

UMOJA ORPHANAGE KENYA

<http://www.umojahome.com>

Registered charity number CH2110



- Rotary Regional Convention
- Website Updating
- Fundraising
- Family news
- 2 volunteers in Kenya
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RAWCS PROJECT NUMBER

51/ 2011-2012

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EAST BUNDABERG



ROTARY REGIONAL CONVENTION

My, how the year has flown. We only a few days of June left and I really can't believe it. Our second eldest daughter Yasmin married the wonderful Matt on the 21st April, and the wedding was absolutely lovely. The same weekend the Rotary Regional Conference was held here in Bundaberg. We had our first public display for Umoja Project, and we took out first prize on behalf of our sponsoring club, Bundaberg East Rotary. Was a lovely surprise as we didn't know it was to be judged. We were pretty stoked. Members of the team manned the stall as I couldn't be there until Sunday. All hands were on deck the week before preparing, and we were most pleased with our efforts. On the Sunday we listened to Steven Bradbury (last man standing in 2002 winter Olympics) speak in the Moncrieff Theatre. We thoroughly enjoyed his speech and his dedication, determination and persistence to his sport. He signed his book for my daughter Rhi-



Lesley Bath, Cathy Booth, Kerri-Anne McNee with Steven Bradbury

ana with some words of inspiration, as he too had broken his neck and knew of the long road back to recovery.



Preparations for the Umoja Stand at Rotary Conference





WEBSITE UPDATING

We have been busy rearranging our website and updating content as we continue to grow and try to keep information up to date about where we are and where we are heading. Thankfully I have a wonderful copy editor who is amazing, and knows me well enough to make sense of my documents and to decipher my thoughts. Thank you Shanyn <http://www.giftofwords.com.au/> and thank you once again Sarah Rosberg for helping us out in our time of need!

<http://www.castledesign.com.au>



Keep the 13th October 2012 free for our 'VINTAGE HOLLYWOOD NIGHT'



We are planning a function for October 13th at Across the Waves Club in Bundaberg. A dinner dance will be held with the theme "Vintage Hollywood." Stay tuned as we begin the promotion and other fundraisers for the remainder of the year. If you know of anyone or any business who may like to donate something for prizes, please get them to contact us ASAP. We will happily promote them.

Spending 5 weeks in Melbourne taking care of my youngest daughter Rhiana after her horrific car accident allowed me to catch up on much paperwork for the charity and organise quotes and drawings, etc., for the project, as well as helping her stay positive and determined. It was a special time for both of us. Our 2 volunteers from Colorado, USA, Justin and Brendan, arrived safely in Kenya at the end of May, and fell in love with the country, (as I knew they would). We had a hold up with their commencing work due to the government survey of the land being postponed, however they enjoyed a safari to Tsavo East and Tsavo West. Plan B was put into action to start to build the small caretaker's cottage first as we couldn't begin the fence. Meanwhile I was able to direct the 2 lads to other orphanages so they had the opportunity to experience playing footy with the children and lending a helping hand.

Some wonderful news also that Rhiana our youngest daughter was proposed to by Sam and of course she accepted. His romantic, thoughtful proposal took a lot of organising. Well done Sammy!!



Our 4 beautiful children at
Yasmins' wedding

That is a funeral, 2 weddings, 2 car accidents and an engagement in 6 months!

But we keep pushing forward.



TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE THE EXTRAORDINARY

A big thank you to the following people for helping “Raise the Roof” for Umoja. The funds these people have raised for us have gone directly into purchasing materials to build our small caretaker’s cottage on Umoja’s land. You have made a difference to our future children’s lives, long before they even know it.

- ⇒ Borneo Bears, Borneo, Indonesia
- ⇒ Connie Maloney, Mt. Tamborine
- ⇒ Helen Cornish Arthur, Mackay
- ⇒ Theresa Lawson, Townsville
- ⇒ David and Emma from Colonial Rose Motel in Townsville
- ⇒ Paul Reid, Melbourne
- ⇒ Joy McArdle, Townsville

A FEW GUT WRENCHING STATISTICS FOR YOU TO THINK ABOUT

Did you know there are approximately 2.2 billion children in the world, and 1 billion are in poverty. **That is 1 in every 2 children.** For the 1.9 billion children from the developing world, there are:

- 640 million without adequate shelter (1 in 3)
- 400 million with no access to safe water (1 in 5)
- 270 million with no access to health services (1 in 7)

Source: (State of the World’s Children, 2005, UNICEF)

Did you also know that Australia ranks as one of the most obese nations in the world? In Australia there are 17 million overweight or obese people. Obesity has taken over taken smoking as the most premature cause of death in Australia!

Obesity has become the biggest public health risk in Australia today.

Source: (Monash University <http://www.modi.monash.edu.au/obesity-facts-figures/obesity-in-australia/>)

Imagine if every day 1 person gave up \$1 for a piece of food they didn’t eat, and donated it—what a difference such a small gesture would make, not only for themselves but for Umoja’s future children.



Do you know anyone who may need some incentive to become healthier and fitter? Why not suggest the Umoja Challenge to put a \$1 away a day for a month and see how they feel?



ARE WE REALLY THE LUCKY COUNTRY? YOU BET WE ARE...

