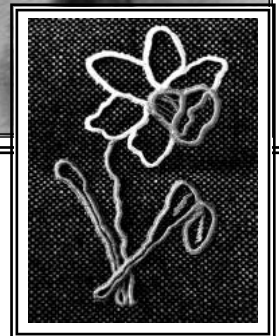


TBC

Tarves and Barthol Chapel
Quarterly Newsletter
March 2019

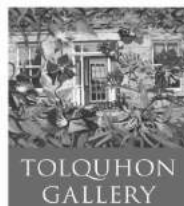


Snowdrop courtesy of Sheila Towns
Daffodil courtesy of Helen Mann



Issue 48

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A 'letter' from the Editor

Our communication skills have changed immensely over the last 25 years. It is now taken for granted that we can reply to almost anything via an instant email. Does this convey the same sentiment as a hand-written letter, very carefully worded in anticipation of a response, crafted on good paper or a lovely card with a matching envelope, with absolutely no case for spellcheck or using an electronic 'synonym offering' with a right hand 'click'? An email will disappear into the ether at the click of a key; a handwritten letter will remain as long as you want it to be part of your existence.

I still write letters, with good paper and envelopes using a fine-nib pen, and I still get letters written in the same manner as I send. A 'thank you' letter is so valued as a memory of a friend or relative who is prepared to sit down and take the time to show appreciation. A letter is a visual and tactile pleasure. It opens the reader's eyes and heart to a soul who is concerned with one task – giving time and their thoughts to another.

Have you ever had the task of clearing out a family home before saying goodbye to the past? I found countless letters in my childhood home, most of them actually written by me on my travels and my mother had kept them for 30+ years. I don't know how often she read them, but she kept them as a tangible record of time and history. I wrote to my own daughter in eastern Germany many years ago and it was the morale booster which made the difference to her initial months there; tea bags and shortbread and letters – in that particular order.

Do you remember clearly those air mail letters with the familiar pale blue greaseproof quality of paper, from relatives who has taken a giant step to the other side of the world? In the 50s and 60s, the likelihood of travelling to see them was very unlikely, but the effort from all parties to keep in touch was strong.

True, it is wonderful to have quick contact from local and overseas friends, easy to share our own news with photographs taken minutes before an email is sent across the internet. Emails play an important part of our lives, but the next time you receive a gift, or some good news or some sad news – your response to this via the art of letter writing will be so appreciated. The recipient will be able to relive you sharing their joy at happy news or comfort from your sincerest words of condolence in sad news.

Happy writing

Ruth Nisbet

tbc.editor@btinternet.com

Dear Friends

It is such a privilege to have been called to be parish minister here, to live and serve in such a beautiful part of the country.

As I write this we are in the process of a regular Presbytery visit to the congregations of Barthol Chapel and Tarves. In the Church of Scotland, Presbytery is the regional church governing body. A team from Gordon Presbytery visited Tarves last Sunday and will be with us in Barthol Chapel next Sunday. These regular visits normally take place every five years and are a bit like an MOT or a health check.

This year our Presbytery have adopted a new way of working. They are seeking to listen more to local congregations and the joys and challenges which they are experiencing. Between the two congregations there are certainly plenty of these.

At Tarves we were able to tell the team about many different aspects of our congregational life and what came across was the importance of hospitality. Through Worship, Coffee Morning, Messy Church, Holiday Club, Breakfasts, Soups and Sweets, we seek to play a part in serving God and our community – offering a place where people of all ages can meet and build relationships. But we are also aware of the support we receive from the wider community, from people of all ages, both at these activities and in our appeals for the foodbank and knitted items for Malawi as well as the refurbishment of the Youth Hall – and we are grateful for all this encouragement.

Next week at Barthol Chapel we will be able to share with the team, the news of the thriving monthly café, the youth club which is part of the For-
martine Youth Project as well as the potential redevelopment of the sanctuary. Here once again we are grateful for the very positive relationships between church and community.

Through all these activities and opportunities we seek to follow Jesus in holding out a hand of welcome and friendship and sharing in practical ways the amazing love of God for the world. Of course like the Church everywhere we are experiencing challenges. Obviously I've already touched on buildings. The current congregations have inherited these thanks to the generosity of past generations. But buildings not only need to be maintained. They also require to be updated to offer a good standard of accommodation – and we are working on that. We also need to find ways of offering more opportunities for worship and Christian educa-

tion for all ages, and that includes finding the ways and means to install and use modern technology appropriately for this purpose.

The visit of the team from Presbytery will be followed by an evening at which the congregations will present their story to the whole of Presbytery. This will be held on 2 April at 7.30pm in the Church at Tarves (refreshments will be served from 6.45pm). This meeting is open to all and if you are interested in hearing more about the joys and challenges facing the church here in your local community then you are welcome to come along and participate in that evening.

With warmest wishes

Alison I Swindells

Tarves Kirk Session News

- **Sunday Worship - 11.15am in Tarves Kirk**
(Unless otherwise intimated)
- *Informal Communion after worship on the last Sunday of the month.*
- *Refreshments every Sunday unless there is Messy Church or Communion*



The Advent and Christmas season was a time to anticipate and celebrate the birth of the baby Jesus as carols were sung and candles lit. In the vestry, some of the young people created a nativity scene out of gingerbread, complete with angels and camels. Valerie Mitchell, on student placement with us, organised a time of Advent craft activities which was a good opportunity for people to be creative and enjoy some cake and chat. The Christmas Eve service was again a lively occasion and a packed church enjoyed the music, worship and refreshments.

Bible Markers

We are grateful to Fran Crichton for making new Bible markers to match the pulpit falls in the Church. Look out for them!

