

TBC

Issue 66

Tarves and Barthol Chapel
Quarterly Newsletter
September 2023



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Tarves Showcase Event

Sunday 1st October 2023

- Like living in Tarves?
- Want to see what's going on?
- Want to find out about activities and organisations for you and your family?
- Want to secure a vibrant, attractive and community-minded place to live?

Then come along to the Melvin Hall on Sunday, 1st October to find out what the village has to offer – and how you could get involved.

More than 15 organisations will be taking part; from Brownies to Bowling. Gardening to the Guild.

With:

- Free raffle entry for all (adult) attendees – be in to win gin!
- Children's activities / entertainment!
- Refreshments and a fine piece provided too!

Sunday, 1st October 2023
in The Melvin Hall

2 - 4pm

**** Free event ****

Sponsored by Tarves Development Trust (TDT), the Tarves and Barthol Chapel Newsletter (TBC) and the Melvin Hall

Hello everyone

It is unusual for the Editor letter to move to another slot, but this time for a very good reason as I hope you have read on page 3 of this September 2023 TBC.

This newsletter is only one aspect of volunteering in Tarves and Barthol Chapel Parish; it takes close to 36 people involving editorial, typesetting, invoicing, preparing area deliveries and the delivery volunteers themselves – all willingly give their time to produce and deliver this quarterly newsletter. The TBC is printed by Artier; a local business and Gordon also gives extra time with no charge to 'fine tune' the production of the newsletter. Add to this many of the groups which will be at this Tarves Showcase Event and you will realise just how much goes on in this area and we're hoping that this initiative will bring you along to the Melvin Hall on Sunday 1st October and look at events/interests/groups and volunteer to take part in the future. There has been new housebuilding in the village for a number of years, and with the new growing estate on the north side of Tarves, this will be a 'showcase' event where new residents can see what goes on here and the perfect opportunity to take part in village life and also reminder for those already at home in Tarves. All manner of skills are needed to keep groups running and although you may not have time on a 'weekly' basis, then having your name on an organisation's files helps to spread the load when there is a shortage of helpers. You can volunteer your baking skills/ fundraising skills/professional skills/ tradesman skills – and more. The Melvin Hall itself is managed by volunteers and their mixed skills have been instrumental in improving the building and facilities. Similarly, Tarves Youth Hall plays host to voluntary organisations and the present redevelopment has been funded by various organisations, and again, it is volunteer's time which has progressed the funding and management of the project.

For those of you who hadn't thought about volunteering, this event may be the perfect time to help in the community. It could begin with checking on your neighbours or doing some shopping for those who are housebound. Move on to children's organisations and the need for volunteers grow and allow this new generation freedom and learning experiences that these groups can provide – and remember, the leaders of these groups are volunteers themselves. You'll read about FYP's recent events and academy age young people who are now volunteering and building up their own experiences. During Covid, Tarves Church was well supported by willing helpers making up and delivering food parcels, and providing essential contact with the local community.

Please join us in October for this gathering – connecting with our local communities gives the feeling of 'belonging' and an opportunity to have a voice in activities in this Parish. You can begin with just a few hours of commitment, you won't let anyone down if you are realistic about how much you can give initially, then build up your experience and confidence to give more time.

We hope to meet many of our wider community on Sun 1st October when you'll be able to ask questions and learn about the ways you can contribute – thank you for reading this through.

Ruth, TBC Editor



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August 2023

Dear Friends

I hope you have had an opportunity to enjoy the summer - despite the weather! It seems a long time since the heat-wave in June!

As well as that heatwave, June also saw a wonderful celebration of the life of Barthol Chapel Kirk and the role it has played in the community. Thanks to all those who supported that service – it was lovely to see a full church and the singing was magnificent. We wish the community every blessing as they seek to take it over to provide a community space in the village.

In Tarves, the summer has at last seen the beginning of the next stage of the refurbishment work to the Youth Hall. And we hope that by the end of the year we will be able to offer a fit for purpose community space for the various youth organisations and clubs in Tarves, as well as for some of the Church activities.

At the same time, things are beginning to move forward for the Churches in the Formartine Area. Sadly, Methlick Kirk Session have now decided that they do not wish to be part of the union at this time, preferring to remain in continued vacancy. However, it looks as if permission will be granted for Barthol Chapel, Tarves and Udny and Pitmedden to unite on 1 January 2024 and call a minister for the union on my retirement, all being well, in Spring 2024. Some of you may recall that Presbytery did award the Formartine Area 1.5 ministry posts but the main reason for that was the size of the new united Parish including Methlick. So, we will not be able to appoint that additional part-time member of staff until the position with Methlick becomes clearer. However, we are excited to be moving forward at last.

In the meantime, all the Churches in the Formartine Area are committed to continuing to work together to share God's love with the communities in our area, and in particular to supporting the Formartine Youth Project. I know many of you will have come across Caroline Brown and her work as Youth Development Worker and it was great to have young people from the area at our summer holiday fun mornings which were held in various places throughout the Formartine area. You don't really need a passport to go from one to the other! That was just for the children!!

As we look forward to the beginning of this new Autumn/Winter Session we are aware that over the last months some of the houses in the new development in Tarves have been completed and occupied. If you have moved into the village recently, then we hope you have settled in and are enjoying your new home.

I would like to bring this letter to a close by extending an invitation to all, whether you have been living in Tarves or Barthol Chapel for a long time or have recently moved into the area, to our regular services of worship held every Sunday at 10.00am in Tarves Kirk. These are a mix of old and new, formal and informal.

Also please be assured that the services of the parish minister are available to everyone, whether they are a member of the Church or not. If I can help you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me – details are at the back of this TBC.

Wishing you every blessing

Alison I Swindells, your friend and Minister

Tarves Kirk News

Barthol Chapel and Tarves United Sunday Worship

* **10.00am in Tarves Kirk** followed by refreshments

We hold Holy Communion on the last Sunday of most months. The church is set out café style and at each place an individual glass of non-alcoholic wine and a piece of gluten free bread are set out. I encourage you to join with us as this replaces the twice-yearly Communion service.

