



**Trinitarian Bible Society**

# Quarterly Record

Issue Number: **644, July to September 2023**

# Annual Report

**192nd** Annual Report and Summary Financial Statements  
for the year ended **31 December 2022**



THE WORD OF GOD AMONG ALL NATIONS



# Trinitarian Bible Society

Founded in 1831 for the circulation of  
Protestant or uncorrupted versions of the Word of God

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*\* These are the serving members of the  
General Committee.*

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Issue Number: **644, July to September 2023**

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**192nd** Annual Report and Summary Financial Statements for the year ended **31 December 2022**, for presentation at the Annual General Meeting of the Trinitarian Bible Society to be held, God willing, on 16 September 2023 at 11.00 a.m. at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, London

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# THE 192<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

GOD WILLING ON

**Saturday, 16 September 2023**

at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, London SE1 6SD

The Business Meeting at 11.00 a.m. will include reports and updates on the Society's work, including the Vaiphei translation project.

After the Business Meeting,  
at **2.00 p.m.**

**Mr Gerald D. Buss**

**Vice-President of the Society**

is expected to preach.

All are invited to attend. Please see our website  
for most up-to-date details.

THE WORD OF GOD AMONG ALL NATIONS

# The General Secretary's Introduction



By Jonathan D. Arnold,  
General Secretary

**T**his Annual Report edition of the *Quarterly Record* once again sets before us the Lord's grace to the Society over twelve months. Thank you to each member, volunteer, and staff member for all their work and support. We do not see all involved with the work; many are labouring behind the scenes or distributing Scriptures alone or in small congregations. However, their work is crucial and your prayers are essential.

This Annual Report looks back over 2022, and we would note and underline that whether through the Society, church, or individual, 'Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning' (James 1.17).

We have the great privilege of access to the Scriptures: a wonderful gift from God. Not only do we have the general revelation in creation, but God has also revealed Himself in the inspiration of the Word.

It is remarkable that we are able to distribute the Word of God to so

many countries as described in the Operations Report, and we continue to be grateful for the provision of the Lord. Given God's promise that His Word will not return to Him void, we trust that the Gospel message will be a savour of life unto life for some, though sadly we know that for others it will be a savour of death unto death (cf. 2 Corinthians 2.16).

Likewise in this report you will see the excellent progress in some of the Society's translation projects, including additional projects that we are now able to take on. A lot of hard work, under God, goes into these translation projects, and then in the checking and typesetting for printing. Such work is vital, because the Word is the authority of the Christian preacher and volume of Truth for the church; without a full Bible the church is missing the whole counsel of God.

The financial accounts in this QR bring together a picture of the Lord's provision. We must be ready for lean and fat years; yet, as we come to a point where many projects are at publication stage the Lord has seen fit to provide, for which we are most grateful. The

Committee continue to apply a five-year forward look to try to avoid potential problems, noting that the Lord is in control of these things and that in each successive year we must look to Almighty God who owns the cattle upon a thousand hills.

We must also give thanks for recent conferences held in 2023. The Society was able to hold conferences in Northern Ireland and England on Text and Trinity. As set out in the last *Quarterly Record*, the doctrine of the Biblical Trinity intersects with the text of Scripture since our understanding of Trinity is from this text. Both are vital subjects for us to consider. Lord willing, the recordings from these conferences will be available shortly.

## Amharic distribution

At the time of writing we are concluding a week of distribution and meetings among Amharic speakers in Ethiopia and South Africa. The interest in the Society's new Amharic translation of the New Testament and Psalms is significant, with many pastors taking the translation for their preaching text from this new edition and praying for the ongoing translation work on the rest of the Old Testament.

On arrival in Ethiopia I was presented with a letter from a church, which illustrates the sentiment that we have found throughout this historic country.

We want you to know that we are very pleased with the hard work and commitment you demonstrate



*TBS meetings in  
South Africa*



in translating and distributing the Amharic version of the Trinitarian New Testament and Psalms. We sincerely appreciate your ministry for its significant contribution in the spread of the Gospel and the growth of the body of Christ.

Special thanks must be given to Professor Bisrat, Dr Ayele, and Pastor Haile Emiru for speaking (along with myself) at these meetings on the doctrine of Scripture, providential preservation, and the history of the Amharic Bible. We have included a selection of photos from those meetings in this article.

## Spanish Bible

Lord willing, in July 2023 we will also hold a meeting to mark the completion of the Spanish Bible translation. There will be more about this in future editions of the *Quarterly Record*, but meanwhile we would ask for your prayers as we distribute the Scriptures throughout Latin America. We are grateful for our partnership with Gereformeerde Bijbelstichting in this project as it means we are able to distribute far more Bibles.

The devotional article herein continues with the 2023 theme of the Trinity, and as always the magazine ends with photos and letters from people around the world rejoicing to receive copies of the Holy Scriptures. God willing, we hope to hold

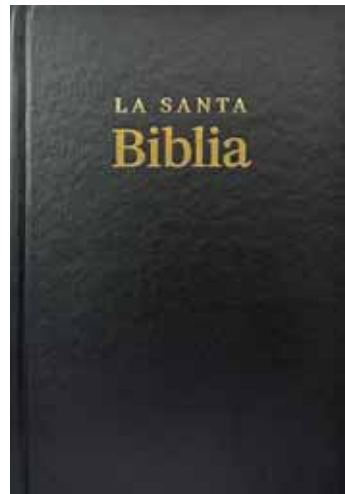


our Annual General Meeting in September; we hope you can join us then, although we acknowledge that not all will be able to travel to be with us! Nevertheless, we enjoy meeting friends old and new, and are grateful for the support of all, whether in person, via email or post, or online.

I commend this Annual Report edition of the *Quarterly Record* to you; it is rich in reports from all departments and branches.

‘Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work’ (2 Thessalonians 2.16–17).

*The Spanish Bible*



# Operations Report



by Philip A. Blows, Operations Director

'For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister' (Hebrews 6.10).

Consider for a moment the enormity of what God has done for us. How remarkable then that He notices the little we do for Him! 'God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons' (Galatians 4.4–5). Compared to this, what can we say of our own feeble works? Even when we have done all that we are commanded, we admit that we are unprofitable servants: we have only done that which was our duty to do (see Luke 17.10).

And yet, our text informs us that God does not forget the work and labour of love of His saints. He is not unrighteous. What is this notable Christian work? It is 'simply' the ministry to the saints; those acts of service to them of the household of God who are in need. We call to mind the words of our Saviour from Matthew 10.42. 'And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold *water* only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward'.

What a comfort this is to all who are prayerfully supportive of the Trinitarian Bible Society, and to those engaged in its work. Is not the giving of a faithful Bible to one who lacks the Word of God a wonderful example of ministering to the saints? Just as the reward is set aside for those who feed the hungry or give water to the thirsty, so a heavenly reward must be laid up for those who feed the spiritually hungry person, for man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God (see Matthew 4.4). Dear friends, let us continue to play our small part in this great ministry, knowing that our gracious God will not forget our work and our labour of love which we have showed towards His name.

The Society's Aim is unchanged since its founding in 1831:

The object of this Society is to promote the Glory of God and the salvation of men, by circulating, both at home and abroad, in dependence on the Divine blessing, the HOLY SCRIPTURES, which are given by inspiration of God, and are able to make men wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

We cannot know the extent to which the Society has promoted the glory of God in



any given year, so must content ourselves with reporting on the circulation of the Holy Scriptures at home and abroad, and sharing reports from a few individuals connected with the work.

The headline circulation summary for 2022 is that **2.9 million** Scriptures and Scripture items in **40 languages** were circulated to **112 countries**, to the glory of God and the salvation of men.

## Grants

During 2022 over **1.5 million** Bibles, Scripture portions, and Scripture items were granted free of charge to institutions and individuals at home and abroad. Every grant application is scrutinised to ensure, as far as is practicable, that grants of Bibles, Scripture portions, and other items are distributed through channels which will be acceptable to our supporters.

As well as supplying many smaller grants to approved recipients, we also supply large grants each year to grantees who have a close association with us. Some examples of larger grants awarded during 2022 are as follows.

- 6,000 Shona Bibles to Zimbabwe
- 4,000 Shona Bibles to Zimbabwe
- 3,000 English Bibles to Botswana
- 3,000 English Bibles to Kenya
- 3,000 Greek Bibles to Greece
- 2,000 Hungarian Bibles and 1,000 Ukrainian Gospels to Romania
- 1,680 English Bibles and 500 English New Testaments to Kenya
- 1,500 Romanian Bibles to Romania
- 1,060 English Bibles, 2,500 Bemba Gospels, and 1,500 English Articles to Zambia
- 8,184 Amharic New Testaments and Psalms to Ethiopia
- 4,000 Romanian New Testaments and 10,000 Romanian Calendars to Romania
- 3,000 Spanish New Testaments, Psalms, and Proverbs to Ecuador
- 17,657 Calendars in several languages to Malawi
- 10,000 Armenian Calendars to Armenia

## Sales

Supporters will be aware that we also distribute the Holy Scriptures by way of sales, often at heavily discounted prices. This is an important distribution channel for the Society, and most of the items we sell will later be given away free of charge on the mission field. Some **1.4 million** Scriptures and Scripture items were sold by the Society worldwide in 2022. Of these, 195,000 were under licence or royalty to other publishers.

In 2022, **87%** of our total circulation came through publications which we procured and circulated ourselves, and **13%** through licensing or royalty arrangements with other publishers. This compares to **65%** and **35%** respectively for 2021. The change in 2022 is largely due to a reduced number of Portuguese Scriptures being sold under license in Brazil.

In 2022 we once again received the Feefo Platinum Service award for our sales work. This award is given to businesses that have achieved the Feefo Gold standard for three consecutive years or more. Our Feefo Customer Experience rating currently stands at **4.9/5.0** and our Product

rating is also **4.9/5.0**. We are grateful for our dedicated staff members and also for our loyal and supportive customers. To read verified reviews of our Scripture publications, click on the star ratings on the individual product pages in our website store [tbsbibles.org/store](https://tbsbibles.org/store).

## Feedback from Grantees

It is always an encouragement when we receive an email, letter, or phone call with an expression of thanks for a TBS Bible or other Scripture item that has been received. Here are some such examples.

## Countries to which we sent Scriptures in 2022

Our motto is 'The Word of God among all nations'. As mentioned earlier, in 2022 we distributed **2.9 million Scriptures and Scripture items in 40 languages to 112 countries**; these countries are listed below and then the languages are listed opposite.

1. Albania	29. El Salvador	58. Malawi	87. Senegal
2. Angola*	30. England	59. Malaysia	88. Sierra Leone
3. Argentina	31. Estonia	60. Malta	89. Singapore
4. Armenia	32. Eswatini	61. Martinique	90. Slovak Republic
5. Australia	33. Ethiopia	62. Mauritius	91. Slovenia
6. Austria	34. Finland	63. Mexico	92. South Africa
7. Bangladesh	35. France	64. Moldova	93. South Korea
8. Belgium	36. Germany	65. Montenegro	94. Spain
9. Benin	37. Ghana	66. Mozambique	95. Sri Lanka
10. Bolivia	38. Greece	67. Myanmar	96. St Lucia
11. Botswana	39. Guatemala	68. Namibia	97. Sweden
12. Brazil	40. Guernsey	69. Nepal	98. Switzerland
13. Bulgaria	41. Guinea	70. New Zealand	99. Tanzania
14. Burkina Faso	42. Haiti	71. Nicaragua	100. Thailand
15. Burundi	43. Honduras	72. Niger	101. The Netherlands
16. Cameroon	44. Hungary	73. Nigeria	102. Togo
17. Canada	45. India	74. Northern Ireland	103. Trinidad & Tobago
18. Chad	46. Indonesia	75. Norway	104. UAE
19. Chile	47. Iran	76. Pakistan	105. Uganda
20. Colombia	48. Ireland	77. Panama	106. Ukraine
21. Congo, The D R	49. Israel	78. Paraguay	107. Uruguay
22. Cook Islands	50. Italy	79. Peru	108. USA
23. Costa Rica	51. Ivory Coast	80. Philippines	109. Venezuela
24. Cuba	52. Japan	81. Poland	110. Wales
25. Cyprus	53. Jersey	82. Portugal	111. Zambia
26. Denmark	54. Kenya	83. Puerto Rico	112. Zimbabwe
27. Dominican Republic	55. Liberia	84. Romania	
28. Ecuador	56. Luxembourg	85. Russia	
	57. Madagascar	86. Scotland	

*\* Scriptures distributed via Christian partners in the UK.*

Recently a chaplain from an immigration removal centre in the UK sent us the following email.

Good morning,

Hope you doing very well and safe. First of all, we want to thank you for your continued support. Especially by sending us the Ukrainian Gospels of John, and the Albanian Calendars.

As you might know, we are working to support the residents of an immigration removal centre, which is a high security premises and part of the Home Office business. In our workplace we are not allowed to take pictures or even have any smart phone/watch with us.

I have only one short story of a lovely Muslim Albanian lady who always attends our church services and Bible Studies regularly. I took one of the Albanian calendars you sent us, rolled it and held it in my hand. I approached her and just gave it to her without saying anything to her. She took it and opened it, looked at it for

2 or 3 seconds, then she looked at me with a wide beautiful smile saying: It is in Albanian. I replied saying, It specially came for you. She was so happy and went with a big smile on her face.

I want to thank you and the TBS for all the good work and praying that the Lord will keep blessing you and keep His support to you. Please accept my best regards.

In Him.

Please do continue to remember in prayer the many chaplains we work with to supply thousands of prisoners, young offenders, and immigration removal centre residents with Bibles and other Scripture items each year.

A pastor in Nigeria with whom we have a longstanding relationship recently sent us

In 2022 we distributed **2.9 million** Scriptures and Scripture items in **40 languages** to **112 countries**

## Languages in which we distributed Scriptures in 2022

- |                       |                   |                |               |
|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Afrikaans          | 11. Dutch         | 21. Lithuanian | 31. Romanian  |
| 2. Albanian           | 12. English       | 22. Maltese    | 32. Russian   |
| 3. Amharic            | 13. French        | 23. Māori      | 33. Serbian   |
| 4. Arabic             | 14. German        | 24. Mongolian  | 34. Shona     |
| 5. Armenian (Eastern) | 15. Greek         | 25. Ndebele    | 35. Spanish   |
| 6. Bemba              | 16. Greek (Koiné) | 26. Nepali     | 36. Tamil     |
| 7. Bulgarian          | 17. Hausa         | 27. Persian    | 37. Turkish   |
| 8. Catalan            | 18. Hebrew        | 28. Pokot      | 38. Ukrainian |
| 9. Chichewa           | 19. Hungarian     | 29. Polish     | 39. Welsh     |
| 10. Chinese           | 20. Italian       | 30. Portuguese | 40. Xhosa     |



*Bibles arrive in Nigeria*

a brief email and photograph to acknowledge receipt of Scripture Calendars that we had granted:

Good evening friends,

I received 22 boxes of 2023 Golden Thoughts Calendars from the Post Office today. We shall share them to our Pastors in Fellowship next week Thursday at their meeting.

I shall also share more of them during my elder brother's funeral in May.

Thanks for your prayers and support always these many years. Please, keep up the good work in Christ.

## Commemorative Bibles

The Platinum Jubilee of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II provided another valuable opportunity to distribute Bibles, mainly in the UK, through the means of a commemorative edition. Over the course of 2022, **45,000** Platinum Jubilee Bibles were distributed, most being given to school children by our auxiliaries. (Please see *Quarterly Record* 642 for a more detailed report on this project.)

The following are verified customer comments about this Bible from our store.

- Wonderful Bible to commemorate the Queen.
- Lovely Bible. It makes the perfect gift. Arrived swiftly.
- This Jubilee Bible is an amazing keepsake that I will treasure for a lifetime.
- Durable hard cover in an attractive colour. All as described. Recipients were very pleased with them.
- Very well written and helpful; I will be sharing with others.

After the Queen's death in September the Society published another Commemorative Bible, this time recognising the life of the late Queen. **5,000** of these Bibles were distributed, again with most given to school children by our auxiliaries. Verified customer feedback included the following comments.

- Perfect way to commemorate HM The Queen's life. Excellent Bible. Will be a constant companion.
- Beautifully produced. A Bible to treasure.
- Lovely Bible which makes a perfect gift.

Readers will know that we have also published a commemorative Bible in 2023, this time in connection with the Coronation of King Charles III in early May.



Customer reviews for this edition so far include the following comments.

- Great memento for the occasion. Good print and quality.
- Great little Ruby text Bible to commemorate King Charles's Coronation.

Distribution of the Coronation Bible is going very well so far: **45,000** copies were printed, and by the time this article is published we may well have used up all these copies. A college chaplain recently wrote to a volunteer of our Greater London Auxiliary with this message of thanks for the free Coronation Bibles.

I write to say THANK YOU so much for the wonderful Bibles. They are made with love and I'm sure will be treasured by the children who are gifted them.

We have spent the day putting gift labels in each Bible to give to our new year 7s for them to use throughout their journey at the college.

You're doing fabulous work.

Please pass on our thanks to the rest of the team.

May the Lord bless all who received a commemorative Bible with the desire to read their Bible and to seek the Saviour who is revealed therein.

