

FALKIRK ARCHIVES

Records of Churches

Falkirk Old Parish Church finding aid

There has been a Christian church on the site of Falkirk Old since at least 800 AD, and local tradition has linked the earliest foundations with Saint Modan in the 6th century. Sometime during the next three centuries the appearance of one of the early church buildings gave rise to the name Eggesbreth, the speckled church, which translated into Scots as the Faw Kirk. In the 12th century the church passed into the hands of the Augustinian canons of Holyrood Abbey who remained in possession until the Reformation in 1560. Thereafter it was a parish church of the Church of Scotland, remaining with the Established Church through the various secessions of the 19th century. Portions of the parish were disjoined to form the quoad sacra parishes of Falkirk Grahamston in 1875, Camelon in 1873, Grangemouth in 1880 and Bonnybridge in 1878.

In 1929, following the union of the Church of Scotland with the United Free Church of Scotland, Falkirk Parish Church was renamed Falkirk Old Parish Church. In 1986 the congregation was united with St Modan's Church and re-named Falkirk Old and St Modan's Parish Church. There is an extension place of worship in Hallglen Centre.

The quoad omnia parish of Falkirk also contained parts of the parishes of Slamannan, and Cumbernauld for ecclesiastical purposes.

The Church of Scotland kirk session for Falkirk sat within the presbytery of Stirling until 1608 when it was transferred to the presbytery of Linlithgow. After 1929 it sat within the presbytery of Linlithgow and Falkirk, and from 1976 in the presbytery of Falkirk.

The present church building was erected in 1811, containing within it the early 18th century bell tower. A church hall was added in 1892 (plans in Dean of Guild records) and new halls were constructed in 1995. In the 1960s the kirkyard was cleared and the old buildings along the High St front were removed.

<i>Reference Code</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Brief Description</i>
CH2/400/1	1617-1640	Session minutes
CH2/400/2	1640-1690	Session minutes
CH2/400/3	1693-1700	Session minutes
CH2/400/4	1701-1718	Session minutes
CH2/400/5	1718-1731	Session minutes
CH2/400/6	1731-1737	Session minutes
CH2/400/7	1738-1746	Session minutes (scroll)
CH2/400/8	1746-1751	Session minutes
CH2/400/9	1751-1753	Session minutes (scroll)
CH2/400/10	1753-1774	Session minutes
CH2/400/11	1774-1788	Session minutes
CH2/400/12	1788-1803	Session minutes
CH2/400/13	1803-1833	Session minutes
CH2/400/14	1833-1863	Session minutes
CH2/400/15	1863-1909	Session minutes
CH2/400/33	May 1909-Feb 1921	Session minutes

CH2/400/34	Mar 1921-Oct 1938	Session minutes
CH2/400/35	Nov 1938-Mar 1954	Session minutes
CH2/400/36	May 1954-Jun 1966	Session minutes
CH2/400/37	Jun 1966-May 1974	Session minutes
CH2/400/38	Jun 1974-Aug 1983	Session minutes
CH2/400/39	May 1834-Dec 1840	Session minutes. (Appears to be draft minutes)
CH2/400/40	Aug 1955-May 1976	Session sederunt book.
CH2/400/41	Aug 1976-Feb 1992	Session sederunt book. Contains sederunts of Falkirk Old, Aug 1976-Oct 1986 and Falkirk Old & St Modan's, Oct 1986-Feb 1992
CH2/400/16	1784-1788	Register of births and baptisms, 1784-1788 and marriages, 1783-1784
CH2/400/17	1788-1793	Register of births and baptisms
CH2/400/18	1796-1800	Register of births and baptisms. Also includes Record of Evening School Attendances, 1787-1789
CH2/400/19	1800-1804	Register of births and baptisms.
CH2/400/20	1804-1808	Register of births and baptisms.
CH2/400/21	1808-1811	Register of births and baptisms.
CH2/400/22	1811-1815	Register of births and baptisms.
CH2/400/23	1815-1819	Register of births and baptisms.
CH2/400/24	1819-1823	Register of births and baptisms.
CH2/400/25	1823-1826	Register of births and baptisms.
CH2/400/26	1826-1829	Register of births and baptisms.
CH2/400/27	1829-1834	Register of births and baptisms.
CH2/400/28	1834-1839	Register of births and baptisms.
CH2/400/29	1839-1843	Register of births and baptisms.
CH2/400/30	1843-1846	Register of births and baptisms.
CH2/400/31	1855-1871	Register of births and baptisms, 1855-1870 Proclamations of banns for marriage, 1855-1871.
CH2/400/32	1870-1926	Register of births and baptisms, 1870-1888 Proclamations of banns for marriage, 1872-1926
CH2/400/42	Dec 1926-Dec 1963	Register of proclamations of banns for marriage
CH2/400/43	Jan 1964-Dec 1972	Register of proclamations of banns for marriage
CH2/400/44	Feb 1973-Sep 1977	Register of proclamations of banns for marriage
CH2/400/45	1909-1916	Communion Roll
CH2/400/46	Apr 1930-Oct 1939	Communion Roll
CH2/400/47	Apr 1940-Oct 1949	Communion Roll
CH2/400/48	Apr 1950-Oct 1957	Communion Roll
CH2/400/49	Apr 1958-Oct 1965	Communion Roll
CH2/400/50	Apr 1966-Oct 1973	Communion Roll
CH2/400/51	Oct 1886-Dec 1961	Church Door collections
CH2/400/52	Jan 1962-Apr 1986	Church collections
CH2/400/53	Jan 1946-Jan 1950	Ledger
CH2/400/54	Jan 1950-Sep 1958	General account book
CH2/400/55	Oct 1958-Dec 1966	General account book
CH2/400/56	Jan 1967-Dec 1974	General account book
CH2/400/57	1939	Teind Roll of the Parish of Falkirk
CH2/400/58	1839	Lair Register
CH2/400/59	Feb 1930-Mar 1936	Woman's Guild minutes
CH2/400/60	Oct 1936-Mar 1950	Woman's Guild minutes
CH2/400/61	Mar 1950-Oct 1963	Woman's Guild minutes
CH2/400/62	Oct 1963-Mar 1987	Woman's Guild minutes
CH2/400/63	May 1974-Mar 1984	Young Women's Group minutes
CH2/400/64	Sep 1984-Mar 1991	Young Women's Group minutes
CH2/400/65	Sep 1984-Mar 1991	Young Women's Group membership roll

