



The Falkland Society

Scottish Registered Charity SC017201

www.falklandsociety.org.uk

Falkland Society meeting – 8 October 2025

Following our summer break, our October and November meetings cover related subjects but from very different angles. The future of church buildings, a hot topic at the moment, is particularly relevant to Falkland as to so many other Scottish villages.

With future developments in mind, the Falkland Society has arranged a wi-fi installation at Falkland Parish Church, and our monthly meetings will normally be held there from now on.



Our first meeting of the new season is at 7 p.m. on Wednesday 8 October, at Falkland Parish Church and online, to be addressed by **Dr DJ Johnston-Smith**, Director of Scotland's Churches Trust, on **Sacred Places to Secular Spaces: the changing face of Scotland's Churches**.

The Trust is an independent charity dedicated to safeguarding and celebrating Scotland's remarkable religious heritage – not only the historic church buildings themselves, but also the stories, traditions and communities that surround them. DJ will tell us about the Trust's history and how it is evolving to meet today's challenges to the preservation and promotion of Scotland's heritage during this era of unprecedented church closures in the Church of Scotland.

He will also introduce the Trust's rapid **church recording** methodology and project, which was the overall winner of the European Religious Heritage Innovator of the Year award last year. The project mobilises community volunteers to speedily document the fragile moveable cultural treasures located in Scottish churches that are closing, before these items are lost, sold or forever scattered.



Future programme

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| 8 Oct | Dr DJ Johnston-Smith – <i>Sacred Places to Secular Spaces</i> | 11 Feb | John Fletcher – <i>Local deer, climate change and the environment</i> |
| 12 Nov | Judith Roebuck – <i>Closure of parish churches in Scotland: rationale and consequences</i> | 11 Mar | Falkland Society AGM |
| 10 Dec | Marietta Crichton Stuart – <i>Mausoleum, Mansion and Monuments: a virtual walk through the Falkland Estate in times gone by</i> | 8 April | Carron Tobin, Director, Rural Solutions and founder of SCOTO – <i>Community-led tourism</i> |
| 14 Jan | Ross Burgess – <i>Falkland's Historic Buildings</i> | May–Jun | Speakers and subjects to be announced |
| | | Jul–Aug | Summer break |
| | | Sep–Dec | Speakers and subjects to be announced |

Our meetings are normally held on Wednesdays, in the Craig Room at Falkland Parish Church. If you can't get there in person please register for our Newsletter at www.falklandsociety.org.uk/contact.shtml and we'll send you full details each month, including a link to join the meeting online via Zoom.

For recordings of previous talks see www.falklandsociety.org.uk/recordings.shtml. We also maintain the Historic Falkland website (www.historicfalkland.scot) with resources about the history of our town, and the Falkland Wiki (www.falkland.wiki) with a database of information about Falkland's Historic Buildings.

