

Statement of Faith

Tillicoultry Parish Church aims to be a church of the whole community; a place where those who have faith and those who have yet to find it or renew it, can come together as a family of God's children; a place where all will be received with tolerance, understanding and friendship.

For advice on joining the church and activities within the church, please contact the Minister.

Grateful thanks are due to
Tillicoultry Primary School for
support in the production of *Outreach*

Tillicoultry Parish, Church of Scotland,
Dollar Road Tillicoultry Clackmannanshire FK13 6PD

www.tillicoultryparishchurch.btck.co.uk

Scottish Charity Number: SC16570

Tillicoultry Parish
Church of Scotland

Outreach



February/March 2012



CHURCH SERVICES

each Sunday morning at 9.00 am and 10.30 am
on the last Sunday evening of every month at 6.30 pm

A crèche will be available at the 10.30 am service.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

first Sunday of March, June, September and December
All will be made very welcome at each of our services.

Vestry Hour

The Minister is available every Wednesday evening between 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm in the Vestry. Couples who wish to arrange to be married, or parents who wish to discuss the baptism of their children should see him at this time. No appointment is necessary. If this is unsuitable, please phone the Minister to arrange an appropriate time.

Minister:	Rev. James P. N. Cochrane	Tel. 750340
Email: jcochrane1@tiscali.co.uk		
Reader:	Lynne Mack	Tel. 761465
Email: lynnemack36@sky.com		
Session Clerk:	Mr Alan Hunter	Tel. 752997
Email: ash-64@o2.co.uk		
Church Officer:	Mr Alex Carmichael	Tel 750671
Treasurer and Gift Aid Convenor:	Mr Alex. Anderson	Tel. 750973
Email: alexdanderson@totalise.co.uk		
Roll Keepers	Christine Wallace Sandra Grant	Tel. 750857 Tel. 751767
Hall Letting	David Dobbie	Tel. 750074
Director of Music	Mr Bill Kinross	Tel. 750574
Outreach Editors	Mrs Alison Black Mrs Mary MacFarlane	Tel. 781439 Tel. 751415
Email: ianalison.black@tiscali.co.uk		
Email: macfarlane315@btinternet.com		

TILLYCOUNTRY PARISH CHURCH

ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS - MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

Sunday Club - Leaders: Iain and Joyce Watkinson - Tel. 751363

Beginners 3 - 5 years
Primary 5 - 8 years
Juniors and Seniors 8 - 12 years

Meet in Church at 10.30 am for the first part of service, then leave with the teachers to go to classes.

Boys' Brigade - Officer in Charge: Ian Noblett - Tel. 751062

Anchor Boys (Thurs) Primary 2-3 Large Hall 6.00 - 7.15 pm
Junior Section (Thurs) Primary 4-6 Large Hall 6.45 - 8.15 pm
Company Section (Thurs) Primary 7+S1-S6 Large Hall 7.30 - 9.00 pm

Girls' Brigade - Captain: Mrs Christine Pairman - Tel. 750961

Explorers (Wednesday) Primary 1 - 3 Large Hall 6.15-7.15 pm
Juniors (Wednesday) Primary 4 - 7 Small Hall 6.15-7.30 pm
Brigaders (Wednesday) S1 - S6 Large Hall 7.30-9.30 pm

Choir - Director of Music: Mr Bill Kinross - Tel. 750574

The choir meets for practice in the Small Hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesdays during the winter months.

Guild - President: Jess Paterson - Tel. 751128

Meets on Tuesday in the Large Hall at 7.30 pm on alternate weeks

Men' Club - Secretary: David Dobbie - Tel. 750074

Meets on Tuesday in the Small Hall at 7.30 pm on alternate weeks

Country Dance Club - information from Mrs Mary Grant - Tel. 750594

Meets on a Tuesday evening at 7.30 pm on alternate weeks

Sewing Group - information from Lillias Dobbie - Tel. 750074

Meets on Monday evenings in Meeting Room 2 from 7.0 pm - 9.0 pm

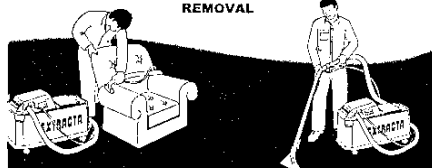
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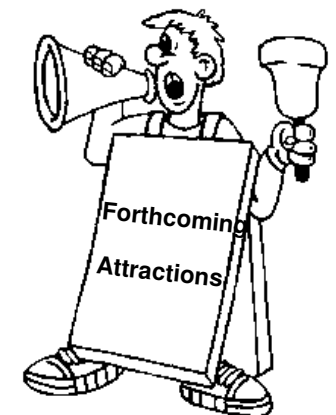
MEN'S CLUB

