THE CRAMOND ASSOCIATION
INVESTING IN CRAMOND, BARNTON & CAMMO

Cramond Association AGM – Annual Report: 30 April 2026

The Cramond Association has enjoyed a consistently successful year, mainly focusing on delivering our 'core' activity areas, which are:

- Social Events
- Cinema Club
- Litter Picks
- Woodlands Group
- History Section

These are reported on in more depth in the next section. We have also worked closely with our community partners, especially the Community Council, to provide information on, and support our members views on the following important local campaigns:

- Cramond Foreshore Redevelopment
- Edinburgh Airport Noise Advisory Board
- Cramond Campus Redevelopment

Action Group

Our Action Group has continued to direct and deliver all our project work, meeting on the second Monday of every month throughout the year in the Cramond Inn, and we enjoy well-attended and lively participation and productive debate. We are pleased to welcome a new Action Group member. Rebecca Favier, who is providing a great help in recording our Action Group meetings and improving our marketing and communications activity. The two formal roles (i.e. the ones that we need to vote for at the AGM) are that of Action Group Co-ordinator (currently Richard Bright) and Treasurer (currently Jenny Purcell).

Section Activity 2025/26

Social Events: We hosted a new season launch social event and quiz evening at the Cramond Inn, and more recently a poetry and music evening in partnership with The Cramond Writers Group, also at the Cramond Inn. We also enjoyed a very successful Carols by Candlelight evening at the Kirk Halls in December which was, once again, a sell-out, and included contributions from both the Cramond Writers and Drama Groups. We continue to support the Cramond Drama Group who put on three sold-out pantomime performances in December, and are currently planning a murder-mystery tea party event in June this year.

Cinema Club: This year we ran a reduced program of screenings over the winter period. Films included 'Hidden Figures', a biographical drama about the women mathematicians behind the scenes of NASA's space race of the 1960's. We also screened "Wicked Little Letters", a 2024 period comedy, starring Olivia Colman and Jessie Buckley, based on the true 1920's Littlehampton scandal.
We are currently seeking promotion and sponsorship for a full season of movies, starting later in the year into Spring 2027. If you would like to suggest a film, want to sponsor one or more screenings or would like to join the Cinema Club team, then please let us know.

Litter Picks: Our litter pickers have met 10 times over the past year, usually the first Sunday of the month, to spend about an hour tidying-up locations around Cammo, Barnton and Cramond. We often partner with other local groups, like Friends of Cammo and Friends of the River Almond Walkway. Number of volunteers has ranged from 3 to 15. We use equipment supplied by the Council, who also uplift the filled rubbish bags.

Woodlands Group: Our Woodland Group has been kept busy this year with pruning, planting, laying paths and generally trying to keep the balance in the woodlands behind the Kirk Hall. We meet one morning a month, on average six volunteers come along to help. Over the last 12 months we've dealt with fallen trees due to storm damage and cut back excessive ivy growth around our ancient trees. We've had help from the Cubs, Scouts, Guides and Cargilfield School to spread woodchip on muddy paths, seed beautiful wildflowers and create wildlife homes with fallen branches. We've also unveiled our first two art installations in the local area - the Drystane Seat 'Viewing Pew' and the Deodar Cedar Table.

History Section: This has been a successful season, with speakers on a variety of topics and attendances topping 20 even in winter. We are grateful to the Cramond Association for making it possible to join the History Section online at the same time as the Association. This has brought us a good number of new members, with our total – currently 40 members – creeping back to pre-Covid levels. Since New Year 2026, we have heard our member Val Dean speak on her father's archive illustrating his experiences in the First World War, Professor Jane Geddes on her research into Pictish carving at St Vigean's in Angus, Jackie Sangster of HES on maps' stories 'From Lauriston to Leith', and our Convenor Norah Carlin on the Corstorphine Witch Hunt of 1649. A group visit to Trinity House Museum is taking place in May.

Campaigns

We are continuing to create the impetus to drive the longer-term redevelopment of the Cramond Foreshore and Car Park, and members' views (which we will canvass at the AGM) are essential as we work with the City of Edinburgh Council to drive this process. We also have continued to play an important role on the Edinburgh Airport Noise Advisory Board and, again, will be seeking members' views on Night Time flights at the AGM. We continue to support the Community Council in providing information on the proposed sporting amenity at Cramond Campus by developers AMA, and remain highly frustrated (like everyone else) at the lack of progress on this project.

Membership

Our rolling membership model has continued to work well, with people able to join at any point in the year for a 12-month period. We now have a substantial online (and lapsed) membership database which allows for fluid and consistent communication with members, and continue to embrace a 12-month activity programme. We focus on the early autumn as a focal point to join/renew membership. Annual fees will remain at £20 for families and £10 for individuals and membership currently sits at 80 individuals and 109 households; an increase of around 15 % from this time last year.

Marketing and Promotion

Working closely with our design agency Links Design, we continue to produce regular newsletters and updates for all our members, and we will be updating our website and communications platforms for 2026. We maintain a social media presence through regular Facebook postings and our two local noticeboards are regularly updated with Association information. We also promote our activities in the Kirk's order of service and other local publications for those without email access.

What Next?

We now have a well-defined and proven activity structure and delivery platforms which we will continue to support during the coming year. High on our agenda will be encouraging recruitment for the new 'season' and we will look to partner with Cramond Primary School in engaging with a new generation of Association members. Expanding our Action Group remit whilst managing our budgets will also be a critical priority, so all suggestions and offers of help will be welcome! Finally, continuing our collaborative approach with the myriad of local groups and organisations will continue to underpin all activity.

Richard Bright, Action Group Coordinator: 30/04/26