

Timpir News

We're on the web!

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Building of Wäramoth Primary School



Wäramoth P.S. in January 2007

In January 2007, when William and Mel Baak went to Wäramoth, South Sudan, they found an under-tree school staffed by one volunteer teacher. With the financial support of Timpir's donors and the building skills of the local community, by mid-2007 Wäramoth Primary School had one enclosed weather-proof classroom.

When William and Mel travelled to Wäramoth again in February 2008, they met with potential teachers and local government officials and discussed the operation of Wäramoth Primary School in 2008. It was decided that in order for Wäramoth Primary School to operate effectively in 2008, additional classrooms would need to be built.

Mel eagerly registered over 300 students in Years 1-3 while William began organizing the construction of additional classrooms.

It was decided to build a 5 classroom structure to accommodate all of the students from Wäramoth region. With much hard work during Mel and William's two month stay in South Sudan, Wäramoth Primary

School now has five enclosed weather proof classrooms, one staff room and store, two salaried teachers, four volunteer teachers and over 300 students.

This phenomenal growth has only been possible for three reasons.

1. The support of our fantastic donors in Australia
2. The work of community members in Wäramoth in providing building materials and labour.
3. The tireless work of Timpir's Program Director, William Kuol Baak, who lead the Wäramoth community by example and was at the school site working from dawn to dusk for three weeks.



Fist classroom built in 2007

The amazing work of Timpir, our supporters and the Wäramoth community saw over 300 children start primary school on March 17th, 2008, that may have never had the opportunity otherwise.

For more information and photos about the school building process, please see our website www.timpir.org



Wäramoth P.S. in March 2008

Panhom changes name to Timpir

At the 2007 Annual General Meeting, it was agreed upon by all in attendance that Panhom's name would be changed to **Timpir—Australians supporting health, education and development in South Sudan.**

Timpir is a Dinka word which means the growing shoot of a tree or plant.

The name Timpir was chosen because many important events take place under trees in South Sudan including court hearings, wedding negotiations and traditional education. Additionally the idea of a newly shooting tree was important as it symbolizes the new growth and development in South Sudan following the end of the civil war in 2005.

Additionally, this name change will help us to gain our status as a tax deductible gift recipient as the new name contains the word 'Australians'.

Donation of Zonta Birthing Kits



Timpir member Lynda Kutek trains traditional birthing attendants in the use of birthing kits

On our second to last day in Wäramoth a large number of women including two birthing attendants were gathered at Mel and Kuol's 'home', a tent, latrine and shower tent. We demonstrated, using Kuol and his mother as interpreters, how to use the birthing kits, stressing the hand washing and safety with the scalpel blades. We divided the birthing kits in to four lots of 50 to be used in different regions around Wäramoth. News spread and the next day 2 more birthing attendants arrived at Mel and Kuol's home to be given their kits, this was very useful as it was too difficult for us to find the local birthing attendants and walk to their houses.

Christmas Gift Donations



Family of Aliok Mangok receive their goat

Thanks to the incredible support of over 50 families, individuals and workplaces, Timpir was able to implement an even bigger and better Christmas gift program during February 2008. The Christmas gift program saw the distribution of 49 mosquito nets, 45 school bags, 48 goats, 19 blankets and 14 bicycles.

The program was difficult to implement for several reasons, primarily transporting the gifts (particularly bicycles) out to the village recipients

and identifying those families most in need to receive the gifts. The Christmas gift program would not be possible without the dedicated voluntary assistance of Abuk Atak Ngeny. Abuk is an elder of the Athokthou community and has lived there for most of her life. She also happens to be the mother of Timpir's Program Director, William Kuol Baak.

Abuk knows the situation of most of the families who benefited from the Christmas gift donations and was able to inform us of which families should receive gifts. This is no easy task in a region where every family is living in poverty.

Some gift recipients walked for up to 5 hours from surrounding regions to collect their gifts.

Purchasing the gifts was not easy, we frequented several markets in the region to purchase the 48 goats.

School bags, pens and pencils were transported from Australia and mosquito nets, blankets and bicycles had to be bought from a market 2 days walk away from the Athokthou region, where the gifts were distributed.

All in all, the program was once again a huge success and we look forward to running it again during Christmas 2008.



Family of Machar Diing receive their blanket

Sponsorship of Children and Teachers



Kuol Deng Nhial—in need of sponsor

Through our child sponsorship program we are able to provide sponsor children and their families with access to education, healthcare and food.

With over 300 children now registered at Timpir's primary school, our child sponsorship program has grown exponentially. We currently have 77 children

awaiting sponsorship.

While in Sudan, we were able to transport one of Timpir's sponsor children, Dut Akol, to Aweil town to have a tri-

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www.timpir.org to sponsor one of the 77 children or 4 teachers

cycle constructed. Dut is now back in Waramoth with his tricycle and is experiencing for the first time what it is like to be able to move around independently. Dut suffered from polio as a child and has since been limited to crawling on his hands and knees or being carried by someone else.

Additionally, Waramoth P.S. now has six teachers. Two teachers are paid from Timpir's general fundraising activities, but we are looking for sponsors to pay the salaries of the other four teachers who are currently working as volunteers.



Ahok Wieu—sponsored by the Elliott-Mitchell family

Recent donations over \$300

- UniSA School of Pharmacy staff
- Kiwanis Club of Prospect
- Rose Park Psychology
- Zonta International
- Wobbles the Clown (aka Graeme Denton)
- Sue George and Hector Gordon
- Rosie Marley
- Remy McCubbin

Timpir Information Session

What: A presentation from four Timpir members about their experiences during their recent trip to South Sudan.

Where: University of South Australia, City East Campus, BJ1-13 (enter from Gate 5 on Frome Rd and follow the signs)

When: Tuesday April 22nd, 5.30pm for 6.00pm start

Cost: gold coin donation

