



JANUARY 2014

IMPORTANT DATES

**March 14 -16:
Rotary District 9630
Conference**

**March 31: 3rd Umoja
Volunteers tour
departs for Kenya**

June/ July (TBC): 4th Volunteer Tour

**July 19: Umoja
Annual Gala Dinner**

October 25: Annual World's biggest dinner party

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Our goal is to **build a self-sustainable children's eco village** to house orphaned and vulnerable children. Self-sustainability can be achieved at Umoja Children's Village by producing our own products—including food, clothing and furniture—and running our own safari business. This will decrease operating costs and inject money directly back into the project. Being self-sufficient will ensure we keep the financial costs of running such a village to a minimum, whilst training and empowering local women and men in skills they otherwise would not have had. Our first children's house plans are nearly completed, and in May. In conjunction with our children's home we are



Make Umoja your “Charity of Choice” for 2014

There are many ways that you, your club or business can support Umoja financially. Please consider donating towards one or more of the following items:

1. Helping fund the completion of our first children's home
2. Animals – chickens
3. Farming tools
4. Well and irrigation system
5. Bio digester
6. Greenhouses



Your contribution would not only be aiding Umoja in achieving self-sustainability but will also be helping children and communities to break the cycle of poverty. We will be training up to 12 local men and women in April in Permaculture Farming in the hope of providing employment opportunities and to help deliver food security to our orphans and for families in surrounding areas.



Please e-mail info@umojahome.com if you would like to purchase any of the above sustainability items or donate towards completion of our first children's home.



VOLUNTOURISM

Umoja volunteers participate in what we like to call **voluntourism**— the perfect combination of community work and vacation. As a 'voluntourist' with Umoja you will get to experience all that Africa has to offer.

We take 2- 3 volunteer teams across to Kenya each year led by project founder and director Cathy Booth. Tours include:

- work days at our project
- visits to other orphanages
- assisting at feeding station
- and a safari

There are still spaces for our **June/July tour**, which will take place during the QLD school holidays: June 28—July 13 (exact tour dates TBC). Depending on interest, we may also take a team across in late December.

Please e-mail our Volunteer Coordinator for more information: lesley@umojahome.com. She will be able to provide you with tour dates, approximate costs, and itinerary.

Expressions of interest close April 30.



WELCOME TEAM C VOLUNTEERS

On March 31st 19 volunteers will depart Australia to meet Team Leaders Cathy Booth and Shanyin Limpus in Kenya.

During their 14-day tour they will be working on agricultural and building tasks and enjoying a safari to such Wildlife Parks as Amboseli and Maasai Mara.

The Umoja team welcome the following volunteers (**including repeat volunteers from Rotary Clubs**) and wish them all the very best :

- ◇ Rhiana Booth (VIC)
- ◇ Sam Reid (VIC)
- ◇ **Leonie Hills (QLD)**
- ◇ Matt Hills (QLD)
- ◇ Roz Stafford (QLD)
- ◇ **Adele Hughes (QLD)**
- ◇ Debbie Ward (QLD)
- ◇ **Leanne Petersen (QLD)**
- ◇ Bob McCosker (QLD)

- ◇ Julie Churchward (QLD)
- ◇ Deane Michelmore (SA)
- ◇ Deborah Lawrence (QLD)
- ◇ James Steele (QLD)
- ◇ Stephanie Templeton (TAS)
- ◇ Greg King (QLD)
- ◇ John Davies (QLD)
- ◇ Nance Davies (QLD)
- ◇ Rod Kamholtz (QLD)
- ◇ Jaimie-Lee Petersen (QLD)



RAWCS Project No:
51/2011-2012

GUEST SPEAKING

On December 12th Cathy Booth delivered an update of the project to our new supporting Rotary Club: **Bundaberg Sunrise**. We really appreciated their generous donation, together with Bundaberg Interact Clubs, which will go towards the building costs of our first children's home.

We have been invited to speak at the Rotary District 9630 Conference in March to be held



Club President Neil Robinson presenting Cathy with a cheque.

in Maroochydore. Cathy and Lesley will also be speaking at a variety of Rotary clubs throughout Australia over the coming months.

