

MEDIA RELEASE

The Joseph Odeke Community Development Fund

Keith Fun Run and Bike Ride for Uganda

The inaugural Keith Fun Run and Bike Ride was held late last month, attracting 120 participants across the staggered entry levels.

The family day drew entrants of all ages on bikes, walking, running and pushing prams from across the Tatiara and as far afield as Naracoorte and Kaniva.

Seasoned runner, Andrew Dolan from Naracoorte took out the men's 10km run with a time of 43.46 minutes and Sonia Smith won the women's 10km event in 51.28 minutes.

The day was yet another initiative of the driven Dr Joseph Odeke Community Development Fund Committee to raise much needed funds to go towards shipping a second container of equipment to Uganda in April next year.

Organiser, Mig Brookman said she and co-organiser Heather Cozens were thrilled to raise just under \$1800 for the day.

"The money raised was due to some good community support with in kind donations to make the day a success and we are very thankful for that," she said.

"Provided we are able to raise sufficient funds in the next eight months, the second container will contain two more tractors, building supplies for a medical centre, clothing and educational supplies for the children of the Ugandan village of Atirir."

Sponsored by the ANZ bank and Apex, the day of fun and frivolity culminated with a BBQ at Mount Monster with 200 hungry mouths gobbling down the tasty and welcome lunch.

Kids weren't forgotten either with a lolly drop proving a highlight for little – and not so little – ones. Kids were scrambling around in the bushes with grins of delight on their faces and sugar in their bellies.

Mig Brookman said the Fun Run will definitely become an annual event and is now well set up for another community group to take it on and benefit from the fundraising potential.

Mig went on to say that Dr Odeke and the committee are very excited at the moment as they have just received news that the first container full of farming machinery and equipment– which was shipped in June – has just arrived in Mombasa and will shortly be en route to Uganda.

"We can see the first stage of our project is nearing completion. Dr Odeke has just returned from Uganda with news that the villagers are very excited about the impending arrival of the container and we are waiting with baited breath for news of its arrival," Mig enthused.

Excitement is something the committee seems to be seeing a lot of these days. Recently, renowned independent film maker, Tom Zubrycki was in the area filming various aspects of the ambitious 'Three Wishes' project with the possibility of making a documentary.

“Tom Zubrycki’s interest in our project came along at an appropriate time for us to keep our enthusiasm up, the momentum going and the belief that our project will be a success,” Mig said.

Photos

Fun Run 004	Bike riders ready at the 10 km start of the Fun Run at Keith
Fun Run 026	Naracoorte’s Andrew Dolan leads Dave Sando across the 10 km finish
Fun Run 033	An eager group of young bikers ready and rearing to go at the 3.4 km start
Fun Run 083	Dr Joseph Odeke and Lyn Densley battle it out at the 5 km run finish

For further information please contact Mig Brookman on 8756 5019