

Gimme Shelter

August 2008

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Jay Stratti rocks on at the gig (above); Daniel Stratti sings the praises of the fws project (below).



On the job

Energetic Eve, our **Environmental Sustainability Supervisor**, has hit the ground running (and smiling). She's starting to **'green' up our farm** and make it **productive** so it can meet our daily food needs and **create an income stream** to support Kesho Leo's projects. The **building work** is also motoring along, with excavation and preparation of the **playground well underway**.

Flights, sorted!

On August 25, the caring community of **Camden, NSW**, gathered at its favourite local, the **Merino Tavern Bistro**, to support **fws**. **Pub manager Kate** and **pub chef Laurie** (parents of **Josh, Robbie Stratti's great mate**) hosted the fundraiser to gather some dosh to **help pay for flights** for the tribute team heading to Tanzania to **finish building** Kesho Leo. **Kate** filled the room with **raffle prizes**, **Laurie** cooked up a **feast** and the **wait staff donated their time**. Everyone who attended dug deep and **\$8,900 was raised** – thank you Camden!



what's going on...

They grinned and "bared" it!

Here's cheers to those who managed to snap up tickets to **fws' Sydney fundraiser BARE**. Brave sorts bared their soul (and more) to be **sketched au naturale** by professional artists. For more info on the **auction of the artworks**, email Cathy.McQuade@foodwatershelter.org.au.

Tribute team set to go

The **first volunteers** of the tribute team heading back to Tanzania to finish where Daz left off – brothers **Daniel** and **Jay Stratti**, son **Robbie Stratti**, and great friend **Terry Pritchard** – board their plane on September 7. We wish them luck and look forward to **hearing their tales via...**

fws' new blog

If you want the latest on **fws** movements, both in **Tanzania and Australia**, log onto **fws' new blog** for the rundown at <http://www.fwsteam.blogspot.com>. The **fws** team blog will feature posts by the **board and management** as they go about their **daily fws jobs**. See what goes on **behind the scenes** to keep the **fws** force moving forward.

Tune in to the telly

Darren's story, his vision and the impact he made in his relatively short life is the subject of an **upcoming Australian Story profile**. Scheduled to air on the **ABC at 8pm on September 22** (but subject to change, so check the TV guide), we reckon it will make **interesting and inspiring** viewing for all **fws** supporters.

Music to our ears

To **celebrate the life** of **fws** building foreman **Darren Stratti** and his volunteer work in Tanzania, a **benefit concert** was held at **The Annandale** in Sydney on August 10. Family and mates flew in from interstate for the **event organised** by Darren's wonderful **friends Matt Debien and Pam McCroary**, with plenty of **helping hands**. The gig saw many talented artists donate their performances: **Damien Leith with Paul Gray**, **Things of Stone and Wood** featuring **Greg Arnold and Bedgy** (John Bedggood, of Bernard Fanning and Lior), **Nathan Hudson** (of Faker), **Dappled Cities**, **Static Wind**, **Gethsemane**, plus Darren's brothers **Jay** and **Daniel**. Hosted by **comedian Steve Philp**, the benefit raised **\$10,000!** **fws** sends a **huge thanks** to the numerous **organisers and all those who rocked up** to rock on.

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We're back...

At the beginning of August, our **environmental manager Robert Cork**, **operations manager Kelsey Wilson** and **Ben Schwabe** (**fws** IT manager, **pilot** and **bursar** for now) arrived back in Arusha. While they were away, the **stellar local staff and volunteers** kept all the projects going – and then some! The **Kesho Leo team** would like to sincerely thank the **Schools of St Jude and Edmund Rice** for their generous support and **Karibu** (**kiswahili for 'welcome'**) while they get their feet back on the ground.

Our **volunteer nurse, Fran**, has been teaching our mamas valuable **lessons on reproductive health**, anatomy, **care of newborns** and **mental health**. Fran brought 'Zonta' birth kits, designed for **safe birth deliveries** in developing countries, with her from Australia. Our **mamas have been trained** by Fran to use these kits if ever a woman in the community is in **need during labour**: this is all part of the Kesho Leo house mamas' role as **leaders in their community**.



Kesho Leo is progressing at top speed.



Member profile

Name: Olga Bath
Age: 38
Suburb: Biloela, Central QLD
Day job: Self-employed shoe shop entrepreneur.
Passions: My husband, my kids, being creative and chocolate!
Why support a house mama?
 All kids are important to our future. The children of **fw** need the **comfort, love and guidance** of a mother. I want to help keep the house **mamas employed** and, in doing so, keep the **children safe and nurtured**. All children deserve to have a safe and happy life. It also gives these women **a chance at a stable life** for themselves and their families.



contact us...

If you have any quezzies, please don't hesitate to contact **Gimme Shelter** acting editor, **Kristie Kellahan**, at kristiekellahan@yahoo.com. Meantime...

Time out

fws **president, Beck**, is taking a **short break** from September 1 until December 1. In the meantime, it's **business as usual** with **fws'** inimitable secretary, **Shona Arneil**, stepping up to the role of **acting president**. Please be kind, if something can wait till Beck's return, let it! However, feel free to **contact Shona if you think you can lend a hand** with something, at shona.arneil@foodwatershelter.org.au.

This month's tick-offs

CUCUMBERS – Kesho Leo's first seedlings have emerged!
'ZONTA' BIRTH KITS – Our house mamas have the know-how.
EXCAVATION – The playground site is taking shape.

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