Please contact cathy@umojahome.com if you would like to invite Cathy or a member of her team to speak at your club.



Proudly supported by
**Rotary Club of
Bundaberg Sunrise**

The Umoja team wish to thank the following people for their support:

- ◇ **The Place Hairdressers** and clients for raising money in our Umoja money tin
- ◇ **Eleni Comino** from **Shoes on Chevron** (Gold Coast) for her donations
- ◇ **Lynda Brosnan** (Townsville) for donating a percentage of sales from **Tupperware**
- ◇ **Shauna Petersen** and friends for raising funds at an African Theme night
- ◇ **Annette Newsham** for donating new clothes
- ◇ **Valmay McKeague** (Gold Coast) for her donation of 12 hand made blankets
- ◇ **Nancy Haggarty and Roz Stafford** for their offer to buy dairy cows in April
- ◇ **Patrichia Richter, Hazel Dighton, Dean Smith, Tony Limpus, Serita Saba** (and those who wish to stay anonymous) for their ongoing financial support
- ◇ All of those people who purchased Christmas cards and gift vouchers
- ◇ And everyone who donated to **Rhiana Booth's** pledge



Bundy Live musicians and radio hosts recording Christmas song.

A special mention to **Matthew Farthing** (who donated \$500) and other **Bundy Live** local musicians who performed a cover of 'Do They Know it's Christmas' on the radio. You can listen to the track on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FOAhqCDH3Qk>



Rachael showing her sewing skills.

Margaret Maroney and sister **Cate** made a Kenyan locals day by purchasing a sewing machine for Rachel on her birthday. Rachael is being sponsored by Cathy and Lesley to attend sewing school.

ROTARY SUPPORT

We would like to acknowledge the ongoing assistance of Rotary Clubs across Australia, most especially District 9570. Your support has helped us achieve our goals much sooner.

This support includes financial donations, advice, Umoja fundraisers, and donations in-kind. Many of our volunteers to our project in Kenya are also hardworking Rotarians— some of whom put their hands up time and time again to help us out. A special mention must go to **Trish Gilluley** (Rockhampton West RC), **Wayne Limbrick** (Shepparton Central RC), **Adele Hughes** (Gladstone Midday RC), and **Leonie Hills** (Gladstone RC).



We would like to thank the following Rotary Clubs for their recent support:

- Ginniderra RC— \$500
- Rockhampton West RC— \$1000
- Mt. Morgan RC— \$1000
- Bundaberg Sunrise RC—\$1000

- Bundaberg St. Lukes Interact —\$350
- Longreach RC— \$1000
- Mackay RC—\$1000
- Southern Mitchel RC— volunteer flights

We are looking forward to a promising year ahead with the local support of Bundaberg Sunrise, and the opportunity to meet many new Rotarians as we travel around guest speaking.

If your club is looking for an International Project to support, make us your Charity of Choice. Please consider our self-sustainability goals listed on the front page of this newsletter or donating to our first children's home. You may also like to join us on our next volunteer tour in June/July.

UMOJA GALA DINNER: JULY, 2014

This year's annual gala dinner will be held on July 19 in Bundaberg, QLD. Our theme will embrace the spirit of Africa, with an unbelievable raffle prize to match. More details soon...

We are currently seeking sponsors for the event and prize donations for our charity auction.

Last year's gala dinner raised \$11 000 towards our perimeter fence. This year's event will help fund the construction of our first children's home, which will be built in 2014.

If your business would like more information on our sponsorship packages or you would like to donate an auction prize, please e-mail info@umojahome.com.



UMOJA ORPHANAGE KENYA

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Together we achieve the extraordinary



Umoja Orphanage Kenya will offer a real alternative to child abandonment. Through a holistic care approach, we will give children a second chance at life and help break the cycle of poverty.

On 15 acres of fertile land in Ukunda, we are building a children's village to accommodate up to six children's homes and a small school. We hope to be self-sustainable by sourcing our own food from fruit and vegetable gardens, a piggery, and chicken and dairy farms. We also have our own safari side-business, which will generate profits back into the orphanage project. Donate to Umoja today and help orphaned and vulnerable children reach their full potential.



