



IMPORTANT DATES

JULY 30: Umoja celebrates our 2nd year anniversary

SEPTEMBER 1 : Umoja annual Golf Day (Coral Cove)

SEPTEMBER 16: 2nd volunteer tour to Kenya

OCTOBER 12: Beer-festabull Bundaberg (Old Show grounds)

OCTOBER 26: World's Biggest Dinner Party

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CASINO ROYALE CHARITY GALA DINNER RAISES \$11 000

On Saturday July 20, 150 people attended Umoja's 2nd annual gala dinner at The Waves. This year's theme had a touch of luck to remind everyone how truly lucky we are to live in Australia. We were so impressed at the effort guests went to look the part and we were overwhelmed by the generosity of the local community. \$11 000 will fund our fencing project, which the second volunteer team will help to build—along with the nine Kenyan locals we have employed—when they head to Kenya with Cathy and Katie in September.



Guests enjoyed a two-course meal as well as some lovely home-made treats and lollies at our dessert bar. Dinner entertainment was provided by the acoustic sound of the Buck-etseats and the Electric Banana lured guests to the dance floor with their fun brand of rock. Guests were also able to try their luck at the gaming tables in the Umoja Casino where the fortunate few were blessed by lady luck. Our charity auction was a great success with sporting memorabilia being the hot items of the night. A fanatical QLD State of Origin supporter managed to add another signed jersey to her collection with the highest bid of the night. Thank you to everyone who supported our auction and raffles.



The Umoja team would like to acknowledge the generosity of some special Rotarians. Wayne and Pam Limbrick, from **Shepparton Central Rotary Club**, travelled from Victoria to Bundaberg to attend our dinner and donated a seven-day Gold Coast Getaway at their unit in Palm Beach for our auction. It was lovely to have some special guests from our first volunteer group, too, including Adele Hughes, Leonie Hills, Katie Trulson and Leanne Peterson. The Umoja team were overwhelmed when Adele and Leonie surprised us with two cheques. Thank you so much to **Gladstone Rotary Club** for donating \$1000 and **Gladstone Midday Rotary Club** for their cheque of \$1025. **Bundaberg Sunrise Rotary Club** also surprised Cathy at their changeover dinner earlier this month with a cheque for \$1000. Thank you to the Sunrise Rotary club for their ongoing support. What a night! We can't wait until next year...



"Their lives and the lives of their families have now been changed for the better thanks to the generosity of Umoja supporters"



RAWCS Project No:
51/2011-2012



Proudly supported by
Rotary Club of East
Bundaberg

PROGRESS IN KENYA

Cathy and Lesley returned to Kenya in June to organise the fencing project in preparation for the 15 volunteers who leave in September.

Their two-week trip was very productive and included many meetings with the villagers, village chief, our Kenyan architect and Kenyan project manager Patrick.

Tools and materials were purchased for the fence and nine locals have now been employed to help construct the fence. Their lives and the lives of their families have now been changed for the better thanks to the generosity of Umoja supporters.



Locals digging holes by hand



Project Manager Patrick

Construction for the fence began on July 13, 2013. The holes for the fence posts are being dug by hand and the posts are then cemented in place. The next group of volunteers will thread the wire through the posts to complete the boundary fence.



Cathy and the Village Chief

SECOND VOLUNTEER TRIP DEPARTS SEPTEMBER

On September 16, 13 Australians will join Umoja Team Leaders Cathy Booth and Katie Trulson for the 2nd volunteer trip.

During their time in Kenya they will volunteer on our land, visit other orphanages to see where we are heading and help to feed children at the Kikambala Feeding Station. They will also head out on safari with our very own safari tour bus.

