



# **Folk Healers and Midwives accused of Witchcraft in Scotland 1563-1736**

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## **‘Witches’ Stories – Folk healers and Midwives accused and persecuted for helping others: Secondary analysis of the Survey of Scottish Witchcraft.**

### *Preface:*

The above study was conducted (January to August 2021) by a team of researchers from the School of Health and Social Care at Edinburgh Napier University. The project was funded by an RCN Foundation Award. Full study findings are reported in a separate project report but this document names and give brief details of all those accused witches investigated in this research.

The Survey of Scottish Witchcraft (SSW) (Goodare *et al.* 2003) is derived from various sources including church and legal records reporting the witchcraft trials between 1563-1736. There are 3,212 named people on the SSW accused of witchcraft. This study only focused on those who had witchcraft accusations characterised as relating to their folk healing or midwifery practices, for example, it was thought they had removed someone’s pain by transferring it to someone else. Many folk healers or midwives accused of witchcraft were accused for reasons that did not relate to their curing and caring work. These individuals may be recorded in the SSW, but they are out with the scope of this study and are therefore not included in this document.

This document is a list of the accused witches studied - a summary of individuals, their personal circumstances, witchcraft accusations characterisations and fate (outcome). Further details can be found on SSW (Goodare *et al.* 2003). What is known about these healers and midwives reflects what is contained in documents from the period. What is recorded about them and their healing practices reflects what those involved in judging these women and men considered to be important in the context of the witchcraft trials. Many of those accused of witchcraft were unfairly treated during their investigations, sleep deprivation was common, and some were tortured to obtain confessions. Those listed on the following pages were only some of those curing and caring for the sick in their local communities. This document recognises them and their place in the history of early nursing and midwifery.

Reference: Goodare J., Martin L., Miller J., Yeoman L. *The Survey of Scottish Witchcraft*, <http://www.shca.ed.ac.uk/witches/> (archived January 2003, accessed January-August 2021).

*Notes: The following information was obtained from the SSW (Goodare et al. 2003). Dates refer to trial end dates. Witchcraft characterisation refers to how an individual’s witch accusations are categorised on the SSW. Full details of these characterisations and a glossary of terms can be found on the SSW e.g., maleficium is defined as being accused of causing magical harm to people, goods, or animals.*

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### Janet Boyman (1572), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** She was married and was said have had five children. Had lived in Ayr but may have moved to Edinburgh's Cowgate.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, **Folk healing**, Treason, Unorthodox Religious Practices. She was also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Bessie Dunlop (1576), *Folk healer, Midwife*.

**Personal details:** She was from Lyne in Ayr presbytery. Married. She and her husband were tenants or cotters meaning their socio-economic status could have been very poor to middling.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, **Folk healing, Midwifery** and White Magic. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Jonet Carswell (Caldwell) (1579), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she lived in Edinburgh.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**.

**Outcome:** Acquitted.

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### Tibbie Smart (1586), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than she dwelled under the Lord of Clovay and her neighbour dwelled in Carralstoun.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Burnt on the cheek and banished.

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### Alesoun Pierson (1588), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** She was from Byrehill in Northeast Fife. First accused of witchcraft in 1559. She was estimated to be at least 41 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, **Folk healing** and Maleficium.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Janet Clark (Spalding) (1590), *Folk healer*

**Personal details:** Married, from Blalach in the parish of Cromarty, county of Aberdeen.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Marion McNab (1590), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** Married, from Lecropt in Dunblane presbytery, county of Stirling.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing, Maleficium, Neighbourly dispute.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Issobell Watsonne (1590), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** Married, from Glendevon in Auchterarder presbytery. She was thought to have been 23 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, Folk healing, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Agnes Sampsonne (1591), *Folk healer, Midwife*.

**Personal details:** From Nether Keith, in Dalkeith Presbytery, Edinburgh. Widow with children.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, Folk healing, Maleficium, Midwifery, Treason, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Alesoun Balfour (1594), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the parish of Stenness in presbytery of Cairston, Orkney. Married to an elderly man and had a young son (aged 10) and a daughter (aged 7 years),

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Political Motive, Witch for hire.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Margerat Bane (1597), *Folk healer, Midwife*.

