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1ST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH  
5.15 PM  
BOWLING CLUB COOMA, NSW, TO DISCUSS AND PLAN STRATEGIES AND MARKETING.



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# MAMA WIMBI



## Numeralla Folk Festival

As a last-minute thought, I took my last remaining stock of buntings to the Numeralla Folk Festival. The organisers were happy to have them make the hall look bright and welcoming inside and out and I put up a small display about the Rotary project which put them there.

At the final concert, the MC kindly mentioned that the buntings were for sale and they all sold immediately, even ones still wet from the afternoon rain!

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Welcome to the second edition of our monthly Mama Wimbi newsletter!

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The sales were enough to secure the schooling of two more children for the 19-20 school year but, best of all, we gained a new team member.

Ingrid Rehle-Williams came and offered to sell buntings for us in Canberra and her efforts have already funded yet another two children.

Thank you, Ingrid!

## Facebook Fundraising

Facebook offered me the option to do a fund-raiser so I followed the prompts to try it out. The suggested amount was \$300 so I left it at that and committed it to fabric purchase as expanding production to include the secondary students is going to need more fabric.

We got our first \$60 before I had finished typing, I couldn't believe it! We are still a bit short of the \$300 but it reached \$251 I think before it slowed down!

The money is directed to go straight into the Mama Wimbi account where the bunting sales are waiting for September because I could not direct Facebook to pay it into the RAWCS account (I did check with RAWCS). There is a 'holding period' so it hasn't appeared yet, but I expect it will.

An interesting experience.

## Cooma Rotary Market

We sold nine buntings for \$180 at the January markets, that is nearly 2 more children in school!

## New Flyers

We have had some new little flyers printed so that the story behind our buntings is part of the gift or purchase.

Brian Coyte from South-East Printing has printed them for just \$11 per hundred by way of sponsorship.

I will bring them to the meeting for discussion about whether the design needs tweaking for the next 100.

### Health Hassles...



Three members of our community are seriously sick at the moment.

Mama Yvette needs gynecological treatment and young Yvette (no relation) and Antoinette both have malaria.

All of these conditions are potentially lethal and no treatment is available for free.

We have started a small fund to help them.

If you can help, [this link](#) will take you to a donation page which can provide a tax receipt.

## District 9710 and RAWCS Meetings

Penny attended the 9710 District Seminar in Canberra and the Eastern Region RAWCS meeting in Casula.

Here are some brief notes of ideas gathered from the meetings which may be relevant to Mama Wimbi:

- It was suggested that buntings might sell better to Rotary Clubs if they had the Rotary logo on them. Lucy Hobgood Brown says that fabric with printed Rotary wheels can be bought in Congo so we'll try that.
- Lucy took 12 buntings to sell at the Africulture Festival in Lidcombe.
- Global Grants guides are available in French online for our partners.
- We can send a wish-list to HEERA, which is the new improved version of Donations in Kind (DIK)
- Rotarians Against Malaria have instant test kits as well as antimalarial soap and bed nets. There may be practical things we can do in Goma to help our team stay well.
- "School in a Bag" distributes school bags full of supplies. The bags are paid for by Australians who like to know exactly who is carrying their \$40 bag of goodies. This looks a likely collaboration for us, we can certainly distribute reliably and provide smiley photos of the recipients.
- RAWCS T-shirts are available for us project-folk. Ladies cut available too.
- Adrian Roach told about getting local money for a Rotary House in PNG by inviting a local leader to put his name on it. Maybe that idea is transferable.
- A Square card-reader might be useful for our market sales. One of the clubs even uses one for membership dues. It costs \$40-\$50 and takes a small commision.
- We need to check that any pledged RAWCS donations coming into our account as debit payments do actually arrive, it is a two-step process.
- RAWCS is planing a crowd-funding platform but it is not there yet.
- RAWCS needed a webmaster, so I am now the Regional Communications Coordinator :-)
- There is a new one-page report to the governor which will be required of RAWCS projects for publicity and accountability. It is easy and won't be a problem for us.

### Fundraising Opportunity

Do you know a club or group who would like to raise some money for its own projects by retailing Mama Wimbi buntings?

This is a wonderful opportunity to do well by doing good!

Contact Penny on 0429170739 or [penny@mondeto.com](mailto:penny@mondeto.com) if you think you might.

