon

On Saturday **10th May** the finish of the **Ultramarathon** took place in Cullen . This annual event from Forres to Cullen saw John Anderson from the Chilled Running Club winning the race for the second year in succession.

John said of his run, "I kept the pace fairly even throughout as some stretches were very warm. Cullen could quite possibly be the most scenic finish line of any race. The view of Cullen after passing Portknockie and dropping onto the beach is stunning, you can see Cullen stretching out beneath the viaduct. The run towards it along the beach is pretty amazing. This is my personal favourite stretch of the Moray Coast"

Look out for John and the other runners when the ultramarathon returns to Cullen in **May 2026**.

Five Harbours and an island row

On the same day as the ultramarathon runners were battling their way along the coast, 234 rowers took part in the **Five Harbours and a Row** event. Rowers came from as far afield as Tayside and the Black Isle with a total of 20 skiffs. Yachts and motor boats also joined the route and dolphins accompanied them along the way.

Setting off from Portsoy Harbour they ticked off Sandend, Cullen, Portknockie, Findochty and the tiny island (rock?) of Craigenroan off Strathlene, before ending the challenge at Findochty.

The event was organised by the Findochty Water Sports Club and raised a total of **£1200** which will be donated to the RNLI and the toilet fund.



Cullen Christmas Lights

Cullen Christmas Lights are holding a VE80 Celebration in the Hall Church on **June 21st** to raise funds. All our income has to be fundraised. Our main source is the weekly Bonus Ball. We have a few numbers available so if you would like to support the Christmas Lights please contact Jean Slater on **01542 840836**. It costs **£5** a month. We would like to thank the many people who have supported us in this way for many years.

Preparations are underway to upgrade the viaduct lights to low power and efficient LED. We also hope to replace some of the older street lights.

A few committee members were pleased to meet Princess Anne but it was a shame it was such a chilly day to be standing outside.

Cullen, Deskford and Portknockie Heritage Group

The next meeting of Cullen Deskford & Portknockie Heritage Group is at **2pm** on Monday, **2nd June** in the Hall Church when Colin Shearer and Nick Brown will report on Mason Mark research at Cullen Old Kirk. All welcome.

Cullen Heritage Centre has been busy welcoming visitors to this year's displays, in particular the large extension to the highly acclaimed and detailed scale model of Old Cullen.

The Centre is open every day apart from Wednesdays from **10.30am to 4.30pm** and admission is still free.



You may have seen an increasing number of the **m.connect** buses going around the area and wondered how they work. Well, there is the DRT (Direct Response Transport) service that you can get by booking a trip on the m.connect app or by phone, and the **309** service which covers Cullen, Buckie and Keith providing a direct link to Keith railway station.

First of all, the app or “on demand” service.

You can book a trip through the m.connect app - available on the Apple App Store and Google Play Store, or by calling **0300 1234565** (Monday to Friday). This can be done **14** days in advance or at the latest, **one hour** in advance. Open up the app and choose your desired pick up and drop off locations. This doesn't need to be at a bus stop if there isn't one near you, it can be anywhere including your home address and you can even flag down the **309 Service** bus if away from a close-by bus stop in an urban area. Specify your desired travel time both to where you are going, and if required, the return trip. The sooner you book, the more chance you will have of getting the specific time you would like. Occasionally the bus may not be able to accommodate your trip specifics because it has to work alongside other passengers who wish to travel.

Passengers regularly book, say, Cullen to Lidl and at the same time they can book the bus for the return trip, allowing say an hour to shop then hop on the bus with all their bags of shopping to go home. Or you can use it for doctors' appointments, visiting friends, etc.

If you have a concession card then this can be used for your journey. If not, fares are in line with Stagecoach services.

It's a great service - just a small step down from having your own Uber! Support it when you can.

The 309 Service bus

Here's an account from one regular passenger.

“Ever since the **309** was introduced to service the Cullen to Buckie to Keith route it has become an indispensable lifeline for me. I am not allowed to drive but this service allows me to work, attend health appointments and take part in leisure activities. Living rurally has its challenges but having the **309** allows me to stay within the community and not detached from it.

