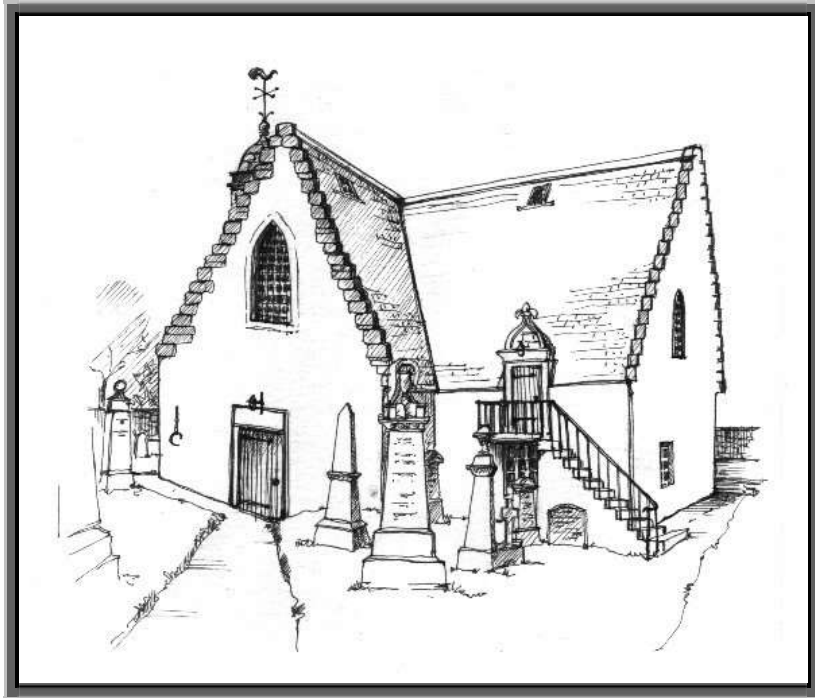


THE COVENANTER

OCTOBER 2023



FENWICK PARISH CHURCH
COMMUNITY MAGAZINE NO 529

THE COVENANTER OCTOBER 2023

Church Services – Sundays 10.30am

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<http://fenwickparishchurch.org.uk/catgory/the-covenanter/>

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Dear Friends

Usually my regular contribution to the Covenanter is a 'letter' to you all. Well, this time it is a holiday postcard because even as I read the intimation last week from the pulpit about contributions for the Covenanter, I realised that we would be on holiday when these were called for.

The psalm, 121, 'I to the hills will lift my eyes' is one which I find myself thinking of, not because we've cycled up a few this past week, and believe me we have! It is more about our situation. The caravan is sitting close to the shore of Loch Duich, under the mountain range of the Five Sisters of Kintail and a view of the ridges of the massive mountains on the north side of Glen Lichd. It is quite impossible not to be aware of the hills around us.

September is traditionally the month of especially remembering Creation and the powerfully creative God who is our Maker and Father. I have a copy of a book of prayers written and collected by Bishop Desmond Tutu and one prayer in particular recognises and gives thanks to God for the tiny creatures as well as the impressive hills. In our case these are midges and mountains. Fortunately, not so many midges and when we're cycling we can go faster than they can! So we are thankful to God for these days of relaxation and cycling, of sunshine and blue sea and for rest and the peaceful calm we see and feel.

This is a new area for us to explore and we are astonished by the number of small communities, crofts and homes along roads which invariably come to a dead end and the now familiar sign which says 'turning place only, no parking'. We've cycled on quite rough tracks to the ends of glens where there are only footpaths beyond the track, snaking up through the heather and bracken of the hillside to a bealach or pass to a new glen. Yet we are also aware of the signs that more people used to live there than now, the ruins of small croft homes, the built walls at the side of the track which hint that the track was once much busier than now. Everywhere the mountains dominate the landscape and dictate where roads can be constructed and homes can be built. More evidence, as if we need to be reminded, that we can plan our projects as we will, but it is the Lord which prospers our work. It is good to be reminded anew that we have a place in God's great plan, we are a small part of His creation yet loved and cherished by Him.

Of course, by the time you are reading your Covenanter, Alistair and I will be home again and glad to be back amongst all of you in the Fenwick Parish community.

You are never far from my thoughts and prayers so as I finish this holiday postcard, may God bless and keep you all.

Kim

Locum Minister and Interim Moderator.

Family Faith Reminder

We are delighted to announce three family faith events for all the family. These are very informal active worship events for children and their parents and of course grannies and grandpas are always welcome too!

Saturday 7th October from 3-4pm

Meet at Nether Raith

The Lost Teddy Bears

Come and search for the lost teddy bears and hear about how Jesus told his friends and followers stories of people who were lost and then found.

Celebrate with all the found teddy bears and join in the teddy bears' picnic.

You can bring your own teddy bear too!

