



## Lives transformed by The power of tools



**Nicholas** is a great example of someone who was helped by tools at just the right time before he got caught up in a life of crime and gangs. His life was full of suffering, losing his parents at a young age and having to drop out of school. With no education and no parents to support him, Nicholas' situation was bleak.

Fortunately, a friend introduced him to Faith Orphanage, who use tools that they receive from TWAM to teach useful skills to people who have struggled with formal education. There, he learned carpentry, as well as business skills to help him open his own business. He was given his own TWAM carpentry kit when he graduated, allowing him to start his own business immediately.

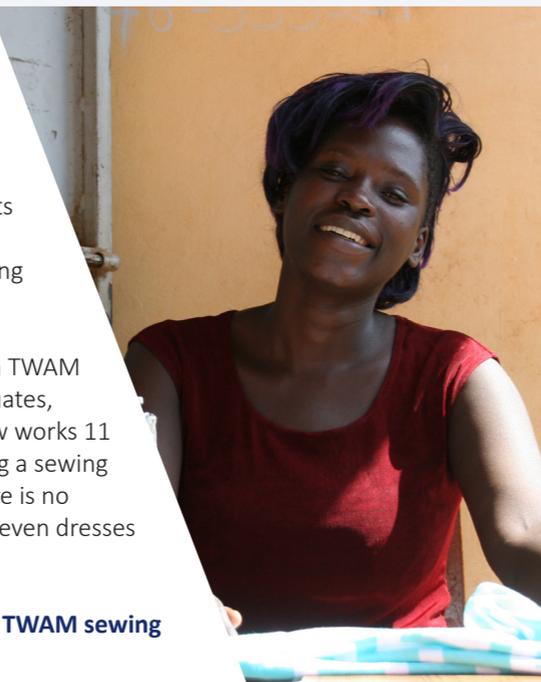
It's very fortunate that Nicholas found Faith Orphanage when he did because it would be very easy to turn to a life of crime in his situation, with seemingly no alternatives. **Nicholas' life was transformed by a combination of hard work and donated refurbished tools.**

*"I am what I am today because of Mindset and my TWAM sewing machine."*

**Diana** had to drop out of school because she got pregnant as a teenager, and her studies suffered as a result. She had minimal employment prospects until a friend told her about Mindset, our partner in Uganda, who work with TWAM to provide training courses and tools to those who need them.

After graduating from the course, Diana received a TWAM sewing machine and sewing kit, as do all the graduates, thanks to TWAM's generous supporters. Diana now works 11 hours a day, six hours a week making dresses, using a sewing machine which was adapted into a treadle, as there is no electricity in the space that she rents. She makes seven dresses a week and is able to support her child.

**Her life has been completely transformed by her TWAM sewing machine and her unrelenting perseverance.**



## Want to support our work? You could make a donation.

**By post:** I enclose a cheque made payable to Tools with a Mission for £ \_\_\_\_\_  
Please send it to our Ipswich Centre. The address is at the bottom of the page.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

**By bank transfer:** Barclays Bank Ltd. — Sort code: 20-44-51 — Account no: 33190994

I would like to **Gift Aid** my donation (please tick)

I confirm that I am a UK taxpayer and I want to Gift Aid this donation and any donations I make in the future or have made over the past 4 years to Tools with a Mission. I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I understand that TWAM will reclaim 25p for every £1 I donate. I agree to notify TWAM if I want to cancel this declaration, change my name or home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on my income and/or capital gains.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Online:** please go to [twam.uk/donate](http://twam.uk/donate) to make an online donation.

## You could give some of your time to us.

We are always looking for enthusiastic new volunteers to join our team of over 400 volunteers nationwide. Whatever your experience level, we would be happy to have you as part of the team.

You could **collect tools, drive our van, refurbish tools in our refurbishment centre**, amongst other roles.

If you are interested in joining the TWAM team, head to our dedicated volunteering website

## You could donate your old tools to us.

We take a wide variety of tools used by carpenters, mechanics, builders, electricians, welders, plumbers, tailors, and more. For the full list of tools that we take, head to our website [twam.uk/donatetools](http://twam.uk/donatetools). There, you will also find our postcode checker, where you can find your nearest volunteer tool collector who you can contact to pick up your tools.