The drivers are welcoming and helpful. I see this in action when it comes to our elderly population. The buses are clean and well maintained and the really nice aspect is that friendships have been formed by the regulars of this service. Like all public services, they have constraints placed upon them but we are very fortunate to have this service. Long may it continue”.

Cullen Camera Collective

Capturing Life On The Coast

Cullen Camera Collective (CCC) is a vibrant local photography group based in Cullen, made up of enthusiastic members who share a love of photography, whether using cameras, mobile phones, or experimental techniques.

We meet weekly at Cullen Sea School for relaxed, friendly sessions that explore everything from landscape and portrait photography to editing skills and creative projects. Alongside indoor workshops, we regularly head out to capture the striking light and scenery of the Moray coast.

CCC will have a stand at the Cullen Gala on Sunday **27th July**, hosted by Cullen Sea School. We'll be offering pet portrait photography for just **£5** - a great opportunity for a professional photo of your much-loved companion. You can also browse a selection of members' work and chat to us about what we do.

As part of our commitment to the local community, CCC also offers free event photography to community groups and good causes in the area. If you're organising a local event and would like professional - quality images to record and promote it, we're happy to help - just get in touch via our website.

Cullen Camera Collective continues to thrive thanks to the commitment of its members and support from the wider community. Our focus is on creativity, connection, and capturing the spirit of life along the coast.

Find out more about our work at

www.cullencameracollective.co.uk

The Cullen Allotment Association

The Cullen Community Allotment Association facility is located just outside Cullen on the road to Lintmill. The site has 35 plots of varying sizes, four raised beds, a polycrub for growing tender plants and plant propagation, a pond to encourage wildlife, and four beehives. The facility provides a source of fresh vegetables, outdoor exercise, a sense of achievement and opportunities to meet others. At present, all the plots and polycrub bays are taken but if you wish to join the waiting list, details can be found at <http://ccaa.scot> Priority is given to residents from the Cullen area but those from wider afield such as Portsoy and Buckie are welcome.

Cullen and Deskford Parish Church

Regular Sunday morning worship has resumed at the Auld Kirk and will be held there until the end of October. The service on the first Sunday of the month will be at the Hall Church at **11am**. All other Sundays the service will be at the Auld Kirk at **10.30am**. We continue to have joint services with Portsoy and Cornhill. Dates of all services are posted on our website and notice boards.

Auld Kirk open days – The Auld Kirk is now open to visitors from **2-4pm**. It is open Tuesday, Friday and Saturday during May and September and Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday during the months of June, July and August. Admission is free.

Lacemakers @ Cullen

Lacemakers @ Cullen have been meeting in Cullen Community Centre on Monday afternoons since February 2022. We started with 8 members all with different levels of experience in lacemaking and each with the desire to improve their skills and promote lacemaking. We enjoy getting involved in events in the Community Centre such as the Christmas Craft Fair, the recent Royal visit and Art Group Coffee Morning.

By raising awareness of our group and demonstrating our craft at these events we have recently welcomed four new enthusiastic members into the group. Several of our members attend courses alongside lacemakers from throughout Scotland.

To celebrate International Lace Day we are hosting an Open Day on Sunday **6th July** and are looking forward to welcoming lacemakers from other groups and other fellow crafters to join us. Anyone curious to learn about lacemaking is welcome to come along and have a go.

Tea, coffee and cakes will be available.

Cullen Pensioners Club

Come and enjoy an afternoon of friendship, entertainment and a cuppa with pancakes and fancy pieces. We start our meetings again on **October 13th** at **2pm** till **4pm** in the Hall Church, York Place, Cullen. We meet on the 2nd Monday of the month.

Three of our members were lucky enough to meet HRH Princess Anne when she visited Cullen in April. She was interested why we had the Pensioners Club and was impressed when told we had entertainment, outings and special lunches. So come and join us.

Singing and Music Teacher

I am a friendly and experienced singing teacher and have been living in North East Scotland since the end of 2023. I am now teaching from my studio in Portknockie. I have been teaching singing and woodwind for over 20 years and taught from home and in schools in Sussex. I was also a primary school teacher and additional support teacher.

