An illustration of a woman with long dark hair, wearing a brown, long-sleeved dress with a ruffled collar and cuffs. She is smiling and holding a large, thick book. The background shows a rural landscape with a thatched-roof house, rolling hills, and two men in the distance, one of whom is carrying a scythe. The sky is bright with some clouds.

Mary's Book

is for all the world

(a true story)

IN THE YEAR 1774 NEAR THE VILLAGE OF TYN-DGOL IN THE NORTH OF WALES MARY JONES WAS BORN.

GOD HAS GIVEN US A BEAUTIFUL DAUGHTER.

MARY STARTED SCHOOL WHEN SHE WAS NINE AND QUICKLY LEARNED TO READ.

ONE DAY THE TEACHER ASKED HER TO READ FROM THE BIBLE.

HOW DID SCHOOL GO TODAY, MARY?

SOMETHING WONDERFUL HAPPENED...

MR BILLS ASKED ME TO READ THE BIBLE TO THE CLASS AND I DID!

FINALLY SHE HAD ENOUGH MONEY.

HE SAID I AM READING WELL BUT IT MAKES ME VERY UNHAPPY THAT WE HAVE NO BIBLE HERE.

SO SHE COLLECTED FIREWOOD, SOLD EGGS ...

IF I KEEP SAVING LIKE THIS IT WILL TAKE SIX YEARS TO SAVE ENOUGH TO BUY A BIBLE.

MR CHARLES IN BALA HAS BIBLES, CAN I GO THERE AND BUY A COPY FOR MYSELF?

BUT BALA IS FORTY KILOMETRES AWAY MARY HOW WILL YOU GET THERE?

AND DID SMALL JOBS FOR HER NEIGHBOURS

I'M FIFTEEN NOW. I CAN WALK THAT FAR BY MYSELF.

WE'LL PRAY THAT GOD WILL KEEP YOU SAFE.

SO, ON A FINE SPRING MORNING IN 1800, MARY SET OUT ACROSS THE WELSH HILLS.

SOON I'LL HAVE A BIBLE OF MY OWN.

THE COUNTRY WAS ROUGH AND STONY BUT MARY KEPT GOING. SHE WALKED BAREFOOT TO SAVE HER SHOES FROM WEARING OUT!

ONCE SHE STOPPED TO BATHE HER FEET IN A COOL STREAM.

MARY STOPPED AND TALKED TO PEOPLE. SHE MET ALONG THE WAY...

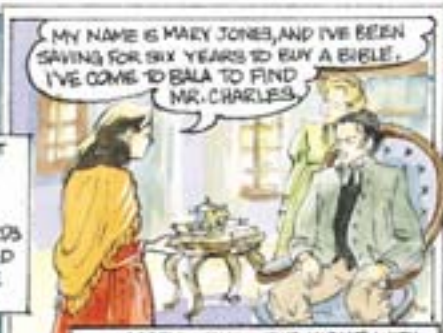


I'M GOING TO BALA FOR MY BIBLE. I CAN'T WAIT TO GET IT.



THERE THEY ARE! THE LIGHTS OF BALA TOWN.

HE WENT TO THE HOUSE OF REV. AND MRS. EDWARDS WHO INVITED HER INSIDE.



MY NAME IS MARY JONES, AND I'VE BEEN SAVING FOR SIX YEARS TO BUY A BIBLE. I'VE COME TO BALA TO FIND MR. CHARLES.

MARY STAYED THE NIGHT WITH MR. AND MRS. EDWARDS



MR. EDWARDS TOOK MARY TO SEE MR. CHARLES THE NEXT MORNING



WHY DO YOU WANT TO OWN A BIBLE MARY?

I LOVE THE BIBLE AND HAVE SAVED FOR SIX YEARS TO BUY A COPY.



I'M SORRY MARY, BUT I HAVE ONLY ONE WELSH BIBLE, WHICH IS PROMISED TO A FRIEND.

