



# Formartine Parish Church

## Pitmedden Kirk


1<sup>st</sup> March 2024 Newsletter



I have some old flower urns on pedestals. They are iron, bought second-hand at a Thainstone auction when I was trying to smarten up my garden. In a good year, I touch up the masonry paint I used to make them look like stone, and plant them with violas, or other bedding plants. One year I even tried mini conifers and trailing ivy... going through a trendy phase! Sadly, for the past few years they have been neglected and have remained unplanted, as the busyness of life has intervened. There is more rust showing than paint.

On a frosty morning this week, I stopped to take a closer look in one of the bowls. What a beautiful miniature world, with tiny lichens and mosses, sparkling with ice crystals. The pink strands are less than 1.5cm high. I had done nothing. Nature had taken advantage of leftover compost and a sheltered environment and colonised the urn.

Two things struck me. We can plan and manoeuvre and organise, but sometimes it pays to stand back a little, take ourselves out of the equation, be patient, and see what transpires. If conditions are right, and there has been some groundwork done, we might be pleasantly surprised, even amazed. Secondly, it pays to really look closely and not overlook the small things, which have their own value and beauty. Life is not all bright colours and showy blooms.

You might like to try 'Pause',  an App designed to help you do just that and take a minute or two each day to rest in God's presence.

Please send in anything for the newsletter that you think deserves a wider audience – diary items [including services/events in Formartine Parish], information, good news, a short article, offers of assistance, requests, prayer points. What do you want us to include? [elainemoff@aol.com](mailto:elainemoff@aol.com)



## Third Sunday in Lent

### SUNDAY'S SERVICE 1<sup>st</sup> March

The worship service on Sunday is at 10am in Pitmedden Kirk, followed by coffee.

Duty elder: Alfie Marr

Reading: John 4:7-26, 39-42

Formartine Parish: Pitmedden Kirk is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Pitmedden Kirk Sunday Service

Time: This is a recurring meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2186977011?pwd=OUJYQnNoUjhNVk1qMkhtT0FvMThPd09&omn=81768295781>

Meeting ID: 218 697 7011

Passcode: 2024

One tap mobile

+442080806592,,2186977011#,,,,\*2024# United Kingdom

+443300885830,,2186977011#,,,,\*2024# United Kingdom

Dial by your location

- +44 208 080 6592 United Kingdom
- +44 330 088 5830 United Kingdom
- +44 131 460 1196 United Kingdom
- +44 203 481 5237 United Kingdom
- +44 203 481 5240 United Kingdom
- +44 203 901 7895 United Kingdom
- +44 208 080 6591 United Kingdom

Meeting ID: 218 697 7011

Passcode: 2024

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kGu1ZyXz7>



Would you like to be part of the team that does the readings in church each Sunday? Or would you like to be involved in some other way in the life of the church? There are many areas where you and your unique gifts could really contribute to our services and life as a church family. Please speak to Elaine [elainemoff@aol.com](mailto:elainemoff@aol.com)

### **From Caroline - Formartine Youth Project**

Thank you so much to everyone who is busy collecting sticks and counting pipe cleaners for the schools Easter take home bags. It is much appreciated.

Proposed dates for bag packing are **1pm Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March in Pitmedden** and **10am Friday 15<sup>th</sup> in Tarves** - more the merrier - please confirm if you can make it. [carolinefyp@outlok.com](mailto:carolinefyp@outlok.com)

Setting up for the Interactive Walk-Through Holy Week experiences will be **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> at 3.30pm in Pitmedden** and **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> in Tarves after the service.**

We are on the look out for artificial Christmas trees, grey material, green material, neutral coloured cushions, earthenware pottery. Please make sure everything is LABELLED.

The Pitmedden / Udney Walk through is **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> at 11am** for one session (about 1.5 hours) & **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11am in Tarves.** It a great experience and the young people love it! There can be a bit of role play if you like but if not plenty of support roles to help things run smoothly too.

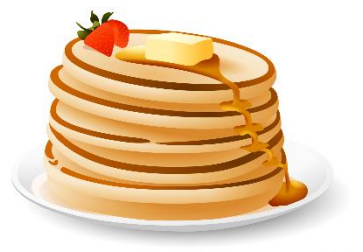
Please get involved if you can it is a really rewarding out-reach experience with our young people.

**The Giving Table** will be happy to receive anything that can be 'sold' and spare produce – veg, fruit, baking, flowers, eggs, etc. – that you may have. Donations will go to church funds. Don't forget to 'buy' items, too!

There is a **diary** near the notice boards at the back of the church. If you are planning a meeting or event in church, please fill it in to ensure that we don't double-book and so that the heating can be programmed appropriately.

**The Boys Brigade pancake morning is on Saturday**

**16th March 10-12 Dr Spence Memorial Hall.**



### **Formartine Parish Church**

Various teams with specific remits have been set up to take care of the practical and spiritual aspects of our united congregations as we move forward together into a shared future.

These are:

- Worship
- Pastoral care
- Communication and IT
- Administration – Data protection, Safeguarding, Rolls, etc.
- Property
- Finance

We have identified team leaders and some members, but would be delighted if you wanted to serve on a team. We need people with an interest or a skill, but mostly with a willingness to get involved. Please contact Alison [aswindells@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:aswindells@churchofscotland.org.uk)

**Opportunity for Service** - An upgrade to the IT system has been installed to ensure compatibility with Tarves. We are looking for volunteers to join the team. Full training will be given, and there will be ongoing support. If you can serve in this way, even on an occasional basis, speak to Elaine or Alison

Our **website and Facebook** pages will be updated and renamed soon – watch this space!

Have you moved house recently? Got a new phone? Changed your email address? We are trying to **update the information** we hold on members and adherents, so that we can keep you informed and get in touch if we need to. If you think we might be behind the times, please contact Alison Bruce as soon as possible [alisonbruce10@gmail.com](mailto:alisonbruce10@gmail.com)

### **CHURCH DIARY**

**The church diary will include events and services scheduled both in Pitmedden and Tarves Kirks. Please let me know if you want anything added, or would like to arrange car share.**

Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	8.30am Big Breakfast. <b>Last orders 10.30</b>
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10am worship in Pitmedden and Tarves Kirks
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am <i>mainly music</i>
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup>	10-11.30am Coffee morning in Tarves Kirk
<b>Tues 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7.30pm Session meeting with Presbytery Planning Team, Tarves Youth Hall</b>
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	Boys' Brigade sections, from 6.30pm in Udney Green Hall
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup>	3.15-5.15pm Youth Café
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12pm <b>BB Pancake morning, Udney Green</b>
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup>	12-1.30pm Lunch in Tarves Youth Hall



You won't go hungry on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March!

Coffee and pancakes with the BBs in Udney Green, then off to Tarves for lunch to celebrate the opening of the Youth Hall.

If you need a lift for either event, contact Elaine.

We have a **Pastoral Care Team** who are available to contact and/or visit anyone in the parish, on request. Please contact our Minister, Alison, if you know someone who would benefit from this ministry.

**INFORMATION**

Our Minister, Rev Dr Alison Swindells, can be contacted at [swindells@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:swindells@churchofscotland.org.uk) or on 01651 851295

Scottish Charity Number SC006056