I cover all aspects of voice training and am a strong believer in teaching how to sing in a safe way but most of all to enjoy and feel confident in your voice. I have a pupil centred approach and have taught all ages (7 to 70+) and to those with many different goals - from increasing confidence to taking exams.

I am PVG registered.

I will be charging **£15**/half hour lesson initially.

I also teach recorders, sax, clarinet and music theory.

Check out my website ryderweldonmusic.com

Contact: **07791873205** ElizabethRWmusic@protonmail.com

Elizabeth Ryder-Weldon (BA Music.P.G.C.E)

Electricity Meters

Some electric meters are due to be switched off in June.

The Radio Teleswitch Service (RTS) meter technology, which some electricity meters use to switch between peak and off-peak rates, is set to be switched off on **June 30, 2025**.

If you have an RTS meter and don't arrange for a replacement with your energy supplier, your heating and hot water may stop working. It is important to note that this **WILL NOT** cut off your basic electricity though aspects of your supply – such as overnight electric useage - may be affected.

Further information can be obtained from your electricity supplier, or from home energy Scotland website

www.homeenergyscotland.org

Mobile Mechanic

Hi. I am a Mobile Mechanic based in Cullen. I cover all areas locally and I'm happy to travel outside area. Vehicle servicing and repairs carried out at your home or place of work. Performance you can trust, service you can rely on.

To get a quote, please call or email

Roger Gregory - gregoryroger123@gmail.com **07926 136975**

Sauna at The Kings, Cullen Beach

Think saunas are just for snowy Scandinavians in woolly hats? Think again. Sauna at the Kings' beachside sauna is here to turn that myth into steam! Nestled right on our glorious shoreline, it's the perfect way to sweat out stress, toast your toes, and pretend you're in a Viking wellness retreat.

Myth: "It's too hot in summer for a sauna"

Truth: This is Scotland it's never too hot! That's like saying it's too wet for a swim.

Myth: "I won't know what to do."

Truth: Sit. Sweat. Dip. Smile. Repeat.

Myth: "It's only for wild swimmers"

Truth: It's healthy fun and makes you feel great! You don't even have to go in the sea!

Come join us at Sauna at the Kings —Bring your swimsuit, 2 towels, water to drink, your curiosity, and a healthy respect for the sea. See you in the steam! Our lovely team is ready to welcome you Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Mondays, booking online - www.saunaatthekings.co.uk

Cullen Square Noticeboard

The glass has now been replaced by the Cullen & Deskford CC.

This is a public use noticeboard, for informing people of what's happening.

It would be appreciated if any notices could be put in place via the Cullen Tourist Initiative, or the Cullen & Deskford CC.

Contact details for those are:

CTI: visit@discovercullen.com

CDCC: cullendeskfordcc@gmail.com; Tel: 07549 040515

Things To Do...Places To Go...People To Meet

Archery, Mondays, Community Centre, 6.30pm – 9pm

Art for Life meets downstairs at the Community Centre every Tuesday, 1pm – 4pm. More information can be obtained from the Centre.

Moray Citizens' Advice Bureau. bureau@moraycab.org.uk, Tel: 01343 559004

Cullen Art Group meets every Tuesday, 9-12, upstairs at the Community Centre. Email for more information or to be added to the waiting list. cullenartgroup2024@gmail.com

Cullen BALL Group meets on a Thursday, 10am till 12 at the Centre. Gentle(ish) physical activities for the first hour and gentle(ish) brain activities or talks for the second. Everyone welcome. Just come along.

Cullen Community Allotment Association (CCAA) leases allotment plots, polycrub facilities, and raised box beds to the Cullen community, see www.ccaa.scot To express an interest contact secretary@ccaa.scot

Cullen Bowling and Tennis Club welcomes new members. Reidhaven Place, Cullen. Phone 01542 840118

Cullen Centre Camera Club, meets at the Community Centre every Wednesday from 7-9pm. Ring Anne Welford or just come along. 07901815678

Cullen Community Centre. info@cullencrc.org.uk 01542 840701

Cullen Golf Club. Cheryl Smith, Club Secretary, Cullen Links Golf Club, 01542 840685

1st Cullen Guides meet at the Hall Church on a Wednesday, 7-8.30pm during school terms. Contact: Carolyn Mowat, Email: cullenguides@gmail.com

Hackers and Tackers, Mondays, Community Centre. 9.30am – 12.30pm

The Haven @ The Centre is open on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9am-3pm. Open to all ages. Lots of toys for the little ones and a chance to meet up for a coffee, a light lunch and delicious home bakes with your friends.