**Personal details:** From Lumphanan, a village in Aberdeenshire. She was thought to be around 50 years of age, a widow and had two children. She was of lower-economic status.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Folk healing, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Midwifery, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Isobel Cockie (1597), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** Married from Kintore in Aberdeen County. Accusations against her went back 40 years. She was paid in money and in kind to heal.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, Folk healing, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Thomas Ego (1597), *Folk healer, Midwife.*

**Personal details:** From the settlement of Blelak, parish of Coull, Aberdeenshire. Married to Bessie Paull, who was also accused of witchcraft.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing, Midwifery. Also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known, thought to have fled after order for his apprehension.

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Katherine Fergus (1597), *Midwife.*

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Aberdeen.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Maleficium, Midwifery.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Kathrene Fernsche (1597), *Folk healer.*

**Personal details:** From the parish of Coldstone in Presbytery of Kincardine O'Neil, county of Aberdeen. Thought to be 33 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing, Maleficium, White magic.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Helene Frasser (1597), *Folk healer.*

**Personal details:** From the settlement of Aikenshill, parish of Foveran, Ellon Presbytery, county of Aberdeen. Described as very poor, she was a servant. She had dependent children.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Folk healing, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Agnes Fren (1597), *Folk healer.*

**Personal details:** From the parish of Lumphanan, Kincardine O'Neil presbytery, county of Aberdeen.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Marioun Grant (1597), *Folk healer.*

**Personal details:** From the settlement of Auchedlie in the parish of Methlick in presbytery of Ellon, county of Aberdeen. She was widowed and was thought to have been 46 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, Folk healing, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Christian Lewinstoun (1597), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Leith in Edinburgh. There is a reference to her having a daughter.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Jonat Lucas (1597), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Pitmurchie, settlement from the parish and presbytery of Kincardine O'Neil, county of Aberdeen. Thought to have been a servant.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, White magic. She was also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Absolved from all accusations except charming. Banished.

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### Issobell Richie (1597), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the settlement of Cloak in Aberdeenshire. Married.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Consulting a known witch, Demonic, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Christian Saidler (1597), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the settlement of Blackhous, Edinburgh.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Jonet Stewart (1597), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Canongate, Edinburgh.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Unorthodox religious practices.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Elspet Strachund (1597), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the settlement of Warthill, the parish of Lumphanan, presbytery of Kincardine O'Neil, county of Aberdeen.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Isobell Strauthaquin (Scudder) (1597), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From either Dyce or Finty parish in Aberdeen. She had a daughter, Elspeth Murry also accused of witchcraft.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Bessie Aiken (1598), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Edinburgh, thought to be from Leith. She was likely found guilty in 1597 but was kept in prison until 1598 due to her pregnancy. Her occupation was a midwife, but this was not part of her trial accusations.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Unorthodox religious practices.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Banished.

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Andro Man (1598), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the settlement of Tarbruith in Aberdeen. He was thought to be around 70 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Patrik Stewart (Pratker) (1598), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that he was from the parish and presbytery of St. Andrews, county of Fife.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Andro McJohn (1603), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that he was from the parish of Port of Menteith, Dunblane presbytery, county of Stirling.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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### James Reid (1603), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** A servant, from the settlement of Musselburgh, parish of Inveresk, in Edinburgh. He was thought to have been around the age of 38 years old and had a reputation for witchcraft for 13 years.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Katherine McTeir (1604), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** A farm servant of lower socioeconomic status from Halie, parish of Dundonald, in Ayr. Her mother was also accused of witchcraft.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute.

**Outcome:** Not known. Recorded as dead in 1605.

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### Patrik Lowrie (1605), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the settlement of Halie, parish of Dundonald, in Ayr. He was thought to be around 48 years old. He had a reputation for witchcraft for 23 years.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Consulting a known witch, Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Issobel Griersoune (1607), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the parish of Prestonpans, the county of Haddington. She was married to a workman and of lower socioeconomic status.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Bartie Patersoune (1607), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the parish of Newbattle, the presbytery of Dalkeith in Edinburgh. He was 61-year-old tasker (pieceworker) of lower socioeconomic status.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice. He was also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Isabell Smith (1607), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Banchory Devenick in Aberdeen.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing, Maleficium.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Margaret Scot (1609), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Selkirk presbytery.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing, Unorthodox religious practice. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Acquitted.

