

## IMPORTANT DATES

**JUNE 22: Cathy and Lesley fly to Kenya for 2 weeks**

**JULY 20: Casino Royale Gala Dinner**

**SEPTEMBER 1 : Umoja annual Golf Day (Coral Cove)**

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## SHERIDAN WYOMING ROTARY CLUB DONATES \$US3000

Cathy was overwhelmed to receive a surprise donation when she was guest speaking at Caloundra Pacific Rotary Club earlier this month. Through a long-term friendship between Jon Jones and Bill Patton of the Rotary Club of Sheridan, Wyoming USA, Caloundra RC were sent a cheque to give to Cathy on their behalf. Thank you to Jon, Bill & Caloundra Pacific Rotary Club President Margaret for organising this splendid gift.

The \$US3000 will go towards purchasing materials for our much-needed boundary fence for the land in Kenya. 17 Rotarian volunteers will head to Kenya in September to build the fence.



## TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE FOR 2nd ANNUAL GALA DINNER

The theme of this year's annual gala dinner has a touch of luck. Bring your poker face and get ready to join the high rollers at our **CASINO ROYALE** Charity Gala Dinner. We would love to make it a full house, so consider getting together with a group of friends to join us at Across the Waves Sports Club, Bundaberg on Saturday July 20.



Guests will receive a complimentary drink upon arrival and a two-course meal. They will be entertained by **Matthew Barker (The Bucketseats)** and **Electric Banana**. We are so pleased to have these great acts back for another year and appreciate their ongoing support of our project.

There will be plenty of great prizes up for grabs. Be there on the night for a chance to **win a week's accommodation at Palm Beach + car** (donated by Wayne and Pam Limbrick, Shepparton, Victoria). Are you a sports fan? Be ready to **bid on sporting memorabilia**, including a signed QLD jersey signed by the 2013 State of Origin team. We encourage you to dress to the theme as there will also be a prize for best dressed.

The Umoja Team have been busy organising this annual event, and we must take the time to thank our Gold Sponsors: [Shadow Insurance Brokers](#) and [Encore Dance Studio](#). We would also like to thank the very generous Adam Barton from [Adam Barton Creative](#) for donating his time to create our gala flyer, and The [Sticker Company](#) for covering all of our printing needs. Contact [info@umojahome.com](mailto:info@umojahome.com) if you would like to sponsor our event.

**Tickets \$85** (table of 10 \$850). See <http://umojahome.com/kenya/casino-royale-gala-dinner-dance/> for ticket info, or phone Gaye Limpus on 0407 715 765.



Proudly a RAWCS  
(Rotary Australia  
World Community  
Service Project )  
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**"There are  
some amazing  
people out  
there doing  
some amazing  
things, and  
Trish Gilluley is  
one of them."**



Proudly supported  
by Rotary Club of  
East Bundaberg

## UMOJA ORPHANAGE

### ROTARY DISTRICT CONFERENCE

During the May long weekend, Cathy, Lesley and Kerri-Anne attended Rotary District 9570's District Conference in Mackay. The title of the event was 'Pioneering Success.'

Cathy shared the journey of Umoja with the conference guests and was honoured to join such inspirational speakers. The team enjoyed hearing from great visionaries from across Australia including Yung Nietschke, Professor Scott Bowman and the Rotary Group Exchange Team from Brazil.

Our showcase display received some great feedback—last year we won best display. Mackay should be very proud of their Entertainment Centre and quality of catering and presentations. It was a very successful weekend for Umoja and it was lovely to catch up with some old friends, including one of our first volunteers Ian Ritchie and his lovely wife Meryl (pictured right). Ian continues to be a guiding hand with our project.

A huge thank you to the North Rockhampton Rotary Club for offering our team a lift on their bus. Such a fantastic bunch of people who made us feel very welcome.

**Lesley, Cathy, Kerri-Anne**



**Lesley, Cathy, Meryl, Ian**



### GUEST SPEAKING: ROCKHAMPTON ROTARY CLUBS

Cathy and Lesley were busy in May spreading the word of Umoja to Rocky Rotarians.

Rockhampton Rotary Club and South Rockhampton Rotary Club were most welcoming once again, and it was lovely to have so many people come along to listen to the Umoja story.

Our host was Trish Gilluley, one of our first volunteers in Kenya.

Trish volunteers for the SES on her days off and helps raise funds for the Rocky Relay for Life. There are some amazing people out there doing some amazing things, and Trish is one of them.

We also caught up with another volunteer, Austin Grillmeier. He is an amazing asset to Umoja and a true gentleman. We are so grateful for his wisdom and

his continued support. We were fortunate on June long weekend that Austin and his lovely wife Jenny paid us a visit and met most of the Booth family.

A huge thank you to Rockhampton South Rotary Club for their **donation of \$500**. This will go towards the cost of our fence materials. Rockhampton Rotary Club also donated hygiene materials. Such simple, everyday items that we take for granted

### EAST BUNDABERG ROTARY BOOK SALE

The Umoja team sold raffle tickets at the annual book sale at the Bundaberg Civic Centre over the June long weekend.

