

CCLETS AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2012



(Local Exchange Trading System)

1st March 2012

Autumn Edition

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Words from the Editor- by Phoebe Taylor

As you may or may not know there have been several changes to the Central Coast LETS committee and some other exciting changes also. The first major change is that our very hardworking Administrator Fiona Thornycroft has resigned her position to concentrate on other important things in her life. Michelle Harris has temporarily taken over most of the back office Admin duties, Susanne Mueller-Byrnes is now our events coordinator, and I (Phoebe) will be handling member inquiries, Public Relations duties and still editing the Newsletter. There are further details about this on the CCLETS Homepage and in the 'announcement' section.

An exciting change is that a new concept called Workshop Training/Gift Circle has been introduced. The first one was held on 27th February and was facilitated by Michelle Harris with guest speaker Caroline Bohlsen and 12 in attendance inclu-

sive. The night was a hit with attendees being some familiar faces and some new. There was a clear agenda that was adhered to and a feedback sheet to fill in which has already proven to be productive.

Something else you may have noticed in your Email Update and the Homepage is that from now on Trade Days will be more appropriately be called Market Days.

Another change is that the Newsletter will be shortened and include only the most important items relevant to the season. It will include upcoming events, 1-2 articles from contributing members, other LETS relevant information re: trading. Please make sure you read all Newsletters, Email Updates and regularly check the 'announcements' tab on the website.

Remember, this Newsletter is for YOU, our LETS community.

Take care and have fun-Ed.

NEXT TWO EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH 9TH

~Workshop Training/Gift Circle
Kariong Arts Barn
7-9.30pm

*Bookings contact: Susanne Mueller-Byrnes: 0417 905 177

APRIL 1ST

~ Market Day
Tuggerah Community Hall (opposite McDonalds)
10am-1pm

*Bookings contact: Debbie Bagot: 4355 0874

Dollars or Shells

Members are more likely to make a purchase if it for 100% shells. Most of the offers that include a dollar amount are not to "recoup" any outlaid costs for materials but just to make money. This undermines the whole principle of LETS, which is to trade without money. Savings made by trading with shells is what boosts our bank balances. Please remember that the dollar amount option is purely for any necessary costs and not to generate a wage. By asking a cash amount in the first place you are reducing the appeal of your offers and trading less as a result.

2012 Market Days and Events

- **9th March 7 - 9pm - Training/Gift Circle –Kariong Arts Barn** (next to Kariong Community Hall (same format as Mardi workshop). Coordinator-Susanne Mueller-Byrnes
 - **1st April - Tuggerah Market Day 10am-1pm—NEW Venue**-walking distance from bus stop & train station. Tuggerah Community Hall Anzac Road (opposite McDonalds) **Theme: Easter.** Coordinator-Debbie Bagot
 - **5th May - Woy Woy Market Day –Crn Blackwall and Billa-bong Rds(Old Church Woy Woy) 10am-1pm.** Coordinator-Sonja Halton
 - **10th June PAMPERING Workshop -Venue and time to be advised.** Coordinator Susanne Mueller-Byrnes
 - **8th July - Toukley Market Day-Toukley Neighbourhood Centre, Hedor Street) 1- 4pm. Theme: Christmas in July.** Coordinator- Phoebe Taylor
 - **19th August - ARTSBARN Kariong 10am- 1pm Craft Workshop** Coordinator -Susanne Mueller-Byrnes
- (several workshops: Lindsay Cameron basket weaving, Jodi James - felt workshop) Coordinator– Susanne Mueller-Byrnes
- **16th September - Tuggerah Market Day Tuggerah Community Hall (opposite McDonalds)- 10am - 1pm**
- ** Coordinator Needed**
- **20th Oct - Woy Woy Training Workshop / Gift Circle LETS meet in the park (near the wharf) 10am-1pm** Coordinator Sonja Halton
 - **25th November—Kariong Market Day 10am-1pm.** Coordinator Susanne Mueller-Byrnes



**Needed.
Coordinator for
16th September
Tuggerah Mar-
ket Day. If you
are interested
please contact
Susanne Mueller
-Byrnes**

The Happy Shag (is a LETS member)

Wednesday's are LETS member days at *The Happy Shag*

50% shells on all cooked foods

We freshly prepare our burgers and seafood and **DO NOT** use any additives such as preservatives, colourings or flavourings.