## UK Scripture Poster Display Campaigns

As a Christian society with a core emphasis on the Holy Scriptures, we believe that it is a great public benefit to present the Holy Word of God freely to members of the public. To this end, we for many years operated a Railway Poster Campaign whereby



*Bus shelter poster in Glasgow, Scotland*

we coordinated the public display of large Scripture posters at UK railway stations.

In 2022, **90** individual four-week bookings were made through funding provided by **29** sponsors. The numbers of bookings and sponsors are lower than in some previous years due to prohibitions introduced by some train operating companies during 2020. For 2023 we have changed to displaying Scripture posters in bus shelters rather than railway stations. An advantage of this approach is that the posters are visible to a much wider audience including pedestrians, cyclists, motorists, and bus passengers.

UK recipients of this *Quarterly Record* will find enclosed a sponsorship form for the 2024 TBS UK Bus Shelter Scripture Poster Campaign. Please pray that there will be no hindrance to the display of Scripture posters in these locations and that the Lord will bless the campaigns.

## Auxiliaries

The Society's published Aim speaks of circulating the Scriptures 'at home and abroad'. Therefore, as well as having an international focus to our work, we also encourage the circulation of the Scriptures at home. The Society's regional auxiliaries, active in the UK, USA, and Canada, contribute significantly to this locally oriented work.

In 2022 the UK auxiliaries were responsible for circulating over **42,000** Scriptures and Scripture items, the vast majority through grants to schools, prisons, hospitals, and care homes. Over **29,000** of these publications were Bibles and **1,000** were New Testaments. We are thankful for the many auxiliary committee members and volunteers who give their time to pursue the Society's Aim in their local regions. Please visit our website ([tbsbibles.org/auxiliaries](https://tbsbibles.org/auxiliaries)) or contact your local TBS office for more information about how to support our auxiliaries.

## Conferences and Exhibitions

Conferences and exhibitions provide valuable opportunities to explain our work in face-to-face settings. In March 2022 we held our first Open Day at William Tyndale House in London since 2019, which was in a new format and was well attended. Then in September we held a special *Text and Translation Conference*, also at William Tyndale House, in which we invited delegates to explore with us the doctrine, text, and translation of Holy Scriptures in principle and practice. This event was also very well received, and audio and video recordings of the presentations are available on our website at

[tbsbibles.org/TextAndTranslation](https://tbsbibles.org/TextAndTranslation). Finally, the AGM in September, held as usual at the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London, was an encouragement to members and visitors who attended.

## Staffing

I would like to thank each member of the Operations Department in London for their labours during 2022; without them the work outlined above would not have been completed. Thank you to Mark Beardall, Louise Brett, Gary Hayes, Lareina Kiser, Neil Lusk, Peter Stephenson, Michael Wade, and Hannah Woodhams. Thanks also to Clive Doherty, our new Sales Representative to the retail trade, who joined us during 2022.

Gary Hayes retired from the Society as Warehouse Manager at the end of December 2022. He had joined the team nineteen years earlier in 2003, when the Society was headquartered at Tyndale House on Dorset Road. Initially, Gary worked in the warehouse under Ian Docksey as Warehouse Manager, and later took on that role himself when Ian moved to another role within the Society. Our beloved brother David Larlham, who is

*Text and Translation Conference 2022*



now with the Lord, had encouraged Gary to consider working for TBS, as they had been together at the same South London church with their families for many years.

The warehouse team under Gary was a very stable one; all of the team on Gary's retirement had worked for the Society for over ten years, in several cases around twenty years or more. Gary led the team harmoniously so that the warehouse was an enjoyable place to work. He took great personal responsibility for the performance of the warehouse team, and always did everything he possibly could to work with his team to get the sales and grants orders out as quickly as possible, whilst also maintaining a close eye on quality. We would like to thank Gary for his nineteen years' service to the Lord through the Society. He is greatly missed, and we wish him a blessed and well-deserved retirement, in which we know he is still busy.

In the Lord's gracious provision, we were able to appoint a new Warehouse Supervisor to replace Gary before he left, one of our existing team members, Mark Beardall. Please pray for Mark as he continues to learn and develop in his new role.

Lareina Kiser joined us in April 2022 on a fixed-term contract to provide maternity cover for Louise Brett in the Sales and Grants team. Lareina has been a great asset to the Society, in particular contributing to the development of the grants side of the work. Lareina concluded her time at TBS in June 2023, and we would also like to thank her for the great help and blessing she has been to the Society.

In addition to our staff, many volunteers give of their time to support the Society's

work, whether in our warehouses and packing rooms, on boards and committees, or from home on tasks such as preparing and marking children's quizzes. There are too many of these dear friends to name, but we thank each one most sincerely for all that they do for the Lord at the Society.

Please continue to remember our staff and volunteers in your prayers.

## Conclusion

It is helpful to review the work undertaken in 2022, for it helps us to remember the many avenues of service and blessing that the Lord prepared for us to walk in. We must remind ourselves of this from time to time, for we are prone to forget the past in the busyness of the present. But praise God that He does not forget; He will not forget your work and labour of love which you have showed toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints. May we be enabled to continue to minister to the saints, until the Lord calls us home or until He returns to take us unto Himself.

## Endnotes:

Round numbers have been used for some large circulation figures in this report to make them easier to digest; in some cases, the precise numbers can be found in the distribution table on page 26.

Although certain phrases and expressions used in the letters in this article may not be doctrinally correct or in correct English, we reproduce the letters essentially as received, knowing that the Lord is using His Word to the glory of His Name and the furtherance of His Kingdom as the Scriptures are distributed among the nations of the world.



# Branch Greetings



## TBS (Australia)



On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of Trinitarian Bible Society's Australian Branch, we send our greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. In the year that is past, we can once more raise our Eben-ezer, for 'Hitherto hath the LORD helped us'.

The Society's work, based in Grafton on the New South Wales North Coast, continued during 2022 as in past years. Our office staff worked 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday to Friday, answered enquiries, packed and despatched more than 780 orders, and completed the day-to-day tasks to keep the Society functioning. We were thankful to see an 18.7% increase in sales in the past year, which is most encouraging.

The Words of Life Calendars again proved popular, with 28,700 printed and distributed within Australia. Orders for our Gospels (which were shipped from the UK) increased to such an extent—almost 25,000 for the year—that we could no longer keep up with the demand. So the decision was made to source an Australian printer, which we have done, and the first shipment was delivered to our Grafton Office in March 2023. This has cut the waiting time down from months to approximately three weeks. Plans to extend our building, God willing, are also underway as we require more storage space.

In late 2022 the Board of Directors commissioned a uniquely Australian Bible to be printed for distribution, mostly free of charge to school children, although they will also be available to purchase. The Bible commemorates the first Christian worship service held on Australian soil, on 3 February 1788. The congregation numbering almost 1,500 gathered under a large tree and consisted of convicts, soldiers, sailors, political prisoners, and officials, all having just arrived in the new colony from Great Britain, as part of the First Fleet. The Bible with its distinctive cover featuring an oil painting of the tall ships entering Sydney Harbour and commemorative pages, will arrive by mid-2023, God willing.

The Society in Australia has again provided Bibles and Scripture items free of charge by way of grants in 2022. Almost 500 Bibles were given away to grantees both in Australia and around the Asia Pacific area. Some of these went into prisons, others for religious education to school children, some to outreach at agricultural shows, and still others were sent to children who

had completed the Children's Scripture Learning Programme or the Children's Quiz, available each year on the TBS website. It is encouraging to receive feedback from these grantees.

We write this note to pass on our deep appreciation for your generous giving of Bibles and Calendars, etc., from your Grafton office. We are truly thankful that in this day and age we can still give out Bibles and encourage people to read it for themselves. In the last two years, we've noticed that there has been a keen interest from young people particularly, requesting a Bible, or others saying nothing to us and simply passing by and taking a Bible from the stand. There have been young people who have come away from their group of friends to ask for a Bible. This is most encouraging.

Editorial work for the Society has continued to be carried out in Australia during 2022 by the Society's Senior Editorial Consultant (Linguistics), Larry Brigden. Questions have been answered for translation projects in various languages, including Bemba, Boro, Hindi, Kannada, Kikamba, Kisanga, Mauritian-Creole, Modern Hebrew, Slovak, Swahili, Tagalog, Telugu, Turkish, and Ukrainian. Quite a large number of questions were answered in regard to the use of italics in the Slovak translations of the Gospel according to John and the Epistle to the Romans. Many questions were also answered regarding the Italian Bible digitisation project. Two articles have also been written, one rather important one on Revelation 16.5 and the other on the correct translation of the Hebrew of Exodus 20.13, whether it should be 'kill' or 'murder'.

We would again heartily thank the many members, supporters, and friends of the Society for their ongoing support, both prayerful and practical, of our work and the Society's witness in this country. We are thankful to the Lord also Who puts it into the hearts of His people to support our work. As we go forward into another year, we look to the Lord who promises 'A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation: I the LORD will hasten it in his time' (Isaiah 60.22). What a need there is in this great land of Australia, as in other lands, for the Word of God! 'Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not' (Galatians 6.9).

With warm Christian regards,

Alan Brown  
National Secretary, Trinitarian Bible Society (Australia)



This year the Trinitarian Bible Society of Brazil is celebrating its fifty-fifth anniversary since its formation. It is also celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the first printing of the Almeida Corrigida Fiel (ACF, Almeida Corrected and Faithful edition) Portuguese New Testament. Excerpts from Dr Thomas L. Gilmer's prayer letters from that time shed light on what was

happening in Brazil. (Dr Gilmer was one of the founders of the Trinitarian Bible Society of Brazil and still serves very actively as president.)

## June 1967

Recently, the Brazilian Bible Society announced plans to publish a Catholic-Protestant New Testament. The only other source of Bibles in Brazil is a denominational printing house that at one time boycotted the independent Baptist bookstore, refusing to supply them with Bibles or books and forcing them to use the Bible Society edition. As a result, it has been necessary to organise a committee to print another Portuguese Bible. I was elected vice-president of this committee, which is working in connection with the Trinitarian Bible Society, a fundamental Society from England, to revise the orthography of their old edition of the Bible in Portuguese.

The New Testament is now being revised. We trust to have it ready for printing by December and the entire Bible by next May. The Trinitarian Bible Society has agreed to pay for the first three editions, the first of which will cost a minimum of US\$25,000. This does not include the expense of distribution. The money they give must be returned through sales so that other editions can be printed ... This work with the Bible merits your earnest prayers, since it is not just vain words, but a definite active stand.

## June 1973

We now have in hand the first copies of the New Testament printed by the Trinitarian Bible Society. This is the fruit of four years of labour. It comes at a good time, since the two existing Bible societies here are selling Bibles and New Testaments at extremely high rates and are being influenced by the ecumenical movement.



The original plan was very optimistic: to have the New Testament completed by December of that year, and to have the complete Bible by May of the following year. The first work of revising the New Testament was lost at sea, delaying the first printing until June 1973. The complete Bible was not published until 1994. The founding members of the Trinitarian Bible Society of Brazil had no idea of what God had in store. Since that time, over 10 million complete Portuguese Bibles and over 198 million copies of the New Testament have been distributed (the New Testaments primarily through special partnerships), and over 14 million individual Bible app users reached; a total number of over 220 million copies of the Portuguese Scriptures distributed. To God be the glory!

This is certainly an Eben-ezer year for us, and yet there is still work to be done. There are still people who do not have a Bible to call their own. Brethren, pray for us.

Your fellow servant in Brazil,

Harold Ralph Gilmer  
Executive Vice-President, Trinitarian Bible Society (Brazil)

## TBS (Canada)



How poignantly Psalm 137 bewails the sad condition of the Israelites during their exile in Babylon! Does the heartbreaking scene portrayed in this Psalm not match the distressing situation of the church in Canada and other Western countries today?

The captives—or at least those sensitive to the Lord's judgment upon Israel and Judah—sat down, hung their harps upon the plentiful willows, and wept.

Many of them lived in the shadow of the Chaldean temples. Whenever they looked up, they saw the towering temple of Bel. And every sight of that temple reminded them that their bondage was the Lord's punishment for the many gross sins of His covenant people. How could they sing the Lord's song in this strange, heathen land?

Is there not an obvious similarity between the situation of the Jews living in a strange land and Bible-true Christians living in Canada, the United Kingdom, and other formerly Christian countries? Our countries have turned away from God, rejected His Word, and become enemies of Christianity. It's easy to blame our politicians, media, teachers, and neighbours for the unwholesome state of our society. However, that is a short-sighted and smug view of the problem. Should we not weep for our nation's sad condition like those who hung their harps upon the willows? Do we, like those in Babylon, go in sackcloth because our personal sins have brought the current judgments upon us? Is our prayer like that of Daniel: 'We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments' (Daniel 9.5).

Paul warned Timothy that perilous times would come in the last days (2 Timothy 3.1). Have those days come? We do not know. However, many have sung the quasi-hymn, 'He's Got the Whole World in His Hands'. Not only 'all things bright and beautiful', but all things are in God's hands. While the waves and billows may roar over us as individuals, and as a Society, the Lord remains on His throne, and we may and must believe that He will continue to care for the continuance of His church.

Although the opposition to Christianity is becoming more overt in Canada, we are not yet persecuted unto blood. We may still worship in our homes and places of worship. The Trinitarian Bible Society may still do its work and continues to enjoy a high level of support. Indeed, the Lord continues to incline the hearts, and the Canadian friends continue to be generous. During the past year both sales and donations increased. Our meetings continue to be well-attended. Our volunteers and auxiliary committee members continue their dedicated diligence. On behalf of the Society, I thank all the friends who, next to the Lord, continue to make the work prosper.

To everything there is a season. During 2022 I informed the Board of Directors that it was time for me to step aside as General Secretary of TBS (Canada). Since then, my

successor has been appointed. The Lord willing, Mr William Grisnich from Coaldale, Alberta, will take over from me on 1 January 2024. I wish him the Lord's blessing, and trust that you will support him as you have supported me for almost fourteen years.

On behalf of all the Canadian friends of the Society, I bring you greetings and pray that the Lord may be with all the friends around the world. I bring especial greetings to the staff at William Tyndale House and at the branch offices in Australia, Brazil, New Zealand, and the United States. Let us all pray that it may please the Lord to enable the Society to remain faithful to its aims and to carry on with the translating, publishing, and distributing of sound versions of the Holy Scriptures. Above all, let us pray that it may please Him to bless His Word to the salvation of many, even unto the ends of the earth.

Adrian Stoutjesdyk  
General Secretary, Trinitarian Bible Society (Canada)

## TBS (New Zealand)



From New Zealand we extend our Christian greetings to the General Committee, the staff at TBS Headquarters in London, and to all the members and friends of the Society around the world. The Society is engaged in one of the most important tasks in this world, and we definitely have a God who can make us prosper.

At our last AGM I had the opportunity to speak on some features of our modern Bibles and why they look the way they do. For example we have chapters and verses: how did we get them, and who created them? This was a fascinating piece of history: we can trace the verse divisions in our New Testament back to the work of Robert Estienne in 1551. Tradition says he created them while on a five-day journey from Paris to London, doing so while riding on horseback!

Throughout history what a labour it was to copy the Bible out by hand. Recently the Sassoon Codex, closely related to the Hebrew Aleppo Codex, sold for \$38 million, the highest price ever paid for a book.

The printing press made producing copies easier, but it was still a very laborious process to create the types and do the typesetting, all by hand. Computer typesetting and electronic texts have made this process much easier today.

We recently produced a bilingual Gospel according to John, with English in one column and Te Reo—the Māori language—in the other, which took a lot less time than expected. All this was made easy by the hard labours of others; the hardest task of all is translation. Next came creating electronic editions; this work the TBS has done to make the Scriptures available in an easy-to-handle format while expediting the subsequent steps.

However, although creating an electronic PDF of the English-Māori Bible was easy, printing is still quite another matter. That's the stage we are in now: seeing if we can affordably print a bilingual English-Māori Bible. I hope to be able to report on that next year.

May the Lord bless you all.

Berend de Boer  
Chairman, Trinitarian Bible Society (New Zealand)

## TBS (USA)



On behalf of all of us here at Trinitarian Bible Society (USA), we wish to once again convey our warmest Christian greetings to you on the occasion of the Society's 192nd Annual General Meeting. In the Lord's providence we have been able to complete another year of the blessed work in which Trinitarian Bible Society is engaged.

The past year has been a very important one for TBS (USA), in that in the Lord's goodness we have been able to publish the revised Spanish Bible. This important project was managed from this office since the formation of the Spanish Bible revision team in 2009. Untold hours have been spent on this project, and it is our humble prayer that the Lord may be pleased to abundantly bless His Word to the Spanish-speaking world, to the salvation of many, and to His worthy name's honor and glory.

Bible distribution and sales have increased in the USA during the past year. We are thankful for a number of new supporters, as well as interest in the Society's Scriptures in the original Hebrew and Greek. Several seminaries have either purchased or been granted copies of the Society's Hebrew and Greek Scriptures for their students. TBS (USA) has also granted a considerable number of Hebrew and Greek Scriptures to seminaries in Chile, Colombia, and Mexico.

We continue to be encouraged by the strong support and interest in the work of the Society, and we hope that you may also continue to experience that in the coming year. In the difficult and troublesome times in which we live, we may take comfort in the fact that 'the LORD reigneth', and nothing that takes place in the world can stop the ingathering of His people from the four corners of this world.

'The LORD hath done great things for us; *whereof* we are glad' (Psalm 126.3).

Be commended to the throne of all grace, for Jesus's sake.

