

Annual General Report 2008-2009

1. Chairs report

The past financial year has seen continual slow but steady growth for Timpir. We have been able to significantly increase our funding of Wäramoth Primary School in South Sudan thanks to donors and successful fundraising activities in Australia.

Another year has passed with the same stalwart support of our small group of volunteer board members. Thanks again to; Asher Reynolds, Graeme Denton, Henry Kutek, Kuol Baak and Getano Gai Bol, for their hard work throughout the year. Without these five board members, it would not be possible for Timpir to have continued to carry out the important work it is doing in South Sudan. Thanks also to Peter Cassidy for continuing to maintain Timpir's website. This year I would also like to thank someone who has been our key individual fundraiser for the year, Adam Starrs. Adam's fundraising efforts, through his bike ride from Perth to Adelaide, have been a keystone in enabling us to further develop Wäramoth Primary School this year, and the \$6842 he raised this financial year will continue to benefit the school for some years to come.

This financial year none of our board members were able to travel to South Sudan. This makes it more difficult to get a concrete feel of what is going on over in South Sudan as we are reliant on verbal reports from our school headmaster and other community members via phone and phone access is half a day away from Wäramoth. However through monthly contact with the Wäramoth School Principal, we have maintained a good understanding of the needs of the community and school and also on the projects that Timpir's money is being spent on. The Principal was also able to send us some photos via the Internet of work that had been done on the school and some of Timpir's sponsor children.

Our projects in South Sudan will be further elaborated on by our Project Director, but I will give a brief overview of some of the exciting things that we have achieved in 08/09. The 2008 academic year saw 335 students complete their studies in Years 1-3 during what was Wäramoth Primary Schools' first year as an official school. As of June 2009, there were 376 students enrolled in Years 1-4. During this period Timpir has employed between five and seven teachers at the school, depending on student enrolments. Timpir has also been able to collaborate with the World Food Program (WFP) to implement a daily lunch program at the school, which employs four local women to cook for the students and teachers. This is a significant achievement as food shortages were one of the main barriers to attendance of children at the school. In February 2009, the community worked on the school with the financial assistance of Timpir to build a more durable roof for the six classroom building complex that was built in 2008. The assistance that Timpir has been able to provide to the community, and most specifically the school, in Wäramoth over the past couple

of years has been invaluable. We look forward to further supporting this community and possibly extending our efforts to support another community in the coming financial year.

Work is progressing on Timpir becoming a tax-deductible organisation, and I hope that the coming year will see us able to gain this status, as I'm sure it will make a significant difference to our fundraising capabilities. Nonetheless, the 08/09 year has once again been a very successful year for Timpir as we continue to grow as an organisation not only financially, but also in experience and what we have been able to accomplish through assisting the people of South Sudan.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members and supporters for your ongoing commitment, and I look forward to further working with you all in the coming year so that we can continue to support health, education and development in South Sudan.

2. Treasurer's report

Timpir has continued to fund its valuable projects in Sudan. The 2008/2009 financial year again resulted in increased funds raised and increased funds spent directly on supporting communities in South Sudan. Total income in 08/09 was \$29,591.41 (up from \$25,197.11 in 07/08). Fundraising expenses in 08/09 were \$1,324.80, resulting in a gross profit of \$28,266.61.

In 2008/2009 Timpir provided a total of \$20,403.50 to support Timpir's projects in South Sudan (Up from \$13,442.18 last year). Office expenses in making Sudan payments were \$220.45.

Again I commend the Timpir board members, and others who support Timpir projects financially and otherwise and I look forward to working with this wonderful team again in 2009/2010.

3. Membership report

Timpir's membership numbers have remained low during this financial year. At the time of the previous AGM, Timpir had 17 financial members. At the time of this AGM, Timpir has 20 financial members, of which 8 are Ordinary members (citizens of or born in South Sudan) and 12 are Associate members (not citizens or residents of South Sudan).