Our cooking oil is vegetarian and does not contain additive
319-321

Find us at **32 Brisbane Water Drive, Koolewong**

Phone orders: **4326 1977**

LETS will be at the **Coastal Lifestyle Festival** at Forrester's Beach Retirement Village on **Saturday 10th March** from 10am-2pm.

Come along and support this fantastic day out and purchase some fabulous goods for 100% shells.

This is a **FREE** event, so come along and support your local community.



Don't forget to come and join us on the Facebook page. Click on the link on the LETS homepage. If you are really computer savvy You can also follow us on Twitter



Wednesday's at
The Happy Shag
payment is 50/50.
Phone: 4326 1977



There will be a number of external Events this year that LETS members are able to attend and purchase goods for 100% shells. To also sell at the events, contact Phoebe Taylor for more details. Keep an eye out in your Email Updates each month.

Holidaying through LETS! By Korina Ivatt.

My family and I are currently living in outback Australia while my husband works as a teacher with the DET. Living "out back" of Australia has come with its own set of issues as well as charm and one of the issues is most obviously the distance we are from everything, a four hour round trip to the dentist, four hours drive to the nearest traffic lights and 12 very long hours to the coast. Our three young children have become very adept at travelling for long distances in the car and as a family we now think nothing of a one and a half hour drive to a neighbouring town for coffee!

Being a teacher my husband gets all the usual holidays one would expect and we generally stick around home catching up on things and spending time together during them..... except for the summer holidays, six weeks is a long time to be at home all together, but out in Bourke the summer holidays are seven weeks with the additional week referred to as a "heat week", and put that along with the 40+++ degree heat we wanted to get away for some of the holiday season, but who can afford a seven week holiday on a teacher's salary! Lol. So, I made a mad dash for my computer and searched LETS groups on the CES site.

Previous tries over the years at organising holidays through LETS have always fallen through for one reason or another so I actually didn't hold out much hope but was pleasantly surprised when I found a B&B owner in Hervey Bay in Queensland happy to host our family of five for three weeks after Xmas with a partial LETS, partial cash deal. Unfortunately as fate would have it the owner had a bad fall and her plans had to be cancelled which of course dominoed to us and I found us back where we started with seven long weeks of hot hot outback summer holidays to contend with..... believe me when I say I was an unhappy camper (or not as the case was).

But I decided to give LETS another try and as luck would have it (thank you!) I found a lovely woman in Hinton, near Morpeth and Maitland, who was going away on holiday and was happy to have us house sit for her. I was pleasantly surprised to be honest as we are not a small family and we have young children (i.e. makers of mess and destruction at times!). So I was doubly pleased when not long after, another woman got in touch to say she was going away and would we like her house minded in Dungog, about 40 minutes from Maitland!

It was serendipitous! So once again we were organised for our holiday..... one we could afford thanks to LETS.

So 11 nights in Dungog, a gorgeous little town I might add, and 12 nights in Hinton, another gorgeous little town, with the beautiful Morpeth five minutes away. We had a wonderful time and I have come back so very relaxed and recharged thanks to my fellow LETS members.

I highly recommend holidaying through LETS and you will find that persistence and flexibility really are the keys. And taking total advantage of being back in a LETS area as there is not one in Bourke I organised some extra treats completely using LETS currency, the children had haircuts, I had a wonderful pedicure as well as a fantastically indulgent facial. We also took the children to a felting workshop through LETS, another great adventure that we all really enjoyed and look forward to doing more at home with our extra packs of felt. :)

We paid a minimal cash component to cover electricity etc and were welcomed into people's homes. I feel so privileged to have been trusted with these women's houses and to get messages and phone calls afterwards thanking me, was just the icing on the cake. Thank you to my LETS hosts, you made my family and I very happy, well rested and ready to face another year together as a family. I hope other LETS members are just as lucky as my family.

So go on - get out there and find your next holiday on LETS..... or better yet offer someone their next holiday on LETS. :)

Korina Ivatt. CCAU0141

OFFER: A holiday in Back O' Bourke - four bedroom house, huge garden, views of Mount Oxley, 40,000 year old history. An absolute must see.

School holidays if wanting house, anytime if wanting to camp in the garden. Flexible with dates. Rates are negotiable.

(www.backobourke.com.au)

CC LETS Etiquette

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

Eitiquette– 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 know.



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Events Co-ordinator:
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0417 905177

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

We are looking for another member to join the Central Coast LETS Committee.

Are you enthusiastic, proactive, computer literate and have some spare time?

Then, we would love to hear from you!

A small monthly 'shell retainer' is offered for the successful candidate.

Please contact Michelle Harris on
0403504173.