**3 May 2013**



**ANDREW MITCHELL’S BIKE RAISES THOUSANDS OF POUNDS FOR**

**KENYAN CHILDREN’S CHARITY ON EBAY**

Former Tory Chief Whip Andrew Mitchell’s bike, which was at the centre of the ‘Plebgate’ row, sold for a staggering £10,600 on eBay last night, with all proceeds going to Kenyan Children’s Charity, Nyumbani UK.

The auction page of the seven year old men’s Westminster Reflex, attracted over 31,000 views over the course of the five day auction with 60 bids in total being made.

The two-wheels dubbed the most famous bike in Britain was at the centre of the row between the ex-Cabinet Minister and the Police who prohibited Mr. Mitchell from riding it through the main gates of Downing Street. The media storm that then surrounded it - along with its distinctive front basket - made it too recognisable, prompting the Sutton Coldfield MP to finally part ways with it.

Andrew Mitchell commented; “I am pleased it has raised so much for Nyumbani UK which helps thousands of Kenyan children orphaned through the HIV pandemic. The auction has gone better than I thought it would and I hope the bike’s new owner will enjoy riding it as much as I have.”

Chairman of Nyumbani UK, Simon Philips said; “The charity is extremely grateful to Mr. Mitchell for donating his beloved bike for auction on eBay. All proceeds will go towards providing these children with the best nutritional, medical, educational and psychosocial care and will definitely make a tangible difference to their lives.”

Care is provided to these orphans, through three distinct projects: A slum outreach program called Lea Toto in Nairobi which helps 3,000 children, the Nyumbani Home that supports 100 children and finally the Nyumbani Village that provides care for 1,000. At the very centre of village life are the Hotcourses Primary School and the Lawson High School.

Patrons of the charity include former Secretary of State for Education Baroness Morris of Yardley, England Rugby coach and Olympics Director of Sport Sir Clive Woodward, top UK chef Tom Aikens, Chief Executive of Huntsworth plc Lord Chadlington, Chief Investment Officer of Caxton’s Andrew Law and the National Theatre's Sir Nick Hytner.

The identity of the winning bidder has not been revealed.

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editors**

* For more information, as well as high resolution photographs, please contact Sarah Jones on 07775 582 497 or sarah.jones@nyumbani.org.uk;
* For more information on the charity, please visit [www.nyumbani.org.uk](http://www.nyumbani.org.uk);