# Footnotes

October 2020

News from the Library of Innerpeffray Opening Lines

Welcome to an end of season newsletter from Innerpeffray. Coming up in November, the return of the fabulous Nunkie Theatre in an online show based on one of MR James' stories, *Casting the Runes*, destined to shiver your spine; closely followed by our **Christmas Fayre** which combines shopping from our unique gifts with the chance to browse from local suppliers for advance ordering and delivery. To end the year, instead of the glorious *Carols* we bring you *Christmas From Innerpeffray*— a compilation of songs, music and readings with a festive feel. Read on to find out more about these and plans for 2021. As we close 2020 I would like most especially to thank everyone who has supported the Library in this challenging year. *Lara* 

# THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Appeal in August. Over £5000 was raised, including 12 people joining as new Patrons and there were many purchases from the Innerpeffray shop. The

funds raised from the Appeal were crucial in keeping the Library afloat after the loss of all our income from visitors and events over the summer.

We are also very grateful to Museums Galleries Scotland for supporting Innerpeffray with two grants which enabled us to purchase equipment and supplies allowing us to continue to share our collection with you all whilst we were closed: for example the Digital Resilience Fund helped us create the short films you can see on our website, and the Reopening Fund provided the cash for the essential supplies like face masks,

screens, new signage and also for additional cleaning that enabled us to welcome visitors from 1st August.

Thank you too to the fabulous volunteer team who adapted to the new guidelines and created new, safe tours for visitors.

Thank you to our Patrons–We are very grateful for the support of our Patrons. Patrons receive free entry to the Library, complimentary membership of FOIL, entry to FOIL talks and a special newsletter and make an ongoing contribution to the future of the Library.

A big thank you to Patrons: Hugh Arbuthnott, Patricia Barnes, Martin Boyle, Arabella Connell, Jill Dye, Angus Gordon, Kenneth Graham, Anne Gray, Bill Gray, Martin Haldane, Steph Haxton, Richard Holmes, Janet Law, Ann McIntosh, Peter Parke, Liz Pamplin, Donald Piper, Lucy Poett, Suzetta Rankin, Tony Ross, Jean Ann Scott Miller, Alistair Scouller, Liam Sims, Robert Skilleter, Joan and Norman Taylor, Chris Torlach, Anne Wade, John D Watson, John Wilson, and those who wish to remain anonymous.



The Library of Innerpeffray

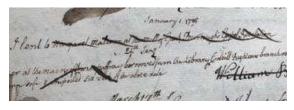
#### Innerpeffray Stories on our Blog

This year we have been able to share lots more about the Library on our blog, thanks to the help of several of the volunteer team. The two most recent posts are from Robert and Gillean.

The latest from Robert, is another **Tour of the Tops**, where he reaches to the top shelves of the Innerpeffray bookcases and looks inside these for hidden treasure. This month it features Columbus, Chocolate and Coca leaves.

For our regular Meet the Borrower feature, Gillean has been applying herself to an investigation of early

women borrowers. As well as seeing the books read by women between 1747 and 1795, Gillean has researched some further family history. In the picture opposite you can see the entry for Margaret Malcom, at Mill of Gask borrowing in January 1795.



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.

We welcomed three new Trustees to the Innerpeffray Mortification this year: Angelica Haldane, Steph Haxton and Marian Gerry have joined the team of seven Governors who are responsible for the running of the Library. In March this year Arabella Connell took over as Chair of the Governors. You can read more about our trustees on the website and if you think you might be interested in joining the Governors, please contact us for further information.

#### Books, Borrowers and Visitors-new PhD Research

We were delighted to welcome Isla MacFarlane to Innerpeffray in October to start work on her PhD based on the Innerpeffray borrowing records from 1855–1968. The PhD is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and based at the University of Stirling. Isla will be looking at the Innerpeffray Visitor Books (which begin in 1859) as well as the lending register and hopes to connect visitors with borrowers. Isla is particularly interested to hear from people who have family connections to the Library when it was still lending— if this is you, do drop us a line.

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#### Events

Nunkie Theatre present **Casting the Runes -** A story by **M R James**, Performed by Robert Lloyd Parry

On Sat  $7^{\mbox{\tiny th}}$  November at 7 pm

Montague Rhodes James [1862 – 1936] wrote his ghost stories to perform to friends in the years leading up to WW1. Today they have lost nothing of their power to terrify and amuse. Nunkie Theatre Company returns with one more of James's very best, in another thrilling one-man show – the scarcely-believable fifth instalment of The M R James Trilogy.