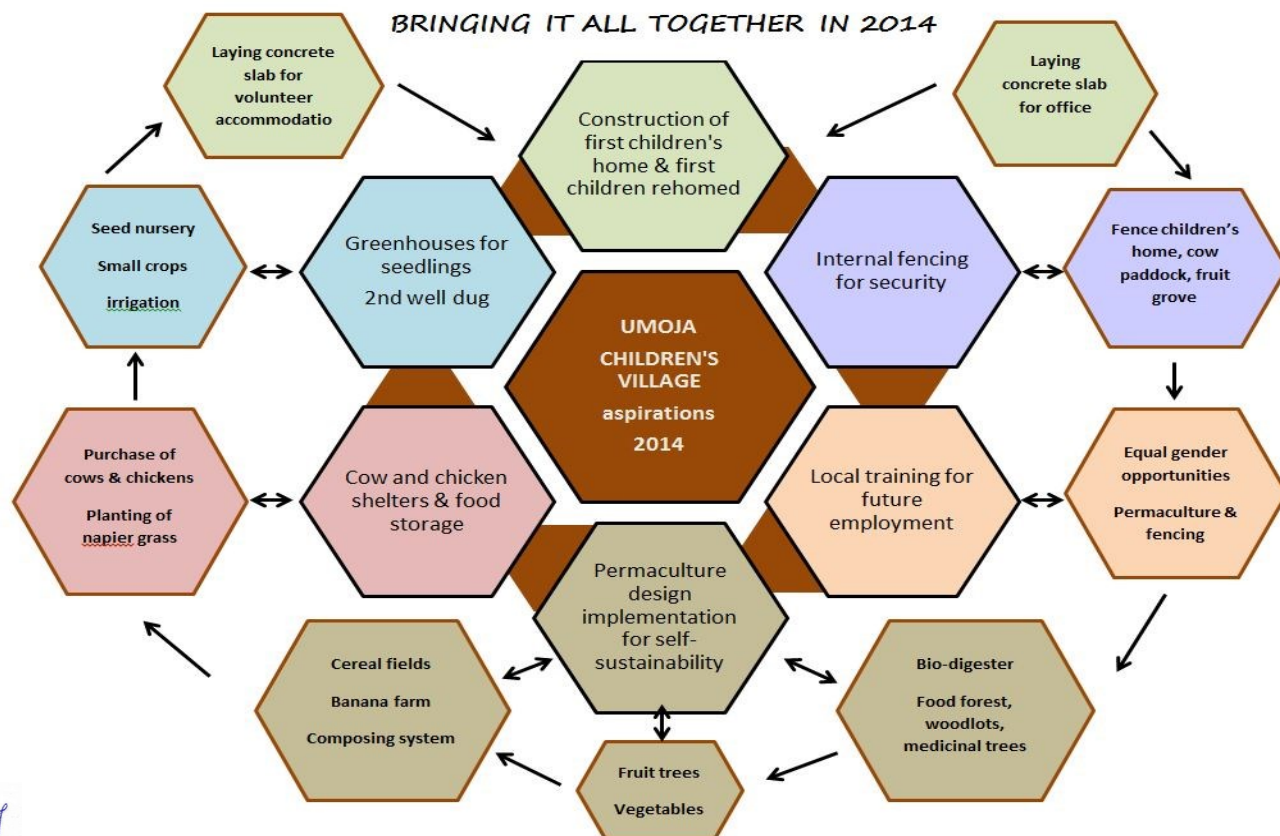
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CATHY'S CORNER

Happy New Year from the Umoja Team. 2014 is shaping up to be another huge year for us, but also an extra special one. Our aspirations for this year are outlined below. We are going to be extra busy this year making the Umoja dream come true. Help us help our future children. Look out for our next newsletter with a reflection of past volunteer Trish Gilluley's climb to the summit of Mt. Kili. Congratulations Trish!



Cathy