

# Parish Profile

## Haggs linked with Denny Old



The congregations of Haggs Parish Church linked with Denny Old Parish Church have been linked since February 2016 and we are continuing to forge deep bonds on our spiritual journey together. In accordance with the Falkirk Presbytery Plan, Haggs Parish Church, linked with Denny Old Parish Church, have permission to call a minister on an unrestricted tenure.

We invite you to read this brief profile of our linked churches. We trust it gives a glimpse of the people, the resources, the surroundings, and the potential that there is to further develop God's work in this area.

Why not visit our websites: [dennyoldparish.wix.com/dennyold](https://dennyoldparish.wix.com/dennyold)  
[haggschurch.org.uk](http://haggschurch.org.uk)

# Our New Minister



Through our joint meetings we have reflected upon the make-up of our congregations, the people we serve and those to whom we hope to reach out.

We are looking for a minister:

- With a deep faith in Christ, an eagerness to declare the Word of God to all, and encourage our spiritual growth
- Who is plain speaking and to teach the Good News of the Bible relevant to modern life
- Who is a people person, a leader and team player
- Who will develop outreach in our communities and be proactive in encouraging children and young families to join us in worship

It is important that our new minister:

- Is involved in our local communities and schools
- Continues to develop and support our pastoral care
- Help us meet the needs of our communities
- Brings new ideas for developing worship to encourage young people to come to church
- Appreciates the value of all people, encouraging and developing their skills and talents, and leads our churches forward together in the coming years.

# The Churches

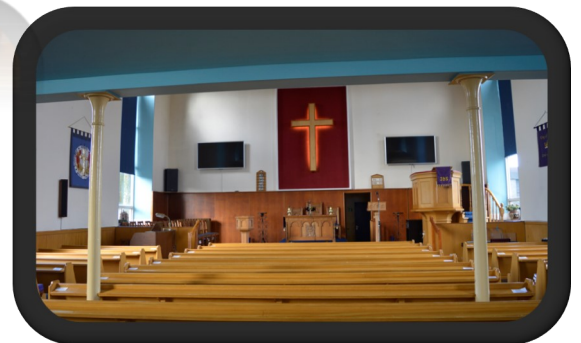
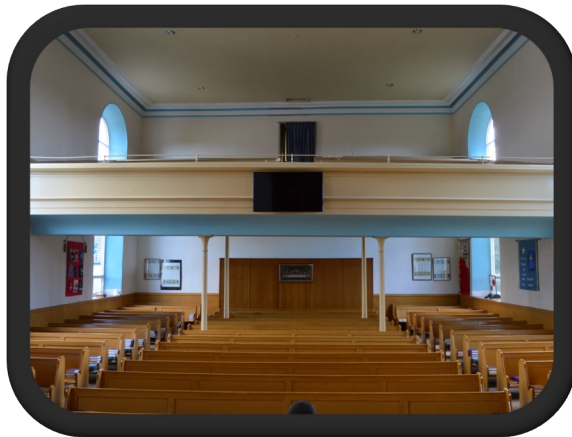
## Haggs Parish Church

Haggs Parish Church, founded in 1840 as a planted church from Denny Old, lies at the western end of Falkirk Presbytery, its Parish boundary linking with that of Glasgow Presbytery.

The Parish covers an area of approximately six square miles serving a population of roughly five thousand five hundred in the Communities of Coneypark, Banknock, Haggs, Longcroft, Dennyloanhead, Allandale and Head of Muir, once a string of small villages along the A803/A872. The parish has been expanded by extensive new house-building in addition to the existing local authority housing.

The parish is well served by a variety of shops, restaurants and amenities. There is a health centre and Bankview Care Home where the carers and residents welcome our Christian fellowship. Two primary schools are in the parish, one at Bankier and the other at Head of Muir.

The Roman Catholic population of the parish is served by St Luke's Roman Catholic Church.



# The Churches

## Denny Old Parish Church

### Our Congregation

We are a church serving God at the heart of the community of Denny.

The Parish of Denny Old was first established in 1601 and we celebrated our 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2001. Our present church is centrally located at "Denny Cross" is the third to have occupied the site and was built in 1815 with extensive modifications in 1928. It is in very good condition and has seating capacity for around 600 people. There is a well maintained traditional pipe organ.

