

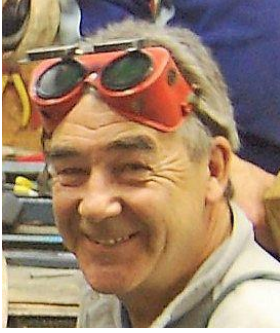
# TFSR CYMRU



## **TOOLS** For Self Reliance **CYMRU** **ANNUAL REVIEW 2016-2017**







## Directors' Report for 2016/2017

I say this every year at this time: Some challenges have been met, some have been solved, and others such as volunteer recruitment and fund-raising are never far from our attention.

The year has been as hectic as ever with the endless donations of tools and sewing machines, the unceasing work of refurbishing them, and attending the many events where we sell those tools not wanted in Africa in order to raise much-needed funds.

### At Home

We have had difficulties with our Sewing Machine workshop. During the months of July and August we have had to vacate it for the Green Man Festival, which means we only have 10 months of production each year. The Glanusk Estate are also very short of storage space, so in the coming year we will be moving the workshop to Park Street Community Centre in Abergavenny. This will be a very convenient spot with easy access, and should therefore make it easier to attract more volunteers.

Our storage unit in Llangattock, commonly known as the Depot, has been fully racked out with shelving. It is now working well, as a result of the regular hard work of our Depot volunteers on Wednesdays and Thursdays; there are just a few more fitting-out jobs still to be done.



Container number 12 was shipped to Tanzania at the end of April; 14 tons with 16,500 tools and 100 sewing machines. This corresponds to around 225 kits, each destined for a separate village community. The container arrived one month later, exactly on the due date, and that was when our problems began. It appears that John Magufuli, the new president of Tanzania, had made some substantial changes in Dar es Salaam port in order to reduce corruption.

Unfortunately for us, the new

personnel were very slow at clearing the container, and we suffered from the very high charges for storage in the port.

As you know we attend a large number of festivals and events, almost every weekend during the spring, summer and autumn, in order to raise funds and fly the TFSR Cymru flag with the public. These are generally good fun, but are also enormous consumers of time and energy for our relatively small crew of volunteers.

Please do not be shy about putting your name forward for these events, even if you have no experience of such things, you will have a good time and there are always some old hands to show you the ropes.

This year our activities focussed on sewing machines and women's tailors groups in Tanzania, and we raised a good amount of money by asking the public to sponsor sending a sewing machine. Well done all those involved in this activity.



Damian Changa is an old friend and the retired Regional Manager at the SIDO\* office in Mwanza, where we have our Tanzanian workshop. In October 2016 he had been invited to visit TFS in Belfast, so he combined his trip with a visit to us for a few days. We kept him busy, and he attended an event at Penpont, came with us to the Abergavenny Fair Trade Fair and visited the Wales for Africa team at the Welsh Assembly, where he also met the First Minister. \*SIDO is our long-standing Tanzanian partner, the Small Industries Development Organisation.



Mike Laiser with staff and volunteers at our Crickhowell Workshop

In July we received a visit from Mike Laiser, retired Director General of SIDO and now a patron of TSFR Cymru. He had never visited us before and was impressed by how small our operation is in relation to all the work we do in Tanzania. He was with us for our thirty third birthday celebrations, and met lots of supporters at our open day. Several robust discussions occurred during his visit concerning the role and activity of SIDO in our Tanzanian operations, and he offered to be the key link between us

and SIDO in Dar.

## In Africa

Alec and Tony left for the annual visit on January 9<sup>th</sup> with the primary objective of overseeing the Rural Clusters Project that was started last year, with the help of Paul Mashimba our Project Advisor. Namagondo and Kiabakari villages were visited, but port delays with the container had meant long delays in tools deliveries to both villages.

Dickson Shenkalwa, the technical officer in Tanga region, had as usual been doing a great job by sending us requests from some quite

remote rural areas, although spending cutbacks for SIDO have reduced the availability of vehicles to visit these areas. This transport issue has become an ongoing problem.

Also in Tanga, Mr Boma continues to manufacture bases for treadle sewing machines, and he has modified the design of these bases himself. This means we have more room in the container to send more sewing machines, to be fitted onto the bases when they arrive. He has now moved into a workshop in the SIDO Tanga compound, so these bases are more convenient for the tailors to view and buy.

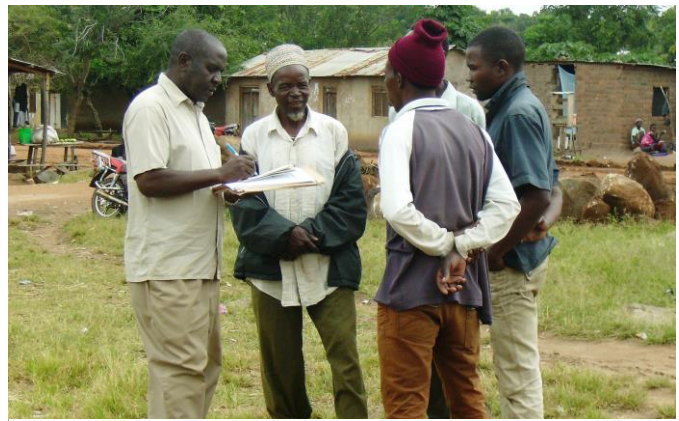
Related to the above problem, we have been concerned for a long time about the falling number of rural requests for toolkits and sewing machines, especially in the Lake Zone regions. This is largely due to the inability of technical officers to find the time or transport to visit these rural groups.



