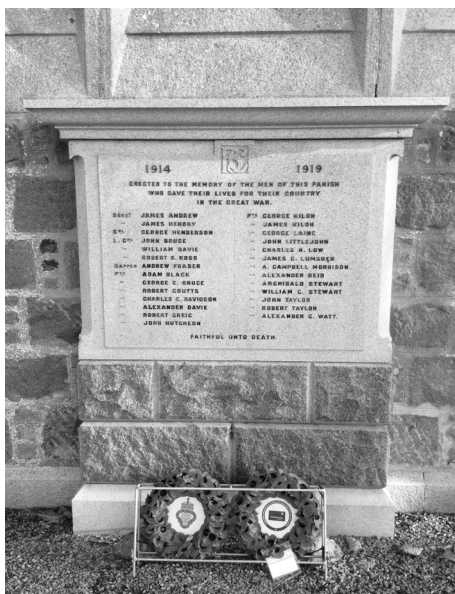


TBC

Tarves and Barthol Chapel
Quarterly Newsletter

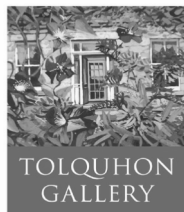
DECEMBER 2017 Issue 43



They shall grow not old,
As we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them,
Nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun,
And in the morning
We will remember them.



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NEW TBC EDITOR

We are delighted to announce that we have a new Editor - Ruth Nisbet. Many of you will already know Ruth through the organisations she is already involved in; namely Heritage, Church, Messy Church and now that she has retired from the NHS, she has kindly agreed to take over the position of Editor of the TBC. We welcome her on board.

All future articles & adverts from January 2018 onwards
will now go to Ruth and her email is
tbc.editor@btinternet.com

Deadline for the next edition is Friday 9 February 2018

The Manse
8 Murray Avenue
Tarves

Dear Friends

This will be our first Christmas in Tarves and Barthol Chapel. As I write this letter, it is only the middle of November, but already people I meet are looking forward with enthusiasm to the Christmas season and all the special events which we hold at this time of year to celebrate Jesus' birth.

And it is not only in Tarves that people are looking forward to Christmas. In our cities Christmas markets are beginning to set up their stalls. Christmas adverts are appearing on the television. Musicians have been getting ready to release their latest songs, planning their dates carefully to give them a chance of a Christmas Number One. The middle of November may seem early to be thinking about Christmas but some research has shown that we are beginning to think about Christmas earlier each year. Apparently many people are now beginning to plan their Christmas festivities in August!

We might wonder at this, but there is nothing new in anticipating or preparing for Christmas:

- In the Bible, the Old Testament anticipates the coming of Christ not in terms of weeks or months or even years, but in terms of centuries. A people are prepared to welcome a new king whose reign of justice and love will know no end.

- In the New Testament messengers from heaven announce the coming birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. A family is prepared to receive, nurture and protect God's Son.
- On the world stage a strong Roman Empire has established peace in a region that will become the cradle of Christianity and has created a network of communication that will allow the good news of Jesus Christ to go out to all the world.

When all is prepared and ready and the time is right, God in Jesus Christ enters the world. And over the next 2000 years the Church will place a greater or lesser significance on the season of Advent – the four weeks before Christmas - as a time of preparation. During this season of Advent, we are encouraged to examine our lives, and to prepare our hearts and minds to welcome once again the love and forgiveness God offers us in Christ.

It is this kind of preparation that is the theme of so many of the great hymns we sing at this time of year. One hymnwriter captures the anticipation and the excitement of Advent in these words

*Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
With the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look East, and sing today:
Love, the Lord is on the way.*

By the time you read this we will have entered Advent. Love, the Lord is on the way! Here in the parishes of Barthol Chapel and Tarves special services are planned for this season. You will find the details of these on the next page. I hope that in the midst of all the other preparations that this time of year involves, you will make time to join us for some or all of these services. You will be very welcome as, together, we prepare to celebrate the mystery and the miracle of God's coming into the world in Jesus Christ, with all the possibilities of light and life and healing and wholeness that this wonderful mystery offers to the world.

I wish you all a joyful and peaceful Christmas season and every blessing in 2018

Alison I Swindells
Parish Minister



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

May
Peace
be your gift
at
Christmas
and your
Blessing
all year
through.

3 December 1st Sunday in Advent	9:45am	Barthol Chapel	Morning Worship led by Worship Group followed by tea & coffee
	11:15am	Tarves Church	Morning Worship followed by tea & coffee
	4:00pm	Ythanbank Mission Hall	Advent Service led by Formartine Youth Partnership
10 December 2nd Sunday in Advent	9:45am	Barthol Chapel	Morning Worship
	11:15am	Tarves Church	Morning Worship
	11:00am	Messy Church in Youth Hall followed by Lunch	
17 December 3rd Sunday in Advent	9:45am	Barthol Chapel	Morning Worship
	11:15am	Tarves Church	Morning Worship followed by tea & coffee and warm mince pies
	6:45 for 7:00pm	Barthol Chapel	Candlelit lessons & Carols followed by mulled wine, mince pies and more
24 December Christmas Eve	9:45am	Barthol Chapel	All-age Service followed by tea, coffee & mince pies
	11:15am	Tarves Church	Service of Lessons and Carols
	7:00pm	Joint all-age worship in Tarves Church with mulled wine, hot chocolate, warm mince pies	
25 December Christmas Day	10:15am	Tarves Church	Joint all-age Christmas Day Service
31 December 1st Sunday after Christmas	9:45am	Barthol Chapel	Morning Worship followed by Communion
	11:15am	Tarves Church	Morning Worship followed by Communion

TARVES KIRK SESSION NEWS

Sunday Worship

Unless otherwise intimated -

- *Tarves Kirk at 11.15am*
- *Refreshments on first Sunday of the month*
- *Informal Communion after worship on the last Sunday of the month.*

Special Services

‘A Life of Freedom’ Sermon Series

The series on the Ten Commandments has proved both popular and challenging. Alison’s preaching has enabled us to look at the commandments in a new light. The house group ‘Beyond the Sermon’ provided further time for discussion and was well attended by folk from Barthol Chapel and Tarves.