The Timpir board will work to increase the numbers of members over the coming year, in an effort to increase our support base. Thank you to all those people who have renewed their memberships and who continue to support Timpir in our efforts to help the people of South Sudan. Excitingly, some people are now in their fifth year of membership.

4. Fundraising Directors Report

2008-09 was a successful fundraising year for Timpir. Our main fundraising event was courtesy of Adam Starrs who rode his bike from Perth to Adelaide last September without a support crew and managed to raise \$6842 from direct sponsorship and talking about it afterwards. The Board has made Adam an Honorary Member of Timpir in acknowledgement of his superb effort. Well done and thank you Adam!

The Profit & Loss statement details the income and expenses of our fundraising activities for 2008/09. There is some carryover of income and expenses from last year and to next year. The BBQs at Bunnings Woodville were heavily supported by the Kiwanis Club of Prospect to whom we extend our sincere thanks. Our fundraising activities netted \$18121.65.

The Board intends to continue fundraising with similar events planned for 09/10, but we have not had a major event like the bike ride offered this year.

We received nearly \$5000 in donations from other Kiwanis clubs and many individuals. Many of these donations were made during fundraising events. We also received \$4610 for child and teacher sponsorships.

5. Project Directors Report

Timpir successfully ran one of its main projects, Wäramoth Primary School, in the financial year commencing July 2008 through June 2009. In the first six months Timpir employed five teachers who taught 335 students in Years 1-3. In the second six months, from January 2009, seven teachers were employed to teach 376 students in Years 1-4. Girls made approximately a third of the numbers of these students. There were more girls in lower classes than in years 3 & 4. Teachers' pay cost Timpir an average of \$800 a month.

During the year, Timpir sent a second-hand phone to the teachers of Wäramoth Primary School, which was hand delivered by Rev. Mawien Achuil. Timpir also sent some money to a buy sim card and credit for the teachers to make calls. About \$5 was then sent every month for credit so the teacher could call board members in Australia. It was through these monthly phone calls that Timpir was able to receive regular updates about our projects and plans and make suggestions to the teachers for further developments.

In early 2009 we received photos of the teachers and letters written by the teachers for Timpir supporters in Australia. These were brought back from Sudan by an Adelaide resident who had travelled here, as the postal system is non-existent in South Sudan.

Since early 2008, the World Food Program (WFP) has been providing grain to the school to be cooked for lunch. Timpir has been providing money since March 2009 for grinding the grain provided by WFP and

began paying 4 cooks to cook the lunch for the students. This lunch project cost Timpir approximately \$150 a month.

The Christmas gifts/development fund enabled Timpir to buy 8 shovels/spades, 24 brick moulds, 6 mattocks, and 6 diggers for construction in the school in February 2009. There were no new buildings constructed in the financial year but the community and the teachers reroofed the one year old 5 classroom building because the roofing done previous year was not durable and most of it had been blown away in a storm – and the building would not have provided protection against rain in this financial year. Also bought under Christmas gifts/development fund were 11 sets of stationery, 2 jerry cans, 4 saucepans, 4 blackboard, 6 packs of teaching resources, vehicle hire and other administrative expenses. These were bought and photos were sent to the board in Australia via the Internet.

Having bought tools, utensils and other resources, in addition to grain provided by the World Food Program, it was found necessary to employ a watchman/site administrator for approximately \$60 a month to take care of school property.

The idea of a new project for tree planting was raised. It costs \$3 to plant a mature seedling, which is very likely to survive. Tree planting has not been implemented at this stage.

The idea of making durable red bricks for constructing durable classrooms was raised. Kuol Chan (the previous deputy headmaster) reported that 200,000 bricks would be needed to build an appropriate sized permanent school building. This would cost a total of \$3,500. This program is pending implementation in 2011, dependent on the outcome of the referendum in South Sudan in 2011.

Timpir's projects have once again been implemented to a high level this year, and the outcomes can be seen in the numbers of students regularly attending Wäramoth Primary School. The Board is happy with and excited about the outcomes and development we are hearing about through regular telephone communication with people in South Sudan, and through the photos we have been sent via the internet.