The Heritage Centre is open from 10.30am-4.30pm every day except Wednesdays. Come and see the special model of Old Cullen and imagine what life was like here many years ago. Entry free.

Things To Do...Places To Go...People To Meet

Knit and Yarn, Wednesdays, Community Centre, 10am – 12 noon

Lacemakers, Mondays, Community Centre, 1.30pm – 4pm. For information contact Anita 07849643255

Latin Language, Thursdays, Community Centre 2pm – 3pm

Cullen Library, Opening hours, Tuesday 2-5 and 6-8pm, Thursday 2-5 and 6-8pm, and Saturday 10-12.

Email: Cullen.library@moray.gov.uk, Tel: 01542 841140

Cullen Community Lunches are held on the last Wednesday of the month through summer (they will be twice a month from October). Cullen Community Centre, 12 noon. Food served till 12.45pm but stay as long as you like.

Menopause Cafe at Cullen Community Centre. First Saturday of the month from 10.30am-12.30pm. Chat in a relaxed and welcoming space about all things meno.

Men's Shed, Mondays 10-12 and Wednesdays, Community Centre (round the back), 7pm – 9pm

Needles and Pins. Fridays, 1.30-3.30pm at Cullen Community Centre. Informal group – knitting, sewing, crochet, etc. Beginners very welcome. Contact Pat Bardill pat.bardill@gmail.com

North East Sensory Services support people across Moray who are living with significant sight and/or hearing loss. They also organise social activities. For further information visit www.nesensoryservices.org/location/moray/, phone 0345 271 2345 or email info@nesensoryservices.org

Cullen Nursery, Emma Gillings, Cullen Nursery & Findochty Nursery Manager. Emma.Gillings@moray.gov.uk, 07812969106

Patchwork, Wednesdays, Community Centre, 1.30pm – 4.30pm, Saturdays 10am-4pm

Cullen Pensioners' Club meets on the second Monday of each month in the Hall Church, York Place, Cullen at 2 pm. For details contact Vera on 840186

1st Cullen Rainbows and Brownies, meet at the Hall Church, Cullen. Contact Karen Burgess. Karen.burgess95@yahoo.co.uk 07513785594

3HA Cullen Sea School, Port Long Road. Boat Building workshop open Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings, 9 – 11.30am. SUPs can be booked via website. Weekly coastal rowing available depending on weather and tides. Room bookings available. Enquiries@cullenseaschool.co.uk

Cullen Shorewatch. Watching for wildlife in and around Cullen Bay, in particular Whales and Dolphins. There are no set times to watch as a lot depends on the weather and sea state, but see Graham Kidd in the corner of the beach car park next to the notice board if he is there. For more details contact Scottish Dolphin Centre at Spey Bay. Telephone: 01343820339, Email: dolphincentre@whales.org

“Just Sing” is an enthusiastic and informal group that meets in the Cullen Community Centre on a Tuesday evening at 7-9pm to sing easy and harmonious melodies. For more details email:- beverleybaxter@gmail.com

Blue Coast Surf & Paddle. Meeting point is our Surf shack at Cullen Beach or Paddleboard Trailer at the harbour - booking essential. Contact information bluecoastcullen.co.uk, hello@bluecoastcullen.co.uk, 07450 403794.

The Moray Coast U3A is a self-help organisation to promote continued education and activities in retirement. There are a number of groups available and new members are always welcome. Email Jane at janencu3a1@yahoo.com

U3A Tennis, Mondays, 10am – 12noon, Community Centre.

Health walks. Meet every Friday at the Community centre at 1.30pm. Walks last approximately an hour and are all on good paths. The walks are a supportive and welcoming way for you to start enjoying the many benefits of being physically active.

