

The Anvil

Your monthly update from Tools For Self Reliance Cymru

Container 19

The container is now in Kalwande and was emptied in just a day or two. It takes us months to fill it. It's nice to see that anvil. We don't get many and they are very useful. We hope it gets used for the blacksmith's training we are funding run by the college but over in Geita, a mining town just across the water. Michael, our project officer, found a suitable smithy who were willing to allow the training at their facility. Many thanks to the NYANYEMBE group for their support. The training has been funded by a very generous donation from Jan Osborne, one of our long term members, in memory of her partner, Rod Carter and her father.



Container 20 is now half full. We've received so many collections of tools this month it's been hard to keep up. Donations from the Port Talbot Soroptomists, David King from Cardiff Rivers Trust, Paul Verney keeps us loaded with sewing machines from Stroud and Colin Hill brought a massive number of tools in from his group over in Carmarthen. We are expecting a massive delivery in early November from the Rotary in the Rissingtons but we still have a lot of room to fill so any and all donations will be thankfully accepted.

In Tanzania this last month

Michael Kimaryo sends us this report of some of the things underway in Tanzania: (In his own words and in his second language, possibly his third, unedited)

The project intends to conduct training for the artisans who work in blacksmith. A meeting was held involving the PO and workshop staff to discuss modalities for this training. It was noted that so far Kalwande does not have facilities and equipment suitable for the training. It was therefore decided to look for another area where training will be conveniently conducted. In Geita there are several blacksmith/tinsmith artisans one of them being a famous group called *Nyanyembe* which had been working with the project for many years. The PO had a long discussion with this group with the aim of looking for possibility of carrying out the training there. This group has all the necessary equipment and facilities for the purpose. Training was therefore planned which will involve artisans who make tools for Trade Fair i.e. those coming from Kagera, Shinyanga and Geita. They will be seven in total and the training will take seven days.



Evidence of project impact

The PO visited an area called Magu in Mwanza. In this area there are two artisans who had been trained by the project before and have been proactive enough to initiate formation of other artisan groups. One of them Zakaria attended training on sewing machines maintenance and repair and he has managed to develop a group of young people, trained them and now they are able to fix sewing machines from the tailors in the surrounding villages as a means of income generation. The other former trainee Jacob attended course in carpentry and has also managed to establish a carpentry group in the area. Unfortunately, both groups are still working in open space without good shelter.

The First Trustees Meeting after the AGM was held and officers were elected and other business discussed. Members will find a second email sent with this newsletter containing the summary document of what took place. As always, we are actively searching for skilled people to volunteer with us as trustees and many opportunities are available. If you are curious and want to get involved, please contact us to see how we can work together.

Enquire : Contact@tfsrcymru.org.uk

Events and stuff:

- There's not much activity in events coming up but we are working on some small events local to our base in Crickhowell. Keep checking the website for updates.

Thank you, and as we say in Wales and Tanzania:

Diolch yn fawr / Asante Sana