Lunchtime Scripture Union Club

JAFFA (Jesus A Friend For All) now runs on Thursday lunchtimes at the school. Our Children's and Youth Worker, Euan Robb, leads this along with Isobel Laing and other volunteers. It is open to P2 upwards with the P6/7 s acting as helpers. It has proved to be a great success with a good number of children attending. They enjoy activities, songs and films based on Bible stories.

Lent Discussion Group

Alison will be running another group – watch out for further details.

Thinking Day: Sunday 24 February

We are delighted to share this with some of the uniformed organisations.

Annual Meeting: (Date to be confirmed) will take place during morning worship in March/April.

Holy Week and Easter

● **Palm Sunday:** 14 April

9.00 to 9.30 in Tarves before the pilgrimage walk to Barthol Chapel for those who are able.

11.15 at Barthol Chapel Church with refreshments beforehand

● **Maundy Thursday:** 18 April at 7pm in Tarves

● **Good Friday:** 19 April at 7pm in Barthol Chapel

● **Easter Day:** Sunday 21 April at 11.15am in Tarves

Tell our Story

By the time you read this a Local Church Review team from Gordon Presbytery will have visited the congregation to hear our story. Along with Barthol Chapel, Tarves will then host and tell our story to Presbytery at its meeting on 2nd April at 7.00pm.

Spring Holy Communion: Sunday 12 May

Youth Hall Development Fund

The fund benefited from the collections on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and Smartie tubes were handed for out for folk to fill with coins once they had enjoyed the sweeties!

Future events

● Fashion Show: to be held on **Wed 24 April @ 7:30pm in the Church**

● Harvest Festival 28/29 September: a weekend of events

Look out for further details!

Kirk website

Keep up to date with events and activities and, if you wish, examine the church's data protection documents. www.tarveschurch.org

You can see that we are committed to moving forward and growing a church that is part of the community.

Thank you to everyone who supports our endeavours.

Susanna Bichard – Session Clerk: 01651 851345 or smbichard@aol.com

Tuesday Church Cafe

Tea / coffee and biscuits is served every Tuesday morning between 10am and 11am in Tarves Church, so why not come along for a cuppa and blether. All ages welcome.

Nkhoma knitting update

A continuing thank-you to everyone who donates knitting/sewing to our Nkhoma corner in Tarves Church. We sent 21 'banana boxes' in 2018, all well packed with hats, vests, scarves, blankets, teddies and skirts. Thank you also for the parish donations of £120 and a further £50 donation from Messy Church, which we have now passed on to Gordon Presbytery as a contribution to their transport overseas. Each box costs £10 to transport from Dundee to Ekwendeni Hospital in Malawi, then on to Nkhoma.

Tarves Church welcomed a visit from Dr David Morton and his wife Rebecca towards the end of last year when he spoke about their 9 years of service to Nkhoma Hospital. David and Rebecca have now retired but will continue their interest in Nkhoma. David was able to speak to some of the knitters present at our service and assure them of the continuing need and thanks for the baby knitting and clothing which Tarves and the wider parish have donated. The hospital has an actual catchment area of 450,000 and David and Rebecca are confident that the Nkhoma clinical staff and senior managers will continue to have the strength and determination to lead the hospital in new initiatives to improve the healthcare to everyone in their community.

Members of Gordon Presbytery visited Tarves Church on 10 February and we were able to guide them to the Community Corner where there are number of boxes packed with knitting/sewing, all to help make a difference to the youngest and one of the most vulnerable age groups in the hospital.

We have a baby bonnet and baby vest knitting pattern, along with a little skirt sewing pattern on the website within the News/Nkhoma section of www.tarveschurch.org and also to pick up in the Community Corner in Tarves Church.

Please continue with your valuable knitting and also donations towards their 'banana box' route to Malawi. Thank you very much for your generosity.

Ruth - on behalf of the Parish and Gordon Presbytery

Tarves Allotments

It's hard to think about gardening when there's snow outside the window, but hopefully spring will be with us soon. The winter gales haven't helped our fence, but we're hoping to get it fixed as soon as spring comes.

There is a spare plot available at the allotments (or two half plots) if anyone would like an allotment for 2019. The cost is £15 for a half plot or £30 for a full plot and there are shared garden tools that you can use if you don't have your own. Please contact Tamsin Morris if you are interested on 01651 851553 or by email at tamsin_morris@yahoo.co.uk.

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Church Flower Rota 2019

Month		Flower Rota	Flower Delivery
APRIL	7	Jean Glatley	Duty Elder
	14	Annabel Gauld	Duty Elder
	21	Jean Reid	Doreen Gray
	28	Helen Howie	Duty Elder
MAY	5	Betty Henderson	Betty Henderson
	12	Bunty Mackie	Edith Innes
	19	Kathleen Glen	Joan Massie
	26	Mary Center	Mary Center
JUNE	2	Rhona Allan	Rhona Allan
	9	Margaret Shearer	Duty Elder
	16	Sheila Higgins	Sheila Higgins
	23	Christian Clark	Jenny Beattie

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

North East Scotland Support for Romania

Collections resume on **Friday 29 March**. Remember, if you have any unwanted clothes, bedding, toys, books etc, please take them to the Carnegie Room at the Melvin Hall on the last Friday of every month between **12noon and 3pm**.

NO electrical items please

If you need anything uplifted, please contact 851040

Collection dates for the next 3 months are:

Friday 29 March

Friday 26 April

Friday 31 May

Aberdeenshire North Foodbank appeal 2019

Tarves Church has an ongoing collection for the above organisation. If you would like to donate please bring items to the Church on Tuesdays from 10.00 - 11.00am or on Sundays from 10.30am - 12.30pm.


The Foodbank is currently in need of:

Tinned fruit Stock cubes Tinned tomatoes Tinned potatoes
Sponge puddings Cleaning products (kitchen & bathroom)

Thanks to your generosity over these past few months, the Foodbank shelves are well stocked with pasta, soup, beans, tea bags and cereal. A list of suitable items is always available in the Church, on www.tarveschurch.org and on our Facebook page.

