



# vision

WINTER 2024

## UKRAINE TRAUMA THERAPY

1,000 days since  
the war began

Türkiye  
earthquake  
response update

INDIA: Just our  
cup of tea



**International Needs**  
Empowering families



# invision

## Winter 2024



Marking 1,000 days  
since the war in Ukraine began.

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CREDITS  
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*On the first day of Christmas,  
my true love gave to me  
A partridge in a pear tree*

This festive song dates back at least as far as 1780, published in children's book *Mirth without Mischief*. Variants exist all over the world. In the Færoe Islands, one's true love might bestow upon you eleven goats (wrapping them might be difficult) while, in France, *cinq lapins* could be bounding around your living room. The origins are obscure, but it's thought to be a memory-and-forfeit game, rather like 'I went to the shop and bought...'

The 'true love' we should focus on at Christmas is, of course, Jesus. His generosity exceeds even that of the extravagant lover. Jesus' love is what motivates and inspires us every day, as we represent him and share his love with everyone we work with.

Our Christmas Presence Appeal – spelling intentional – seeks to do just that for the Ukrainian refugee children we're supporting in Romania. A safe, reassuring presence is exactly what these

traumatised youngsters need. Some are unable to speak. All have left behind almost everything they know in their war-torn home towns. Our kindergarten and Joy Centre have been set up specially to care for them and their families.

As you're prepping your gift lists this Christmas, please consider our need for new toys, games, stationery, craft supplies and other resources that will make this ongoing presence in Romania therapeutic. You can read more on pages 13-17.

This edition includes updates from IN ministries from India to Uganda, and on sponsored children. While the specific needs vary, one thing in common is that we rely on your generosity to implement programmes that genuinely transform lives, both in the urgent here-and-now and for eternity. We hope you are encouraged by the impact your gifts and prayers make.

Thank you for your love and compassion.

**David Giles**





# THE GREAT COMMISSION CONTINUES FROM LAUSANNE 24

In May, International Needs Worldwide celebrated its 50th anniversary in New Zealand, with the vision of Ray Harrison and founding members honoured. 50 years ago, Western missionary movements declined as colonialism was dismantled. Movements were judged for their participation in colonial projects and Western culture's widespread imposition on local people. Yet it was the worldwide Lausanne conference of 1974 that facilitated a new approach to mission and the birth of IN. Ray at Lausanne came to see that local Christian leaders were best served to preach the Gospel and serve their communities through local language, culture and context.

Lausanne enabled Misson to become more than just extending the church; evangelicals desperately needed to participate in justice, poverty relief, education, livelihood development, and in helping local communities thrive. Creative ways for the church to partake in missions were born; IN became a part of them.

**References:** The Seoul Statement  
<https://lausanne.org/statement/the-seoul-statement>  
State of The Great Commission Report  
<https://lausanne.org/report>

The Fourth Lausanne Congress, held in Incheon-Seoul in September, gathered over 5,394 on-site participants from 200 countries, making it one of the largest and most globally representative gatherings in the history of the Lausanne Movement. IN was privileged to join.

Additionally, more than 2,000 virtual participants from over 100 countries joined the event online, and livestreams attracted over 30,000 unique viewers across 161 countries. The event featured a team of 1,600 Korean volunteers who helped facilitate the congress. A key focus was collaboration and advancing global Christian missions, with significant attention on intergenerational participation and international partnerships.

A central theme was greater collaboration and collective responsibility in fulfilling the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20). Participants emphasised working together across denominations and generations to advance the Gospel.



Younger participants were encouraged to seek guidance from experienced leaders, while older generations were called to mentor and support the youth for a more unified mission effort.

Christianity has seen a major demographic shift from the Global West (North America and Europe) to the Global South (Africa, Asia, and Latin America). For example, Africa is about 75% evangelised, compared to less than 10% in 1910. While the number of people adhering to indigenous religions is declining, Islam is proliferating and is expected to rise from 12% of the global population in 1900 to nearly 29% by 2050. In contrast, Christianity's share of the worldwide population remains flatlined, representing 30% of the world's population.