Summer Sermon Series

Alison has started a series exploring The Apostles' Creed which is proving to be thought provoking. The Creed sets out what the Church teaches and what we believe. The word 'creed' comes from the Latin 'credo' meaning belief or trust.

The Tarves Kirk annual meeting was held on Sunday 21 May after worship when the accounts and reports were presented.

You will see from Alison's letter that we are moving closer to uniting with Barthol Chapel and Udney Pitmedden. There will be an opportunity to vote on this process after worship so look out for the date when it is published.

Youth Hall Refurbishment

At long last the work has started as you may hear if you are in the vicinity of the Hall.

Harvest Thanksgiving 22 October

This year all donations will be shared around our own parishes of Barthol Chapel and Tarves. There is great need even in our own communities. You can bring any non-perishable items, including toiletries, to the church over the coming weeks. This way you can donate little and often. Please ensure items have a long use by date. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Up-to-date news and information can be found at www.tarveschurch.org and the Facebook page.

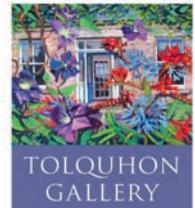
Formartine Youth Project

The joint work being done with young people is both exciting and encouraging. Caroline and all the volunteers from Barthol Chapel, Tarves, Methlick and Udney Pitmedden are doing a fantastic job. Thank you to them all.

We are here for everyone in the parish so please get in touch if there is anything we can do to support you or someone you know. Elders do their best to keep in touch with folk but you are welcome to phone us should you wish to speak to someone. Thank you to elders and members for your continued efforts to put your faith into action in very practical ways in our community.

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

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News from the Square



Hasn't the Square looked beautiful this summer!

The tubs and hanging baskets have flowered well and are still looking good even though our summer maybe wasn't as hot as we expected it to be, but hopefully we will still have some good weather to come so that the farmers can get their crops harvested.

There has been lots of visitors this year, whether visiting family and friends or looking up their Ancestors in the Heritage Centre and Graveyard or having a cuppa and fine piece in the Murly Tuck so it's always good when our Village is looking colourful and shows it is a nice place to visit and to live in.

"The Tarves Plooman"





Melvin Hall AGM 2023

Thursday 14th September 2023
7pm
Queens Room, Melvin Hall

The Melvin Hall is a key asset for Tarves, and is used regularly by several community groups as well as hosting events and activities such as a dance school, dog classes, IT training, concerts, ceilidhs and, not least, the annual Tarves Flower Show. The school also use it for events and shows.

The Hall is managed by a local committee appointed annually by the community and our AGM will be held in the Queens Room on the 14th September at 7pm. It's open to everyone and we would love to see you there.

We are finalising the installation of a large-scale generator for the Hall, which will enable it to become the Resilience Centre for Tarves, providing a place where people can come to keep warm, charge devices and have a hot drink etc. This is planned to be in place for the forthcoming winter.

The Hall has also been surveyed by Business Energy Scotland to establish the modifications needed to improve the energy efficiency of the Hall. As a result, we will be applying to the Just Transition Fund to install double glazing.

This is a competitive fund, with grants given based on the public votes received - and every vote counts! To be successful, we will require YOUR VOTE.

Voting information will be provided on the Tarves Community website and Facebook pages – please support us to improve this key facility in Tarves.

For further information, contact Fiona on fiona.smith@tarves.org.uk

Tarves and District Bowling Club News

This year Tarves Bowling Club celebrated its 75th Anniversary, having been originally opened by Lord Aberdeen on 7th July 1948, by arranging a friendly tournament between Tarves players and representatives from local bowling clubs throughout the county. Kathleen Gordon from Bowls Scotland presented a 75th anniversary award and a certificate for the recently awarded Bowls Mark certification for club excellence to the club President Michael Presly who,

following on in the family tradition, is the Great Grandson of the founding President from 75 years ago George Presly.

It has been a very successful year for the club, with the team recently winning the A&K “Top Ten” competition, having beaten Inverurie in the semi-finals went on to beat Rothienorman 8 – 0 in the final. This means that we will now go on to represent Aberdeen & Kincardineshire in the Scottish National Top Ten competition.

This year we have hosted two “Try Bowls” events for everyone to come and have some fun and try at bowling, the last one we had over 60 local people attend, and we have also run a session for some of the Tarves Primary School Classes.

One of our members Connor Milne, has also had a successful international year representing Scotland in the indoor bowling at the World Bowls Indoor Championships in Australia earlier in the year and more recently part of the Scottish team at the 2023 British Isles Lawn Bowls Internationals at the National Centre for Bowling in Ayr.

With plenty of friendly and competition matches played throughout the season it has been a very busy and enjoyable year. Tarves Bowling Club welcome all ages and abilities, so if you would like to join the club, learn how to play, or just find out more please contact tarves.bowls@outlook.com or give Andy Duncan a ring on 07967 342147.

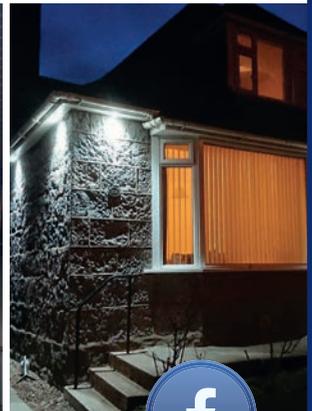
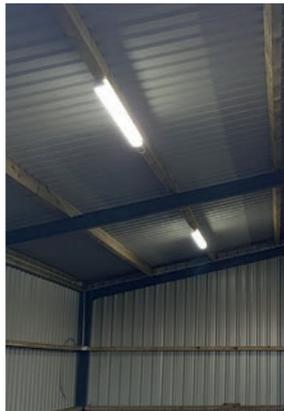


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Tarves Development Trust

Annual General Meeting

The TDT AGM will be held on Monday 30th October 2023 at 7pm in the Queens Room of the Melvin Hall.

The AGM is an opportunity for members to review progress and direct the future projects and actions of Tarves

Development Trust.

Whilst all are welcome to attend the AGM, only members are entitled to contribute to the meeting and to vote on proposals. Members will be emailed details of the AGM and agenda. Please contact the Secretary, Fiona Smith at fiona.smith@tarves.org.uk or 01651 851832 if you have not received this. We would be delighted to welcome new directors – please do consider joining the Board by standing for election at the AGM.