MARY BEGAN TO CRY

OH NO, THAT CAN'T BE TRUE



MR. CHARLES ALSO HAD TEARS IN HIS EYES

MARY, I WILL LET YOU HAVE THE BIBLE. I WILL GIVE MY FRIEND AN ENGLISH BIBLE WHILE HE WAITS FOR A WELSH ONE TO ARRIVE.



MARY'S TEARS TURNED TO HAPPINESS AS SHE HELD HER OWN BIBLE. MR. CHARLES PRAYED WITH HER AND THEN...



HE MET OFF HOME WITH HER PRIZED POSSESSION.



GOD HAS BEEN GOOD AND ANSWERED YOUR PRAYERS MARY.



IN BALA

I MUST DO SOMETHING TO GET MORE BIBLES PRINTED FOR THE PEOPLE OF WALES.

IN 1804 MR. CHARLES WENT TO LONDON AND SPOKE TO A NUMBER OF FRIENDS.

CONTINUED !!!

WE MUST START A BIBLE SOCIETY TO PRINT ENOUGH BIBLES FOR ALL OF BRITAIN.

WHY NOT FOR THE WHOLE WORLD?

WE WILL GIVE SOME MONEY.

AND WE'LL ASK ALL CHRISTIANS TO SUPPORT THIS TASK.

AND SO ON
ON
MARCH 7, 1804
THE BIBLE SOCIETY
BEGAN
IN ENGLAND.

THE BIBLE SOCIETY IS NOW AT WORK IN OVER 200 COUNTRIES, THE BIBLE HAS BEEN TRANSLATED INTO MORE THAN 2,500 LANGUAGES !!!

THE BIBLE SOCIETY WANTS EVERYONE TO BE ABLE TO HAVE A BIBLE IN A LANGUAGE THEY UNDERSTAND. THEY ALSO WANT TO HELP PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO LEARN ABOUT GOD THROUGH THE BIBLE.



YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE BIBLE SOCIETY ON THE KIDS WEBSITE. THE ADDRESS IS:
[WWW.BIBLEKIDS.INFO](http://www.biblekids.info)



Hi!
I'M SUZIE SUNSHINE AND I LOOK AFTER
GOD'S GANG
THE BIBLE SOCIETY CLUB JUST FOR CHILDREN.

YOU CAN JOIN
GOD'S GANG
AND GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE BIBLE SOCIETY
IT'S FUN!

READ MORE ABOUT IT OVER THE PAGE, ASK YOUR MUM OR DAD IF YOU CAN JOIN IN. IF THEY AGREE, ASK THEM TO FILL IN THE FORM AND SEND IT TO ME AT THE ADDRESS SHOWN.



COLOURING COMPETITION

Colour in the picture of Mary Jones, fill in your name and address details and send it to me at the address below.

My name is:.....

My address is:.....

.....Postcode:.....

email address:.....

Date of birth:.....

GOD'S GANG

God's Gang is a fun club for young people aged 4 – 12 years. Membership costs \$10 a year.

If you enjoy reading exciting stories, entering competitions, winning prizes, writing letters, receiving mail, then God's Gang is the club for you.

When you join you will receive:

- A welcome letter from Suzie Sunshine
- A Copy of Seeds magazine, 4 times a year
- A bookmark

Throughout the year you will be able to enter other competitions to win prizes and you may receive an invitation to attend a special event.

YES, I would like to become a member of God's Gang. I enclose my \$10 membership fee for one year.

My name is:.....

My address is:.....

.....Postcode:.....

email address:.....

Date of birth:.....

Permission:
(Parent's signature here)



Applications to join God's Gang and entries to the Colouring Competition should be sent to:

Suzie Sunshine

The Bible Society in Australia

30 York Road

Ingleburn NSW 2565

Or to the Bible Society office in your State:

