



IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER: Encore Dance Eisteddfod at Moncrieff Theatre (Umoja Christmas Raffle)

DECEMBER 19: Bundy Sunrise Rotary Club draw trailer raffle

JANUARY 2014: Trish Gilluley climbs Mt Kilimanjaro

APRIL 2014: 3rd volunteer tour departs for Kenya

Inside this issue:

Volunteer Summary	2
Guest Speaking	2
Umoja Thanks	3
World's Biggest Dinner Party	3
Beer Festabull Raffle	3
CATHY'S CORNER	4

PERIMETER FENCE COMPLETED

After 22.5 km of barbed wire, 11 000 staples, 515 treated eight-foot poles and some very complicated wire strainers, our 15 hard-working volunteers and nine local Kenyan employees and volunteers **successfully completed our 15 acre perimeter fence**. Well done, team!



Our fencing project was one of our main fundraising goals for 2013, and it is such a great feeling to know we are one step closer to achieving our dream. Our perimeter fence now ensures our land is secure, allowing us to protect our precious fruit trees, well and caretaker's cottage while we are busy fundraising for the project in Australia. We had originally chosen to build an electric fence, but after considering the dangers of electric shock for local children and villagers we chose the barbed wire option. Our fencing project was also able to provide employment for nine Kenyan men, which allows them to support their families for the future. These men dug the holes for the many, many poles by hand— 103 in 1 day. What an effort!

The fencing project also included main entry gates with decorated coral brick wall. This fence represents the spirit of Umoja: two countries working together for one cause.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many individuals who have contributed to the fencing project by supporting our fundraising events or by making donations towards our fence appeal. Also, a special mention to **Elaine Godden** for her many innovative fundraisers and **Bundaberg Brewed Drinks** for their ongoing financial support of the project. Thank you to the following Rotary Clubs for their fence donations: **Bundaberg Sunrise RC (QLD), Ginniderra RC (ACT), Gladstone RC (QLD), Gladstone Midday RC (QLD), Rockhampton West RC (QLD), Biloela RC (QLD), Mt.Elizabeth RC (SA), Mackay West RC (QLD), Shepparton Central RC (VIC) and Sheridan RC (Wyoming, USA)**. And lastly, thank you to the fantastic 'B Team' who travelled to Kenya with Cathy and volunteered their time for our project: Katie, Wayne, Pam L, Margaret, Beverley, John, Nola, Brian, Pam H, Roger, Roslyn, Ron, Delwyn and Tim. It was a tremendous achievement in such a short amount of time and we know some lifelong friendships have been forged. Together we are truly achieving the extraordinary.



SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEER TRIP SUMMARY

On Saturday, September 7, Cathy flew to Kenya to prepare for the arrival of the second volunteer group, aka B Team.

Team Leader Katie Trulson met the volunteers in Dubai and they all arrived in Kenya together, exhausted, but keen to start fencing.

Days 1–6: the volunteers, along with nine local Kenyans, worked on erecting the wire and strainer boxes for 15 acres of perimeter fencing.

Day 2: a health clinic was held at the caretaker cottage for local villagers. Visited Diani Beach Rotary Club for lunch.

Overall, the volunteer trip was a huge success. Not only was the perimeter fence completed but the volunteers experienced other operational orphanages and see what we are trying to achieve with Umoja.

We like to think of our tours as 'voluntourism' as we provide a working holiday. Our own safari company allows us to give volunteers an African wildlife experience like no other on offer at a greatly reduced price. The safari side-business also allows us to put profits back into the project contributing to self-sustainability.



Katie Trulson at Footprints Orphanage

Day 7–10: On safari at Tsavo East and Tsavo West National Parks.

Day 11: Free choice day—visited Footprints Orphanage in Shimba Hills, golf or diving.

Day 12: Visited The Goodlife Orphanage and Kikambala Feeding Station & relaxed to an African band on the beach.



John inspects the poles

So many picture perfect moments on safari



We are offering two volunteer trips in 2014: April and June (please note there is limited availability for April). If you would like to volunteer in Kenya or require further information, e-mail Lesley our Volunteer Coordinator: lesley@umojahome.com



RAWCS Project No:
51/2011-2012



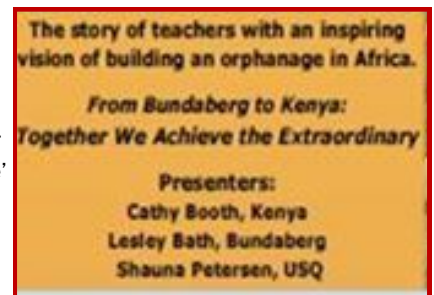
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**USQ Leadership Research International National Learning Forum
September 16 - 18, 2013**

With Cathy away in Kenya leading the second Project Volunteer Team, Lesley and USQ Lecturer and Researcher, Shauna Petersen, presented the Umoja Orphanage Vision to an academic audience at the National Learning Forum in Toowoomba. There was much interest in how a couple of teacher leaders have established a significant partnership between Rotary Australia World Community Service and the Umoja Project,

gradually making the Orphanage become a reality. Attendees were also inspired to become part of the 'World's Biggest Dinner Party fundraising challenge' and there were even expressions of interest from teachers wishing to become Project Volunteers in the future. We would like to sincerely thank USQ Leadership Research



International Researcher, **Shauna Petersen** for giving us the opportunity to showcase this RAWCS Project.

