



Janet Bishop



Name: Janet Bishop

Looking back, we can imagine a bitterly cold Christmas Eve in 1629, when Janet, Margaret and Jenet were burned at the stake... most likely in the area where our memorial stands today. Its likely that the whole community would have been pressured to be there, but instead of singing carols together, they would have been witness to things which they couldn't then un-see.

Maybe Janet had relatives and friends in the crowd... she would have understood why they'd need to keep quiet, for their own safety. Or shockingly, some of them may have been her accusers.

*Ah am Janet Bishop.
Mother
Wife
Woman o' Penicuik.
They burned me in December o' 1629.
A woman who speaks
is a witch.
To those lookin' for a reason.
I walked into the fire,
with a prayer on my lips
Hopin'
Truth might follow the smoke.
If my voice rings still
Let it tell ye this:
Fear makes witches of women who dare stand
straight.*