- Feb 14 Grand Circle & Grand Canyon
- Feb 28 Wellbeing for a Better Life
- Mar 13 Slides of Old Tillicoultry
- Mar 27 Paper Talk

THE GUILD

- Feb 14 Valentines Night
- Feb 28 Training Guide Dogs
- Mar 13 Doorstep Crime Prevention
- Mar 27 A.G.M. Surprise Night!

All will be made very welcome.



TILlicouLTRY MANSE, JANUARY 2012

Dear Friends,

Where does the time go, I ask myself. It hardly seems any time at all since the editor of *Outreach* asked me for my articles for the Christmas edition, and here we are now well into a new year, and the first copy of our church magazine for 2012.

There is no doubt Christmas was a time of real celebration here, all services were well attended and our children from the Sunday Club were excellent once again as they performed their Advent Play both in Church and at the Devonvale Hall at the annual Carol Concert. And there was lots of fun following our Christingle Service when those who attended went on to enjoy a Christingle Fiesta with lots of fun, games, food and mulled wine.

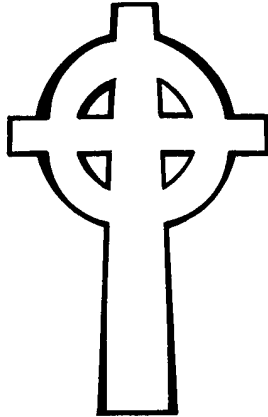
The past year was a busy year once again for the Church with much being accomplished.

The fabric of the buildings are being well maintained by our Property Committee and although we are mindful that older buildings, and our Church is nearly 200 years old, do need that extra bit of care and attention, those who are visitors are always well impressed and comment on the beauty of the buildings.

Our organisations continue to flourish, the Guild and Men's Club numbers remain strong, the Thursday Club for our senior members and friends from within Tillicoultry - and one or two from beyond - goes from strength to strength. Our uniformed organisations, the Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade are flourishing, as is our Sunday Club. In all, we have well over 100 children attending Church through those groups.

We hope soon to introduce a new idea for the Church called 'Messy Church'. This will involve children, parents and grandparents all coming together for fun, food and fellowship. We will probably start by meeting once a month for a couple of hours and see where it goes from there. Churches where it is already in action are reporting great successes.

This year will be a year of change however. Many are aware by now that Pat and I will retire during May, and this will mean the search will



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OUTREACH

Items for *Outreach* can be given to Alison Black or Mary MacFarlane, editors of the magazine.

Alison Black can be contacted by post, phone, fax or email as follows:

- Tigh an Uillt, Muckhart, FK14 7JH
- Phone/Fax 01259 781439
- Email: ianalison.black@tiscali.co.uk

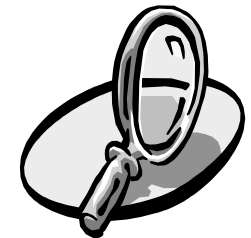
Mary MacFarlane can be contacted as follows:

- Telephone: 751415
- Email: macfarlane315@btinternet.com

Large print version is available by contacting Cynthia Johnson:

The magazine is also available as a .pdf on the Church Website or by contacting Alison Black as above.

All items for inclusion in the next edition of *Outreach* are due **no later than Sunday 18th March 2012.**



GOD'S PLAN? - ODD FACTS ABOUT THE BIBLE

What is the shortest chapter in the Bible? Psalm 117

What is the longest chapter in the Bible? Psalm 119

Which chapter is the middle of the Bible? Psalm 118

There are 594 chapters before Psalm 118

There are 594 chapters after Psalm 118.

Add these numbers together and the total is 1188.

What is the middle verse of the Bible? Psalm 118: 8

Does this verse say something significant about God's perfect will for our lives?

It is better to put trust in the Lord than confidence in man

Now isn't that odd how this worked out (or was God in the centre of it?)