Harvest Festival

The church looked wonderful thanks again to the team that decorated it so beautifully. All the donations of produce went to the Aberdeenshire North Foodbank appeal. We are very grateful for the generous support of Tarves community.

Harvest Home Supper was another great night with good food and great entertainment. It’s always a treat! Many thanks to everyone who contributes in any way.

Ordination of New Elders

On October 22nd we were delighted to welcome Joan McGill, Danny Ross and Pieter van der Vyver to the Kirk Session as serving elders. It was a very special occasion.

Holy Communion

Alison conducted her first Autumn Communion and the good sized congregation enjoyed an excellent and thought provoking service.

Remembrance Sunday

The service was well attended and we were pleased to welcome visitors including representatives from Tarves Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. Alison’s conduct of worship was particularly moving being enhanced by the responsive piece, ‘Litany for Remembrance Sunday’, which helped us to focus on Christ the Light of the World. Particularly poignant is the reading of the local names in the roll of honour, highlighting our desire for peace and ensuring that ‘We will remember them.’

Ongoing Outreach

Tuesday Coffee Mornings in the Kirk

These are well supported and provide a weekly opportunity for socialising and sharing. Why not pop along between 10 & 11am for a cuppa and blether with friends old and new – all ages are most welcome. 6

Tarves Breakfasts in the Youth Hall

Most folk enjoy an occasional cooked breakfast and this is borne out by the continued support of the wider community. Look out for the notices in the village beforehand.

Annual Soup 'n Sweet

The team provided a superb lunch with a huge array of soups and puddings to tempt every palate. This is a firm favourite in the Tarves calendar. Around £750 was cleared after expenses.

See next TBC for our fundraising total for 2017.

'Thank YOU!' to everyone who supports these events by attending or helping in any way. There are far too many folk involved to mention them all.

Advent and Christmas

Advent starts on December 3rd and we look forward to sharing this special time with Alison.

Aberdeenshire North Foodbank Appeal - This Festive Season and beyond

The use of local Foodbanks has become a necessity for many families and single people, whatever time of the year. The Kirk Session with your help, would like to support this local need and will set up a regular collection box in the church for donations over the next year. Items of groceries or toiletries can be donated from December 3rd onwards, Thank you.

Christmas Eve Carol Service at 7.00pm

A very warm welcome awaits you at this family friendly service. Join together afterwards for mince pies, mulled wine, hot chocolate and marshmallows. Music before, during and after will be provided by Katherine Williams (piano/organ) and Harry Bichard (saxophone). Enjoy singing some of your favourite Christmas carols and hearing the story of Jesus' birthday.

Nkhoma Appeal There will be a Christmas Eve collection for Nkhoma Hospital in Malawi to provide funds for much needed medication for young children with insulin dependant Type 1 diabetes.

Christmas Day: Joint all-age service at 10.15am

All will be most welcome.

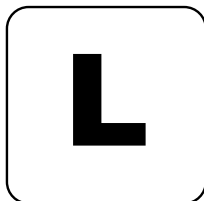
Since Rev Alison Swindells joined us in May we have all enjoyed getting to know one another. Alison's conduct of worship, pastoral care and friendliness are very much appreciated.

My thanks to the Kirk Session and congregation for all your hard work and support over the last year.

May I wish you and your families every blessing for Christmas and the New Year.

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CHURCH FLOWER ROTA 2018

Month		Flower Rota	Flower Delivery
January	7	Mary Centre	Mary Centre
	14	Edith Annand	Patty Massie
	21	Margaret Barrack	Margaret Barrack
	28	Janet Swinton	Janet Swinton
February	4	Ivy Lynch	Janice Paton
	11	Mabel Mitchell	Edith / Eileen
	18	Edith Innes	Edith Innes
	25	Beth Gray	Betty Mitchell
March	4	Isobel Laing	Isobel Laing
	11	Sheila Hodge	Sheila Hodge
	18	Frances Crichton	Frances Crichton
	25	Margo Britton	Kathleen Taylor

Thank you to everyone who gives flowers and kindly delivers them each week. This is very much appreciated by all who receive them.

TUESDAY CHURCH CAFÉ

The last Coffee Morning in the Church for 2017 will be on **Tuesday 12 December** and we will resume again on **Tuesday 9 January 2018** from 10am – 11am when everyone is very welcome to join us for a cuppa and blether.

Thank you to everyone who has come along throughout the year and we hope to see you all again next year. If you are new to the area you will be made most welcome – it is a great way to spend an hour on a Tuesday morning.



“Seasons Greetings to one and all”



The Poppy Scotland Appeal raised £828.36 from

Barthol Chapel and Tarves areas.

Thank you to everyone who donated.

A collage of three black and white photographs: an excavator digging, a tractor pulling a trailer, and a close-up of a hydraulic pump assembly.

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MOIRA ALLAN

Sadly, we have to share the news that Moira Allan passed away on 21 October this year.

Moira lived in the village for a number of years and was the Editor of the TBC from its beginning in 2005 until she decided to move back to Aberdeen in the spring of 2016.

Moira was a very friendly person, was often seen out and about chatting to people and supported many village activities during her time in Tarves. Her early career had been as a PE Teacher and although latterly she had been in the Police, she never lost her interest in sport and was a very keen golfer and bowler.

She will be very sadly missed by all who knew her. Gone too soon.

TARVES BREAKFAST

We would like to thank everyone who has come along throughout the year to enjoy our Breakfasts and helped us to raise almost £800. It is a good way to meet and have a chat and also to enjoy a tasty breakfast with bacon, sausage, egg, toast, butteries, juice and tea or coffee on offer. Thank you too to all the willing helpers be they waitresses, cooks or cashiers. Couldn't do it without you!

The first one for 2018 will be on **Saturday 27 January** from 8:30 - 10:30am (*weather permitting*) so please come along.



The "B" Team

NORTH EAST OF SCOTLAND SUPPORT FOR ROMANIA

Thank you once again to everyone who has so generously given items for the above Charity during 2017. The response has been great and the Charity is very grateful for what we have been able to give them.