Saturday 18th November from 3-4pm

Meet in the church hall

The Tented Village

Find out about the great feast of the tents. What did the Israelites do and what was the feast?

Bring along your own Wendy House or pop up tent or help to make tents so that we have a tented village ready for the feast.

Saturday 2nd December from 3-4pm

Meet in the church

It's time to get ready for Christmas! Get crafty as we make another Wooden Spoon Nativity to decorate the church, sing Christmas carols and nibble some Christmas treats.



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News from John Macmillan

Dear Friends in Fenwick,

It's now more than ten years since I left, but Fenwick and its Kirk remain very close to my heart.

As I approached retirement from the law in 2020, a combination of things caused me to explore the path to Readership in the Church of Scotland. My time with the Revs Fraser, David and Geoff was very much part of that call as well as other things.

I went through what is called Discernment in early 2021, then embarked on two years of formal education and in-church (two of them) placements. It was very challenging but very rewarding work, all at once. I received help from lots of people including Rev Kim to whom I am very grateful. The instinct to help the new boy or girl seems always to be generous.

Sunday 27th August I had my preaching assessment which happily I passed so that training path has reached its end, even if the learning process hasn't. I await news of formal Admission to Readership which is usually referred to as Setting Apart. At the moment of writing, I have no idea when or where that will be, except that it will be this autumn during an evening service in Fife.

This is really just to keep you abreast of my news and to say thanks to all of you because my Fenwick time was a significant contributor to the call I felt three years ago.

Greetings in Christ.

John Macmillan.

Moscow SWI

On Monday 11th September, we held our annual afternoon tea in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind. Fenwick Church Hall rapidly filled with guests eager for their tea and cakes; there were so many we had to organise extra tables and chairs. The home baking and bottle stalls were busy and many raffle prizes were handed out.

Robert Blackwood, along with his guide dog, Jasper, and helper enjoyed the afternoon and Robert was very grateful for our continuing support of Guide Dogs for the Blind.

President Mai Lawrence thanked everyone for supporting the event and the Committee for providing the delicious afternoon tea.

The next meeting on Thursday 5th October will be a visit to Dalgarnen Mill with afternoon tea. This will be 1pm at the Mill. Transport will be available for those who need it

Fenwick Garden Club

The Fenwick Garden Club reconvened for a new season on the 17th August for its annual Flower and Produce Show. We were delighted to welcome members old and new.

Douglas Fraser, formerly of Fraser's Garden Centre, judged the different classes and also gave a very interesting talk on his visit to the Chelsea Flower Show in London earlier in the year.

Fenwick Garden Club Winners 2023

Class	First	Second	Third
Single Bloom	Katy Oldroyd	Marion MacFarlane	Linda Andrews
Flower arrangement	Janette Dunlop	Anne Naismith	Kim Donald
Below ground veg	Andrew McLellan	Fiona McLellan	Doreen Prince
Above ground veg	Catherine Raeside	Fiona McLellan	Allan Marr Tricia Woodward
Fruit	Kim Donald	Allan Marr	
Indoor flowering plant	Robert Dunlop	Norma Barr	Kim Donald



The gardeners were invited to a special afternoon in August when Kim Donald opened her garden in Fenwick for charity. Everyone enjoyed not only seeing the progress and the beautiful planting but also a cup of tea and cake. Kim would like to thank to all who supported this successful event which raised £290 for the Scotland's Garden Scheme Charities.

The September speaker was Theresa Talbot. Formerly a journalist and broadcaster on BBC Radio Scotland, she is the owner of Willow and Herb floristry. Theresa told us her story into gardening and provided us with some good advice; growing next year's annuals and highlighting what can be planted from seed in the autumn as well as in the early spring. There were great tips about freezing the seeds and starting off the hardy annuals in used plastic milk bottles!

Next meeting is on Thursday 19th October – 7.30 in the Church Hall

Jim Jermyn formerly Head Gardener at Branklyn Garden in Perth will talk about **“Branklyn Garden – a legacy to the Rentons”**

Annual membership £5; Meeting fee £2; Entrance fee for visitors £3

Fenwick Bowlers Men's Prize Winners 2023



L to R: George McCulloch: David Morton; John Logan: Bill Steel: Douglas Shanks: Jim Shanks: Tom Paterson

Fenwick Bowling Club

The season has now finished and the ladies enjoyed afternoon tea at The Fenwick Hotel, after their AGM. On Wednesday, 20th September. The gents closing was on Saturday, 23rd, when members enjoyed a meal after their final game.

Various events will take place during the winter months. The afternoon whists will be held on the first Wednesday of each month – October to April, at 2pm in the clubhouse. Ladies and gents are welcome to come along and play, enjoy a cuppa and have a blether. This is open to all, not just members.