Out of 450,000 Protestant missionaries globally, 97% (or 435,000) are serving in areas already evangelised, leaving only 15,000 missionaries working among unreached people groups. This reflects a significant imbalance in missionary deployment, as 3.3 billion people (roughly 42% of the world's population) remain unreached.

Many Christian leaders reported that only about half of their congregations were united in their commitment to the Great Commission, with approximately 35-40% of Christians rarely or never



engage in evangelism. Furthermore, 30-50% of Christians globally view the Great Commission as optional. This conference discussed the church's struggle to nurture new believers and prepare them to engage with society and resist false teachings. It affirmed the centrality of the Gospel and the Bible's authoritative role in guiding Christians' lives. Seven themes were highlighted in the statement, ranging from the interpretation of Scripture to human identity, family, and technology.

We are so grateful to be a part of the great movement and to work together on our obligations to the Great Commission. Together, we give thanks to God for the last 50 years, and the tiny part that we have played alongside so many other Christians in seeing God's mission for his people grow. Yet we see the urgent need for more engagement, generosity, and creativity in addressing the areas Lausanne 24 uncovered. Thank you for your continued partnership on this journey.

**Danny Morris, Executive Director**  
**International Needs UK**



# WELCOMING STARFISH

## In 2009, Starfish Uganda was born.

Shortly after retiring, Mary Mills was approached by an 86-year-old American missionary who asked if she would help with schoolwork in Mukono, central Uganda. Mary agreed, along with her adopted son, Moses, who had just finished his studies at North Cotes Bible College in Lincolnshire. 'As soon as we started at the school, these lads started finding out where we were living,' Moses recalls. 'They became our four pioneer boys when we saw how they lived and where they came from. They introduced us to children in similar circumstances as themselves.'

'Our inspiration came from wanting to serve God in Uganda,' Moses adds. When the missionary passed away, Mary and Moses continued her work. They visited church friends in the village and a local pastor introduced them to children with disabilities. 'That's how the work expanded, especially with the disability programme,' explains Moses. 'We started running mobile clinics that went once or twice a week to the village.'



'When it comes to disabled children, it is very hard. You go and visit them in their homes, and they are often hidden, because it's seen as a curse. The families, especially in the villages, don't know how to handle it. They really do their best, but the desperation is huge compared to other programmes,' Moses explains.

'What we want is for all our children to achieve what our pioneer children have done which is to go through all their education up to vocational university and to become independent,' says Mary. 'One of the great things now is to see those initial boys graduating - we want that for each one of our children.'

Mary and Moses passionately recall success stories, such as Derrick, who graduated as an electrician, and Alan, now a social worker at Vision for Africa. As they talk eagerly, you can see how beautiful that vision is of making a difference one by one – a starfish at a time is all it takes.

From 1 September 2024, International Needs Uganda has assumed full operational and legal responsibility for all aspects of Starfish Uganda's work. We warmly welcome the supporters who have also joined in this transition.

*(Left) Danny Morris of International Needs UK with Mary Mills, co-founder of Starfish Uganda. (Top) Moses and Mary.*

## TÜRKİYE

International Needs in Türkiye has been regularly visiting communities in and around Hatay – those worst affected by the February 2023 earthquakes – providing practical and emotional support. Our team deliver necessities such as pre-paid grocery store credit cards, hygiene products, learning materials, toys and colouring books for children impacted by the interruption to their education. The distribution efforts are often coordinated with our local church partners to ensure the goods reach those who most need them.

Fifteen months of clearing, cleaning, repair and reconstruction work have barely been enough to clear the streets full of rubble. Households and individual tents still remain

scattered throughout various neighbourhoods. The dust is still thick in the air and on the ground.

Many of the community benefit programmes, government monthly rent assistance, and the gradual closure of container sites to decongest the area are all set to end. This phase-out will take place over the coming months, with varying paces across provinces.

As these vital assistance programmes come to an end, the most vulnerable families will face significant challenges in accessing their basic needs. This is a crucial time for us to come together, and your support is more important than ever. Healing and the quest to finding normality again seem slow, yet many of IN's new-found friends and co-labourers are hopeful!