There will be no collections during December, January and February and we will start again on **Friday 30 March 2018** and from thereon on the last Friday of each month – dates will be detailed in the March edition of TBC.



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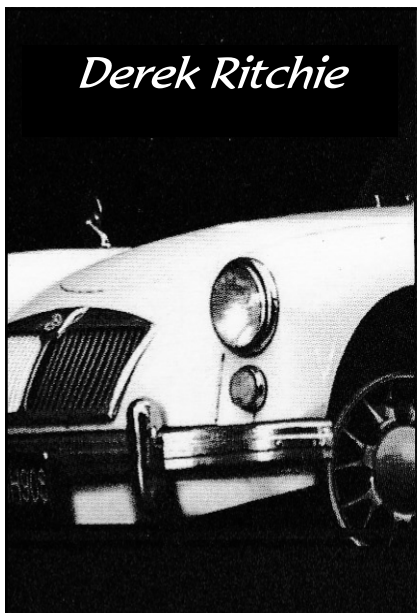
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TARVES CHURCH GUILD



The new session commenced on Sunday 24 September with the dedication service in Tarves Church at 11:15am led by Rev Alison Swindells

At our first meeting in October we had Ivy Blair from Prospects – “All Friends Together” talk to us about the very worthwhile work they do with young people with learning difficulties.

Then in November our Minister Alison came along and gave us a very interesting talk on our Guild Theme for this year “Go in Love”. This was followed by a Bring and Buy sale when we raised over £200, a great boost to our funds which are distributed at the end of the session in May.

By the time the TBC is issued, Guild Week will have passed and the shoe boxes for Blytheswood Care appeal will have been collected and on their way to help brighten many people’s Christmas. Thank you to all who have contributed to this worthwhile cause.

Also by the time you get this magazine we will have had our Afternoon Tea Party to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Tarves Guild when neighbouring Guilds will have joined us along with some other special guests. We will tell you more about how it all went in the next issue.

For our December meeting the entertainment will be by our own members so we are looking forward to that. This will be followed by refreshments and Christmas fare.

There will be no meeting in January. The following are the dates for the rest of the session.

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1 February | Jim Young “First Responders” |
| 24 February | Soup & Sweet Lunch in Melvin Hall |
| 1 March | Jennie Price “Food Banks” |
| 2 March | World Day of Prayer in Methlick Church @ 7pm |
| 5 April | Muriel Thomson “Children of Chenai” |
| 3 May | Spring Lunch Outing |

Meetings are held in the church at 7:30pm, please come along and join our fellowship. ALL are welcome.



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To our Messy families and Church congregation

This has been another successful year and our team is working hard to plan Messy Christmas so please come down and join us in the Youth Hall for 11am on **Sunday 10th December**. Thank you to everyone who kindly donated groceries to our Aberdeenshire North Foodbank appeal in November; there will be one further Foodbank appeal at the 10th December meeting – this time for toiletries.



We must reflect on the joys of 2017; the highlight was Alison our new Minister coming down to meet you on her first Sunday in Tarves on 21 May, when Iona and Ella presented her with welcome gifts. During early 2017 we looked at the Creation Story, Mother's Day and Joseph and his coat of many colours. We had another very successful BBQ in September where the dads took over the cooking and then the children took over the oven at home to bake their own bread. We welcomed new families at our November meeting and hope they enjoyed being with us and will feel welcome to return. The wreath has been prepared for Remembrance Sunday and Amy laid this at the War Memorial along with other wreaths from national and village organisations. We'll take some photos for our photo-boards in the Church.

The Youth Hall is lively at all Messy meetings and even more so when the congregation arrive at Celebration time then join in for a great lunch. A big 'thank you' must go to the Messy helpers who plan, shop, cook, bake, serve teas/coffees at our meetings. We reach out to the whole community, babies – children – parents – Church and village friends. The mix demonstrates how much each group enjoys the other's company.

Thank you all for coming along, taking part in the crafts with your children and helping to clear up at the end of the session. We're already planning the early 2018 sessions of Messy Church so please look out for flyers and Facebook information in January. Come back and join us and bring new friends – all are welcome.

We'd be delighted to welcome you all to the family friendly Christmas Eve service at 7.00pm in Tarves Church where we'll have carols, readings and music followed by mince pies, mulled wine, hot chocolate and marshmallows and fellowship.

With Messy blessings to you all from The Messy Church team
Tarves Parish Church of Scotland, Scottish Charity No: SCO 17161



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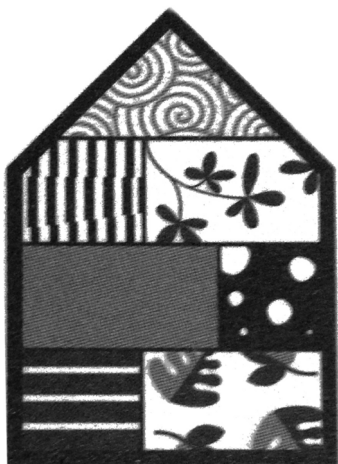
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TARVES BROWNIES



On the 27th September, as part of their hostess badge 1st Tarves Brownies hosted a Coffee Morning for friends and family for Mcmillan Cancer Support. The girls were the perfect hostesses ensuring guests were well fed and watered and entertained with some of their favourite campfire songs. They raised an incredible £286. Thank you to everyone who supported us.

Our Super Hero themed indoor camp at Fyvie House was a huge success. The Brownies did a variety of activities, games and crafts to learn what makes someone a super hero. They returned home with first aid skills to save people, recycling tips to save the world, resilience activities to challenge bullying and an understanding that we all have superhero capabilities within us.

For Halloween we once again went 'Trick or Treating with a difference' and collected and incredible 155kg of food donations for Aberdeenshire North Foodbank. Thank you to the residents of Murray Av, Pringle Av, Braiklay Av and Stuart Crescent for supporting us so generously.

On the 28th October we joined with approximately 800 other members of Girl Guiding Gordon to 'take over' Gordon Barracks for the day. We enjoyed a fantastic 'military themed' day, learning skills in espionage, survival, communication and challenging ourselves at boot camp.

