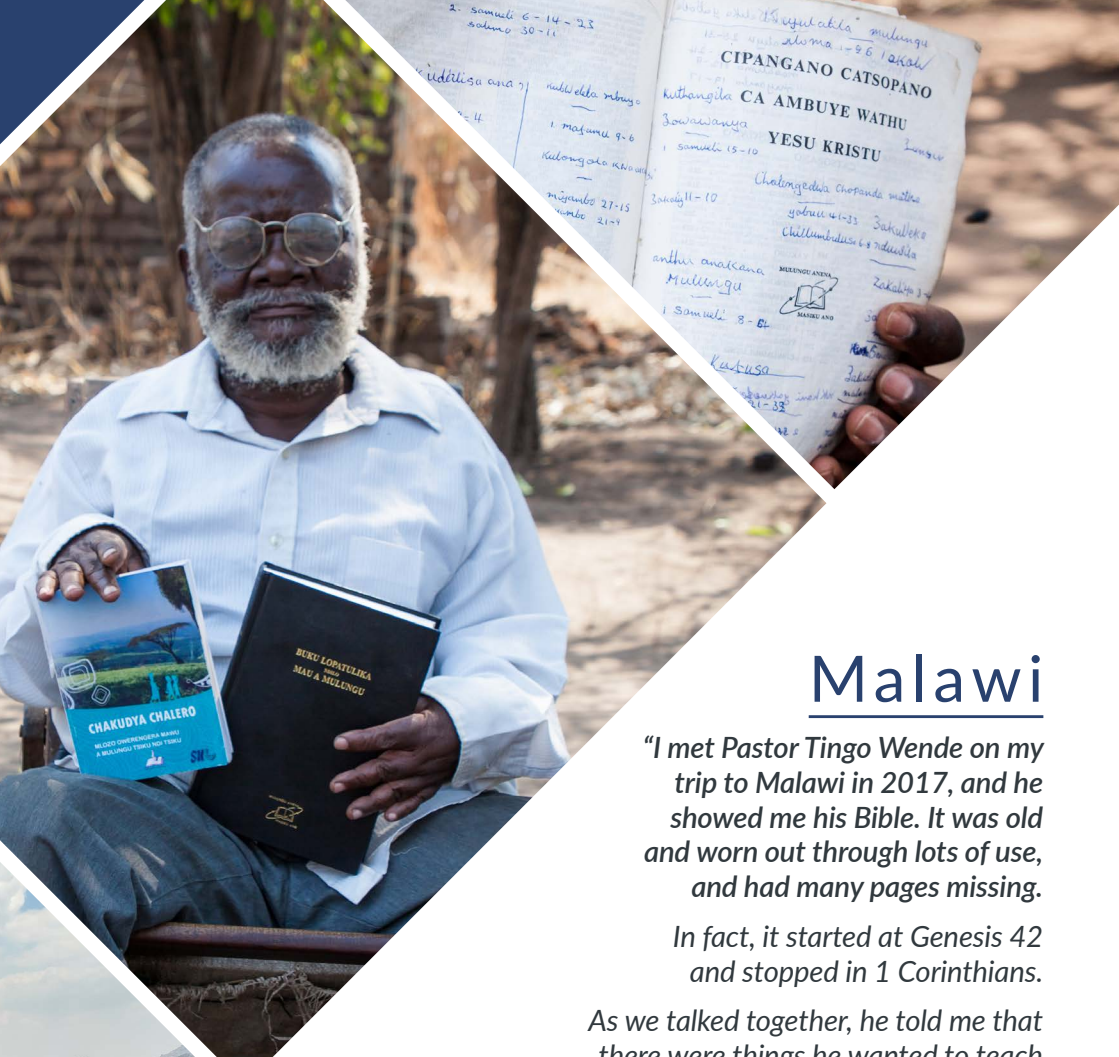




2017

ANNUAL REVIEW



Malawi

"I met Pastor Tingo Wende on my trip to Malawi in 2017, and he showed me his Bible. It was old and worn out through lots of use, and had many pages missing.

In fact, it started at Genesis 42 and stopped in 1 Corinthians.

As we talked together, he told me that there were things he wanted to teach his church but couldn't because of the missing pages. Can you imagine that?

