The Anvil Your monthly update from Tools For Self Reliance Cymru

Welcome to 2024!

This edition of the Anvil Newsletter is solely about our online eBay shop which you can find <u>here</u>.

It was set up in 2018 by Trustee Ian Wallace and is now run almost single handed by Volunteer and Member Eddie.

Donations of items deemed unsuitable for export to Africa, for sale in our Standard St. shop, or at external events, are selected by volunteers at the Workshop and Depot, cleaned and/or restored and presented to Eddie for researching, photographing, listing, selling, packaging, and despatching.

The sheer amount and variety of these items has increased exponentially since the Covid Pandemic hit. The whole world is reached by eBay and many of our sales go to customers in Europe and America.

So first, some simple statistics

In the last year 1st January to 31st December 2023, **324** items were successfully sold and delivered. The income from those sales was **£21,351** – a staggering amount!

The beauty of eBay is that *they do not charge any selling commission* or fees to Charity sellers. What people pay is what we receive.

Here are a few examples of items sold very recently



Sold 19 Jan 2024 Zimmerman Liverpool No. 15298 Watch with Out Casing Balance Spring Broken Pre-owned

£50.00

Buy it now Free postage View similar active items Sell one like this



Sold 15 Jan 2024 Vintage AVO Valve Tube Tester, complete, appears in good condition but untested. Pre-owned

£375.00

Buy it now Free postage View similar active items Sell one like this



Sold 11 Jan 2024 LAPP Skinmatic MH Spanner Set (3 Piece) M12/M16, M20/M25, M32/M40, unused. Pre-owned

£165.00

Buy it now Free postage View similar active items Sell one like this

Since inception, 1,100 items have been sold with 100% positive feedback from 550 people, and the shop is currently followed by 272 followers!

As you can imagine, Eddie expends an enormous amount of time each week with the work involved and is desperately in need of a helper or two to maintain the catalogue of over 200 items awaiting sale. Our eBay site operates from the Skylab at our Depot in Llangattock, which is equipped with fast Internet access and modern computing kit. More importantly, it is warm and has a kettle!

It is very rewarding to be able to turn some of the amazing donations that the Charity receives into vital cash to fund our work in Tanzania. It involves **intriguing research**; **learning about** and **valuing** the great **diversity** of items that we get donated, not just a huge range of vintage tools and equipment from every trade and profession you could imagine. We also receive antiques too - from old dental drills, solid gold masonic medals and vintage car parts, to Welsh miner's lamps, WW1 & 2 militaria, and Victorian kitchen equipment to name but a few.

The Request!

Please, if you are interested in contributing to help with our eBay shop, and this essential and rewarding part of the Charity's work, call Corin on

07764 176082 or email him at corin@tfsrcymru.org.uk

You are welcome to visit the Depot for a chat - and a cup of tea or coffee, on any Wednesday from 10:00am to about 1:30pm

Some experience in selling privately on eBay would be advantageous, but not necessary.

The art can easily be learnt, and full training will be given.

Corin Mills - Co-Chairman

Thank you, and as we say in Wales and Tanzania: Diolch yn fawr / Asante Sana