

# UMOJA ORPHANAGE KENYA

<http://www.umojahome.com>

Registered charity number CH2110



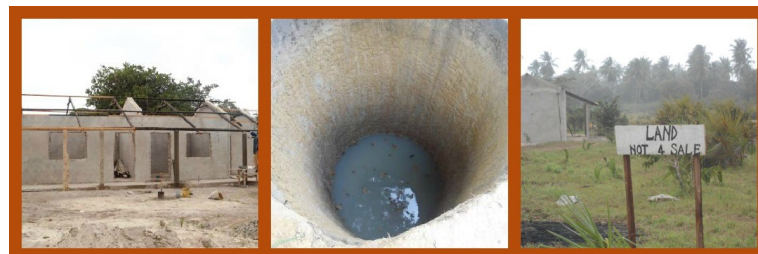
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## What a few months!

Construction on our first building, a caretaker's cottage & storeroom began in August this year. We have also dug our well, purchased a 5000 litre water tank and pump—all on donated funds to the project.

### COMPLETED NOVEMBER 2012

#### August 2012



#### September 2012

#### November 2012



#### December 2012

A huge Asante Sana to our Kenyan Project Manager Patrick who coordinated the construction. We now employ a caretaker as well as Patrick, making such a difference to theirs and their family's lives. The Umoja appreciates all your help and advice Patrick. We also are sharing our water with the local villagers saving them walking each day to fetch their own water.



RAWCS PROJECT NUMBER

51/ 2011-2012

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## THE FUNDRAISING CONTINUES...

### What's been happening in November?



Our fundraising day at Caltex Service Station, Walker Street, Bundaberg on 3rd November was a great day. We met some lovely people, cleaned lots of windscreens, pumped heaps of petrol and raised funds for the project through donations, raffle tickets, and selling Auntie Gaye's lovely choc chip biscuits. A big thank you goes to Jayde & Paul Devlin for allowing us to be part of their promotion. It was a lot of fun! and hopefully we can do it again soon. Thank you to Umoja Team and also Rod and Cathy from East Bundaberg Rotary, and fellow teacher Kate, who came and lent a hand.

Katie's Kilimanjaro climb for Kenya kids (sponsorship) took off with Katie receiving lots of 'likes' on her Facebook page and sponsorship donations being left at various locations around Bundy as well as being to donate at our website <http://www.umojahome.com> Katie was interviewed on 4BU as well as Bundaberg Newsmail publicising her in an article. Katie also was busy training for the huge climb which begins on the 22nd November, taking 8 days, then Katie joins us in Kenya to see why Cathy started the Umoja Project. Katie's life will be changed forever, as she will be volunteering at the orphanage Cathy first volunteered at while Cathy takes the remaining 6 volunteers on safari to Tsavo East, Tsavo West, and Amboseli Wild Life Parks. It's not too late to sponsor Katie <http://www.umojahome.com/kenya/katies-kilinjaro-climb-for-kenyan-kids/>



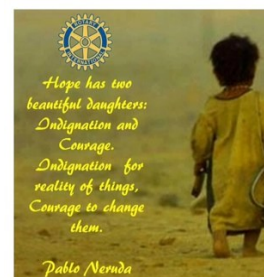
Helen Cornish Arthur continues to support us by selling Xmas Cards and holding small fundraisers at her workplace in Mackay. Thank you Helen. Shirley Butterworth and ..... Raised us \$1600 in a garage sale and donations at a 'drop in centre' in Cairns. Thank you Shirley. Thank you to Bundaberg Newsmail, Channel 7, 4BU and ABC Radio for their continued support to us.

### Guest Speaking

8th November—Hervey Bay Sunrise Rotary Club

10th November—RAWCS Regional Meeting in Brisbane

19th December—Combined Rotary breakfast meeting Maryborough







## A GREAT WAY TO RAISE FUNDS WITH NO EFFORT

We have been fortunate to have a new supporter, a childhood friend, Peter Ahern, retired AMP Financial Advisor, who has been a tremendous help spreading the word for us, donating badges, and also helping raise funds. Kind and generous as always. Must be the bush raising...