On behalf of Trinitarian Bible Society (USA),

William Greendyk  
General Secretary, Trinitarian Bible Society (USA)

# Report of the Deputation Speakers



by Graham Chewter and Craig Dennison

**W**e give thanks to God for the warm welcome we receive from churches and assemblies throughout the UK and Ireland. Many churches receive us annually and take the opportunity to invite other local congregations to join them for the special deputation meeting. Others invite their friends and family to the deputation meeting and introduce them to the work of TBS. We often receive invitations to new meetings as a result of a personal referral, so we would encourage existing supporters to share news of our work with fellow churches and assemblies.

The role of the deputation speaker extends beyond the regular deputation meetings. In the last year we had opportunities to visit many schools and make presentations of Bibles to mark both the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee and, this year, the coronation of King Charles III. Many teachers in schools have expressed gratitude to us for bringing the Word of God to their school and have sought to further emphasise the importance of God's Word to the children in the classroom. One principal went the extra mile and promised rewards for pupils who committed Scripture verses to memory.

We are very conscious that there is a spiritual battle going on, with many wanting to capture the hearts and minds of children with everything other than God's truth. Therefore, we believe it is important, where possible, to speak to the children before presenting Bibles, as we do not want them to go away with the impression that a commemorative Bible is just a memento or keepsake.

Some of these schools have asked us to return to speak in school assemblies and religious education lessons. This is very good news as many children today are Biblically illiterate and seem to know very little about its contents. For example, one group of fifty pupils were asked, 'Can you tell me anything about the Bible?' Although the children had been very responsive with previous questions, this one was initially met with complete silence. Eventually one girl put up her hand and said, 'Is it about God?' A Christian teacher at this school said to the deputation speaker that she couldn't remember the last assembly when there was any mention of God. Her earlier suggestions to invite a Christian visitor had been met with no enthusiasm. This opportunity to visit the school was felt to be a significant answer to prayer.



On occasion we are asked to represent the Society beyond the UK and Ireland. In December 2022 Craig Dennison attended one of the launch services of the Amharic New Testament and Psalms in Ethiopia. When conversing with Ethiopian pastors, he was struck by how unreliable and poorly translated the current Amharic translations are. The provision of the TBS Amharic New Testament and Psalms was warmly received by all he spoke to. He also had the task of visiting a prospective office in the capital of Addis Ababa which, Lord willing, will serve as a distribution centre in Ethiopia.



*Craig Dennison speaking in Ethiopia*

Part of our role is to promote the principles of the Society, for example to explain why we translate from the Hebrew Masoretic and the Greek

Received Texts, and why the Authorised (King James) Version is still the most faithful and reliable translation in English. We seek to do this in a gentle and winsome manner, avoiding causing deliberate offence but simply presenting facts regarding the corrupt texts which underpin many modern translations and demonstrating the providential preservation of Holy Scripture. Following one meeting a young couple informed the deputation speaker that they would be switching to the Authorised Version, having heard of the errors in their present translation.

It has also been encouraging to respond to requests to minister to churches and Christian groups overseas by means of online meetings. One request came from a very strict Muslim country, where, we were told, 150 pastors would like to hear about the work of the Society and receive lectures on such topics as the doctrine of Holy Scripture and the importance of the Received Text of Scripture underlying translation work.

This summer, if the Lord will, Craig Dennison will be travelling to Singapore and Australia for a number of meetings, and Graham Chewter expects to be ministering, on behalf of the Society, in the USA during October. We would value prayer for their travels and a gracious sense of the Lord's presence in the meetings.

Once again, we thank you for your prayerful support. May the Lord have all the glory.

# The Holy Trinity

**'... he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God' (John 1.33–34).**

**By Pastor M. Harley,  
a Vice-President of the Society**

**F**rom the opening chapter of the Bible (Genesis 1.1–2, taken in conjunction with John 1.1) until the end (Revelation 22.16–21) the three Persons of the Trinity are gloriously revealed. The method of the Word of God (in accordance with Isaiah 28.10) is to teach a little on a certain doctrine in one place, at one time, followed by more later. It is the effective way of teaching and, perhaps without really noticing it, our minds are filled with truth.

We would not dare delve into the intimacy of the Persons of the Godhead and create a doctrine of our own devising. But God reveals His personhood constantly in the Scriptures of Truth. His Fatherhood, the Sonship of the Saviour, the Agency of the Holy Spirit—three Persons in the unity of the Godhead are constantly declared.

One such 'understated' example, powerfully revealed nonetheless, occurs in John 1.33–34. Over those two verses we find each person of the Godhead mentioned in such a way as to declare the individuality of each Person.

The First and the Third Persons concur in the inauguration of the public ministry of the Second—Jesus Christ. They publicise the inauguration of the public ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ and all that this entails. It is a wonderful help to us to know that our faith in Him is not misplaced but is attested by each Person of the Godhead acting in unity.

'There was a man sent from God, whose name *was* John' (John 1.6). So it was God the Father who sent John and who spoke to him in the words of our text. John declares, 'He that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom

thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost' (John 1.33)<sup>1</sup>. The Father Himself verifies the work of the Spirit while revealing His incarnate Son.

The Holy Spirit came visibly, so as to be observed, in the form of a dove (e.g. Luke 3.22). It was therefore possible to see the descent of the Spirit and His presence as He continued upon the Lord Jesus Christ confirming an identity of purpose. The Father further confirmed the Spirit's ministry, under the direction of the Son, to convert with power by the words 'baptizeth with the Holy Ghost'.

John heard the instruction of the Father and observed the presence of the Holy Spirit. Furthermore he baptized the Son. And the other three Gospels further testify in their own words (Matthew 3.17; Mark 1.11; Luke 3.22) that the Father at that moment acknowledged the full Godhead of His Son, and likewise fully endorsed and would take pleasure in His work. 'There came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased' (Mark 1.11).

The testimonies of both other Persons of the Godhead are intimately involved with the wonderful scene of the baptism of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Father reveals in His most holy Word that this is the true relationship within the Godhead, that it is accurate to believe that there are three Persons in one Godhead, totally at one with each other in character and purpose.

The Trinitarian Bible Society was wonderfully privileged to be raised up out of the darkness of eighteenth and nineteenth century Unitarianism to take into all the nations of the world, as the Lord leads, His precious Word which declares salvation in Jesus Christ the Lord and the true nature of the God of the whole world. It is a precious resource to be put into the hands of all pastors and teachers and their churches that they may know the truth, and that truth shall make them free.

Christ's Jewish hearers said to Him, 'We ... were never in bondage to any man' (John 8.33). They could not see their true condition as subject to Caesar and in bondage to sin. Animists, idol worshippers, and adherents to all other world religions cannot see that they too in their religious practices are engulfed in 'all deceivableness of unrighteousness' (2 Thessalonians 2.10), unless the Lord by this same word, the Bible, deliver them. 'Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord' (1 Corinthians 15.58).

ENDNOTE:

1. The word 'Ghost' is in the Greek original the same as 'Spirit'. The reason for the difference in translation is to be found in the letter of the *Translators to the Reader* (pages xix,xx Westminster Reference Bible), 'we have not tied ourselves to an uniformity of phrasing, or to an identity of words ... for example, if we translate the Hebrew or Greek word once by purpose, never to call it intent: if one where journeying, never travelling.' 'Ghost' as equivalent of 'Spirit' is a place in point. You may peruse the translators' reasoned argument, with which they themselves say that not everyone will agree, for yourselves at the reference given above.



# Calendars & Diaries for 2024

The Society's Golden Thoughts and Words of Life Calendars, and our Pocket Planner Diaries, are ready for distribution. Our Golden Thoughts Calendars are available in ten languages, the Words of Life in twelve and the diary, in two cover options, in English only: each format has many functional and evangelistic uses.

## Words of Life Calendar

Scripture text per month with an attractive picture.  
Available in the following languages:

- English (ENGWLC24),
- Albanian (ALBWLC24)
- Bulgarian (BULWLC24)
- Catalan (CATWLC24)
- Chinese (CHIWLC24)
- French (FRAWLC24)
- Hungarian (HUNWLC24)
- Romanian (RONWLC24)
- Russian (RUSWLC24)
- Spanish (SPAWLC24)
- Ukrainian (UKRWLC24)
- Welsh (CYMWLC24)

UK	AUS	CAN	NZ	USA
£0.78	\$1.25	\$1.00	\$1.30	\$0.90



## Golden Thoughts Calendar

Scripture text per day, without pictures.  
Suitable as a Bible reading plan.  
Available in:

- English (ENGTC24)
- Afrikaans (AFRGTC24)
- Armenian (ARMGTC24)
- French (FRAGTC24)
- Hausa (HAUGTC24)
- Ndebele (NDEGTC24)
- Portuguese (PORGTC24)
- Shona (SNAGTC24)
- Spanish (SPAGTC24)
- Xhosa (XHOGTC24)

UK	AUS	CAN	NZ	USA
£0.54	\$0.85	\$0.75	\$0.90	\$0.65





## Pocket Planner Diary

Week-to-view diary in English featuring a Scripture text per day, Bible reading plan, and weekly footnote for interest and prayer. By using a different cover material and removing the gilt page edging, our blue edition has become much more affordable.

- Pictorial cover, marker ribbon (DY24/SC)
- Blue cover, marker ribbon (DY24/SBL)

DY24/SC &	UK	AUS	CAN	NZ	USA
DY24/SBL	£5.40	\$9.20	\$5.50	\$8.80	\$6.00



## Calendar Distribution Ideas

A 35% free distribution discount is available for calendars which will be given away free of charge in Christian evangelistic work at home or overseas. Here are some ideas that may help you think of places in which you might be able to distribute these popular and greatly appreciated calendars.

### Ideas for Individuals

- For personal use
- To indicate appointments and events
- To give to friends and acquaintances
- To accompany seasonal cards and gifts

### Ideas for Congregations and Groups

(with the permission of the appropriate group.) To give to:

- Your church, chapel, or assembly
- Visitors
- Sabbath-school children
- Lunch clubs

### Ideas for Public Distribution

- For literature tables
- For exhibitions and county fairs
- For door-to-door personal work
- Through letterboxes

- For charities, groups, and associations
- For schools and hospitals
- For retirement care homes
- For shops and restaurants
- For medical and dental surgery receptions
- For coffee shops, restaurants, clubs, sports centres

The Society can ship calendars and diaries directly to third parties (prisons, hospitals, schools, missions, etc.) but only with the recipient's prior agreement. Please contact us for more information.

Please seek permission before leaving copies in public places. It is also advisable that contact details be provided on all copies being distributed.

## Diary Distribution Ideas

Diaries make excellent gifts for family and friends, as well as for members of staff, volunteers, and helpers at churches, charities, groups, associations, and companies.

(Please note that the free distribution discount is not available on diaries.)

**To order please visit our website, or contact your local TBS Branch office by phone.**

## Distribution totals for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Sales		Grants		Total	
	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021
<b>Bibles</b>	<b>*228,361</b>	1,427,599	<b>**225,451</b>	52,804	<b>453,812</b>	1,480,403
<b>New Testaments</b>	<b>121,420</b>	110,577	<b>147,980</b>	92,745	<b>269,400</b>	203,322
<b>Portions</b>	<b>***601,969</b>	589,805	<b>655,195</b>	782,778	<b>1,257,164</b>	1,372,584
<b>Golden Thoughts Calendars</b>	<b>31,479</b>	36,834	<b>203,855</b>	319,321	<b>235,334</b>	356,155
<b>Words of Life Calendars</b>	<b>180,575</b>	219,495	<b>145,740</b>	143,391	<b>326,315</b>	362,886
<b>Text Cards</b>	<b>89,847</b>	95,102	<b>2,880</b>	1,984	<b>92,727</b>	97,086
<b>Children's Items</b>	<b>14,825</b>	18,953	<b>414</b>	1,803	<b>15,239</b>	20,756
<b>Other Scripture Items</b>	<b>137,604</b>	165,022	<b>85,317</b>	144,149	<b>222,921</b>	309,172
<b>Articles</b>	<b>19,290</b>	19,137	<b>6,049</b>	29,758	<b>25,339</b>	48,895
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,425,370</b>	2,682,524	<b>1,472,881</b>	1,568,733	<b>2,898,251</b>	4,251,257

Notes: \* Includes 0 Bibles (2021: 1,232,297) produced with other publishers under Royalty Agreement.

\*\* Includes 177,074 New Testaments (2021: 0) produced with other publishers under Royalty Agreement.

\*\*\* Includes 195,030 Portions (2021: 265,950) in association with other organisations under Royalty Agreement.



# Editorial Report



by Matthew A. Vogan,  
Editorial Director

**F**ew years, perhaps, in the history of the Society have witnessed the publication and indeed the undertaking of so many projects in other languages as 2022. For this we must give glory to the Lord alone. It is also important to remind ourselves that in its editorial work the Society seeks to continue the principles on which it was established. At the inaugural meeting of the Society on 7 December 1831, one of these core principles was firmly asserted in the following words of a resolution which was passed.

A Society engaged in circulating the pure Word of God, and upon which devolves the responsibility of preparing and issuing new translations of the Holy Scriptures, must be considered decidedly a religious Society, and one that should be conducted on scriptural principles.<sup>1</sup>

Only those who were ‘Protestants and acknowledge the scriptural doctrine of the Holy Trinity’ could be members or involved in carrying on such a work. This remains a vital point of difference for our Society. Sadly, others involved in Bible translation and distribution are happy to work with those who cannot profess

these truths or indeed are of other religions altogether. Our commitment, however, remains and we continue to ensure that translators and staff share the Society’s convictions.

The Society only publishes and circulates translations of the Scriptures based on the texts preserved in all ages by the special providence of God. These are the Masoretic Hebrew Text for the Old Testament and the Greek Received Text of the New Testament. Sadly, this is another conviction abandoned by most engaged in the work of Bible translation and distribution, and they defer to scholarship that is not based on Scriptural principles and convictions.

The seeds of such departures were already at work when the Society was formed in 1831, although they came to a greater development in the later nineteenth century. Already, some noted translators were making use of the Critical Text produced by Griesbach to prepare translations in other languages. In English a translation of the New Testament was in circulation that drew from such sources, but the Society firmly asserted that it would only circulate the Authorised



(King James) Version. It is strengthening, therefore, to read of their commitment to the preserved purity of the Scriptures embodied in the following resolution.

That this Meeting desire to record their deep conviction, that in these awful times it becomes the imperative duty of all true Christians publicly to unite in contending for the Faith once delivered to the Saints, steadfastly to maintain inviolate the purity of the sacred text of Holy Writ, and zealously to promote the circulation of the Inspired Volume amongst all nations.

In speaking to this resolution, the Rev. John Lockhart maintained that it was manifestly clear that God Himself had undertaken the duty of guarding the purity of the sacred text.<sup>2</sup> He underlined ‘the solemn duty of Christians to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints, and to maintain inviolate the purity of the Word of God’. He went on to further assert the vital importance of this principle with confidence.

It is obviously next to in importance to the fact of their divine inspiration, that the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments continue in every essential respect the same as they proceeded from the hands of those holy men of God, who wrote as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.<sup>3</sup>

Those who founded the Society were not unaware of the claims of textual critics. Yet they were unmoved by ‘the sinful attempts which have been made by many, to their shame, to unsettle our

confidence in the integrity of the sacred canon, and oppose both our proposition and our argument, by falsely magnifying the importance of these various readings’. Lockhart’s call needs to sound loudly in our day as then. He said,

Let it be our zealous care, in our day and generation, to guard inviolate the precious treasure, and our delight to acknowledge with thanksgiving our infinite obligation to the special providence of the Lord, who hath conveyed it down to us in its original purity, hated though it was, and opposed in every age, by Satan and wicked men, who eagerly sought and set themselves to destroy it.<sup>4</sup>

Lockhart equally asserted that ‘the strict faithfulness of translations must be solemnly guarded’ as well as the purity of the original.

These principles require the painstaking work of checking and rechecking the Scriptures before they are submitted for printing. They require careful scrutiny before approval for publication to ensure that

our principles with regard to the text and translation of Scripture are not compromised. Even in 1831 it was stated that:

In promoting and editing new translations, and selecting versions in

*The Old Testament in Hebrew*



Foreign Languages, the competency of the translators employed, and the faithfulness and Christian character of the versions shall be ascertained by the Committee, before the publication or circulation of such versions is in any way aided by this Society.<sup>5</sup>

One hundred and ninety-two years later, in the kindness of the Lord, this work is continuing, and several new projects commenced during the past year. The early stages of a translation project require special care. Once we are satisfied that the translators share our principles and are suited for the work, they usually begin with the Gospel according to John as a pilot project. It is easier to start with this Gospel as the Greek is comparatively more straightforward than the other books of the New Testament, excepting John's own epistles. However, the translators will still encounter much of the difficulty and challenges of the work at this pilot stage. It also allows the opportunity to test the competency of the translators and their commitment to the work.