If you wish to join the Trust, please download and complete an application form from <http://www.tarves.org.uk/tarves-development-trust/tdt-documents/tdt-membership-application-form/> or contact Fiona Smith as above. Membership is free.

We are currently in discussion with the Church of Scotland re leasing the Glebe (the field on the right-hand slope as you come into Tarves from Pitmedden) for community use and would be keen to hear ideas and views on potential uses. We are also planning a joint event, in partnership with the Melvin Hall and the Tarves and Barthol Chapel Newsletter, to showcase what's going on in Tarves and how to get involved – for more information take a look at the article in this edition of the TBC.

Fiona Smith

Tarves Cemetery Maintenance Volunteers

With the approval of the Community Council, a small band of volunteers has been busy over the last month or two weeding and tidying at Tarves Cemetery. We are doing this out of respect for our deceased but there are actually benefits for us too. Great exercise (better than sitting watching telly), enjoyment in the company of like-minded individuals and a real sense of achievement and doing good.

Unfortunately, the weather has not been kind to us and already the weeds are growing in rows previously cleared but akin to painting of the Forth Bridge, we shall keep going.

If you can spare an hour or two, please join us (bring gardening tools). We are usually there on a Monday evening 7-9pm and some other times too if the weather is good.

For further information please contact:

Hilda Bruce 07711 358201 or Moira Minty 07800 953127

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Barthol Chapel SWI



Members at Barthol Chapel SWI have been enjoying a well-earned break over the summer months but we will be back in action again in September when we will be

attending Bee Crafty Studio for a dabble at ceramic painting.

We have planned a varied program this year and if you would like to come along and see what we are about, we would be delighted to see you.

We will be meeting in the Aberdeen Arms at 1.00pm, generally the 3rd Wed of the month but keep an eye on our Facebook page for information.

Date for your diary:

Brew and Buttery morning on Saturday 21 October in the Queens Room, Melvin Hall, Tarves from 10am – 12noon. All welcome.

Barthol Chapel SWI

email bartholchapelswi@gmail.com

Barthol Chapel Kirk and Community Association

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Mid Formartine Guild

(Barthol Chapel, Tarves and Udny - Pitmedden)

'Whose we are and whom we serve'



Our current session started with a lunch outing in the Stator Hotel, Ellon. This session's speakers have covered a variety of subjects including the workings of the Scottish Legal System with Graham Ritchie in his role of Justice of the Peace, followed 'My life as a Midwife' talk from Janice Paton. She spoke of her experiences working on Shetland, coping with very mixed weather conditions and serving remote communities.

This was followed by the work of the Pawpalz mental health charity. Pawpalz was created by Toby McKillop after realising the power of peer support while on a walk with his dog on Bennachie. In his own words, *'by the time we reached the bottom of Bennachie the beginnings of an idea called Pawpalz had formed in my head, what had just worked for me, what had just brought me back from the brink, might just work for others.'* We've also been on an African journey with Rev Dennis Berk from St Mary's on the Rock, Ellon. He gave an overview of a 3-year missionary appointment in Zambia om 20 years ago.

Thanks to everyone's support and help, our two main fund raisers, the Soup and Sweet lunch and Afternoon Tea, gave us a good amount of funds to disperse. Among other things, we have contributed to the expenses of both Tarves and Pitmedden Churches as well as donating to three of the Guild Projects, Starchild, Unida and Home for Good. We also gave to Pawpalz work and donated to Balmedie Church of Scotland Home.

For our final event in September, we shall be visiting Ellon Men's Shed where we have been promised a tour of their activities and facilities - with a cup of tea included. Whether we will be allowed to use any of their equipment remains to be seen? Maybe we will get a chance to operate the model railway, but whatever, we are looking forward to our visit and it will be a good end to our session.

We will be starting up again late Spring 2023, which at the moment does seem a long way off, and we will be delighted to see old and hopefully some new members.

Jean Jowett, Chair

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Knitting donations since June TBC

Thank you to everyone from

across the wider parish and the city of Aberdeen itself, who continue to share their enjoyment and skills in knitting all the blankets, hats, scarves, neck-warmers and of course, the lovely baby knitting.



- Cyrenians – The Cyrenians in Union Glen have benefitted greatly with a recent donation of neck-warmers, adult hats and scarves, along with numerous larger size blankets. They will pass some of the knitted children’s jumpers to AberNecessities, a charity based in in Dyce. You can read more about both these organisations here – www.weareac.org; www.abernecessities.co.uk;
- Malawi – As ever, fish/chip sets are passed to Meldrum Church via Hanover and they organise the delivery to the Banana Box transport team in Dundee - www.bananaboxtrust.org; Thank you to Jessie at Hanover for co-ordinating this.
- Special Care Baby Unit in Aberdeen – The knitters continue to support the SCBU with tiny hats for early babies and a further selection of sizes for all babies, 200 were gathered since June and handed over recently. They are all shared between various Aberdeenshire baby units ensuring all babies leaving hospital are given their own hat. Numerous blankets were also donated and the unit decide which babies benefit from these, similarly little cardigans are also shared. The Unit ask for white or very pale coloured knitting only please.
- Our own village – Bright hat and scarf sets are often seen locally, albeit in colder weather, and we have a box in Tarves Church Community Corner with sets in various sizes. Please let me or Jessie know if you’d like any and we can co-ordinate a look at our box.
- Woodend Hospital – Donations here are always shared through various wards, and recently Morningfield House welcomed a bag of knee blankets and twiddle-muffs. Patients really like small bright knee blankets when sitting in their armchairs at the side of beds or in the dayrooms.

Knitting and donations of wool can be handed to Jessie at Hanover (01651 851958), dropped off at the Church on Tuesday mornings 10-11am, Sundays between 11-12noon, or collected via arrangement – please email me at tbc.editor@btinternet.com.

Thank you everyone – and if you know any organisations who would welcome some knitting, please let Jessie or myself know.

Ruth, on behalf of Tarves Church

Tuesday mornings in Tarves Kirk!



