# FOIL News

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF INNERPEFFRAY LIBRARY

**Issue 66** 

#### March 2019



#### 2019

This year sees the many promised changes at Innerpeffray come to fruition. The Heritage Trail is a reality and since the trees have been cut down visitors can admire spectacular views of the Perthshire countryside and River Earn as they approach the Library and Chapel. The Green Shed has moved to a location that makes shifting chairs and boxes to the Chapel that little bit easier. The Schoolroom has had a total refurbishment, not just a lick of paint but including a small and perfectly formed kitchen and a new entrance from the car park. FOIL is proud to have supported these projects in practical and financial terms and looks forward to benefitting from the substantial upgrade to the facilities.

We hope that you will agree that this year's programme has something for everyone. If you are of an artistic, musical or epicurean bent, a Dendrophile or would-be Craniofacial Anthropologist you are encouraged to support the monthly talks and our other activities to help make this another great year for FOIL and the Library.

# **Friends of Innerpeffray Library**

Scottish Charity (No. SC 023545) founded in 1993 (CRIS No. 21975/20)

#### **Honorary President**

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Perth

#### Honorary Committee (2018-19)

Convenor: Kim Liddiard (<u>kim.liddiard@yahoo.co.uk</u>) Secretary: Joan Taylor (<u>j.taylor988@btinternet.com</u>) tel. 07522 862437 Treasurer: John Mauchline (<u>john@countaccountants.com</u>) tel. 01383 740700

#### **Committee Members**

Pamela Haggart (<u>pah2009@hotmail.co.uk</u>) Kirsty Macdonald (<u>macdonaldclan617@btinternet.com</u>) Alison Martin (<u>alisonmartin239@btinternet.com</u>) Gillian Wade (<u>gillian.a.wade@btinternet.com</u>) Website: <u>www.friendsofinnerpeffraylibrary.com</u>

## Library Manager and Keeper of Books

Lara Haggerty (<u>info@innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk</u>) Website: <u>www.innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk</u> Phone: 01764 652819

#### **Opening Hours, Library and Chapel**

Wednesday – Saturday: 10.00 am – 5.00 pm; Sunday 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm

Closed November, December, January and February

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Regular meetings of FOIL are held at the Schoolroom, Innerpeffray on the second Wednesday of each month. Meetings commence at 7.00 pm with refreshments, and talks commence at 7.30 pm. Days and times can vary so please see the published programme or the FOIL website for details of each event.

# Notice of FOIL AGM 2019

Twenty-sixth Annual General Meeting of Friends of Innerpeffray Library The Schoolroom, Innerpeffray Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 6.30 pm.

#### AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for absence
- 2. Minutes of the twenty-fifth Annual General Meeting and Matters Arising
- 3. Report of the Committee for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018
- 4. Accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 and Independent Examiner's Report
- 5. Appointment of Independent Examiner for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019
- 6. Appointment and election of office bearers:
  - Convenor: Kim Liddiard has indicated her willingness to stand for re-appointment as Convenor
  - Joan Taylor has indicated her willingness to stand for re-appointment as the Hon. Secretary
  - John Mauchline has indicated his willingness to stand for re-appointment as Hon. Treasurer
- 7. Appointment of Committee: Pamela Haggart, Kirsty MacDonald, Alison Martin, and Gillian Wade have all indicated their willingness to stand for re-appointment as members of the Committee.
  - Since the last AGM Gil Martin has resigned from the Committee, Alison Martin has been co-opted to the Committee
  - Two vacancies exist, for which nominations are sought
- 8. Any other competent business

Nominations are invited for the post of Convenor, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer and for the current vacancies on the Committee. In the event of more than one nomination being received for each post a vote will be taken. Nominations must be submitted no later than seven days prior to the AGM either in writing to:

The Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Joan Taylor Inishowen 44 Inchbrakie Drive Crieff PH7 3SQ

Or via email to : j.taylor988@btinternet.com

### FOIL AGM 2019 Convenor's Report on behalf of the Committee

I am pleased to report that the 2018 Silver Jubilee year for FOIL was hugely successful.

