

# The Anvil

a monthly update from Tools For Self Reliance Cymru

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## A Tanzanian Story

Some artisans from Ukerewe island came to Mwanza workshop to collect toolkits. One of them was Regina Paul whose husband had received a sewing machine from the TFSR Cymru Project four years ago. They now own three more sewing machines and a carpentry workshop. Her husband sent her to Mwanza to pick up the tools. When meeting her this is what she said about the project:



*"I am Regina a mother of three children living in Ukerewe. My husband was one of the people who received a sewing machine from this project. I remember somebody from TFSR Cymru brought the machines four year ago. My husband and I are both trained in tailoring. He took his training at SIDO Mwanza while I was locally trained there at my home village. I was the one using the machine while my husband was busy with farming. It was a very good machine and since our home is near a police station and a school I used to get many customers who came to order uniforms. After two years I managed to add two butterfly machines and I started training girls who completed school. Two days ago my husband told me there is another good machine at TFSR Cymru/SIDO and asked me to come for it. The tailoring activity helped us a lot. We now have a plot where we plan to build our own house. I am also supporting one child of my sister who is attending secondary school. In addition, I contributed to my husband's capital to establish a carpentry project. Luckily enough I am also told this project of yours is also providing carpentry tools. I will see if I will be able to take some after consulting my husband.*

*One thing I really appreciate this project is the way it is willing to visit and help people who are far in villages. Very few organizations or people from big towns who even visit us! Thank you and when I go back I will give the good news to my colleagues in our women group."*

## Tool Chests Galore!



We've had a long history of working with Andrew Pyne. His wooden tool chests are excellent for packing tools into the container and serve a dual purpose. Once they're unloaded in Tanzania they become a strong, secure, and long lasting tool chests for the tool kits we provide to the local trades.

These tool chests are a joint effort and are funded in part by TFSR Cymru and Jenkins Builder's Merchants, Kitecraft Kitchens and the Timeout congregation at St. Mary's church. Volunteers are always welcome to come help construct these chests at Mr. Pyne's workshop near Sennybridge. You can find information about volunteering on our [website](#)

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## The Soroptimists come through again!



We received a huge load of tools this month including 22 sewing machines from the Soroptimist club in Port Talbot. This group also has a long history with our cause and this year we were given a tremendous stack of tools which are now being packed into the tool chests in the container. We also were told a lovely story about one of the donations:

*"TFSRC is the 'project' which we are all so very passionate about and it's when we hear stories like this that I realise why! I collected a sewing machine from a 74 year old lady that had received the machine from her father when she was 17. She cried when she handed it over but was delighted when I told her the story of how the machine will be used in Africa. We will now discuss when to do the next collection and maybe concentrate on sewing machines."*

Many thanks to this wonderful group!

If you have unused tools or **sewing machines** and would like to see them become useful again, contact us. We always need more tools and **sewing machines** are in very high demand. We have dedicated collectors all across Wales.

[Contact – Tools For Self Reliance Cymru](#)

## Container News

The 17<sup>th</sup> container has arrived in Dar es Salaam finally. The difficult process of getting it through the port is proceeding and we should see it arrive at the Kalwande training centre very soon. Our new partners are eager to start work setting up the new distribution centre and our team in Mwanza is ready to unload.

Container 18 is nearly half full already and will most likely be on its way before the end of the year.

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## Festivals and Events

*The Green Man* and *Between the Trees* saw us do many workshops. Whistle making, blacksmithing and stool making were all big hits with the people attending:



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More to come at the end of each month. Thank you for taking time to read this.  
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