Robert Ephraim a local Bundaberg businessman and true gentleman generously donated to Umoja his birthday money in lieu of presents from his guests. Robert raised \$1800 and then (in a case of what you give out, you get back) he won the raffle at his Rotary Club and donated the funds once again to Umoja. In a further case of what goes around comes around, Robert won one of the Raffles at our Charity Golf Day. We were so pleased.

### Last week's meeting



Robert E starts the meeting with Rotary Information sharing with members how to encourage friends to donate to a charity of choice rather than give presents. Robert's friends donated \$1850 to celebrate his 60th birthday in support the Umoja Orphanage, a Rotary World Community Service (RAWCS) project sponsored by East Bundaberg Rotary



Robert finishes the meeting holding the Joker from the Sunrise jackpot raffle – more money for the Umoja Orphanage

### What's been happening in December?

Some very talented local musicians approached us to be part of their 'A night of original music,' to showcase their own original songs at Banjo's Tavern on the **13th December**. We were delighted to be part of the night, in which Matt Barker (Bucketseats), Bevan Spiers (Purple Hills), and Ryan Giles all entertained the audience with their own composed songs. The evening was a fantastic success with Umoja raising \$600 from ticket sales and raffle. The young men are extremely kind with this being the third fundraiser Matt Barker has done for us this year. Thank you guys we had a great night listening to your amazing talents. Bundy certainly has some awesome musicians.



**15th December** Encore Dance Studio gave us the opportunity to sell raffle tickets at their Xmas Concert at the Moncrieff Theatre for the matinee and the evening concert. Penny Curd has been such a supporter to Umoja and we thank her most kindly. We raised over \$500. Thank you Penny for your ongoing support.

## Our final fundraiser for 2012

**16th December** was our 2nd Charity Golf Day at Coral Cove Golf Course and our final fundraiser for 2012. This year we had nearly 80 players and we raised over \$1300 for the day with our raffles and sausage sizzle. It was a great opportunity to tell the return players what we have achieved in the past 12 months since our 1st Charity Golf Day. Congratulations to the prize winners and also thank you Russell and the Veterins once again for your ongoing support.



Matthew Tribodo with the wonderful view of the ocean behind him.



Shanyn & Yasmin hard at the sausage sizzle

As the year draws to an end, I look back over the past 12 months and wonder where the year actually went.

On a personal note, it has been a rollercoaster of a year. Our 2 children's weddings, my dad passing, my youngest daughter breaking her neck in a horrific car accident, and the months of rehabilitation that followed and me taking time off work for months to care for her in Melbourne, my husband being hospitalised in Borneo and then medivacced to Singapore, and news I'll be a grandma again, so it's been quite an emotional rollercoaster. Raising money for the project has allowed me to meet some amazingly kind people whom I would have never otherwise have met, so my life becomes more enriched each day, not only here but in Kenya as well.

It is a fitting time to say that without the support the Umoja Team (and their partners), who work tirelessly for the project, never complaining (well not to me anyway!!) my family and their partners, and to all of you wonderful people who have given in so many different ways, financial, donations in kind, sewing, crocheting or just spreading the word, we couldn't have achieved what we did in the past 6 months without your support. We received our first grant funding this year as well, small but incredibly important, and the first of many future grants. A lot of people when they help out or donate say "I'm sorry its not much but all I can do." Well, even a dripping tap fills a cup, and each and every bit of support makes you a part of the bigger picture, and every little bit counts. As I head off to Kenya with our first 7 volunteers from Australia late next week, I know for sure Umoja was an idea who's time had come. Welcome Katie Trulson & Leanne Peterson (Bundaberg), Adele Hughes & Leonie Hills (Gladstone), Austin Grillmier & Trish Gilluley (Rockhampton), and Ian Ritchie from Mackay. Your lives are about to be changed forever as you join our first volunteer tour ever. You will look back in the future and say 'I was there at the beginning!' Karibu