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Elspit Scot (1612), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** Born in Glasgow but thought to have resided in the presbytery of Linlithgow. She had children, thought to be around the age of 30 years old and described as very poor.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, Folk healing. She was also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Banished.

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Issobell Atkine (1615), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** She was from the settlement of Jushie, county of Stirling. Her mother, Helen Nicoll, was also accused of witchcraft.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing. She was also accused of charming,

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Katherine Bigland (Giedock) (1615), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** She was from the parish of Westray, the presbytery of the North Isles, Orkney. Her mother, Marion Tailour, was also accused of taking part in a ritual.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing, Maleficium.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Jonnet Murriache (1615), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Dunblane, county of Perth.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing. She was also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Helen Nicoll (1615), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the settlement of Jushie, county of Stirling. She was married and had a daughter, Issobell Atkine, who was also accused of witchcraft.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**. She was also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Excommunicated.

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Catherine Caray (1616), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Orkney.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Katherine Jones dochter (1616), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From Stenhous, Shetland. She was married and thought to be around 50 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, **Folk healing**.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Barbara Scord (1616), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was married and from Shetland. Her patronymic name was Thomas dochter.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium. Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Agnes Knox (1617), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the parish of Bathgate, Linlithgow. She was married, had two grown children, and was thought to be 50 years old. Both her children, a son and a daughter, were also accused of witchcraft.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**.

**Outcome:** Mother and daughter fled after their arrest.

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Janet M'Allexander (1618), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Ayr.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Jonet Andirson (1621), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** A servant from Stirling.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Christiane Grahame (1621), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Lanark, an in-dweller of Glasgow.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Margaret Wallace (1622), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From Lanark, Glasgow. She was married to a burgess (craftsman), of middling socioeconomic status and thought to have been around 34 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Consulting a known witch, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Katherine Grant (1623), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Orkney.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Thomas Greave (1623), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that he was from Fife and he was a paid healer.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Issobell Haldane (1623), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Perth.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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### Bessie Smythe (1623), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Lesmahagow, county of Lanark.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Acquitted.

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### Christian Gow (1624), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** A Minister's servant, of lower socio-economic status, and from the parish of Westray, presbytery of the North Isles, county of Orkney.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice. She was also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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### Steven Malcome (Maltman) (1628), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the settlement of Leckie, parish of Gargunnock, county of Stirling.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice, White Magic. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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### Bessie Wright (1628), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the settlement of Querrell Mill, parish of Scone, county of Perth. She was of middling socioeconomic status and had a son. She was a midwife, but this was not part of her trial accusations.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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### Alexander Drummond (1629), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the parish of Auchterarder, county of Perth. He was of middling socioeconomic status, thought to be around 75 years old and had a son. He was a paid healer and had a reputation for healing for 50 years.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Jonet Forsyth (1629), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Westray, the presbytery of the North Isles, Orkney.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Refused charity.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Katharine Oswald (1629), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the settlement of Nydrie Mylne, parish of Liberton, Edinburgh. She was married to a Miller, of middling socioeconomic status and was thought to be 32 years old. She had a reputation for witchcraft for over 12 years.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Isobell Young (1629), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the settlement of East Barns, parish of Dunbar, county of Haddington. She was married to a portioner (money lender), making her of middling socioeconomic status, and had four sons. She had multiple servants, sold cloth and dairy products and was thought to be around the age of 65 years old. She had a reputation for witchcraft for 40 years.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Cristal Ballath (1630), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Menmuir, the presbytery of Brechin, county of Forfar.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**. She was also investigated for charming.