BEAN STEW RECIPE

Deliciously warming vegetarian dish. Add cooked mince if desired and re-heat before serving.

A little sunflower oil for frying

4 small onions, sliced

4 garlic cloves, crushed

8 ounces baby carrots, halved

1 can green beans, drained

8 ounces baby sweetcorn, halved

¼ cup tomato puree

Large can chopped tomatoes, undrained

Salt and pepper to taste

2 teaspoons chilli flakes

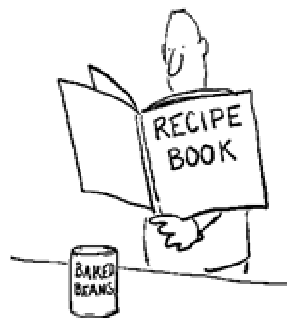
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon

2 cans red kidney beans, drained and rinsed

4 cups vegetable stock

Fry onions with garlic until transparent. Add rest of ingredients and simmer for about 20 minutes or until vegetables are soft.

Serve with rice or crusty bread.



begin for a new Minister, but it will take time. During the vacancy, an Interim Moderator, a Minister from another charge, or someone who has been trained especially for this position, will be appointed to oversee the courts of the Church and the general wellbeing of the congregation. A locum Minister will also be appointed to conduct services, to administer Communion and take charge of all the other offices such as Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. Between now and May there will be much to be got ready and I ask for your support during this time of transition.

We look forward to whatever the new year brings. The World Day of Prayer service during March will be held in the Parish Church this year. We will hear the annual reports of the Church at our Annual Business Meeting, again during March, then to Easter which arrives two weeks earlier than last year on 8th April.

So, lots to see to, lots going on, but without you the members here these things simply would not happen. The Church I would remind you is not the building, but the people who are its members – you are the Church and, with Christ as its Cornerstone and Foundation, we can only go from strength to strength.

With every blessing,

Yours in Christ,

Jim. Gohare,

CONGRATULATIONS!

We wish *Happy Birthdays* to ...

Andy Gullen	3 rd December
Alistair MacCulloch	3 rd December
Mary Grant	6 th January
Margaret Arnold	12 th January
Dorothy Izaat	15 th January
Bob Chalmers	21 st January
Ena Paterson	who was 97 on 25 th January



.. and very best wishes to Robbie and Jane McEwan on the birth of their new great grandson, Jackson Robert, on Christmas Day.

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

DEATHS *Member of Church

There is nothing in life or death, nothing in all creation that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus his Son

- 22/11/11 Margaret Dair, 16 St. Serf's Road,
a loving mother, grandmother and sister.
- 24/11/11 John McNally, 35 Ann Street,
a very good friend to many.*
- 3/12/11 Margaret Gillespie, 27 Lomond Crescent, Stenhousemuir,
loving wife to Charlie, mum to Lindsay,
grandmother and mother-in-law.
- 7/12/11 James Sharp, 1 Kirk Court,
a loving father and grandfather.*
- 8/1/12 Joyce Campbell, 4 Langour,
a loving mother, grandmother and friend.*

MARRIAGE

You may share the grace of God which gives you life

- 20/11/11 Michael Stanley Graham Villis to Brenda Joyce Prentice

BAPTISM

Jesus said, 'Suffer the little children to come to me.'

- 20/11/11 Jonathan Peter Roger,
son of John and Gemma and little brother to Lucy

LIBRARY - CAN YOU HELP!

At the suggestion of members of the Bible Study Group, it was decided to gather together books that people had finished with and set up a small lending library. There are now many interesting books in the collection (in the Small Hall) covering a broad range of topics which should appeal to many. Please feel free to browse and borrow.

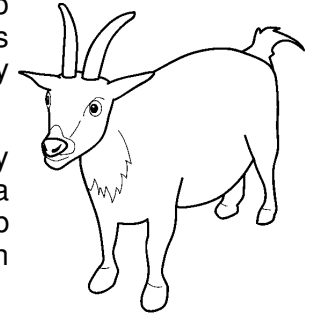
We urgently need a volunteer to catalogue the books that we have and to set up a proper lending system. Please contact Jim Cochrane if you feel that you could offer your services in this respect.

