Footnotes

August 2020

The Library of Innerpeffray



Opening Lines

Welcome to this Summer Edition of Footnotes with a special report on the conservation of Lady Madertie's Bible and Bag, news from our reopening and more details about all the short films you can see on our website. Lara



Library Re-opens

The We were delighted to re-open the Library to visitors on 1st August. library is a small space, so we carried out a full risk assessment for contact surfaces and 'pinch points' where crowding might occur. As a result, we have incorporated a series of safety and hygiene measures and are operating an appointment system for all visitors—which means you have the Library to yourself for the visit. Although we recommend you book in advance, we can also



accommodate visitors who turn up, provided there is a slot. We have an outside waiting room and even a door bell!

We have had to restrict the handling of books, although researchers can still work on specific works, by appointment.

So far, the response has been excellent, and most days have been fully booked. The Heritage Trail and outside space has also been popular with visitors and we were delighted to hear that Collaborate Creative's design of the interpretation markers on the trail has been shortlisted for the Scottish Design Awards alongside many international projects.

Our friendly, knowledgeable guides look forward to welcoming you.

Thank you to our Patrons-with Library doors shut for four of the busiest months of the year and events on hold, we will not be able to raise the funds we usually do from visitors and tickets. We have enough in reserves to survive for a short while—after that the Library will be struggling. We are very grateful for the support of our Patrons and those who contributed to our Appeal.

A big thank you to Patrons: Martin Boyle, Arabella Connell, Jill Dye, Angus Gordon, Kenneth Graham, Bill Gray, Martin Haldane, Steph Haxton, Janet Law, Ann McIntosh, Peter Parke, Liz Pamplin, Lucy Poett, Tony Ross, Alistair Scouller, Liam Sims, Robert Skilleter, Joan and Norman Taylor, Chris Torlach, John D Watson, John Wilson, and those who wish to remain anonymous.



More Tours with the Keeper and Team

We now have five video tours of Innerpeffray's collection available on the website. These range in subject from an introductory tour and a selection of favourite books from Innerpeffay's volunteer team, to a look at golf, gardening and dogs with the Keeper. The tours mix local history with readings from the books; a chance for you to look inside the library from the comfort of home! If you have a suggestion for a tour you'd like to see, do get in touch.

View the tours at https://innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk/virtual-tours/

The Innerpeffray blog features a wide variety of themes from books in the library and also information about the borrowers.

The latest piece, from Robert, is his most recent Tour of the Tops, where he reaches to the top shelves of the Innerpeffray cases and looks inside these for hidden treasure. This month it features both Bonnie Prince Charlie and the King of Sweden. Read the blog at https://innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk/blog/ If you'd like a copy by post, please give Lara a call, we'd be happy to post one to you.

Lady Madertie's Bible and Bag

The conservation of Lady Madertie's Bible and Bag was completed in early 2020.

This beautiful velvet-covered Bible (1638), bound with Psalms of David (1640), belonged to our Founder's wife, Beatrix, Lady Madertie. Before her marriage she was Beatrix Graham, youngest sister of James Graham, first Marquis of Montrose. The red bag was intended to hold the Bible – perhaps a pageboy carried it for Lady Madertie when she attended Chapel.

Sadly, over time, the bag had become worn, been nibbled by moth larvae and mended rather inexpertly. Over two years we were able to raise the funds to repair, conserve and provide for the future display and storage of both book and bag. We had hoped to do some of the conservation here at Innerpeffray, so that visitors could see the process, but unfortunately that was not possible due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Storage and Display A bespoke box, in conservation grade cardboard with hand decorated edges and a Melinex viewing window was made by Corrina Krause of Sollas Bookbinding of North Uist. Tyvek cushions were made to support the contents. We are very grateful to Gillean and Bruce Ford for their sponsorship of the boxes. The Bible and bag can be both stored and displayed in the boxes.

The Bible Bag The red wool and linen bag with velvet ribbon trim and silk and cotton tassels was stabilised and repaired by Sophie Younger of Younger Conservation Studio in Perthshire.

We are very grateful to all those people who contributed to the appeal to conserve the bag.





