
LETS Community NEWS © 2005

(Incorporating LETS REVIEW & LCNZ Newsletter)

Issue No. 01/05

Saturday 15th January 2005

WAIRARAPA

Congratulations to the LCNZ Committee on a great newsletter!

It seems that G\$ is in good heart, going by the various positive reports of markets, meetings etc.

I realise that space is an issue, but it would be good to have Exchange email addresses in the N/L. If space can't be found to list them all, perhaps Exchanges can be encouraged to include this detail in their report – the addition of phone # and email would have enhanced Taranaki's otherwise excellent report. Of course, it's up to Exchanges to supply, but if they don't take the initiative a suggestion from the Editor might not go amiss.

All the best for Christmas and the coming year. You've significantly raised the standard of communication at the national level of G\$ - keep up the good work!

Helen Dew. <helen@contact.net.nz>

This is an excellent idea, I have most e-mail addresses but if they are added to reports I'll know that you wish them to be published. Ed.

GOING THROUGH ZERO

(Not to be confused with going for broke)

Unlike the conventional money system, LETS/G\$ work best when as many people as possible trade to bring their account balances through zero as often as possible (go from credit to debit and vice versa!). Approximately half the members will be in credit and the other half in debit. Keeping a constant balance, either in debit or in credit is not helpful for the system and other members and is discouraged. There is no penalty for going into debit (LETS doesn't have interest, either way) – on the contrary, going into debit makes the system possible in the first place. Therefore, trading involves continual earning and spending – it is the act of exchange and the resulting satisfaction that creates wealth, not the keeping of a high balance.

Now, it is very important for committee members and system administrators that the above rule also applies to the systems Management account! Though it looks like an administrator has an almost unlimited freedom to spend new G\$'s into circulation, one needs to pay attention to cover the spending with income again, most likely through regular fees or subscriptions from the membership. Many exchanges also tend to absorb bad debts – debit accounts of leaving members – into the system's account. It is recommended to open a separate account for bad debts. This facilitates the management of the system considerably. If the committee fails to recover bad debts, then it is clearly visible how big the outstanding amount is. A yearly charge could then be laid onto the rest of the membership to make up for those bad debts: mutual credit also means mutual responsibility.

Christoph Hensch <cmhensch@gmx.net>

TARANAKI LETS

2005 Markets and Events

Jan. Saturday, 29th 9am start.

Feb. Tuesday, 15th Permaculture design with Brian Lonsdale 7.30pm start.

Feb. Sunday, 27th BBQ social afternoon with small stalls at TDRC 28 young street. 12 noon start.

March. Saturday, 19th Easter market, 9am start.

April. Saturday, 30th 9am start.

May. Saturday, 28th 9am start.

June. Sunday, 26th 12noon start.

All markets except our BBQ are at the St. Johns Ambulance hall in st. Aubyn Street. New Plymouth.

Email us for further details or ring (06) 759-1515 with your details and I will get back to you.

We at Taranaki LETS need to buy. Please tempt us with your goods. Anything that can be posted and can be resold would be acceptable. We need to spend to get our balance down at LETS Connect.

All the best for many, many trades from Taranaki LETS.

Anne Dixon <taranaki_letsnz@yahoo.co.nz>

TATS

Hello fellow LETS groups.

TATS Sub Committee has just met for the first time this year, to continue the National Conference organising. We are on target with all our planning, the menus have been set, transportation issues dealt with, accommodation arranged, publicity set in motion - now all we need is YOU! We would like to remind you that the cut off date for EARLY BIRD REGISTRATIONS is the 28th February. So get your application form and fee of K\$25.00 per person, in to Jim as soon as possible otherwise this great weekend will cost you K\$35.00 each.

The final registration cut-off date is the last day of March. Please remember that we will not be accepting any registrations after that date.

We are still awaiting attendees to inform us of the topics

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that they would like to have discussed; otherwise I could sit and prattle on for hours , the choice is yours!

