

# Footnotes

News from The Library of Innerpeffray

August/September 2024



The Library of Innerpeffray

*A Scottish Charity SC013843*

## Opening Lines

Welcome to this edition of Footnotes!

I'm delighted to share the programme for September's **Innerpeffray Festival—A Way With Words**—the full details are on the back page and details on the website. There is also a fascinating article about the last **Keeper of Books** to live in the Library 'house' on the ground floor from Gillean Ford on page 2. News from the Friends is on page 4.

We are also very grateful to Francis Principe-Gillespie for sharing his expertise with micro and macro photography: the printing inside **Smallest Book in the World** is now revealed!

Innerpeffray's first ever Quiz Night is coming in September. Challenge your general knowledge with Quizmaster Robert! Pick your team of four wisely to battle through eight rounds of testing questions to raise funds for the Library, win glory for your team and perhaps even go home with a modest prize. The evening includes a delicious hot supper and there will also be a Raffle and Bar. Tickets £15 per person.

Thank you for all your support.

Best wishes, Lara

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## Many a Mickle Meks a Muckle

Did you know that for a gift as little as £1.50 per month you can support the Library and write your name into the pages of history with the Innerpeffray Register?

The Library has informed and educated generations of people since it was founded by David Drummond nearly 350 years ago. The dedication of borrowers, trustees, keepers, visitors, students, volunteers and many more people has kept this legacy alive. Many people making a modest regular contribution enables us to keep this legacy alive.

Everyone who supports the Library is invited to add a leaf to the new Innerpeffray Register—an extension of the Borrowers' Register, which records those who support the Library today. Your chance to share your thoughts about why Innerpeffray is special, what it means to you.

You can pick up a pack in the Library, or [contribute via the website](#)

Thank you!



# Finders, Keepers

The Life of John Alexander Drummond Dehler, Keeper of Books at Innerpeffray

By Gillean Ford

Since the founding of the Library of Innerpeffray in 1680 there have been thirty two Keepers, that we know of. For some we know only a name but John Alexander Drummond Dehler is one we now know a great deal more about thanks to research by volunteer Gillean Ford. John (Jack) arrived at Innerpeffray in 1942, accompanied by his mother. He took on the role of Keeper and ran a crammer in the library. Born in 1893, son of John Andrew Dehler, widower, Coal Mine Proprietor, and Elizabeth (Bessie) Mary Druitt, widow, his parents having married in Lanarkshire in July 1892. Bessie was a daughter of John Foulds Esq., accountant and share broker in



Glasgow, and Elisabeth Drummond (born in Jamaica, daughter of a sugar planter), of Melrose. The Foulds had nine children before the family moved to Jamaica in 1871. John wanted to personally oversee his extensive farming venture - rearing cattle, processing corn, coffee and tobacco. Bessie and her parents returned to live in Glasgow in the late 1880s. Bessie's first marriage, to Cuthbert (Bertie) Druitt Esq., R.N. (retired), after a whirlwind courtship, took place in Kingston, Jamaica, in February, 1876. Bertie was working as a mining manager in Colombia, South America, but sadly their marriage was short-lived after he died there in the April, with Bessie at his bedside. At that time, one John Andrew Dehler, also a mining manager, was living nearby with his wife. They had married in Colombia in 1874. The two women became friends, confirmed in a letter John wrote in 1892, just before his marriage to Bessie "...my two daughters are so happy to have their dear mothers faithful old friend for their second happiness, ...". John Andrew Dehler had been born in London in 1843, his father, Andreas Dehler, having arrived in England in 1840 as a named person in Prince Albert's household. In 1842, Andreas Dehler, 'Page to H R H Prince Albert', married Eunice Stegglas, 'Female Servant', both residents of Buckingham Palace. However, archival evidence informs us that by May 1847, Andreas had been awarded a pension and returned to Coburg with his family. John Andrew's mining career had progressed enough by 1892, for him to be the owner of a coal mine near Teplitz, Austria, to where he and Bessie travelled immediately after their Lanarkshire wedding. Their son, John Alexander (Jack) was born in October 1893 and we learn from Bessie's frequent letters to her mother that '.... he is devoted to birds and animals ...; ... likes dusting when we are Spring cleaning ....and thinks his services are required more than any other person.' His day began with "...a plate of porridge (a real Scotch laddie) with plenty of milk....".