SUNDAY MORNING CLUB

Advent and Christmas were a very happy and busy time at Sunday Morning Club. Our Nativity was a great success (as well as being great fun). This year we were able to perform it at the Carol Concert in The Devonvale Hall which was rather special.

We want to say well done to the boys and girls and many thanks to everybody who helped and supported us. Also many thanks to the people who have told us how much they enjoyed the show. We are very proud of our little angels.

We collected money to enable us to buy Christian Aid Gifts which included a goat and a wormery. These gifts will cross the world to help others. Our SMC prayer (which we say each week) always starts with the words:



*Our thoughts go round the world to children everywhere.
So much of joy is ours Oh Lord help us to love and share.*

We try to live out this prayer in our work and activities in SMC. We look forward now to finding out more about our bible stories and our preparation for Easter. We shall have a special surprise for the congregation on Palm Sunday - but this year it does not involve real donkeys.

God Bless

Joyce, Iain and the Sunday Morning Club Team

OUTREACH - OUR NEW LOOK

It's a long time since the cover of *Outreach* was changed and the Editorial Group met last week to decide on a bright and simple new look which we hope will give consistency and be instantly recognisable by both church members and the wider community. The central image may change from time to time - e.g. at Easter, Christmas and other special occasions but the heading and footer will remain the same. We have added a Contents Page so that people can instantly find what interests them most. This page will also highlight important 'up and coming' events, when space allows.

We would be pleased to have your comments.

Alison Black

DIVINE NEEDLES

The various banners which are displayed in church throughout the year have all been hand made by the members of the sewing group. We hope that our efforts give pleasure to the congregation and visitors to our church.

However the banners are not our only output. As an enthusiastic but small group of mixed ages who share an enjoyment of needlework we are involved in various sewing projects. We aim to hold a stall at the church bazaar every second year selling our handiwork.

In previous years we have created shoulder bags, decorated Christmas candles, sewn cushion covers, made cross-stitch tissue box covers and jewellery to name only a few.

If you are interested in all types of arts and crafts, can bring your talents to us, want to learn a new skill or just share in some stitching and Christian fellowship, please come along on Monday evenings to see what we are currently doing and enjoy a cup of tea with us.

Our friendly group meets from 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm in the church hall (meeting room 2) or phone Lillias on 750074 for further information. We would be very pleased to welcome new members.

THOU SHALT NOT ...

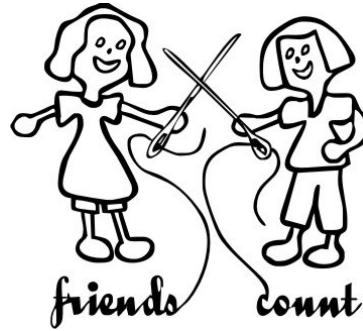
A minister was completing a temperance sermon. With great emphasis he said: *If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.*

With even greater emphasis he said: *And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.*

And then finally, shaking his fist in the air, he said: *And if I had all the whisky in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river.*

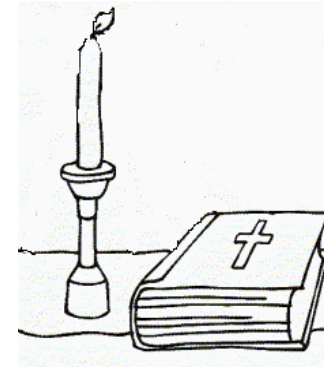
Sermon complete, he sat down.

The choirmaster stood very cautiously and announced with a smile: *For our closing song, let us sing Hymn 365, 'Shall We Gather at the River!'*



ANNUAL REMEMBERING SERVICE

Our Remembering Service will be held in the Church on Sunday 12th February at 3.00 pm. During this special service we will remember those we love and who have died, giving thanks to God for their lives, for their love and friendship.



Those who have recently lost a loved one will receive a personal invitation to attend the service during which the person who has died will be remembered by name and an opportunity will be given to light a candle of remembrance.

The Book of Remembrance, which will also include the names of those who died, can be seen in the Vestibule of the Church on that day. All those who wish to join us in this Service of Thanksgiving will be made very welcome.

Jim Cochrane

PRAYER FOR TODAY AND EVERY DAY

Lord, as we begin a new year, help us to be aware of what it is we need to do to make this world of ours the place that you would have it be.

