



Opening Lines

As we take stock of another year at Innerpeffray, I'm pleased to share with you some of the stories that we have gathered over the past year. On page two you can meet some of our visitors and supporters.

Work in the grounds to repair Innerpeffray Chapel's graveyard wall was fascinating to watch: I've included a photo-diary of the remedial work as it progressed.

We ended the year with two enjoyable events: the Friends, led by Joan Taylor gave another fantastic Carols and readings and behind the scenes we had a festive gathering with our



volunteers to say thank you for all their help. One of the highlights of this was a caption competition – can you better our efforts for the pictures on the back page?

I look forward to sharing more of our news from 2024 in the New Year as we will be preparing to reopen with our new exhibition and a host of exciting events.

Best wishes for the festive season and thank you for all your support. Lara

Mending the Maps

Thanks to your generous support the Mend the Maps Appeal has raised nearly £1000. We are planning to have repairs undertaken before we reopen in March and we anticipate the cost to be in excess of £2500.

The Library's Atlas Novus printed in Amsterdam in 1638 is one of our most popular books, and frequently on display to visitors. This use means that the pages become worn and damaged despite careful handling.

There are currently 100 pages that need attention: the most pressing concern is tears on the edges, that can quickly worsen. There are also small holes and folds that are deteriorating into rips.

There's still time to help.

£25 will repair a small tear, £50 will press a fold, £100 will reinforce a page with specialist repairs. Donations can be made on our [website](#), in person, or by calling the Library. Thank you.



Family Stories—The McRobbies of Tomaknock and Pennsylvania

One of the Library's earliest Borrowers is James MacRobbie, 'Taylor in Innerpeffray' who borrowed a book in 1752.

In the last week of May 2010 I met Bob McRobbie and his family. They were visiting Scotland to walk in the footsteps of their ancestors, who emigrated from Tomaknock, Crieff in 1812. Happening upon the Library by accident, in their quest for places connected to the family, we were able to show them McRobbies who had borrowed books at Innerpeffray. James McRobbie was Bob's great, great, great, great grandfather. James' son and grandson (both called James) may also have been later users of the Library.

We were delighted to welcome back Bob's son, Chris, who visited with his father in 2010, and his daughter Lindsay on her first visit and to be able to show them the entry in the register and books borrowed by their ancestors. We have also been given care of a McRobbie family book: Chris and Lindsay are seen here holding *The Archbishop of Cambray's Pastoral Letter on the Love of God, 1715*, which is signed *John McRobbie, Mason, Crieff, 1810*.



Family stories—Andrew Drummond



Andrew (Andy) Drummond (left) visited the Library on 5th October and we enjoyed hearing how he used to visit his relations in the schoolhouse and play down at Innerpeffray Castle. Andy's grandmother was Mrs JM (Bunty) Drummond (right), who looked after the Library in the 1960s.



All Tooled Up! A Boost for Garden Volunteers

Our thanks go to Amanda McClintock and Ronnie Carr from BAM Contractors who delivered a donation of tools on behalf of the Cross Tay Link project last month. Coordinated through the Perth and Kinross Community Benefit Wishlist we were delighted to show them round the Library and the grounds where the tools will be put to good use by the garden volunteer team.



Left: a selection of the tools donated.

Right: Peter Parke (Governor), Lara Haggerty (Keeper) accepting the donation from Amanda McClintock, and Ronnie Carr



Innerpeffray Graveyard Wall

Visitors may have noticed over the past year that the boundary wall for the graveyard at St Mary's Chapel of Innerpeffray had suffered a collapse. Some interim remedial work meant that the area was cordoned off with metal fencing for safety and was, frankly, unsightly.

I am pleased to report that the repair of the wall has now been completed and thanks to the skills of William Anderson the wall should be good for another few hundred years. Thanks too, to Perth and Kinross Council for coordinating the work. I'm delighted to share these images of the work in progress.



Top to bottom:
original collapse
December 2022.

Removal of wall for
safety, March
2023.

Finishing rebuild
work October 2024

Completed wall
inside and outside
graveyard 2024.



Friends of Innerpeffray Library: Carols in the Library and Chapel

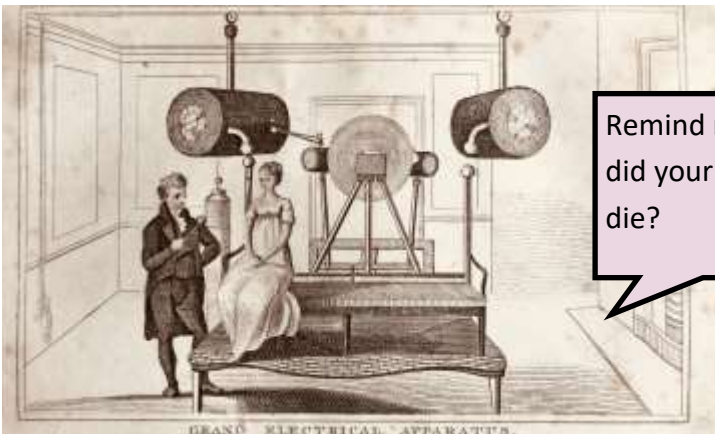
A huge thank you to the Friends of the Library, the Innerpeffray Singers and musicians and Joan Taylor in particular for an excellent programme of music and readings to start the Festive Season.

We're already planning next year! Dates for 2025 are Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December.



Caption Competition!

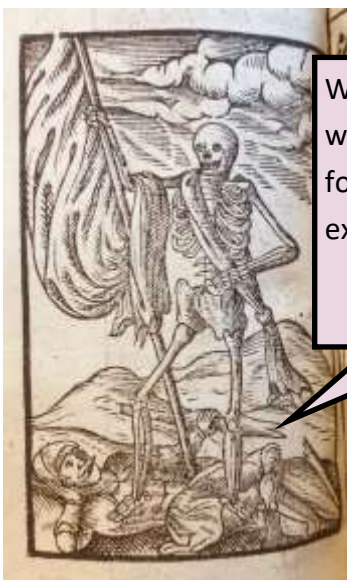
We had great fun with this caption competition at the team festive gathering last week. The winning entries are given below—we'd love to hear your ideas for captions too!



Remind me, how did your last wife die?



You'll never get a date with a profile picture like that!



When they said there was just a skeleton staff for the massage I wasn't expecting this....



This sport should be banned from the Olympics!

Sources, clockwise from top left: *New Domestic Medicine*, Buchan, 1835/ *Epistolae itinerariae*, Tollius, 1700/ *Fall of Prynces*, Boccaccio, 1554/ *Defiance to Death*, Cowper, 1610