CH2/400/66	1952	Plans of proposed improvements to choir area inside Falkirk Old Parish Church
CH2/400/67	1959	Plans of proposed improvements to grounds and entrance from High St
CH2/400/68	1965	Correspondence, plans and estimates for floodlighting of Falkirk Old Parish Church
CH2/400/69	1966-1970	Correspondence, plans and estimates for proposed new hall on Upper Newmarket St. (Note: plans abandoned after collapse of organ chamber in 1968)
CH2/400/70	1968	Correspondence, plans and estimates relating to collapse of organ chamber and rebuilding work following demolition of Falkirk Town Hall in 1968
CH2/400/71	1970-1975	Correspondence relating to alterations to church hall
CH2/400/72	1992	Falkirk floodlighting initiative. Plans, correspondence and estimates for joint initiative on floodlighting of Falkirk Old, St Andrews, Hope St library, the Steeple and the Registrar's Office.
CH2/400/73	1956-1960	Minutes of meetings of the Fabric Committee, correspondence, insurance documents and related papers
A009.016	(Circa 1800) {nd}	Report on the proclamation [of marriage] dues, hire of mortcloths and cost of ringing bells in the parishes of Bothkennar, Airth, St Ninian's, Stirling, Kilsyth, Kirkintilloch, Polmont and Slamannan. Appears to be written by Session Clerk of Falkirk Parish
A009.018/01	1721	Receipt, Patrick Kenny, Schoolmaster, Falkirk, of half year salary from Session
A009.018/02	1721	Receipt, George Paterson, schoolmaster at Kirkton of Livingston for fee for collecting dues for Presbytery of Linlithgow
A009.018/03	1741	Receipt, J Adam, schoolmaster, Falkirk, for half year salary
A009.022	25 Dec 1748	Depositions of John and Jean Thoms, John Brock and Marion Gilfillen to Glasgow Presbytery relating to charge that they had "lodged together in bothy houses and lyen in one bed"
A009.023	09 Aug 1621	Extract from Falkirk Session minutes of 9th August 1621 : Act anent proclamation of banns of marriage
A009.024	05 Apr 1795	Certificate issued to David Neil by Captain Alex Campbell, 4th Fencibles permitting him to marry Mary McInnish in Falkirk
A009.043	Sep 1893	Public notice advertising the opening of the new hall at Falkirk Parish Church and conversazione, with programme for the evening's proceedings, also on reverse list of names of [those who bought tickets]
A149.001	02 Feb 1939	Locality of the Stipend of the Parish of Falkirk. Contains list of heritors and amounts payable towards stipend of parish minister
A1344.010	1906?	Postcard copy of illustrated address from Falkirk Parish Church Choir to James Love, Esq, organist and choirmaster, Parish Church, Falkirk, on completing 29 years in post, signed by choir members

A1424.001	19th Century {nd}	Plan of pew sittings. Shows names of pew holders (mainly heritors)
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