IN Türkiye team members have undertaken another outreach visit to the earthquake zone in October, again partnering with local churches, who are best placed to provide long-term support. As they work, they pray – bringing the many losses so evident in these neighbourhoods to the One who can heal them all.



# TOGETHER IN FAITH

To support International Needs is to partner with many people in this country, and many more around the world, to make life better for families in need. None of us work alone, we work through your gifts, your time spent organising fundraisers, and conversations over tea and coffee. Most of all, we work through the power of the Holy Spirit and his presence within us. Thank you for partnering with us for a long time, a short time or a medium time.

The International Needs community is unlike anything else I've experienced. Travelling around the UK over the past year, **the welcome the team and I have received is unmatched.** The passion for our work sits deep in the hearts of our supporters and is evidenced in your drive to help us reach more families.

The favourite part of my role is meeting as many of you as possible, and learning about your histories with IN; how you heard about us,



*By Grace Davies,  
Partnerships Manager*

which projects capture your heart, and perhaps your experiences from a GoGlobal trip. Each of these stories is an individual testimony of how we've been able to grow and develop over 50 years.

As we look ahead into the future, reaching new communities and deepening our connections with others, let's keep focused. Focus on all that we've achieved together, all that God does through IN, and how we can do even more by partnering with him. As a team, we can make a tangible difference in the lives of thousands of people, if we can keep relying on each other, and on the promises of God.

He works in and through you and us. He works through sacrificial financial giving, sacrificial giving of time and energy, and through your prayers. Let's keep relying on him and each other for the next 50 years and make an even bigger impact in His name than we already have.



*(Above) Danny with a supporter, Deborah, Grace and Ros at the Keswick Convention*

I've loved hearing about all of the interesting ways this community raises funds, and it encourages me so much to see your individuality! At the beginning of September, I was lucky enough to enjoy a food tour in East Grinstead organised by members of Jubilee Community Church.

An intrepid group of us worked our way through many of East Grinstead's finest eateries, slowly chomping through cake, biltong, chocolates, steak - a hard day's work! It was a wonderful opportunity to get to know our supporters, and what drives them to such innovative fundraising!

This is just one example of the wonderful ways you uphold us, **and we appreciate every single one.** None of what we do would be possible without you, you continue to bless us through sacrificial giving - both financially and with your time.

*(Below, left) Revd Justus and Deborah meeting and greeting at Keswick and (below) Grace presenting the awards at Golf Day 2024*







# JUST OUR CUP OF TEA

The foothills of the Himalayas are awe-inspiring, drenched in mist and blessed with fertile land suited to growing fragrant tea. But International Needs' partner in the region, ACTS Himalayas, is meeting complex needs in vulnerable communities.



## Education

The team supports 400 sponsored children, from the populous city of Siliguri to the steep mountains of Darjeeling. Ensuring their access to education is key, recognising that completing school and acquiring qualifications is a proven route out of poverty.

Many were able to attend summer camp, which provided opportunities to learn new skills, make new friends and develop a greater understanding of God and their place in creation.



Salim, one sponsored young person, graduated this year. At camp, he stood before everyone present and spoke powerfully: 'I was identified by God – and Uncle and Auntie – many years ago. Today I am here as a witness that if I had not been chosen, I would be lost in the darkness... There was no hope for me. But now I can stand to be a ray of HOPE! Thank you to everyone who stood by me in those dark days.'

Now, Salim has been accepted to join the Army. In this, he is choosing to serve his community and his nation.

## Health and wellbeing outreach

In June, 100 women from villages around Siliguri participated in a health awareness course. Topics included personal health, hygiene, nutrition, and sanitation. The IN/ACTS team were supported in this by Christian nurses and dietary practitioners who volunteered their time. This is part of a programme to provide health education, and to empower women in their communities.

A further 120 women attended a conference fittingly held at a tea garden – many being employed in the tea industry. The women were inspired by a gospel message and offered counselling and encouragement. A similar event for young people had a musical theme, with many performing songs and engaging in Spirit-filled praise and worship.