I started to do a little research on what benefits Australians are entitled to through Centrelink and I've done a wee comparison here. So I finish our newsletter with the following table. Puts things into perspective don't you think? We are indeed the lucky country!! And yet people still complain about how tough life is. I would love every person in Australia to walk a mile in a Kenyan's shoes, particularly an orphaned child. Sometimes it frustrates me when people say to me – Why don't you help the people here? I rest my case. It is hard to imagine abject poverty until you have seen it.

Australian Government assistance and benefits compared to Kenyan Government assistance and benefits

Copied from Centrelink website on 19.06.12 <http://www.centrelink.gov.au/internet/internet.nsf/>

Australia	Kenya
Paid parent leave scheme	NIL
Baby bonus	NIL
Caring for a person 16 years or over	NIL
Caring for a child under 16 years	NIL
Carer supplement	NIL
Child disability assistance payment	NIL
Carer adjustment payment	NIL
Parenting payment	NIL
Abstudy	NIL
School kids bonus	NIL
Household assistance package	NIL
Clean energy advance package	NIL
Clean energy supplement	NIL
Low income supplement	NIL
Essential medical equipment supplement	NIL
Single income family support supplement	NIL
Austudy	NIL
Bereavement payment	NIL
Widow A pension	NIL
Pension bonus scheme	NIL



KEEP READING

Pensioner concession cards	NIL
Health Care cards	NIL
Medicare Card	NIL
Low income health care card	NIL
Commonwealth seniors health card	NIL
Ex carer allowance health care card	NIL
Partner allowance	NIL
Seniors supplement	NIL
Widow B pension	NIL
Pension loans scheme	NIL
Drought assistance	NIL
Pension bonus top-up	NIL
Digital TV switchover – household assistance scheme	NIL
Work bonus	NIL
Support for non-parent carers	NIL
Child care rebate	NIL
Education entry payment	NIL
Ex-carer allowance	NIL
Reciprocal Health Care agreements – designated countries	NIL
Double orphan pension	NIL
Maternity immunisation allowance	NIL
Transitional Family Farm payment	NIL
Payment for Remote and Rural Australians	NIL
Payment for assistance with shipping costs	NIL
Assistance for isolated children's scheme	NIL
Private health insurance rebate	NIL
Pension income stream reviews	NIL



AND THERE'S MORE..

NEW ARRIVALS IN AUSTRALIA	
<p>ASDOT - If you have been trained overseas, your qualifications may not be recognised by employers in Australia. To get your Australian qualification, you may have to be assessed or take an examination. ASDOT financial support helps you cover the cost of this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • architect • chiropractor • dentist • dietician • general medical practitioner • medical-laboratory scientist • medical specialist • nurse • occupational therapist • optometrist • pharmacist • physiotherapist • podiatrist • radiographer • veterinarian. 	NIL
Transitional Family Farm payment	NIL
Payment for Remote and Rural Australians	NIL
Payment for assistance with shipping costs	NIL
Assistance for isolated children's scheme	NIL
Private health insurance rebate	NIL
Pension income stream reviews	NIL
Paid maternal leave	NIL
Child disability assistance payment	NIL
Carer allowance	NIL
Continence aids payment scheme	NIL
Carer adjustment payment	NIL
Special disability trust payments	NIL
Wife pension	NIL
Age pension	NIL
Invalid pension	NIL
Rent assistance	NIL
Rent deduction scheme payments	NIL
Cleft lip and cleft palate scheme	NIL
Mobility allowance	NIL
Disability support pension	NIL
Sickness allowance	NIL



AND STILL MORE....

Pharmaceutical allowance	NIL
Crisis payment	NIL
Newstart allowance	NIL
Telephone allowance	NIL
Special benefit – for severe financial hardship	NIL
Pensioner education supplement	NIL
Early release of superannuation	NIL
Pension loans scheme	NIL
Department of human services special assistance schemes	NIL
Disaster recovery payments	NIL
LPG vehicle scheme assistance	NIL
Single income family supplement	NIL
Chronic disease management plan	NIL
External breast prosthesis reimbursement plan	NIL
Medicare chronic dental disease scheme	NIL
Job in jeopardy assistance	NIL
Medicare teen dental plan	NIL
Long day care benefits	NIL
Family day care benefits	NIL
Occasional day care benefits	NIL
Outside school age day care benefits	NIL
Vacation care benefits	NIL
Special childcare benefit	NIL
Nursing home benefits	NIL
Family tax benefit	NIL
Rent deduction scheme	NIL
Fares allowance	NIL
Youth disability supplement	NIL
Australian apprentices access program	NIL
Income bank – payments for students and trainees	NIL
Relocation scholarship	NIL
Student start up scholarship	NIL
Youth disability supplement	NIL
Indigenous wage subsidy	NIL
Pharmaceutical benefits scheme	NIL
Child support for parents or children living outside Australia	NIL
Youth connections scheme	NIL
Crisis payment for refugees and humanitarian entrants into Australia	NIL
Assurance of support services to migrants to Australia	NIL
Multilingual phone service support to migrants to Australia	NIL
International social security agreements to migrants to Australia	NIL
Social work services	NIL
Grandparent advisors	NIL
Financial information service	NIL
Domestic and family violence services	NIL
Support for families with teenagers	NIL
Financial service seminars	NIL
Community engagement officers	NIL