Translators vary according to their experience and proficiency in the Biblical languages; in both cases they have access to our resident expert, Larry Brigden. Yet something more than such competency is also necessary: 'unless the most venerating and jealous care of sanctified scholarship preside prayerfully over them, they will undoubtedly prove unworthy representatives of the Divine original.'<sup>6</sup>

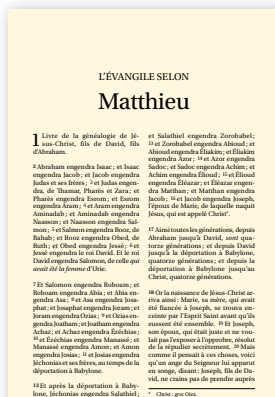
Most Bible translation agencies are in thrall to the idea that only the general thoughts be rendered as opposed to

producing as far as possible the specific terms of the Divine original in the receptor language. The Society continues to follow an approach that translation is to be as literal as possible and only as free as necessary. The Rev. Lockhart expressed it in these terms back in 1831.

Unless ... the language of the Holy Spirit be uniformly rendered by precisely correspondent terms and phrases, the professed version will, according to the extent of freedom on this point that may have been tolerated, prove less or more the translator's commentary, and breathe the spirit of his doctrinal system, and may utterly fail to communicate the knowledge of the truth; yea, Sir, it may even totally subvert the Gospel of Salvation, and fatally disappoint the confidence of poor ignorant sinners on whom it has been bestowed as the Word of Life.

## Staff

As already mentioned, many large projects have arrived at significant milestones this year. These include the Spanish Bible, and Chinese and French New Testaments. We also anticipate the publication of the Hebrew New Testament later this year, God willing. The majority of the many foreign-language



**The Gospel according to Matthew in French**

Scripture projects are, however, in smaller languages. It was a particular joy to meet with many such translators in India and Nepal earlier this year. We are very thankful for online methods of communication even to remote parts across the globe but there is still no substitute for being physically present with these co-labourers when it is possible.

In his two days per week for the Society, Philip Hopkins, Senior Editorial Consultant (Projects), continues to sustain most of our Bible translation and revision projects (projects with full time translators are overseen directly by the Editorial Director). As the number of projects increase, this challenge grows, yet we are thankful for Philip's commitment to the work as he also continues to devote himself to the pastoral ministry in his remaining time each week. Philip's report on all our projects, now jointly authored with our Editorial Director, can be read at the end of this article.

As already mentioned, Senior Editorial Consultant (Linguistics) Larry Brigden continues to provide his expertise on Greek and Hebrew issues. His prompt advice on sometimes perplexing questions is of great assistance to translators. Larry also plays a crucial role in responding to regular queries and assessing the quality of existing translations. He is also able to contribute articles on Biblical issues that are of great wider benefit.

Few appreciate the significant amount of checking required on a new publication

before it can be approved. For instance, a new setting of the Authorised (King James) Version would require check-

ing 31,102 verses and 1,189 chapters and hundreds of thousands of words, including thousands of italics. While some of this can be aided by computer there is much that must still be checked by eye. There are 6,000+ instances where LORD is in small capitals; this and the capitals at the start of each of the 1,189 chapters can only be checked by eye. There are

usually similar numbers of instances where words are broken over two lines that must be checked. Natalie Hanks takes the lead on this area, as well as checking that the publications we print are of high quality. She also ensures the consistently high quality of the *Quarterly Record* in terms of layout and content. Many have found her historical articles such as on the Golden Thoughts Calendars to be of great interest. Natalie also continues to work on making resources available for children and young people, and overseeing the Society's social media.

Elizabeth Tichelaar works for the team from Alberta, Canada liaising with translators and performing detailed system checks on the translated text and tagging it with the format markers that prepare it for online and print publication. Sometimes the language and script are truly challenging, ranging from unique Indian and East Asian scripts to African tonal languages with many diacritical markings. She also works with translators



*Windsor Text Bible*

to prepare the Words of Life and Golden Thoughts Calendars, and diary. Over the past year, Elizabeth has ensured regular online publication of valuable articles from our archives as well as working to augment the TBS webpages and provide supporters and the media with regular newsletters.

Recently joining Elizabeth in the role of editor, Daniel Bulican has begun the steep upward learning curve of understanding how to prepare translations and undertake other editing tasks. With a firm grounding in various languages, he is in a good place to tackle this challenge. We were delighted to welcome him following the retirement of Debra Anderson from the team. We are thankful we can still call on her for occasional proofreading, but we miss her years of experience.

The vast workload we have already mentioned eventually finds its way to the desk of our Graphic Designer, Peter Hughes, who lives and works in Wales. Everything published is either designed or reviewed here. The volume of projects that require the detailed laying out of Scripture is at times significant, but we are able to benefit from Peter's years of experience and careful attention to detail.

With many translations coming to publication we have been able to continue to use David Astudillo's videographic skills to promote these projects. Likewise, there have been a significant number of more general videos that help to communicate our principles in a way that many find engaging.

We could not sustain the number of projects we have currently without the Editorial System which Tim Tribe as the Society's IT consultant continues both to enhance and maintain. Three languages were added during 2022 to our online Bible [tbsonlinebible.com](http://tbsonlinebible.com).

In addition to the print distribution figures provided in the Operations Report herein it is encouraging to see increased digital access to TBS Scriptures across the world as the statistics above for 2022 demonstrate.

Thankful as we are for all human means to further this work, we are deeply conscious not only of our own insufficiency but also that the Lord's blessing on these means is paramount. This drives us to prayer in dependence on the Most High and to echo the sentiments expressed in 1831.

*One of the Society's short videos 'General and Special Providence' available with others at [youtube.com/@TrinitarianBibleSociety](https://www.youtube.com/@TrinitarianBibleSociety)*

### Digital Access in 2022

- Total number of visits to the Online Bible App – 91,404
- Total number of unique visits to the TBS Spanish Scripture website – 15,110
- Total number of unique users of other apps (mainly for the Portuguese Bible in Brazil) – 3.9 million



I would, therefore, humbly endeavour to impress on every Member of this Society, that he should never lose sight of the first of these principles, but consent to join with those who are engaged in this work, in praying for the blessing of God on our efforts, and, at the same time add, his own private prayers for the same object. It is only by such means that our efforts can be blest; without them we are not warranted in expecting any success.

But if these prayers are earnestly offered up in faith, and in humble and entire dependence on Divine aid, then I trust that the efforts now about to be made by the assembly this day met together, and by those who shall come after, will be followed by the blessing of the Almighty, and be successful in promoting the dissemination of the

truth, and the glory of the Saviour ... to the utmost corners of the earth.<sup>7</sup>

‘God be merciful unto us, and bless us; *and* cause his face to shine upon us; Selah. That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations’ (Psalm 67.1–2).

## Endnotes:

1. Report of the Proceedings at a Public Meeting Held at Exeter Hall, Strand, London, the 7th of December 1831, for the Purpose Of Establishing a Bible Society Upon Scriptural Principles, p. 6.
2. We believe this is the Rev. Dr John Lockhart (1761–1842) Minister of the College Church, Glasgow. He was heavily involved in many missionary societies and shortly after this became Director of the Glasgow Bible Society.
3. *Ibid.*, p. 27.
4. *Ibid.*, p. 28.
5. *Ibid.*, p. 16.
6. *Ibid.*, p. 28.
7. *Ibid.*, p. 18.

## Annual report on Non-English language Bible projects

Prepared by Matthew Vogan, Editorial Director and

Philip J. D. Hopkins, Senior Editorial Consultant - Projects

**T**his report provides comprehensive information on all of the Trinitarian Bible Society’s non-English language Scripture projects in which we are currently involved or in which we have carried out research recently: over seventy languages are mentioned. A number of other Bible projects are not mentioned for security reasons to protect both the translators and their work. This report chiefly covers the editorial part of these projects, but additionally includes some of the production, financial, and planning aspects

which also involve personnel outside of the Editorial Department. All references to the future, including proposed dates for publication, are subject to the Lord’s will.

**In the past twelve months (June 2022–May 2023) the following have been published.**

- Hungarian Large Print Bible (new setting)
- Romanian Large Print Bible (new setting)

- Spanish Bible
- Russian Bible Digital Online edition
- Chinese New Testament
- French New Testament
- Koiné Greek New Testament (new setting)
- Russian Large Print New Testament (new setting)
- Desauri Tharu Gospel according to John

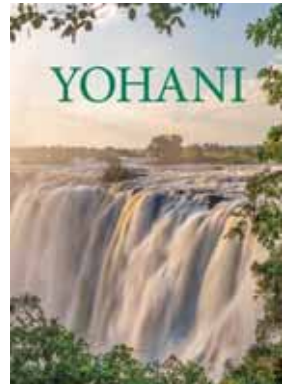
**In the preceding twelve months to the above (June 2021–May 2022) the following were published:**

- Shona Bible
- Nepali Bible (second edition)
- Amharic New Testament and Psalms
- Russian New Testament and Psalms (new setting)
- Turkish New Testament
- Chinese Gospels, Romans, and Hebrews (digital edition)
- Bemba Gospel according to John
- Ukrainian Gospel according to John (new setting)

**God willing, the following items are due to be published within the next twenty-four months in regular print unless otherwise stated. (Further details about all of these projects are supplied on the following pages.)**

- Chichewa Bible
- Czech Bible
- Hungarian Bible (digital online edition only)

- Italian Bible (digital online edition only)
- Tedim Zokam Bible
- Vaiphei Bible
- Zou Bible
- Dan/Gio New Testament
- Delitzsch Hebrew New Testament
- Kalenjin New Testament
- Kom New Testament
- Biblical Hebrew Old Testament (digital edition only)
- Slovak Gospel according to John and Epistle to the Romans
- Boro Gospel according to John
- Hindi Gospel according to John
- Italian Gospel according to John (new setting)
- Kannada Gospel according to John
- Kikamba Gospel according to John
- Korean Gospel according to John
- Mauritian Creole Gospel according to John
- Modern Greek Gospel according to John
- Swahili Gospel according to John
- Tamil Gospel according to John
- Telugu Gospel according to John



*Bemba Gospel according to John*

**The following are languages where we have a definite project in which some**

**progress has been made over the last twelve months in terms of preparation or publication (both digital and in print) of Holy Scriptures.**

Amharic (Ethiopia), Bemba (Zambia), Boro (Assam and India), British Sign Language, Catalan (Spain, Andorra, and France), Chichewa (Malawi and Zambia), Chinese, Chothe (Manipur, India), Czech, Dan/Gio (Liberia), French, Gangte (Manipur, India), Greek (Modern), Hebrew (NT and Biblical OT), Hindi (India), Hmar (north east India), Hungarian, Italian, Kalenjin (Kenya), Kabyle (Algeria), Kannada (India), Kikamba (Kenya), Kisanga (Dem. Rep. Congo), Kom (Manipur, India), Korean, Mauritian Creole (Mauritius), Mongolian, Nepali (Nepal and India), Norwegian, original (Biblical) languages, Persian/Farsi (Iran), Pokot (Kenya), Portuguese (Brazil, Mozambique, Angola, and Portugal), Romanian, Russian, Shona (Zimbabwe), Simte (Manipur, India), Slovak, Spanish, Swahili (Eastern Africa), Tagalog (Philippines), Tamil (India/Sri Lanka), Tedim Zokam (Burma), Telugu (India), Thadou (Manipur, India), Turkish, Ukrainian, Vaiphei (Manipur, India), Welsh, and Zou (Manipur, India, and Burma).

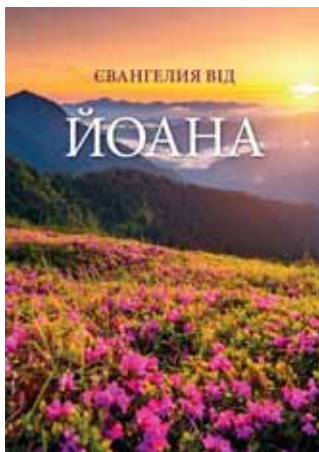
**The following are languages in which we are carrying out research or giving consultancy advice, and/or**

**exploring the possibility of doing some (further) work.**

Arabic, Bhojpuri/Hindustani (various countries), Burmese, Georgian, Guere (Cote D'Ivoire), Haitian Creole (Haiti), Halam (Tripura, India), Kirundi (Burundi), Lala-Bisa (Zambia), Madi (Uganda), Nkoya (Zambia), Nthenyi Naga (Nagaland, India), Oromo (Ethiopia), and Urdu (Pakistan).

**The following are languages in which we have stalled projects, yet some prospect of further progress.**

Abkhaz (Abkhazia), Afrikaans (South Africa), Bulgarian, Cebuano (Philippines), German, and Maltese.



*Ukrainian Gospel according to John*

**The following are languages in which initial work or research has come to a premature end (at least for the present). For these projects we await the Lord's provision of suitably qualified personnel.**

Basa (Nigeria), Lhaovo (Burma/China), Lisu (Burma/China), Polish, and Xhosa (South Africa).

**The following section provides more detail on all the foreign languages in which we are currently working plus some languages in which we have either worked in the past or carried out research in recent years.**

The languages are listed alphabetically under the following geographic regions:



Africa, Europe, the Middle East and the Caucasus, Indian subcontinent, rest of Asia, and the Americas.



## Africa

### Afrikaans (South Africa)

Our sister society, the Gereformeerde Bijbelstichting (GBS), continue to prepare an Afrikaans translation of the standard notes which accompany the Statenvertaling Bible. There are no active leads towards preparing a new edition of the Afrikaans Bible, although our General Secretary is due to have meetings in South Africa in July at which this will be explored further.

### Amharic (Ethiopia)

We are grateful for the financial support from TBS (Canada) for this project, and for the funds raised by firstBible International (FBI) for printing the New Testament and Psalms at Bearing Precious Seed (BPS), Milford, Ohio, USA. We were able to send 10,000 copies to Ethiopia, whilst firstBible International printed and shipped a further 50,000 copies. BPS have also shipped 5,000 copies to the UK for onward shipment to Ethiopia. There has been a very enthusiastic reception for this new translation at many launch events across Ethiopia and more recently in South Africa, with further distribution events planned in various locations. Work on the Old Testament is

progressing, and it is hoped that the first draft of the whole Pentateuch will be completed by the end of September.

### Basa (Nigeria)

The Basa are a tribe found in a remote area of western Nigeria. Despite encouragement from a minister in Northern Ireland who had spent time among the Basa people, the group there declined to work with the Society to prepare a new edition of the Bible. We pray that the Lord would raise up Bible translators in this language who can prepare the new faithful edition which they very much need.

### Bemba (Zambia)

The Gospel according to John has been published and widely distributed. We thank the Lord that over half the New Testament has been drafted and reviewed, and translation work on the Pauline epistles is proceeding apace. The Society is grateful to the Free Grace Evangelistic Association (FGEA) for their partnership with us on this project.

### Chichewa (Malawi and Zambia)

The Society is also working in partnership with FGEA to prepare a new edition of the Chichewa Bible with primary reference to the Authorised (King James) Version. The

final stages of thoroughly reviewing and proofreading the Old Testament books are ongoing and it is hoped that it will be submitted for a translation analysis check

*Amharic New Testament distribution*





*Chichewa New Testament distribution*

later this year. The New Testament will also be thoroughly reviewed and proof-read again prior to the whole Bible being published. It is hoped that this interim project based on the Authorised Version will eventually lead to a new translation directly from the Hebrew Masoretic and Greek Received Texts.

### **Dan/Gio (Liberia)**

In the mysterious providence of God, the New Testament project experienced significant issues and delay through the misapplication of tone marks in typing up the revision. Since then, each verse of the corrected New Testament text is being checked carefully and it is expected that the corrections will all be made very soon, God willing. The Lord has graciously provided funding for the printing of the New Testament through the generosity of a particular congregation and individual specific donations. The Old Testament translation phase began in December; and initial funding has already been received for this part of the project from firstBible International, for which we are very grateful.

### **NEW! Guéré (Cote D'Ivoire)**

Guéré (Gere), also called Wè (Wee), is a Kru language spoken by over 300,000 people in the Dix-Huit Montagnes and

Moyen-Cavally regions of Ivory Coast. During the past year we sought to identify speakers of Guéré who could help us assess how far a New Testament published by TBS in 1982 may meet our current standards and principles. This has not been successful thus far and we would be pleased to hear from anyone who could connect us with those who could help with this evaluation.

### **NEW! Kabyle (Algeria)**

Kabyle is a Berber language predominantly spoken in Kabylia, a region in north-east Algeria, and in the capital Algiers. Estimates of the number of Kabyle speakers globally are around 7 to 8 million, most of whom are in Algeria. Kabyle borrows significantly from French but mostly from Arabic, which as in other languages can present challenges for Bible translation. There is significant persecution for Christians in Algeria, and movements for Kabyle autonomy have attracted additional repression. From the 1920s onwards the Society published a significant amount of Kabyle Scriptures, with various Gospels printed during the 1950s and up to 1967. Previous investigations have indicated the need for an accurate translation and replacement of Arabic words. In March of this year we were able to commence a pilot project on the Gospel according to John. The translator hopes to finish the first draft of the Gospel in the coming months after which it will need to be reviewed.

### **Kalenjin (Kenya)**

Kalenjin is one of the tribal languages belonging to the Nilotic family. There are several million Kalenjin speakers in Kenya, but little published literature in

the language. Since 2014 TBS has been working with a team in Kenya to prepare a faithful new translation of the Kalenjin Scriptures directly from the Biblical languages, with secondary reference to the Authorised (King James) Version and other extant Kalenjin Bibles. After a final read through the New Testament text is currently being typeset and publication is now anticipated at the start of 2024, God willing. In the past twelve months the translators have made good progress with the Old Testament and hope to finalise the text in 2024 for publication the following year, Lord willing. Translations of the Society's articles *The Lord Gave the Word* and *A Textual Key to the New Testament* have also been prepared.