99kg of food was delivered on Monday 18 Feb.

Thank you.

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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**We meet in the Youth Hall,
at the bottom of Kirk Brae,
Tarves from 11am – 1pm.
Lunch follows the Messy crafts
and celebration time**

Welcome to the first update for Messy Church 2019.

We've planned a further 5 dates for the year to help with forward diary planning and less likelihood of clashing with other events.

We've had our 17 February Messy when we learned about Esther.

Further dates are:

- **Easter Sunday 21 April 2019**
- **Sunday 9 June 2019**
- **Sunday 15 September 2019 with a BBQ**
- **Sunday 3 November 2019**

The afternoon of Saturday 7 December 2019 we will have a holiday club format to Messy – parents can leave children of nursery age and upwards then come back and join us for a Christmas tea.

Full details in the autumn flyer after school starts back in August 2019.

If you've never been to Messy before, please speak to some parents who have been attending regularly or look at our Messy website to see what families have been enjoying since 2013. All ages are welcome – babies, toddlers, primary school children with parents, carers, relatives, friends and all members of our Church congregation.

Sunday registration is always at 11am in the Youth Hall

Find out more about our activities on

www.facebook.com/Tarves-Messy-Church

www.tarveschurch.org

Tarves Folk Club

Tarves Folk Club are holding their annual Tarves Rant on Saturday 13th April 2019. The event will follow a similar format as last year with Bothy Ballad and traditional singing in the Heritage Centre and an informal music session in the Aberdeen Arms Hotel, both in the afternoon and both free to all. Our evening concert will showcase folk club members and be followed by a ceilidh until about mid-night. We are hoping for a good turnout in support of the local club.

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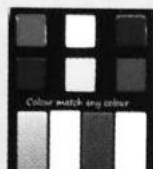
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TBC - Tarves & Barthol Chapel Quarterly Newsletter

Final copy dates for 2019 newsletters

June 2019 edition final copy date – Friday 10 May 2019
September 2019 edition final copy date – Friday 9 August 2019
December 2019 edition final copy date – Friday 8 November 2019

Reminders will be sent out two weeks and one week before submission dates.

Items for inclusion should include name/contact details and forwarded to Ruth Nisbet at tbc.editor@btinternet.com – thank you.

Advertising rates for 2019

Advertising is in black & white and prices will remain the same throughout 2019:

Whole page £20.00 Half page £11.00 Quarter page £6.00

Hanover Residents Social Club

We at Hanover, would like to thank everyone for their support during 2018. We enjoy welcoming you to our events.

Our knitting group has a few new members, and we'd welcome anyone else who would like to join us in the Hanover lounge on Tuesday afternoons from 2.00-4.00pm.

The whist club is every second Monday afternoon from 2.00-4.00 pm with new members always welcome.

We have a few musical events coming up over the next few months so watch out for our posters around the village. We are hoping to have Cats Pyjamas back in May and also another visit from Dennis Morrison soon.

So, thank-you for your visits to Hanover and you're very welcome to pop up any Monday, Wednesday or Friday morning for a coffee and a chat for a bargain 20p.

Jessie Simpson, Social Secretary 01651 851958

Tarves Breakfast



The Tarves Breakfasts have started again and the next one is on Saturday **16 March** from 8:30 - 10:30am, so come along and enjoy a filled roll with bacon, sausage and egg plus endless cups of tea or coffee. Fruit juice, toast and butteries are also on the menu. We can also offer gluten free bread and vegetarian sausages. All yummy!!!



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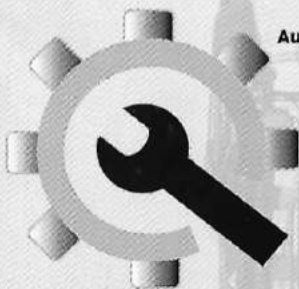


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1ST Tarves Brownies



We finished 2018 with our annual visit to Inverurie Pantomime. We have enjoyed our visits so much in recent years that this time we took 'some friends'. 170 enthusiastic and very noisy Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Senior Section, Leaders and families from Haddo district had a great evening at Aladdin.

Thank you to everyone in Pringle Ave, Murray Ave and Stuart Crescent who supported our Christmas collection for Aberdeenshire North foodbank. Despite the wild weather on collection night we were delighted to collect and hand over 76kg worth of donations for a very worthwhile cause.

On January 20th, Tarves Brownies joined with Guiding units all over the UK to watch a simultaneous special screening of Mary Poppins Returns. We thoroughly enjoyed the film and were well looked after by the volunteer team at Victoria Hall in Ellon.

This term we are completing our 'Innovate badge' and have had much fun with edible architecture, designing and flying paper aeroplanes, exploring recent inventions and coming up with some new ones of our own including a hot tub on wheels and a phone charger that is actually an apple!

Thursday 22nd February was World Thinking Day. This day has been celebrated as a day of international friendship annually since 1926 and is shared by over 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in 150 countries. Guiding friends from Haddo district came together at Tarves Youth Hall to enjoy a day of fun and challenging activities around this year's theme of Leadership. Tarves Brownies then bedded down for the night and practiced their camping skills before joining with Alison Swindells, Parish Minister and 1st Tarves Rainbows to help lead a special service at the Kirk on Sunday February 24th.

The rest of the term will see us recognising International Woman's day on 6th March, making Mother's Day crafts, participating in earth hour and visiting Haddo Children's theatre production of Dazzle at Haddo Hall starring several of our members.