As we look around the perfect world you created we see endless war and poverty on a scale we can only imagine, we see people and even young babies dying needlessly through no fault of their own.

Help us through our prayers, through our giving and through our love to make it once again a place where people can live in peace and plenty.

And help us to know that you have confidence in us to see that it can and will be done.

Amen



GIRLS' BRIGADE

Many thanks to everyone who supported the joint Girls' Brigade and Boys' Brigade carol concert. It was a great night and we had many positive comments from friends and parents.

The 'Entertainment' quiz prize winners were:

Heather Dick, Lauren McIntyre, Lynn Bradley, Bill Cargill, Catriona Greig and Alister MacCulloch. We raised £62 from the quiz sheets which will go towards our transport fund for outings. Many thanks to everyone who supported this fundraiser.



Our annual trip to the pantomime was enjoyed by all and it was yet another wonderful show by Forefront. The atmosphere was great and the girls and officers joined in with their usual enthusiasm!



In our badgework this session we will be doing ...look good, feel good, relaxation techniques, the Girls' Brigade badge, parachute games, the Bible on stage and screen, and animals who help others.

Some of the girls in the Junior section will be getting the *Youthreach* article ready for the Easter *Outreach*.

We will of course be organising another trip to Noah's Ark for the Explorers/Juniors in March and possibly a sleepover for the P5 and P6 Juniors in April.

Christine Pairman

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

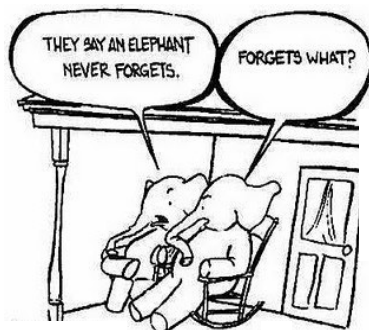
Plant and Book Sale

Saturday 19th May in Centenary Hall

Bazaar

Saturday 17th November in Devonvale Hall

Start collecting now - we can store things!



MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club held their first meeting of the year following the festive break, when an excellent evening was enjoyed by the members.

The speaker was Ian Tennant from Bathgate who gave an illustrated talk on *The Life of Sir Harry Lauder*.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks from Rev Jim Cochrane. See details of future meetings on Page 3.



KNOW HOW TO RECOGNISE MATURITY!



Everything hurts. What doesn't hurt, doesn't work.

The gleam in your eye is the sun shining on your bifocals.

You feel like the morning after, but haven't had the night before.

Your black book only contains numbers ending with MD.

You get winded playing cards.

Your children begin to look middle aged.

You join a health club, but don't go.

A dripping tap causes an uncontrollable urge.

You have all the answers but no one asks you the questions.

You look forward to a dull evening.

You need glasses to find your glasses.

You turn out the light for economy, not for romance.

You sit in a rocking chair, but can't make it go.

Your knees buckle, but your belt won't.

Your back goes out more than you do.

Your house is too big and your medicine cupboard is not big enough.

You sink your teeth into a steak, and they stay there.

Your birthday cake sinks from the weight of the candles.

Ena Tod

FAIRTRADE @ TILlicOUNTRY PARISH CHURCH

Thank you for supporting the sale of Fairtrade goods in the church over the last year. During 2011, over £1000 worth of goods were sold at our monthly sales. This is fantastic and I hope you will continue to support our monthly sales in 2012. Come to the small hall after church and see what we have and join us in a cuppa.



The Fairtrade goods come from the shop in Alva, which is at No.140, on the right as you travel to Stirling. There is a shop and a tearoom. If you haven't been

yet please give it a try.

The shop is non-profit making and run by volunteers. At Christmas I received a card thanking everyone at Tillicoultry Parish for their support. The shop at No.140 donated over £4000 to various charities in 2011!

In March we will support the Fairtrade Fortnight by having a Big Brew. Watch out for details and a big 'thank you' again.

Kay Anderson



Kay Anderson and Zara Villis are seen above at the Fairtrade Stall

MENSTRIE, January 2012

Hello again ...

... and may God's richest blessings be with you and yours throughout 2012 and beyond.

Another year, another round of resolutions - probably all broken by the time you read this (I know mine are!). I sometimes wonder why we bother, when we know full well that they won't last. I suppose it's about looking forward, about being positive, about turning over a new leaf and making a fresh start.