I want to start by thanking those on the Committee for their hard work and enthusiasm in ensuring that the year was a success. Pamela Haggart for leading the catering side for all the events; Kirsty MacDonald for being very much in support and the lead for the cake stand at the Drummond Fete; Gillian Wade and John Mauchline for their work on co-ordinating ticket sales, arranging talks and providing a space for Committee meetings; Alison Martin, who has done a wonderful job in making our talks known about, and has found new and different media and publications for our promotion; Joan Taylor for her contributions through the Carol concert, as Hon. Secretary and thinking about things that anyone else might have missed. Without mentioning all the names I would also like to acknowledge here the considerable contribution by the spouses of the Committee who as unsung heroes pitch in whenever needed (which can be often!).

There are others who although not on the Committee have contributed to FOIL's continuing success. Fiona Murchie has provided a precis of the talks for us to send to the media and post on the website, and she and her husband David did a sterling job at the Carol Concert co-ordinating all the ticket sales on the day. Peter Parke has continued to provide invaluable support with our online presence and kept the website up to date, ensuring that those buying tickets through this route can continue to do so. Beth McDowell and Helene Mauchlen have helped with car parking, setting up and taking down of the stage and chairs in the Chapel for our bigger events. Lastly but not at all least, we all wish to thank Lara Haggerty for her involvement with FOIL and help with our events. From setting up the room/pc/ projector, to her readings and insights from books in the Library at the end of each talk, we very much appreciate her contribution.

John Mauchline has also been investigating the opportunity for us to recover gift aid on membership payments and other small donations. I am pleased to say that so far he has recovered over £400 from HMRC and as a result of this exercise I would like to ask all members to agree that we can hold your names and addresses and to acknowledge to us that you are UK tax payers (provided you are), which will help John recover more monies from the Government each year.

The 2018 talks were, as usual, given by speakers of a high standard and were well attended. The Committee decided to ensure that the Silver Jubilee of FOIL was appropriately marked. As a result we focused on special events for June, and invited Val McDermid to speak in the Chapel about 'Killing People for Fun and Profit'. It was a vibrant event and exceeded the Committee's expectations. The Chapel was packed with new and old FOIL friends and this made for a wonderful atmosphere and lively discussion in the Q&A's. Val said how much she enjoyed the opportunity to address this particular audience and she is now a keen supporter of the Library at Innerpeffray. In June we had a special Silver Anniversary Lunch; it was a beautiful June day and guests enjoyed champagne in the sunshine, looking out over the newly opened up vista to the right of the

schoolroom. After feasting on three courses Lara gave these guests a very special behind-the-scenes tour of the Library.

The talks in 2018 ranged from learning about those who borrowed books from the Library in the past, to hearing about a novel which features the Library; uncovering more about Beatrix Potter's love of Perthshire (despite England playing a key game in the World Cup during the talk, it was well-attended); it cleverly linked with a Early Photography later talk on in Perthshire. We also heard about the last journey of the City of Adelaide clipper, a connection to last year's FOIL talk and exhibition about the Scottish Diaspora. Finally, nearing Halloween we heard about the art of writing a ghost story and especially about those ghosts who visited Mary Queen of Scots.

We had two musical events in 2018, firstly, **Chansons**, the Perth Chamber Choir, provided the audience one September afternoon with a magical Autumn Serenade; then in December we held our annual Christmas Carol Concert in Innerpeffray Chapel, directed by Joan Taylor. It was standing room only and highlighted that this event is once again becoming a 'must *book'* for our December calendars. Takings from the concert were an amazing £1200. Huge thanks are due to Joan for her tireless efforts in arranging the concert, to the members of the choir for their superb performance and to you, the members of FOIL, for coming along with family and friends.

The Committee is excited about the talks lined up for 2019 as they promise to be varied and appealing, on a mix of diverse topics. The booking form is enclosed and I hope that many of you will book in advance for the whole season, thereby making the tasks of administration and planning easier for the Committee.