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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Tarves Heritage Centre Winter news

Scottish Charity No - SC021511

Whilst the doors may be closed along at 'The Heritage' just now, there's no lack of activity within..... some may have noticed lights on in the evening. Sometimes there are folk going about, maybe even a tradesman's van sitting outside. Evidence of work in preparation for the new season, and of improvements to the building.

With the ending of the official marking of WWI centenary, our trench with its two Tommies is now dismantled, and display cases emptied of WWI memorabilia. To replace them, some new displays are in preparation for the new season

Over the 4 years of remembering the conflict, much material has been accumulated in various forms. Loan items have been or are being returned to owners, but our archive will remain available for reference or research.

One improvement to the fabric of the building over this winter has involved opening up much-needed storage over the reception/kitchen area – made necessary by the generosity of donations which come in from far and wide.

Over the winter months we still welcome School visits. Part of the visit has children handling artefacts from Granny's time and before. Possessed (maybe obsessed?!) as they all are with mobile phones, it never fails to amaze them how long it takes to dial 999 on our old black telephone, or how tough it was to clean clothes with a bucket and plunger. Not to mention the old washboard and Sun-light soap. Washday hands, anyone?

Our Burns Supper in a full Melvin Hall, was an evening of entertainment from, amongst others, Tarves Primary choir and Meldrum Academy Ceilidh Band. Speeches and recitations made for an enjoyable evening; more than £1,000.00 was raised on the night. Thanks to Tarves' generosity, we shared some of the funds raised with the Schools – Meldrum are sending their Band to an event soon, and the Primary can always find a good use for some extra. So, many thanks to all who made the evening the success it was, those at the tables, and never forgetting our peelers, mashers, champers, servers and washer uppers behind the scenes

Volunteers are always welcome, either welcoming visitors, or behind the scenes in a host of roles – cataloguing, IT, conservation, and many others. It doesn't have to take up much time, and is vital. If you'd like to find out more, just drop us a line, online, or speak to one of the members – please!!

We reopen on 4th April, and our hours remain; Thursday to Sunday, 1pm – 4.30.

Hope to see you soon!

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Tarves Playgroup and Toddlers

It's been busy few months at Tarves Playgroup. We have had another staffing shuffle which will hopefully further improve our setting.

Naomi Summers-Seddaoui joined us after the October holidays as our new manager. We also have two new trainee practitioners; Maura Cunningham and Julie Christie. Reena Mathur has also joined us as relief worker. We are delighted to have all of these ladies join us.

The committee has a new member too. Morag Burns joins us as co-chair and she will help take over some of my duties while I step down for a few weeks to welcome baby number four.

The rest of the committee have been very busy with fundraising. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Joanne Gourlay for her incredible Christmas craft fare in November. The talented stall holders had a wonderful day, many of whom wish to return again next year. We were treated to some beautiful music courtesy of the Ythan Fiddlers. Thank you so much for that absolute treat. We were also very lucky to have some children from Tarves Primary sing for us as well. Thank you again to the children for this. They are so talented and were impeccably behaved- a true credit to the school. We are very grateful to Mrs Minto and Mrs Scott for all of their hard work to bring the children together for the event.

Our lucky baubles Christmas hamper was a particular success. The lucky winner received many wonderful prizes towards their Christmas dinner, including donations from Formartines, Presly butchers, Morrison's, Tesco, Aberdeenshire Larder, Meldrum House, Pete Walker, The Greengrocers (Inverurie) and Donald Russell.

Along with our lucky baubles and raffle from the generous stall holders, we had a home bakes stall which was also very popular. A wonderful day was had by all and we raised over £1000 for playgroup and toddlers. Thank you so much to everyone who donated their time, wares and money to make the day a success.

We are delighted to announce the date of our soup and sweet: **March 23rd** at Melvin Hall. We will have some delightful home cooking and baking as well as entertainment for the children and some fantastic raffle prizes. If anyone in the wider community would like to donate anything towards our raffle (such as a bottle, some nice toiletries etc) we would be so grateful. Please contact me if anyone can help with this in any way. We look forward to seeing you all there.

We have more fundraising events later in the year so watch so watch this space.

Our annual general meeting will be at the Aberdeen Arms on 15th May from 19.30. During this meeting, our new committee will be confirmed. We welcome as many parents, grandparents and caregivers to attend this as possible. It's im-

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portant to have as many people work on our committee as possible to support our setting.

We have a few spaces left for any children requiring early years education. Please contact Joanne Gourlay at tarvessecretary@outlook.com for more information.

We would also welcome any fresh faces at our Toddlers session which is held at 13.15 at Tarves Youth Hall every Thursday during term time. There is no need to book and all are welcome with children up to preschool age. Email tarvestoddlers@outlook.com or find us on Facebook at Tarves Baby and Toddler group.

Finally, Tarves Playgroup turns 50 this year! We are delighted that we are seeing in our half centenary and we will be celebrating with the children by having a little party later on this year.

Once again, I'd like to thank the Church, the community and our local businesses for supporting our playgroup. We really couldn't do it without you.

Regards,
Kayleigh Paterson, Chair of Tarves Playgroup

The Hut

The Hut Youth Project (behind Tarves Primary School) meet Mondays 7-9pm during term time for local youth aged 12-25yrs.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of Tarves Community we were delighted to be able to hand over 191kg of donations to Aberdeenshire North Foodbank on the run up to Christmas. Thank you to everyone who supported us.

We were recently awarded funding from Aberdeenshire Council to update our kitchen and hot water system and look forward to being able to utilise a more user-friendly kitchen for our activities.

The celebration of Aberdeenshire's Year of Young People Legacy Event on the 22nd of February at Meldrum Academy was well attended and a fantastic showcase of #yoyp2018 events, youth voices, youth participation and local youth talent.

