

Media Release
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For immediate release



The Library of
Innerpeffray

Priceless Burns Home to Stay in Perthshire

Thanks to a remarkably generous donation from a very private bibliophile, Janet St Germain, The Library of Innerpeffray has received over the past three years several hundred volumes of classic Scottish first editions dating back to the 16th century. This priceless collection has greatly added to the wonderful collection of books already in the library. Janet St Germain had long standing Scottish connections, her mother's family coming from the Crook of Devon in the 19th century. She lived most of her life in New York where she spent a lifetime collecting the finest copies of as many classic Scottish first editions that she was able to locate and purchase so expanding the collection that she had inherited from her father. There are first editions of David Hume, Robert Burns, Walter Scott (Ivanhoe, Redgauntlet), RL Stevenson (Treasure Island, Kidnapped) and John Buchan (Thirty-nine Steps) to mention only a few. Perhaps her favourites other than the "Kilmarnock" Burns were Boswell's "Life of Samuel Johnson" (1791), a superbly bound "Works of King James" (1616) and an annotated incunabula of the works of Duns Scotus dating to 1478.

The trustees of Innerpeffray substantially improved the Library lower floor to accommodate this wonderful collection and thanks to the Gannochy Trust, Heritage Lottery Fund and others these changes are now complete. The "Scottish Collection" is safely ensconced in its new home where it can be enjoyed by all for generations to come. The governors of Innerpeffray now intend to share this collection through special exhibitions and events where people can see at first hand Scotland's rich intellectual and literary heritage in this very special place.

To mark the final arrival of the last of the books and the completion of the project a tree was planted in the grounds of the library on Saturday 22 April in memory of Janet St Germain and her wonderful gift to the home of her ancestors.

Ends

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About The Library of Innerpeffray

Founded in 1680 the Library is Scotland's oldest free public lending library, and now a museum of the books, the people and the story of Innerpeffray. Initially serving the local population, Innerpeffray now welcomes visitors from across the world to this historic treasure house located in a rural situation, between Crieff and Auchterarder in Perthshire, Scotland.

www.innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQph-BWw1wI>