

CCLETS WINTER NEWSLETTER 2012

(Local Exchange Trading System)

Welcome and introduction of Kate Walker

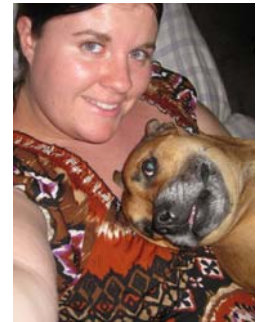
1st June 2012

Winter Edition

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We are very happy to announce that Kate Walker has joined the Admin team as Administrator. Kate has a background in business administration and accounting and runs her own human resources business.



As you will see from the photo, Kate loves her Staffies. She is also an advocate for Assistance dogs and the work they do helping people with hearing and other physical disabilities.

Having worked with several other community groups, Kate joined CCLETS because she admires the LETS philosophy. In particular she likes idea that give and take must be in balance and that local trading can help build community.

She is looking forward to meeting many new people through LETS, so look out for her at the trade days.

We are planning to hold a members meeting at the Tuggerah market day on 23 September 2012, so if you have specific questions for, or ideas to share with, Kate and the committee, please put the date in your diary and come along. Confirmation will be sent to all members prior to this date.

MEMBERSHIP IS NOW DUE

The renewal fee (if paid before 1st July) is \$10. If paid late it will be \$15. Accounts not paid by 1st September 2012 will be put on hold and the re-joining fee of \$15 will be required. Payment can be made by bank deposit, cheque or cash to Sonja Halton (Please note, we are not able to take Pay Pal payments at the moment).

CC LETS Bank Details are as follows:

Direct Deposit: Newcastle Permanent
 Account Name: Central Coast LETS
 BSB: 650 000
 Account Number: 981948500

Please ensure you put your surname or member number as reference on the payment so it can be matched to your account

Our postal address for cheque payment is: PO Box 3151, Umina NSW 2257

2012 Market Days and Events

8th July - Toukley Market Day

Theme: Christmas in July.

Toukley Neighbourhood Centre (1pm-4pm)

Heador Street, Toukley

Coordinator: Phoebe Taylor



19th August - Craft Workshop

Artsbarn Kariong (10am- 1pm)

Woy Woy Road, Kariong

Coordinator -Susanne Mueller-Byrnes
(basket weaving, felt workshop etc)

Coordinator: Susanne Mueller-Byrnes



23rd September - Tuggerah Market Day

Tuggerah Community Hall (10am-1pm)

Anzac Road, Tuggerah

Coordinator: Debbie Bagot

14th October - Woy Woy Training Workshop / Market Day

Woy Woy Environment Centre (10am-1pm)

Cnr Blackwall Rd & Billabong St, Woy Woy

Coordinator: Sonja Halton

25th November—Kariong Market Day

Theme: Christmas

Kariong Hall (10am-1pm)

Woy Woy Road, Kariong

Coordinator: Susanne Mueller-Byrnes

WANTED

**Members who would like to
run a workshop at the
Kariong Artsbarn on
19th August.**

**If you are
interested please contact
Susanne Mueller-Byrnes
susebyrnes@hotmail.com
0417 905177**

INTERESTING READING:

Greek town develops bartering system without euro:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-17686384>

Last weekend, half of Germany was running on Solar Power:

<http://www.treehugger.com/energy-policy/half-germany-was-powered->

CAPPED RATE SURVEY RESULTS AND CHANGES

IMPORTANT changes and reminders resulting from the Capped Rate Survey.....

The committee would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete the survey and add their personal views.

89% of members who responded voted in favour of removing the capped rate and so the 40 shell capped rate has been removed.

While there will no longer be an official limit to what you are permitted to charge, LETS gives you the opportunity to think beyond the materialistic, monetary value of services and instead, honours people for their energy and commitment and aims to create a closer community. It strives to break down the entrenched ideas of money, profit, credit, debt, greed & poverty. Consequently, from the **1st June 2012 the capped rate will be replaced by a RECOMMENDED rate of between 20 and 60 shells.** Rates will vary so the two people trading must agree a rate first. If you don't agree with the rate, don't use the service.

With the removal of the capped rate the 50/50 rule will be reviewed. The 50/50 rule is potentially a problem when members have no limit on the amount that they can charge, if half of this can be converted to cash. The Admin team will observe the trades over the next few months and discuss this further. It is **RECOMMENDED** that for services charged by the hour, the cash component should not exceed \$20 and members are reminded that LETS promotes 100% shell trading.