ACTS missionaries stand ready to go forth in communities in the knowledge that 'all things are possible' in Jesus. Laxmi, the daughter of a witch-doctor and Rosni, the daughter of a local labourer, are enthusiastic evangelists.

'If I do not go, who will go back to my community with God's love?' they ask. Both completed their studies in May, each graduating with a theology degree. 'We desperately need the power of the Holy Spirit to do the work God has assigned us to do. Please pray for us. Challenges are numerous but we stand in the promises of God and know that "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me".'

ACTS Leaders Prasanna and Arpana also ask for prayer: for God's wisdom in their leadership, for provision of new child sponsors, and for all the programmes and projects serving communities across this wide region. Pray also for fruit from a recent speaking engagement at a Nepali language church they were invited to.

## IMPACT:

**100** women took a health awareness course

**120** women attended a Christian conference

**400** children sponsored





# UKRAINE: 1,000 DAYS OF SUFFERING

Without warning, a Russian tank made its way up the street facing the church building. 'Was this it?'

The pastor was exhausted. His congregation in Bucha, north of Kyiv, had grown from 200 to 2,000 since the Russian invasion began. 'Already, we had a number of members of the church with additional pastoral needs. How do you scale up pastoral care when, firstly, your whole church is suddenly in need... and then it multiplies by ten?'

Bucha was a quiet, unassuming suburb – neither especially rich nor especially poor. Not really on the map at all until Russian military apparatus drove in from the north, wreaking havoc. But now the pastor was confronted with a scenario he could not have foreseen. Hundreds of homes destroyed, families separated as women and children fled leaving the men behind as a consequence of Ukraine's conscription laws. What can the church do in such times?

'Presence,' was the pastor's answer. 'It was very much a shared experience, that the whole community was going through together – not just Christians or non-Christians.' He told me how, as many battened down, he opened up his church building – taking advantage of the basement space that had previously been allocated for Sunday school and children's ministry.

He also shared the story of a local man who, on hearing the first explosions from his home, had a sudden and inexplicable feeling that he should go straight to church. This made no sense to the man, as he wasn't even sure where the nearest church was. But he found a welcome, the relative safety of the Sunday school basement with its deep foundations – a place to share with others, who all found themselves in the same terrifying situation. *The Lord is my rock.*

The man intended to stay 'just for a day or two'. In the event, he remained underground for two weeks. Church members managed to scramble to find sufficient food and water, and tried to lift spirits by providing activities to take the focus off the invasion that was happening around them. They continued a Bible study, worship and prayer from the bunker, with more and more members of the wider community joining in. *The Lord is my fortress*

Without warning, a Russian tank made its way up the street facing the church building. 'Was this it?' questioned the man. It certainly seemed so. The armoured turret on the top of the tank aligned with the church, as if to prepare to fire. And then, just as soon as it had arrived, it moved away. The prayer meeting turned to rejoicing, and the 'never religious' man realised in that moment that he had to turn to Jesus. He was saved! *The Lord is my deliverer.*

History describes how the invading forces were expelled from Bucha, and they've not been back. Indeed, the town has largely been rebuilt. But the emotional and mental scars remain, and the church has a key role to play in restoring lives so deeply affected by war. While Bucha has been liberated, there remains a large swathe of eastern Ukraine that is occupied by Russian forces. As winter approaches, it is likely that a stalemate will persist.

The phrases 'God is my fortress', 'God is my refuge' or similar appear 21 times in the Bible. We are encouraged to seek God as a protective, safe place from the everyday snares of life – how much more so in times of war and conflict?

**IN is connecting with and encouraging pastors inside Ukraine. Read on...**



# HELP US THIS CHRISTMAS

## + CHRISTMAS PRESENCE APPEAL

Ever since Russia invaded Ukraine on 24 February 2022, International Needs has been responding to emergent need. One expression of this is our Joy Centre and kindergarten in Sighisoara, Romania, caring for 100 Ukrainian refugees.

Meanwhile, research commissioned by The Royal Mint in 2020 suggests that Brits spend £1 billion each year on unwanted Christmas presents.

