

NOVEMBER 2020

NEWSLETTER

ADELAIDE LETS

WHAT'S ON?

A handy guide to see what events the LETS community is holding

MEMBER SPECIAL

Check out our monthly 'getting to know you' article on our members!

TIPS ON GETTING STARTED

Have you joined LETS but unsure where to start?
Check out our helpful guide to get you going

WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?

We need your newsletter content! The monthly edition of the Adelaide LETS newsletter will be out the 1st of each month. If you'd like to contribute any content at all please contact Sarah Jackson (ALSA0591) via the [Lets Adelaide CES website](#) (text or email).

WWW.LETSADELAIDE.ORG

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Welcome to the Adelaide LETS newsletter!

Firstly I would like to introduce myself... Hi there! My name is Sarah, I'm a mother of 2, I enjoy design, crafts, the outdoors and my animals! I'm delighted to be the new designer/editor for your newsletter. If you would like to contribute anything to the newsletter, email us at letsadelaide@gmail.com to have your article featured!

We would love to get to know our members better, so feel free to send us a bit of information about yourself (along with a picture if you like) and how you came to join LETS.

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GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Each month we hope to get to know one of our members! Check out who is our featured member this month.

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WHAT'S ON

Wanting to attend a LETS event? Take a look at our calendar of upcoming events

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GETTING STARTED WITH LETS

Have you joined but not sure how or where to start? In our guide we show you easy ways to begin trading.

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NOTICE BOARD

A quick guide to some of the latest offers and wants posted on the Community Exchange website.

Welcome to New Members

A big welcome to our latest members. Please take a look at their **Offers and Wants** and see if you can trade something with them, or just to say hello. People often get excited about the thought of LETS and join up, only to drop out when they don't do any trading, so your friendly welcoming call may make all the difference to someone getting started or, sadly, dropping out without ever getting to know about our great system. They may not have joined our facebook page, so best to email or text them.

Remember that if you are successful in recruiting a new member, admin will credit your account with 20 units as a 'thank you'. Happy trading!

ADELAIDE LETS

UPDATES & NOTICES

Update your LETS offers regularly!

- Log in to LETS CES site
- www.communityexchange.net.au
- Click 'Offerings' > My Offerings
- Next to 'Actions' click:
 - Edit offer
 - Delete offer
 - Hide offer, or
 - Update offer.

That's it! Super easy, super quick. There's also a video tutorial on the [CES website](#) if you need it.

Post on our Facebook Page!

We have a facebook group for members only. Once you have posted your Offer or Want on the Community Exchange, feel free to put it on our facebook group www.facebook.com/groups/AdelaideLETS/

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Take a look at a few of the most recent offers from LETS, but don't forget to check out the website regularly for more offers and wants!

TRADING ACTIVITY

Period	Trades	Total Units
October	93	1478

These figures are very similar to the October trades for the last two years, which is great news given the restrictions we have had this year. As at 27/10 there were 288 offerings and 38 wants listed. Don't forget to renew your wants and offerings regularly so they don't expire.

Introduce your friends and family to LETS

Growing our bartering community increases diversity and gives us all more opportunities to benefit from this wonderful cashless trading system.

Please tell your friends, colleagues, family and neighbours all about the benefits of LETS! And if you have told them already... remind them again ;-)

**Have you followed our Facebook?
<https://www.facebook.com/AdelaideLETS>**

Getting to know you...

Each month we are aiming at highlighting one member to learn more about them! This will be a regular feature in our newsletter so if you would like to have an article about you, how you came to join LETS and any other fascinating information, we would love to hear from you!

This month we are featuring:

LIBBY (ALSA0487)

In 1983 I was a single mother with two children under 5. I had moved to an old farmhouse in Balhannah, 60 kms from family and friends.

I had very little money and I could see very little way to make ends meet. A neighbour suggested that I join the Local Exchange Trading System or "LETS" as it was nicknamed.

I felt that I had nothing to offer, however she suggested that I let her use a paddock, on the farm, for her pregnant cows. A deal was struck, and I was paid in 20 kg hessian bags of unwashed potatoes.

I turned the potatoes into potato bakes, and traded them for fresh vegetables, haircuts, child minding, and fresh milk from the local dairy. I even got "Special Fried Rice" from the local Chinese Restaurant in Hahndorf!!!