85.7% of respondents disliked the apparent over-inflation of goods. Members are reminded that when pricing goods 1 shell should be considered equal to \$1 and items priced at general market value.

The committee has taken into consideration the comments made by members and decided to introduce a rule of **100% shell trading on ALL second hand goods.** That is, no cash component allowed. Ideally, this rule would apply to all goods, but makes allowance for businesses to continue to trade through our system, passing on the wholesale cost of goods. Single items, even if they still have price tags on, that may have been purchased by an individual member will still be considered "second-hand" for the purpose of LETS trading. At all times the idea of supporting and helping local community should be promoted within LETS. It is not a means of earning extra cash. There are now many places to sell goods online so if you wish to sell second hand goods for cash please use alternative sites such as Gumtree, Facebook or Ebay.

Please review your offerings in the light of this new rule as offerings which do not adhere to this principle may be removed without further consultation.

All changes made to the rules and guidelines of LETS will be updated in the terms and conditions as well as in the LETS information booklet. If you need to refer to these at any time, both can be found on the website. The terms and conditions can be found on the homepage, below the sign-in panel and the LETS information booklet can be downloaded from the member's home page under Central Coast LETS documents.

MEMBERS WITH SHELLS TO SPEND

Some of our members are finding it difficult to trade, having earned many shells with their fantastic offers.

Can you help by answering their wants?

Sonja Halton, from Umina, is looking for:

1. someone to have a look at both of her computers
2. someone to do regular ironing (or as a once off) and,
3. a regular lift to take her shopping, once a fortnight.

members@centralcoastlets.org

John L'Estrange wants;

1. fresh produce of all types
2. help creating a garden from scratch
3. men's clothing and,
4. someone to clean his home for the next five months while his regular cleaner is away.

j.ll@inet.net.au

Karleen Gribble would like singing lessons for her 18 year only son.

karleeng@aapt.net.au

Deborah Taueli needs boy's size 8 shorts.

deborah@optransport.com.au

WOY WOY MARKET DAY REPORT

The Woy Woy trade day, on Sunday 10th June made history, being the first one ever held on a rainy day! Despite the showers it was a great success. The Environment Centre Hall provided a cosy and convivial setting for eight stalls and a steady through-flow of members.

The massage, Reiki and manicure stalls were constantly busy pampering their customers (even Rocky the dog got a head massage) and plenty of trades were recorded on stalls selling second hand items. As always it was a great opportunity to socialise and catch up on the latest news. People were so busy chatting that the event didn't finish until 2pm. A big thanks to Susanne and Sonja for organising the day and to the PEG for the use of the hall.

*Only after the last tree has
been cut down...the last
river has been poisoned,
the last fish caught, only
then will you find that
money cannot be eaten."*
- Cree Indian Prophecy



CC LETS Etiquette

Respect– all members. Try not to judge a book by it's cover. Have patience, everyone is different.

Etiquette– is part of LETS to ensure the smooth running of this wonderful community organisation.

Spaces– on the website in the 'offerings' in particular need to be kept to a minimum. Perhaps try using **bold** or *italics* instead. Also **ONLY** up to 10 postings per week from each member is allowed.

Permission– do not debit any members account without permission and only debit once the goods are delivered or the service is carried out.

Endeavour– to treat people the way you would like to be treated.

Care– about each other, the environment, our community and beyond.

Trades– please make trades from beginning to end of transaction as promptly as possible. Communication is the key here. Keep in touch with the person you are making a trade with and inform them if and when you can carry out the trade. If you cannot make it in time, make contact with the member and let them

Committee Members

Administrator:

Kate Walker
admin@centralcoastlets.org
Ph: 0405 578420

Membership Secretary:

Sonja Halton
members@centralcoastlets.org
Ph: 4342 7835

Secretary / Treasurer:

Michelle Harris
secretary@centralcoastlets.org
Ph: 0403 504173

Events Coordinator:

Susanne Mueller-Byrnes
susebyrnes@hotmail.com
Ph: 0417 905177

Admin Support:

Debbie Bagot and Fiona Thorneycroft

Members with Yahoo email addresses

We are sure you are aware that the LETS site has problems with Yahoo email addresses. Would you *PLEASE* consider changing to an alternative email address if you have one. If you don't have one, you could set up another free one such as hotmail.

How to change or add an email address in your account

Along the top of the member home page, select the third option 'My Record'. On the right hand side of the screen you will see your current email address. Delete this address and type in your new email address. Select the 'update record' button. This is important, as the details will not be saved if the update step is not done.