**£15**

Could buy new art materials that will help youngsters express themselves creatively, even when they cannot verbalise the trauma they have witnessed since the Russian invasion.

**£32.35**

On average, a home-cooked Christmas dinner for a British family of four cost this amount last year.

Source: Assosia

This could buy lunchtime meals for a week for three Ukrainian teenagers attending our Joy Centre.



**£65**

A Christmas meal at your local pub could set you back £65 per person.

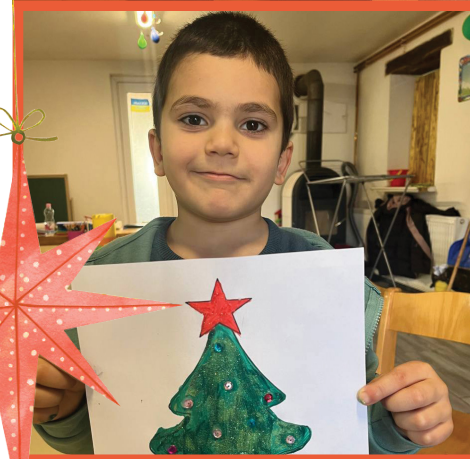
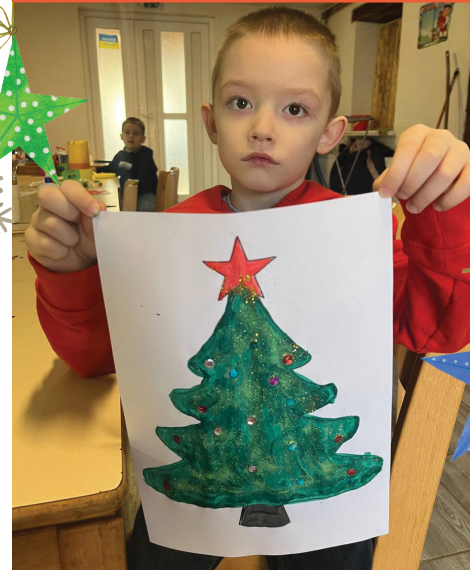
This could provide two weeks of breakfast and lunch for a Ukrainian toddler attending our Sighisoara kindergarten!

**£119.45**

This is the average spend on family Christmas gifts in the UK per child.

Source: statista.com for *Daily Mail*, 2023

This could provide a great new selection of robust, age-appropriate toys for our kindergarten, providing fun way beyond Boxing Day!



Donate now using the enclosed form, using this QR code or at [ineeds.org.uk](https://ineeds.org.uk)



Find video updates at:  
[www.youtube.com/@ineedsuk](https://www.youtube.com/@ineedsuk)

‘Really, they saw things that I cannot even imagine that a child should see.’

*Paula and Florin Boruga manage the Joy Centre and Kindergarten in partnership with IN Romania.*

**Paula:** We have been working with Ukrainian refugees since the war started. Also, I've been going to the war zone a lot, to where they are fighting. I'm connected with the people from there – they lose their houses, they lose everything. We have not just families, we have orphans – a lot of them. So we are working here in Sighisoara – we say that is like a hub, an ecosystem – for children which are here in a safe place, staying until 6 or 7pm.

**Florin:** We provide English lessons, we have Romanian lessons, we try to give value and to help and to just be with these special children which are coming with all kinds of trauma from the war zone. Emotional. Exhausted.

We are more like a family here. We had many children coming here with very, very big trauma. Some of the children saw the very dark side of the the war. Really, they saw things that I cannot even imagine that a child should see. Some came here not being able to talk at all – children of 8, 9, 10 years old that couldn't speak for almost two months. Some children called me during the night because there was a storm. They were thinking, of course, the noises were bombs.

Romania has the longest border with Ukraine, and so a lot of refugees are crossing into our country. Ukrainians are telling [each other] that the most friendly neighbouring country is Romania, which we are so happy to hear. Everybody's waiting for this war to be finished but who knows when.