- RAWCS Rover invites editorial help.
- Club donations to the Malaria Vaccine Project will be matched 100% by some generous Rotarians.
- A well organized 20-minute radio interview brought \$30 000 for one project.
- RAWCS is developing fast and working to be more effective and transparent all the time.
- HEERA repurposed Canberra school equipment in Ghana- small loads are possible.
- We can have a presence in Rotary Showcase via My Rotary.
- District and Global Grant applications are now done on-line via My Rotary.



## Rotary Tumaini

The Rotary Club of Goma Tumaini is involved in planting trees in Goma, a project involving better resources for women and babies and the development of a centre for psychosocial therapy.

We are discussing how it might be more involved in local management of the Mama Wimbi project.

## Cobargo and Candelo Folk Festivals

These two festivals are coming up, Cobargo at the start of March, and Candelo in April.

We'll see if we can make Mama Wimbi Buntings part of the fun. Do you know of others?

# The Helpers are Helped

We are happy to advise that the Idumba family, which includes both the secretary and treasurer of SBV, and the trainer and manager of our sewing team, has received the \$56 per week, for a 12-month lease on a simple house.

The family is safe for another year.

Thank you to the donors!



## 24 Computers

Rotarian Phil Isaacs and his team have offered our project these computers.

“12 all similar Hp, 8 more older Hp, three small and 1 tower. All will be rebuilt with Windows 10 and Office 2010. The cost will be \$30.00 per unit which is the cost of the software from Microsoft. Funds will need to be paid to RAWCS Project 31 2011/2012. I will deliver to Castle Hill or wherever you need them. How many do you need/want and when do you need?”

It sounds a wonderful offer considering that we are very keen to be providing computer education in Goma.

We are investigating whether the transport problems have affordable solutions.



## Kijana Wimbi

Jacques, the young man in Goma who is starting our internet education classes has called his project Kijana Wimbi, which means Boy Wave.

Jacques 2-week courses in internet usage and banking will start in a few days time.

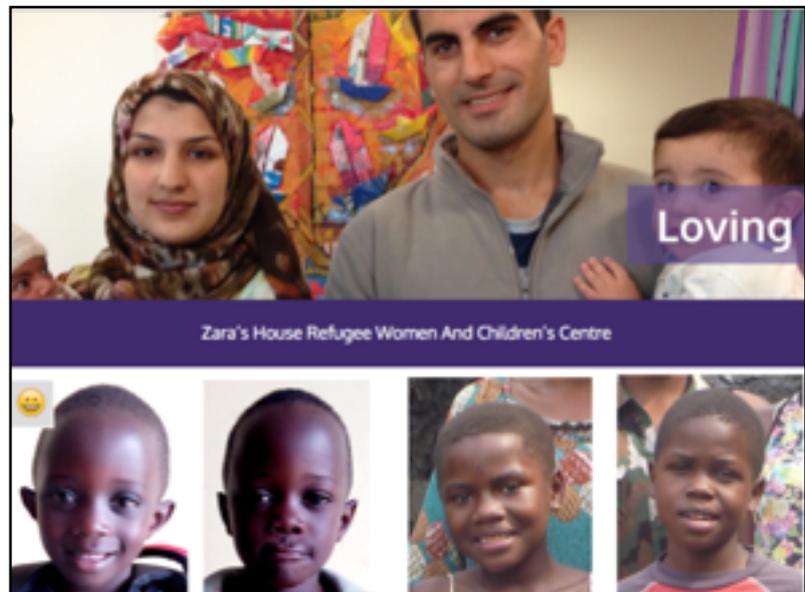


## Zara's House \$400 Mama Wimbi Order

Zara's House provides services to help refugee women to integrate into Australian society in the Newcastle area.

Their purchase of 100 metres of bunting for their opening party provided schooling for four little children in Goma!

Thanks to Jerome Rugaruzza of Australia-Africa Alliance for Peace for the connection!



## February's Children



Thank you for reading our newsletter, we hope you enjoyed it.

Please share with your friends.

**Happy March from all at Mama Wimbi!**

Penny Vos

At the end of February, we have 29 safe for the next school year and 17 primary children still to secure.

Four of the eight children we helped this month are shown here, at home with their mothers.

Paluku lives with his Grandma. I forgot to take a family photo when I was at Nsmire's place.