### Kikamba (Kenya)

Kikamba is a Bantu language, spoken chiefly in the Kenyan counties of Machakos, Kitui, Makueni. We are grateful to the Friends of Africa Missionary

*Draft Kikamba Gospel according to John*

ŪVOO MŪSEO TONDŪ  
WAANDĪKIWE NĪ

YOANA

**1** Mwambilliyoni kwai Ndeto, na ila Ndeto yai vampe na Ngai, na ila Ndeto yai Ngai. <sup>2</sup> Na niwe wai mwambilliyoni vampe na Ngai. <sup>3</sup> Syindū syonthe syatw'ikithiwe niwe, na ate vo vati kindū ona kimwe kyaatwikithw'a kati wa ila syatwikithiwe. <sup>4</sup> Nthini wake vai thayū, na ūla thayū wai keni kya andū, <sup>5</sup> Na kila keni kikenaa kivinduni na kivindu kiyaakikiliya vinya. <sup>6</sup> Kwookie mūdū atūmitwe kuma kwa Ngai wetawa Yoana. <sup>7</sup> Ūsu ookie kwondū wa tikūsi, nikana akūsiŋe ūndū wa kila keni, nī kana onthe metikile nūdū wake. <sup>8</sup> We ndai kila keni, indi atūmiwe nī kana akūsiŋe ūndū wa kila keni. <sup>9</sup> Kyai keni kya w'o, kila kimulikaa kila mūdū ūla wūkaa kū nū nthi. <sup>10</sup> Ai kū nthi, na nthi yatwikithiwe niwe, na nthi ndiaamūnya. <sup>11</sup> Ookie kwake mwene, na ala make mwene maiaamwosa. <sup>12</sup> Indi onthe ala miamwose, amanengie ūkintū wa ūtw'ika syana sya Ngai, o asu ala metikila syiwa yake. <sup>13</sup> Ala matasyawa kwa nihakame ona kana kwa kwenda kwa mwīlī ona kani kwa kwenda kwa mūdū, indi maasyaitwe nī Ngai. <sup>14</sup> Na ila Ndeto yatw'ika mwīlī, na yatūa kati waiŋū (na ithyi twoona iŋheu mītisu wake, iŋheu mītisu ta wa ūla wasyaiwe weka auma kwa Asa) ausūŋe mumo na w'o. <sup>15</sup> Yoana akūsiŋa ūndū wake, na aneena na wasya mūnene akyaaya, Ūū nī ūla nawetie atiŋ, Ūla ūkite itina wakwa e mbece

1

Endeavour (FAME) mission for their financial support of this project. At the time of writing, we hope that the Gospel according to John will be printed by the end of the year since it is being typeset at present. Further translation work is progressing in the Gospel according to Matthew. A translation of *The Lord Gave the Word* is also being prepared.

### NEW! Kirundi (Burundi)

Kirundi or Rundi is a Bantu tonal language with about 11.2 million speakers; the majority are in Burundi, but it is also spoken in Rwanda, Tanzania, Kenya, and other countries. French literacy is especially low in Burundi outside the main city of Bujumbura, and Kirundi is the first language in these parts. The existing translation in this language was rendered from the Louis Segond 1910 French Bible and thus is deficient both translationally and textually. There is a need for a sound translation in this language, but we do not yet have individuals who have come forward for the work.

### Kisanga (Democratic Republic of Congo)

Kisanga (or Sanga) is a Bantu language chiefly spoken in some of the southern areas of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Some estimates place the number of Kisanga speakers at 1.1 million. The Society published a Kisanga Bible in 1991. During the past year we have been in contact with an organisation who would like to print Kisanga Bibles and with people who could help evaluate the text. The evaluation work is progressing slowly, but it is evident that there are some areas where revision would be necessary in order to comply with the standards and principles of the Society. Copyright

on the New Testament and Isaiah is held by the Scottish Bible Society who have given permission for it to be reprinted but we await their permission to amend the text.

### **NEW! Madi (Africa, Uganda, and South Sudan)**

Madi is a central Sudanic language spoken in South Sudan and Uganda by about 320,000 people. TBS is providing a consultancy-only service to our friends at WorldView Ministries, to whom this project belongs. TBS recently examined a draft of the Madi John and Romans text, providing feedback on back translations of key verses.

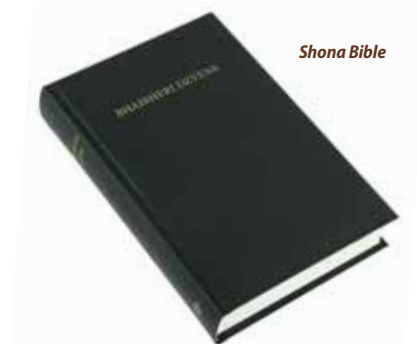
### **Mauritian Creole (Mauritius)**

Mauritian Creole is a French-based creole language spoken by about 1.3 million people in Mauritius. In addition to its French base, Mauritian Creole includes words from English and from the many African and Asian languages that have been spoken on the island. In the past year our translator has joined the firstBible School of Translation to gain further grounding in the Biblical languages and in other aspects of Bible translation. These studies have been his main focus, but he has recently passed us the final draft text of the Gospel according to John for publication by the Society, which we hope can be done within the next twelve months.

### **Pokot (Kenya)**

For the past ten years the Society has been undertaking a new translation of the New Testament in Pokot, a tribal language spoken by approximately 700,000 people, the majority of whom live in the northern

part of Kenya. Our lead translator is using the TBS Greek New Testament as his primary source, with secondary reference to the Authorised (King James) Version. He also refers to the first edition TBS Pokot New Testament published in 1967, as well as the Pokot New Testament published by the Bible Society of Kenya and other extant African language translations. The team have been hindered in their work, but last month they were due to complete their team review of Acts and then commence work in Romans. The Society provides financial support for translation team meetings using incoming funds that are specifically designated for it.



### **Shona (Zimbabwe)**

The 12,000 copies of the Shona Bible from the first printing reported in last year's Annual Report have almost all been distributed. During the past twelve months we have been pleased to receive positive feedback concerning both the text and the layout of this new translation of God's Word. We are very grateful to GBS for generously funding the initial printing of the Shona Bible. As funds allow, we look forward to printing further copies to meet the demand in Zimbabwe, where about 70% of the population speak Shona.

## Swahili (Eastern Africa)

Swahili is a lingua franca that is chiefly spoken in the countries of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda. A somewhat different form of Swahili, with a French base, is spoken in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The translation work is being undertaken directly from the Greek Received Text by a suitably qualified Swahili speaker, supported by five other Swahili speakers: three based in Kenya and three in Tanzania. In recent months, similarly to last year the team has faced some further significant difficulties. If the Lord wills, later this year, the Swahili Gospel according to John will be published online and in print for feedback since there is considerable regional variation in the language spoken across East Africa and we would like our text to be widely accepted. A Swahili translation of the Society's article *The Lord Gave the Word* is also being prepared and is partially drafted.

## Xhosa (South Africa)

Xhosa is one of the official languages of South Africa. We continue to pray that a new translation project directly from the Biblical languages might commence with suitably qualified translators raised up by God for this work.



## Europe

### British Sign Language (UK)

In 2020 the General Committee agreed to commence a pilot project in British Sign Language (BSL), where the signing would be placed in video above the English Authorised Version on the Society's website. The main signer is currently studying for his BSL Level 6 course, which is the

top BSL qualification; this is good for the project but has slowed down progress due to the time the studies take. The BSL team have also had to relocate the place where the signing is filmed, and some further improvements are needed. However, we have been sent an updated edition of John 1 fully signed for us to review. Please remember this project in your prayers, particularly as the project leader is experiencing significant health issues.

## Bulgarian

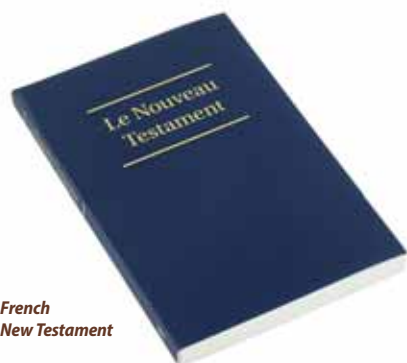
For some years the Society was engaged in revising the first Bulgarian Protestant Bible, widely known as the 'Constantinople' or 'Slaveikov' Bible. Sadly, our reviser, Spassimir Stantchev passed away in 2021, having only fully completed the revision of the Gospel according to John. This continues to be distributed both in print and online—the text is available to view at [tbsonlinebible.com/#bg](http://tbsonlinebible.com/#bg). As yet we do not have someone suitably qualified to take on Spassimir's work, though there have been occasional enquiries. We look to the Lord to provide.

## Catalan

The Society's Catalan Bible continues to be circulated throughout the region of Catalunya. Various initiatives continue to make these Scriptures available more widely through digital and audio means. Corrections to the first edition text are also being discussed. The full text of the Catalan Bible is publicly available on our online Bible at [tbsonlinebible.com/#ca](http://tbsonlinebible.com/#ca). Gideons International have recently entered discussions to print 20,000 copies of the TBS Catalan New Testament and Psalms on licence from us, and we are thankful for this development.

## Czech

The 1613 Kralice Bible is one of the classic Reformation-era Bibles. At the time of writing, the text has been fully digitised and is currently being proofread by a native speaker. We hope that this final check will be completed by September. Work to prepare a set of cross-references for the Czech Bible is also well advanced, with the New Testament cross-referencing completed, following which work will commence on the Old Testament cross-references. Due to limited demand any printed edition is likely to be produced on a short run digital press.



*French  
New Testament*

## French

Since 2013 the Society has been revising the 1872 Lausanne Bible. We are thankful that the French New Testament was published earlier this year. Our friends at FGEA have sent 18,000 copies to French-speaking countries in Africa. Further copies are being distributed across the Francophone world by various other individuals and organisations. We were also very encouraged with the New Testament launch thanksgiving services held in April in France and Quebec. In the Old Testament, the team have finished

revising the books of Psalms and Proverbs and we hope that in due course it may be possible to print these books together with the New Testament. Further draft revision work has been carried out on the Pentateuch and Joshua. We are grateful to our friends at TBS (Canada) for their financial and prayerful support of this project.

## German

In 2021 the Society, in correspondence with a small group in Germany, worked through a list of possible corrections to our 1912–1998 revised Luther Bible. It had been hoped to discuss these corrections with other German speakers to ensure that they are definitely needed and that they will not, unnecessarily, move our edition away from Luther's work. Sadly, it has not yet been possible to progress this review and so we would value contact with any native German speakers who could help us in this regard.

## Greek (Modern)

Work to translate the Society's edition of the Koiné Greek New Testament directly into current literary Greek has progressed well and the draft text of the Gospel according to John has been reviewed by several independent native Greek speakers. Their feedback is now being assessed and, where appropriate, is being used to make adjustments to the text. It is hoped that the text of John will be finalised later this year, after which it will be examined by the Editorial Department.

## Hungarian

The digitisation of the TBS Karoli Bible proceeds apace with the help of a native Hungarian volunteer. Thus far the digital text of the complete New Testament and



Genesis to Lamentations inclusive has been passed to the Editorial Department. It is anticipated that the digital text of the whole Bible will be in hand by the end of this year. Thereafter it will be subject to further checking and processing before being made available on our online Bible app. It is hoped that the final form of the digital text will be used to prepare a new more readable setting of the Hungarian Bible.

### Italian

We are delighted to report that the digital text of the entire Diodati Bible has been fully prepared together with a set of cross references. The files are all now with the Editorial Department for further checking and processing. After that, it is hoped that the Italian Bible will be made available on our online Bible app.

### Maltese

The project to revise the TBS Maltese Bible so that it conforms to the latest set of Maltese grammar rules and to update the language to current usage has not progressed very much in recent years. However, we have been encouraged in recent weeks to have contact with an individual who is keen to move this project forward in their spare time. We were also encouraged to learn that 70,000 copies of the revised Gospel according to John have now been distributed on the islands of Malta.

### Norwegian

The Society has been in touch for some years with a translator in Norway, working on a new edition of the Bible in Norwegian, primarily using the English Authorised Version but with secondary reference to the underlying Biblical texts. The translator recently informed us that in his final review of the Bible he has finished the New Testament. In terms of the Old Testament, he has begun with the poetic books and is making good progress. He hopes to finish the Old Testament by the end of this year, God willing.

### Polish

Although the Polish employed in our New Testament is challenging for many modern Polish speakers, there is still strong demand for this edition. We have had several contacts over the past year, but so far our desire to revise the text (bringing it into closer conformity to the Greek Received Text using current literary Polish) has not yet resulted in a definite project.

### *The Portuguese Bible online*



### Portuguese (Brazil, Mozambique, Angola, and Portugal)

In recent decades hundreds of millions of copies of our Portuguese Scriptures have been circulated throughout the Portuguese-speaking world. Over recent years our branch in Brazil has led efforts to regularly update the published text so that it conforms to the changes specified by

the internationally recognised Portuguese language academy. Our Portuguese Bible text is available through the Society's overall platform at [tbsonlinebible.com/#pt](https://tbsonlinebible.com/#pt) or for Portuguese speakers through our Brazilian branch website [biblias.com.br](https://biblias.com.br). Each year there are millions of visits to the Brazilian website and other apps where these Scriptures can be viewed.

## Romanian

The Society continues to receive positive reports about the circulation of the new edition of the Romanian Scriptures published in 2018. As we continue to expand our range of Romanian Scriptures and materials a medium print edition of the Bible is projected together with a translation of our article *How the Holy Bible Came to Be*.

## Russian

The whole Russian Bible is now available digitally on our online Bible app at [tbsonlinebible.com/#ru](https://tbsonlinebible.com/#ru). For many years we have published this Bible in three different sizes: small, medium, and large. The digital text was used to produce a new setting of the Russian New Testament and Psalms, which has also now been published.

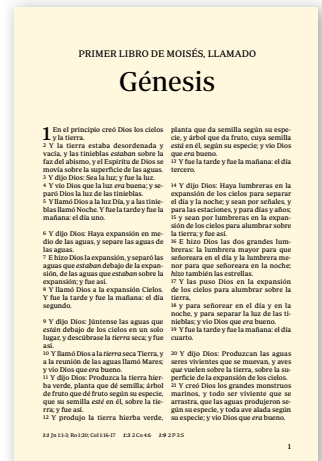
## Slovak

Slovak is the official language of the Slovak Republic and spoken by approximately 5 million people as a native language. It is closely related to Czech and Polish. The Gospel according to John and Paul's Epistle to the Romans needed considerable further review before publication, but we are pleased that this portion is going through the typesetting

process. We hope it will be available in print by the end of this year, God willing. The team are now working on Matthew. An initial draft translation of the Society's article *The Lord Gave the Word* has been prepared but further revision is necessary.

## Spanish

The entire text of the SBT Spanish Reina-Valera Bible has been prepared and was approved for publication by the General Committee. Copies of the Bible are currently being produced in Europe and the hardcover edition (SPAB/ABK) is due to be completed in early July. A second printing is being produced in Brazil specifically for countries in Central and South America and these were due to be completed by the end of May. We give thanks to God for this wonderful milestone and thank the executive revision committee for all their hard work over many years to prepare this new faithful edition of the Spanish Bible. The Society is very grateful for the substantial financial support given by GBS for this major project. A lightly edited fuller update from Bill Greendyk, head of the Spanish Bible executive revision committee, follows.



First page of the Spanish Bible

In the Lord's unspeakable goodness we may report that in early January

of this year the Spanish Bible revision team finished the final stages of checking and proofreading the Spanish Bible, after completing the final revision process at a team meeting in Barcelona in December 2022. Thus a project that was officially begun in November 2006, and which has involved almost fifteen years of nearly full-time work by the team, has now come to its conclusion. Countless hours have been prayerfully spent seeking the most faithful rendering for each original word and phrase in the Spanish Bible, while remaining as faithful as possible to the original Reina-Valera Bible of 1602.

The first months of 2023 have been spent promoting and preparing for the various presentation and thanksgiving services that will be held in principal cities of the Spanish-speaking world. Over the past decade many informational conferences have been held throughout Latin America to demonstrate to the Spanish-speaking church the need for the return to a faithful translation of God's Word in Spanish. This promotional work has been blessed of the Lord, and at present there are innumerable pastors, congregations, and members who are eagerly awaiting the publication and distribution of the Society's Spanish Bible, which will bear the name 'Reina-Valera SBT' or 'RV-SBT' for short.

It is expected that the Spanish Bible will be printed and available for distribution in June, the Lord willing. Subsequently, the first Spanish

Bible presentation and thanksgiving services will be held in Medellin, Colombia, and Santiago, Chile in July of this year, with several more to follow in Spain and other parts of Spanish-speaking Latin America in the months and years to follow. It is our wish and prayer that the Lord Himself may receive all praise, honor, and glory in these special services, and that His precious Word in Spanish may be used to the salvation of many and the coming of His Kingdom.

'For of him, and through him, and to him, *are* all things: to whom *be* glory for ever. Amen' (Romans 11.36).