We are looking forward to Tarves Bonfire night and will once again be selling home bakes and glow sticks to raise funds for the unit. Thank you to everyone who is able to support us.

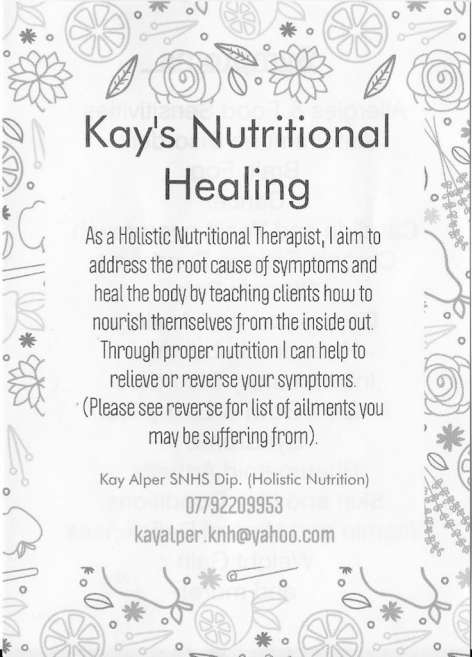
Representatives from Tarves Brownies will be taking part in the Remembrance Service at Tarves Church on 12th November and laying a handmade wreath to remember and commemorate those who have died in the wars.

We will finish the year with some Christmas crafts, Christmas carolling at Hanover Court and a much-anticipated trip to Inverurie pantomime with Tarves Rainbows to see Cinderella.

A special mention and big Thank you to 'Ye Corporation o square men' for their recent generous donation which we have put towards new resources to help with our growing numbers and also a flag for the unit which we are very excited about.

1st Tarves Brownies (for girls aged 7-10) meet on a Wednesday evening 6.15-7.30pm at Tarves Primary School. Please email Tarvesbrownies@gmail.com for further information or check out <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk>





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HANOVER RESIDENTS SOCIAL CLUB

We would like to thank everyone who attended our coffee morning on 13 September and helped us celebrate our 35th Anniversary. The residents had a party lunch where we were served soup, sandwiches, sweets & cake.

Macmillan was our next event and once again our loyal and trusted friends supported us by raising £310.06, so a big thank you to all.

We have filled **51** shoeboxes for the Blythswood Christmas Shoe Box appeal and couldn't have done this without the very kind support of all the residents. So thank you for giving so generously - we couldn't do it without you.

We were kept busy at the Jewellery & Body shop Coffee Morning in early November.

The 1st Tarves Brownies will be singing Christmas Carols at Hanover on Wednesday 13 December at 6.30pm. All welcome.

Our Christmas Party is on Wednesday 20 December at 7pm with Cats Pyjamas singing songs from Peter Pan. Tickets cost £5 and will be on sale soon from Jessie on 01651 851958 or 23 Hanover Court. There will also be a raffle on the night with lots of prizes. All Welcome.

On behalf of Residents at Hanover Court we would like to wish you all A Merry Christmas and a Healthy and a prosperous New Year.

Jessie,
Secretary (851958)



TARVES FOLK CLUB

The club continues to meet every third Sunday of the month in the Aberdeen Arms Hotel from 8.30 – 11.00pm. All welcome to come along and play, sing, join in the choruses or just listen!

Plans are now underway for the 6th Tarves Rant to be held in April. More details to follow.

John Dickson (01651 851317)

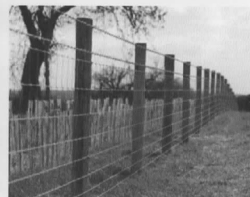


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Stewart Lee Services

The Heritage Centre is now closed for the season though still hosting lots of school visits and occasional group visits. We are very grateful to all our volunteers for helping out and always looking for more. In particular we would like someone to help out with school visits. This involves welcoming school visitors, doing a short demonstration of some of the museum artefacts and helping pupils dress up for their classroom experience. The actual school-room experience is all done by the teachers. If you can give up some time during the day we would be delighted to hear from you.

Over the summer we have had many visitors from near and far and enjoyed friendly chats with them.

We received the following in an email from a family in Dunedin, New Zealand who are trying to trace family:-

"We want to find out if there are any relations of James Campbell Lumsden still living around your area. James was born James Campbell and then his name was changed to James Campbell Lumsden but we have no idea why. His mother is down as Mrs Mary Campbell and we have both names from family trees of John or David Lumsden as his father. He was born around 1889 and seems to have been brought up by his grandparents Andrew and Margaret Campbell from Horns Croft, Tarves. His mother lived at Old Blackbog, Tulloch.

James came to Dunedin, New Zealand as a young man and worked for Phoenix Co flour mill in Dunedin then was sent up to their Waianakarua flour mill before joining the NZ army in 1914, he was killed in France/Belgium in 1917. We are wondering if he had any brothers or sisters or even cousins who would have family still living in the area that could contact us. Email address is mudnmaud@xtra.co.nz "

Some of this information has come from the Scottish War Memorials Project as James is listed on the War Memorial at Barthol Chapel. If you can help please email Robin and Denise Moody at the above email address.

We have once again a programme of winter talks in the Queens Room, Melvin Hall

- November 24th The Deeside Railway Line, Then and Now - Dr Mike Cooper
- January 26th Land of the Thundering Dragons - Tamsin Morris
- February 16th Tarves – Revolution and Triple Murder – Lindsay Mathewson
- March 16th – Antarctic – The Macalisters
- April 20th – Dee to Don – Under the Wire by Mike Stephen

Meetings begin at 7.30pm, in the Queens Room at the Melvin Hall and the charge is £2 which includes tea and a biscuit. We look forward to welcoming you at these talks.