A bingo night is planned for Friday, 10th November, again open to all, and a members night on 29th November. Details of these will be given later.



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Fenwick Badminton Club

Members of Fenwick Badminton Club meet, play and socialise at Fenwick Church Hall on Wednesdays from 10am – 12 noon. We have male and female players of varying abilities and experience. Players use their own racquets but there are spare ones for anyone wanting to “try before they buy”.

Fenwick Carpet Bowls Club

This historic Fenwick club meets from October – March in Fenwick Bowling Club. Now in its 124th year, there are six trophies to play for annually. Membership is £10 with £2 payable each meeting.

Intrigued – come along at 7.30pm on Monday 2nd October to the first meeting

The Guild

The next meeting of our Guild will be at 2pm on Tuesday 31st October in the Church Hall.

There will be a quiz in aid of the Church of Scotland Tear Fund, with one or two quite different (but not too difficult) sections. Polish up those little grey cells!

On 15th October, the Sunday Service will be led by Guild members, so please come along and support us.

Lady Bowlers Cup Winners 2023



Back row: L to R

Marilyn Morton; Nancy Shanks; Rosemary Hope; Margaret Paterson; Morag Auld; Jean Cuthbertson; Rita Cuthbertson

Front row: L to R

Jean Gray; Catherine McInnes; Janette Weadon

Bowling Club Winners for the Year

Gents – Senior Wappenschaw winner: **George McCulloch**

Monday Night Wappenschaw winner: **David Morton**: r/u Bill Steel

Mixed Senior pairs winners: **Marilyn Morton and John Logan**: r/u Agnes Land and Tom Paterson

Tom Donald pairs winners: **John Logan and George McCulloch**: r/u Neil Nairn and Alan Dickerson

Silver Jack winner: **Jim Shanks**: r/u Douglas Shanks

Club rinks winners: **David Morton, John Logan, Jim Shanks, Tom Paterson**

r/u John Black, Tom Stark, Matt Auld, Douglas Shanks

Club triples winners: **George McGavin, John Logan, David Morton**

r/u Tom Paterson, Matt Auld, Douglas Shanks

Club Pairs : **Bill Steel and David Morton**: r/u Jim Shanks and Matt Auld

Agnes Guthrie nominated pairs winners: **John Logan and David Morton**

r/u Alan Dickerson and George McCulloch

Mixed singles winner: **Janette Weadon**: r/u Jim Shanks

Senior singles winner: **Tom Paterson**: r/u John Logan

Singles champion: **Douglas Shanks**: r/u Tom Paterson

Ladies – Wappenschaw winner: **Catherine McInnes**: r/u Anne Borthwick

Scotch Corner winner: **Rita Cuthbertson**: r/u Marilyn Morton

Triers Trophy winner **Rosemary Hope**: r/u Agnes Land

Jubilee Cup winner: **Catherine McInnes**: r/u Janette Weadon

Nominated triples winners: **Nancy Shanks, Margaret Paterson, Janette Weadon** r/u Karen Lamont, Morag Auld, Grace Freel

Nominated pairs winners: **Catherine McInnes and Marilyn Morton**

r/u Jean Murdoch and Agnes Calman

Jenny Irons singles winner: **Rosemary Hope**: r/u Margaret Paterson

Club triples winners: **Jean Gray, Margaret Paterson, Rita Cuthbertson**

r/u Elsie Dickie, Mary Hepburn, Rosemary Hope

Club pairs winners: **Jean Cuthbertson and Catherine McInnes**:

r/u Margaret Paterson and Marilyn Morton

Championship singles winner: **Morag Auld**: r/u Janette Weadon

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Reading/Prayer Rota for October Covenanters

	Reading A	Reading B	Prayer
Oct 1	Irene Couper	Janette Dunlop	Ann Campbell
8	Nora Shanks	David Barbour	
15	Martha Speirs	Averil Murray	Lesley Hamilton
22	Ann Campbell	John Douglas	
29	Gordon Watt	George Seaton	D. McCorquodale
Nov 5	Miller Hardie	D. McCorquodale	
12	Mark Young	K. Wadsworth	George Seaton
19	John Douglas	Janette Dunlop	
26	Nora Shanks	Susan England	Mark Young

If you are unable to fulfil a date, please try and arrange a swap with someone else on the rota and let Kim know of any changes. Thank you.