Once again we joined other charities in fundraising at the Drummond Castle Charity Fete: the home-baking stall was well supported by members' baking and it continues to be a good money-making venture for FOIL. Yet again we broke records by taking £600. Thanks are due in particular to Kirsty MacDonald for coordinating and planning the event and to the Committee for donating goods and working behind the stall on the day. A massive thank-you to all of you, who donated baking, preserves and sweets for us to sell. We couldn't do it without you.

The FOIL Quiz continued the 'Silver' theme and we had a record number of entries. At Perth Farmers' Market in May, Peter Parke, Beth McDowell and Donald (Peter's grandson) sold copies of the quiz and Library merchandise with energetic zeal. Again, perhaps because it was the Silver Anniversary, we raised more this year on the quiz than in the past. £501 was raised from sales of the quiz, with lots of positive feedback about the enjoyment it provides.

The FOIL Committee works closely with Lara and the Governors to support and preserve the Library. As you are aware, the Governors spoke to us about their plans for improvements on site to encourage more visitors and make the facilities better for those who do attend. Members of FOIL have helped with clearing of trees and general advice regarding the Heritage Walk, much appreciated which is bv the Governors. We have been beneficiaries of these improvements through the vastly enhanced facilities in the schoolroom many people have commented on how much better the indoor loo is than the one we had at the back in a rather draughty spot. Since last year's AGM, I am pleased to be able to say that the Governors sought

and were successful in receiving all the grants they required to be able to get the project underway and make necessary improvements. All the work has been carried out to schedule, which is a testament to the way the project has been run. The FOIL Committee decided that it should also financially support this project (especially as FOIL benefits significantly from the improvements) and as a result £10,000 paid towards the was refurbishment of the schoolroom, the kitchen and loo.

Earlier in the year we to the suggested Governors that it would be useful for them to have an independent survey of the state of their before estate determining exactly where their priorities lay for capital expenditure. As а result, a survey of Innerpeffray Library, School House and School Room took place on 12<sup>th</sup> July



2018. We paid £900 for the survey and the report is with the Governors.

We are continuing to coordinate our events with the Governors and sharing information about them on the Library website and vice versa on our website. Please continue to support and attend events arranged by Lara and the Governors, just as you do the events arranged by your FOIL Committee.

During the year I mentioned the Committee's idea of a FOIL Cookbook and this is still very much our plan, thank you to everyone who has donated a recipe so far and please do keep them coming in. We anticipate that we will be 'publishing' a book with recipes in 2019.

Our current challenge is with regard to the website and its maintenance. Peter has done a fantastic job keeping this going for the last twelve months; however, we need to pass this responsibility on to someone else and are struggling to find anyone with the skills to pick this up. We've had a quote from an external body that could improve our offering and update the website but the cost of this is in the region of £2500 which

> does not seem a wise use of funds to the Committee. If we do not find anyone who is willing to take over this role we will stop providing a FOIL website and revert to the paper process we had before. It is a difficult choice as many people prefer the paper option and don't use the website for booking tickets; some members have complained about the way the booking system on the website works and would like a better option. This all costs money. What

we've been using to date is relatively cost free and this means that it may not be perfect but it does the job. Please let me know if you have any ideas or thoughts about the best way forward.

Finally to you, FOIL members, thank you for your ongoing support of the Library through FOIL, for attending the talks and supporting our different activities. It makes it very much worthwhile for the Committee to know that we have your support and enthusiasm for what we hope is an interesting and thought-provoking year of events ahead of us.

# Report from Library Manager and Keeper of Books, Lara Haggerty

Dear Friends,

The snowdrops were really early in the Innerpeffray garden this year, and the felling of the larch trees beside the chapel revealed a whole bank of the bonny wee flowers, as well as letting in some welcome sunshine to the Library in the first few months of 2019. The new path to the river is now complete: please use it and enjoy a stroll if the weather is kind. You will see the addition of newly-planted trees, seating areas being built and information markers arriving as the year progresses. We have a 'sponsor the trees and seats' campaign running – do contact me if you are interested. After the summer there will be an official opening day to which you are very warmly invited.