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T B C DIARY

DATE	EVENT	VENUE / TIME
1 Dec	BCCA Bingo Night	Barthol Chapel School @ 6:30 for 7pm
6 Dec	Friendship Club Christmas Lunch	Aberdeen Arms Hotel
7 Dec	Tarves Guild Christmas Party	Tarves Church @ 7:30pm
8 Dec	Barthol Chapel Youth Cafe	BC Church @ 7:30pm
10 Dec	Messy Christmas	Youth Hall @ 11:00am
13 Dec	Brownies entertain	Hanover Court @ 6:30pm
13 Dec	School Concert	Melvin Hall
17 Dec	Candlelit Service	Barthol Chapel @ 6:45 for 7:00pm
20 Dec	Hanover Christmas Party	Hanover Court @ 7:00pm
24 Dec	Christmas Eve Service	Tarves Church @ 7:00pm
25 Dec	Christmas Day Service	Tarves Church @ 10:15am
9 Jan	Church Cafe resumes	Tarves Church 10:00 - 11:00am
26 Jan	Heritage Talk by Dr Mike Cooper	Queens Room, Melvin Hall @ 7:30pm
27 Jan	Tarves Breakfast	Youth Hall @ 8:30 - 10:30am
1 Feb	Tarves Guild Meeting "First Responders"	Tarves Church @ 7:30pm
16 Feb	Heritage Talk by Lindsay Mathewson	Queens Room, Melvin Hall @ 7:30pm
24 Feb	Guild Soup & Sweet Lunch	Melvin Hall 12 - 1:30pm
1 March	Tarves Guild Meeting "Food Banks"	Tarves Church @ 7:30pm
2 March	Guild World Day of Prayer	Methlick Church @ 7:00pm
16 March	Heritage Talk by The Macalisters	Queens Room, Melvin Hall @ 7:30pm
30 March	North East Support for Romania collection resumes	Carnegie Room, Melvin Hall 12 - 3:00pm
5 April	Tarves Guild Meeting "Children of Chennai"	Tarves Church @ 7:30pm
20 April	Heritage Talk by Mike Stephen	Queens Room, Melvin Hall @ 7:30pm

DATE	EVENT	VENUE / TIME
Every Sunday	Church Services	Barthol Chapel Church 9:45am Tarves Church 11:15am
<i>Second Saturday of every month</i>	<i>Community Cafe</i>	<i>Barthol Chapel Church</i> <i>10:00 - 11:30am</i>
<i>Third Sunday of every month</i>	<i>Tarves Folk Club</i>	<i>The Bistro, Aberdeen Arms Hotel - 8:30 - 11:00pm</i>
<i>Monday Evening (during school term time)</i>	<i>Tarves Youth Group - The Hut - Ages between 12 & 21</i>	<i>The Hut 7:00 - 9:00pm</i>
<i>Every 2nd Monday</i>	<i>Hanover Court Whist Afternoons</i>	<i>Hanover Court - 2.00 - 4.00pm</i>
<i>Every Monday and Wednesday Evening</i>	<i>Udny Station Indoor Bowling Club (winter only)</i>	<i>Youth Hall - 7:30pm - 9:30pm</i>
<i>Every Tuesday morning</i>	<i>Tarves Church – Tuesday Coffee Morning</i>	<i>Tarves Church - 10:00 – 11:00am</i>
<i>Every Tuesday after-noon</i>	<i>Bowling “Golden Oldies” (Summer only)</i>	<i>Tarves Bowling Green</i> <i>2:00 - 4:00pm</i>
<i>Every Tuesday after-noon</i>	<i>"The Chatty Knitters" Knitting Session</i>	<i>Hanover Court - 2:00 - 4:00pm</i>
<i>Every Wednesday during term time</i>	<i>Meldrum Academy Christian Union</i>	<i>Meldrum Academy 1:15pm</i>
<i>Every Thursday during term time</i>	<i>JAFFA - Tarves Primary Scripture Union</i>	<i>Tarves School @ Lunch-time</i>
<i>Every Wednesday evening (term time)</i>	<i>1st Tarves Rainbows</i>	<i>Tarves School 5:00 - 6:00pm</i>
<i>Every Wednesday Evening (term time)</i>	<i>1st Tarves Brownies</i>	<i>Tarves School 6.15 - 7:30pm</i>
<i>Third Wednesday of every month</i>	<i>Barthol Chapel S.W.I.</i>	<i>Barthol Chapel School - 7:15pm</i>
<i>Last Friday of every month</i>	<i>Barthol Chapel School Coffee Afternoon</i>	<i>Barthol Chapel School - 2:30pm</i>

For full details of School events please see Page 31 and for Christmas Services see Page 5



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The Formartine Youth Project has been incredibly busy growing in all directions across the 4 villages who formed and support the project. Our aim is to connect and meet the needs of young people within our communities.

The project currently has over 20 different groups and ministries operating on a variety of weekly and school term events, working with new families to school leavers. Here is an update on some of those groups. Our mainly music group in Pitmedden has grown to 2 sessions at 10am (currently with a waiting list) and 12.45pm. We see many come from other villages including Tarves to join in the music fun with their pre-school children. If this is of interest to you, just get in touch with Claire. Our Barthol Chapel Youth Club meets monthly in the primary school. We had great fun at the trampoline park in Inverurie during October and a Bonfire theme night in November. It's all about having loads of fun together and connecting with the young people.

Our work in schools has also grown with our weekly 'JAFFA' group being relaunched this year. We've moved Tarves School to a Thursday lunchtime in school and have been over 60 pupils attend this term. We've had great fun learning about different stories and getting to know the pupils of the school. We are excited about the future of JAFFA and will continue to work with the primary school.

Our most exciting project this term has been running the Youth Alpha film series with 10 young people from across the area. We meet in 2 groups, enjoy food together, watch the short video and finish with discussions. It's a really relaxed and non-aggressive way to look into the foundations of the Christian faith with the freedom to question and debate the different weekly topics. This series includes the opportunity to have a weekend away, so we're taking 14 teenagers away for a 2-night stay at Compass Christian Centre, Glenshee.



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We are so excited to have our first residential event as a project and pleased to have so many young people coming along.