**Paula:** The Joy Centre is a special place for classes, for skills, but also for young people to stay here until their mothers are coming from work. The Joy Centre has therapists, helping resolve trauma in different ways: storytelling, art therapy, craft therapy... the storytelling therapy is very effective, using fiction to enable the child speak and share with the psychologist. I could see the children become very quiet and peaceful.

We are seeing a lot of the mums changing their lives. We have an Alpha Course – close to 90% are attending Alpha and I'm so excited about all the meetings where everyone is learning about Jesus.

**Florin:** We probably support 100 children now. Out of this, about 17 attend kindergarten and the rest, Joy Centre. We usually try to provide family therapy, which means that all

the children in a family come to be part of the same therapy together.

Everybody's tired. Sometimes I go home and I just need to be alone. This is the hardest part to handle in this kind of traumatic situation, because you are going to feel everything the refugees feel and you are going to stay with them there every day.

**Paula:** Yes, it's as Florin said. We really need prayers for our emotional side, hearing almost every day different stories and different things that children remember, or that mothers remember. Feeling their pain in our heart, it just makes us one with them and really need God's power. Please pray for the teachers, because they are also sometimes overwhelmed, and especially our psychologist Tanya.

# ROMANIA INTERVIEW





**KENYA**

**With securing of the new land complete, the long-awaited building of the new Leadership and Talent Centre just outside Nairobi will begin next year.** But the Grace Empowerment team, led by Pastor Joshua Karani, have not been resting on their laurels!

A new 'halfway house' has been introduced – a permanent apartment building, close to the Grace Empowerment offices on the city's main Ngong Road. Already housing four young men who formerly lived in the slums, this marks the first time Grace Empowerment has placed young people from the streets in an apartment setting. This empowers them to live alongside other ordinary Kenyans with busy lives. The goal is to foster their reintegration into society by helping them adapt to a structured environment. Through numerous counselling sessions, health and hygiene workshops, leadership skills-building,

and adherence to house rules, the young men have integrated remarkably well with their neighbours and others in the apartment building. They have embraced personal cleanliness, kept their living spaces in order, and developed strong social skills.

The caretaker of the apartment commented: 'You would never guess their backgrounds or know they once lived on the streets. They are extremely well-behaved, and we haven't had a single incident of theft, break-ins, or even stolen clothes from the clothes line.'

This story of transformation highlights the profound impact that Grace Empowerment's work has not only on the boys' lives but also on the surrounding community.



*By Asmau Durnin,  
Programme and  
Partnerships Manager*



**32 year old William**  
was born into a loving family,  
but tragically lost both parents  
when he was just 10 years old.

His aunt took him in, and he was able to continue his education from primary school through to the University in Nairobi.

However, while studying there, William succumbed to drug addiction – influenced by his peers. This addiction drained his budget allocated to school fees and allowances, ultimately pushing him to join street youths to sustain his habit. Desperation led him to a life of crime, including armed robbery and drug dealing.

William's life began to change when, tired of the destructive path he was on, he sought help from Pastor Joshua. The following month, he joined Grace Empowerment where he attended life skills training focused on self-awareness, hygiene, and sanitation. He learned the value of cleanliness and self-care, which played a key role in his recovery. Counselling and

mentorship sessions helped him address past trauma and rebuild his self-esteem.

He also embarked on a spiritual journey, deepening his relationship with God. Through the project, William also gained essential business skills such as idea generation, business planning, market research and financial management. These skills helped him develop discipline in managing resources, which was critical for his reintegration into society.

After completing the programme, William expressed a desire to return to his nursing studies.

Pastor Joshua assisted in reuniting him with his aunt, who provided financial support for him to enroll at Mombasa Medical School.

Today, William is in his third year of medical school, grateful for the support and guidance he received. His progress is continually monitored and supported by Pastor Joshua and the Grace Empowerment team.

*Library photo*





# AROUND THE UK

International Needs supporters have been walking, running, cycling, eating, psalming (is that even a word?) and joking their way to fundraising success this year. Every pound raised has impact well beyond what it could achieve here in the UK, and we are so grateful for every one of you.