### Your local collector



# TWAM

Tools with a Mission

## About us

Registered charity in England and Wales no: 1104903 Company no: 5114575

VAT Registration Number 347292286

e: [post@twam.uk](mailto:post@twam.uk) t: 01473 210220 w: [twam.uk](http://twam.uk)



Empowering people with the tools that create livelihoods and transform lives

We are a Christian charity that collects unwanted usable tools, refurbishes them, sorts them into trade tool kits and sends them to the developing world for livelihood creation.



## What we do in **Africa**



## What we do in **The UK**



## What we do for **Earth**

Members of the public generously donate their tools to us, which are collected and brought back to our refurbishment centres. They are then refurbished and packed into trade kits to teach skills such as carpentry and tailoring and sent off to skills training centres in Africa. The kits are then gifted to the trainees when they graduate so that they can begin work immediately.

Our work targets the most vulnerable members of society, those living in extreme poverty and facing terrible hardship. Many of the groups that we send tools to are women's groups—we send over 3500 sewing machines a year. Many women in the countries that we support are singlehandedly raising their children, struggling to feed them day after day. What they really need is not a one-off financial handout. They need a sustainable way to generate their own income and put food on the table every single day.



**15,000** toolkits  
**450,000** individual tools  
sent to developing communities every year.

### That is what tools and training can offer.

They strike at the roots of poverty. Rather than offering a temporary solution, tools are the key to a sustainable career. With tools, they don't need to rely on external support; they are supported by their own hands.

The training courses are often a deep source of comfort and companionship for the trainees. Many of them are orphans, homeless, or stuck at home in abusive relationships.

They find friendship and sympathy with the other trainees who have had similar experiences, helping them to heal spiritually whilst also building their careers. Tools are their key to a brighter future, and that is exactly what we give them.

Whilst our focus is in Africa, we also care deeply about helping local communities and involving local people here in the UK. **Our volunteers are with us every step of the way:** from driving our vans or collecting tools from the public, to refurbishing the tools in our refurbishment centres, and even helping out in the office. In short, **we couldn't do anything without them.**

Many of our volunteers are also with us for their mental health. Coming in to volunteer gives them a space where they can use their skills to make a significant, tangible impact, improving thousands of lives in Africa. They also have a place to socialise, to sit and have a cup of tea and chat with friends. Volunteering with TWAM allows them to **make friends whilst making a difference.** You can find out more about our volunteering opportunities on our dedicated volunteering website: [timefortwam.uk](http://timefortwam.uk).

 We have a team of over 400 volunteers nationwide who make our work possible.

We also support local organisations. For example, offcuts of haberdashery fabric that can't be sent to Africa are sent to other charities, and they are then used in schools and playgroups.

We also send material to prisons, which the inmates use in various craft projects. We're incredibly passionate about helping out where we can, and making sure we don't waste what is donated to us.

**Sustainability is at the heart of what we do.** We are extremely passionate about combatting the effects of climate change. The tools that we send to Africa are all collected from people living in the UK. We prevent these tools from ending up in UK landfills and give them a new life.

The majority of tools that are donated to us are refurbished and sent to Africa, but unfortunately, some tools are either unsuitable for us to send or broken. We don't want to throw them away if they can still be used in some other way, though. One of our solutions is to sell unsuitable tools to a variety of tool dealers, who will sell them to other people, allowing them to continue to be used. Many of these tools would just have been thrown away otherwise.

Another way that we deal with waste is by selling our scrap metal to waste-management companies. They process the scrap into useable material, which they then sell on. We send around 100 tonnes of metal to be recycled and reused every year, including copper stripped from wires and any other scrap.

We send around **225 tonnes of donated, useable, refurbished tools to Africa every year**, which, if bought new, would cost over £1.5million. Donated tools are a crucial part of our mission to keep tools out of landfills where they would pollute our water and soil systems.



We send tools to over 500 organisations, each serving between 20 and 120 vulnerable members of their communities.



Our work refurbishing, recycling, and reusing tools saves around 1,153,549kg of CO2 emissions every year.