What's On

Sunday 25th May, 12-3pm. Cullen Bike Fest. All kinds of fun on bikes. Under the Viaduct.

Wednesday 28th May, 12-12.45pm. Cullen Community Lunch at the Community Centre. All welcome.

Monday, 2nd June, 2pm. Cullen Deskford & Portknockie Heritage Group talk by Colin Shearer and Nick Brown on Mason Mark research at Cullen Old Kirk. Held at the Hall Church. All welcome.

Thursday 5th to Saturday 7th June. The Whale and Dolphin Conservation are holding the first of this year's Big Watch Weekends from the beach car park. Come and take part.

Sunday 8th June, 11am-1pm. Cullen Community Volunteering Fair at the Seafield Arms Hotel.

Thursday 12th June, Cullen Library Book chat. Our book this month is "Light over Liskeard" by Louis de Bernieres.

Friday 13th June, 7pm, Cullen Community Centre. Cullen Centre Camera Club quiz night. £5pp, teams up to 6 people. BYOB and snacks.

Sunday 15th June. Open/fun day at the Bowling Club.

Tuesday 17th June, Cullen & Deskford CC meets 7pm at the Community Centre

Saturday 21st June, 10am-3pm. Cullen Community Paint Out. Register at harbour around 10am. A fun day for everyone.

Saturday June 21st, Hall Church. VE80 Celebration to raise funds for the Cullen Christmas Lights.

Wednesday 25th June, 12-12.45pm. Cullen Community Lunch at the Community Centre. All welcome.

Sunday 6th July, Cullen Lacemakers Open Day. Cullen Community Centre. Come and meet lacemakers and fellow crafters from other groups. Anyone curious to learn about lacemaking is welcome to come along and have a go. Tea, coffee and cakes will be available.

Tuesday 8th to Saturday 12th July. Cullen and Deskford Church annual Thrift Shop at the Hall Church.

Saturday 26th July, 10-12. Coffee morning at the Community Centre to raise funds for a new defibrillator for the Centre. Lots of exciting stalls. All user groups are encouraged to take part.

Saturday 26th July. Dr. Kay, Sheila Sellar and the Rev. John Gow are doing a sponsored walk from Hopeman to Buckie - a total of 25 miles - to raise funds for the church. If anyone would like to join them you'd be very welcome.

Sunday 27th July. Cullen Gala coordinated by Cullen Sea School.

Wednesday 30th July, 12-12.45pm. Cullen Community Lunch at the Community Centre (location to be confirmed). All welcome.

Fri 1st to Sunday 3rd August, 10am-5pm. Cullen Art Group's 40th Annual Art Exhibition, Community Centre. Free entry. Teas and home bakes. Lots of local scenes at affordable prices.

Tuesday 19th August, Cullen & Deskford CC meets 7pm at the Community Centre

Wednesday 27th August, 12-12.45pm. Cullen Community Lunch at the Community Centre. All welcome.

Saturday 30th August, Portsoy. The Cullen-built Viking Galley is being paraded around the streets of Portsoy and then set fire to, to celebrate Portsoy 75 Club's 50th anniversary.

Tuesday 16th September, Cullen & Deskford CC meets 7pm at the Community Centre

Wednesday 24th September, 12-12.45pm. Cullen Community Lunch at the Community Centre. All welcome.

Thursday 2nd October. Election of new Community Council representatives.

October 13th, 2-4pm. Hall Church. Cullen Pensioners restart.



Royal Visit programme by Radio Buckie

Although their wee room in the Cullen Community Centre is currently out of action (it's upstairs and getting altered as part of the Centre's refurbishment), the Radio Buckie team still managed to be involved in Princess Anne's visit to the Centre recently and made a highly interesting programme all about it. As a recording, it will no doubt go down in the annals of Cullen! Just go to their website to listen any time at your convenience

Web: www.radiobuckie.co.uk

Radio Buckie tries to make programmes that are relevant to the local catchment area, so if you have any ideas, or would like a programme made that involves you and/or your friends, just get in touch with the team at the Centre or email

E-mail: admin@radiobuckie.co.uk