Saidi Maguta with Alec Rix outside our Mwanza workshop



In an attempt to solve this issue, the trustees decided to appoint, on a short term basis, an officer of our own, to liaise with rural community leaders and SIDO regional managers. His job would be to find the smaller, rural artisan groups that desperately need tools, and also to find efficient ways of delivering these. With this in mind, Jeff Thomas and Gwyn Dix went to Tanzania to interview and select a candidate for this position.



Our new Project Officer, Michael Kimaryo with rural artisans

Michael Kimaryo now provides this function for us as Project Officer, and has been doing an excellent job for six months. We have recently renewed his contract for another six.

As well as sending tools we also try to fund as much training as our funds allow. This comprises of practical training for all different categories of artisan; tailors, carpenters, blacksmiths etc. We are also funding the training of sewing machine maintenance especially for our Cluster villages and also for areas of Tanga region.



This means that machines we have refurbished and sent halfway across the world will not give up and die. They will be kept going for years, and enable women to continue to earn a decent living, and also keep their own families well dressed. Providing spare parts for machines also remains a challenge in most areas. Left: Charles Iganja, Mara Technical Officer with Paul Mashimba our Cluster Project Advisor and Joseph Onduto, the newly trained fundi in Kiabakari. Joseph is also a busy tailor producing and mending a wide variety of clothing.

Another side to our work is the support we give to the making of tools and equipment in Tanzania. We fund the Mashinji Prize to encourage innovative blacksmithing at the annual Lake Zone exhibition, and this year the entries were as imaginative as usual. Seen on the right are the Mkeremi Group based in Mwanza. They won the first prize for their metal vice. We have ordered a batch of these vices to be made to be included in tool kits from the Mwanza workshop. They also make sash cramps from old scissor jacks for local carpentry groups. The group leader Mohamed Kaombwe is seen grinning at the back.



I again cannot stress too much how important our volunteer's commitment is to us. Vast amounts of work are achieved by what is in reality, a small number of volunteers. There are lots of other activities many of which do not involve getting dirty, although I don't seem to find those.

So please ask, even if it's something you haven't done before. And if you do have an existing skill to offer that you think would be useful, please speak up!

# INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

	2016	2017
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations in kind, refurbished tools	£19,944	£19,890
Donations in kind, un-refurbished tools	£53,988	£45,636
Grants	£16,000	£8,500
Donations	£20,863	£12,678
GiftAid refunds	£968	£2,099
Sales of Tools	£36,785	£39,219
VAT	£2,084	£767
Interest received	£258	£240
Membership fees	£1	£4
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£150,891</b>	<b>£129,033</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Refurbished tools dispatched	£19,944	£19,890
Un-refurbished tools dispatched	£53,988	£45,636
Refurbishing expenses	£3,255	£2,076
Purchase of tools	£2,100	£3,380
Workshop equipment	£187	£751
Events costs	£2,203	£1,977
Publicity and Information	£1,238	£587
Partnership development	£28,096	£23,624
Project Coordinator	£14,083	£16,594
Workshop Coordinator	£6,520	£6,077
Administration	£4,986	£4,676
Sewing machine workshop costs	£3,011	£2,661
S. machine workshop manager	£5,094	£6,814
Sessional worker	-	£481
Depot costs	£10,363	£3,785
Depreciation	£1,210	£1,153
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£156,278</b>	<b>£140,162</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) for the year</b>	<b>-£5,387</b>	<b>-£11,129</b>

## BALANCE SHEET AT 31 AUGUST 2017

	2016	2017
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Tangible assets	£28,238	£27,575
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Stocks	£3,050	£2,350
Debtors	£2,259	£1,922
Cash in hand and at bank	£33,920	£24,507
<b>Total</b>	<b>£39,229</b>	<b>£28,779</b>
<b>CREDITORS</b>		
Amounts falling due within one year	£148	£440
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>£39,081</b>	<b>£28,339</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>£67,319</b>	<b>£55,914</b>
<b>RESERVES</b>		
Retained funds	£67,319	£55,914

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





Thomas Mgasa is so happy with his new plough plane and the rest of his new tool kit. Thomas is a carpenter in Kiabakari, one of two villages in our "Rural Clusters Project" in Lake Zone Tanzania, part-funded by the Welsh Government, via HUB Cymru Africa. Under this project, all artisan groups in both villages are provided with tools and training, and given full support for a minimum of two years. His wife has just given birth to their third child, so his increased earnings will be very welcome.

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 achieve this by the hard work of our 75 volunteer members and our 3 patrons, 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 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 12 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.

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

The Morel Trust  
Thandizo  
SR & PH Southall Charitable Trust  
Cardiff Rotary Club  
Bridgend, Clun and Llanelli TFSR groups  
All those who have donated to our appeals



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government



Hub Cymru Africa

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