Coffee & Chat

Tea, coffee & biscuits are served in Tarves Kirk from 10 – 11am every Tuesday

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Hanover Court Social Committee update

It's a year since I moved into one of the spacious cottages on this development and it's proved to be a good move. The 25 flats and cottages provide sheltered accommodation for people of all ages who have some support needs to live independently. The central garden space makes for a quiet and attractive place to live and the communal building provides extra amenities. There's a laundry room, large lounge, Manager's office and an en-suite guest room for visitors. The part-time Manager is onsite 5 days a week.

Although I have lived in Tarves for over 30 years, I was not fully aware of what Hanover Court offers. You can be as sociable as you wish – attending coffee mornings and events – or maintain your privacy. The choice is yours. There are coffee mornings on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10.30 – 11.30am. These are open to anyone and are proving popular. The social committee organises a few events each year and things are starting to pick up again post Covid. You will be most welcome to join us.

***Susanna Bichard,
Chairperson***

Update on Hanover Knitting Group and Social Events

We at Hanover, are delighted to see extra faces coming up to our coffee mornings through the week. It's always nice to make you all most welcome.

We had a very successful evening on Thursday 10 August when Carol from Cat's Pyjamas came and entertained with songs from the Musicals. The Social Committee would like to thank you all for supporting us at these events.

The knitters are busy with all their hats, scarves and blankets. Our next event is Afternoon Tea for Breast Cancer Care. It's on Thursday 14th September at 2.00 until 3.30pm in the lounge at Hanover Court. There will be a donation box at door for Breast Cancer. All are welcome.

Jessie Simpson, Tel: 851958

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Tarves Community Council

Your Community Council continues to press Aberdeenshire Council (AC) for a 20mph in Craigdam as we consider that the narrow road and lack of pavements warrants a reduction in the limit. We urge all motorists heading to and from Oldmeldrum not to use this road and use the “Uppermill” road instead, turning off opposite Bain’s Park, as this is the shortest section of C road which leads to the B9170 and then the roundabout on the A947. The AC signposted route to Oldmeldrum from the village via Cairnbrogie involves 2 junctions which have a history of accidents and has a longer section of C road.

We also ask that residents and landowners ensure that any trees, hedges and vegetation alongside public roads is cut back and not allowed to overhang the road or verge obstructing the view, and causing road safety issues for all road users. The Craigdam road in particular has numerous examples of this; in Craigdam at both entrances, as well as at Auquhorthis and the corners nearing Ladyleys. Tarves itself has pavements where hedges are encroaching onto pavements.

We continue to press for maintenance of our public roads in terms of drainage and surfacing. Due to the unsuitable system of prioritising repairs adopted by AC, road defects in 30mph areas are considered low priority. This creates the situation whereby potholes such as those in The Square are not repaired creating a dangerous area for all road users. Anyone concerned about road defects should report to AC and also to fix my street via <https://www.fixmystreet.com>

You may have noticed that our telephone box is now resplendent with its new coat of paint. Our thanks go to Bill Wagstaff for painting the box and Alan Middleton for relocating the defibrillator to its new home within the phone box.

David Hekelaar
Tarves Community Council



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Keep it Local!

Tarves Heritage Project – Charity No: SCO21511

It's hard to believe we are already in the second half of the year but we are thinking ahead with work on a 2024 Heritage calendar which will be available in September. These will be on sale at the Heritage Centre for £10 each and can be booked by telephone message to 01651 851883 or through our Facebook page.

Discussion was held in spring this year on a cairn being built to enhance the South Ythsie stone circle signage. Heritage planned this as a project for the summer of 2023 and managed to get Charlie Gill involved in the building of the Cairn. However, after some deliberation at the site Charlie persuaded Heritage that a dry steen dyke was the way forward.

We started one sunny Monday morning in June, with Danny collecting the stones from the area east of the signage. Several trees had been uprooted in the storms and this gave us access to many of the stones used in the building of the dyke. Over the course of the week and a few breaks due to rain showers, the dyke was completed on the Friday the same week. A fine job was successfully completed and pictures were duly posted on the Tarves Heritage Facebook page.

We are delighted with the lovely show of flowers on the Glebe path visible as you drive in to the village. P2/3 pupils did a great job of scattering the seeds earlier this year. We hope the bees and butterflies have been enjoying them as much as we have. If you have any photographs taken on the path, we would be delighted to share them.

Looking forward to October, and following a successful show last year, we hope that even more people will get involved with our scarecrow trail this year which will have a Star Wars theme in conjunction with a display we hope to have in the Heritage Centre in October. So, get your thinking caps on and "may the force be with you!"

This year we have had lovely visitors from all over the UK and Ireland as well as travellers from America and Australia and many places in between. Many of these have researched their family tree on line and came to Tarves to "walk in their ancestors' footsteps". One of many heartening messages left in our visitor's book reads "Just came here by chance but what an amazing find. And a trip down memory lane for those of us with 1970s childhoods". Remember we would love to see you at the Heritage Centre on a Thursday, Friday or Sunday between 1 and 4pm until the end of October.

100 Club draw – August 2023

Well done to all the lucky winners and thank you for supporting Tarves Heritage Project.

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Ellon and District Men's Shed



The summer weather has been a mixed story for all of us, but the Shed has been making good progress. The pétanque (boule) piste is complete and we will shortly be starting using it, with some guidance from local experts.

In the workshops we have continued refurbishing garden benches, tables and chairs. We have been restoring indoor items including an old spinning wheel and a Royal Navy 'Ditty Box'. These present interesting challenges and bring back to life items of sentimental value to their owners. We continue to receive a good number of bikes which we repair, get back to good working order and sell for a modest price.

The men using the CNC router are progressing well up the learning curve. The first house signs have been installed and one of the men has completed his first ornate table stand for a bonsai tree (photo). We are taking orders for signs, commemorative plaques etc. An example commemorative plaque is shown in the photo and a special message can be engraved in the centre too. We will shortly be starting evening training sessions for Shed members wanting to learn to use the CNC machine.