### Ukrainian

The Society continues to publish the Kulish version of the Ukrainian Bible, and further printings of the whole Bible continue to be made. This text is also being made available in a new print setting of the New Testament and Psalms. However, the Society recognises that the Kulish edition is in an old western dialect of Ukrainian, which is challenging for many of today's Ukrainians to read. Thus, we are pleased to advise that in recent months the General Committee approved the Popchenko New Testament text for publication. The Popchenko edition is in current literary Ukrainian and thus accessible to all Ukrainian readers. Once a publication and distribution agreement has been reached with Mr Popchenko, we will publish his New Testament text. In the meantime, he continues to translate the Old Testament, with the Psalms prepared in first draft. In the Lord's often mysterious providence, the sad and devastating

war in Ukraine has led to many Ukrainians desiring to read God's Word and being moved to hear the Gospel.

### Welsh

Our Welsh contact has now finished preparing the draft marginal notes for the William Morgan Bible along the lines of those supplied in the Society's English Westminster Reference Bible. He has also prepared a glossary of terms. His painstaking work is now being thoroughly examined by around a dozen native Welsh speakers, and we await their detailed feedback.



## The Middle East and the Caucasus regions

### Abkhaz (Abkhazia)

Abkhaz is the official language of the self-proclaimed Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia, which borders Russia and Georgia. The translator desiring to prepare a faithful edition of the Abkhaz Bible recently visited the region and was able to further study the language. He hopes to engage in additional studies on a return visit later this year. We pray that this project would advance significantly in the coming years, especially as it is one of the last languages in Europe without a complete Bible.

### Arabic

As one of the languages most widely spoken in the world we desire to have a digital text available of the Arabic Bible. To that end we pray that we may be brought into contact with well-qualified native Arabic speakers to prepare the digital text of the Society's middle-vowelled print edition of the Smith Van Dyck Arabic Bible.

### NEW! Georgian (Georgia)

Our friends at the Russian Bible Society based in North Carolina, USA, are producing a new translation into Georgian. We have recently opened discussions with them on the possibility of licencing the text of the Gospel according to Matthew so that it might be printed for evangelistic purposes.

### Hebrew (Modern)

The Society continues to revise the Delitzsch Hebrew New Testament (DHNT) so that it is more faithful to the Greek Received Text and in a more understandable form of Hebrew. All books have been drafted and reviewed with the exception of Acts. The team's work is being checked book by book by the Society's Senior Editorial Consultant (Linguistics) as they become ready. The entire New Testament is also in process of being field tested by native Hebrew speakers and immigrants who have learnt Hebrew. God willing, the basic revision of the whole New Testament will be completed by June 2023. We are thankful that an audio edition of the revised New Testament is also due to be recorded. We acknowledge the generous financial support for the DHNT revision project received over many years from the Finnish Bible Institute and from the Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland. We are very grateful to three Dutch organisations—GBS, da Costa Foundation, and the Board for Israel—which currently provide substantial financial support to the project.

### Persian/Farsi (Iran)

Persian, also known as Farsi, is predominantly spoken and used officially within Iran, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan in three

mutually intelligible standard varieties, namely Persian, Dari, and Tajik. We are delighted that the online edition of the TBS Persian New Testament—available at [tbsonlinebible.com/#fa](http://tbsonlinebible.com/#fa)—is being accessed from Afghanistan as well as Iran and other countries where Persian speakers reside.

Our main reviser is exceptionally busy, but he continues to revise the Old Testament text of the 1895 Persian Bible. It is hoped that the Old Testament revision work can be completed during the next eighteen months, with the aim of publishing the complete Bible by the end of 2025. Use of the New Testament text (in part or in whole) has been granted to several other organisations, who are preparing or have prepared their own printings of various portions of the text. It has also been printed locally in Iran and Turkey. A total of 44,500 New Testaments were printed in the last year.

### Turkish

We are thankful to the Lord for answering our prayers about the Turkish Bible Revision. We were able to approve a suitable reviser to begin this work at the end of 2022. The first seven books of the Old Testament were finished by the beginning of May 2023, which accounts for one-quarter of the whole Turkish Bible. The entire revision is expected to be finished by early 2025. Meanwhile, the already-revised books are being re-read, so that any typographic errors or other necessary changes are being noted along the way, ready to be sent to the Editorial Department for correction. Whilst the Old Testament revision has been progressing, considerable numbers

of the New Testament have been distributed over the past year.



## The Indian subcontinent

### General note on Manipur where many TBS Bible projects are underway:

Some of you will have seen on the news media that in early May violence erupted in the Northeast Indian state of Manipur. Essentially, violence flared because the predominantly Hindu Meitei people living in the valley area of Manipur were given tribal status by the local high court, thus threatening the hitherto protected lands and villages of the predominantly Christian tribes living in the hills of Manipur. Whilst acts of violence have been committed by the hill tribes, the majority Hindu Meitei people have been responsible for burning down dozens of churches (including some used by Meitei Christians) and tribal villages. At times Hindu Meitei mobs appear to have had the tacit support of the local Manipuri government.

At the time of writing, the internet in Manipur has been shut down since early May and so we have been largely out of

touch with most of our Bible translators living there. In mid-May we were able to ascertain that most of our Bible translators were at that point still alive and kept safe. However, with the violence continuing we earnestly pray that the Lord would preserve our translators, their families, and their churches and that peace would be restored to this region of India.

The events are all the more poignant as the Society's Editorial Director and Senior Editorial Consultant (Projects) were able to spend some days in Manipur in late February, meeting all of our local Bible translators and revisers there and attending thanksgiving services for the publication of both the Thadou Bible and the Simte Bible. At that point there were no obvious signs of the tensions that have engulfed the state since then.

### **Boro (Assam and India)**

Boro, also known as Bodo, is spoken primarily by the Boro people of Northeast India. There are more than 1.4 million Boro speakers. The current Boro Bible was published in the 1960s in the now unused Latin script and is not based on the Received Text. Since 1975 the language has been written using the Devanagari script. The team based in Assam have completed a final draft of the Gospel according to John and have prepared some other portions of the New Testament in first draft. The project has slowed during the past year, and we would request prayer for better progress to be made in the months ahead.

### **Chothe (Manipur, India)**

Over the past year better progress has been made on our Chothe Bible. Our

translator has now reached Galatians, having completely drafted the preceding books of the New Testament. The TBS Chothe Bible is one of the first significant written productions in this language; currently there are just a few Christian booklets and hymns published in the language, so our translator is faced with scouring the language for the appropriate vocabulary and terminology. There is just one small glossary in Chothe, which is inadequate. A Chothe Literary Committee has been formed to list the vocabulary more fully. Please pray for this particularly challenging translation endeavour.

### **Gangte (Manipur, India)**

In late February the Society's Editorial Director and Senior Editorial Consultant (Projects) were at last able to meet with three members of the local Gangte Bible translation committee and engaged in detailed discussions with them. We were able to recommend this as a pilot project to the General Committee and they subsequently gave their approval. God willing, work will shortly commence with the Gospel according to John. The new translation will be from the Authorised Version with reference to the underlying Hebrew and Greek.

### **NEW! Halam (Tripura, India)**

The Halam language is spoken by the Halam tribal group, which number about 58,000 and are mostly based in the Indian state of Tripura. For some while the Editorial Department have been in contact with a recent seminary graduate concerning the preparation of a Bible in Halam, and it is hoped that we will shortly be able to recommend the General Committee to take on this project



as a pilot, commencing with the Gospel according to John. Again, the work would be undertaken from the Authorised Version with reference to the underlying Hebrew and Greek.

### **Hindi (India)**

Hindi is the sixth most spoken language in the world and one of the two official languages of the government of India, the other being English. Our translator was able to finish a second draft of the Gospel according to John earlier this year, which included valuable feedback from our Nepali Bible translator who has a superb eye for detail. Our translator has also translated more than half of Matthew in first draft. We continue to pray for further native Hindi speakers, committed to TBS principles and with a critical eye for grammatical and other translational details to work alongside our translator, who hopes soon to spend some time in India. God willing, further Hindi helpers can be gathered during his extended visit there. Our translator also has some contacts in India

who will help him prepare a new translation of the Gospel according to John in Bhojpuri, an Indo-Aryan language native to the Bhojpur-Purvanchal region of India.

### **Hmar (Northeast India)**

Hmar is spoken by the Hmar people, who are scattered across the far north east of India in the states of Manipur, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram. Hmar speakers number around 100,000. The project, which began in 2021, has progressed well. The main translator has already prepared the text of the four Gospels and Acts, with John being approved by the General Committee so that the project is now set to work towards the publication of the whole New Testament. Another translator is working on Romans. We recently heard that our translator, who is based in Manipur, was able to take his family to safety in a neighbouring state, but was set to return to his post as principal of a theological college in Manipur.

### **Kannada (Karnataka, India)**

Kannada, also called Kanarese or Kannana, is the official language of the state of Karnataka in southern India. Kannada is also spoken in the states that border Karnataka. Early twenty-first-century census data indicated that some 38 million individuals spoke Kannada as their first language; another 9 to 10 million were thought to speak it as a secondary language. We are thankful that, following the death of the original project leader last year, an American missionary has very ably taken on oversight of the TBS Kannada Bible revision project. Earlier this year it was a joy for the Society's Editorial Director and Senior Editorial Consultant (Projects) during their visit to India to travel to



*Meeting with the Kannada Bible revision committees*

Karnataka to meet with the current project leader and members of the two teams engaged in the revision. We are pleased to report that over recent months good progress has been made in revising the Gospel according to John and it is hoped that it can be published next year.

### **Kom (Manipur, India)**

We give thanks to God that the Kom New Testament was approved by the Society for publication and, after all the usual checks, is now ready for typesetting. It is hoped that it will be published next year. We are grateful for the partnership of our friends at firstBible International who have committed to raising the funds for this New Testament to be printed by their sister organisation, Bearing Precious Seed of Milford, Ohio. Our translator lives in a tribal village in Manipur, which is surrounded by Hindu Meitei, and so we especially pray for his safe keeping at this time of conflict there.

### **Nepali (Nepal and India)**

In God's goodness the Society's 2011 Nepali Bible has become established as a standard edition among Nepali speakers across the world. We have been able to license use of the audio text to quite a number of other organisations, and it has also been used by a third party in a diglot edition with the AV text. A braille edition has been circulated. The lightly revised second edition text of the Bible, in which the language has been adapted more towards that used in Nepal, is now in circulation and has been well received, particularly in Nepal.

### **Nthenyi Naga (Nagaland, India)**

Nthenyi is a Sino-Tibetan language but written in Latin script. It is spoken by

about 13,000 people in the north-east Indian state of Nagaland. The Society has been passed a revised draft copy of the New Testament in Nthenyi Naga by a contact who is known to us. Although the project has not been done with TBS, when we have time we will look at what has been done and report back to him on our findings.



*Receiving the Simte Bible*

### **Simte (Manipur, India)**

Almost all the seven thousand copies of the Bible, which arrived in Churachandpur last year, have now been circulated and are being used in Simte-speaking households and churches across the state of Manipur and beyond. It was a great joy for the Society's Editorial Director and Senior Editorial Consultant (Projects) to speak and preach respectively at a Thanksgiving Service for this Bible held in Churachandpur on the Lord's Day 26 February 2023. The service was attended by more than 1,200 people. It was wonderful to see the gratitude and regard of the Simte people for these Scriptures and the sense of ownership they have. We are grateful to our friends at firstBible International who raised the funds for this Bible to be printed at Bearing Precious

Seed of Milford, Ohio, and it was good to have the Director of firstBible with us at the Thanksgiving Service. Whilst the second edition has been well received, the local Simte Bible Committee advised that some amendments made in the recently published text have not been accepted and further work is needed in some other verses and passages. They therefore plan to prepare a further revised edition in the coming years.

### **NEW! Tamil (India/Sri Lanka)**

We rejoice that the Lord has answered our prayers by providing a faithful Tamil brother who has the ability, desire, and time to work on a Tamil Bible project. Last year the General Committee approved a pilot project with him, starting with a new translation of the Gospel according to John directly from the underlying Greek Received Text, with secondary reference to extant Tamil Bibles and to the AV. At the beginning of March this year Editorial staff were able to meet in person with the Tamil Bible translator in India. We are thankful that our translator made good progress in translating John and recently submitted his draft text for examination by the Editorial Department. At the time of writing it is anticipated that, following some minor corrections, the text will be recommended to the General Committee as suitable for publication.

### **New! Tedim-Zomi (India)**

On their recent visit to India, our Editorial Director and Senior Editorial Consultant (Projects) were able to meet with a gentleman who has translated the whole of the Bible from the Authorised Version into Tedim-Zomi. We are in process of evaluating his work on the Gospel according to

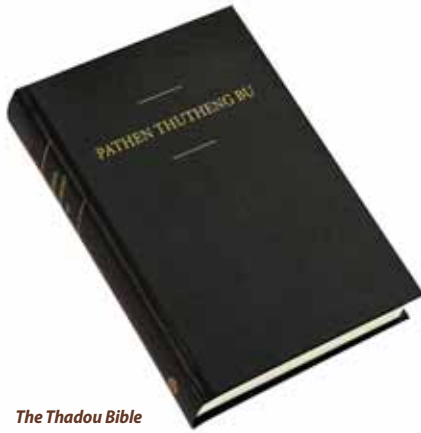
John, having been satisfied already that the language is sufficiently different from the closely related Tedim-Zokam language spoken in Burma and in which we have had a project for many years.

### **NEW! Telugu (India)**

Telugu is a Dravidian language spoken by people predominantly living in the Indian states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and in the Yanam district of Puducherry, India, where it is also the official language. Along with Hindi and Bengali it is one of the few languages with primary official language status in more than one Indian state. Telugu has the fourth highest number of native speakers in India, with nearly 82 million speakers according to the 2011 census. The Society published a Telegu New Testament in 1983 but in the early 1990s we were told that it had problems such as omissions but by that time we had stopped publishing it. Some revision work was undertaken in the late 1990s and 2000s, but it transpired that there were issues with this work too. Within the past year an individual has been in contact with us who is suitably qualified to lead translation in this language. After Committee approval for a pilot project to commence, a first draft of the Gospel according to John is expected soon. This will need further review and analysis before further steps are taken.

### **Thadou (Manipur, India)**

In November 2020, 11,000 copies of the Thadou Bible were joyfully received by the Thadou people. These have now been circulated and are being used in Thadou-speaking households and churches in Manipur and beyond. The Society's Editorial Director and Senior



*The Thadou Bible*

Editorial Consultant (Projects) rejoiced to speak and preach respectively at a Thanksgiving Service for this Bible held in Damdei, Manipur on Friday 24 February 2023. The service was attended by about 400, the majority young people. It was heartening and humbling to see the thankfulness of the Thadou people for these Scriptures. We are grateful to our friends at firstBible International who raised the funds for this Bible to be printed at Bearing Precious Seed of Milford, Ohio, and it was good to have the Director of firstBible with us at the Thanksgiving Service. A few minor corrections are awaited to this first edition text, but we are thankful that a further formal revision is not needed.

### **Urdu (Pakistan)**

Urdu is the official national language of Pakistan; it is also spoken in India and is a recognised minority language in South Africa. It is our continued prayer that the tens of millions who speak Urdu as their first language should one day have a faithful edition of God's Word. Two years ago we were made aware that a contact in Australia with an

Urdu-speaking wife was well underway with a new edition of the Urdu Bible based on the Received Text; however, progress has been slow, and we do not know when we might be able to examine this new translation.

### **Vaiphei (Manipur, India)**

We give thanks to God that the Vaiphei Bible was approved by the Society for publication. The Vaiphei Bible Revision Committee are currently proofreading and checking the typeset text, although their work has been hindered since early May by the violent unrest occurring in Manipur. Nevertheless, we pray that they will soon be able to provide us with their final corrections so that the Bible can be prepared for printing. We are grateful for the partnership of our friends at firstBible International who have committed to raising the funds for this Bible to be printed by their sister organisation, Bearing Precious Seed of Milford, Ohio. The Vaiphei Committee have also translated two TBS articles—*The Lord Gave the Word* and *Which Bible Version: Does it Really Matter?*—to be published alongside the Bible in due course.

### **Zou (Manipur, India, and Burma)**

We give thanks to God that the Zou Bible was approved by the Society for publication and, after all the usual checks, is close to being ready for typesetting. It is hoped that it will be published late next year or early the following year. We are grateful for the partnership of our friends at firstBible International who have committed to raising the funds for this New Testament to be printed by their sister organisation, Bearing Precious Seed of Milford, Ohio.



## Rest of Asia

### Burmese (Myanmar)

In 2021 the Society was asked to review a new draft translation of the Burmese Scriptures being carried out in Myanmar under the auspices of a church in the USA. Due to the ongoing troubles in Burma, we have not so far been able to undertake a full Translation Analysis Checklist evaluation as we would have liked. We will, though, be sharing the initial top-level feedback with the sponsoring church. A meeting in this regard was scheduled for the beginning of June. Please pray that the situation in Burma would soon improve sufficiently to allow a fuller review of this new translation.

### Cebuano (Philippines)

Cebuano is primarily spoken in the southern part of the Philippines by around 22 million native speakers. In recent weeks we have been in contact with a Cebuano-speaking pastor who is keen to work with the Society in preparing a new translation of the Scriptures. We pray that this may be an answer to our prayers for fresh workers to carry forward faithful Bible translation in this language.