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

- ◇ **Bundaberg Sunrise Rotary Club** for incorporating our Biggest Dinner Party into their home hosting program
- ◇ **Margaret Maroney, Gladstone RC, Mackay West RC and Rockhampton RC** for donating first aid materials
- ◇ **Noel & Bronwynne Bates** for donating \$750 from **Biloela RC Craft Market**
- ◇ **Kerry Coleman** for writing a lovely blog about Umoja
- ◇ **Del & Ron Watts & Mt Elizabeth RC** for donations from 'Karaoke for Kenya' which purchased one of our front gates & seat covers for our van
- ◇ **Sue Lihs** for her continued efforts in crocheting blankets for our future children
- ◇ **Janie Hall** from **Seven Elements Consulting** for partnering with Umoja to launch her global youth education program for underprivileged children
- ◇ **Wayne Limbrick** for his ongoing support and advice. Also for all the preparation and follow up he has done for the World's Biggest Dinner Party—a legend!
- ◇ **Architects Elvire Callaghan & Russell Girle** from **Rockhampton** who are designing our first children's home



Pam and Wayne Limbrick and Cathy with the RC recognition stickers



Mark and Roger load up

- ◇ In November 2012 **Gladstone Midday RC & Shepparton Central RC** donated funds towards the purchase of our van. It was great Wayne & Pam from the RC could actually put the recognition stickers on the van to recognise their club's contribution
- ◇ **Mark Koffler** from **Base Titanium Mining Company in Kenya** for volunteering his time to help with the fencing in Kenya
- ◇ **Brian Huffen & Wayne Limbrick**—solar equipment
- ◇ **Wayne Limbrick**—high volume pump

WORLD'S BIGGEST DINNER PARTY

Our Guinness World Record attempt for the World's Biggest Dinner Party—Multiple Locations on October 26th was a wonderful success.

The Umoja team dined Italian style for the evening and Cathy shared the site plans and goals for 2014 with her guests. It was lovely to see the different ways that people participated in the event, from small, family dinners to BBQs and large functions.

We really appreciate people taking the time to enjoy a hot meal with a roof over their heads. This is something that we often take for granted in Australia, and we hope that you were able to take a moment during the evening to discuss how your donation was helping Umoja to provide food, shelter and care for orphaned and vulnerable children in Kenya.



Cathy Booth's dinner party: Bundaberg, QLD.



Rockhampton South Rotary Club, QLD.



Shepparton Central Rotary Club, VIC.

We had 45 parties register for the event from across Australia and overseas with a total of 683 guests. The largest party with over 100 guests was held in Victoria. It was also great to see a dinner party held in Mombasa, Kenya, which raised \$320 for the project.

In total we raised \$14 000+ for our Raise the Roof Appeal. One lovely man from Townsville also donated an additional \$500 to our project. All funds from the fundraising event will help to fund our first children's home, which will be constructed in 2014.

Thank you to everyone who hosted or attended a dinner party and donated to our project. Wayne Limbrick, the wonderful man who thought up this innovative idea, was very happy with the outcome and will update us soon on the Guinness World Record details.

We hope to make the WBDP an annual event. A special mention to **Rockhampton Rotary Clubs** who had the most amount of parties.

UMOJA RAFFLE AT BUNDABERG BEERFESTABULL

On Saturday, October 12th, the Umoja team headed out for a big day at the Old Bundaberg Showgrounds for the 2nd Bundaberg Beerfestabull.

The girls had a great day selling tickets in our trailer raffle and listening to some great musical acts.

It was a fantastic day out and it was great to see so many locals supporting this community event. Well done to Clint and his team.

Thank you to everyone who supported our trailer raffle. Congratulations to the winner of the prize: Lloyd F. Money raised from the raffle will support our Raise the Roof Appeal.



UMOJA ORPHANAGE KENYA

ABN: 90 165 041 649
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 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 farm. 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

The 2nd volunteer tour was another highlight for Umoja Project. To be able to show our supporters where their money has gone is incredibly rewarding. Putting the recognition stickers and plaque on the van and the caretaker's cottage filled me with pride. Our gates will soon be painted and further recognition stickers and plaques placed on those. Our free health clinic was an eye opener for our volunteers as they began to further understand how abject poverty affects health in so many ways. What we take for granted, just does not happen in Kenya. Some things are quite confronting for the volunteers but it is imperative that they experience what I experienced, so they have deep understanding of why we are doing what we are doing. Working as a team with volunteers is living the dream and we appreciate immensely the time and the mammoth efforts our volunteers put in whilst working on the project. It was hard to get them to stop for lunch and have a rest!

I think personally for me the greatest thrill I had was watching Kenyans working alongside our Australian volunteers, hearing the laughter, and the joy the children, adolescents, and adults had when they were given balls, toothbrushes, colouring in pencils and writing paper. The balloons were such a hit as the children had never seen them before. All the hard work makes these moments priceless.



Organising a team of 15 people is a huge task, and our tour coordinator **Lesley Bath** does an A1 job. **Katie Trulson** came as a tour leader on her 2nd volunteering trip in 12 months and did us proud. It is very rewarding to know that all volunteers thoroughly enjoyed the experience in Kenya we offer. I would also like to thank **Terry Daley** (RAWCS Co-ordinator) for his fantastic efforts in organizing payments and paperwork and our project manager **Patrick Kea** who does the organization in Kenya to ensure everything is ready when we get there, and that our safaris are organised perfectly. You are all full of awesomeness as are all our team.

One of our first volunteers **Trish Gilluley** climbs Mt. Kilimanjaro in January and has been raising funds for us. Trish is a legend, and had to fly to Scotland to visit her very unwell mum recently. We wish her all the best for her climb in January and know she will reach the summit as she is one determined lady. We wish her mum well. Until next month ... Ciao

Cathy