Hall Bookings October 2023

Day/Date	Hall	Time	Event
Sundays			
All	Guthrie	11.30 – 1pm	Tea & Coffee
All	Paton	11.30 – 1pm	Count Team
Mondays			
All	Guthrie	9.30 - 11.30am	Mothers & Toddlers
2	Both	6.00 – 10pm	Kilmaurs Young Farmers
9, 16, 23	Paton	6.30 – 7.30pm	Sign Language Class
30	Guthrie	6.30 – 7.30pm	Sign Language Class
30	Paton	7.00 – 9.30pm	Kirk Session
Tuesdays			
31	Guthrie	2.00 – 4.30pm	Guild
Wednesdays			
All	Guthrie	10.00 –12noon	Badminton
All	Guthrie	6.30 – 8.00pm	Tai Chi
18	Paton	2.00 – 3.00pm	Vibrant Communities Free Health Check
Thursdays			
All	Guthrie	9.00 - 11.30am	Mothers & Toddlers
All	Guthrie	4.30 – 6.00pm	Dance Class
All	Paton	5.00 – 6.00pm	Self Defence Class
12	Guthrie	2.00 – 4.00pm	Fenwick WI
19	Guthrie	7.00 - 10.00pm	Fenwick Garden Club
Fridays			
13	Guthrie	10.30- 3.30pm	Quilting Class
Saturdays			
7	Both	12.30- 4.00pm	Covenanters Association
14	Paton	10.30- 3.00pm	SWI Evelyn Baxter Class
21	Both	10.30-3.00pm	Scottish Forum of Credit Unions

* At 17.10.23. Bookings taken after this date not shown

** School holidays are 16th – 21st October. Check with class organiser whether classes are running

To enquire about booking the Halls, please phone Irene Couper (01560 600520) or email irenecouper@btinternet.com

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Church Duties for October and November 2023

Date	Beadles	Finance Team	Welcome Team
Oct 1	K. Geddes	T. Geddes	N. Shanks
8	K. Wadsworth	M. Anderson	M. Anderson
15	B. McNab	K. Geddes	A. Naismith
22	G. Watt		
29	J. Logan		
Nov 5	K. Geddes	J. Douglas	A. Murray
12	K. Wadsworth	M. Morton	R. Davis
19	B. McNab		
	Flowers	TACAS	
Oct 1	Harvest Thanksgiving	C. McInnes & M. Anderson	
8	Annie Tivendale	A. Borthwick & S. Greer	
15	John Murray	J. Park & R. Davis	
22	Jean Brown	M. Morton & J. Bowes	
29	Rose Davis	C. McInnes & I. Couper	
Nov 5	Ann Campbell	J. Douglas & L. Smith	
12	Frances Gibson		
19	Marilyn Morton		

FENWICK SWI

Once again we have started our 'winter' syllabus with members enjoying a lovely afternoon tea provided by the committee and as the saying goes 'It's good to talk' and it certainly sounded like that in the Church Hall as there seemed to be plenty chat amongst the ladies present.

Competition was for a Single Bloom - 1st Maureen Rodger; 2nd Nan Tivendale; 3rd Angela Welsh

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 12 October and will be a talk by Douglas Boatman from Scotplants and there will also be a sales table on the day.

Competitions are 3 pieces of traybake (Points) and Favourite Flower Pot (Prize)

Hopefully at this meeting we will have more information on the various classes available through Ayrshire Federation and look forward to seeing everyone then – either as members or visitors whichever suits yourselves.

There is a visitor's fee of £5 per meeting or the annual membership is £30

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Church Membership

At its last meeting, the Kirk Session considered Church Membership. It is some time since there was an opportunity for folks to take up church membership. It is a chance for new folks who have moved into different parts of the parish to become members.

There are different ways to become a member:

- 1 By resolution of the Kirk Session.
Members of other congregations lift their "lines" as it was once known when they move into the parish.
- 2 By "profession of faith" as part of a Sunday morning service of worship
These are opportunities for you to revisit and affirm the vows and promises made in faith by your parents at your Baptism

It is good to belong and whether you are considering moving your lines, affirming your faith amongst the congregation or at the point of simply wanting to know more of Jesus' calling to us all, please get in touch with me using my mobile or email. These are on the inside front page, or use the text or PM on the church social media.

You are welcome to the worshipping community that is the congregation of Fenwick Parish Church

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Fenwick Church Guild	Enid McNab	01560 482468
Fenwick SWI	Norma Barr	01355 500288
Moscow SWI	Catherine McInnes	01560 700283
Fenwick Primary School	Head Teacher	01560 600403
Fenwick Garden Club	Linda Creanor	07970702783
Badminton Club (Wed)	Steve Beeley	07415214790
Fenwick Bowling Club	George McGavin	01560 600225
Fenwick Bowling Ladies	Marilyn Morton	01560 600650
Fenwick Golf Club	Jimmy Murdoch	01560 700230
Carpet Bowling	Robert Frame	01563 820375
Fenwick Voluntary Transport	Irene Wilson	01560 600771
Fenwick Farmers	Martha Speirs	01563 524466
Fenwick Community Council	Irene Wilson	01560 600771
Waterside Community Assoc	Jon Perbody	
Fenwick Taekwondo Club	Gavin Butler	07779013971
MP	Alan Brown	01563 822645
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