### Chinese

It was a great joy for the Society to publish the New Testament earlier this year. The Thanksgiving Service in the USA was well attended and there is growing interest in our translation project. The team have prepared a first draft translation of Genesis. They are currently translating Exodus and Psalms and are more than halfway through both books. The work is

now being assisted on a trial basis by a native Chinese woman who is gifted and experienced in both Biblical Hebrew and translation into Chinese. We are also progressing a version of the New Testament in Traditional Chinese characters which are in common use among many Chinese speakers in the Asian countries beyond mainland China. A Chinese translation of *How the Holy Bible Came to Be* was distributed alongside the New Testament at the launch service. We are thankful to firstBible International who raised funds for a printing of the New Testament, which supplemented the Society's own printing. TBS is also very grateful for the substantial financial support given by GBS over many years for this major project.

### NEW! Korean

During the past year the Society has been digitising and reviewing a Korean Bible translation that had already been favourably assessed in relation to text and translation. In due course we hope to publish it online and are now ready to begin this with the Gospel according to John.



Chinese  
New Testament

### **Lhaovo (for Burma/China)**

All of the Lhaovo New Testament and a small part of the Old Testament are available in digital format. We continue praying that someone competent in Lhaovo and English would be found to help us evaluate the accuracy of this text.

### **Lisu (for Burma/China)**

We have a complete digital text available of the original TBS Lisu Bible which was first published in 1980. We pray that someone would come forward to evaluate the TBS Lisu Bible, some corrections proposed for it, and a Lisu Bible published by another organisation.



*Mongolian landscape*

### **Mongolian**

Since 2009 the Society has partnered with Dr Charles Keen (assisted by other American Independent Baptists) to prepare a new edition of the Mongolian Bible translated directly from the Greek

Received and Hebrew Masoretic Texts. The first edition of the New Testament was published in 2017 but is being lightly revised to improve some of the phrasing. Work has progressed well on the Old Testament with further books being translated in first draft such that much of the initial translation work is now complete. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Great Company of Publishers for the Old Testament portion of this project. The Society funds the revision work on the New Testament.

### **NEW! Surigaonon (Philippines)**

The pastor who speaks Cebuano also ministers in another regional language Surigaonon, which is spoken in the province of Surigao del Norte, located in the far north-east of the island of Mindanao. There is no Bible in this language although there are 500,000 speakers. Discussions about this further language are at an early stage.

### **Tagalog (Philippines)**

Tagalog is the most widely spoken language in the Philippines. It is the first language of the ethnic Tagalog people, who at 28 million make up roughly a quarter of the population. Tagalog is spoken as a second language by the vast majority of the population, so that in total there are about 82 million speakers. During the course of this year, a second draft translation of the Gospel according to John has been circulated among some very well-qualified native Tagalog speakers. Their constructive and helpful feedback is being used to make improvements to the text, and a final draft will



then be prepared for evaluation by the Editorial Department. We gratefully acknowledge the support provided by a church in Canada for this project.

### **Tedim Zokam (Burma/Myanmar)**

Early in 2023, we rejoiced to receive the New Testament text after many years of labour by the translation team. The New Testament has now been input to our Editorial System and thoroughly checked, together with some supplied cross references. Given the complexities of the situation in Burma and the well-advanced progress on the Old Testament, we will not publish the New Testament as a stand-alone item but rather aim to publish the whole Bible. We anticipate waiting just a few more months for the Old Testament text. Please pray for our translators as they labour amid some very challenging circumstances.



## **The Americas**

### **Haitian Creole (Haiti)**

Haitian Creole is a French-based creole spoken by 10 to 12 million people worldwide and the only language of most Haitians. Since January 2019 TBS has been providing a consultancy-only service to an American missionary who is overseeing a project to translate the Authorised Version into Haitian Creole. Over the past two years he has been receiving further training in Bible translation. Once he has completed the three-year course, he hopes to start reviewing the draft text of the Haitian Creole Bible.

## **Biblical languages project**

### **Digitisation of the Society's Hebrew Masoretic Text**

Our Editorial Consultant continues to correct mistakes in the digital Hebrew text obtained in 2015 and to make the consonantal corrections needed to match it to our published Ginsburg text. The work has been slow due to various issues encountered but we have been able to publish Isaiah on our online Bible and the full digitisation is expected to be complete by the end of this year, God willing. The finished work is due to include the *qere* and *ketiv* footnotes which provide helpful marginal assistance to the Biblical Hebrew reader. Once this work is complete, it will enable us to produce a new setting of the printed Hebrew Old Testament text for publication with the revised Hebrew New Testament as well as with the Greek Received Text.

### *The Hebrew Scriptures on the TBS Online Bible*



## New Article:

# Why John 7.53–8.11 is in the Bible

A Defence of the Authenticity of 'The Woman Taken In Adultery'  
Account in the Text of Holy Scripture.

**T**his new article by Dr Jeffrey T. Riddle (pastor of Christ Reformed Baptist Church, Louisa, Virginia, USA) looks at the passage in the Gospel according to John about the woman taken in adultery, also known as the Pericope Adulterae (PA). Some modern Bibles now cast doubt on the authenticity of this passage, or even suggest it be removed from Scripture altogether. Advocates of the modern critical Greek text would have us believe that this passage is an uninspired, spurious addition to John's Gospel, which should not be the subject of Christian preaching or teaching.

Dr Riddle maintains the authenticity of this well-loved passage, assuring the reader that it can be confidently defended and affirmed as Holy Scripture. He looks at the evidence for this, taking into account:

- The external evidence: whether the passage is found in surviving Greek manuscripts
- The internal evidence: whether the passage fits within the literary context of the Gospel according to John, including the narrative, and also the language, style, and vocabulary of John
- Patristic evidence: whether the Early Church Fathers quote the passage.

Having stated the evidence, the article concludes that the authenticity of John 7.53–8.11 is affirmed through all the evidence available. To quote the author, 'To reject the PA [Pericope Adulterae passage] would be to rob Holy Scripture of one of its most precious and useful accounts of our Lord's incarnational ministry. It would be to rob the church of one of its great resources. How many times over the millennia have Christian pastors drawn upon this passage from the pulpit in preaching and in their studies while doing personal work in counselling? They have used it to comfort sinners with the good news of the unfathomable forgiveness of sin found in Christ—Christ forgives the worst sins committed by the worst sinners ... We in this generation must stand and defend this text as those in the generations before us have done'.

Please visit our website to read the article: [tbsbibles.org/PericopeAdulterae](https://tbsbibles.org/PericopeAdulterae), or you can obtain printed copies (A136).

# Financial Highlights 2022



by David J. Broome, Resources Director

## Introduction

**T**he Society's Trustees and Management would publicly acknowledge the Lord's great goodness in supplying the Society's needs during 2022 in faithfulness to His own promise: 'And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may abound to every good work' (2 Corinthians 9.8).

In this Annual Report, the key points from the Society's finances over 2022 are highlighted and the summary financial statements are given at the end. The full Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements for 2022, which include considerable additional information about the activities and administration of the Society, are available both on our website ([tbsbibles.org/AnnualReport](https://tbsbibles.org/AnnualReport)) and in printed form; we would encourage members and supporters of the Society to visit our website or contact our Headquarters to request copies.

## The Result for the Year

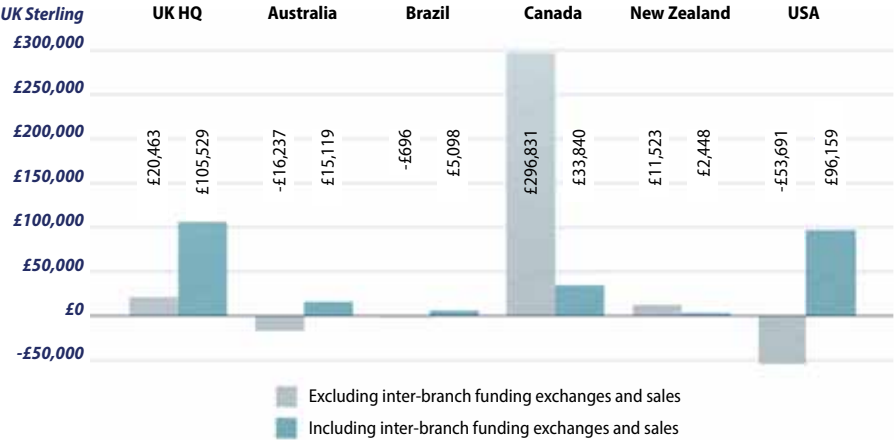
The Society's Total Funds increased by £462,808 during 2022. After gains and losses caused by movements in foreign exchange rates are removed, the Net Income for the year was £258,193. This figure is the accumulation of modest surpluses from TBS London (£105,529) and the Society's five Branches (totalling £152,664). The Trustees are very thankful to God for all His provision during the year.

The Net Income of £258,193 is broken down by Branch in the chart on the following page; the figures are presented both excluding and including sales and funding exchanges between London and the Branches.

The key points to take from this are:

- TBS (Australia) and TBS (USA) employed translation consultants are overseen by and funded from London. Hence these Branches' losses normally become profits when inter-branch funding is added back.
- TBS (Canada) sent very significant funding to London (hence their profit reduces when inter-branch funding is included).

## Net Income 2022

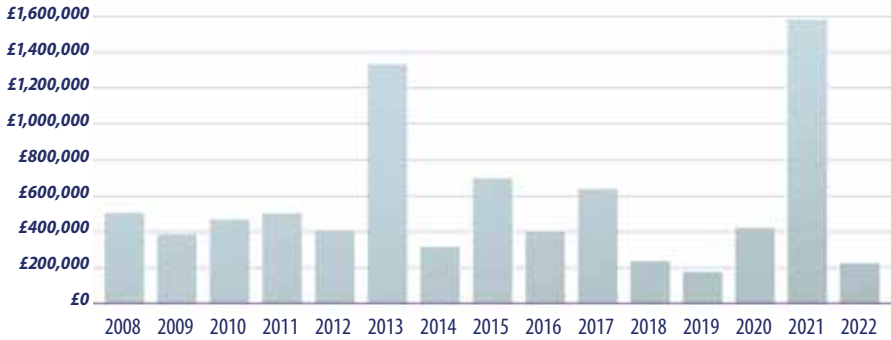


## Incoming Resources

The 2022 worldwide income was £4,419,267, down 12.6% from £5,055,871 in 2021. This overall reduction was significantly driven by four factors:

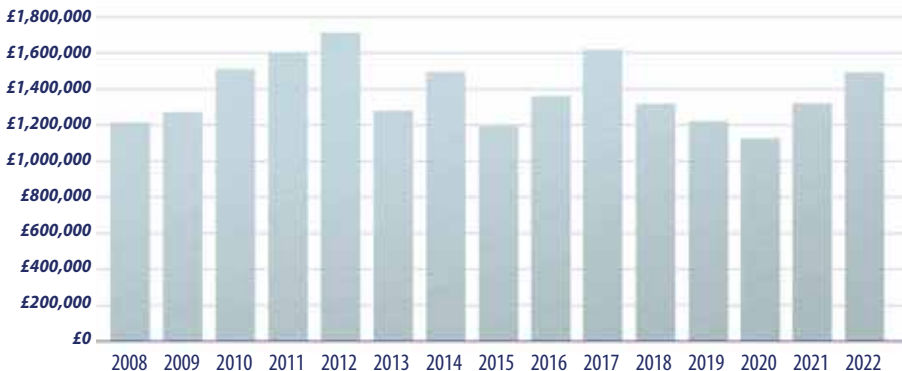
- 1 Donations and Legacies were down by 23.1% to £2,788,543. This was mainly due to:
  - A £1,360,865 (86.1%) reduction in Legacies (2021 was an exceptional year for legacies) and;
  - A £207,736 (38.4%) reduction in Partner Funding due to a combination of factors, including projects which were externally funded during the year, the timing of funding on projects, and less funding received where surpluses had built on some projects; offset by
  - A £604,987 (51.1%) increase in Donations, resulting largely from a one-off donation of £556,874 following the closure of a private charitable trust which was given entirely to the Society; and
  - A £83,856 (31.3%) increase in church Collections, around one third of which relates to TBS London and two thirds from TBS (Canada), the only explanation being a general increase in interest in the Society's work.
- 2 Income from Charitable Activities – Distribution of Scriptures (Sales and Royalties) rose by 13% to £1,482,019, helped by the sale of 50,000 copies of the Queen's Jubilee and Memorial Bibles during the year.
- 3 Investment income rose by 37.1% to £140,450, largely due to rising interest rates.
- 4 A reduction in Government Grants of 52% to £8,255 as Covid-19 grants were wound down.

## Legacy Income 2008–2022



We continued in 2022 to pursue our goal of distributing Holy Scriptures by way of sales, often at heavily discounted prices. Indeed, the vast majority of the Bibles purchased from us will ultimately be given away free of charge. The total number of items sold worldwide in 2022 was 1,425,370 (2021: 2,682,524), of which 372,104 (2021: 1,498,247) were under royalty. Of the total, 951,750 (2021: 2,127,981) were Bibles or Scripture portions, 212,054 (2021: 256,329) were calendars, and 261,566 (2021: 298,214) were text cards, children's items, other Scripture items and articles. Total Sales income in the year was £1,447,070 (2021: £1,262,475); the production cost of these items was £780,588 (2021: £744,457), and there was additional royalty/licensing income of £34,949 (2021: £49,260).

## Sales & Royalty Income 2008–2022

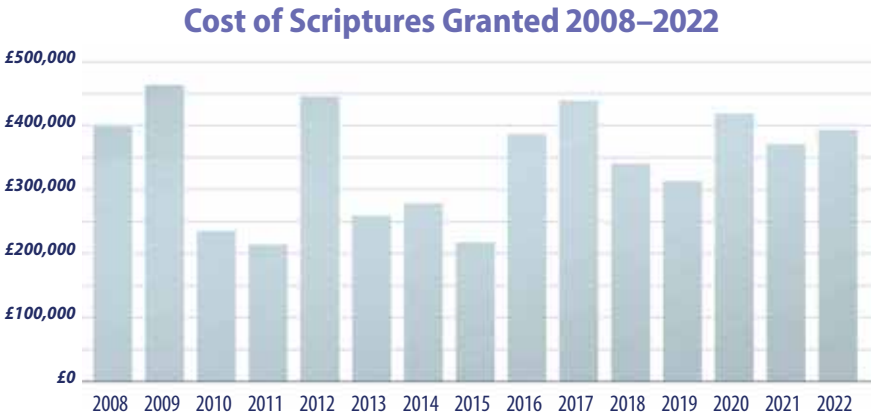


## Resources Expended

Worldwide operating expenditure in 2022 was £4,027,613, up 11.3% from £3,618,504 in 2021. This increase was largely driven by:

- The cost of Translating the Scriptures was up by £201,157 (23.2%), due to the increasing number of translation and revision projects, the increasing costs of personnel in the current inflationary environment, and the effect of the weakness of sterling during 2022 pushing up overseas costs.
- The direct and indirect Costs of Sales was up by £149,411 (10.5%) due to the increase in Sales.
- The cost of Promoting & Upholding the Scriptures was up by £65,741 (11.6%) as the Society increases these activities, particularly in Latin America in connection with the new Spanish Bible and in the UK, and also due to the effect of the weakness of sterling during the year pushing up overseas costs.

During 2022, 1,028,626 (2021: 928,327) Bibles and Scripture portions, 349,595 (2021: 462,712) calendars, and 94,660 (2021: 177,695) text cards, children's items, other Scripture items and articles were supplied free of charge to institutions and individuals including churches, missions, prisons, schools, and missionaries. The production cost of these items was £386,571 in 2022, compared with £369,816 in 2021.



## Short/Medium Term Resources

The Society's Net Current Assets have increased by £1,125,068 (17.5%) to £7,553,641 at 31 December 2022. Within this, the liquidity situation remains healthy, with immediately available cash balances of £1,524,465 and cash on deposit totalling £4,582,864, a total of £6,107,329 at the year-end.



## Long-Term Resources

The Society held Fixed Asset Investments of £1,733,955 at 31 December 2022, down from £2,373,826 in 2021, £140,755 of which is the result of stock market movements over 2022, and the remainder is due to movements of cash between Fixed Asset Investments, Current Asset Investments and Cash at Bank.

The freehold properties of the Society (including the International Headquarters in London) are stated at the net book value of £2,568,269 at 31 December 2022 (2021: £2,610,080). The leasehold properties of the Society are stated at the book value of £301,270 (2021: £281,811). The Trustees are of the opinion that the open market value is in excess of the book value expressed in local currencies.

*William Tyndale House, London*



At 31 December 2022 UK Free Reserves (i.e. General Fund Net Current Assets less Stock & Work in Progress) were £3,271,195 against a requirement of £755,692 (i.e. 4/12ths of 2022 UK General Fund Expenditure less Depreciation), giving a surplus of £2,515,503.

## Future Financial Plans

The Society's Financial Plan 2023–2027 was approved at the same time as the 2023 Budget in November 2022. The Financial Plan is updated annually, and in accordance with the Society's Financial Strategy it seeks to provide for the wise and efficient use of reasonably anticipated income, as well as available Free Reserves, over the 5-year Plan period. The Trustees are thankful that in the light of the resources available in the Financial Plan 2023–2027, it has been possible to prudently strengthen the Society's staffing levels again to more sustainable levels, after a long period of not replacing staff who retired or reduced their working hours.

## Going Concern Considerations

The Trustees are well aware of their responsibility to be satisfied that the Society is a going concern, given that the Financial Statements are prepared on this assumption. To this end, various scenarios have been tested based on 2022 expenditure levels and the 31 December 2022 Balance Sheet position. This scenario testing shows that even in the worst case the Society has sufficient General Fund reserves for at least 12 months following the approval of these Financial Statements, even if income fell to 'worst case scenario' levels. Consideration has been given to the effect of inflation and supply

chains problems caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine, particularly affecting the Society's salary and Scripture production costs, as well as rising interest rates and the potential for income to fall.