It was a privilege to provide him with a new Bible. I will never forget seeing his joy at having a complete Bible again.

What a challenge to see this man's passion for God's Word and his deep desire to share it with others. And what a joy to hear him read Ruth chapter 1 to us from his new Bible before we left."

“

I will never forget
seeing his joy at having
a complete Bible again.

Norman Liddle
Community Partnership Manager

CONTENTS

Administrative Details	1
Chief Executive's Report	2-4
2017 Highlights	5
Where you provided Bibles in 2017	6-13
2018 Plans	14
Income	15
Expenditure	16
Statement of Financial Activities	17
Financial Review	18
Thank you	19

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Patron

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Honorary President

The Rt Hon The Lord Mackay of Clashfern

Honorary Vice-Presidents

The Rt Hon The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine

Miss Kathleen Forsyth

Mr John D M Urquhart

Rev Dr Fergus Macdonald

Mr David Laing

Trustees

Mr Ian Boxall (Chairman)

Mr Richard Atkinson

Rev Marc Bircham

Rev Diana Hall

Mr Gregor Innes

Mr Norman Martin

Mrs Kirsty Mitchell

Mr Jim Roche

Company Secretary Mr Ross McFarlane

Management Team Ms Elaine M Duncan (Chief Executive), Ms Fiona McDonald (Director of National Ministries), Mr Ross McFarlane (Director of Finance & Administration), Mr Lawrence Sum (Director of Communications)

Registered Office, charity number and company number

7 Hampton Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5XU, Telephone: 0131 337 9701,

Website: scottishbiblesociety.org

Scottish Charity No: SC010767, Registered as a Scottish company, no. SC238687

Auditor

Scott-Moncrieff, Exchange Place 3, Semple Street, Edinburgh EH3 8BL

Bankers The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, PO Box 51, 36 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YB

Investment managers Adam & Company Investment Management (UK) Ltd, 25 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 1AF

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



'...for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now.'

Philippians 1:5 (NLT)

'Don't go it alone!' seems to be a repeated theme in the Bible. It is so good to have other people with us, whether we are facing tough situations or bursting with joy. When Paul writes to the Christians in Philippi, he delights in the fact that they are his 'partners in spreading the Good News about Christ' (Phil 1:5, NLT).

Partnerships work best when there is shared vision and an agreed common goal. Ensuring people have a Bible in order that they can encounter Jesus Christ and grow in their relationship with him is the vision and goal we look for in our partnerships.

Last year, we reached the mid-point of our multi-year partnership with the Bible Society of Malawi. Our commitment is primarily to support projects that help children and families in Malawi to receive the Word of God. However, we have also had the opportunity to invest in capacity building, where the exchange of time and talent has seen our staff, board members, and volunteers visit

Malawi.

Equally, we have benefited from colleagues from Malawi visiting Scotland, as well as being able to fund some Malawian staff to attend global Bible Societies' meetings to further their knowledge and development. This two-way expression of partnership helps sustain our global mission. We learn from our colleagues as well as being inspired by their work.



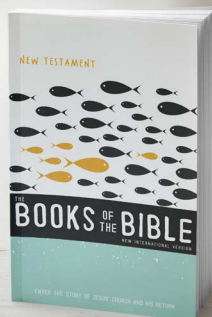
Thanks to the prayers and generous financial gifts of our supporters, we provided almost ten thousand Bibles

for Malawi last year. Other projects we have helped include:

Providing Bibles in a language and format people understand – in Argentina, many deaf young people experience great difficulty writing and understanding Spanish grammar, which is why Bibles in Sign Language are vital to educating deaf children about the love of God.

Distributing Bibles where there is a shortage – in Guinea-Bissau more than 50% of the population is Muslim, yet there is a hunger for God's Word despite the challenge of low income and short supply.

Responding to global changes – in Jordan the swelling population is due to an influx of refugees desperate for both physical and spiritual food, which is why the Bible Society in Jordan is partnering with local churches to provide relief packages, Scriptures and emotional support.



