

TFSR CYMRU



TOOLS For Self Reliance **CYMRU** **ANNUAL** **REVIEW** **2015-2016**



Directors Report Sep 1st 2015 – Aug 31st 2016



It has been an eventful year for TFSR Cymru, in which in common with many other charities we have had a challenging time.

At Home

We have relocated our sewing machine workshop to the Old Stables in Glanusk Park, about two miles from HQ in Crickhowell. We rent the building at a reduced rate as we have to vacate it during August to allow the Green Man Festival to use it for storing their beer. The toilet facilities have not exactly been convenient so far, but work has at last begun on improving this.

We finally moved our tool store out of Cwrt-y-Gollen camp to our new rented unit in Llangattock, henceforth known as the Depot. This enables us to keep our tools store adjacent to the next shipping container for Tanzania, which will make packing and loading containers much easier. We started with a bare shell and had to install a mezzanine floor plus plenty of shelving to make best use of the space. Most of the tools awaiting refurbishment are now stored there, freeing up much needed space in our workshop.



Our eleventh container of tools was shipped to Tanzania in May 2016 with a record 20,700 tools on board, and weighing 17 tonnes. This increase was mainly due to our new policy of not sending treadle sewing machines; more on this later. Phil, David and Corin are now filling container number twelve.



We have as usual participated in many events and festivals, although sales at these venues are generally down on takings in previous years, despite the hard work of the volunteers involved. Sales of garden tools etc at the workshop have however increased, which may be due to longer opening hours and the rise in the number of repair jobs now taken on, and also our growing reputation as a source of quality tools.

In common with other charities, recruitment and retention of volunteers is an ongoing problem, despite the variety of volunteering tasks available. A visit to the workshop might give people the idea that volunteering involves getting dirty, but we have lots of other essential opportunities for volunteers: helping in our sewing machines workshop, eBay-ing the more

The front cover shows photos from Namagonda. Artisan groups at the village meeting, discussing their needs and with their new tool kits.

valuable stuff, helping out at events or in our shop on a Saturday morning. If you are post-school or have recently finished in uni, or if you're between jobs, come and do stuff with us.

This year the National Eisteddfod came to Abergavenny, and we were offered a share on the stand of HUB Cymru Africa, together with Love Zimbabwe, Abergavenny-Yirgacheffe Coffee and others. We had a very successful week, selling tools, talking to many people we wouldn't normally meet, and chatting about our work with the First Minister of Wales.



Africa

The new President of Tanzania John Magufuli, has been in post since November 2015 and came to office on an anti-corruption ticket. He appears to be shaking up the status quo in TZ quite a lot. Hopefully this will mean no more horrendous delays of our containers in the port at Dar es Salaam.



Our new project started this year: "Supporting Village Clusters". This was part-funded by HUB Cymru Africa under a Welsh Government initiative. For this we selected two villages: Kiabakari in Mara region in the north-west of Tanzania, and Namagonda which lies on Ukerewe Island in the southern part of Lake Victoria.

During their visit to Tanzania in January, Tony Care and Jon Steadman visited both locations together with staff from our partner in Tanzania, the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO). They engaged Paul Mashimbe as Project Advisor who organised village meetings which were very well attended. They met village leaders and the artisan groups to be potentially helped by the project. Paul carried out a baseline survey of the circumstances of participating groups, to enable us to measure the eventual impact on the villages. Since then SIDO has carried out both practical and business training with all the artisans. We see this project as a way forward for our work, as we will be able to help more artisans more efficiently in clusters.





Dickson with Umoja Group in the Muheza Forest

Interestingly at Namagonda, very few people turned up for the initial meeting as they thought Tony and Jon were from the Tanzanian Inland Revenue! We have already dispatched over 30 tool kits from our Mwanza workshop to the artisans involved, both villages benefiting from a generous discount on the normal price due to the poverty of the areas. We have always found it best to make a modest charge for tools, which goes to SIDO to help cover their distribution costs.

One of the other Tanzanian regions we work in is Tanga, and here Dickson Shenkalwa the Technical Officer, continued to carry out his work enthusiastically. He travels to remote rural areas whenever he can, so that we are able to support rural artisans with tools, sewing machines and even knitting machines. There is a need for woolly jumpers in these mountainous regions. We sent another 2,600 tools and sewing machines to Tanga this year. Dickson also attended training in Mwanza so he could pass on his knowledge to women's tailoring groups. He is now all set to run courses in sewing machine maintenance in Tanga region.



