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The Falkland Society

Scottish Registered Charity SC017201

www.falklandsociety.org.uk

www.historicfalkland.scot

www.falkland.wiki

news@falklandsociety.org.uk

Committee for 2003–2004: **Peter Burman** (Chair), **John Smith** (Depute Chair), **Ross Burgess** (Secretary), **Robeena Dhar** (Treasurer), **Alan Graham** (Archivist), **Marietta Crichton Stuart**.

We urgently need additional Committee members as some of the above will be standing down at the next AGM! Contact peterburman@btinternet.com if you think you could help.

Falkland Society Newsletter, May 2024

Dear <<First Name>>,

A very special meeting this month: Frank Glynn will be telling us about George Thomson's Fiddle, and playing it for us.

Ross Burgess (Secretary)

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May Meeting

Our next monthly meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on **Wednesday 8 May**, when **Frank Glynn** will be giving us not only a talk but also a demonstration of his historic violin.

Please join us from 6:45 p.m. onwards on the 8th, at **The Stables, Falkland Estate, KY15 7AF** (what3words: [///dressings.destroyer.football](https://dressings.destroyer.football)) – or online by Zoom at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83030308250>

You can also join by phone on **0203 481 5240, 0131 460 1196**, or **0208 080 6591** quoting

Frank Glynn, George Thomson's Fiddle



Hailing from Aberdour, Frank Glynn is a writer and musician, living in Fife. He started playing the violin at the age of 8, has played in orchestras since he was 11, and as an adult, playing both violin and viola as a soloist and in various ensembles, from classical to ceilidh via folk and Americana. With the duo Holm, he has recorded two CDs, and he also plays in 'The Whole Shebang', the Heriot Watt University Orchestra, and the St Andrew Orchestra, Edinburgh.

Frank is a member of Shore Poets and has published three books, all [available on Amazon](#): *The Salt Farmer*, set in 1537 against the backdrop of Henry VIII's reforms, *Veneer of Manners*, a police procedural set during the volcanic ash disruption of 2010, and its sequel, *Compass of Shame*.



Frank with Bob Beveridge, in Bob's Violin Shop, Falkland

Frank will be talking about, and demonstrating, the violin once owned by George Thomson, music publisher and friend of Robert Burns, and possibly played by Burns himself.

PETER BURMAN

A new home for our Archives

Until recently we'd been storing the Society's archives in cupboards in the Falkland Library, but this arrangement was not working for us nor for the Falkland Development Trust, who run the Library.

On 7 April a special meeting of the Kirk Session unanimously agreed that we could store the archives in a downstairs room in Falkland Parish Church, and they are now relocated there, with new cupboards on order.

Alan Graham, recently appointed as our Archivist, has been going meticulously through the archives, recording and cataloguing. He hopes to provide a fuller account in a future Newsletter, but in summary the main contents besides books, letters and other documents, are a large collection of historic photographs of Falkland and its people – many of which have been scanned and are available online (courtesy of Stewart Thomson) at <http://historicfalkland.com/>.



In addition to the cupboards of archive material, the Library also housed a large trunk, clearly marked THE FALKLAND SOCIETY, which those who use the Library may have noticed in the foyer. We were intrigued as to what it might contain, not having located the key. When we finally opened it we discovered a lot of interesting maps, covering Falkland and the Estate. Some of us spent an interesting morning going through them in Robeena's house.



Peter, Robeena and John viewing the maps

If any member would like to consult the maps or other material in our archive, please contact Alan at alangraham878@gmail.com.

Celebrating Falkland Friday and Saturday, 2–3 August 2024

Please keep the dates free for two days of displays, demonstrations, workshops and talks.

Your Committee is working hard on the details, but our aspiration is for a two-day event reflecting something of our diversity and the stimulating dialogue that is possible between past and present.

Possible topics include: the archaeology of the Falkland landscape; highlights from the history of Falkland; the buildings of Falkland; the work of artists and craftspeople, past and present; story-telling through the archives and publications of the Falkland Society; and the sharing of memories. We hope to include Heritage Walks through the historic streets of Falkland led by members of the Falkland Society, guided tours of the inside of our magnificent Parish Church, a special programme for children, and the issue of a new Falkland Society publication.

All details are subject to confirmation.

Peter Burman, Chair, The Falkland Society

Publications

Publications Sub-Committee:

- Alan Graham (Convenor), Marietta Crichton Stuart, Ross Burgess.

Current Projects:

The Sub-committee is working hard on three current projects:

- a new, completely restructured, edition of *Falkland in the Reign of Queen Victoria*
- a new edition, expanded and in full colour, of *A Falkland Guide*
- a totally new book about Falkland in the First World War and its aftermath
- and we're looking into a possible new publication in conjunction with **Celebrating Falkland**.

Existing publications:

Copies of *Falkland and its People 1901–1913* are still available. £20 including postage and packing, or £10 for local deliveries or if you collect in person from Brunton House or at a Falkland Society meeting. Cash, or cheques payable to "Falkland Society", Brunton House, Brunton Street, Falkland KY15 7BQ

Last month's meeting

Craig Thomas's talk about the Dukes of Buccleuch and their estates was recorded and is now [available to view](#).

Future events

Our meeting in June will be later in the month than usual: Wednesday 26 June, when Phil Thomas will be talking about the work he and his husband have done to rescue and conserve Old Kedlington Hall.

Details of future events can always be found on the ["Events" page](#) of our website; note that as usual we'll be having a break for July and August.

We've got some ideas for the programme from September onwards, but there's a limit to what we can do with our small Committee. We urgently need new Committee members, to help with planning future events and then with running them. If you would like to help, have a little time to spare, and essential computer skills, please get in touch at secretary@falklandsociety.org.uk.

Ross Burgess (Secretary)

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