In Scotland, our partnership with Biblica, the publishers of the New

International Version of the Bible, has flourished with projects such as the Community Bible Experience (CBE). In the past year, thirty churches have signed-up to this form of reading the Bible together and discussing it as a group. Over a four-year period since our partnership began with CBE, we have seen over 100 churches in Scotland sign-up. This is hugely encouraging as we seek to help churches, groups and individuals to deepen their understanding of God's Word. The following comment from a participant shows that CBE is doing just that: "This experience has helped me to be more committed to Bible reading and applying it to my own life."

Our Bibleworld Books project continues to progress thanks to key partnerships. Firstly, the specially adapted Biblical text used to create a series of books and resources suitable for children to learn the principles of reading, writing and literacy from the




Bible, has been shared with us by the American Bible Society. We have combined the text with custom illustrations in a modern, contemporary style and the books, along with some resources for trained

volunteers to help the children work through the material, is used in after-school groups. Secondly, the All Souls family of churches in Fife have been a key partner in helping us with the pilot project. Throughout last year, they were in dialogue with head teachers towards opening the door for the resource to be used in after-school clubs. So far, the children and volunteers in our trial groups have given us great positive feedback. Even parents of the children in our trial groups are noticing the difference this project has made, with one parent saying: "Bethan is writing stories at home now and reading more", whilst another parent commented: "Hannah would come home and share some of the spiritual aspects discussed."

We cannot do our work alone, and God rarely asks any of us to go it alone in the tasks he gives us. It is our privilege to work with churches of all denominations across Scotland. It is an honour to partner with other Bible Societies across the world. We are caught up into a global mission that has many local expressions.

Our greatest privilege, of course, is to be called into a partnership with God himself. We should never lose the wonder of God calling each of us to play a part in his mission. But it can be a daunting thought too... which is why we keep our eyes fixed

on Jesus. He is the one who will help us keep our vision clear and our goals worthy and honouring of him.



Elaine Duncan
Chief Executive

27 April 2018

2017 HIGHLIGHTS



1000

Downloads (on average) every month of Equip Bible engagement resources from the SBS website.



12

Bible-a-month partner countries supported
(see page 13 for more information).



5

Projects funded in Cambodia, Haiti, Jordan, Malawi, and Peru.



Staff and volunteer trip to visit projects in Malawi.



Gaelic New Testament translation completed and available digitally.



Bibleworld Books pilot project carried out in Fife.

WHERE YOU PROVIDED BIBLES IN 2017

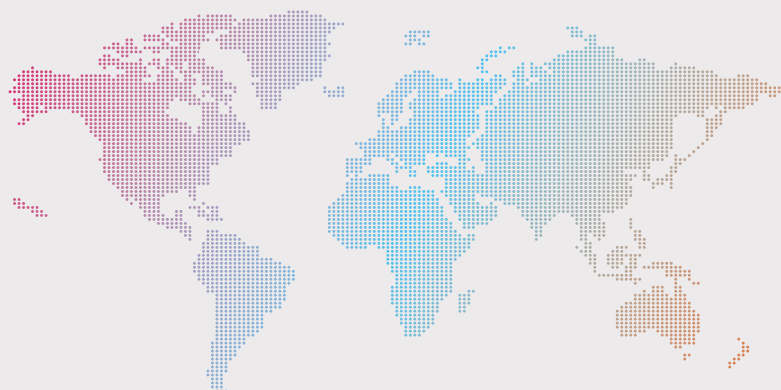


Cambodia
*Literacy through
the Bible*



Haiti
*Helping rebuild
lives after
Hurricane
Matthew*

Jordan
*Bringing God's
love to refugees*



Malawi
*Meeting the
great demand
for Bibles*



Peru
*Food for the
body and food
for the soul*



Cambodia

Project: Learning through Listening

Providing Bibles, Bible-based textbooks, and digital audio players to run literacy classes.

"I used to be illiterate, but now I know how to read the Word of God. I have my own Bible and can read it all by myself. I'm so thankful that God gave us a chance to have this class in our village. The literacy workbook is more than just a tool to teach people how to read and write. Many have started to come to church and have turned to God."

Soun Te

Participant in the
'Learning through
Listening' literacy
project in
Cambodia

Funds raised
for over
5,000 Bibles



For whatever was
written in former
days was written for
our instruction, that
through endurance and
through the encouragement of
the Scriptures we might have hope.