Some upcoming events:

- Sunday 19th November @ 6.30pm: BE:LONG – Our joint church youth event, free entry, guest speaker is Suzi Farrant held at Pitmedden Parish Church.
- Saturday 25th Nov, 9th Dec & 16th Dec @ 7pm – Pitmedden Youth Café, open to all P6-S6, free entry
- Friday 1st December @ 4.30pm - Pitmedden Parish Messy Church
- Friday 8th December @ 7.30pm – Barthol Chapel Youth Club, BC Primary School, P7-S6, £2 entry
- Sunday 10th December @ 11am – Tarves Parish Messy Church

Any questions or queries, just get in touch. Thanks!

Claire Bell
Children & Youth Worker
Formartine Youth Project

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clairefyp@outlook.com 07983759925

BLYTHSWOOD SHOEBOX APPEAL

By the time you read this, over 100 filled Shoeboxes will be on their way to adults and children less fortunate than ourselves.

A very big thank to everyone who has made the effort to fill a box especially the Residents of Hanover who filled 51. This does make such a difference to those in far off places like Romania etc who have very little to look forward to at Christmas.

Thank you all once again.



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TARVES PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA



Tarves Primary School PTA have enjoyed an excellent year of fundraising and have been able to support the school with various endeavours including buses to the Panto and new iPads. We would like to thank all who have and continue to support our fundraising activities.

Halloween Party

We held our annual Halloween party in the Melvin Hall on Friday 3rd November 2017. Children from Nursery, P1 – P4 danced and played games until 7.15pm and

children P4 – P7 from 7.15pm to 8.30pm. Loads of great costumes were seen with prizes for the best ones. Lots of fun was had by all. Thanks to Rendevous who provided the disco and of course the parent and teacher helpers.

Poppy Fund

The P4/5/6 class held an assembly on Friday 3rd November to explain to pupils about this Scottish Charity and to let them know how we can support it. Poppies have also been on sale in the school also.

Shoebox Appeal

We are once again taking part in Meldrum Rotary's Shoebox Appeal.

Our Rotakids are responsible for organising this and have been asking other pupils for help. Thanks for your generosity in aiding us to fill our shoeboxes.

Children in Need

The P5/6 class are taking responsibility for organising school fund raising activities this year. They will be

releasing more information when it's available.

Candy Floss Machine

We have a Candy Floss machine available to hire from the PTA, please contact the school reception if you are interested, fliers available if required.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday, 13 th Dec –	School Concert in Melvin Hall
Friday, 15 th Dec –	Pantomime at His Majesty's Theatre (Aladdin)
Tuesday, 19 th Dec	am – Nursery / P1 Nativity
Wednesday 20 th Dec	am Christmas Assembly pm P1/2 Christmas party
Thursday 21 st Dec	pm – P3/4/5 Party
Friday 22 nd Dec	pm – P6/7 Party, start of Christmas holidays
Monday, 8 th Jan –	School Resumes After Holidays

Friday 9th & Monday 12th Feb – Mid-term holidays

Tuesday, 13th & Wednesday 14th Feb - In-Service Days

Friday, 16 th March –	Reports Issued
Tuesday 27 th March –	Parents afternoon/evening
Thursday 29 th March -	Proposed date for Easter assembly
Friday 30 th March –	Start of Easter Holidays
Monday 16 th April-	School Resumes After Easter Holidays
Tuesday 24 th April –	Class and Staff Photos

Monday 30th April – Friday 4th May P7 Dalguise trip

Monday 7 th May –	Mayday holiday
Thursday 18 th May –	am P1 Induction, pm Nursery Induction
Thursday 24 th May -	Parents Afternoon / Evening



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TARVES COMMUNITY COUNCIL (TCC)

Over the past 2 years representatives have attended many meetings with Aberdeenshire Council regarding the introduction in April 2018 of a new Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils, the revised Scheme was formally approved by Aberdeenshire Council at their September Meeting.

At our October Meeting we were joined by Piers Blaxter from Aberdeenshire Council who explained that they had commenced the process of gathering information for the next Local Plan 2021 and were seeking Community involvement.

TCC met with Formartine Partnership to progress the preparation of the first draft of our Community Action Plan based on the information gathered in the recent survey. A public meeting will be held to review and agree the draft CAP prior to publication.

Following a request from TCC our local MSP Gillian Martin arranged for representatives of Digital Scotland Superfast Scotland & Openreach to meet with herself & representatives from TCC & Barthol Chapel Community Association to discuss the future plans for the expansion of availability to fibre broadband within our community. It was clear that DSSB

wished in talking in generalities about achieving 95% coverage for Scotland by the end of March 2018 and the percentage coverage for Aberdeenshire which is currently 78%, Gain Share (fund obtained from BT/Openreach due to high take up of fibre broadband) and the forthcoming R100 Programme which promises 100% broadband coverage to all properties in Scotland by 2021. From information obtained via "think broadband" the coverage in Gordon is presently 81.1%. Subsequent to the meeting DSSB have confirmed that fibre broadband is available to homes in Ythsie, with coverage using Gain Share Funds for Barthol Chapel being installed by June 2018.

Spar has donated £500 from the 5 pence plastic bag levy towards our Christmas lights display; Tarves has received a total of £2,500 from the fund since its inception. In total CJ Lang's plastic bag levy has from the funds collected in 117 stores contributed over £300,000 to local causes since the introduction of the compulsory levy scheme.

TCC working with PUT have obtained funding to increase the number of trees in our community orchard; they will be planted during tree week on Friday 1st December



FESTIVE DINING

Festive Lunch and Dinners will be available from 1st to 24th December, in our Dining Room.

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with the assistance of Tarves Primary School pupils.

Finally the new NHS Grampian locality team have asked us to advise that with the onset of winter information on FLU can be found on <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/flu/#what-to-do> or from your local pharmacy.

David Hekelaar
Secretary/Treasurer



TARVES AMENITY GROUP

Well it's almost December - *where have the months gone* - and all the tubs in the village have been emptied of the summer bedding plants and filled with daffodils and tulips. At the time of writing we have just received our polyanthus plants and hopefully we will get these planted up before the frosts come.

The village was judged in September for the Formartine in Bloom contest and we were once again awarded Highly Commended.

It must be said that the work done is not really to win a competition but to make the village a nice place in which to live and by all the compliments received from locals and visitors alike, we think we do our best to achieve that aim. The Tarves Plooman was an added talking point this year, even though he got a bit of damage done to him, but it's wonderful what a bit of sticking plaster heals!!