The cold dark winter evenings have seen us enjoying games nights, celebrating national popcorn day, making tablet for Burns night and some very competitive paper plane challenges. We are looking forward to pancake day and a 'Get me out of here' challenge night in the coming weeks and also welcoming new P7 members in a transition phase after Easter.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support us and especially for the donations of furniture and activities for our members. Please check out our Facebook page to keep updated on what we are getting up to:

The Hut Youth Project Tarves.



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Tarves Guild

We had a very entertaining Christmas party with contributions from committee members and a great finale from Michael Maruwana and his family with some African songs and hymns. We ended the evening with a great selection of Christmas food provided by our Guild members.



After our usual break in January, we are coming to the final meetings of this session. In February, we had David Hancock from Aberdeenshire Council talking about a topical subject – waste management. We have also had our annual Soup and Sweet in February and we must thank the village and further, for supporting us so well and everyone who contributed to the food on offer. £1000 was raised on the day and this money will go towards Guild projects at home and abroad.

The World Day of Prayer will be on Friday 1 March in Methlick Church at 7.00pm. Our own March meeting will be held on Thursday 7 March in Tarves Church at 7.30pm, with a talk by Emma Cameron on 'Mental Health and Well-being', a topic which is becoming increasingly open after a previous reluctance to discuss this.

Our final meeting in Tarves Church is on Thursday 4 April at 7.30pm where we will learn more about the activities of the Boys Brigade. This organisation is one of the projects which the Guild is supporting in its 3-year strategy.

The annual lunch outing is in May, with the date and venue yet to be decided. This provides an opportunity to meet other Guilds from across Gordon Presbytery.

Our Guild meetings are open to everyone, please feel free to come along and join us and hear interesting speakers followed by teas & coffees and some exceptional home baking.

For further information please contact: Jean 891081 / Edith 851179

Craft evening in Tarves Church at 7.30pm on Tuesday 16th April

Following on from the success of last December's Christmas Wreath making morning, we will be holding another craft session for adults this Easter – please keep your diaries clear for Tuesday 16th April at 7.30pm in Tarves Church.

There will be an exciting craft activity with all equipment and instruction provided, with refreshments and a short reflection on Easter to finish the evening.

We look forward to seeing you there for a fun evening of creativity. Please bring a friend too!

For further details please contact Valerie 806005

TBC Diary

DATE	EVENT	VENUE / TIME
01-Mar	Guild World Day of Prayer	Methlick Church 7.00pm
06-Mar	Barthol Chapel Guild meeting	"Fuathcul 7.00pm
07-Mar	Tarves Church Guild -	Tarves Church 7.30pm
19-Mar	Tarves Community Council meeting	Tarves School 7.00pm
19-Mar	Barthol Chapel Community Assoc meeting	Barthol Chapel Church 7.00pm
20-Mar	Barthol Chapel SWI	Barthol Chapel School 7.15pm
23-Mar	Barthol Chapel Gift Day	From 10.00 - 12.00 noon and 2.00 - 4.00pm
23-Mar	Tarves Playgroup & Toddlers "Soup & Sweet"	Melvin Hall
04-Apr	Tarves Church Guild	Tarves Church 7.30pm
04-Apr	Tarves Heritage Centre reopens for the season	Thursday to Sunday 1.00 - 4.30pm
13-Apr	Tarves Rant event - informal music sessions	Heritage Centre & Aberdeen Arms
13-Apr	Tarves Rant Concert & Ceilidh	Melvin Hall
14-Apr	Palm Sunday - Meet at Tarves Church for a short Service before walking to Barthol Chapel	Tarves Church 9.00am
16-Apr	"Craft Evening" by Valerie Mitchell	Tarves Church 7.30pm
16-Apr	Tarves Community Council meeting	Tarves School 7.30pm
17-Apr	Barthol Chapel SWI Business meeting	Barthol Chapel School 7.15pm
18-Apr	Maundy Thursday service	Tarves Church 7.00pm
19-Apr	Good Friday	Barthol Chapel Church 7.00pm
21-Apr	Easter Day	Tarves Church 11.15am
21-Apr	Tarves Messy Church	Youth Hall 11.00am
24-Apr	Barthol Chapel Guild meeting	"Fuathcul 7.00pm
24-Apr	Fashion Show by Catwalkers of Ellon	Tarves Church 7.30pm
12-May	Spring Holy Communion	Tarves Church 11.15am
15-May	Tarves Playgroup and Toddlers - AGM	Aberdeen Arms Hotel 7.30pm
15-May	Barthol Chapel SWI	Barthol Chapel School 7.15pm
21-May	Tarves Community Council meeting	Barthol Chapel 7.30pm
09-Jun	Tarves Messy Church	Youth Hall 11.00am
18-Jun	Tarves Community Council meeting - AGM	Tarves School 7.30pm

For Tarves School diary dates, please see Pages 33

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>The 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>Monday, Tuesday & Thursday</i>	<i>Ellon Men's Shed</i>	<i>Hospital Road, Ellon</i> <i>10:00am- 4:00pm</i>
<i>Every 2nd Monday</i>	<i>Hanover Court Whist after- noons</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 Tuesday evening</i>	<i>Barthol Chapel Indoor Bow- ling (winter term time only)</i>	<i>Barthol Chapel Primary School</i>
<i>Every Wednesday during term time</i>	<i>Meldrum Academy Christian Union</i>	<i>Meldrum Academy 1:15pm</i>
<i>Every Thursday dur- ing 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>



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Leask House, Mackie Avenue —

1 bedroom house available for rent to eligible tenants

Leask House in Mackie Avenue, Tarves, recently became vacant and will shortly be available for rent. It is a comfortable detached one bedroom house with living room, kitchen (newly installed) and bathroom.

The terms of rental state that tenants should be 'deserving, retired persons who reside or have resided in the Parish of Tarves, residents of the Craigdam district preferred but not binding.' The rent for new tenants will be set considerably below the equivalent for a comparable house.