ROMANS 15:4 (ESV)

Jordan

Project: Bread and Bread

Providing Bibles, relief packages, and emotional support to refugees living in desperate situations.

Oum Ousama (67) is a Syrian refugee among the many families who are currently receiving Bibles, pastoral care, monthly food rations and basic provisions such as mattresses and second-hand clothes from the Bible Society in Jordan and local church volunteers.

"It's really difficult to think about Syria and all that destruction as my relatives are still there. We came here alone and lonely, and so all I can do is pray that our family has survived. Because of the war, our family is scattered around the world. That's very painful."

"They brought food packages", Oum says of the local Christians, "but what I really cared about was the Bible and spiritual help that I received. Believing in the Lord is all the money that you need. It has made such a difference to know that God is always with me. My three daughters have accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour. It's enough that He is with us always. I'm thankful for that."



From the end of the earth I will cry to You,
When my heart is overwhelmed;
Lead me to the rock that is
higher than I.
PSALM 61:2 (NKJV)



Funds raised
for over
5,000 Bibles

Peru

Project: Bread of Life

Providing Bibles and a nutritious meal to meet the physical and spiritual needs of children living in poverty.

"Every day before breakfast we pray and thank God. The Bible teaching every day helps us to know God and his Word better. I go to church every Sunday, taking the Bible I was given by the project. I also like to colour in the Bible portions, to pray and recite Bible verses. I thank God, the Peruvian Bible Society and all the believers who make it possible for the children in my community to have this tasty breakfast, which is all we have to eat before we go to school"

Karina Cabeza (aged 10)



I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

JOHN 6:35 (NIV)

Funds raised
for over
5,000 Bibles

Malawi

Project: Let the Children Encounter Christ & The Family Scripture Engagement Programme

Providing Bibles to children and families to meet the great demand from those longing for their own Bible but unable to afford it.

Jefule Bemisitala has a challenging life. With his wife, Minesi, and their 5 children, they struggle with little to no income to make a life for themselves. 4 of their 5 children are Albino which, culturally, brings many problems – even concerns for their safety.

Their old Bible, which they had owned for years, was very old and worn out. It started in Deuteronomy and finished in Matthew 23. All other pages were missing.

Now using new Bibles and study notes provided by the Bible Society in Malawi, the whole family reads together every day. Jefule and Minesi also host Study Groups in their home every Friday and Sunday, where their new Scriptures are well used.

Minesi, a leader in the church, also describes her husband as *“a changed man who loves God”* because of reading God’s Word. She loves to read about the calling of Matthew – a sinner called and changed by Jesus.

“

Jesus said **“Let the children come to me... for to such belongs the kingdom of God”**

MARK 10:14 (ESV)

Funds raised
for over
5,000 Bibles

Haiti

Project: Scriptures for the New Readers

Providing Bibles and study resources to help those affected by Hurricane Matthew improve their literacy skills and find new employment opportunities.

"My name is Ghislaine Joseph, and I am a community leader in the area in which I live. Sadly, I did not have the opportunity to attend school. I could not read or write, which made life very difficult for me."

"Now with the catastrophes which have happened to Haiti, traditional forms of income generation have become impossible. There were no other opportunities because I could not read or write."

"Now that I can, I can better serve my community when dealing with the banks and authorities. I also find great joy from reading my Bible which the Bible Society gave me."

"I was so excited even to be able to fill out a form at the end of the course and now provide support to those who need my help. I thank the Bible Society. Please help me celebrate this happy moment."

Ghislaine Joseph who took part in HBS literacy project



And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

EPHESIANS 6:18 (NIV)

Funds raised
for over
5,000 Bibles

Scotland

Project: Bibleworld Books

In Scotland, 2017 saw SBS starting to work on its new resource for children, Bibleworld Books.

This new educational resource, designed for churches to use in small groups with school-age children, has been piloted in Fife. Adapted from the Bible text, each storybook has bright, original illustrations and is carefully resourced to promote literacy, reading and learning within the Scottish school curriculum.



It is wonderful to
see a child's face light up
as they grasp the meaning of
a new word and the meaning of
God's love at the same time.