We are often asked to make bespoke items for people. Over the last few months, the men have made hedgehog houses and ramps, a large tortoise house, a cover for a large fish tank and a doocot. For the garden we are making wooden planters and will shortly start making metal plant holders and plant supports.

The men undertaking picture framing having completed their first oak picture frame and have mounted and framed a knitted picture that a woman will enter into a local flower show.

In the last magazine I mentioned the IT training initiative we have started with Aberdeenshire, Community Learning and Development (CLD). We are acutely aware that IT/computer skills are needed for many important basic activities (e.g., booking NHS appointments, repeat prescriptions, shopping) and that many people struggle to master the skills. The IT drop-in sessions have proved to be very popular with men and women wanting to figure out how to make better use of their phones, computers etc.

The drop-in sessions are on Thursdays at 1-2.30pm. If the level of chatter and laughter are anything to go by, the sessions are good fun too.

The Shed along with St Mary-on-the-Rock supported the opening of Parkvilla garden in Ellon under the Scotland's Garden Scheme (SGS) on 8/9th July. The weather was pretty

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kind and there was a good turn out to view the garden and have tea and cakes on the patio. Overall, from the opening of the garden this year we will raise c £1200 for the supported charities. If you or an organisation are interested in visiting the garden please contact the owners directly – details are in the SGS booklet and on their website

<https://scotlandsgardens.org/parkvilla/>





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On Thursday 22nd June we hosted Ellon Probus for a BBQ in the garden with a cooping demonstration by Duncan Rennie. We were blessed with good weather and we all had a very enjoyable and informative few hours in the sunshine with good food and conversation.

In the Shed's garden the wildflower beds and planters have been looking great and there has been a steady flow of fruit and veg out of the polytunnel and greenhouses. One of our members is growing heritage tomatoes and we are looking forward to tasting those

We are open for new members to join the Shed (membership is free). Many are of the opinion that men need to be 'good at DIY', using machines etc. to enjoy the Shed – this isn't true. We welcome those who want to socialise, have a chat, play cards, browse the internet, read a book, as much as we welcome those who want to get stuck into the workshop or garden. We have plenty of projects for men to get involved in, plus the new hobby spaces, new jigsaws, computers and plenty of board games and tea/coffee and biscuits. We'd also welcome those who would like to be involved in the administrative side of the shed (IT, secretarial, financial etc.).

The Shed is there for men who may be feeling low, lonely and/or isolated. This can particularly be the case after bereavement, redundancy, retirement, or family breakups. We offer a safe, friendly environment for men to get back on their feet again.

If you are interested in visiting the Shed, becoming a member we would love to see you – we are open 10am-4pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

We also have a website (www.ellonmensshed.org) and a Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ellon.shed) where you can find further information.



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We are proud to celebrate 10 years of Formartine Youth Project and supporting families and young people in our local communities. An amazing achievement and not possible without so many incredible individuals volunteering their time to support activities such as Mainly Music, Pitmedden Youth Cafe, Barthol Chapel Youth Group, Messy Church, Tarves Tots, JAFFA, holiday clubs and School activities. To each and every-one of you; either upfront or behind the scenes and our generous supporters and funders we say THANK-YOU it simply wouldn't happen without you.



Our Summer Holiday Club was hugely successful and we have been delighted to welcome so many families each week over the summer to share stories, games, crafts and songs. Thank-you to our amazing team of volunteers for coordinating each session, to The Rotary Club of Oldmeldrum and District for funding and special mention to our fourteen young leaders aged 12-15 who did a brilliant job of helping run activities, leading games, setting up our AV systems and serving refreshments whilst developing skills in leadership



and teamwork. Collectively they have volunteered over 125 hours of their time supporting the project this summer. Well done to you all and good luck completing your Dynamic Youth Awards.

Pitmedden Youth Café continues to be well attended each week and we hope to continue to be able to run this popular drop in for young people on a Thursday 3.15 – 5.15 as the nights get darker again and weather gets colder. Everyone welcome. Live in Tarves? Why not make use of your free bus travel and catch the 291 bus at 16.05 from Tarves to Pitmedden, returning 17.30. We are looking for a couple of extra individuals to join our team and help cover occasional ad hoc weeks. No specialist skills or experience needed just a desire and enthusiasm to support our young people locally and help provide a safe space for them to hang out with friends and enjoy sociable activities such as table tennis, pool etc. We would love to have you on board..... curious? interested? Please contact carolinefyp@outlook.com We are also exploring the idea of re-creating a similar Youth Café model in Tarves later this year. If this is something that you may be interested in helping with then please get in touch.

Thank-you to everyone who has chosen Formartine Youth project as their local cause with Coop. If you haven't yet done so please consider choosing us when you swipe your Coop membership card or scan the app and we receive 1p from every £1 spent in store. <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/73372> Your kindness is much appreciated. Not a Coop member? Find out more at <https://www.coop.co.uk/membership> For more information about any of our activities follow us on social media: Facebook Formartine Youth Project, Instagram:formartineyouthproject and twitter @FormartineY for regular updates or email carolinefyp@outlook.com



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Articles and any related photos should include your name/contact details and forwarded to Ruth Nisbet at tbc.editor@btinternet.com – thank you.

Advertising rates have been set for 2023, but due to rising paper costs, we have had to increase our charges by approx 1/3rd. All adverts will be in colour, black and white welcome too - price is the same for all. Prices include Advert design if required.

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We had a fantastic time at Fyvie Guide House for our Movie Magic themed Brownie holiday: a weekend of movie making themed activities and a special red carpet and Oscars award ceremony. The girls enjoyed a scavenger hunt around Fyvie Castle grounds, a movie themed sing along around the campfire, learned the skills of a foley artist and costume designer, and experimented with gory special effects.



This term we are working towards our 'Know Myself' theme. We look forward to developing our planning and organisational skills to host our annual fundraising coffee evening for Macmillan. We will be considering the importance of friendships and celebrating our uniqueness as part of World Mental Health Day and can't forget about National Toasted Marshmallow Day – a highlight in our Guiding diary.

Come Halloween we will once again be 'Trick or Treating' with a difference and collecting much needed donations of food for Aberdeenshire North Foodbank, we hope to improve upon our amazing 231.35kg collection last year. Please look out for flyers through your door and support us if you can. Every little helps.

