

touching hearts & bringing play to life



May 2016 Newsletter

Preparations for a Spectacular Exhibition at Kidogo Arthouse, Fremantle, July 12 - 17

Preparations are going full steam ahead for our major event of the year. We have some requests for items to borrow or be given for the display in this spacious, historic building on Bather's Beach. You may have to extend your imagination here! Do you have any of the following? Forgive me for making this request to those who live overseas or a long way away.

- Matchstick blinds for cutting up into rondavel roofs.
- Dressmaker dummies or shop mannequins.
- Brightly coloured umbrellas.
- Long lengths of corrugated cardboard approx 70 - 90cms high.
- Cushion inserts filled, especially 45cms (18 inches) square, but could be any size.

Here are excerpts from our A4 Flyer to be distributed, or you could forward this newsletter, to encourage hundreds of folk to attend. Please request the A4 version if needed by replying here. We intend to make available a very short YouTube /Facebook clip which will show many of the exhibition items, near the end of June. Please forward this to friends, family, colleagues and those mad about fabrics and dolls (and children and creativity). Do add any comments and pics of your own to our vibrant Facebook. [Facebook.com/Uthandoprojectinc](https://www.facebook.com/Uthandoprojectinc)

"You are warmly invited to come to our spectacular fundraiser for 2016

World Families, World Textiles

Bathers' Beach, Fremantle

Tuesday 12 - Sunday 17 July

10am - 5pm Free Entry

Official Opening 2pm, Tues 12th

This fundraising exhibition features **original dolls** from multicultural artists and dollmakers. *Meet "Minxie" by Rebecca Cool, perched on a cushion, appliquéd by Brian Harffey with embroidered pieces from India.*



Dolls will be sold individually or as families, some to be sponsored to send to children in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa and some to play with for dressups at the exhibition. *Here is an inviting family by the Fremantle Group, with an auntie in bright felt by Pat Pumfrey beside a grandfather by Diana Mathew.*



Textiles for sale are from all over the world. Fabric lengths, cushions, table and bed runners, scarves and shawls, skirts and shirts. All beautiful. Very reasonably priced, with most between, \$5 - \$100.

Funds raised contribute to Dlalanathi, for their deeply committed work in KwaZulu Natal communities for sensitive communications with grieving children who are also at risk. Let us play!

FUN WORKSHOPS; Join in **2 hour morning workshops** to make small dolls, bags, beads, felt animal; suitable for all ages. Parents to be with children under 7. It is during the second week of the school holidays. Programme available nearer the date.

If you have brilliant fabrics or dolls to donate, or want more details of the exhibition, please contact Georgia Efford, 9293 2363, info@uthandoproject.org after June 18th, when the dollmaker group has returned from KZN.

When you are inviting others to come, keep in mind that "Dolls can be cuddly, entertaining, strong, silent, handsome, heroines, deliciously peculiar, arty and very funny. Textiles may be soft, supple, slinky, beaded and embroidered, useful or decorative, handwoven, preloved and significant with story. Pieces may be worn with pizzazz, draped over a sofa, sparkle up a dinner, brighten a wall or take on a picnic."

I hope we will see many, many of our subscribers at Kidogo.

RECENT EVENTS ACROSS AUSTRALIA

Expanding Uthando in the north of Tasmania, with an adventurous trip and meetings, by Irene Swan and friends.

Sudbury House (Multicultural) Community Celebration Day with the Minister for Communities, other political and community leaders, plus the dearest children from their daycare centre dressing the dolls organised by the Sorrento group.

Continuing the weekly meetings with dollmakers at DADAA centre in Midland.

Beginning a new group in South Australia in the Grenville community. Their first dolls arriving soon for shipment end of July.

Bunbury dollmakers held a VERY successful Studio Day with live music, as part of a wider Bunbury event.

The new Anderson Road Community Centre is already full to the brim with 200 kits having been assembled for Mater Dei College students and with packed bags to go to KZN and with all the other equipment needed, plus engaging with new dollmakers, eg Gay Stewart's group north of Perth and one with Marlene Rozentals in the Gosnells area.

The Albany Group continues to shine and produce beautiful dolls, with examples for all of us.

A most friendly and engaging group has been making dolls with the Fremantle Multicultural Centre, including two adorable little babies who I'm sure in time will speak French and English.

Before signing off, a deep acknowledgement is due to the Sorrento group and the minister of the Anglican Church of St Nicholas in Duncraig where, despite huge storms, the Blessing of the Dolls created peace and stillness where our vision strengthens its foundations.

Final delivery of dolls for the next shipment will be Friday 22nd July.

Thank you everyone for supporting Uthando Project. I will carry your warm wishes to KwaZulu Natal on Monday.

Love, Georgia

Georgia Efford, Director