I "rented" a room to the drama teacher at the Steiner school, who cared for my children one night a week. That night, I worked at the Stirling Hospital as a casual midwife. Before long, other mothers came on board. We had a car valet service business, started trading half a butchered sheep, we did house and pet sitting, basic home maintenance, and even more delicious food and vegetables were produced. All of the trades were put into a school exercise book. Now, nearly 40 years on, satellite LETS groups are Australia wide, with affiliations internationally. We have our own software program www.communityexchange.net.au and you can get accommodation with families all over the world for "units" or their equivalent.

Sustainability is mainstream now. In 1983, we didn't have the "word" as such, however we were doing it!! With the economic downturn in 2021, you will never find a better time to come on board. We can help you get started. We meet in each other's homes, for trading and "catch ups" on a regular basis. I have made lifelong friendships through LETS. please be in touch.



WHAT'S ON...

Nov
2020

LETS Catch Up

When: Thursday 12th November

Time: 11am-1pm

Where: The Spire, Uniting Church, 280 Portrush Road, Beulah Park.

All LETS members can have a small space for trading their goods or services. We can trade in units, but no cash for any foodstuffs like bread, preserves, etc. We can buy snacks, light lunches and barista coffee in cash from the newly reopened Hope's Café next door. Very affordable prices from \$2-\$5. Chance to browse Goodies Op Shop next door as well. Volunteers at the Spire love spending their LETS vouchers with our stallholders and we're starting to get some other visitors as well.

ONE Planet Market

When: Saturday, 21st November

Time: From at 10 am – noon (Repair cafe from 10am)

Where: Payneham Community Centre, 374 Payneham Road Payneham.

Market Talk - Mediterranean Gardens. The talk is free however bookings are essential.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/one-planet-market-talks-mediterranean-gardens-tickets-125870673573>

The market will be a bit different to pre-covid times, but most of the usual stallholders will be there.

We'll still have our LETS stalls but limited spaces, so its essential you let us know you will be coming and book your spot.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
08	09	10	11	Catch up 12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	One Planet Market! 21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December Events

December 10th: LETS Catch Up, 11am - 1pm

December 19th: ONE Planet Market, from 10am - noon. Ethical Money Management talk

LETS HELP

**Have you recently joined LETS but are not sure how or where to start trading?
Don't worry, we've all been there!**

To start with, here are some common questions:

What are offerings?

Whatever you have to trade, or – another way of putting it – what you can provide to the community of traders.

What are wants?

Along with offerings, you can also list what you might want or need. We encourage members to list any (legal) wants they may have no matter how unusual as they are frequently fulfilled. You never know what someone else may have that they no longer need.

Can I offer both goods and services?

Yes, you can offer goods as well as services. You can offer anything legal, which other traders will buy, the same as if you were trading in the conventional economy!

I have nothing to offer!

This is a very common first reaction! Registering with LETS will help you realise that you do have things to offer and that you can be useful to others. Whether you are skilled or not, your time, energy or resources will be of value to someone. Start by asking yourself what you really enjoy doing, or sit down with a friend and tell each other what you are good at.

Take a look at this Inspiration List on the next page for ideas. You will probably surprise yourself when you begin to think about it! If you can do anything, you can list it on the LETS website.

How do I price my offerings?

In exactly the same way as you would price them in the conventional economy, except that the price is in units rather than dollars. This can be a fixed price or a rate per hour/day etc. 1 dollar is equal in value to 1 unit. Ask one of the administration team if you have trouble with this.

Can I quote prices in cash?

No, not on their own but you may include a cash component. Many traders quote LETS units for the labour and cash for parts or materials. LETS-units-only offerings are preferred and you might find it difficult to sell your wares or services if you quote a cash component. Many traders feel uneasy about asking for payment in LETS units when they have had to lay out cash. But remember, you get that cash back by having more LETS units to spend on things that you would normally pay cash for. The more you get involved in LETS the more comfortable you will feel about being paid in LETS units even when you have spent cash.

What is the cost to join?