**London Marathon runners** once again pounded the landmark-filled 26.2-mile course for International Needs in April, raising an astonishing £17,521. Thank you to **Tim, Luke, Joss, Freddie** and **Katherine!**

Also on two wheels, IN Golf Day veteran **Edward Smith** rode the London to Brighton Off-Road Bike Ride in September to raise £600 for our Kiyindi Classroom appeal. Thanks, Ed – amazing job.



One of our newer supporting churches found an unusual way of engaging its members in a fundraiser – a Psalm marathon. **Green Street Green Baptist Church** has also held a fundraising dinner, the events both raising thousands of pounds for Kiyindi (therefore completing several more square metres of Block 'B').

Across in Northern Ireland, an intrepid team of four cyclists took on the gruelling 89-mile Lap the Lough event – a circumnavigation of the UK's largest lake.

**Andrew McCormick** instigated this fundraiser, aiming to secure an impressive £6,800 to equip new classrooms at Ark Quest, Kenya, with desks, chairs, teaching equipment and other resources. Target smashed!

Food has been an important feature in our fundraising, too, with IN UK Executive Director Danny Morris being well fed at the Harvest supper organised by **St Mary's Church** in Hartfield, Kent. As well as the delicious meal, congregants generously raised £1,287 for our Kiyindi appeal. Thank you and bon appetit!

School children at **Tarleton Church of England Primary School** have taken part in a sponsored walk raising money for the new 'Block B' classroom at our school in Kiyindi, Uganda.

Spearheaded by class teacher **Mrs Birkby**, who visited Kiyindi on a Go Global trip earlier this year, the eager pupils raised more than £1,465, while carrying heavy water containers as many of their Ugandan peers would have to each morning. That's nearly ten square metres of classroom completed – thanks guys!



**TARLETON SCHOOL**



## How could you raise money for International Needs?

If you're inspired by these heroic efforts, we'd love you to get involved too. Download our '50 fundraising ideas' by zapping this QR code.

And finally... a very happy birthday to **Phil Marshall** – one of our dedicated supporters in Burscough, Lancashire. Phil is renowned for his extensive collection of groan-tastic dad jokes. His birthday fundraiser provided the opportunity for friends and family to enjoy temporary respite from these gags.

You, too, can help spare West Lancashire from puns such as 'Dogs can't work MRI machines, but cats can', by topping up the total, currently £1,775, at:

[ineeds.org.uk/events/phils-fundraiser/](https://ineeds.org.uk/events/phils-fundraiser/)



## JULY 2024

Our fundraising for the new 'Block B' classrooms at Makonge Primary School is going incredibly well. Thank you! The progress can clearly be seen in these photos taken by David in July and Danny in September, the latter showing the top floor in place!



## KIYINDI CLASSROOM UPDATE

## SEPTEMBER 2024







## SPONSORSHIP STORIES

**On 2 January 2024, tragedy struck when Swabula's family home in Uganda was destroyed in a fire.**

The family had left to attend a burial ceremony when the fire broke out in the kitchen. But, by the time it was discovered, the house and all their belongings were lost.

With nowhere to live, Swabula's family were forced to rent a single small room, where nine family members were crammed together.

The loss of their home weighed heavily on the family, especially on Swabula, whose classmates had begun mocking her.

Hope arrived through two sponsors, and thanks to their generosity Swabula's family is now moving into a brand-new home.



The family is overwhelmed with gratitude and looks forward to rebuilding their lives with a renewed sense of security and comfort.

They extend their deepest thanks to their sponsors for their life-changing support, which has brought much-needed relief and joy during such a difficult time.

# 918

children are currently sponsored  
by International Needs UK donors



If you would like to support a child, or add an extra child, email Kim, our donor care manager at: [membership@ineeds.org.uk](mailto:membership@ineeds.org.uk)

### A Dream Fulfilled

With hearts full of joy, the family of the late Ernest express their deep gratitude to their sponsors for the generous support that has made a family poultry project possible. This project brings to life a dream Ernest had before his untimely passing, a dream that is now a reality.