**Outcome:** Banished.

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### Alexander Hammiltoun (1630), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** A married man who was thought to be from Haddington. Records show he had also resided in Newcastle, Niddry, Berwick, Duns, Prestonpans and Edmeston. He deserted his wife to go to England and Holland. He was described as a very poor vagabond.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Refused charity.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Catherine Watson (1630), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was married and from the parish of Stow, presbytery of Earlston.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**. She was also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Jon Neill (1631), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** He was a farmer, from the settlement of Tweedmouth, county of Berwick. He was married, of middling socioeconomic status and thought to be around 41 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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John Philip (1631), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** He was a vagabond, described as very poor, from Aberdeen.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, **Folk healing**, White magic. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Alisone Nisbet (Elie Nesbitt) (1632), *Folk healer, Midwife*.

**Personal details:** She was a midwife from the parish of Hilton, presbytery of Chirnside, county of Berwick. She was married, of lower socioeconomic status and was previously a servant to the minister of Hilton. She had a reputation for witchcraft for 13 years.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium, **Midwifery**, Neighbourhood dispute, Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Margaret Fraser (1633), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** She was from Aberdeen, a vagabond and described as landless.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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**Katherine Grieve (Millar) (1633), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** From the county of Orkney. She was thought to have been married with children. She was not thought to be poor.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Branded.

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**James Knarstoun (1633), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that he was from Orkney.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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**Marion Layland (Ritchart) (1633), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** From the parish of Sanday, presbytery of the North Isles, county of Orkney. She was thought to have been poor, married, with a son.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Refused charity, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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**Marion Mathie (1633), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was an in-dweller from Stirling and of middling socioeconomic status.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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**Bessie Skebister (1633), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Walls, presbytery of Cairston, Orkney.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Jonet Tailzour (1634), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From Cambus, the parish of Alloa, county of Stirling. She lived with a man named John McFarland whom she had several children with but was not married to. She was thought to be around 55 years old and claimed to have been healing for 30 years. She was also known as the witch of Monza.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Unorthodox religious practice. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Helen Isbuster (1635), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was a vagabond from Orkney and described as very poor.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, White magic. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Margaret Sandieson (1635), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the Isle of Sanday, presbytery of the North Isles, Orkney.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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### Marion Maguate (Malie) (1642), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From Nisbet, the parish of Coulter, presbytery of Biggar, county of Lanark. She had a 25-year-old son and was thought to have been around the age of 50 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty of charming. Sentence not known.

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### Jonet Barker (1643), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** A shopkeeper from Edinburgh and of lower socioeconomic status. She was also described as a servant.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Johnne Brughe (John Brugh) (1643), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the parish of Fossoway and Tullibole, county of Kinross. He was a professional healer who was paid in high sums of money and in kind. He was married and was thought to have been around 56 years old. He had a reputation as a healer for 30 years.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Katherine Cragie (Estquoy) (1643), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Orkney.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Helen Hunter (1643), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the settlement of Brugh, the parish of Westray, presbytery of the North Isles, Orkney.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, White Magic.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

Cristiane Leisk (1643), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Papa Westray, the presbytery of the North Isles, Orkney.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

Janat Maconachie (1643), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the presbytery of Strathbogie, county of Aberdeen.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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**Jonet Reid (1643), *Folk healer.***

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Orkney and had a daughter.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

---

**Bessie Rumond (1643), *Folk healer.***

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Peebles.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Acquitted.

---

**William Scottie (1643), *Folk healer.***

**Personal details:** From the parish of Holm and Pablay, the presbytery of Kirkwall, Orkney. He was a vagabond and described as very poor.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

**Elizabeth Spae Wife (Elsbethie) (1643), *Folk healer.***

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the settlement of South Leith, parish of Leith, the county of Edinburgh.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

---

**Jonet Thomesone (Groataok) (1643), *Folk healer.***

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Evie and Rendall, the presbytery of Kirkwall, Orkney.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Refused charity.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

**Elsbeth Culsetter (Cursetter) (1644), *Folk healer.***

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Orkney. She was thought to have been a vagabond.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Issobell Malcolme (1644), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Glass and Dalmeath, presbytery of Strathbogie, county of Aberdeen and thought to be around 45 years old. She had a reputation for charming for 20 years.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Excommunicated.

---

Margaret Reid (1644), *Folk healer, Midwife*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish Carnwath, presbytery and county of Lanark.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch **Midwifery**, Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Sentence not known.

