

# The Anvil

## Your monthly update from Tools For Self Reliance Cymru

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### Containers!

On November 18 Workaid sent a container to our workshop for the first time. We helped fill it with several vanloads of tools sent to their facility in Chesham. Shortly after that, on the 26<sup>th</sup>, our container #21 was sent on it's way. That's a lot of tools headed to our crew in Kalwande. This should fill the shelves with high quality tools and provide much need equipment for refurbishing them.



## The van looks great.

Funding from the Welsh Government has enabled us to buy a very nice new van, as we reported earlier. It is now dressed up with signage. We think it looks great and many thanks to trustee Pete Dickson for wading through all the multiple opinions to get consensus at last.



## Training at Kalwande

Our good friend Dickson Shinkalwa has been working through an injured leg and with Lukas and the staff of the college to finish a syllabus for the sewing machine training courses. It now exists in both Swahili and English and formalises our long time project to 'Keep them Singers singing'. And speaking of training, discussions with the college are ongoing and a proposal for courses that we hope to fund in 2025 are developing. See below.

COURSE	TIMELINE	TRADES
Course 1	First two weeks of February	Electricity, Bulding and Carpentry
Course 2	First two weeks of May	Shoemaking & Leather work, Motor vehicle mechanics and Welding
Course 3	Last two weeks of July	Sewing machines maintanance, motor cyle mechanics and Autoelectrical motor vehicle mechanics
Course 4	Last two weeks of September	Blacksmith, Tinsmith and Electricity
Course 5	First two weeks of December	Sewing machines maintenance, Motor cycle mechanics and Carpentry

## A Story

**Joseph Felician** is a very skilled worker. Working with his son, together they concentrate on making just bolts and clasps under the simple shelter in their back garden. He uses very few tools, mainly a hammer and a variety of punches to form the bolts, riveting them together. His raw materials are all scrap metal which he has to pay for, though not much.

We were taken to see his workshop in December 2014, just after he had received some tools from our Mwanza workshop, including a vice which made his work much easier. We were immediately taken by his products. We agreed to buy a selection of different sizes of his bolts to sell in our Fair Trade programme, and Joseph was so pleased. He sells his products for next to nothing, so he was very happy to be paid more than 3 times his normal price.

He supports his wife and family from his work and he seems to have found a niche product. TFSR Cymru is happy to support him by providing working tools and helping to extend his market.



Joseph with his son Emmanuel, the anvil and vice came from Wales

## Interested in helping us?



We are currently recruiting volunteers to help at events for next season and for volunteers to help with the management of the charity as helpers with general admin or indeed as trustees. If you have an interest take a look at our website. There is a lot of information there about being a trustee and your help would be rewarding for our charity, our Tanzanian artisans and of course for you personally. Our website is <https://tfsrcymru.org.uk> or you can email us for more info at [contact@tfsrcymru.org.uk](mailto:contact@tfsrcymru.org.uk).

## Local Events:

Although the major fund raising events are behind us there are still opportunities to visit us before Christmas. Our shop in Crickhowell is open as usual, there's plenty of interesting things in our eBay shop and we will be visiting the following events:

- Fairtrade Christmas Market Hay-on-Wye: Saturday December 7th

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

**Diolch yn fawr / Asante Sana**