Events of the intervening years are unclear but in 1915, Bessie was living in Dresden and there is no mention of husband John. From newspapers we learn that Jack partly received his education 'abroad' but as a male British subject, was interned in Germany when WW1 broke out, his captivity lasting four years. Fluent in five languages, in the post war years he was a tutor in England and Spain to three young cousins of ex-King Alfonso, and to young Indian princes, including the son-in-law and daughter of the Begum of Bhopal. From 1923, his permanent home was in London and he continued to work as a private tutor, at home and abroad. In 1930 he became master of languages at Lancaster House School, Acton. By 1931 his mother, Bessie, was living with him and both were using the Drummond Dehler surname. Their names appeared in the 'Society' columns of newspapers, on one occasion having held an 'at home' evening, when among their guests were Princess Yousof BegumKhan of Kurwai and the Nawab of Turu. It also mentioned that Mr Dehler took a keen interest in the boy Scouts, several leaders of which were invited to meet their Highnesses. Records

show they had a home in England until 1935, after which date we 'lose' all track of them until the 9th May, 1942, when J. A. Drummond Dehler, Library House, signs the Innerpeffray Visitors Book. His mother signs the book on the 7th September.

How they came to be at Innerpeffray remains a mystery, other than someone's vague recollection of Mrs. Dehler saying that 'she knew Mrs. Drummond', but exactly which one, we have no idea. Letters give an account of two young brothers who spent their Christmas holidays, 1942 and 1943, staying with them in the Keeper's accommodation, the older boy 'there for cramming from John Dehler'. Mrs. Dehler frequently describing her life, to them and many others, as "one time Society hostess and honoured guest in foreign courts"!

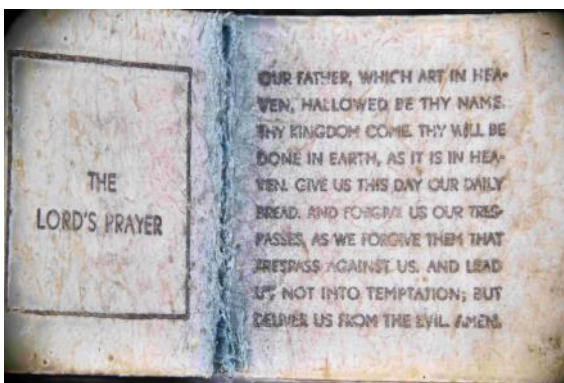
Each Christmas the Dehlers placed a note in the local newspaper inviting adults and children to visit Library House, date and times specified, to view their tree, which was the height of the room, and decorated with 120 candles (best not to think about the fire risk to the library!) and 3000 glittering decorations. Having supposedly lost most of her possessions during WW1 and WW2, they obviously managed to save the Christmas tree decorations! Apparently it took Mr. Dehler 40 hours to decorate the tree and 'visitors came from near and far' to view it. In June, 1948, Mrs. Dehler died in Crieff, aged 94. Mr. Dehler continued to live at Innerpeffray until late 1951. He died on 28th March, 1959, at Chienes, Italy.



THE CHRISTMAS TREE.

## Teeny Tiny Books

The 'Smallest Books in the World' were hand made in the 1960s, sold by the Gutenberg Museum and are no longer in production. Innerpeffray is lucky enough to have one of these, and it is always popular with visitors, though they often doubt that there is anything legible inside the book. Thanks to the photography skills of Francis Principe-Gillespie we now have proof that the Smallest Book contains not just one printing of The Lord's Prayer, but the Prayer in several different languages!