DEAN NORBY
RECTOR, ALL SOULS FIFE

2017 BIBLE-A-MONTH PARTNERS

Millions of people around the world do not have access to the Bible and long to have a copy of their own. The **Bible-a-month Partnership** is a commitment by the Scottish Bible Society to twelve different projects each year where Bibles or Bible-based resources reach those who need and want them. Last year, our Bible-a-month Partners prayed and gave generously to projects around the world.



India



Cuba



Kenya



China



Scotland



Nepal



Argentina



Iraq



Bolivia



Liberia



Bulgaria



Guinea-Bissau



2018 PLANS

Your support in 2018 will help us to...

Fund Bible Society projects in
Malawi, China, Iraq, Cuba and Uganda.

Print and publish the new translation
of the Gaelic New Testament.

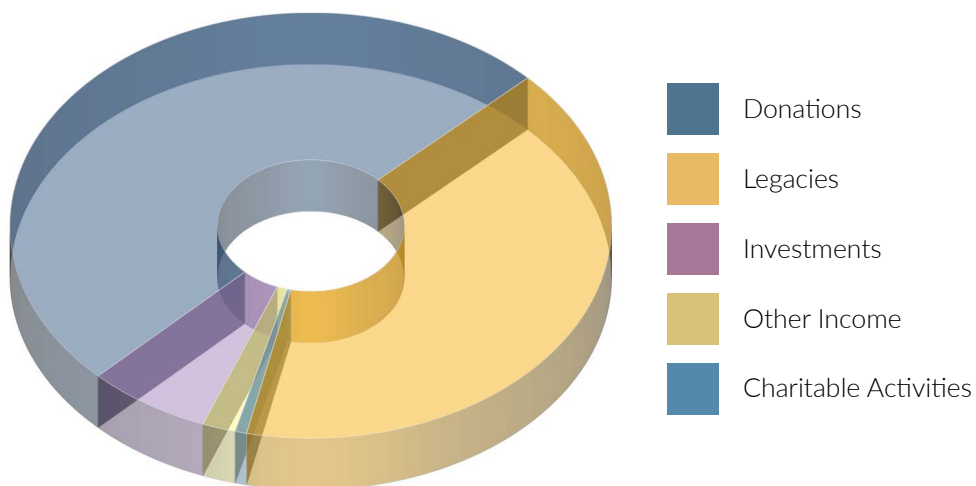
Extend the Bibleworld Books
project across Scotland.

Begin planning a global Bible advocacy
and engagement project for 2020.

Provide Bibles for our Bible-a-month
partners in: Namibia, Laos, Ukraine,
Ethiopia, Scotland, Honduras,
Egypt, Nepal, Romania, Burkina
Faso, Slovakia, and the
Dominican Republic.

Continue to promote
the Community
Bible Experience
in Scotland.

2017 INCOME



Donations **£771,117**
Individuals, trusts & foundations, churches and volunteer groups