Leask House was built in 1968 by an American, James Leask, whose father, Samuel, emigrated from Craigdam to California in 1880. James Leask gifted Leask House to Tarves parish in memory of his father.

Samuel Leask suffered a childhood of 'extreme poverty' as his family struggled to make a living on their 9 acre Craigdam croft. Samuel was a bright boy and his teachers urged him to go to college but, mindful of the needs of his family, he left school to find work, aged 13. He eventually emigrated, worked hard and went on to found a chain of department stores in Santa Cruz, California.

When Leask House was built, there were many farm workers in tied houses who became effectively homeless when they retired. Fortunately, this is no longer the case but there are still people from various backgrounds in need of housing once retired. If you are interested or if you know of anyone who might be interested, please contact Joan Ross for further information. Tel: 01651 842343.



Udny Station Indoor Bowling Club

The club continues to meet in the Youth Hall in Tarves on Monday and Wednesday nights from 7.30 – 9.30pm until the end of the season in April. We currently have about 20 members and newcomers are always welcome.





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Tarves School PTA

This year, the PTA hosted a family Beetle Drive in the Aberdeen Arms on the 1st of February 2019. This was a busy, fun event for all the family to enjoy. In addition, we are planning for our annual Spring Fling which all the community are invited to, and will be held in the Melvin Hall on Saturday 2 March. Music will be provided by Fusion with all proceeds going to the school. This has been a very successful event in the past and we hope that everyone will do their best to support this fun evening. Tickets will be available through the school office or via PTA members. Over 18's only - £15 per ticket. BYOB



si

Scottish Poetry

The pupils again learned Scottish poems in the last few weeks to commemorate Rabbie Burns. All pupils did very well.

Bags to School – we hope 'Bags to School' will be soon after the Easter holidays allowing you all time to have a clear out over the holiday period. This is a great way to fundraise for the school and recycle anything you no longer need. Look out for flyers coming through your door.

Scottish Country Dancing

Mr Stott is again working with pupils from P4 upwards. Thanks to Mr Stott for his hard work with the dancers.

Summer Fete

We are now beginning to think about our major, annual fundraising event – the school Summer Fete which will be held in the school playground on Saturday 25th May 2019. We are delighted to have the climbing wall again this year.

If you have an idea for a stall or a different type of event which can be part of the fete, please contact a member of the PTA. Or better yet, come along to our next meeting to suggest it!

Easy Fundraising

The school PTA are registered with the Easy Fundraising website (<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/tarvespta>) which is a great way to raise funds simply by shopping online. I urge everyone to register for this site to do your online shopping at no extra cost to you.

PTA Facebook group

If you have Facebook access and a child in the school, please join the group. Information about PTA events and notices are posted there, and with more than 100 members, is a good way to get word out quickly.



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Dates for your diary -

Monday 15 April - School resumes after holidays

Friday 19 April – Holiday for Good Friday

Thursday 2 May – Class photos and staff photo

Monday 6 May – Mayday holiday

Tuesday 14 May – Dalguise meeting for P6/7 parents 6.00pm
PTA meeting 7.00pm in school

Friday, 17 May am – P1 induction **pm** – Nursery induction

Thursday 23 May – Parents' open evening 6.00-7.30pm

Friday 24 May – Sports Day

Saturday 25 May – PTA run School Fete

Monday, 27 May to Friday 31 May – Dalguise trip for P6 and P7

Monday, 3 June – Holiday

Friday 14 June - Summer show

Tuesday 18 to Thursday 20 June – P7 Transition days to Meldrum
Academy

Wednesday 19 June – Moving up day

Thursday 4 July– Proposed date of leavers/prize giving assembly

Regards.

Jill Taylor, Parent Council and PTA Chairperson

Friendship Club

The Friendship Club is still continuing with a reduced programme of events. We had a Christmas lunch in December along with some seasonal entertainment. February saw us enjoying our annual Haggis lunch with Dennis Morrison playing a selection of Scottish tunes on his accordion. Hopefully we will end this winter's session with an afternoon tea. We must also thank the Aberdeen Arms for their catering and use of a function room.

We are still appealing for someone to take over as leader and this role could even be shared. We have a faithful and enthusiastic membership of over 60 s, all of whom would be grateful for the opportunity to return to a full programme of meetings.

Jean Jowett



Dog Walking – All dogs are walked on an individual basis,

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Ellon and District Men's Shed

The Shed open day in December was a terrific success and packed out from start to finish with some welcome hospitality for our visitors before their tour of the Shed. Thank you to those who provided the soup and home bakes. Wooden reindeers constructed from logs and branches cut from fallen trees and finished with a Rudolf face painted on them with the red nose were best sellers.

We are looking forward to our planted spring flowers and further garden development will continue as we move into spring. The Shed is looking for some polytunnel frames so if there are available frames out there, please let us know as this would enhance our garden area.

The installation of industrial loft ladder with safety features has doubled our loft activity space and the motor bike enthusiasts were the first to move in a vintage Piaggio moped, strip it down, clean it up, paint the frame and powder coat the wheels. Donated Scalextric tracks are also in the loft waiting for the enthusiasts plus a further model railway. A pool table has been suggested plus an area for & CPR Defibrillator training is planned. This inside storage area with storage racks will be a huge advantage and the large steel container, presently used for storage, will now be refitted as a mechanical workshop. The donated static caravan still needs refurbishment ready for spring use.

Brew Dog continues to be generous by passing over the wood from delivery packing cases and pallets. Ellon Round Table made a generous donation in January which will be wisely used to benefit our members.