The Library is open again now after our winter snooze: we've dusted about onethird of the books and set up four new exhibitions for you to enjoy. The first of these displays takes as its focus the poetry and songs of **Robert Burns**. The books donated by Janet Saint Germain include a number of very special Burns items and we have put these together for a celebration of his work and we will be displaying the Kilmarnock edition for *March only*. Our second exhibition runs all year and is called *Home from Home*. This explores Scottish Emigration through the personal stories in our Borrowers' Register and books about the New World through three centuries. Library volunteer Gillean Ford has been researching many of the Borrowers who took home the *Emigrants' Manual* to see if they decided to take the plunge and start a new life. If any FOIL members have stories they be willing to share, we would love to hear from you.

We also have two smaller exhibitions on display: books about *Trees* and books about *Scottish Cookery*. The Cookery exhibition will start in April and is being put together by University of Stirling Masters student Rachel Chan.

We have a great programme of events coming up in the year ahead, and I hope you can enjoy some of them. I look forward to welcoming you to the Library and new path and hope you enjoy the newly refurbished (ie warm and cosy) Schoolroom.

#### Best wishes

Lara



Old view of the Innerpeffray Library from a 1950s brochure, and the new view of the River Earn

# 2019 Programme of Talks and Events

The date and title or topic of each event is set out below. Further details of each event are available on the FOIL website or from any Committee member; printed details are included in this newsletter. Bookings may be made either using the booking form below or directly on the website.

Date	Speaker	Title/Topic		
10 <sup>th</sup> April	Syd House	David Douglas of Scone: The Tree Collector		
8 <sup>th</sup> May	Alan McLean QC	The Tumbling Lassie		
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Dr Chris Rynn	Facial Reconstruction		
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Drew Watson & Pierre Leger	Strathearn Cheese		
14 <sup>th</sup> August	Tim Chalk	Chalk Works		
28 <sup>th</sup> September	Saturday evening at 7.30 pm	Opera at The Stables, Abercairny		
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Donald Findlay QC	Madeleine Smith - Did she or did she not?		
(N.B. This event will be held in Memorial Hall, Morrison's Academy, Ferntower Road, Crieff)				
8 <sup>th</sup> December	The Innerpeffray Singers	Carols at Innerpeffray		
(N.B. this is a Sunday afternoon at 3.00 pm.)				

#### **Booking Form**

Charges for regular events are £5 for members and £7 for guests, note exceptions in September, October and December. Please return your remittance to: Friends of Innerpeffray Library, The Hon. Treasurer, John Mauchline, The Old Garage, Millhills Farm, Crieff PH7 3QW

From:

Address:

Email address:

Please reserve the following places:

Date	Speaker	Members	Guests	Amount (£)
10 <sup>th</sup> April	Syd House			
8 <sup>th</sup> May	Alan McLean QC			
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Dr Chris Rynn			
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Drew Watson & Pierre Leger			
14 <sup>th</sup> August	Tim Chalk			
28 <sup>th</sup> September	Opera at Abercairny (all tickets £15)			
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Donald Findlay QC (all tickets £10)			
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Carols at Innerpeffray (all tickets £10)			
TOTAL:				

#### FRIENDS OF INNERPEFFRAY LIBRARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 2019

All Talks, apart from Donald Findlay on 9<sup>th</sup> October, are held in the Schoolroom at Innerpeffray Library on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm. Refreshments are served from 7.00 pm in the Schoolroom.

# 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019: The Ted Powell Memorial Lecture. Syd House, *The Tree Collector: The Life, Adventures and Botanical Explorations of David Douglas from Scone*

As Head of Perth and Argyll Region of Forestry Commission Scotland for 25 years, Syd became a renowned expert in the history of the trees and landscapes of Perthshire. His passion, energy and expertise drove the recognition that, with over 200,000 acres of woodland which includes more champion trees than anywhere else in the UK, Perthshire is Big Tree Country. The initiative he helped found has raised over £2 million to protect and promote the special trees and woodlands of Perthshire including the Fortingall Yew, Europe's oldest tree, and the Birnam Oak, the last survivor of Shakespeare's Birnam Wood.



