

Footnotes

May 2020

News from the Library of Innerpeffray and FOIL

Opening Lines

We are bringing you a monthly edition of Footnotes whilst COVID-19 keeps Innerpeffray closed to visitors. I look forward to sharing some of the Innerpeffray stories appearing on our blog as well as details of the Virtual Tours you can now watch and news from the “library in lockdown”. A big thank you to our Governors, FOIL and Volunteers for all their help. As the motto from the emblem on the right says: “With patience I the storme sustaine, For sun shine still doth follow Raine.” Make your own version with Gillean’s lovely embroidery kits overleaf. *Lara*



The Library of Innerpeffray



Introducing Virtual Innerpeffray

At Innerpeffray, aside from the stunning setting, the amazing story and the unique record of borrowers, the thing we like most to do is to share our books, hands-on with our visitors. Closing due to COVID-19, is therefore a very frustrating thing. Being closed also removes one of our main income sources. We have, therefore, like many museums and libraries, taken the step online to share our collection and bring you virtual Tours with the Keeper.

The first of these tours, Puttering, an informal history of Golf through Innerpeffray’s collection is a mix of local history and book content. Find out about the early golf courses in Crieff, the beginning of the game and golf characters. This is the first in a series, the second will look at Gardening, and these are free to view, though a small donation can be made through our shop, and is much appreciated. <https://innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk/virtual-tours/>
If you don’t do online, or know someone who would like a paper copy just drop us a line and we’ll put you on the mailing list.



Consider becoming a Patron—with Library doors shut for the time being, we will not be able to raise the funds we usually do from visitors and events. We have enough in reserves to survive for a short while—after that the Library will be struggling. You can sign up to be a Patron for £10 per month and help Innerpeffray stay afloat for the future. We’ll be announcing special Patrons benefits shortly.

A big thank you to those who are already Patrons: Martin Boyle, Arabella Connell, Angus Gordon, Kenneth Graham, Bill Gray, Steph Haxton, Peter Parke, Liz Pamplin, Lucy Poett, Alistair Scouller, Robert Skilleter, Chris Torlach, John D Watson, and those who wish to remain anonymous.

Library of Innerpeffray, Innerpeffray, Crieff PH7 3RF | 01764 652819 | Scottish Charity SC013843

Innerpeffray Inspired—Embroidery kits

A few years ago we made some embroidered panels, inspired by woodcut letters that appear in the Library's books. These were such fun, we went on to make another three panels using pictures from the books, animals, people, flowers etc. You may have seen these on display in the Library's lower floor. We had hoped to take them on tour across libraries in Perth and Kinross, but that is of course on hold for now. Our wonderful volunteer Gillean has made up some kits for you to make at home and these are now available in our website shop www.innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk/shop/ or call the Library for mail order. The three designs are shown here:



The Madderty Mouse

Many visitors will have met Volunteer Guide Bill Gray when you have visited Innerpeffray. Bill's knowledge of the collection is unrivalled, and he is also an accomplished poet. In this edition of Footnotes we thought we would share an excerpt from his heroic comedy— The Madderty Mouse. There are four parts to the story, and we will publish them over the next four editions. The full set, in a booklet with illustrations by Gillean Ford is available from the website or by mail order, all proceeds go to Library funds.



1. Invasion

Little sleek and furry moos

Why are ye living in ma hoos?

Wha gave ye leave tae mak yir den

Inside ma new-built but-an' ben.

Whit right hid ye tae seize ma plot,

An' settle in a rodent squat.

In wa's and loft ye scratch and rattle

As noisy as a herd o' cattle.

Ma hoos was scarcely six months auld

When ye moved in tae dodge the cauld

And left me wae the firm opinion

Ma hoos was noo your fixed dominion.

Whit can it be that ye are after?

Some special, tasty, crunchy rafter

On which to chew, or rather gnaw

Wi' the rasping sound o' a widman's saw.

I never hear ye while its day

It's always nicht time when ye play.

And why is it that oan each foot

Ye huv tae wear a hobnailed boot.

An' every nicht ye prance and leap,

Denyin' me a guid nicht's sleep.

I've tried in vain to seal yir fate

With cheese-filled traps and pizoned bait,

I thocht I'd won, but hope wis vain,

Fur within a week ye wur back again.

The stress ye've caused has made me ill

And can't be cured by ony pill.

Ma doctor says that country life

Is certain sure tae cause ye strife,

Sae jist be glad its jist a moos

An' no a coo that's in yir hoos !

Wae nerves oan edge I'm in despair

If I hud ony left I'd tear ma hair!

To get ye oot I cannae wait,

Let's call a truce and negotiate.

I'll gladly pay yir costs and carriage

If ye'll go and live in ma neebor's garage'



Bill Gray