



If you have a group the would like a talk about this project or if you would like further information then please contact:

**lwhitelegg@christian-aid.org or Tel: 474275**

If you would like to support this project with a donation:

- Use the envelope & post to the safe near the main doors
- Visit Justgiving and search for Burundi Beekeepers
- Direct deposit to IOMCA, Sort 55-91-00, acc 13045571
- Or via the post, Christian Aid, Marlbrook, Kerrowmoar, Lezayre, IM7 2AX

**THANK YOU for your support!**

With grateful thanks to:

- Peel Cathedral
- Rosemary Clark
- Henry Uniacke
- David & Christine Roberts
- IOM Beekeepers
- Di Brown
- Glen Maye Methodist Church Art



# Burundi Art & Beekeeping Exhibition



Peel Cathedral 18th Feb-18th March 2019



## POVERTY

*Walk with Harry Owens, on his Burundian adventure*

*Between 20.02.19-11.03.19 Harry Owens, the Islands own octogenarian adventurer, is embarking on the adventure of a lifetime, changing lives for generations to come in Burundi.*

Welcome to this exhibition of local Manx Art, Burundian art, beekeeping & project information. It is designed for the visitor to walk with Harry on his mission, supporting him in prayer.

Harry the Island's bee disease officer is training over 300 female beekeepers, groups of youths in how to make beehives & the protective clothing. With this training he is empowering the women to change their lives. To add nutrition to their diet & additional funds to pay for essential items like school & education.

By Harry imparting his gift of 50 years of education & practice, the cooperatives will be able to independently produce their own nutritious honey for generations to come.



**“Do not look the other way; do not hesitate. Recognize that the world is hungry for action, not words. Act with courage and vision.”**

Nelson Mandela 2005

## THE PROJECT

In February 2018, I sat in a field with the Burundian lady beekeepers, listening to their issues and day dreaming about this trip, it is breath-taking to me that it is happening!

Burundi is a tiny landlocked African country (about the size of Scotland) which is one of the worlds poorest countries. 'Won' by the Belgium's as a result of a League of Nations 1923 mandate and independent since 1962. Currently, Christian Aid and the Isle of Man Government are working in partnership through an international aid grant, on sustainable livelihoods through cooperatives, renewable energy and gender empowerment.

Harry's project, is exciting and totally unique to the Island, working in collaboration with the IOM Beekeepers and IOM Christian Aid. I visited the Burundi Beekeeping Cooperative project in Feb 2018. The project had only started in November 2017, on an incredibly small scale, with very limited internal funding. Originally, the basis of the project was modelled on a Kenyan project (a previously successful IOM Christian Aid week appeal) to utilise the precious space between crops, to supplement income of subsistence farmers with bee crops. In Burundi, cooperatives of farming women were set up and equipment given. The next step was to train local women and youth in the art of beekeeping. However, with a shortfall in funds, peer to peer training was devised, which, unfortunately was not effective. This was the situation i witnessed, sufficient infrastructure but a lack of knowledge—a Manx solution was born! Harry's trip is to train and educate the cooperatives not only ensures how to safely and efficiently manage the bees but how to make the equipment they need locally, how to utilise all aspects of the bees precious work. This is the start of a long journey, thank you for your support and interest!

*Louise Whitelegg*

### Prayer

Father, thank you for the courage of individuals, who stand up to make a change.  
Thank you for those whose support makes it possible to love our global neighbours as you want us to.  
We offer up to you the safekeeping of Harry Owens as he travels from the Island and around Burundi.  
Please bless Harry with your strength of heart, mind and body.  
May his mission to educate the Burundian women and youth in the life-giving art of beekeeping, be understood, embraced and live on through future generations.  
Thank you to all who act with selfless love to make your Kingdom of Heaven on Earth possible.  
Amen



## The Children's Art Work

These powerful images are drawn by school children of Burundi, all of whom are involved with Christian Aid gender violence education programme.

Collection of water & cleaning feature highly in their drawings. To Prior to the programme, it was the norm that the girls would stay behind after school to clean and prepare for the next day. Now in the schools, both boys & girls share the burden of cleaning & collecting water. Look closely at the expressions on the faces. By breaking down the gender stereotypes, this generation is leading the way. With peer to peer education they are gaining the understanding and confidence to challenge the patriarchal norms. Changing lives for the better.