The Congregational finances are in a healthy state with Ministries and Mission being met in full.

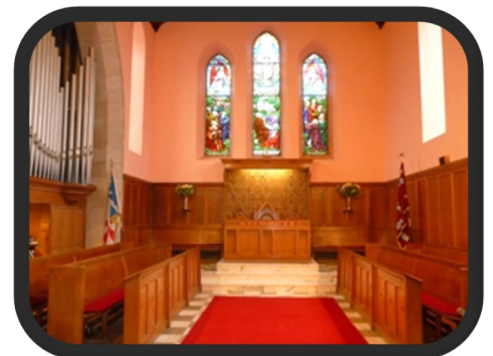
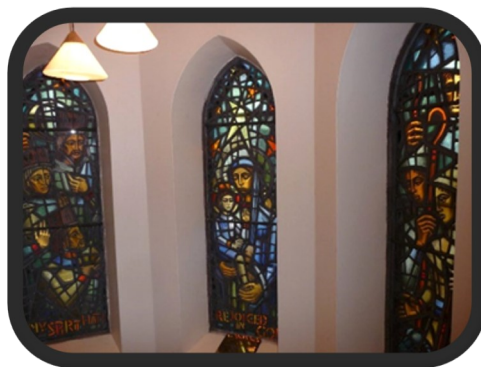
### The Parish

Denny is divided into two parishes and the area we have responsibility for has a population of around 6000. Relationships with the other churches in the town are good. During Holy Week all the churches in the local area share the worship together. There is one other Church of Scotland church in Denny with another in nearby Dunipace, along with Denny Baptist Church and St. Alexander's Roman Catholic Church.

There is an annual ecumenical event held on Good Friday.

As a church we provide a bereavement support service and host a Blue Christmas Service in November for those recently bereaved. The church also has pastoral care teams who visit the sick, elderly and those in care homes regularly. During the summer holidays, we have a Summer Club which this year attracted over 40 children from our local community.

Denny has three primary schools and a modern secondary school. A refurbished town centre will offer enhanced amenities.



# Our Mission

Our Mission is to promote the Good News of the Gospel in our local communities and to be an outward looking, forward thinking, all-embracing Church that provides a warm welcome to all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. We seek to show God's love by serving Christ in our churches and communities with whole hearted commitment.

We recognise the need for mission and outreach within our parishes and plan to create a greater community awareness of what our churches have to offer.

All our aims are based on a sure belief in the character and teaching of Christ, and with God's help, we are assured that this vision can be fulfilled as we go forward in faith.

Hags Parish and Denny Old Parish churches are held dear to the hearts of local people. As parish churches we are reaching out with compassion to our wider communities. This forges links with the community through generations as people have come for weddings, funerals and baptisms. For some it may be only on those occasions that they enter the building, but it is still their church. They feel a connection to God and the church. This can allow deeper relationships to be built.

We feel we are open churches that welcome people of all traditions and none. There is within each congregation a spirit of understanding and awareness of the well-being of others which enhances our pastoral care.

Our churches have been looking at ways to bind ourselves more closely together. At a joint Kirk Session Conference, both Kirk Sessions and Congregational Boards agreed to introduce a Unitary Constitution. A Unitary Constitution will be in place in both churches at the start of session 2019-2020. During the months of July and August there are joint services in each church on alternate months. At present we have joint communion services throughout the year. Both congregations are looking forward to becoming involved in other joint events as well as sharing each other's resources and talents.



Both churches have excellent links with local Primary and Secondary schools, Bankview Nursing Home, local community councils, Strathcarron Hospice and Forth Valley Hospital.

Our churches worship on Sundays either at 9.45am or 11.15 am (times will alternate annually in October). Duty teams welcome all to worship. Both churches have a sound system which includes a loop system, along with up to date multimedia systems to enhance worship. Formal communion is celebrated twice a year in each church with informal communions at the minister's discretion.

There is a Prayer Tree in each church where people can write messages for prayers to be said for themselves or others. This prayer list is updated fortnightly for anyone to include in their personal prayers. In memory of those who have died, there is the opportunity to place an apple symbol on the tree with the person's name.