Mr Boma continues to make treadle bases for sewing machines in Tanga. This allows us to include more tools and machines in our container, it creates employment, and we are able to buy the bases in Tanga from funds raised by selling bases in Wales. It saves air-miles too.



Sue visiting Ikulwa B blacksmiths group

We lost two good friends this year.

It is with great regret that we said goodbye to Dr Sue Gray, a dear and thoughtful lady who since retiring has devoted a huge amount of her time to TFSR Cymru. She was a lady who despite being really kind, didn't take any prisoners if she didn't approve of something. Sue's funeral at Usk Castle Chase on a beautiful summer's day was uplifting to attend.

Glyn Roberts (1937–2016) founder of Tools for Self Reliance, was the inspiration for us to continue the great work he started back in the early 80's. He wrote a booklet "Questioning Development" that challenged the conventions in overseas aid. He argued that official help for poor countries is often wasteful, even harmful, because donors ignore the wishes of recipients. Those helped must be consulted as partners; aid works only when there is solidarity between donor and receiver. We thoroughly agree, and we all miss you Glyn.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2016

INCOME	2015	2016
Donations in kind, refurbished tools	£22,338	£19,944
Donations in kind, un-refurbished tools	£50,267	£53,988
Grants	£5,815	£16,000
Donations	£24,524	£20,863
GiftAid refunds	£1,362	£968
Sales of Tools	£35,679	£36,785
Fund-raising events	£362	£0
VAT	£1,133	£2,084
Interest received	£259	£258
Membership fees	£11	£1
TOTAL INCOME	£141,750	£150,891
EXPENDITURE		
Refurbished tools dispatched	£22,338	£19,944
Un-refurbished tools dispatched	£50,267	£53,988
Refurbishing expenses	£2,857	£3,255
Purchase of tools	£1,578	£2,100
Workshop equipment	£370	£187
Events costs	£387	£2,203
Publicity and Information	£941	£1,238
Consultant and Internship	£6,600	£0
Partnership development	£22,541	£28,096
Project Coordinator	£15,300	£14,083
Workshop Coordinator	£6,599	£6,520
Administration	£5,380	£4,986
Sewing machine workshop costs	£1,189	£3,011
S. machine workshop manager	£7,110	£5,094
Sessional worker	£4,136	-
Depot costs	-	£10,363
Depreciation	£1,412	£1,210
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£149,005	£156,278
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) for the year	-£7,255	-£5,387

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 AUGUST 2016

FIXED ASSETS	2015	2016
Tangible assets	£29,347	£28,238
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stocks	£3,450	£3,050
Debtors	£2,368	£2,259
Cash in hand and at bank	£34,592	£33,920
Total	£40,410	£39,229
CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year	£0	£148
NET CURRENT ASSETS	£40,410	£39,081
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	£69,757	£67,319
RESERVES		
Retained funds	£69,757	£67,319

The full version of the Annual Report and Accounts is available on request

The main work of Tools for Self Reliance Cymru is aimed at enabling African artisans and their families to help themselves build a better and more prosperous life. We do this by the hard work of our 62 volunteer members, the generosity of our many supporters, and with our partners in the Small Industries Development Organisation of Tanzania (SIDO).

We collect unwanted hand tools and sewing machines from across Wales, sort them into those wanted in Tanzania, and garden tools that can be sold here in Wales to support the charity. The tools bound for Tanzania are refurbished either in our workshop in Crickhowell or in the SIDO/Wales Tools Workshop in Mwanza, which is now 11 years old. These tools are cleaned, sharpened, repaired and re-handled. The fully refurbished and now valuable tools are made into kits for carpenters, blacksmiths, mechanics, tailors and other skilled workers who can put them to good use. Every kit is tailored to the identified needs of each artisan group.

This is the simple idea behind our work: recycling hand tools, many of which might otherwise have ended up in landfill sites, and redistributing them to people in developing areas of the world who can use them to build a better life for themselves, their families and their communities.



Partnership:

Betty (right) Singida SIDO Technical Officer, with women from Sheria tailors group. Since 2013 they have built their own workshop and can now make a wide range of products. "All group members are Happy!"
Jon Stedman handing over the cash for Fair Trade trowels to the Jitegeme blacksmiths group, Bukoba.

Many thanks to all our funders, our generous supporters, our regular donors and ...

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Cardiff Rotary Club
Bridgend, Clun and Llanelli TFSR groups
All those who have donated to our appeals



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Hub Cymru Africa



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Patrons of TFSR CYMRU: Dr Jane Davidson, Sir Paul Silk KCB, and Mike Laiser MA BA
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