Thankfully, as Christians, we can have as many 'new beginnings' as we want or need - if we recognise our shortcomings, and allow ourselves to accept God's grace and his forgiveness for our wrongdoings. No matter what we've done, God will forgive us if we're genuinely sorry and try to make amends. So how about a resolution to turn to God in everything?

An email from a friend the other day contained the following blessing, which I pass on to you:

May today there be peace within.

May you trust that you are exactly where you are meant to be.

May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith in yourself and others.

May you use the gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.

May you be content with yourself just the way you are.

Let this knowledge settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.

... and so is God!

God bless,

Lynne

NEWS FROM KEITH AND IDA WADDELL - DECEMBER 2011

Dear Family and Friends

In this is love: not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his son ... (1 John 4:10)

This text appears on the bell of the Jerusalem Church at the Mission. The bell was a gift from the Church of Lesotho, the Mission to Barotseland coming out of that Church. As a gift from our Mother Church it nicely demonstrates God's love for us rather than our love for God, by sending his Son into the world.

We have had the first rains; with the river rising and flood waters spreading. Fields are being ploughed and maize seed sown. The trees are lime green leaved and underneath lies the new grass. Egrets and open-billed storks are congregating, all signs of the advent season for us.

At the start of the year, much effort was spent getting the new car on the road, working in both Livingstone and Lusaka. Trips to Lusaka were combined with the procurement of milk formula, reagents, medicines and other Mission business. We appreciate the support we have for the Formula Programme - 46 babies are presently receiving milk.

The new vehicle has been a blessing for us and for the local Church. Between Epiphany and Easter we were able to visit, using the Church of Scotland vehicle, all 14 rural congregations in the Consistory. Boxes of clothes, footwear and blankets and toys from the container were also left for the congregations to distribute according to need.

On Palm Sunday we joined the Council of Churches in Zambia, carrying palm fronds and crosses for an ecumenical march before services. In contrast, Easter Sunday with Communion was celebrated at Situlu, a rural congregation: difficult to reach because of the seasonal floods.

Other Church news was the arrival our new Minister, the Rev Wezi Manda, wife Mary, and young son, Kondwani. They moved into the renovated Manse in February and had a baby girl, Taonga, in August. He was inducted in September. Just before him came Deaconess Given Nanyangwe replacing Deaconess Margaret Sepiso Lubinda who then retired. Unfortunately Deaconess Given died in July.

Another distressing recent loss has been Rev Derrick Lubasi, the Minister from Coillard Memorial church, and adopted son of the late Graziella Jalla. He was buried at Sefula last week.

We continue helping to roof rural Churches and Clinics. Mabumbu church was the latest to renovate. The sheets for Luanja were bought today. Two clinics have been roofed using funds from supporting Churches so that health facilities can be brought closer to people.

A major achievement is that UCZ Sikuzu Community School will open on 6th January. Now Primary School-aged children no longer need to walk to Mwandu. September saw the graduation of the second 4-month programme for 14 young people at the Sooka Mission Centre.

Funding for the Aids Relief Project was a problem: 16 staff were laid off but 5 have recently been re-employed. We are learning to do more with less. This year the Church appointed Romeo Singogo as Hospital Administrator. He lives next door and is a valued colleague and brother in Christ. We have appreciated getting to know him and the family.

At the end of September we had peaceful elections and a fairly gracious hand-over from the ruling party to the opposition. A Commission of Inquiry into the Mongu Riots has been appointed to look at the causes, the conduct of the police, the treatment of detainees and the concerns of the Lozi people regarding their constitutional future.

Isaac Tembo, sponsored by the Church of Scotland, has graduated from Medical School and is registered in Zambia. It is good to welcome him home to Mwandu after a year's internship at Livingstone.

The High School has been registered by the Government but getting it registered as an Exam Centre is a bureaucratic nightmare. We have been refused but will try again early in the New Year. The school has received money for two staff houses and to build a third classroom block.

Our house finally has its roof after over a year underway. After four long years the end appears to be in sight!



We hope you had a blessed and joyful Christmas with family and friends.

With love, *Keith, Ida, Catriona & Mubita.*

Please take the time to read the full script of Keith and Ida's most interesting letter which has necessarily been shortened for inclusion in Outreach - on Notice Board in Small Hall.