



## SCOTLAND FOR THE LORD

JANUARY 2017

We hope all your New Year's resolutions are still holding fast.

Our midday Bible Study continues, on Wednesdays, at Starbucks Coffee shop, our Tuesday evening studies continue in our homes and our Youth Group continues to create “mayhem” on Wednesday evenings. After the group started again after the holiday, Polly is teaching the youngest group, Scott is teaching the middle group and Maurice is teaching “*Christian Evidences*” to the High School students. This study follows Ed Wharton's book on the subject which is the course book studied at Sunset International Bible Institute – and they are very attentive. Copies of the lesson material, that is given to them after each lesson, is apparently handed around their school classmates during the week following each study.

Following (for us) a very quiet holiday period we drove down to Motherwell, a large town south-east of Glasgow, on 7<sup>th</sup> January, for the Motherwell congregation's annual Social – a lunch together, followed by an address, singing and a quiz. Great fellowship, - and a chance to “catch-up” with our brethren from some of our more southerly situated congregations.

On 16<sup>th</sup> January, we visited with Allen and Nicky Phillips at Glenrothes to discuss plans for the visit in June of the Senior Adventures In Ministry team from S.I.B.I.

We have been blessed by a visit of Landen Wright, the Youth Minister from the Buford, Georgia, congregation. Just finishing his Theology studies, Landen spent two weeks looking around and studying the Leicester, England, and the Perth congregations with a view to being involved in mission work in the U.K. after his graduation. Landen



was here in Perth last year - part of a group of ten young people from Buford and our youth group loved them.

We have house guest staying with us since Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. Chloe is a young lady who attends our Youth group and worship services. Her six siblings were housed with relatives or family friends and Chloe will be with us for a while yet until the family regroups.

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January the congregation gathered together at Scot's home in Perth to celebrate 'Rabbie' Burns - the Scottish poet. The traditional fare was served – haggis, neaps (turnips) and tatties (potatoes) - followed by a chocolate gateau and Polly's celebrated Pineapple cake. The singing was very Scottish in its settings and dialect – with each family having to contribute to the entertainment.



On a sadder note we have had to say goodbye to “Sobby” – our 11 year old Kia Rio motor car. After 130 000 miles and with spares becoming more difficult to obtain even through Kia dealers - our car needs to be gracefully retired. Polly bought it new and it has given us sterling service. We have bought a pre-used Ford C-Max 1.8 with a full service record – the test drive indicated

to us how far our Kia Rio had deteriorated over the last year or so.

So here is the first picture of the new car Her name is still in debate but she is very comfortable to drive.



We both thank our sponsoring congregation Hermleigh, all supporters and friends for all the help and prayers that you provide; we could not do the work here without you all. God bless you all.

In the service of Christ  
Maurice and Polly Charlton

A quick update on Maurice's health problems – it appears that the worst is over and he is on the mend. After a series of 'grey-outs' - from bouts of prolonged coughing - came a complete 'blackout,' when he choked on a mass build-up of fluids in his trachea, caused by an extra-long spasm of coughing. This resulted in him being admitted - for five days - into isolation in the Perth Royal Infirmary on the 23 December and put on Nebulizers, pure oxygen and bed-rest. To compound the problem his laboratory tests showed he had also contracted the latest Mega Virus that is doing the rounds. All persons entering his room had to wear protective masks, gloves and overalls. Maurice reckoned they should have given him a hand-bell to ring and let him give voice of "Unclean" to all who came through the door. After specialist treatment and medication he was sent home under a 7 day quarantine order – and, until his next specialist appointment, is suspended from driving.

His local doctor has "tweaked" his medication over the last couple of weeks and it appears that his current dosages have starting to increase his lung capacity, given a dramatic drop in his coughing spasms and has allowed him three consecutive nights of round the clock sleep, and last evening - after our worship service - his first walk (about ½ a mile) with the young adults and teenagers. His weight is 22 pounds (10 kilos) lighter –but he does not recommend weight loss by this method. He is slowly regaining his strength. We thank you all for praying for his recovery - they are working.