Legacies **£622,635**

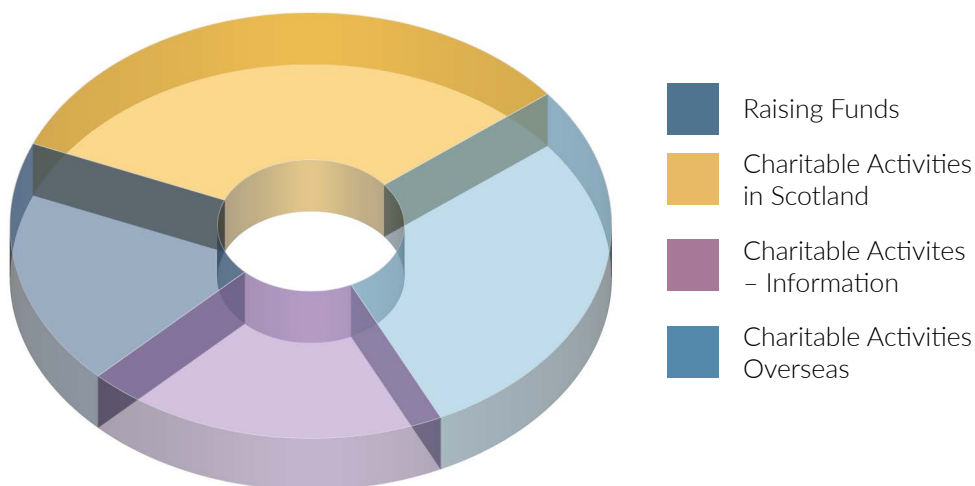
Investments **£102,044**

Other Income **£27,424**
Rental income of surplus property

Charitable Activities **£9,567**
Sales of Bible resources and other fees

Total 2017 Income **£1,532,787**

2017 EXPENDITURE



Raising Funds **£258,288**

Charitable Activities in Scotland **£455,640**

Supporting the distribution and use of the Bible in Scotland

Charitable Activities Overseas **£391,802**

Supporting the international work of United Bible Societies to translate, produce and distribute the Bible

Charitable Activities – Information **£269,654**

Informing and educating the public about the Bible and our activities

Total 2017 Expenditure **£1,375,384**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2017 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	1,223,549	170,203	1,393,752
Charitable activities	9,567	-	9,567
Other income	27,424	-	27,424
Investments	102,044	-	102,044
Total income	1,362,584	170,203	1,532,787
Expenditure on:			
Fundraising	218,174	40,114	258,288
Charitable activities	957,870	159,226	1,117,096
Total expenditure	1,176,044	199,340	1,375,384
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gain	186,540	(29,137)	157,403
Net gains on investments	187,980	-	187,980
Net income/(expenditure) after investment gain	374,520	(29,137)	345,383
Transfers between funds	28,108	(28,108)	
Net movement in funds	402,628	(57,245)	345,383
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward 1 January 2017	3,829,448	114,755	3,944,203
Total funds carried forward	4,232,076	57,510	4,289,586

*If you would like a copy of our full Annual Report
and Accounts, please get in touch.*

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Donation income increased during the year (by over 1.5%) to £771.1k in 2017 as against £759.4k in 2016. In 2017 legacy income increased by nearly £80k on 2016, an increase of nearly 15%, to a total legacy income figure of £622.6k.

The Board continues to budget for only £100,000 of legacy income each year to ensure that no legacy income is 'spent' before it's actually received.

Total reserves at 31 December 2017 were as follows;

UNRESTRICTED	£s
General	693,158
Designated	
Capital	3,863,918
Provision	(325,000)
	4,232,076
 RESTRICTED	 57,510
 TOTAL	 4,289,586

At 31 December 2017 the charitable company's general reserves stood at £693,158, which is 50% (6 months) of resources expended during the year.

Designated funds include the Capital Fund which encompasses fixed assets and investments held for long-term capital appreciation.

SBS is currently exploring the possibility of carrying out a substantial building refurbishment programme at its registered office. This refurbishment would be funded in its entirety via the Capital Fund.



THANK YOU!

**We're extremely grateful
to the individuals and
organisations who support the
Scottish Bible Society.**

Your generosity makes the Bible
accessible for people to engage with God's
Word and grow their relationship with Him.
With your vital support and prayers, lives are
transformed as people encounter God in
the Bible.

Thank you so much for bringing
the Word of God to those
desperately longing for
Bibles across the
world.



WÄNYI KWËRØ

Cigg-a Weenø kí
Cigg-a Nyän



Peru

*What a beautiful country.
However, nestled in the
hills are many impoverished
communities. Agriculture is the main
source of income for many families
and one of the biggest social challenges
is malnutrition amongst the children.*

*In a creative partnership with a local organisation,
the Bible Society ensures thousands of children
receive nourishment for their bodies and their souls.*

*As we walked into a community hall, about 50 children
were engrossed in the story of the lost sheep and they hardly
noticed four strangers had joined them. But when they received their
colourful Bibles, their whispered 'muchas gracias' came from the heart.*

Elaine Duncan
Chief Executive

The images shown here were captured during a visit to the Peruvian Bible Society by Elaine Duncan, Chief Executive of the Scottish Bible Society. We appealed for funds for the Bread of Life in April 2017.



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A company limited by guarantee registered in Scotland No. 238687 - registered office as above.
Scottish Charity No: SC010767 (Formerly The National Bible Society of Scotland)