The Umoja team welcome the following volunteers and wish them all the best on their trip:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| ◇ Timothy Shierlaw (SA) | ◇ Roslyn Stewart (VIC) |
| ◇ Roger Pearce (SA) | ◇ Margaret Maroney (ACT) |
| ◇ Norla Brimley (VIC) | ◇ Pam & Brian Huffen (SA) |
| ◇ Ron Watts (SA) | ◇ Beverley Wetherall (QLD) |
| ◇ Delwyn Watts (SA) | ◇ John Sgroi (VIC) |
| | ◇ Wayne & Pam Limbrick (VIC) |

GUEST SPEAKING: BUNDABERG SUNRISE ROTARY CLUB

Cathy was guest speaker at the Bundaberg Sunrise Rotary Changeover Dinner on July 13. Congratulations to the new president Neil Robinson from all of the Umoja Team. Cathy would like to thank the past president Lindsay Cunneen for the unexpected donation of \$1000 and the lovely bunch of flowers. Cathy enjoyed delivering her presentation to the club and appreciated the warm reception



Cathy with Lindsay Cunneen



If you would like Cathy to share the Umoja journey with your Rotary Club, please e-mail cathy@umojahome.com

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

- ◆ **Encore Dance Studio, Shadow Insurance Brokers, The Door Keeper and The Sticker Company** for sponsoring our Gala Dinner.
 - ◆ **Jonno Olsen and Robert Ephraims** for auctioneering at our Gala Dinner
 - ◆ **Peter Ahern** for all of his help with our Gala Dinner
 - ◆ **Jenny Dawes and Cyril Wriede** for donating items for our charity auction
 - ◆ **Zupps** for donating the framing costs for the jerseys in our charity auction
 - ◆ **Linda Dighton** from Brisbane for raising funds for our project in a raffle
 - ◆ **Gladstone Rotary Club** for donating much needed first-aid supplies
 - ◆ **Russell Cummings** for his ongoing business advice
- Trish Gilluley** from Rockhampton West Rotary Club—who was one of our first volunteers—is using her climb of Mt Kilimanjaro to raise fund's to build our children's home. Trish will tackle Africa's highest mountain in January, 2014. Thank you, Trish, for raising awareness for Umoja. See our website for more info.



Karen, Kate, Joanne, Helen and Elaine enjoying the film night.



Trish Gilluley volunteering in Kenya.

A special mention must go to **Elaine Godden** from Cairns who raised \$840 from 12 dinner and film nights in support of Umoja. Each Friday night, Elaine and her friends started with a chat, ate dinner, watched a fun or feel-good movie and ended the night with a cuppa and dessert.

You may remember Elaine from her catch-up club where guests popped in for morning tea and donated to Umoja. Thank you for your continued support of our project, Elaine. We just love hearing stories of people working together for one cause and embracing the Umoja spirit.

WORLD'S BIGGEST DINNER PARTY

Here at Umoja HQ we are constantly inspired by people's generosity and concepts to help us raise funds. Wayne Limbrick from **Shepparton Central Rotary Club** in Victoria—who is incidentally volunteering for us in September along with his lovely wife Pam—has hatched a plan that is not just innovative but most importantly involves minimal effort.

The idea is for people to organise their **own dinner parties on Saturday 26th October, 2013**, wherever they are, and each dinner guest makes a donation of \$20 to the Umoja Orphanage Project. We all get to have a night out with family and friends, make a meaningful contribution to a great cause and avoid getting hit up for raffles and auctions. It's a win-win for you and Umoja.

UMOJA ORPHANAGE KENYA

Umoja is asking you to host your own dinner party on Saturday October 26th 2013. Support our great charity and also become part of our world's biggest dinner party attempt.

Guests to donate \$20 per person which will go to Umoja Orphanage Kenya.

Hosts to register their dinner party with Wayne Limbrick on 0402 869 304 or e-mail info@umojahome.com

umojahome.com/kenya ADN 20105511540

Please support Umoja Orphanage Project, founded by local school teacher Cathy Booth. All proceeds from the event will help to build the first children's home and provide an alternative to child abandonment in Kenya. Together we achieve the extraordinary.