Syd recognised that the climate of Perthshire was ideal for growing conifers and brought together this knowledge with his passion for the legacy left behind by the Plant Hunters employed by Perthshire's Victorian landowners. He is dedicated to seeing the Victorian designed landscapes that give Perthshire its unique woodland character restored and replanted.

2019 celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Forestry Commission and we at Innerpeffray celebrate the importance of native trees in the area around the Library.

Syd House was been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for his contribution to and passion for forestry in Perth and Kinross.

#### 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019: Alan McLean QC, The Tumbling Lassie



Alan McLean QC is a member of the Faculty of Advocates and Chair of the Tumbling Lassie Committee, which fights against modern slavery and people-trafficking and helps survivors in Scotland and beyond.

The Committee is named in honour of a case decided by the Court of Session in Edinburgh in 1687, *Reid v Scot of Harden and his Lady*.

The case concerned a young girl gymnast, known to history only by her nickname, 'the tumbling lassie'. She performed as an act in public entertainments put on by one Reid, a 'mountebank' or travelling showman. She was being worn out by having to dance in Reid's shows and ran away, taking refuge with the Scots of Harden, a family from the Scottish Borders. Reid sued the Scots and produced a written contract, showing that he had 'bought' the tumbling lassie from her mother. He

argued that the tumbling lassie belonged to him as his property.

The Court of Session in Edinburgh heard the case in January 1687. The Court dismissed Reid's claim, impliedly declaring the tumbling lassie free. The only surviving report of the case contains the trenchant observation: 'But we have no slaves in Scotland, and mothers cannot sell their bairns...'

Slavery is now illegal all over the world. It is because this has not, tragically, prevented millions still being held in actual or effective slavery, throughout the world and even in Scotland, that the charities

we support continue the struggle to end slavery and people-trafficking and to support modern survivors of these crimes as they recover from their ordeals.

FOIL is delighted to work with the Tumbling Lassie Committee and raise awareness of their charity.

### 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019: Dr Chris Rynn, Facial Reconstruction

Dr Christopher Rynn is a lecturer in Human Identification and the Course Coordinator of the MSc Forensic Art and Facial Identification at the University of Dundee. His background is as an Anatomist, Craniofacial Anthropologist and Forensic Artist who specialises in the human face. He often works in the forensic field assisting with facial identification of the dead, e.g. facial reconstruction (estimating and depicting faces from unidentified skulls), post-mortem depiction from mortuary police photographs, and craniofacial superimposition for confirmation of identity by comparing the skull to missing person photographs.

He also works with the living in artificial age progression, facial image comparison from CCTV or witness photography, and from 2007 worked with Prof. Dame Sue Black in forensic image analysis and comparison to identify victims and perpetrators linked to child abuse.

He famously applied forensic facial reconstruction methodology to historical/archaeological cases such as the recreation of Lilias Adie, the Fife 'Witch', and Ned the Neanderthal.





# 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019: Drew Watson and Pierre Leger, *Strathearn Cheese*

This is an offering for the foodies amongst our membership.

Strathearn Cheese Co. is a new cheesemaking business started by Drew Watson and Pierre Leger, created in January 2016 and operating from the Cultybraggan camp (an old WWII prisoner of war camp) near Comrie in Perthshire, Scotland.

It is the vision of Drew and Pierre to produce exciting artisan

cheeses in the heart of Strathearn, using local milk supplies and local flavours.

They will be treating us to a talk about the award-winning produce which we know and love as the Wee Comrie, the Lady Mary and the Strathearn itself.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019: Tim Chalk, Chalk Works

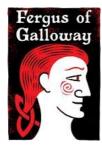
Tim Chalk is an artist and sculptor who trades as Chalk Works.

Tim Chalk's general work ethos has its roots in his beginnings in Community Art. He believes strongly that the enjoyment of art and high quality artwork should be a part of everyday life, not confined to art galleries and private collections. This and his interest in history as a source of artistic inspiration, based on the search



for a collective sense of community identity, is what has drawn him into a close involvement with the Museum Sector.