We managed to raise **\$1100** from our two raffles and merchandise sales. Congratulations to Trudy Smits and Dianne Willis who took home the \$100 sports pack and the Masaiii painting and book pack. Thank you to the Rotary Club of East Bundaberg and the Bundaberg Regional Library.

**Umoja Team: Scott, Cathy, Gaye, Shanyn**



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

- **Margaret Lihs and Meryl Heidke** for sewing clothes
- **Cathy Thorogood and Vicki Brennan** for crocheting baby beanies and blankets; **Faye Moller** and **Janet Tallon** for donating crochet items
- **Austin Grillmeir** for his insightful diary entries he kept while on tour in Kenya
- **Leonie Hills** for drafting our employee contracts to meet Kenyan Government standards
- **Peter Ahern** for his ongoing assistance and fundraising
- **Trish Gilluley** for putting the Umoja team up while they visited Rockhampton and her upcoming challenge—more about that next newsletter!
- **Mark Craswell and Wendy Driver** for organising our items to be signed by the QLD State of Origin Team for our gala auction and raffle
- **Sarah from Castle Design** for her patience and ongoing help with our website
- **Mary and Kevin Maguire** from **Good Life Orphanage** for their help and guidance of our orphanage project. Your advice is priceless.

Nathan, Lesley, Cathy, Matt



Thank you **Matthew Barker, Justin Standley** and **Nathan Bedford** for allowing Cathy to share her story with your audience at the Songwriter's Circle at the Sugarland Tavern last month—such talented musicians and genuine people.



**Ian Ritchie** from Mackay West Rotary club has donated priceless medical supplies for our health clinic. We can now offer free health check ups from our caretaker's cottage on our land in September to members of the surrounding village. If you would like to donate medical supplies, please contact [info@umojahome.com](mailto:info@umojahome.com)

## SCHOOL OF ST JUDE

It was lovely to catch up with Kim Saville, the Deputy Director from the school of St Jude in Tanzania, while at the Sunrise Rotary Club breakfast on May 2nd. We loved being able to reflect on how far we had come since we conferenced with Kim on our due diligence tour in Tanzania in February 2012. Advice from Kim is always welcome. The school was founded by NSW Teacher Gemma Sisia.

## IN THE NEWS

- ◇ The **Western Times** ran a story on Cathy Booth, who is an ex-Charleville resident, and the work the Umoja Team is doing for orphans in Kenya.
- ◇ Lesley Bath spoke with Wayne Shearman on **4BU** earlier this month about our upcoming Casino Royale Gala Dinner Dance.
- ◇ Cathy Booth has been nominated for a **Pride of Australia Medal** by Umoja team member Shanyn Limpus. Cathy was very humbled by the nomination and honoured to be featured in the **Courier Mail** alongside so many other ordinary Australians doing extraordinary things. Good luck, Cathy! See the article in the [Sunday Mail](#)

"We loved being able to reflect on how far we had come"

## HEADING BACK TO KENYA

On June 22nd, Cathy and Lesley will fly to Nairobi and then head to Ukunda to organise the fencing requirement for the volunteer trip in September.

They will meet with villagers, obtain quotes, and prepare to employ approximately 6 labourers to be trained in fencing for when they return on September 16th to fence our land.

15 volunteers will join tour leaders Cathy and Katie in September to build our boundary fence. We are so grateful for our volunteers as this will reduce the cost of this building project.

If you would like to make a donation to our **Cents for Fence Appeal**, please visit <http://umojahome.com/kenya/donate>.

Cathy, Kim (School of St. Jude) and Lesley





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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 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 <http://umojahome.com/kenya/donate/> and help orphaned and vulnerable children reach their full potential.



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## CATHY'S CORNER

While in Nairobi next week, Lesley and I will be visiting the Kibera Slums. Kibera is roughly the size of New York Central Park. The population density is 30 times more than New York.

According to authorities, there are 50,000 AIDS orphans surviving in the slums, often cared for by grandparents, overcrowded orphanages, or left completely unattended. Most people living in Kibera have little or no access to basic necessities, such as electricity, clean water, toilet facilities, and sewage disposal. The combination of poor nutrition and lack of sanitation accounts for many illnesses and deaths. There are approximately 2.5 million slum dwellers in about 200 settlements in Nairobi, which represents 60% of the Nairobi population occupying just 6% of the land. Kibera houses almost 1 million of these people. **Kibera is THE biggest slum in Africa and one of the biggest in the world.** The average size of a shack in this area is 12 ft. x 12 ft. built with mud walls, screened with concrete, a corrugated tin roof, and dirt or concrete floor. These shacks often house up to 8 or more, with many sleeping on the floor. In most of Kibera there are no toilet facilities. One latrine (hole in the ground) is shared by up to 50 shacks. Once full, young boys are employed to empty, they take the contents to the river. (Text & photos courtesy of Kibera Slum Foundation). Take a moment and imagine the inequality between our lives...

~ Cathy Booth (Umoja Founder and Director) ~

Also we will take time out to visit an orphanage of another kind. The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust—an elephant orphanage that I have been wanting to visit for some time.