In **Casting the Runes** we meet the unforgettable 'Abbot of Lufford, ' Mr. Karswell – magic lanternist, historian of the occult, and scourge of the academic establishment. The story is perhaps best known for being the source

for the classic 1950s horror film 'Night of the Demon.' Robert Lloyd Parry will perform live from Nunkie HQ-join us if you dare...

"Storytelling at its best..." The Stage

- live and live online -

Changes in guidance for England means we are now only presenting this event ONLINE- so join from your armchair at home with our online broadcast. Tickets £5. Details on our website <a href="https://www.innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk/whats-on/">www.innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk/whats-on/</a> or call 01764 652819.

#### Christmas Fayre—on Friday $13^{\text{th}}$ and Sat $14^{\text{th}}$ November from 10 am – 4pm

We are delighted to announce a Christmas Fayre at Innerpeffray. A chance to buy some exclusive gifts from the Library's range of booklover merchandise and support local businesses. The Innerpeffray collection includes cards, books, embroidery kits, tea towels and more.

To show our support for our local community, and encourage you to shop local we'll be showcasing a fantastic range of local food and gift suppliers – pick up a booking form and take advantage of advance ordering and delivery to your home. Amongst others we'll be featuring Campbell's Bakery, Strathearn Cheese, Victoria Bloom florists, and Gordon & Durward Confectionery.

To ensure COVID safe attendance we offer timed slots: book your place for a well-spaced, Festive browse at <u>https://innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk/bookings/</u> or call 01764 652819 to book.

Our gifts are also available on the website shop, or by mail order (call Lara for an order form) and we can post gifts direct to the recipient, too.

New gifts include: bookshelf print 'wufflers' - a neck warmer, hat and face covering combined! (Below, left)

We also have reprinted our lovely Christmas cards based on woodcuts in the 1538 Book of Hours. (Below)

Our gift packs make great presents, we have some unique decorations and you can also pre-order our beau-





tiful new bee hive tea towels (right) for despatch in time for Christmas.

Do contact Lara if you'd like to order anything.





# Christmas from Innerpeffray



We were very sad to have to cancel *Carols from Innerpeffray*, and are delighted to announce we will be bringing you a very special *Christmas From Innerpeffray* which will be broadcast at 3pm on Sunday 6th December, and available to watch on our website until the end of December. A collection of music, songs and readings has been curated by Joan Taylor of FOIL and Michelle Sheridan Grant that will bring together some special moments to get you in the Festive spirit.

As you can't come to Innerpeffray, we will come to you! Join us, share it with all your friends and watch this little treat featuring contributions from members of the local community. The broadcast is free of charge, and after the 6th December you can watch as often as you like at https://innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk/ go to the Virtual-tours page or follow the link from What's On.

### Plans for The Future

Although none of us can predict the future—despite the wealth of books at Innerpeffray that provide guidance on this matter! - we plan to be re-opening the Library on Wednesday 3rd March 2021. Throughout the winter months we will be taking care of the collection, working on our new catalogue and assembling new exhibitions for you to enjoy.

The Trustees, staff and volunteers will also be working on a new business plan for Innerpeffray in the closed season to ensure we can continue to care for and share this amazing piece of Scotland's heritage.

To give you a sneak preview of the themes for next year: our exhibitions will include celebrating two greats of Scottish literature— we will be marking the 250th anniversary of the birth of Sir Walter Scott, and the 300th anniversary of the birth of Tobias Smollett with special exhibitions of first editions from Janet Saint Germain's Scottish Collection and details from the Borrowers' Register about the popularity of Scott amongst Innerpeffray readers.

Meantime the Heritage Trail will be open all year for wintry walks by the river and of course the snowdrops will make their magnificent show, usually from late January onwards.

The Innerpeffray Lecture has been rescheduled for February and we will be announcing the theme and the date very soon. We plan tis to be a live and online event that you can watch from home as well as in person.

We also look forward to completing our Long Walk for Knowledge project that includes the Heritage Trail, refurbishment of the schoolroom and various activities and is generously funded by National Lottery Heritage Fund, Perth and Kinross Rural LEADER programme and others.

Most of all we look forward to welcoming visitors new and old to the special place that is Innerpeffray.