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>

Tarves Flower Show – Trophy Winners – August 2023

Trophy Winners as follows: -

Challenge Cup for highest aggregate points – confined section	George Simpson
Challenge Cup for best exhibit overall in Pot Plants	Ian Ewen
Trophy for best exhibit in Pot Plants – confined section	Lucy Lee
Trophy for best Dahlias – confined section	Anna Jamieson
Trophy for best exhibit in Fruit – confined section	Marie Johnston
Trophy for best exhibit Cut Flowers – open section	Tommy Waddell
Diploma – Best entry in Pot Plants	Ian Ewen
Diploma - Best entry in Cut Flowers	Anna Jamieson
Diploma - Best entry in Vegetables	Kathleen Laird
Diploma - Best entry in Fruit	Marie Johnston
Challenge Trophy best exhibit of Roses	Tommy Waddell
Tray highest aggregate of points in baking section	Anna Jamieson
Challenge Cup for highest aggregate points in Under 18 baking	Isla Mitchell
Challenge Cup for highest aggregate points Industrial Section	Kathleen Laird
Challenge Cup best exhibit in the Industrial Section	Gillian Broadwith
Challenge Cup for highest aggregate points in Home Produce	Anna Jamieson
Challenge Cup most points in Floral Art	Lucy Lee
Perpetual trophy best exhibit in Floral Art	Lucy Lee
Challenge Trophy best exhibit Children's Section	Lucas Ross
Perpetual Garden Scheme Cup best kept allotment	George Simpson
Perpetual Challenge cup for most attractive small front garden	Derek Robson
Perpetual Shield most attractive private house garden	Sheena Hird
Challenge Shield most points Vegetable & Fruit - open section	Sandy Grant
Trophy for most points Children's section	Keira Ross
Best Hanging Basket Trophy – Gardens	Morag Watson
Best Tub Trophy – Gardens	Alice Low
Best Exhibit Pot Plants – open section	Ian Ewen
Best Exhibit in Vegetables – open section	Kathleen Laird
Best Begonia flower - Memory of Eddie Hay	George Simpson

Very well done to all the winners and a massive thank you to the following people: all competitors (without you we would not have a Flower Show), Norman Glen for “opening” the Show, all who came and supported us in the afternoon, the setting up and dismantling staging crew, all the Judges on Saturday morning along with the scribes, to all who helped with tea tickets, raffles and last but not least the very hard working ladies in the kitchen, who I imagine all slept very well on Saturday night as they were kept very busy.

Sheila M Ewen, Chairperson



HHCOS Haddo House Choral & Operatic Society

Ever considered joining a Choir but are not sure you would enjoy it? Then why not come along and try a session with no charge or commitment to join. Meet old friends and make new ones, have fun and pick up valuable singing tips. All standards welcome - no auditions.

We would love to meet you.

We rehearse at the Peatyards, Haddo on Thursday evenings 7:30 – 9:30pm and are expertly guided by our Musical Director Paul Tierney and our accompanist Henry Williamson.

We are currently preparing Mozart Requiem and Schubert Mass in G which we will be performing as part of the Haddo Arts Festival on 7 October at 7:30pm in the Haddo Hall.

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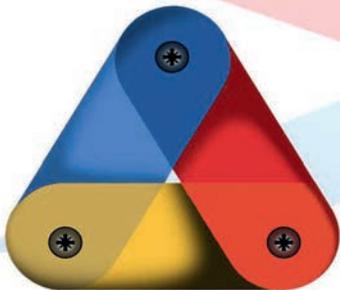
On September 15th at Medan Centre, we are holding a Slow Fashion Show. Threads and

Yarns, Udney Climate Action and Fairtrade groups are getting together to showcase wonderful clothing, done slowly! A fashion celebrating upcycling, pre-loved and Fairtrade!

We hope you will be able to come along and see models dressed in outfits made up from donations to the Swap Shop, new clothes made from old by the Threads and Yarns group and a fantastic display of Fairtrade sustainable clothing for all occasions.

Medan Centre 15th September, 7.30pm. Tickets £7 includes refreshments and are available at Cafe 48, The Craft, or at anne@formartinefairtrade.co.uk





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Tarves Guides had great fun at our camp in Daviot in June. We did archery, used the assault course, played on rope swings and generally had fun out of doors. We have also had adventure at the Nordic ski centre skiing and tubing, as well as some fun at the park afterwards. Last term we had cookouts, tried out karate, and explored our local area on the bus.

Tarves Guides laugh together whilst

developing friendships and skills in a safe spaces for girls to be themselves. Tarves Guides meet on Wednesdays from 6.30 till 8.30pm at Tarves Youth Hall. If your daughter would like to join us, or you would like to join the adult team, please email Kate and Sandie at tarvesguides@gmail.com or visit the girlguiding website and click the 'register you daughter to join Guides' link ([Guides \(10-14\)](#) | [Girlguiding](#))





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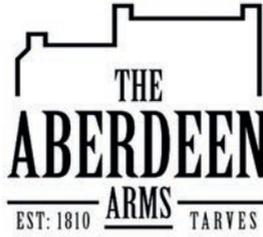


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Udny Community News

Saturday 1st July saw a very successful family friendly Community Summer Fayre – the first of many we hope. Thanks to the community groups who came along and set up stalls including Tiny Tots, Formartine Youth Project and the Community Council – we had loads for the kids to do – free pony rides, free teddy bear lucky dip, free bag making and decorating, free nature word search, treasure hunt, candy floss and chocolate dipped strawberries! Udny Community Shelf was open and had lots of visitors and the free Swap Shop was a huge success. We were also delighted to welcome in Fairtrade and local crafters. All of our local Councillors joined us and were on hand to answer any questions and engage with the community. This was all made possible by lots of community groups being involved and lots of volunteers helping out on the day – thank you. The torrential rain did not stop the day going ahead, sadly it did stop our local dance and fitness displays but we hope, Elma, Terrie and Mark will be happy to come back next year – perhaps we need to pop up a marquee and a few gazebos as you just can't guarantee the Scottish weather!