Two years before his death, Ernest shared his vision of starting a poultry project after completing his primary education. Sadly, he never got the chance to pursue this goal. His mother recalls how his plans were a constant reminder of the life he left.

She shares, 'After his death, we used to have thoughts and memories of the plans he left behind.'



*Ernest's mother, 2024*

Despite the pain of loss, Ernest's mother finds solace in her faith. 'I want to thank the living God, because in all situations, He remains Lord. After Ernest's death, I never imagined I would experience goodness again, but I have witnessed God's wonders. Indeed, the Lord has a plan for each of us.'

Thanks to the kindness of their sponsors in the UK, the family has received 52 chickens, initial feed, and a well-constructed poultry house. Ernest's mother is confident that with the growth of this project, she will be able to support Ernest's younger brother Paul through school and provide for the family's basic needs.

'Thank you for your shared love and continued support,' she adds. 'I will forever keep you in my heart and in my prayers.'





# LEAVE A GIFT IN YOUR WILL?

As the IN Network celebrated its 50th anniversary this year, many of us were rejoicing at all that has been achieved since we began. But what will the next 50 years look like? Leaving a gift

in your will helps us to provide vital education, livelihoods training and the life-changing Christian message across the world, for a legacy that lasts. Contact us for more details.

# SAY A LITTLE PRAYER FOR US...

Did you know that we produce a monthly prayer diary, packed full of updates from around the IN world? These prayer pointers are intended to help you pray for IN's ministry intelligently, highlighting the blessings seen in our projects but also the challenges reported by our partners, so that we can support them knowledgeably.

If you're not receiving these emails but would like to, email us at [inuk@ineeds.org.uk](mailto:inuk@ineeds.org.uk) with the subject 'Prayer Diary'. You can find our prayer pointers in our Facebook group [facebook.com/groups/inukprayer](https://facebook.com/groups/inukprayer), which also includes urgent requests that miss the deadlines of our monthly emails.

Here's an excerpt from November's prayer diary:



## PRAYER DIARY November 2024

*'God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them'*  
*Hebrews 6:10*

Fri 1	Pray for the Go Global group flying out to <b>Uganda</b> this evening, including team members from Jubilee Community Church as well as the Whaite and Stubbs families. Pray for safe travels, good opportunities for building relationships with IN Uganda team members, and for IN UK leaders Kim and Kirsty as they coordinate the event over the following ten days.
Weekend 2-3	Pray for Go Global participants away from their homes this weekend and worshipping instead with local Christians at St Luke's Church in Buikwe, <b>Uganda</b> . Pray that the words of Deuteronomy 31:8 may be true for this group, as they were for Joshua: 'The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.'
Mon 4	<b>Praise and Thanksgiving Monday.</b> Give thanks for church congregations around the UK which have supported International Needs ministry so faithfully through special Harvest services and events, as well as through regular prayer, financial giving and fundraising activities throughout the year. Praise God for his generosity and goodness!

# A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

7:30pm, 5 December:

Join us and our friends from IN Romania and around the world as we spend an evening together celebrating Christmas. Including carols, Ukrainian Christmas traditions, a fun quiz, Bible message and, we hope, you!

With live and recorded elements, we hope this will be a festive treat to remember, as we share Christmas together as an IN family.

Register at:

[ineeds.org.uk/events/christmas-celebration](https://ineeds.org.uk/events/christmas-celebration)



Picture credit: Ben White



**BigGive**

# THE BIG GIVE

The Big Give Christmas Challenge is back – a fast and frenetic week of raising money for our Ukrainian refugee projects in Sighisoara, Romania. We'll be focusing on the power of storytelling, and its importance in our age-appropriate therapeutic response there. The fun starts at noon on **Giving Tuesday** –

**3 December** – and runs right through until the morning of **Tuesday 10 December**. Look out for more information on our social media channels nearer the time. (And if you'd like to share a short video describing your favourite book or fictional character, we'd love to see it – email [zoe@ineeds.org.uk](mailto:zoe@ineeds.org.uk))





## 2024 Highlights

Uganda Disability Inclusion  
Programme Photos



**International Needs**  
Empowering families

Registered Charity Number 1175526