The vintage luggage barrows from the Strathspey Steam Railway have now gone back to Grantown on Spey station after Shed refurbishment. Ellon Boys Brigade, helped by a couple of Shed members, assembled 12 bird nesting box kits in January. Two of our trustees were invited to a pre-school playgroup to show the basics of putting a screw in, hammering a nail in and bolting 2 items together. The kids' enthusiasm was amazing and this seems to be a subject on the playgroup curriculum.

Another Shed open day with garden activities is being planned for May and will be advertised nearer the date.

The Shed is open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am to 4pm. There is a music group on Tuesdays from 6pm and the wood turners use Thursdays from 6pm.

We are looking forward to spring and summer and have plenty activities for members to enjoy. Please come and see us at Hospital Road, Ellon, AB41 9AW - re-member membership is free.

Telephone 01358 725849. Email ellonmensshed@gmail.com

See latest photos on our Website: <http://ellonanddistrictmensshed.blogspot.co.uk>

Barthol Chapel Kirk News

Services

Christmas seems long past now, but we joyfully welcomed community, family and friends to our services in December – an all-age Nativity and our annual Lessons and Carols. It was lovely to share fellowship together.

Our thanks go to Valerie and Alison for leading our services and we look forward to Lent and Easter approaching in the spring (we are looking forward to the spring too!). On Palm Sunday we will be having our usual joint service at Barthol Chapel having worked up an appetite for a cuppa and a fine piece by walking from Tarves first! Details below.

The Café

Our café continues to be popular on the second Saturday of the month and the helpers are doing a great job providing bakes and hot drinks. If anyone would like to put their name on the rota to help, please contact Jennie 01651 873963, Lindsey 07437011338 or Katherine 01651 806634.

Gift day

Here in Barthol Chapel we are hoping to raise money to repair our kirk roof and to re-point walls. This requires about £70,000, some of which will come from the church reserves and the Church of Scotland General Trustees. We are also approaching trust funds and will be planning fundraising events such as our gift day on the 23rd March. The church gift day will be from 10.00 - 12.00 noon and 2.00 - 4.00pm.

We are hoping that members of the congregation and the wider community of Tarves and Barthol Chapel will come along and share special memories of the kirk as well as make donations towards this essential work. The kirk baptismal register and proclamation of bans will be available to view with accompanying light refreshments and we are hoping to create a display from your photos and stories. Please join us.

Service details

All Sunday services at Barthol Chapel are at 9.45 unless detailed below and the first and third Sunday of the month is followed by coffee. Do join us.

Palm Sunday 14th April– meet at Tarves at 9.00am for a short service. Walk to Barthol Chapel - dogs welcome) and have a refreshing cuppa before the service at 11.15am

Easter Day 21st April – 9.45 am as usual

Barthol Chapel Church Guild



Our Christmas social evening in December was much enjoyed by those of us who managed along for a bring-and-share festive supper.

After a January break, we now look forward to a few more meetings of the session.

February had us welcoming Valerie Mitchell who interpreted the Guild theme for this year, 'Seeking the Way', by giving us a personal account of her own faith journey. We were also treated to some wonderful tales and photographs of her recent adventure to Antarctica.

The World Day of Prayer on Friday 1st March will be hosted this year by Methlick Guild and is a good opportunity for our local Guilds to meet together for praise and fellowship. Our thanks to them for their preparation and welcome.

The last meeting of our session will be on Wednesday 24th April when we invite Alan Cameron to give us an insight into the project to rejuvenate Ellon Castle and Gardens for the community and of the ongoing work of the volunteers. This will hopefully be followed up by a visit to see the gardens as part of our summer outing, yet to be planned.

As ever, we extend a warm welcome to all who would like to join us at our Guild meetings, usually on the first Wednesday evening of most months of our session, and held at 'Fuathcul', Barthol Chapel.

We also welcome anyone who would like to speak at our meetings and share their own experiences, interests or charitable work with us.

Helen Mennie 01651 806366 helen.c.mennie@gmail.com

Royal British Legion Scotland



Thanks to all who took part in the November Remembrance Service at both Barthol Chapel & Tarves and also the visit and Poppy laying ceremony at our Commonwealth Graves after the Service at Tarves.

John Thomson

Branch Secretary

Barthol Chapel School

Head Teacher: Mr Adrian Anderson

St Katherines, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, AB51 8TD

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Once again, we have had a very

successful start to the year at Barthol Chapel School. We reflect back with amazement at all the events, learning and opportunities enjoyed by all at Barthol Chapel School. We have supported many fundraising events from the Rotary Shoebox Appeal and Children in Need. We have continued to implement our vision to be the BEST (Believe, Endeavour, Succeed, Together) whilst still having fun at the same time. We are all proud of the work of our school and thank everyone from the boys and girls, parents, teachers and wider community for the support and dedication we are fortunate to have.

Barthol Chapel School receives another prestigious award

Barthol Chapel School has gained the Cycle Friendly School Award from Cycling Scotland in recognition of our efforts to support and encourage cycling to school. We demonstrated our commitment to cycling by working closely with Cycling Scotland and Joanna Stewart, Transportation Strategy Officer at Aberdeenshire Council, to increase awareness of active travel and to establish Junior Road Safety Officers in our school.

The nationally recognised Cycle Friendly School Award recognises primary schools, teachers and volunteers committed to increasing and promoting cycling to, from and around school. The award has been developed by Cycling Scotland with the aim of promoting cycling to school as a pleasant, healthy and economical travel choice. Cycling Scotland offers guidance on travel planning and providing cycling facilities and helps to create a culture of cycling within the school community. To achieve the award, schools must show commitment to cycling by providing facilities such as bicycle parking, changing facilities and Bikeability Scotland cycle training.

We are fortunate enough to have a huge amount of support from parent and members of the community. This session, our Junior Road Safety Officers have been busy gathering information about our travel habits. They have identified the

dangers and next steps to continue to promote safe travel which has led to the development of a Travel Plan. With support of Aberdeenshire Council, we have a new cycle track painted on to our playground surface complete with give way junctions, traffic lights and pedestrian crossings. This will enable us to continue to deliver Bikeability Training and Road Safety education to our learners.