## Conclusion

The Trustees are very thankful to God for the faithful provision that He has again made for this work during 2022, which has enabled the Society to meet its objectives, particularly the progressing of translation work in many different languages and the granting of Scriptures, as well as the maintaining of the more routine activities of the Society.

We believe that the Lord will continue to provide for the Society as He has done in maintaining it for the past 192 years. Although the Society is better funded than it has been for some years, yet there are challenges ahead, with stubbornly high inflation and supply chain issues pushing up costs, so we need to remain cautious, prayerful, and vigilant. We are very grateful to our wonderfully loyal supporter and membership base for their continued prayerful and practical support. We would encourage you each to be much in prayer for our financial needs, as well as for all our other practical and spiritual needs.

# DOES IT MATTER?

## The Pool of Bethesda

John 5.3–4

### AV/KJV

In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.

### ESV

In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed ... [the rest is missing]

Because every Word of God matters (Proverbs 30.5). But also because these words are in the majority of available manuscripts. They are also quoted by Tertullian who lived more than a hundred years before the other 'oldest' manuscripts that omit them.

Critics who object to the unique character of the miracle are applying a dangerous approach to the inspired record. To find out more read the article *The Pool of Bethesda*.

[tbsbibles.org/John5verse2](https://tbsbibles.org/John5verse2)



# Independent Auditor's Statement to the Trustees of the



## Trinitarian Bible Society

We have examined the summary financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 set out on pages 62 to 64.

### Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Auditor

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the summary financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and the recommendation of the Charities SORP.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summary financial statements with the full annual financial statements.

We also read the other information contained in the Annual Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summary financial statement. The other information comprises only the Financial Highlights on pages 55 to 60.

### Basis for Opinion

Our examination involved agreeing the balances disclosed in the summary financial statements to the full annual financial statements. Our audit report on the full annual financial statements of Trinitarian Bible Society describes the basis of our audit opinion on those financial statements.

### Opinion

In our opinion the summarised financial statement is consistent with the full annual financial statements of Trinitarian Bible Society for the year ended 31 December 2022.

### Moore Kingston Smith LLP

Statutory Auditor

1 August 2023

9 Appold Street  
London  
EC2A 2AP



# Trinitarian Bible Society

## Consolidated Statement Of Financial Activities For The Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Designated Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>Income &amp; endowments from:</b>						
Donations & legacies	2,242,038	546,505	-	-	2,788,543	3,624,512
Charitable Activities –						
Distribution of the Scriptures	1,472,986	9,033	-	-	1,482,019	1,311,735
Investment Income	43,437	94,410	2,603	-	140,450	102,436
Other Income	8,255	-	-	-	8,255	17,188
<b>Total income &amp; endowments</b>	<b>3,766,716</b>	<b>649,948</b>	<b>2,603</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,419,267</b>	<b>5,055,871</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	9,916	14,338	-	-	24,254	19,312
Charitable activities:						
Translating the Scriptures	511,427	430,528	125,292	-	1,067,247	866,090
Publishing the Scriptures	86,435	-	-	-	86,435	101,278
Distributing the Scriptures	1,914,884	227,074	47,550	-	2,216,508	2,064,396
Promoting & Upholding the Scriptures	630,832	2,337	-	-	633,169	567,428
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>3,180,494</b>	<b>674,277</b>	<b>172,842</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,027,613</b>	<b>3,618,504</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	(982)	-	-	(132,479)	(133,461)	122,482
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>585,240</b>	<b>(24,329)</b>	<b>(170,239)</b>	<b>(132,479)</b>	<b>258,193</b>	<b>1,559,849</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<b>(168,562)</b>	<b>(31,369)</b>	<b>199,931</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>						
Foreign exchange gains/(losses) - fixed assets	40,927	-	-	-	40,927	(3,041)
Foreign exchange gains/(losses) - other	138,968	24,720	-	-	163,688	(57,762)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>596,573</b>	<b>(30,978)</b>	<b>29,692</b>	<b>(132,479)</b>	<b>462,808</b>	<b>1,499,046</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward (restated)	7,911,575	720,039	164,813	2,916,075	11,712,502	10,213,456
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>8,508,148</b>	<b>689,061</b>	<b>194,505</b>	<b>2,783,596</b>	<b>12,175,310</b>	<b>11,712,502</b>



# Trinitarian Bible Society

## Analysis between Branches For The Year Ended 31 December 2022

	UK £	Australia £	Brazil £	Canada £	New Zealand £	USA £	2022 TOTAL £
<b>Income and endowments:</b>							
Donations & legacies	1,810,188	39,724	22,748	427,587	12,567	475,542	2,788,356
Charitable activities	728,684	64,811	404,113	51,223	8,022	225,353	1,482,206
Investment income	134,961	502	4,390	133	380	84	140,450
Other Income	8,255	-	-	-	-	-	8,255
<b>Total income and endowments</b>	<b>2,682,088</b>	<b>105,037</b>	<b>431,251</b>	<b>478,943</b>	<b>20,969</b>	<b>700,979</b>	<b>4,419,267</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Raising funds	17,014	-	-	7,240	-	-	24,254
Charitable expenditure	2,512,132	121,274	431,947	174,278	9,446	754,282	4,003,359
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>2,529,146</b>	<b>121,274</b>	<b>431,947</b>	<b>181,518</b>	<b>9,446</b>	<b>754,282</b>	<b>4,027,613</b>
<b>Net operating profit/(loss)</b>	<b>152,942</b>	<b>(16,237)</b>	<b>(696)</b>	<b>297,425</b>	<b>11,523</b>	<b>(53,303)</b>	<b>391,654</b>
Gain/(Loss) on Investments	(132,479)	-	-	(594)	-	(388)	(133,461)
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>20,463</b>	<b>(16,237)</b>	<b>(696)</b>	<b>296,831</b>	<b>11,523</b>	<b>(53,691)</b>	<b>258,193</b>
Inter-branch transfers	85,066	31,356	5,794	(262,991)	(9,075)	149,850	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure) Consolidated</b>	<b>105,529</b>	<b>15,119</b>	<b>5,098</b>	<b>33,840</b>	<b>2,448</b>	<b>96,159</b>	<b>258,193</b>
Foreign exchange gains/(losses)							
Fixed assets*	-	-	5,307	-	-	35,620	40,927
Foreign exchange gains/(losses) Other*	3,783	12,657	77,330	18,483	1,228	50,207	163,688
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>109,312</b>	<b>27,776</b>	<b>87,735</b>	<b>52,323</b>	<b>3,676</b>	<b>181,986</b>	<b>462,808</b>

\* These figures do not reflect a real profit or loss in the Branches' accounts during the year, but arise because the Society's financial statements are expressed in sterling. Since exchange rates move during the year, this has the effect of restating the opening balances of the Branches' accounts in the financial statements.



# Consolidated Balance Sheet

At 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Designated Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>Fixed assets:</b>						
Tangible assets	2,887,714	-	-	-	2,887,714	2,910,103
Investments	164,550	-	-	1,569,405	1,733,955	2,373,826
	3,052,264	-	-	1,569,405	4,621,669	5,283,929
<b>Current assets:</b>						
Stocks & work in progress	1,429,483	7,330	-	-	1,436,813	1,160,766
Debtors	575,775	-	-	-	575,775	452,347
Investments ( < 1 year to maturity)	3,368,673	-	-	1,214,191	4,582,864	3,527,062
Cash at bank & in hand	648,229	681,731	194,505	-	1,524,465	1,508,658
	6,022,160	689,061	194,505	1,214,191	8,119,917	6,693,833
<b>Creditors</b>						
Amounts falling due within one year	566,276	-	-	-	566,276	265,260
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>5,455,884</b>	<b>689,061</b>	<b>194,505</b>	<b>1,214,191</b>	<b>7,553,641</b>	<b>6,428,573</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>8,508,148</b>	<b>689,061</b>	<b>194,505</b>	<b>2,783,596</b>	<b>12,175,310</b>	<b>11,712,502</b>
Financed by:						
<b>Total Charity Funds</b>	<b>8,508,148</b>	<b>689,061</b>	<b>194,505</b>	<b>2,783,596</b>	<b>12,175,310</b>	<b>11,712,502</b>

## Note to the Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements are only a summary of information included in the Society's financial statements and Trustees' report.

These summarised financial statements may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the Society. For further information, the full accounts, the Auditors' report on those accounts and the Trustees' Report should be consulted, copies of which can be obtained from the Society at William Tyndale House, 29 Deer Park Road, London SW19 3NN.

The Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for 2022 were approved by the General Committee on 19 June 2023 and signed on its behalf by M. Keogh-Brown (Chairman) and R. A. Clarke (Treasurer). A copy has been submitted to the Charity Commission.

The report of the Auditors on the full accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 was unqualified.





# The Word of God Among All Nations



Although certain phrases and expressions used in these letters may not be doctrinally accurate or in correct English, we reproduce the letters essentially as received, knowing that the Lord is using His Word to the glory of His Name and the furtherance of His Kingdom as the Scriptures are distributed among the nations of the world.



## Europe



### From a prison in England

We appreciate the consignment of Bibles that your organisation sent to our establishment. The prisoners have received both the Slimline and Pictorial diaries with much appreciation. The men like the quality and texture of the diaries, not to mention, their usefulness in relation to aiding the individual to organise and structure their day. Apart from using the diaries to organise their days, they are used as a phone directory. Invariably, when an individual is asked for a phone number, he consults one of these diaries.

Of the six hundred and fifty diaries that you sent to the prison, today we have given out over fifty presents. I anticipate that the remaining balance will be distributed very soon as the prison increases its intake. We thank you for the diaries as they contribute to the quality of life of the men that we are working with daily. They used the diaries to record important dates, like birthdays, anniversaries, and other family ties. Had we not received this material it would make life a little difficult for our prisoners.



## Africa



### From Ghana

I want to believe that by the special grace of God Almighty you are doing well. You sent some grants of Bibles to us a few days ago. I started sharing them to believers and unbelievers i.e. drivers, teachers, workers, children's ministry among others. It has been very helpful and insightful in their studies and group meetings. Again, they were happy especially those who couldn't afford one.

*Children receiving New Testaments and Psalms*

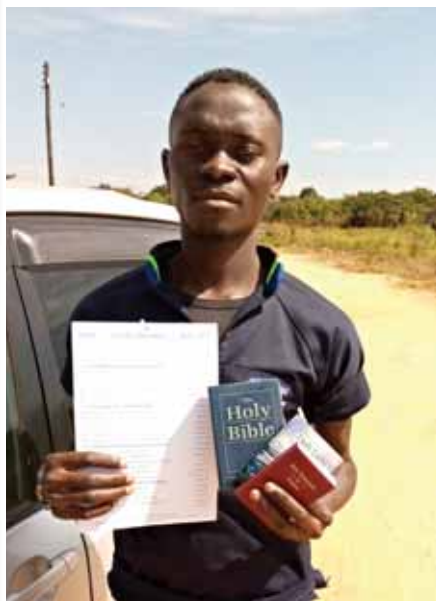




### From Zambia

I have sent some photographs with clients with these wonderful book materials you sent us, and are

*Bibles and Daily Light distribution in Zambia*



deeply thankful, and promise you that we are constantly lifting you and the society unto the Lord in prayer. May the Good Lord richly bless you for the wonderful work you have done by sending Bibles and Daily Light materials. Thanking you once again in Jesus' name.



### From Burkina Faso

Thank you for the 400 Words of Life calendars. Several pastors were asking for them. They will be much appreciated. They probably arrived in November/December in good time but I only went to Burkina in mid-February. They have all been distributed. We are working in over 500 primary schools so they will quickly be used up.



### From Nigeria

The English edition of the Golden Thoughts Calendar were distributed mostly by evangelistic teams of the ministry in the course of their outreach both in the towns and villages. Some of the first contacts have received Christ into their lives and some of them are now part of evangelistic teams. Some of the recipients are regularly using the calendar for their daily prayer guide in the family, offices, and other places of work. Hausa and French copies were normally circulated in the outreach to the Hausa and French language communities. Our focus on the teachers of the two languages is yielding results as the teachers who received Christ into their life are very useful in spreading the Gospel to others.

The prison visiting teams are more active and regularly requesting more

copies of the calendar for their assignment at prisons.

As the converts increase, the demands for free English Bible copies also increase from the Evangelism Teams. Therefore I humbly request for a supply of English Bibles for distribution to new converts. The prisoners are the most constant in their request for free Bibles.

We pray that the Heavenly Father will continue to bless and raise financial supporters for the Society to meet the ever pressing request and needs for free publications and other financial demands of the Society.

### From Nigeria

Afrikaans, English, French, Ndebele, Hausa, Shona, and Spanish Golden Thoughts Calendars are distributed by a grantee in the photo below.



### From Uganda

We received all the 21 parcels that were sent. We distributed them to the brethren in our monthly meetings December 2022 and January 2023. We had a national convention which included participants from Kenya, Tanzania, and Rwanda. We remained with less than 200 copies for those who might have wished from the above gatherings. Some other members who usually get from us could not get because there were not enough. Otherwise we are so grateful for the supply that was made.



### The Americas



### From Brazil

It has been awesome to have the New Testaments here in Brazil where we have been distributing them throughout



*Distribution of Golden Thoughts Calendars*

the prisons. The inmates are overflowing with gratitude! May the Lord reward all your efforts and may the light of the resurrection of Jesus illuminate all your paths! Please find attached some pictures of Scripture distribution work taking place amongst prisoners in Brazil.



*Distribution in Brazil*



**From Honduras**

Golden Thoughts calendars delivery at a church in Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras.

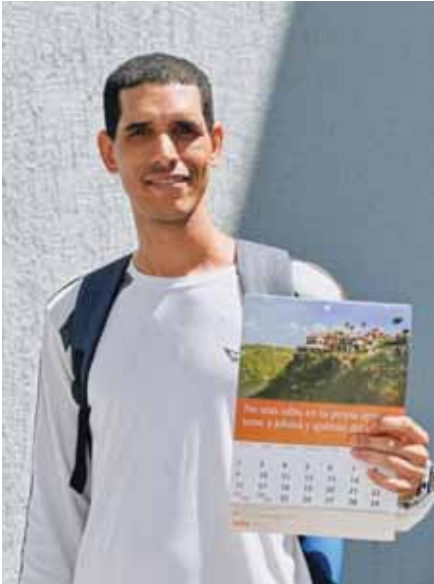


*Calendar distribution in Honduras*



**From Venezuela**

Spanish Words of Life Calendars are being distributed.



*Spanish Words of Life Calendars*





# Trinitarian Bible Society

## International Headquarters

Trinitarian Bible Society  
William Tyndale House  
29 Deer Park Road  
London  
SW19 3NN  
England

**Telephone:** (020) 8543 7857

**website:** tbsbibles.org

**email:** contact@tbsbibles.org

**Facebook:** facebook.com/tbsbibles

### Office Hours:

Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Registered Charity No.:

233082 (England) SC038379 (Scotland)

**V.A.T. Registration No.:** GB 215 9219 67

### Auditors:

Moore Kingston Smith LLP  
9 Appold Street  
London  
EC2A 2AP

### Solicitors:

Bates, Wells & Braithwaite  
10 Queen Street Place  
London EC4R 1BE

### Bankers:

Arbuthnot Latham & Co Ltd  
Arbuthnot House  
7 Wilson St  
London EC2M 2SN

**Account Name:** Trinitarian Bible Society

**Sterling Account No.:** 71529601

**Sort Code:** 30-13-93

**Swift ID Code/BIC:** ARBUGB2L

**Euro Account No.:** 31529601

**IBAN for Euro Account:**

GB35 ARBU 3013 9331 5296 01

## International Branches

### Australian Branch

**National Secretary:** Mr A. Brown, B.E.

Trinitarian Bible Society (Australia)  
P.O.Box 1381, Grafton NSW 2460, Australia

**Tel.:** +61 2 6642 8880 **Fax:** +61 2 6642 8881

**email:** aus@tbsbibles.org

### Brazilian Branch

**President:** The Rev. Dr T. L. Gilmer

**Executive Vice-President:** Pr H. R. Gilmer, M.A.

Sociedade Bíblica Trinitariana do Brasil  
Rua Julio de Castilhos, 108/120  
Belenzinho, 03059-000 São Paulo, SP, Brazil

**Tel.:** (11) 2693-5663 **Fax:** (11) 2695-3635

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### Canadian Branch

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## The Aims of the Society

To publish and distribute the Holy Scriptures throughout the world in many languages.

To promote Bible translations which are accurate and trustworthy, conforming to the Hebrew Masoretic Text of the Old Testament, and the Greek Textus Receptus of the New Testament, upon which texts the English Authorised Version is based.

To be instrumental in bringing light and life, through the Gospel of Christ, to those who are lost in sin and in the darkness of false religion and unbelief.

To uphold the doctrines of reformed Christianity, bearing witness to the equal and eternal deity of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, One God in three Persons.

To uphold the Bible as the inspired, inerrant Word of God.

**For the Glory of God and the Increase of His Kingdom through the circulation of Protestant or uncorrupted versions of the Word of God.**

*For introductory literature and catalogue please contact the Society.*



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