Supported by

Attempting the world record for the world's biggest dinner party

In summary, it's pretty simple.

1. Make a commitment to have a dinner party with as many people as you can on Saturday 26th October, 2013. Early commitment would be fantastic.
2. E-mail Wayne Limbrick via wayne@limoshardware.com with how many people you have attending your party and the location of your party as soon as you can.
3. Collect \$20 from each dinner guest and deposit the money into the Umoja account listed on our website.
4. After your dinner party, send a confirmation e-mail to info@umojahome.com with the number of guests who attended and some photos of the party to so we can collate the dinner parties and secure the world record.

UMOJA GOLF DAY

Our 3rd annual Golf Day will be held on **Sunday 1st September** at Coral Cove Golf Club.

All proceeds will benefit the 'Raise the Roof Appeal'.

2 person Ambrose. Shotgun start 7:30 am and 12:00 pm

Non h'cap players: Men 18, Ladies 27. All welcome.

Contact the Pro Shop on (07) 4159 3333 to book your place.



UMOJA ORPHANAGE KENYA

ABN: 90165041649

Charity No: CH2110

133 Barolin Esplanade
Coral Cove QLD 4670

Mobile: 0409 476 44

E-mail: info@umojahome.com

Website: <http://umojahome.com/>

**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 17 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.



Find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/umojakneya



CATHY'S CORNER

Waking on the 30th July this week, for my own birthday, took me back two years to the same morning when I woke up after much soul searching. That was the day I decided it was time to make a difference. And what a journey it has been since then. Firstly, I want to acknowledge the absolutely amazing Umoja team who work tirelessly with me to reach our goals. You are all consistently enthusiastic about fundraising, which allows us to continue on our road to success. Everyone's time is voluntary; the team have their own families and jobs, but they also share the passion for helping those who are less fortunate and would have no hope of a better life without intervention.

It is so satisfying to know that we started from scratch and have managed to progress to where we are today. Our journey involved much planning, negotiating and collaborating. **We built strong relationships;** we met with Rotarians both locally and internationally, became a project of RAWCS (Rotary Australia World Community Service), found trustworthy Kenyans to work with, worked hard to understand Kenyan politics and local customs and worked closely with government officials in Kenya. **We did our research;** we completed a 'due diligence tour' of similar projects in Kenya and Tanzania, we found suitable land in an area of need and we sourced and purchased building and fencing materials. **We raised money;** we organised many fundraising events including our annual gala dinners, sold many raffle tickets, inspired others to fundraise on our behalf, created a budget, sent grant applications and were supported by generous individuals and businesses. **We spread the word;** we created a website, remained active on social media, updated the community through blogs and newsletters and spoke at Rotary clubs and conferences across Australia.

It has definitely been a steep learning curve. Organising a project from another country requires an enormous amount of time and energy, including travelling back and forth to Kenya during school holidays at my own expense. Although it takes most of my spare time I wouldn't have it any other way. I've always thought I'd had patience, but now it has been taken to a whole new level. Things don't happen the same way in Kenya as they do in Australia, and I'm constantly putting myself in the shoes of the person I'm communicating with to try and understand their point of view. It has made me even more compassionate and I'm still working on building more patience while I'm in Kenya.

Since July, 2011, Umoja has purchased 17 acres of land, built a caretaker's cottage and well, purchased a van, registered our own safari business, started construction of our boundary fence, planned two volunteer trips and organised a free health clinic for September. We have also helped to break the cycle of poverty in Kenya by employing a project manager, two security guards, and nine casual labourers. We are truly achieving the extraordinary.

And lastly, never would I have thought I'd meet so many amazing people along this journey whom I now call my friends. I am continually overwhelmed by offers to help, donate, raise funds and volunteer for us. But that is the meaning of Umoja—unity for one cause; two cultures working together for the children who don't know yet how their lives will change for the better. The next 12 months are going to be even more exciting and will hopefully see us build our first children's home for up to ten orphaned children. Life is good.