Burns celebrations

Our whole school Burns celebration was enjoyed by all. Organised by our primary 5, 6 and 7 pupils, we were treated to an afternoon of good food and excellent entertainment. The pupils recited many Burns poems and a selection of Doric poems and songs too!

NSPCC

The NSPCC visited Barthol Chapel School to deliver their 'Speak Out Stay Safe' workshop and assembly. With the help of their mascot Buddy, the children were involved in interactive activities to explore topics like bullying and abuse, but without using any scary words or adult language.

Big Bird Watch

Once again, the pupils in Primary 1-4 became conservation scientists by helping the RSPB track the ups and downs of birds across the country. The children took part in an enterprise project selling hyacinths. They used the profit they made to buy a selection of bird feeders and bird food to attract birds to our playground. The pupils have classified the types of birds that visit our school grounds and are now considering ways to make our space friendly to a range of wildlife.

Rag Bag Recycling Scheme

A reminder that we have a rag bag container in our school playground. The 'Rag Bag' recycling scheme has been developed to provide regular fundraising for schools in Scotland. The scheme increases awareness about textile recycling. Please think of us if you are having a clear out. We can accept clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts etc. Just pop them into a bag and deposit in the container.

Barthol Chapel Bowlers

Barthol Chapel Bowlers meet every Tuesday evening at Barthol Chapel Primary School between 7.30 and 9.30 pm during winter school term.

We welcome new members to join us in this friendly and enjoyable game.

Please contact Club Secretary Bill Kelly on 01651 806804 for further details.





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Barthol Chapel SWI

Since our last communication Christmas has come and gone. Our Christmas meeting took the form of a floral display with the members creating marvellous Christmas logs created from empty Pringle cans. This was the work of the very talented Patrina Bain.

Our January meeting took a very different form. Jennie Chalmers delighted our members and visitors with an account and slide show of her trip to Nepal last year. It seemed to be an energetic but exhilarating trip with very little luxury to speak of, probably a bit of a culture shock in the cold month of January.

And in February we had a "Girls Night" when we welcomed Claire Massie who gave a make up demonstration and tips on how to look our best.

We are now looking forward to:

- 20 March - Talk on Chrysanthemums by Ian Gerrie
- 17 April - Business meeting - but 'all welcome' for entertainment.
- 15 May - Talk on whisky by Mike from Inverurie Whisky Shop.

There is something for everyone at our meetings with lots of laughs included and opportunities waiting for women of all ages to discover your particular talent.

A special plea to busy working mothers of the community. You just want to put your feet up and watch the telly - that's understandable. But, why not 'phone a friend and get along to Barthol Chapel School at 7:15pm for a fun and informative evening. Ladies of all ages will be made most welcome.

For more information please contact Hazel Skinner on 01651 806888




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*If you would like to be part of the volunteer team one weekend,
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1236

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Booking advisable with their team for lunch or dinner on 01651 872294. Head to their website to see all the new menus - <https://www.meldrumhouse.com/1236cave-bar>



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The Big Project - Barthol Chapel Kirk

A lot has happened since I last wrote in 2018. At the beginning of November we heard we had jumped an initial lottery hurdle when we were invited to apply for a grant under the Places of Worship; Inspiring Ideas Scheme. This was very encouraging - but with an application deadline of January 14th, time was very tight and we had a lot of work to do.

But, in the space of a couple of months, with Christmas and the holidays in the middle, we got professional costings based on the sketch plans, wrote a project plan and supporting business plan, consulted experts both within Barthol Chapel and those with project and lottery experience outside the community and gathered many letters of support from those who might use the church building if and when it is re-ordered. And all in time to be submitted with the application form ahead of the deadline - just!

And now we wait. There is absolutely no guarantee we will be given a grant but, whatever happens, the work done to meet for this first application has been invaluable and we have progressed a long way in a short time.

And there is much to do whilst we wait to hear - more grant approaches and applications, local fund raising and more work on the plans and ideas, long term management and sustainability and continued consultation to ensure that what is being proposed fits the wants and needs of the whole community and the congregation in Barthol Chapel.

Meanwhile, the church is working to get together the funds for the roof repairs and repointing which are needed to make the building wind and water-tight. It is hoped the funds will be available this Spring/ Summer, so this work can be done to prepare for the Big Project. Lets hope for another fine summer.

By the next edition of TBC, we will have heard about the lottery application and have a good idea of the next phase. It is a daunting but exciting prospect, we progress one step at a time.

We would very much welcome feedback on all aspects of the project. You can find the latest version of the plans here

<https://www.bartholchapel.com/the-big-project>

All comments, ideas and any concerns should be sent to churchproject@bartholchapel.com. This is also the contact to use if you would like to help in any way - from physical labouring to sharing experience or expertise and everything in between. We look forward to hearing from you.

Jennie Chalmers

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Jane Thom Bequest

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To apply contact either Bob Davidson (Chairman) Tel 01651 851112 TCC.Chairman@tarves.org.uk or Heather Scott (Head Teacher, Tarves Primary) Tel 01651 851247 Heather.Scott@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or by post or self-delivery marked private and confidential to Jane Thom Bequest, CC Post Box, Tarves Post Office, The Square, Tarves, Ellon, AB41 7GX



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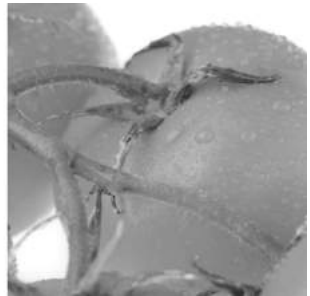
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