There is no cost in dollars to join; all that is required is your commitment to give back to the community what you take from it. There is a yearly cost of ten units to cover administration costs. You will be provided with your own online 'bank account' and access to the Community Exchange

If you aren't sure what you could have to offer, take a look at the below ideas! If you can do anything, it can be listed. Give it a go, you never know what someone is looking for or needs help with!

Services

Painting, handy person services, plastering, tiling, electrical repairs, car washing, car repairs, decluttering, DJ, bicycle repairs, photocopying, photography, printing, carpentry, heating, cooling, research, secretarial services, plumbing, gardening, house sitting, writing, editing, proofreading, event organising, window cleaning, laundry, sewing, art and craft, cooking, baking, general labour, graphic design, web sites, computer programming, app design, health care, therapies, personal care, nursing and health services, cleaning, laundry, ironing, child care, shopping, friendship, massage, spiritual guidance.

Hiring/renting

Workshop tools, garden tools and equipment, computer, camping equipment, sports equipment, truck, car, toys swimming/diving gear, musical equipment, event venues, accommodation, video equipment, garage, marquee, bed/bedding, bicycle, trailer, kitchen ware, crockery, cutlery, camping site, books, dvds, music, audio books, e-books, gym equipment.

Food

Breads, cakes, biscuits, buns, meals, frozen meals, gluten free cooking, preserves, pickles, jams, pies, quiches, tarts, garden vegetables, drinks, herbs & spices, honey, fruit, snacks, salads, eggs, meat, cereals, bulk ingredients.

Goods

Bicycles, clothing, shoes, tools, furniture, curtains, carpets, cushions, magazines, books, toys, dolls, bedding, electrical appliances, computers and peripherals, paintings, garage junk, jewellery, electronic gadgets, CDs, dvds, magazines, software, kitchen utensils.

Advice & Tuition

Parental advice, relationship advice, bicycle riding, school tuition, surfing, singing, musical instruments, art gardening advice, colour and style advice, legal advice, energy saving, extra lessons, dancing, public speaking, drawing, crafts, computing, word processing.

Assistance

Answering the phone, shopping for others, child care/babysitting, frail care, dog walking, pet feeding/sitting, fetching/posting mail, delivering/collecting parcels/letters, writing letters, reading stories, storytelling, transport, fetching children to and from school.

Ready to start listing? Go to <https://www.communityexchange.net.au/>

Still need help? Elizabeth Brookman (ALSA0487) is offering her assistance! See her listing here: <https://www.communityexchange.net.au/adshow.asp?id=26229>

Sue & Geoff Andrews (ALSA0014) are also offering tips on trading ideas. See their listing here: <https://www.communityexchange.net.au/adshow.asp?id=26>

NOTICE BOARD

Please text or email members regarding their offers

market report

October market was the 2nd since we re-opened, and things are gradually getting back to how they were before Covid, but we'd love more stallholders! Julie, Sheila, Libby and Sue all did good trading and we'd love more of you to come along.

The talk on Backyard Birds was very well attended. It was inspiring to hear about all the good work being done by Birds SA. Recently they had a win of banning cars causing problems for birds on sensitive beaches. Birds are so intelligent – they have excellent memories (they remember individual humans and even pass on their knowledge to their peers). Lots more fascinating bird stories from their webinar

<https://birdssa.asn.au/get-involved/webinars/>.

It was good to have Steve and his little family from Wagtail Farm, & of course all their organic vegies were in demand. The Repair Café was back in action helping mend various things to stop them going to landfill.

Clothing Alterations

Service to take up/let down hem of 1x garment - pants, skirt, dress. Hemming can be done by sewing machine or 'invisible' hand stitching, depending on customer preference and fabric type.

Bridget Kelly (ALSA0636)

POP UP MARKET SPACE

Zen House in Woodside has an under cover space with coffee and tea facilities, available for anyone wanting to have a pop-up trading day. There are trestles and seating provided and a stove top for heating food. A market tent, may be added if you wish to increase the space. It is set in a small garden with an external bathroom available.

Zen House Of Happiness
(ALSA0626)

- Retro wallpaper with art nouveau design

- Roll of retro wallpaper featuring art nouveau images

Robyn Downing (ALSA0288)

Recommendations

There have been no recommendations this month. If you would like to make a recommendation, go to the Trading tab on the homepage and scroll down to Recommendations. At the top right of the page, click on Give Recommendation