# Church Organisations

## The Sunday Clubs

The younger members of our Church families leave morning worship after the children's address, where they meet in the church halls. Hags Sunday Club give generously to the Vine Trust while the Bible Class is available for teenagers at Denny Old. In Denny Old, the Sunday Club lead the congregation in worship twice a year.



## The Boys' Brigade

The Anchor Boys and Junior Section continue to grow in numbers, with an enthusiastic company of boys and leaders. The officers and boys participate in church worship at various times throughout the year.

## The Girls' Brigade Companies

The Girls Brigade for both churches meet in their respective church halls. Both are very enthusiastic companies run by committed leaders. In Denny we support Shoe Box appeal for Blythswood Charity.

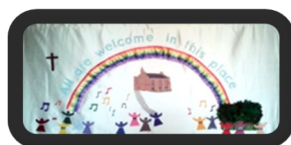
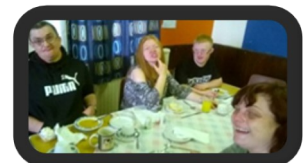


## Our Guild

Our Guild members are drawn from both congregations and have an interesting programme of activities throughout the year.

## Lunch Box

Denny Old provide a weekly lunch where the community can gather and enjoy food and fellowship together. We welcome a group of approximately 20 adults with special needs and their carers from our local area.



## Hags Banner Group

The banner group work creatively to design and make banners to adorn the church sanctuary, while enjoying time and fellowship together.

# Church Organisations

## **Crafty Café**

This is a group that meets on the last Saturday of the month in Denny where people from church and the community meet to learn new skills and recently have knitted blankets for refugees in camps in Europe. Crafts featured are: felt work, card making, sewing, knitting and many others.



## **Messy Church**

Our last meeting was at Easter where we shared the Easter story through craft work, worship and sharing a meal.



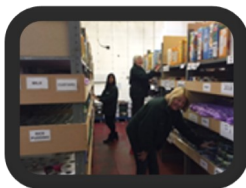
## **Time Out Group**

A group that meets regularly for a cuppa and a blether to promote a sense of community.

## **Outreach**

The people of Hags Parish respond with generosity and compassion to our efforts to collect on behalf of Christian Aid by participating in door to door collections and the Kelpies Canter. We have after-service 'Soup and sandwiches' lunches with donations going to Christian Aid and other Christian charities.

The people of Denny Old take part in the annual Forth Road Bridge crossing raising funds for Christian Aid as well as envelope collections and the Kelpies Canter.

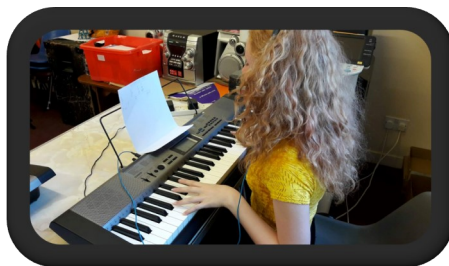


Both Churches offer tea and coffee time which provides worshippers with an opportunity for fellowship. Both churches donate to the local Food Bank.

During the school holidays a lunch club provides a free meal for school age children who participate in fun activities and a short worship.

Denny Old Parish's annual church fete is an important community event which involves many members of the congregation, while raising funds for the on-going work of the church.

# Our Hall Users



Summer Club

Both halls are actively used by our churches and communities which give opportunities to engage in outreach.



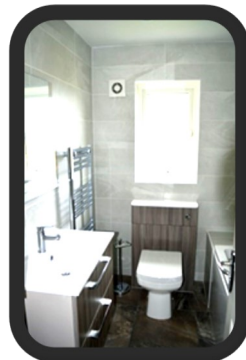
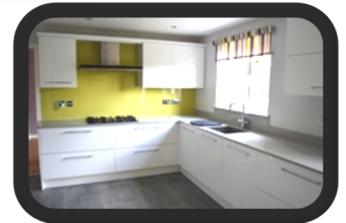
# Our Manse

**Singers Place, Dennyloanhead, Bonnybridge, FK4 1FD**



The manse, in Dennyloanhead, is a modern two storey family detached house. It is situated on a small estate equidistant from both churches.

Consisting of entrance vestibule, welcoming reception hallway, bright front facing lounge with feature focal point fireplace, rear facing dining room with patio doors off to the rear gardens, stunning and recently fitted breakfasting sized kitchen complete with a range of base and wall mounted units and complementary granite worktops with five ring hob and hood. The breakfasting area gives patio door access off to the rear gardens, separate utility room and a two piece WC then completes the lower accommodation.