Once again a big thank you goes to all who have helped in any way - we could not have done it without you.

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a wonderful
christmas
and a happy new
year!



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JANE THOM BEQUEST

Mrs Jane Thom, was born at Craigdam, she died in the 1930s and left a modest bequest which is now managed by a committee. The terms of the trust were intended to be disbursed to persons of any age residing in the Parish of Tarves who may have a legitimate need and would otherwise find difficulty.

To date we have assisted a number of varied requests and would encourage persons of any age to make an application if they feel they have a legitimate need.

All approaches will be considered and dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

To apply contact either

Bob Davidson Tel 01651 851112 TCC.Chairman@tarves.org.uk or

Heather Scott Tel 01651 851247 Heather.Scott@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

TARVES BONFIRE

Congratulations once again to the Tarves Peoples Party for organising such a magnificent fireworks display on Sunday 12 November.

The weather was atrocious on the days leading up to the event and the field was rather “dubby”, but on the night the weather was fairly kind and it didn’t spoil the wonderful display. Thank you to all who are involved be it making the soup, serving the hot dogs and putting on the display – a great effort for a small village, community spirit at its best.



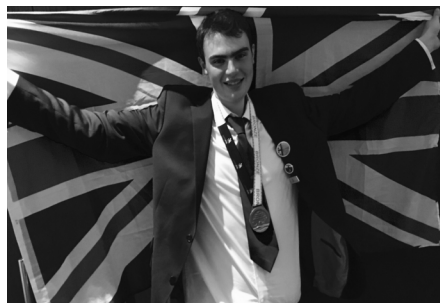
The first Tarves Breakfast for 2018 will be on **Saturday 27 January from 8:30 - 10:30am** (*providing we are not blocked in with snow*). Make it a date for your new diary!

Abu Dhabi 2017 ‘The Skills Olympics’

‘We’re Team UK! I want to be in that number, when Team UK go marching in!’

These were the words of the team chant, sung with enthusiastic anticipation as Team UK set off in October for the 44th WorldSkills competition in Abu Dhabi.

After a parliamentary send-off, Team UK, were ready to give their best performance ever at the world’s largest and most prestigious skills competition.



The 3,000 mile flight to Abu Dhabi was by no means the beginning of the journey for the 34 young UK competitors. All aged under 22, they had been on a personal journey full of challenges, hurdles and dedication whilst mentored by experts in their chosen skill.

WorldSkills, from its start in the early 1950s, has grown to 75-member countries competing in 45 skills whilst holding apprenticeships and vocational careers at the heart of its ethos. Staged every two years, it is dubbed **‘The Skills Olympics’** and at the spectacular opening ceremony in Abu Dhabi’s purpose-built 15,000 seater open-air stadium, it was easy to understand why. The overall feeling was one of international friendship and national pride.

The competition showdown took place over 4 days in one of the largest exhibition centres in the Middle East, The ADNEC Arena, the size of 20 football pitches with a few air-conditioned marquees added on. Thousands visited to watch skills ranging from aircraft maintenance, landscape gardening, bricklaying and welding to mechatronics, floristry, patisserie and web-design. Watching the varied skills was fascinating, but we were there to show support for our son, UK Cabinetmaker, Angus Bruce-Gardner, a former pupil of Barthol Chapel School.

The cabinetmaking competition demands precision to a fraction of a millimetre in constructing a piece of challenging complexity from technical drawings. Each competitor constructs the same cabinet in 22 hours and is marked by a panel of world experts.

Angus, after an electrical problem with one of his tools left him 4 hours behind at the end of Day 1, worked tirelessly under intense competition pressure, and after 18 hours handed his cabinet in for initial marking with 60 seconds to spare! Day 4 was just as pressurised and when the final hooter sounded, Angus was mightily relieved his 4-year long journey of training, selection and competition was over.

‘Improving our world with the power of skills’ is the vision statement of WorldSkills and we felt the powerful effect of this vision in evidence as the competition drew to an end and at the memorable and emotional closing ceremony where medals were awarded in true Olympic style. Our proudest moment came when Angus stood on the podium to collect a bronze medal. Team UK excelled by finishing 10th in the medals table, a fabulous and well-deserved result.

We left Abu Dhabi with the overriding feeling of a spirit of friendship between nations and differing ethnic backgrounds and with the Team UK chant still ringing in our ears.

Having gained so much from WorldSkills, Angus is now helping his mentor and expert, Christian Notley MBE, in the cabinetmaking selection process for Kazan, Russia 2019.

Beth Bruce-Gardner

CHURCH COMMUNITY CAFÉ @ BARTHOL CHAPEL CHURCH

10 – 11.30, second Saturday of every month.

It seems amazing that we have just held our seventh monthly café in the church and it appears to be going very well. There is always a cheery crowd, the coffee is hot, the church is warm and so is the welcome everyone receives. And the scones and other bakes are delicious and seem to go down very well. It is a good chance to meet old friends and make new ones.

This is a good opportunity to thank all those who have volunteered at the café; your help is very much appreciated. And thank you, too, to all our customers. The support of the large team of volunteers and all the customers has meant that we have been able to establish the café very quickly. There is always a lovely atmosphere.

The café is held on the second Saturday of every month, whatever the weather, in Barthol Chapel church. It is friendly, welcoming and well worth a visit. We look forward to seeing you soon.



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BARTHOL CHAPEL CHURCH

Time marches on and it will soon be Christmas. Lots to report, both past and future.

Special services have included the Harvest Thanksgiving in a colourfully decorated church – well done to all those who created such a resplendent display. As usual, lots of produce and food was collected for The Cyrenians.

Turn-out for Communion was better than last time, so that was reassuring.

Next up in the 'autumn trilogy' is the Remembrance Day service when we welcome the much appreciated contribution of the British Legion.