We hosted our Conversation Café on Wednesday 21st July and we welcomed Sarah Whitman from Friends of Wood Recyclability to find out more about Wood Recyclability, what they do, what they offer, we particularly liked the bird feeders and especially the squirrel feeders Sarah brought along. We've had some fantastic suggestions from you regarding future conversation café's so watch this space. If you have any further suggestions for future Conversation Café's please don't hesitate to get in touch.

We also hosted our 1st Volunteers Special Event. We invited our volunteers into The Medan Centre to thank them for all their help with running the various groups, for helping out in the centre, for helping in the Café and generally being there. With volunteer help we are able to run lots of groups and events, without volunteers the amount we do would simply not be possible. We took them on a visit to the Turbine then a get together to discuss the things we had achieved together. It was great to get feedback about how volunteering has impacted on them and we always come away with lots of food for thought so thank you. Stronger Together is a new group we are trialling. It is a ladies only group, we meet up once a month, first Friday of each month, in the Quarry Room at 7.30pm for a cuppa and a get together to share the ups and downs of life.

We hosted another Swap Shop, started on Sunday 6th August. Can't thank everyone enough for all the donations and for all the volunteers who helped. We were inundated with donations when we opened at 10am, lesson learned, we will allow you drop off time on Saturday (lots of you have requested this – thanks for your feedback). Opening to Wednesday seems to have worked really well and we are absolutely delighted with the number of items



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shared, thanks for coming out and rehoming these items. Fast fashion is now a massively serious problem in Scotland, according to Zero Waste Scotland's latest research 'clothing is the worst type of household waste for the climate crisis, even more so than plastic and food waste'! By donating clothing and coming to our Swap Shops to reuse clothing you are helping fight climate change! We also hosted our first ever Fashion Workshop, this was run by Threads and Yarns and Udney Climate Action. The idea was born initially by a suggestion from Udney Community Shelf about hosting repair café's then Fairtrade approached us about doing a fashion show, then Udney Climate Action questioned how swap shop items can be repurposed and suggested an upcycle workshop to take place during a Swap Shop so the items can be reused – our Fashion Upcycled Workshop was born. Well, what can I say, wow, over 40 of you joined us and, in the end, we had 15 fashion garments! Your outfits and accessories were amazing, who knew a pair of jeans could become a ruck sack, a pair of white boring trainers were livened up with fabric pens and tartan laces, we had homemade hand warmers and upcycled gloves and what about the Titanic dress! We also had a chat about fast fashion and the impact it has on people and the environment, so lots of important learning and creating! We can't wait to see some of your creations on the cat walk for the Medan Centre Fashion Show! The event was so successful that you requested another one and you requested some sewing classes. Watch this space, hopefully Threads and Yarns can come back again – another Swap Shop and Halloween is fast approaching – needles at the ready!

Looking forward, our Weekly Udney Health Walk is every Tuesday at 10am then back to the Quarry Room for a cuppa, biscuit and blether. If you don't fancy the walk no problem, just pop in for the biscuit and blether. Stronger Together is back Friday 1 September, ladies pop in. Baby and Toddler Stay and Play has proved really popular and is moving to a new regular slot of weekly, every Monday, starting 4 September (term time only), in The Quarry Room from 1pm-3pm, the session is suitable for children under 5, pop along for a cuppa while the kids have a play.

Open Doors is back on Tuesday 5 September from 2pm-4.30pm, everyone welcome, games will be out, kettle will be on, pop in for a cuppa and a chat, take along any knitting or crafting you might want to do or pop along and speak to us if you have any ideas on how we can utilise the space. Our next Conversation Café is Wednesday 6th September at 9.15am in the Quarry Room, are you interested in local history? We are hoping to have 2 local lads popping in, perhaps with maps and photographs to tell us a bit more of the history of our area and recall their memories and stories from the past. Join us on 13 September at 10.45am for our Monthly Guided Walk, this time we are going to Wood Recyclability where we will get a tour around and find out more about what they do. We are hosting a Therapeutic Journalling, 5-week course starting Tuesday 13 September, 11am-1pm, if you would like to book on it, please keep an eye on our Facebook page and our website for



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more information. The Medan Centre Fashion Show – run by Fair Trade, Threads and Yarns and Udney Climate Action is on 15 September, its sure to be a fun night.

Our next Swap Shop is Sunday 1st October, Halloween themed.

Our next Grant Deadlines, for consideration at October Board Meeting are large grants - Over £1000 - Friday 22 September and for small grants - Up to £1000 - Friday 13 October. The grant process is open to voluntary / not-for-profit organisations and community groups to fund various projects / activities within the area of Udney. The main aim of the fund is to mainly fund projects in Udney, projects that provide direct benefit to the community. If you are a constituted community group and you have a bank account, pop in and speak to us about our grant application process. Save the date for our Community Christmas Fayre on Saturday 25 November, this will also be the last Swap Shop of the year, think Christmas and Winter for this one. We will also be hosting a 'Seasons for Growth Understanding Change, Loss and Grief seminar, many of you have expressed an interest in this, keep an eye on Facebook for dates.

If you are interested in Volunteering with us, please pop past and see us, we have lots of volunteering opportunities from helping in the Café, helping us set up a Monthly Cycle or could you help Wullie in the garden or Sandy with a bit of maintenance or are you free on a Tuesday afternoon and could you possibly help Sue serve the teas and coffees at Open Doors or what about starting a book club as part of Open Doors or do you have a skill other people can learn from, what about helping to coach people to crochet. Please don't hesitate to pop in for a chat, we'd love to hear your ideas! I am available on a Tuesday from 2pm-4.30pm, in the Quarry Room when Open Doors is on, so please pop in.

To keep up-to-date on everything happening within The Medan Centre, please see our Facebook page 'Udney Community Trust Company Ltd' or see our website. If you have any questions / queries or ideas we'd love to hear from you, contact Vikki Jannetta, Community Engagement Officer, email: engagement@udnycommunitytrust.org.uk or Tracy Gibb, Facilities Manager, email: facilities@udnycommunitytrust.org.uk or Jill Watt admin@udnycommunitytrust.org.uk

Vikki Jannetta
Community Engagement Officer
Udney Community Trust Company Ltd
Tel: 01651 843776/Mob: 07436 811759

STRONGER TOGETHER

Friday, 7.30pm on 1 September,
6 October, 3 November, 1 December

A group for women
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Children
Partners
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plus loads more!