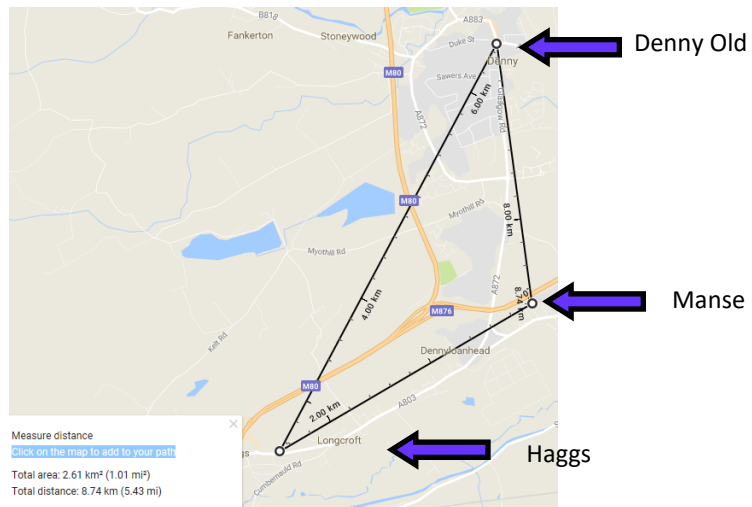
A single flight staircase leads to the upper accommodation consisting of five generously proportioned bedrooms, two of which featuring three piece shower room en-suites and also a luxury family bathroom which then completes the upper accommodation.

Internally there is good storage integrated throughout the property which is further enhanced by having gas central heating, double glazing and features a single integral garage with monoblock driveway leading to the front. The gardens to the front gardens have attractive flowerbeds and rear are predominantly laid with artificial lawn with a Slabbed patio, timber decking and is fully enclosed by a stained timber fence.

A video walkthrough can be seen by clicking [here](#).

# Location

Location Map



The Congregations of Hags and Denny Old are well served by motorway networks and train stations, in both Falkirk and Stirling. This gives easy access to Glasgow and Edinburgh as well the many wonderful activities on offer in the heart of Scotland.



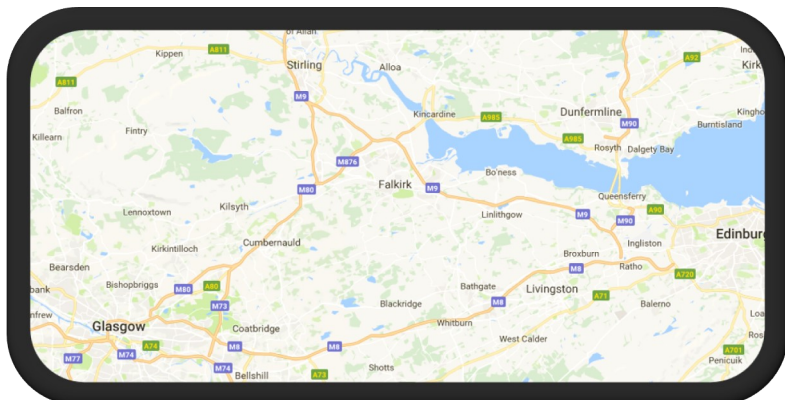
Falkirk Wheel



Stirling Castle



The Kelpies



# Further Information

We would be very pleased to hear from you if you have an interest in finding out more about what God is doing here in Denny and Haggs. We are sure that this is a calling which has great potential and could be a most fulfilling future for the right person.

## **Contacts**

*For informal enquiries please contact:*

### **Interim Moderator:**

#### **Rev. Aftab Gohar**

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### **Chairperson of Nominating Committee:**

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*For further information and to submit an application and CV please contact:*

### **Clerk to Nominating Committee:**

#### **Janet Rhodes,**

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Telephone : 01324 824721

e-mail : [janet.stewart@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:janet.stewart@blueyonder.co.uk)

### **Details relating to both churches:**

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email: [info@dennyoldparishchurch.org](mailto:info@dennyoldparishchurch.org)  
Scottish Charity No: SC016255

website: [www.haggschurch.org.uk](http://www.haggschurch.org.uk)  
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