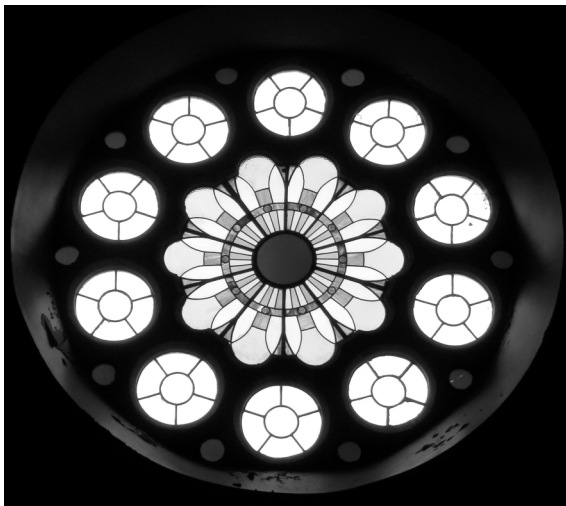
Throughout the autumn, our minister, Alison, has preached on the Ten Commandments; her easy style and contemporary application has made this rather daunting subject matter both relevant

and meaningful.

We have also sung several hymns which have been new to the congregation, and we've all taken up the challenge with enthusiasm and not a little skill; talking of which, it would be appropriate here to thank all our pianists and the music group for their contribution to our praise.

Looking now to the future, it is Christmas, of course, which will be the focus. Can I recommend the accompanying 'flyer' (in Barthol Chapel copies only) which provides a full list of all the services over the festive season at Barthol Chapel. In particular, the candle-lit carol service at 7pm on Sunday 17 December is a particularly cheery and socia-

ble occasion, with mulled wine, mince pies as well as tea/coffee and home baking afterwards. It would be great to see you there – please put it in your diary.



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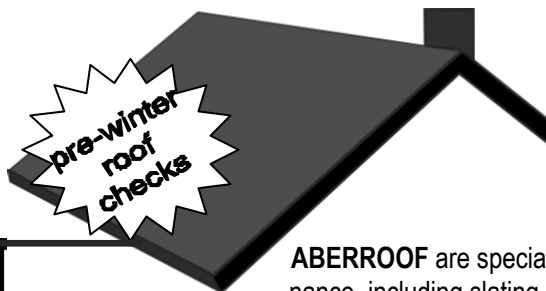
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Barthol Chapel SWI are flying through the months with a pretty varied program. We have been to Castle Fraser to see amazing handwork from over the years, had a really entertaining evening trying on hats and pretending we were characters from more glamorous lives, given insight into creating beautiful flower arrangements, to name but a few. We still have plenty more opportunities for women to get together for a catch up and a bit of blether and fun.

However there is a serious and productive side to SWI, this year we have been informed that the Scottish Government have invested money into helping rural communities support people with mental health issues. Many of us are aware of the stresses and worries of farmers and lone workers, few of us know how to support them.

Support in Mind Scotland is the organisation with specialist knowledge and information to help support and offer guidance. Please take a moment to look at the website, it may be the one thing that you can do to help raise the awareness of mental illness and save someone's life.

Support in Mind Scotland

<https://www.supportinmindscotland.org.uk/>

For more details of BC SWI please contact Kerry Keys on 01651 873511

BARTHOL CHAPEL GUILD

The theme for the Guild this session is 'Go in Love' and we were delighted to invite our minister Rev. Alison Swindells along to the November meeting to give us her thoughts and words of encouragement and guidance on the topic.

Previous to this our guest speaker in October was Kate Mennie who, through her stories and photographs, shared her Summer's experiences working as a volunteer NTS Countryside Ranger on Mull, Iona and Staffa.

We now look forward to joining Tarves Church Guild as guests at an Afternoon Tea Party to celebrate their Guild's 100th Anniversary.

Our own Christmas Supper will take place at our December meeting on the 6th, to which all members and friends are warmly invited.

All are welcome to join us at our meetings which are held every few months.

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BARTHOL CHAPEL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The AGM was held on 13th September and the following office bearers were appointed; Jonathan Boughey as Chair, Sam Webster as Secretary, Jennie Chalmers as Treasurer and Val Smart as TCC rep. Many thanks to the previous committee; Jill Hardie, Judith Sleigh and Phil Booth.

The entertainment committee are busy organising our next social event – Bingo night on **1st December** in the school with proceeds going to Barthol Chapel Youth Group and Aberdeen Cyrenians. Please come along for 6:30 pm, eyes down for first game at 7 pm – tickets on the door. Full details available on the website.

The next BCCA meeting will be on **29th November**, 7 pm in the school.

Broadband, or rather lack of it, continues to be a topic of debate with little sign of change for the wider BCCA community. However, there are indications that Barthol Chapel will get a fibre cabinet by end Q2 2018 which would benefit those on the Methlick exchange. Residents on Fyvie

exchange may get a better service soon but not much sign of change for those on Oldmeldrum / Tarves exchanges.

Check out

www.scotlandsuperfast.com

regularly for updates. In the meantime, 4G is the best interim solution all be it at a higher cost than broadband. If you want to find out more please email

bccabroadband@bartholchapel.com.

We received an enquiry from a relative of Alexander Campbell Morrison who died at Passchendaele in 1917 and is remembered on the war memorial at the church – they are trying to track down any correspondence or photographs the community may hold. If you have any info that you can share, please drop an e-mail to us at bccasecretary@bartholchapel.com.

Please check out the Barthol Chapel web site (www.bartholchapel.com) or Facebook page for the latest news, updates and details of upcoming events.

ADVERTISERS INDEX

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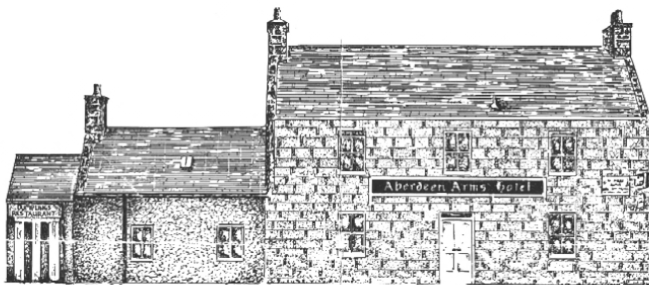


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