Udney Community Trust
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The Medan Centre, Quarry Room,
Pop in



Baby and Toddler Stay & Play

Every Monday

1pm-3pm

The Medan Centre, Quarry Room

Pop in for a cuppa and a blether and let the kids have a wee play. Mums and mums to be, dads, grannies, grandads, carers, childminders, babies, toddlers all welcome. All children to be accompanied by an adult. Session suitable for children aged 5 and under.



For more information see Udney Community Trust Limited Facebook Page or contact Vikki Jannetta engagement@udneycommunitytrust.org.uk





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The Hut

thehutyouthproject@gmail.com

'The Hut' 7-9pm Mondays for local youth of academy age (behind Tarves Primary School).

As we celebrate 25 years of The Hut, we continue to offer a safe space for young people to play games, meet new friends, get involved with youth work and feel supported and part of their local community.

Thanks to Coop funding, community donations and Magic Little Grants (Local Giving) we were delighted to take seven young people to Youth Scotland's Big Ideas event in Stirling 13th – 15th August. Big Ideas is a residential event comprising an action-packed programme of fun and appealing workshops for young people and youth workers to learn new skills, network and share ideas. We had a fantastic couple of days away and the young people had a great time taking part in workshops such as DJ masterclass, I'm a Young person get me out of here, Team Building activities, Mind & Draw sessions, Festival Makeup and Special Effects. Evening activities included some very competitive team challenges followed by sumo wrestling, table football, dungeons & dragons and plenty of snacks!

Youth workers enjoyed their own timetabled events with inspiring workshops around topics such as Young People and Body Image, Sexual Health Awareness, Barriers and Choices, Tobacco and Vaping and Games & Team Building. It was a brilliant couple of days of engaging and sharing ideas with young people and youth workers from all over Scotland.

Our young people rated the event 9/10 and are already talking about going again next year! A huge thanks to Tracy (from The Hut) and Sue and Andy (from Formartine Youth Project) who volunteered their time to help make this trip possible. We couldn't have done it without them.

Please check out our Facebook page (The Hut Youth Project Tarves) or follow us on Instagram (the_hut_tarves) to keep updated on what we are getting up to.

Barthol Chapel Indoor Bowls

At time of writing Barthol Chapel Indoor bowlers are to start a new season on 24th August in Barthol Chapel Primary School.

Last season was well attended but we welcome all whether or not they have previous carpet bowls experience. We meet in Barthol Chapel School on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm during term time.

Peter Skinner

The Coffee Apothecary Coffee Roastery

It is so exciting! We are almost ready to rock and roll at our coffee roastery.

If you have missed the journey so far, let me catch you up. When the first lockdown hit and our cafes were closed, we had the time to revisit an idea that we had considered many times before. The dream to one day roast our own coffee! This sprang to life, plans were drawn up, an equity crowdfunding raise saw 230 people buy shares in the business, and the building work began last summer to turn the old building behind our Udney cafe into The Coffee Apothecary coffee roastery.

The building work is now very close to completion with just a few finishing touches to be done. Our lovely, shiny, roasting machine has made its way across from California and is now in its Udney resting place. The flues and the gas supply have been installed and now we need to connect up a few more services before it is commissioned at the end of August.

I'm sure most of you wonder what a coffee roasting machine does. Coffee beans are actually the seed of a cherry that grows on a coffee tree. The coffee cherries are picked when ripe and then the coffee beans are removed from the cherry through a processing method. The processing method used has a huge impact on the flavour of the coffee, but no time for any more about that just now! From there it moves on to a dry mill where it is graded by size and density and then packed for shipping. These little beans are green in colour at this stage and incredibly hard. You would shatter any coffee grinder if you tried to grind them at this stage!

These lovely little green beans will arrive at our roastery from all over the coffee growing world for us to roast them and unlock their incredible potential in our roasting machine.

We will do our utmost to make sure these beans are sourced as ethically as possible with everyone paid and treated fairly at every stage. For high end, speciality coffee, the coffee beans are given a lot of care and attention at every step in their journey from farm to roastery, and it is no different in the roastery. Every coffee will have its own roast profile. This sounds fancy but it is basically how the heat is applied to the bean and how that varies over time as it goes from starting temperature to somewhere around 210°C. Even a tiny change in how each coffee is roasted can change how it tastes in your cup, so we will be doing our utmost to roast it as best as we possibly can.

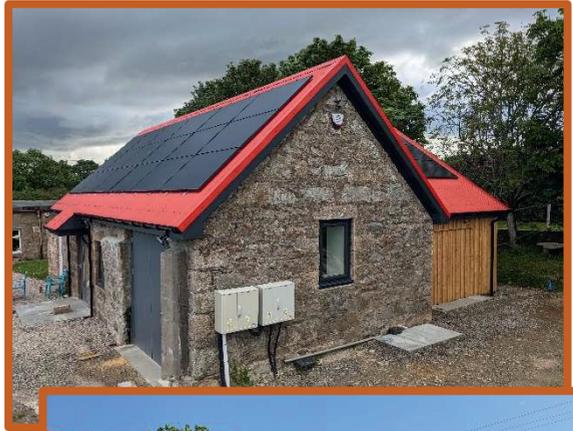
We also want to do this in the most environmentally friendly way as possible. There are now 30 solar panels on the roof of the roastery providing power, our biomass system has been extended from the cafe into the roastery and our

awesome roaster uses 80% less gas than standard roasting machines.

We are now so close to starting this journey of bringing coffee roasting to the heart of Udney. We can't wait to get started and hope you can't wait either.

Watch out for our new website and webshop coming very soon to

www.thecoffeepothecary.co.uk





T: 07827 209654

Fireflies Nurture & Thrive have sessions for all ages at our site near Methlick. Spend time in nature to nurture and thrive.

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Useful Contact Details

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Formartine Youth Project (FYP)	carolinefyp@outlook.com	
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