

## Overview

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## Prestonville Arms' charity pub quiz raises £419 for rYico

What better way to celebrate International Workers' Day than have a good old fashioned pub quiz. The Prestonville Arms hosted a food and drinks themed pub quiz and boy, do they know how to throw a good quiz! With two rounds involving food and drink tasting and the landlords and staff ensuring everyone was kept well oiled, the pub was packed with locals and friends of rYico all eager to play. In addition to the quiz prizes there was also a grand raffle for 4 food themed prizes that were donated by local business. EllesBelles Gourment Sauasages, Bills Café, Fiery Foods, Hankham Organics and Rushfields Farm Shop were amongst those that donated prizes. A big thank you to everyone involved in organizing this great night and a special "cheers" to the landlord and patrons of the [Prestonville Arms](#), Brighton!

## Travel with a Donkey in the Cevennes to support rYico



Andy Boyd and Viv Bowra, long-time friends and supporters of rYico, have recently embarked on a new project to fundraise for rYico. Andy and Viv have supported rYico in the past both through fundraising and by providing direct training to staff and young people at Centre Marembo.

Their latest project was to walk the renowned 250km Robert Louis Stevenson Trail in France.

From 29th April to 7th May 2011, Andy walked the length of the trail, accompanied by family and friends. He's raised a massive £5,200 and hopes that he can still raise more.

It's not too late to donate. Click here to visit Andy's Justgiving page:  
<http://www.justgiving.com/walking-the-stevenson-trail>

## Girl Power



“I was so pleased when 3 young girls from Dorothy Stringer school knocked on my office door and asked if they could volunteer for rYico.” Viv tells us:

“Kaya, Ciara and Rosie had found out about the work rYico does in Rwanda and wanted to help so we sat and talked about the Umugongo house and the children who live there. Two hours after they left I got a phone call from Rosie saying they’d come up with the idea to sell homemade lemonade and cakes on the May Day bank holiday outside their house near Preston Park.

We are really happy to report that the girls raised £93 pounds for rYico selling their delicious cakes and lemonade. This money will be put towards the building of a new Umugongo house for girls in Kigali. Rosie, Ciara and Kaya’s names will be proudly displayed on 3 of the bricks used to build the new Umugongo house for girls.”

## Centre Spotlight

### Umugongo House – New project for girls



Until now Centre Marembo has been providing shelter for boys who had been living on the streets. However, recently we’ve started to provide accommodation for four girls, including Odette, who is disabled. The development of the Umugongo house project has been established to deal with the immediate needs of young girls living in the Gasabo district of Kigali and who have been victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse.

Our research has found that the prevalence of domestic violence and sexual abuse against young girls, particularly those who have moved from rural areas to work in city of Kigali, is very high. Like the boys at Umugongo house, four girls are currently receiving support by way of food, accommodation and schooling. As far as we can see, Centre Marembo is currently the only short-stay refuge for girls in distress.

In the last four months Centre Marembo has also embarked on a fostering project with 12 girls who have been placed with families in Kigali. Fostering schemes are a new possibility in Rwanda; this is largely due to increased economic development which means more and more households are experiencing lower poverty levels, now putting some households in a position to support another child.

### A sign of hope at Centre Marembo



In this edition we’d like to highlight the story of one very brave boy who joined the Umugongo House last year. His name is Ginole and he is six years old. Sadly, in February last year he was hit by a car on his way home from school. As a result, Ginole suffered serious head injuries and was in a coma for over three days. Thanks to your support though, Centre Marembo was able to cover the medical costs and we are happy to report that he is now recovering and will be back to full health very soon.

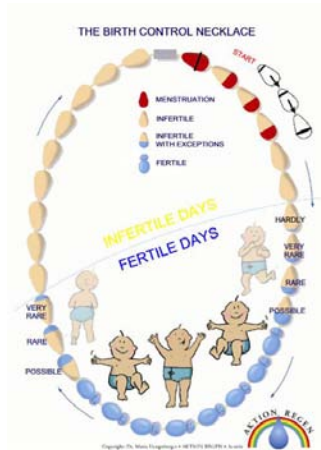
### Back to School



The children from Centre Marembo returned to school last week after a two month-long school holiday. In this photo we can see the boys from the Umugongo House, and the girls, who are now supported by the centre through the foster care project that was set up six months ago.

