

International Missions NEWSLETTER



Team in Elburgon, Kenya - Jan 2026

Get Involved!

Welcome to our first-quarter newsletter — a new year of opportunity, impact, and lives transformed.

2026 began with purpose and momentum as our teams travelled to Kenya and India, bringing mobility aids and the hope of the Gospel to those who have waited far too long. Our front-cover photo captures the incredible team who served in Elburgon, Kenya, where many lives — including Peter's and Esther, our featured stories — were profoundly changed.

A heartfelt thank-you to St Giles' & St George's Church, in particular, for their faithful support. As a small charity, we rely deeply on your prayers, giving, and encouragement. Your partnership enables us to keep reaching some of the world's most overlooked communities.

Looking ahead to our next mission in Ghana in May, we are reminded that every wheelchair delivered and every family encouraged tells a powerful story: love in action transforms lives.

With an exciting year still ahead, we invite you to Get Involved! — whether by sponsoring a volunteer, supporting an upcoming Wheels trip, or becoming a Roofbreaker in your church. However you choose to take part, your involvement brings dignity, freedom, and hope to those who need it most.

Thank you for walking this journey with us.



Faith Mendy
Int. Missions Manager



Stories of impact: this month's story

Belonging Restored: Esther's Remarkable Journey

At 102 years old, Esther arrived at our Wheels for the World distribution in Jinja surrounded by what can only be described as her village – neighbours, friends, and her youngest son, Daniel, who at 60 still cares for her daily.

They all travelled together in a bright yellow minibus, helping one another across the long miles because no one was willing to let Esther make the journey alone.

By the time she reached us, her pain was visible, her movement limited. Her world had become confined to the inside of her home. She had not stepped beyond her doorway or even into her own compound for a long time. Her world had become very small, and the isolation weighed heavily on her. Yet her eyes lit with quiet hope as she was gently lifted from the vehicle.

When she was provided with a wheelchair, she shared that she was thanking God for it.

She explained that she would now be able to sit in the sunshine and greet people again – something she had long missed. Being able to re-enter those everyday moments meant she would feel like she belonged to her village once more.

For Daniel, the wheelchair brought relief of a different kind. He explained that he would now be able to leave his mother safely at home with his children – something that had been impossible without a suitable mobility aid. The chair not only restored mobility for Esther, but it eased the physical and emotional strain on the whole family.

By equipping her with the right mobility aid, we have empowered Esther and her family – enabling her to move with dignity and giving Daniel the confidence that she will be safe.

A Family on the Move: Emmanuel, Zachario and David's Day of Transformation



Some stories remind us just how much difference one day – and a little flexibility – can make. When Emmanuel (19) and Zachario (17) arrived for their pre-registered assessments, they travelled from Mariashoni with their mother, Moraa, and father. What the team didn't expect was that their youngest son, David, aged just 8, would also need help.

While Gunn, our therapist, assessed the two older boys with the support of their father, Emmanuel arrived crawling but wasted no time transferring into a self-propelled wheelchair. Within moments he understood how to manoeuvre it – and was soon confidently zooming around the hall. His excitement was infectious.

Zachario, too, received a wheelchair and, with a little assistance was soon propelling himself with pride and joy. Suddenly, two young men, Emmanuel and Zachario, were gliding through the busy hall with energy and enthusiasm.

Meanwhile, Fiona carefully assessed David's walking ability with help from Moraa. Fiona located a paediatric walking frame, but David initially pushed it far ahead of himself, unsure how to move his feet. With gentle expertise, Fiona introduced a football – and encouraged him to kick while she guided his hips. David's giggles filled the room as he realised he could walk and kick the ball.

The transformation didn't stop there. Gunn also noticed that the boys' father was using an unsuitable walking stick. With gratitude, he received a pair of crutches – completing a remarkable moment for the whole family which will transform their lives.

The family worships at the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Mariashoni, and with new mobility aids – plus a Bible gifted to them – they can now fully participate together.

Creating Belonging and Building Inclusion: The Roofbreaker Mission to Kolkata

In February 2026, five UK Roofbreakers – Abigail, Anne, Vitoria, Martyn and Janet – travelled to Kolkata for a ten-day mission focused on strengthening Christian disability inclusion through advocacy and teaching. This visit followed a Wheels for the World trip in 2025, and once again, the team witnessed unforgettable expressions of courage, faith, and community.

Belonging: Opening the Church to Everyone

On their very first day, the team led a seminar for local church leaders. The response was overwhelming. Many committed to return to their congregations determined to make genuine changes so that disabled people can fully belong in church life – welcomed, included, and able to access the Gospel.

Throughout the trip, the team shared this message across house churches, large congregations, and even a leprosy mission hospital where attendees travelled up to 200km to learn about disability inclusion.

Moments of deep belonging shone through everywhere – from worship in a small house church, accompanied only by a tambourine, to meeting members of a Deaf church whose pastor is working on a 15-year project to translate the Bible into Indian Sign Language. For the 50,000 Deaf people in Kolkata, this is life-changing work.



Kolkata: February 2026 at The Leprosy Mission hospital

Enabling: Equipping People and Communities

The team also spent time with blind ministry groups, where Scripture was read aloud in Bengali braille – a living testimony to enabling people to use their God-given gifts. They visited children’s centres, outreach programmes, and even homes run by the Missionaries of Charity, seeing first-hand how practical support empowers disabled people to thrive.

A highlight was visiting recipients from last year’s Wheels for the World distribution. Many shared how their mobility equipment – and especially their audio Bibles – had brought renewed independence, faith, and dignity.

A Lasting Impact

Although the team faced unexpected delays during their journey home due to conflict in Iran, they expressed deep gratitude for God’s protection and for the many ministries they were privileged to serve alongside.

This Roofbreaker trip beautifully reflects Through the Roof’s values: creating belonging, enabling people to fulfil their potential, and encouraging churches to become places where everyone can participate fully.

The Term ‘Roofbreaker’ comes from the passage in Luke 5 where four men bring their paralysed friend to Jesus. When they couldn’t get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they found another way and literally broke through the roof to bring him into Jesus’ presence.

Volunteers

Have you ever wondered how you could participate in building God's Kingdom? The truth is beautifully simple: God delights in using ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Every volunteer who served in Kenya and India, this year started with the same doubts — yet each one discovered that when God calls, He also equips.

If you sense even a small stirring to step out in faith, perhaps this is your moment. We're now recruiting volunteers for our next mission trip to **Rwanda** which will take place between the **1st and the 12th September 2026**.

Why not email kathy@throughtheroof.org it all begins with a simple conversation. You could explore how your gifts, your story, and your willingness could make a life-changing difference?



Access:

Everyone knowing Jesus, with disabled people fully welcomed into Christian life

Belonging:

All growing together as the family of God, flourishing in community with others

Commission:

Everyone reflecting the character of Jesus, with disabled people making disciples to the glory of God.

Would you help make this a reality?

Join our next mission trip.

What we need

Physiotherapist,

Play & Occupational therapists

Technicians to adjust wheelchairs

Admin, Journalists, Teachers and Pastoral team

Looking for volunteers

for our next mission trip

Join us in September for 10 days in

Rwanda : 1st – 12th September 2026

Email: kathy@throughtheroof.org for **Wheels for the World**
or international@throughtheroof.org for **Roofbreakers**



How You Can Help

We know none of this is possible without your support



Pray

Pray with us for church disability inclusion to spread worldwide. Please keep upcoming missions in your prayers.



Donate

Partner with us in mission by supporting us at www.justgiving.com/ttr to donate directly and securely online.



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Thanks for your support!