



2 Somerset Road • Green Point • Cape Town • 8005 • South Africa  
PO Box 6 • Green Point • Cape Town • 8051 • South Africa  
Tel +27 21 418 0322 Fax +27 21 418 6406 Email [info@breadlineafrica.org.za](mailto:info@breadlineafrica.org.za)  
Visit our website [www.breadlineafrica.org](http://www.breadlineafrica.org)

## 25TH MANDELA CONTAINER LIBRARY OPENED

10 April, Bergville, Kwa-Zulu Natal – A library container initiative between the Nelson Mandela Centre for Memory and NGO Breadline Africa, celebrated the opening of their 25th library on Wednesday 10 April at Oppermanskraal Primary School outside Bergville in Kwa-Zulu Natal. Soapie star Hlubi Mboya and world-class adventurer and mountaineer, Sibusiso Vilane took part in the celebrations and handed out 46664 bangles to the learners. The area, which is remote and rural, recently received attention as a result of the Joberg2C mountain bike race across South Africa – a nine-day 900km riding adventure, which starts in Johannesburg and traverses through some of the most spectacular rural parts of Johannesburg down to Scottsborough on the Kwa-Zulu Natal coast.

The Bergville container library has been funded through the 46664 Bangles Programme, which received a boost from the Participate for Good Initiative, which has its roots in raising funds from people who enter into various sporting events and adventures. The inaugural event for the launch of the Participate for Good initiative is the Old Mutual Joberg2C mountain bike race.

“Entrants to the race simply register as a charity champion on the website; [www.participateforgood.com](http://www.participateforgood.com) select the target they are aiming for and then start collecting as much as they can, while having fun. Sixteen participants for this year’s race have already collected over R420 000. Hopefully we will reach the required R560 000 before the race starts, for a further two libraries to be funded,” Robert Coutts, a rider since the inception of the race and CEO of the 46664 Bangles Programme said.

“The commitment from the local communities to look after the libraries and to make sure we place them where they are most effective will ensure we make a significant impact in the lives of children well into the future,” director of the Old Mutual Joberg2C race, Craig Wapnick said. “Our Partnership with 46664 Bangles and the Participate for Good campaign is in line with how we hope to get local communities uplifted. If you look at the impact this one mountain bike race has had for these communities, you soon get to realise its potential.”

The library is the 25th container to be delivered as part of the partnership between the Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory and Cape Town based NGO Breadline Africa. Each container library is restored from an old shipping container with insulation, flooring, window, doors and lighting to accommodate more than 3 000 books.

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### Breadline Africa (RSA) Advisory Committee

Henk Kleizen (Chairperson), Prof. Eric Atmore, Farzeen Bhana, Nicola Bosworth, Sally Burt, Frances Greathead (Patron) Nthabi Mohlakoana, Karen Morris, Andrew Warner  
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The Rotary Foundation is the primary source of books in the Participate for Good container campaign and a welcome partner.

“The libraries give an opportunity to children, many of whom hardly ever see a reading book, to come into contact with picture and story books and to enter the wonderful world of reading for the first time,” Tim Smith, Director of Breadline Africa said. “Through the generosity of companies and donors, we’ve reached approximately 18 000 children in nine provinces.”



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