The original measures just 5mm x 5mm. How the book came to be at Innerpeffray has not been recorded: – if anyone knows who donated the Smallest Book to the Library, please get in touch.

# Friends of Innerpeffray Library (FOIL)

Dear Friends

2024 seems to have flown past and it hardly seems possible that the 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness' is upon us.

The remaining months of the year will be busy at Innerpeffray and I encourage you all to support the first of our autumn events the 'Way with Words' Festival; full details of which may be found on the back page of 'Footnotes'.

After the Festival we are delighted that on **Saturday 28th September at 2pm**

acclaimed cookery author **Sue Lawrence** will return to Innerpeffray to talk about the recipes she has incorporated into her newest book, inspired by *Mrs MacIver's Cookery and Pastry* (1789) in the Innerpeffray collection.

This very special event will be held in the Schoolroom where Sue will talk about her experience as a winner of MasterChef and how she finds inspiration for her cookery books. She also reveals her love of Scottish history as manifested in her series of historical novels, the latest of which, 'Lady's Rock', has been published recently.

*'Sue Lawrence has been a leading force in spreading the joy of Scottish food. She's one of life's true enthusiasts, a natural teacher who conveys her deep learning with modest charm, and a prolific author. She has 20 cookbooks under her belt, and each one is a joy – something much needed these days.....*

*There are many Scottish classics in this volume, understandably enough. These gratifyingly include Selkirk Bannock; Black Bun; Treacle Scones; Potato Scones; the wonderfully named Fatty Cutties; ditto Guggy Cake, also known as Huffsie or Doofie; Cloutie Dumpling; Border Tart; Ecclefechan Tart; and Petticoat Tails. But Sue Lawrence is no believer in museum-piece cookery, and this book cheerfully encompasses baking from all over the world, as found in bakeries and homes across Scotland.'*

This review of *New Scottish Baking* by Nigella Lawson will hopefully whet your appetite for the event where we will sample the Innerpeffray and Mrs MacIver inspired 'Florentine Curd Tarts' accompanied by a genteel cup of tea.

*The New Scottish Baking* book and *Lady's Rock* will be on sale at a special discounted price, purchasers can then visit the Library where Sue will sign them.



## figuralchor Köln

Conducted by Richard Mailänder

Friends of Innerpeffray Library & Mid Strathearn

Churches

**Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm, Fowlis Wester Church**

Tickets £15.00



Last year I was asked by Elizabeth Schussel, daughter of Hannah Leckie one of our long-standing members, if her Choir, which is based in Köln could give a concert in the Chapel at Innerpeffray when they were on tour in Scotland. As the chosen date was the evening of 15<sup>th</sup> October I felt that the warmer surroundings of Fowlis Wester Church would be a better option.

Tickets, priced £15.00 including refreshments, will be available online through the Library website shortly. Funds raised will be shared equally between Mid Strathearn Churches and FOIL (Friends of Innerpeffray Library).

The figuralchor Köln was founded in 1986 by its conductor, Richard Mailänder. At present it consists of

roughly 50 members. The choir's repertoire is wide, ranging from Renaissance to contemporary, mainly sacred music. It has performed works such as Bach's B minor mass as well as various world premieres. It has recorded CDs of Easter and Advent music and of English choral music. So far the figuralchor has been on concert tours in England, France, Italy, Poland, Austria and China. This is the choir's first concert tour in Scotland.

The conductor Richard Mailänder was born in 1957 in Neunkirchen, Germany. He studied church music, musicology and history in Cologne. In 1987 he was appointed head of church music at the Archdiocese of Cologne. He was one of the main editors of the new edition of the Roman Catholic hymn book for German speaking countries and is the author and editor of numerous books and articles on church music, in particular on the history of hymns and vocal work with choirs. He has been a lecturer at the Cologne Conservatory of Music since 2000. He was awarded an honorary professorship by the Cologne Conservatory in 2013.