SA: 133 Rundle Mall, ADELAIDE SA 5000

QLD: GPO Box 1228, BRISBANE QLD 4001

VIC: 2-6 Albert Street, BLACKBURN VIC 3130

WA: PO Box 6420, EAST PERTH WA 6004

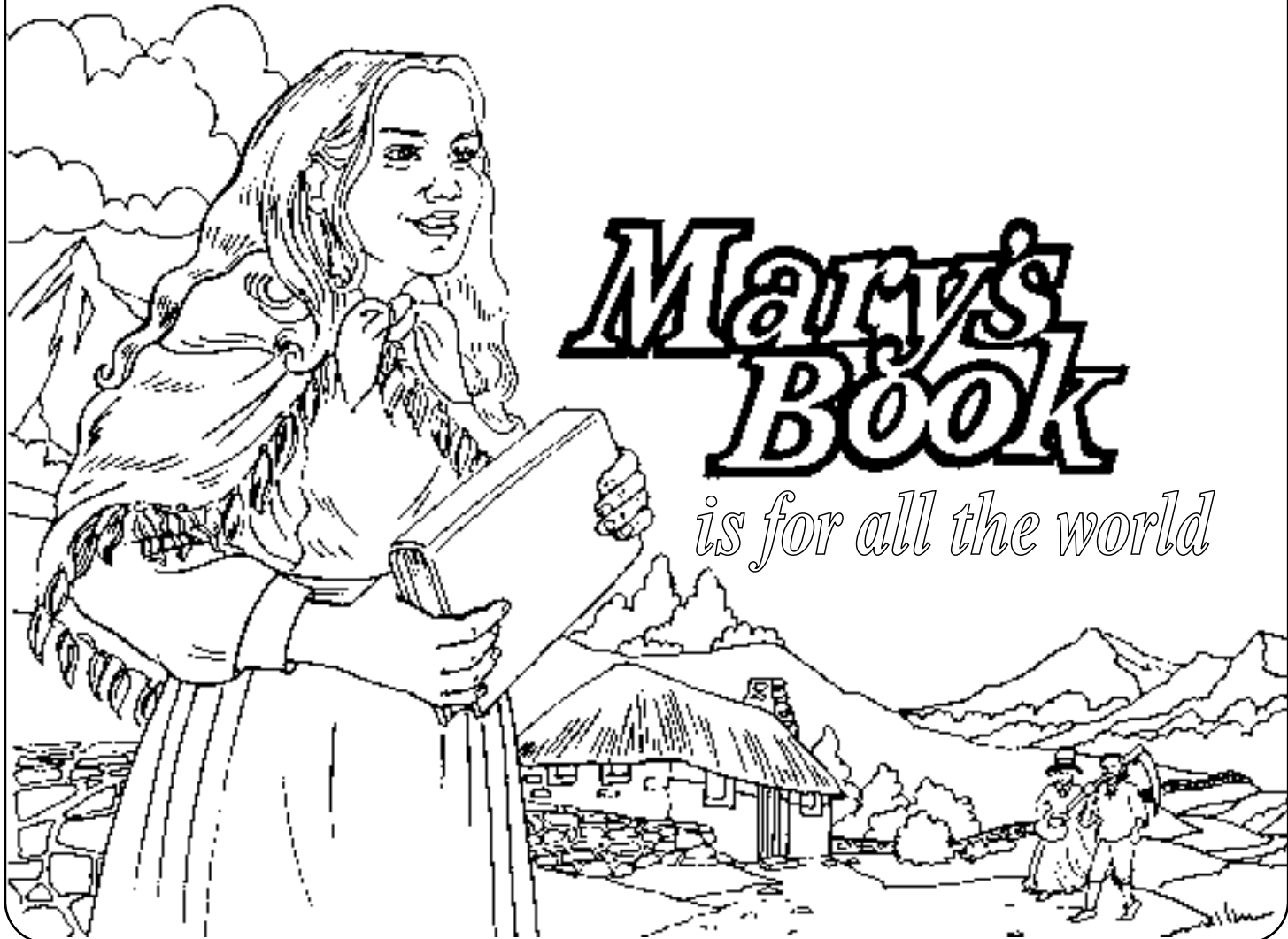
NSW: 95 Bathurst Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000

NT: PO Box 147, SANDERSON NT 0813

TAS: PO Box 971, LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

ACT: GPO Box 507, CANBERRA ACT 2601

ABN 8521 4424 729



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