He has developed a particular expertise in sculptures using the progress of the sun and sundials in a variety of materials and forms, which make up a significant part of Tim Chalk's output – the ultimate site-specific artwork!



Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019: The Stables, Abercairny 7.30 pm. Alexander McCall Smith and Tom Cunningham: *Operatic Double Bill, in aid of the Tumbling Lassie Appeal 2019 and Friends of Innerpeffray Library* 



World famous Edinburgh-based author Alexander McCall Smith, a strong supporter of the Library and his regular musical collaborator, Tom Cunningham, have worked together to create *The Tumbling Lassie* – first performed in April 2018, a 30-minute dramatic retelling in music of the true story of the Tumbling Lassie case of 1687. The troupe will also perform another of Sandy and Tom's collaborations, *Fergus of Galloway*, which was premiered in 2013. The professional cast will be supported by the Innerpeffray Singers directed by Joan Taylor.



An evening of splendid music and drama, raising funds for two very good causes.

9<sup>th</sup> October 2019, The Memorial Hall, Morrison's Academy, Ferntower Road, Crieff Donald Findlay QC: *Madeleine Smith – Did she, or did she not?* 



She is one of the most notorious figures from Scotland's criminal past, and he is one of the country's most renowned lawyers of modern times. Together, Madeleine Smith and Donald Findlay, QC, make a potent mix, which has already raised significant sums for deserving charities.

Mr. Findlay has developed a one-man show, 'Madeleine Smith – Did she or did she not?', based on the 1857 trial of Smith

for the murder, by arsenic poisoning, of her lover, Pierre Emile L'Angelier. Controversy still rages over the jury's 'not proven' verdict which allowed Smith to walk free.

Mr. Findlay has agreed to give a special performance of the show in aid of FOIL.

'The story of Madeleine Smith has all the ingredients of a classic Victorian melodrama,' he said. 'Would-be genteel Glasgow society; Victorian morality; the chaste maiden; the greedy villain who stole her virtue; death by poisoning; a dramatic High Court trial; a verdict which divided and still divides opinion; a subsequent and bizarre twist. Did she do it? As the mortal remains of Madeleine and Emile rest in their respective graves in America and Glasgow, they know the answer.

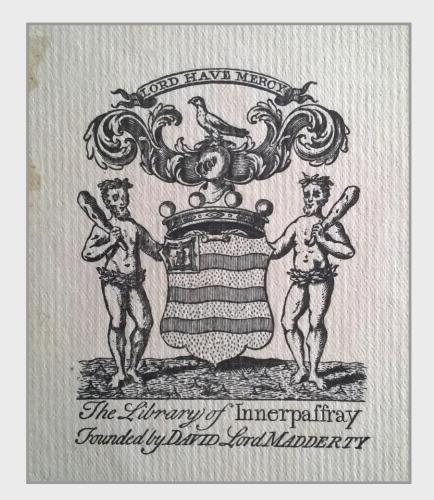
'I believe I too know the answer.'

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October in The Memorial Hall, Morrison's Academy, Crieff, Mr Findlay will provide the evidence to enable you to come to your own verdicts for what promises to be a sell-out event.

#### 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019, St Mary's Chapel, Innerpeffray: Carols at Innerpeffray

An unmissable start to the Christmas season. The Innerpeffray Singers will lead the singing of traditional carols and perform other well-known Festive music and readings.

As in previous years a minibus shuttle will transport the audience from the hard standing at the top of the road to the Schoolroom where refreshments will be served before the Carols. Remember to dress warmly. Last year this event sold out very quickly, reserve your tickets early to avoid disappointment.



foil *foil*, n. (...) a thin leaf of metal put under precious stones to increase their lustre (...): anything that serves to set off something else.

(Chambers 20th Century Dictionary, 1916)

(...) a thin leaf of metal put under a precious stone to show it to advantage: anything that serves to set off something else.

(The Chambers Dictionary, 1993)