---

Gilbert Robisone (1644), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that he was from the parish of Drumelzier, county of Peebles.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

Jean Lachlane (1645), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Carnwath, county of Lanark.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

---

Magaret Alexander (1647), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From the parish of Livingston, county of Linlithgow. She was married, thought to be a pauper and around 55 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice. She was also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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**Issobell Alexander (1649), *Folk healer.***

**Personal details:** She was married and from Scottistoun, the parish of Kirkurd, county of Peebles.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

**Margaret Bell (Magie) (1649), *Folk healer.***

**Personal details:** From the parish of Corstorphine, county of Edinburgh. She was thought to be around 43 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

---

**Margaret Dickson (1649), *Folk healer.***

**Personal details:** From Penston, the parish of Pencaitland, county of Haddington. She had a daughter and was thought to have been around 30 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

**Issabell Gilpatrick (1649), *Folk healer.***

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Kelso, county of Roxburgh.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

**Bessie Howie (1649), *Folk healer.***

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Crailing, presbytery of Jedburgh, county of Roxburgh.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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**Agnes Hutsone (1649), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was married and from Maxwellheugh, the parish of Kelso, county of Roxburgh.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known

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**Thomas Shanks (Willie) (1649), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** He was a weaver, of middling socioeconomic status, from the parish of Peebles.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Sentence unknown.

---

**Marion Steill (1649), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Maxwellheugh, the parish of Kelso, county of Roxburgh.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

---

**Marioun Twedy (1649), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Kirkurd, county of Peebles.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

**Marion Watson (1649), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** She was a widow from the parish of Peebles. She had an adult son and was thought to have been around 50 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Unorthodox religious practice. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Janet Diksone (1650), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Dumfries.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Unorthodox religious practice. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

Margaret Douglas (1650), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Kirkcaldy, county of Fife. She may also have been a midwife.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium.

**Outcome:** Acquitted.

---

Bessie Graham (Paton) (1650), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From Dumfries and of middling socioeconomic status. She was married and was a professional healer who was paid well for her healing. Her husband, Thomas Paton, was also a healer and together they formed a healing team which Bessie led. They owned land, animals and had a servant.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed with husband.

---

Elizabeth Maxwell (1650), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Dumfries and had a daughter.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Unorthodox religious practice. She also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

Helen Mitchell (1650), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Kippen, the presbytery of Dunblane, county of Stirling.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Margaret Ogg (1650), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Inch, the presbytery of Garioch, county of Aberdeen. She was helping with labour pains so was likely also a midwife.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

Thomas Paton (1650), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** From Dumfries and of middling socioeconomic status. He was part of healing team with his wife, Bessie Graham (Paton).

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed with wife.

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Unknown Graycoat (1655), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that they were from the county of Caithness.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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Jonet Miller (1658), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was married and from the parish of Rerrick (formerly Dundrennane), county of Kirkcudbright.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, Folk healing, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

---

John Mylne (1658), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that he was from the parish of Inveraray, county of Aberdeen.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

Agnes Nemo (1658), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** She was married and resided in 'the house of the Moore', the parish of Liberton, county of Edinburgh. Her husband kept cattle.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Folk healing, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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**Bessie Paton (1658), *Midwife*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Alloa, presbytery of Stirling, county of Clackmannan.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Consulting a known witch, Demonic, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, **Midwifery**.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

---

**Issobell Bennet (1659), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was married and from the parish of Holy Rude, county of Stirling.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Non-capital punishment.

---

**Magdalin Blair (1659), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Stirling.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Acquitted.

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**Margaret Clerk (1659), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the county of Kirkcudbright.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

---

**Jannet Corsan (1659), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** She was married and from Dumfries. She was described as of middling socioeconomic status, had a croft with her husband, and land which they grew crops on.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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Marione Corsan (1659), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Irongray, the county of Dumfries. Her mother was also imprisoned for witchcraft.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Acquitted.