Everyone at rYico is so proud to see them looking healthy and eager to start a new year at school. Hopefully all our sponsors can see the real difference their support makes to the lives of these former street children.

## Centre Success Story



The Austrian Help Program (AHP) have noted the success of the birth control project in Centre Marembo and have decided to sponsor the centre manager, Nicolette, to travel to Ethiopia and The Congo in order to run workshops to train local nurses how to use the birth control necklaces. At the end of this training, young women at Centre Marembo will make birth control necklaces to sell to AHP, who will distribute them within other African countries.

Centre Marembo have now been making these necklaces for about a year. If you'd like to know more about the necklaces, or would like to purchase one, please get in touch with rYico at [info@ryico.org](mailto:info@ryico.org)

## Personal Perspective



### Gabriella Oakley (External Consultant)

Gabriella Oakley has recently joined the team in the UK on a 2-month placement through the Vodafone World of Difference programme. Gabriella tells us:

"I am very excited to be working with rYico. The volunteers and trustees are extremely passionate and dedicated, and there is a real buzz in the office. rYico has achieved so much over the years, and the projects at Centre Marembo make a real difference to the lives of vulnerable young people in Rwanda."

"One of the things I love is that rYico is involved in so many different things. At the moment the team is planning a music concert, a summer clothes' collection and working with Centre Marembo to develop new services for young girls in Rwanda. I am so impressed by everyone's imagination and passion!"

"I come from working in the UK voluntary sector, supporting small charities and community projects. For the next two months I'll be working closely with the trustees and volunteers on a few ideas to develop the potential of rYico and make sure it keeps on doing such great work. I have set up a blog so to get an insider view of what happens at the office, go to <http://worldofdifference.vodafone.co.uk/blogs/gabriella-oakley/>

## Upcoming Events

### June - Launch of **New Shop4Rwanda** website

We are launching a new shop4rwanda website which will be more dynamic and easier to use. The new shop will offer a wider selection of goods with more variety and a new range of clothes. We plan to launch the new website in conjunction with the gig in June so if you are interested please come along and support us!

### Sunday 12th June - Shop4Rwanda Stall

We will be selling crafts from [www.Shop4Rwanda.com](http://www.Shop4Rwanda.com) at Hanover Day Festival. Please come and support us on the day to raise some unrestricted funds for the new Umugongo House for girls.

### Thursday 16th June - **Afro Connect** fundraising gig

We have rescheduled the **Afro Connect** music event that was unfortunately cancelled in December due to the heavy snow. The event will be held at the **Fortune of War** and will feature two live bands, including **Pollito Boogaloo** and DJs from **Mr Bongo Soundsystem** and **Catskills Records** as well as an auction on prizes that have been donated by local businesses.

If you would like to put on a fundraising event please contact us on [info@ryico.org](mailto:info@ryico.org) / 01273 234836.



## DONATION FORM

Reg Charity No: 1104274

NAME:  
ADDRESS:  
  
EMAIL:  
TEL NO:

THERE ARE **TWO WAYS** THAT YOU CAN DONATE via post:

### 1. STANDING ORDER

I would like to make a monthly contribution of £            starting from the    /    /    (date)  
& on the same day each month thereafter until counter demanded by me.

Name(s) of account holder(s):

Bank / Building Society account no:

Sort code:

Name & full address of your Bank or Building Society:

Signature:

Date:

.....

**TO:** Lloyds Bank plc, 171-173 North Street, Brighton, BN1 1GL

OR

### 2. DONATION

I would like to make a donation of £..... to rYico's work. (Cheques payable to RYICO)

Signature:

Date:

Do you pay tax? If yes then you can add over 25% to the value of your gifts to rYico at no extra cost to you. Simply tick and date the **Gift Aid** declaration below:

*giftaid it*

I want rYico to treat this donation and any further donations, as Gift Aid donations until further notice.  
Date:    /    /

If you would like to donate online, please visit: <http://www.ryico.org/supportus.html>

**Thank you for your support**

**Please return to:** RYICO, Community Base, 113 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3XG