## Ted Powell Memorial Lecture

Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 7.00pm

The Schoolroom. Innerpeffray

Tickets £10.00 (FOIL members free)

On 23rd October we hold the Ted Powell Memorial Lecture – this year we are delighted to have more Innerpeffray research unveiled as Isla Macfarlane will be speaking about her PhD on Innerpeffray visitors. In the mid-19th century, the nearby town of Crieff became a popular tourist destination, bringing an influx of visitors to the area. In the 1860s, the Keeper at Innerpeffray began keeping a record of those who came to visit and use the library, but who did not borrow books. A huge range of visitors is represented in this record, which has been kept ever since – local residents and folk from further afield.

Some well-known names are dotted among the lists of visitors: J.M. Barrie, George Bernard Shaw, Beatrix Potter's parents to name a few. To read more about current research being done into the individuals recorded in the Visitors' Books, you can read Isla's 'Visitor Vignettes' posts in the Library [blog](#).

Best wishes

Joan

Joan Taylor, Convenor

## Also coming soon—save the dates!

**Friends Tour with the Keeper—Thu 17th October at 2pm**

In March we held two private tours for Friends to see the exhibition with the Keeper, Lara Haggerty. These events were very popular, and we've asked Lara run another tour in October for those who would like to have a closer look at this year's exhibition. The event is free of charge for FOIL members and guest tickets can be purchased at £10 each, booking is essential.



**Festive Fayre—Fri and Sat 8th and 9th November 10am—4pm**

We'll have a stall at the Innerpeffray Festive Fayre again this year with a Raffle, homemade preserves, chutneys and more. We hope you'll come along and support this event if you can.

**Carols for Innerpeffray—Sat 30th Nov (the the Library) Sun 1st Dec (in the Chapel)**

There will be a Scottish theme to the Carols in the Library which takes place on St Andrews day this year, and the traditional Carols in the Chapel will take place on the Sunday. Tickets available very soon.

# What's On at Innerpeffray

Sept 5th-8th

**Innerpeffray Festival: A Way With Words.**

Our annual festival returns with creative workshops, talks and family events.

## THE INNERPEFFRAY FESTIVAL



Fri 6th Sept 10am–3pm	<b>Helen Gallogly</b> The Art of Costume Textiles Workshop
Fri 6th Sept 6.30pm	<b>Donald Paton</b> Robert Burns in Perthshire
Sat 7th Sept 10am	<b>Catherine Leatherhead, PKCT</b> Family Map-Reading Adventure
Sat 7th Sept 2pm	<b>Kerri Andrews</b> The Forgotten History of Women's Walking
Sat 7th Sept 3.30pm	<b>John Moore</b> Highlights in the Mapping of Scotland
Sat 7th Sept 7pm	<b>Helen Gallogly</b> Print Process: An Artists Talk
Sun 8th Sept 3.30pm	<b>Jennie Turnbull</b> Pop-up Poetry: Open Mic
Sun 8th Sept 7pm	<b>Scot An Sgeulaiche</b> Unwanted Travel: Exile in the 17th century, Storytelling and Music
Fri 20th Sept 6.30pm	<b>Quiz Night</b> Challenge your general knowledge!
Sat 21st and Sun 22nd 2pm–5pm	<b>Big Book Bazaar</b> Grab yourself a good read in our book sale—bag a pre-loved bargain
Sat 28th Sept 2pm	<b>Sue Lawrence: Book Launch and Signing.</b> Samples of her delicious recipes will be available to try.
Sun 6th Oct, 2pm.	<b>David Greig in Conversation.</b> An afternoon in conversation with the celebrated author and playwright, talking about his newest book, <i>Columba's Bones</i> .
Coming soon	23rd Oct—The Ted Powell Memorial Lecture
All tickets can be <a href="#">booked via our</a> website, or by phone	8th & 9th Nov—Festive Fayre
01764 652819	20th Nov—Nunkie Theatre
	30th Nov & 1st Dec—FOIL present Carols at Innerpeffray