---

Cristian Cranstoun (1659), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was a widow from the parish of Tranent, county of Haddington.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

---

Bessie Stevenson (1659), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** She was a widow from Stirling. She was thought to have been around 49 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

---

Jean Thomson (1659), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** She was from the parish of Borge, county of Kirkcudbright. She was married, had a daughter, and was thought to have been around 39 years old. She owned lots of sheep and was of middling socioeconomic status. She had a reputation for 14 years.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

---

Eupham Adair (1661), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was of middling socioeconomic status and an in-dweller in the parish of Crichton, the presbytery of Dalkeith, county of Edinburgh.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Fled.

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### Janet Cock (1661), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** She was from the parish of Dalkeith, county of Edinburgh. She was married, had two daughters, and was thought to have been around 49 years old. She had a reputation as a healer for 24 years.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Issobell Fergusone (1661), *Midwife*.

**Personal details:** She was from the parish of Newbattle, presbytery of Dalkeith, county of Edinburgh. She was married and had an adult son. She was thought to have been 71 years old and had a reputation as a witch for 40 years.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Maleficium, **Midwifery**.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

---

### Beatrix Leslie (1661), *Folk healer, Midwife*.

**Personal details:** She was from Blackcoat, the parish of Newbattle, presbytery of Dalkeith, county of Edinburgh. Her occupation was a midwife, she was married and of lower socioeconomic status. She was thought to have been around 84 years old.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, **Midwifery**, Neighbourhood dispute. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Executed.

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### Issobell Gowdie (1662), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was married and from the parish of Auldearn, county of Nairn.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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### Jonet Morisone (1662), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Rothesay, the presbytery of Dunoon, county of Bute.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Fairies, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Unorthodox religious practice.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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### Margaret McLevin (1662), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Knockankamis, county of Bute and was thought to have been around 29 years old. Her patronymic name was Nic.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice. She was also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

### Adam Gillies (1663), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that he was married to Christian Watson, who was also accused of witchcraft, and from the parish of North Berwick, county of Haddington. He owned cattle.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, White magic. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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### Christian Watson (1663), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was married to Adam Gillies, who was also accused of witchcraft, and was from the parish of North Berwick, county of Haddington.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, White magic. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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### Kathareen Manson (1665), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the parish of Birsay, the presbytery of Cairston, Orkney.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium. She was also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Acquitted.

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### William Bannerman (1671), *Folk healer*.

**Personal details:** No details known other than that he was from the parish of Elgin (St Giles), county of Elgin.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Banished.

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**Bessie Paine (1671), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Kirkcudbright, county of Dumfries.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Fairies, **Folk healing**, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Died in prison.

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**Jean Rosse (1671), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the settlement of Posbeg, parish of Anford, county of Aberdeen.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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**Katharine Russell (1671), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from the settlement of Posbeg, parish of Anford, county of Aberdeen.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

---

**John Macgregor (1677), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that he was from the parish of Greenock, county of Renfrew.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Not known.

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**Catharin Mactargett (1688), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** She was from the parish of Dunbar, county of Haddington. She was married to a weaver and was of middling socioeconomic status. However, she was thought to have been a beggar when she was accused of witchcraft and was first tried in 1679 when she was declared fugitive.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Unorthodox religious practice, White magic. She also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Guilty. Fled.

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**John Dougall (1700), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** He was a healer from the parish of Greenock, county of Renfrew. He was thought to have been 53 years old and had a reputation as a healer for around 30 years.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Unorthodox religious practice. He also faced charges of charming.

**Outcome:** Acquitted.

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**Jean Woodrow (1700), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** She was a widow of a baker, from the settlement of Bridge end, the parish of Kilmacolm, the presbytery of Greenock, county of Renfrew. She was of lower socioeconomic status.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** Demonic, Demonic Possession, **Folk healing**, Implicated by another witch, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Refused charity. She was also accused of charming.

**Outcome:** Witch pricked, devil's mark found and released. Not known if banished.

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**Elizabeth Ratter (1708), *Folk healer*.**

**Personal details:** No details known other than that she was from Calvister, the parish of Walls and Sandness, presbytery of Scalloway (Lerwick), Shetland.

**Witchcraft characterisation:** **Folk healing**, Maleficium, Neighbourhood dispute, Refused charity.

**Outcome:** Banished.

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