Looking forward to 15th -17th April National Conference Weekend!

Marion Veenings-Utiger, on behalf of the Conference Organising Committee.

CAPS

CAPS Wellington needs to sell, all Trading is through Jan Machin, Phone (04) 232-7715. Address is 6 Beauchamp St Linden Tawa.

Yes we are still looking to sell members goods that I have at my home, best time to contact is before 8am or after 5pm.

Happy New Year, **Jan Machin**.

[<machin@clear.net.nz>](mailto:machin@clear.net.nz)

NELSON.

Christmas and New Year came and went in the middle of Winter but Summer seems to have arrived at last in Sunny Nelson.

A stall run by the Committee at our December market and a 10% commission levy on other stall holders raised G\$ 340.75 for our Exchange Balancing Account which was further boosted by a generous G\$100 donation from one of our members and G\$200 earned and donated by the Committee from a gardening working bee. The first steps on our long road to a more active exchange.

Our Treasurer has circulated an information sheet to all members as to why the exchange needs to balance and the necessity of the actions we have taken and inviting them to attend an information and ideas evening on 20th January to explain our position again and welcome ideas and suggestions from the membership.

It will be good to get back into routine and implement the ideas and suggestions to revitalise the Nelson Green Dollar Exchange..

Happy Trading in 2005.

Linda Cleary - Chairman prusmum@clear.net.nz.

LETS Connect NZ

THAMES.

Thames have paid their Subscription to LCNZ and are now free to trade.

The LCNZ A.G.M.

This will be held during the Conference at Timaru in mid April.

The Management of Member Groups should be considering who they wish to appoint as Delegates and arranging registration. You may send as many as you like to the Conference but only one named person per group can be the official Delegate to the A.G.M.

Managements should also be considering nominations for positions on the Committee. The main requirements are:- Good communication skills by e-mail and good e-mail access. The ability to think through LETS issues and to debate them by e-mail. Previous experience with LETS Committee work and a good understanding of how a committee operates, and how LCNZ works.

The required positions are: Chairman, (required to lead and control discussions) Secretary, (required to minute all discussions) Treasurer, (required to keep track of membership and collect subs. Handle all transactions, produce the monthly Newsletter) and up to four other Committee members.

Please notify The NEWS of your proposed nominations with a short CV and if possible a photo. This will allow other groups to see who you are nominating and they can instruct their Delegate accordingly.

Any Member Group that cannot attend can appoint a proxy from any other Member Group. Please ensure that the person agrees and advise the current Committee.

TRADING TOTALS

There were no Transactions for the Month

Jim McCaughan Editor.

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LETS Connect NZ Members and their Balances.

100. Management .	+23.00	112. Taranaki LETS	+1,954.80 y	119. REBS	-1,686.69 y
C/- 48 Mountain View Rd., TIMARU		P.O. Box 5015 NEW PLYMOUTH		C/- 81 Swiss Avenue WANGANUI	
105. Thames	-3,268.40 y	113. PLEBS	-1,183.30 y	120 WEST	+2500.55 y
P.O. Box 229 THAMES		C/- Worcester Street, CHRISTCHURCH		2 Tui St., Kumara, WESTLAND.	
106. TATS	+2,502.91 y	115. MOSS	-85.60 y	Member Debt	+161.38
C/- 41A Heaton St., TIMARU		P.O. Box 350 MOTUEKA		y =Yes, Sub paid. n = No, Sub not paid.	
108. Wairarapa	+959.90 y	116. WINGS	+356.00 y	Note:- These are LCNZ Balances, the	
108 Bannister St., MASTERTON		121 Charles St., BLENHEIM		Balances on your System should be	
109. CAPS Wellington	-2,459.40 y	117. IBES	+444.85 y	opposite.	
C/- 6 Beauchamp St., WELLINGTON		P.O. Box 7087, INVERCARGILL			